

Daily Current Affairs

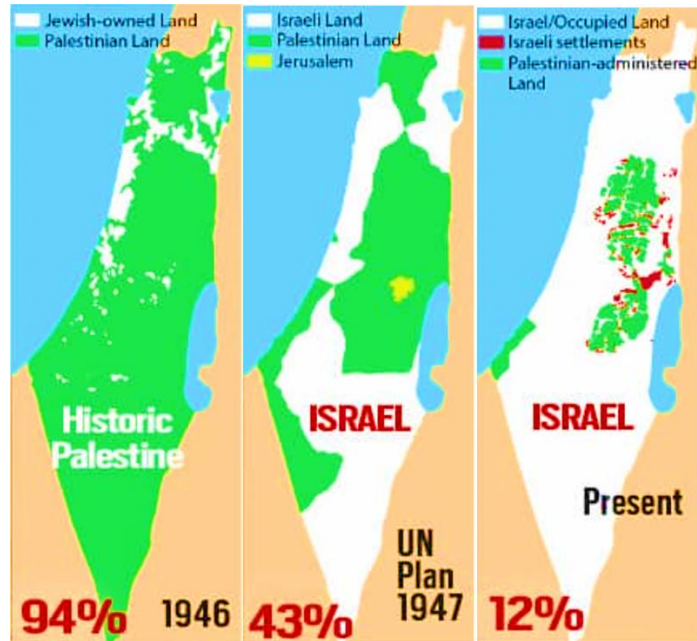
03 May 2024

Two State Solution

- India's Permanent Representative to the **United Nations Ruchira Kamboj** has said India is committed to a **'Two-State' solution for Palestinians and Israel**.
- Speaking at UN General Assembly, She said India supports a 'Two-State' solution where the **Palestinian people can live freely** in an independent country within secure borders.



- Mrs. Ruchira Kamboj **condemned the October 7, 2023 attack** on Israel by Hamas but also said that international laws and international humanitarian laws should be respected by everyone in all circumstances.
- She said India also demanded the unconditional **release of the Israeli hostages** stuck in Gaza.
- On humanitarian aid, Mrs. Kamboj stated that India will continue to provide help to Palestinians. She further said it is imperative that humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza be scaled up immediately in order to avert a further deterioration in the situation.
- Mrs. Kamboj expressed hope that Palestine's endeavour to become a **full member of the United Nations** will get endorsed. The US, last month, vetoed a UNSC resolution calling for Palestinian statehood, drawing the ire of many countries supporting the region's cause.



Karl Erich Muller's Lithographs

- **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)** today hosted an exhibition titled **'People and Places of India – A Retrospect'** to celebrate International Labour Day.
- The exhibit featured Lithographs by famous German artist **Karl Erich Muller** from the IGNCA Archives.

