

Daily Current Affairs

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Water For Shared Prosperity

- **World Bank's report, 'Water For Shared Prosperity,'** unveiled at the 10th World Water Forum, delineates the critical role of water in fostering equitable societies amidst global water access disparities exacerbated by population growth, urbanization, and climate change. It highlights the **urgency of comprehensive strategies** to ensure inclusive water security worldwide.



- Shared prosperity, as per the World Bank, involves bolstering **economic well-being, particularly for marginalized segments**, through four interconnected building blocks: Health and Education, Jobs and Income, Peace and Social Cohesion, and Environment.
- Findings : **Global Disparities in Water Access** : 197 million lack safe drinking water; 211 million lack basic sanitation. 450 million reside in high-poverty, low-water-access areas.
- **Less than half of schools** in low-income countries have water access. Impact on Early Childhood Development. Inadequate water impacts physical and cognitive growth, leading to malnutrition and diseases.



- Extreme weather events disrupt water availability, impacting learning and food security. Recommendations : Improving Resilience , Implement early warning systems and resilient infrastructure. Integrate nature-based solutions and optimize water use. Reform water information systems and invest in safe management infrastructure.

Jyoti Ratre

- **Jyoti Ratre, an entrepreneur and fitness enthusiast from Madhya Pradesh, has etched her name in history by becoming the oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest. Ratre's triumphant ascent to the summit of the world's highest peak comes precisely six years after Sangeeta Bahl, at the age of 53, earned the title of 'India's oldest woman to climb Mount Everest' on May 19, 2018.**



- Her journey to the top of Mount Everest was not without its challenges, as she had previously attempted the summit in 2023 but was forced to turn back from an altitude of **8,160 meters** due to harsh weather conditions.

- Ratre's remarkable achievement was realized as part of a **15-member expedition team organized by 8K Expeditions**, led by the renowned Bolivian climber David Hugo Ayaviri Quispe.
- Her achievement serves as a powerful testament to the strength and resilience of women, shattering societal stereotypes and inspiring countless others to break through barriers and pursue their passions fearlessly.
- By becoming the oldest Indian woman to stand atop the **world's highest peak**, Ratre has not only etched her name in the annals of mountaineering history but has also emerged as a trailblazer for women's empowerment and a beacon of hope for those who dare to dream.

Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award

- **Arti, an 18-year-old woman** from the Bahraich district of **Uttar Pradesh**, has been honored with the **prestigious Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award** by King Charles III of the United Kingdom.
- The award ceremony, held at the iconic Buckingham Palace in London, England, **celebrated Arti's inspiring journey as an e-rickshaw driver** and her role in empowering other young women in her community.



- The Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award, named after the renowned English barrister Amal Clooney, is sponsored by the British charity Prince Trust International.
- Established by King Charles when he was the Prince of Wales, the Trust recognizes and honors the remarkable achievements of young women who have overcome significant obstacles to make a lasting positive impact on those around them.



- Arti was honored for her inspiring work through the government's **Pink E-rickshaw initiative**, which has encouraged and motivated other young girls in her locality to pursue their dreams and become self-reliant.
- The Uttar Pradesh government launched **Mission Shakti in 2020** with the aim of empowering women in the state through initiatives focused on safety, security, and self-reliance.
- The scheme provides a secure environment for women and offers training and access to livelihood schemes, enabling them to transform their lives and become self-independent.



- As part of Mission Shakti, the **state government introduced the Pink E-Rickshaw** scheme, aligning it with the Mukhya Mantri Yuva Swarozgar Yojana. Under this initiative, eligible women aged between **18 and 40 years**, with a minimum **education of 10th grade**, receive **six days of training** on safety, security, and self-defense related to women's workplaces, along with three days of training in entrepreneurship development.
- The Pink E-Rickshaw scheme equips women with the **skills necessary** to drive e-rickshaws and navigate traffic rules and regulations.