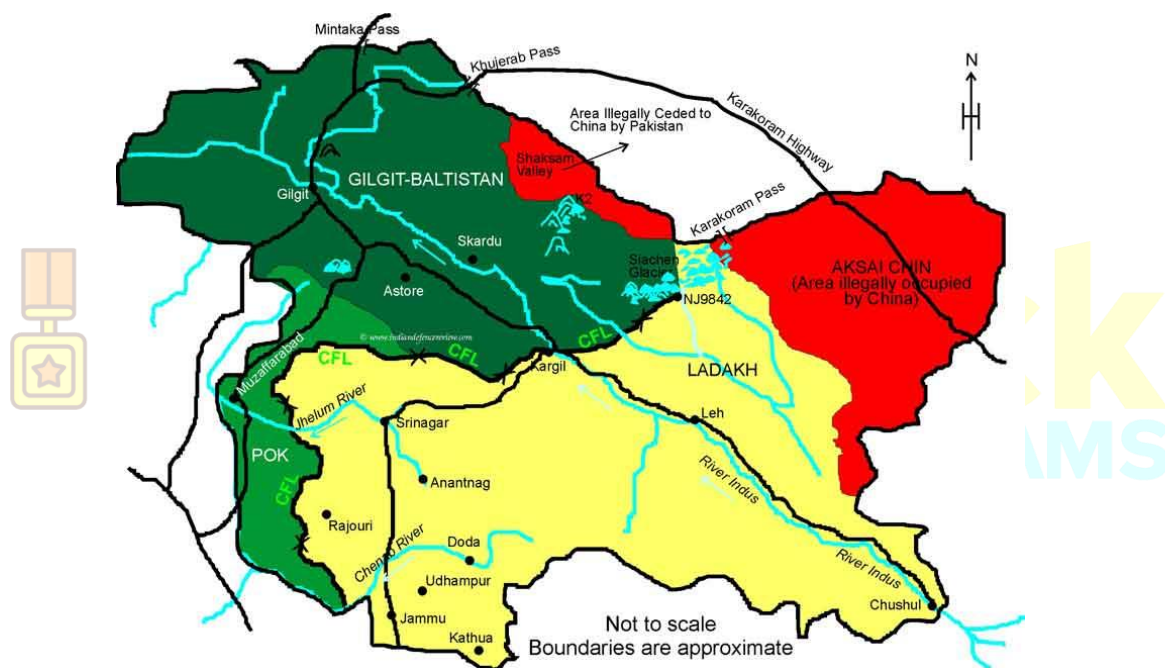


- Speaking on the occasion, Member Secretary of IGNCA, Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi expressed the uniqueness, rarity, and surreal essence of lithographs, emphasizing how they encapsulate the essence of ordinary lives.
- He reiterated that Karl Erich Muller communicates through his lithographs that not all expressions require abundant resources.

- Dr. Joshi accentuated the significance of IGNCA as a repository of cultural artefacts, emphasising the importance of curating it with the meticulousness evident in the exhibition..

Shaksgam Valley

- **India has registered strong protests with China against their illegal attempts to alter facts in connection with construction activities in the Shaksgam Valley.**
- MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, India considers Shaksgam Valley to be its territory and it has **never accepted the so-called China-Pakistan boundary agreement of 1963** through which Pakistan unlawfully attempted to cede the area to China.



- He said, New Delhi has registered a protest with **Beijing against illegal attempts to alter** the facts on the ground. Mr Jaiswal said, India further reserves the right to take necessary measures to safeguard its interests.
- **India has rejected the findings** of a report released by the **US Commission on International Religious Freedom USCIRF** saying it is a biased organisation with a political agenda. Mr Jaiswal said, they continue to publish their propoganda on India, masquerading as part of an annual report.
- He said, New Delhi really has no expectation that USCIRF will even seek to understand India's diverse, pluralistic and democratic ethos. Mr Jaiswal said, their efforts to interfere in the largest electoral exercise in the world will never succeed.

Dr. Bina Modi

- **Dr. Bina Modi**, Chairperson and Managing Director of Modi Enterprises – KK Modi Group, was honoured by the esteemed Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankar, for her '**Outstanding Contribution to the cause of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**'.
- Corporate Social Responsibility has been a way of life for all KK Modi Group companies since long before they became compliance." Dr. Modi leads the CSR initiatives of the group companies, including **uplifting vulnerable farmer** communities in Andhra Pradesh and supporting the education of young girls through initiatives like **Project Khushi**.