- Implemented by the **Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Department** of the Uttar Pradesh government through UP Industrial Consultant Limited (UPICON), the scheme provides women with e-rickshaws at a low-interest rate loan, along with a subsidy of Rs. 49,500.

Jaisalmer's Desert Park Sanctuary

- **National Desert Park, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**, has revealed a significant presence of the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard.
- The survey, which employs the waterhole technique during the scorching summer months, counted a staggering 64 Great Indian Bustards within the park's boundaries.
- This marks a notable increase from the **previous year's census in 2022**, which recorded **42 birds** using the same waterhole technique. Also known as the "**Godawan**," the Great Indian Bustard is the state bird of Rajasthan and a critically endangered species that primarily inhabits dry grasslands.



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- These majestic birds are easily recognizable with their distinctive black crown contrasting against their pale neck and head, accompanied by a brownish body and wings marked with black, brown, and grey hues.
- **Wildlife conservationists** often employ the waterhole technique during the sweltering summer months to accurately count the wildlife population in a given area.
- In preparation for the 2024 census, forest officials strategically constructed 42 waterholes within the National Desert Park.



- A dedicated team of **84 officers was deployed** on watchtowers near these waterholes throughout the census period.
- Moreover, the intense heat, with temperatures regularly exceeding 45 degrees Celsius in the region, compels **wildlife to seek hydration** at least once every 24 hours, maximizing the chances of accurate counting.
- According to the forest officials, the census revealed that 21 Great Indian Bustards were spotted in the Ramdevra region, while a whopping 43 were observed in the **Sipla, Sudasari, Gazai Mata, Jamra, Chouhani**, and Barna areas of Jaisalmer.
- In addition to the bustards, the census also recorded over **1,000 Chinkaras**, 30 Desert Cats, 150 Foxes, and more than 100 Vultures, highlighting the rich biodiversity of the National Desert Park.

India Libya Energy Talks

- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Secretary, **Pankaj Jain** held a bilateral discussion with Deputy Minister for Political Affairs of Libya, **Mohamed Khalil Issa** and his delegation during their visit to New Delhi.
- The two sides discussed on enhancing collaboration in the energy sector, including increased crude oil trade and the resumption of exploration and **production projects in Libya**, where Indian Public Sector Undertakings including Indian Oil Corporation Limited, ONGC Videsh Limited and Oil India Limited have invested.



Centre For Carbon Fiber

- **Jagdeep Dhankhar** inaugurated the Centre for Carbon Fiber and Prepregs during his visit to National Aerospace Laboratories in Bengaluru.
- He witnessed the innovations in aviation technology promoted by NAL. He saw the flying display of the Hansa NG, the indigenous flying trainer and SARAS multipurpose aircraft designed and developed by NAL.



- Addressing the scientific community at **National Aerospace laboratories**, the Vice President said that India is taking crucial steps during the Amrit Kaal to realise the dream of **Viksit Bharat by 2047** when India celebrates its centenary of our Independence Day.
- He spoke about the strides taken by India in the field of disruptive technologies, Quantum Computing, AI and machine learning. He also pointed out that our Space sector accomplishments are globally recognised. He also said that Light Combat Aircraft Tejas symbolises Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

Investment Round

- **World Health Organization (WHO)** has launched a new 'Investment Round' aiming to raise **7 billion dollars** of funds to support countries to tackle **challenges like** climate change, displacement, poverty and inequality.



- In a social media post, **WHO Chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** said that the world is facing a difficult time with multiple challenges. He said the Investment Round aims to mobilize 7 billion dollars over four years to support countries to respond to these challenges.
- The Investment Round is the **result of recommendations** by the WHO Working Group on Sustainable Financing and was approved at the 154th Meeting of the WHO Executive Board in January 2024.

Purnima Shrestha

- **Purnima Shrestha**, a 32-year-old mountaineer from Gorkha, Nepal, and a photojournalist by profession has made history as the first woman in the world to climb Mount Everest three times in the same season, all in just 13 days.
- Her exceptional triple ascent beats the previous record of any woman summiteer to climb Everest thrice in a single season. She has climbed Everest four times, with a prior summit in 2018.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Water For Shared Prosperity Is Released By

- A. World Bank
- B. UNDP
- C. WHO
- D. UNESCO

ANSWER: A

2. Oldest Indian Woman To Conquer Mount Everest

- A. Purnima Shrestha
- B. Jyoti Shrestha
- C. Jyoti Ratre
- D. Sangeeta Bahl

ANSWER: C

3. IUCN Status Of Great Indian Bustard

- A. Endangered
- B. Least concern
- C. Critically endangered
- D. Vulnerable

ANSWER: C

4. What Is 'Planetary Alignment'

- A. It Is A Term Used To Describe Positioning Of Planets In Solar System
- B. A Rare Celestial Event Involving Black Hole
- C. It Is Used To Describe About Distance Between Earth And Moon
- D. None Of The Above

ANSWER: A

5. Which Airport Become First Airport In India To Achieve Zero Waste To Landfill Accolade

- A. Thiruvananthapuram International Airport
- B. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport
- C. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
- D. Chennai International Airport

ANSWER: A

6. Which Day Is Observed As 'World Preeclampsia Day' Annually

- A. 22 May
- B. 23 May
- C. 24 May
- D. 25 May

ANSWER: A

7. Which Country Conducted A Successful Test Of The ASMPA Supersonic Cruise Missile

- A. Russia
- B. France
- C. Japan
- D. China

ANSWER: B

8. World's First 100% Biodegradable Pen Has Been Launched In Which Country

- A. India
- B. Nepal
- C. Myanmar
- D. Bhutan

ANSWER: A

9. How Many Great Indian Bustards Were Spotted During Annual Waterhole Survey Recently Conducted In The National Desert Park, Rajasthan

- A. 63
- B. 64
- C. 65
- D. 66

ANSWER: B

10. What Is 'Gliese 12 b'

- A. Submarine
- B. Critical mineral
- C. Earth sized exoplanet
- D. A type of vaccine

ANSWER: C

11. Which Day Is Observed As 'World Thyroid Day' Annually

- A. 23 May
- B. 24 May
- C. 25 May
- D. 26 May

ANSWER: C

12. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Odisha
- D. Gujarat

ANSWER: A

13. Which Organization Released A Satellite-data-based Analysis On Expansion Of Glacial Lakes In Catchments Of Indian Himalayan River Basins

- A. ISRO
- B. DRDO
- C. CSIR
- D. NDMA

ANSWER: A

14. Hinglaj Mata Temple Is Located In Which Country

- A. Nepal
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Myanmar
- D. Pakistan

ANSWER: D

15. Which Regulatory Body Approved Changes In Mutual Fund Regulations To Prevent Front-running

- A. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- B. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- C. National Stock Exchange (NSE)
- D. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)

ANSWER: B

16. Bhadra Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

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

ANSWER: D

17. Which Asset Management Company Has Recently Launched India's First Nifty Non-cyclical Index Fund

- A. Groww Mutual Fund
- B. Axis Mutual Fund
- C. UTI Mutual Fund
- D. Invesco Mutual Fund

ANSWER: A

18. Which Organization Sets The Maximum Residue Limits For Pesticides In Food Products In India

- A. FSSAI
- B. CSIR
- C. ICAR
- D. CPCB

ANSWER: A

19. Glyptothorax Punyabratai Belongs To Which Species

- A. Spider
- B. Catfish
- C. Frog
- D. Snake

ANSWER: B

20. Who Was Author Of Dashkumarcharitam & At Whose Court Did He Live

- A. Dandin, Nandivarman II
- B. Bharavi, Nandivarman II
- C. Appar, Dandivarman I
- D. Bharavi, Narsimhavarman I

ANSWER: A