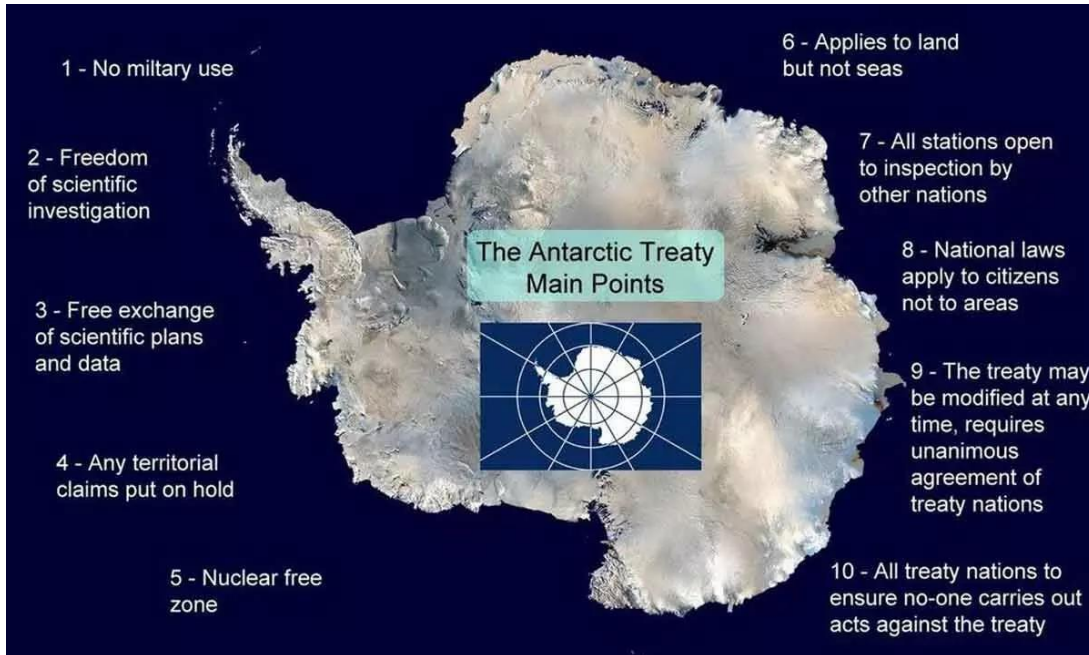
- Since 2015, Dr. Modi has been actively engaged in supporting the **marginalized farmer community in Andhra Pradesh** through multifaceted interventions. These initiatives encompass healthcare provisions, access to clean drinking water, ecological balance through plantations and biodiversity parks, and empowerment of farmers through training and education on sustainable agricultural practices.
- **Project Khushi aims** to empower rural girls nationwide by sponsoring their education or vocational aspirations. Currently supporting deserving girls in Maharashtra, the project seeks to extend its reach across other regions.

India To Host 46th Antarctic Treaty

- India reaffirms its commitment to safeguarding **Antarctica's delicate ecosystem** and advancing scientific exploration in the region.
- The **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)**, Government of India, in collaboration with the **National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)**, is set to host the **46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46)** and the 26th Meeting of the Committee for **Environmental Protection (CEP 26 in Kochi, Kerala)**.



- **The Antarctic Treaty**, enacted in 1959 and enforced in 1961, designates Antarctica as a zone dedicated to peace, scientific collaboration, and environmental preservation.
- Over 56 countries have ratified the Treaty, showcasing global support for its principles. Established under the **Madrid Protocol in 1991**, the CEP advises the ATCM on environmental conservation and protection in Antarctica.
- India, a **Consultative Party** since 1983, actively contributes to the decision-making process alongside 28 other Consultative Parties. India's participation in the ATCM underscores its dedication to Antarctic affairs.
- With two year-round research stations – **Maitri (1989) and Bharati (2012)** – India conducts vital scientific expeditions in Antarctica.



India Renews Agreement To Train Bangladeshi Officers

- Government of India has signed an agreement with the Government of Bangladesh to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for **training 1500 Bangladeshi officers from 2025 to 2030**.
- The agreement was signed between the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)**, Government of India, and the Bangladeshi **Ministry of Public Administration**.
- The agreement was signed during a three-day visit of a four-member DARPG delegation to Bangladesh, led by V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARPG.



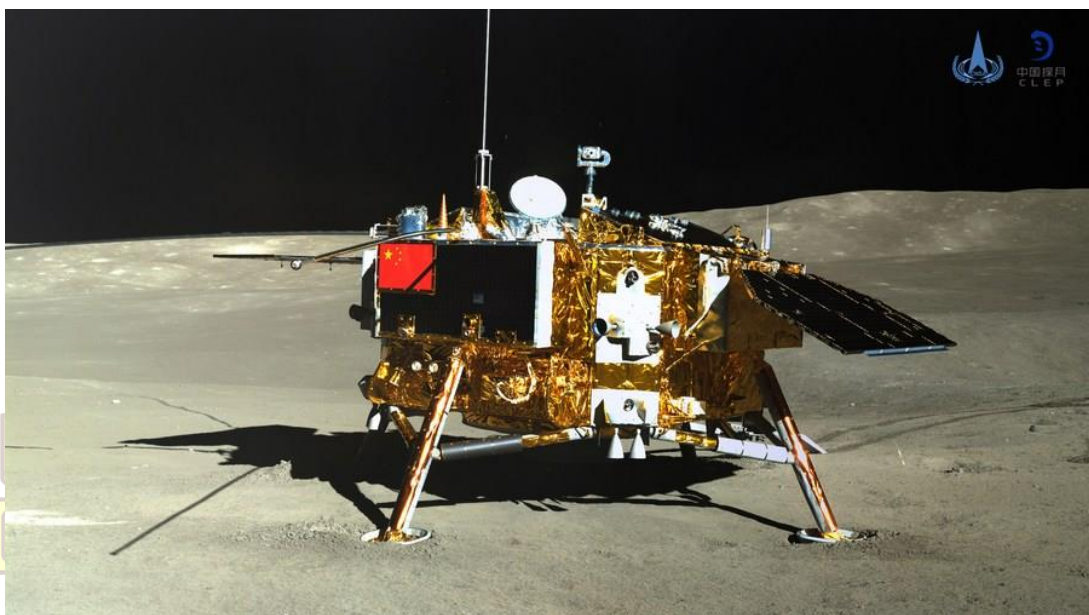
- The visit focused on **mid-career capacity-building programs** in field administration for Bangladesh Civil Servants.
- India and Bangladesh have enjoyed a strong relationship in capacity building for civil servants. An MoU was signed between the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), India, and the Bangladesh Ministry of Public Administration in **2014 to train Bangladeshi civil servants**.



- Since then, they have collaborated in conducting **capacity-building programs**, with the MoU being periodically renewed. The latest agreement extends the MoU by five more years until 2030.
- V. Srinivasan reiterated the Government of India's commitment to collaborate in fulfilling Vision **Bangladesh@2041 and SMART Bangladesh** through capacity-building programs for a future-ready Bangladesh Civil Service. The NCGG conducts capacity-building programs for middle management, senior management, and faculty development, covering diverse fields of governance like project management, public procurement, blue economy, and food processing.
- The **DARPG is the nodal agency of the Government of India** for administrative reforms and the redressal of public grievances. It undertakes activities in the field of international exchange and cooperation to promote public service reforms. The Department comes under the Union Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Chang'e-6 Lunar Probe

- China is set to launch **the Chang'e-6 lunar probe** on a round trip to the Moon, marking a significant advancement in their space exploration.
- The mission aims to **gather soil and rock samples** from the far side of the Moon, providing crucial insights into its early evolution and the inner solar system.
- This will be the **first-ever attempt to retrieve lunar samples** from the far side of the Moon, a region hidden from Earth's view.



- Due to the lack of direct communication with Earth, a relay satellite orbiting the Moon will facilitate communication during the **mission's 53-day duration**.
- The return journey to Earth will involve the first-ever ascent from the Moon's far side. **Pakistan is set to launch** its maiden lunar mission, **ICUBE-Q, aboard** China's Chang'e-6 probe.
- Developed in collaboration with China's **Shanghai University and Pakistan's Institute of Space Technology (IST)**, ICUBE-Q carries optical cameras to capture images of the lunar surface. This historic collaboration between Pakistan and China not only marks a milestone for Pakistan's space program but also enhances international cooperation in lunar exploration.

Indian Chess Prodigy

- Indian Chess Prodigy, **Vaishali Ramesh Babu** who has been awarded the title of Grandmaster by FIDE, the International Chess Federation said India is booming as far as the Chess landscape is concerned.



- **Vaishali is the third Indian female Grandmaster**, joining Koneru Humpy and Harika Dronavalli. Vaishali completed the requisite 2500 ELO points at the Llobregat Open tournament in Spain, last year.
- However, the title was officially given to her only recently following the FIDE Council meeting during the Candidates Tournament in Toronto last month.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Antarctic Treaty, Enacted In 1959 & Enforced In

- A. 1959
- B. 1960
- C. 1961
- D. 1962

ANSWER: C

2. Which Trade Association Launched A Corporate Governance Charter For Startups

- A. India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)
- B. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- C. ASSOCHAM
- D. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

ANSWER: B

3. Hangor Class Submarines Are Launched By Which Country

- A. Russia
- B. China
- C. India
- D. Pakistan

ANSWER: B

4. Which Organization Sanctioned Study On Impact Evaluation Of GI Products

- A. SIDBI
- B. FSSAI
- C. NABARD
- D. ISRO

ANSWER: C

5. What is 'K2-18B'

- A. Exoplanet
- B. Black hole
- C. Asteroid
- D. Submarine

ANSWER: A

6. Which Organization Has Been Granted 'Navratna Status' By The Department Of Public Enterprises

- A. BHEL
- B. HAL
- C. HMTL
- D. IREDA

ANSWER: D

7. What Is 'Fentanyl'

- A. Invasive plant
- B. Synthetic opioid drug
- C. Submarine
- D. Aircraft carrier

ANSWER: B

8. Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State

- A. Gujarat
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: C

9. What Is A Green Taxonomy

- A. A System For Categorizing Environmentally Friendly Investments
- B. A Framework For Classifying Financial Assets Based On Their Color
- C. A Method For Organizing Government Budgets Related To Environmental Projects
- D. A Type Of Plant Species Found In Tropical Rainforests

ANSWER: A

10. SMART (Supersonic Missile Assisted Release Of Torpedo) System Is Developed By Which Organization

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- D. CSIR

ANSWER: A

11. What Is The Theme Of 'International Labour Day 2024'

- A. Ensuring Safety And Health At Work In A Changing Climate
- B. All Labor That Uplifts Humanity Has Dignity And Importance
- C. Universal Social Protection To End Child Labor
- D. Resilient Recovery

ANSWER: A

12. Which Indian Company Signed An Mou With Norwegian Firm To Implement Floating Solar Power Technology In India

- A. NTPC Ltd
- B. NHPC Ltd
- C. SJVN
- D. NEEPCO

ANSWER: B

13. India & Croatia Conducted 11th Session Of Foreign Office Consultations At Which Place

- A. Chennai
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Zagreb
- D. New Delhi

ANSWER: D

14. Ruang Volcano Is Located In Which Country

- A. Malaysia
- B. Indonesia
- C. Chile
- D. Ecuador

ANSWER: B

15. Which Port In India Emerged As Top Cargo Handling Port In India In 2023-24

- A. Karaikal port
- B. Paradip port
- C. Kandla port
- D. Kochi port

ANSWER: B

16. Which State Government Initiated 'Rice Fallow Management Project'

- A. Bihar
- B. Odisha
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: B

17. Which Countries Signed An Agreement To Work Together To Develop Tests For Most Advanced AI Models

- A. India & Russia
- B. France & Australia
- C. US & UK
- D. Germany & UK

ANSWER: C

18. Leopardus Pardinoides Belongs To Which Species

- A. Wild cat
- B. Kangaroo
- C. Penguin
- D. Fish

ANSWER: A

19. Who Received Prestigious “Medal Of Honour” At Consular Day 2024 In Chennai For Promoting Bilateral Relations Between Palau & India

- A. Sanjeev Jai Narain
- B. Shachi Gurumayum
- C. Neeraj Sharma
- D. Amit Sharma

ANSWER: C

20. Which Tribal Group From Great Nicobar Participated In Voting For The First Time

- A. Jarwa Tribes
- B. Shompen Tribes
- C. Onge Tribes
- D. Sentinalese Tribes

ANSWER: B