

Daily Current Affairs

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“Prerana Sthal”

- **Lok Sabha Secretariat** is developing “**Prerana Sthal**” in the Parliament House Complex and all the statues of great leaders and freedom fighters of the country are being installed in this.
- Earlier, these statues were installed at different parts of the Complex. The construction of the new Parliament Building, an action plan has been made for landscaping and beautification of the Parliament Complex so that the Complex could be made grand and attractive.



- **The Prerana Sthal** is being developed in such a way that the visitors coming to visit the Parliament complex could easily see the statues of these leaders and take inspiration from their lives and philosophy. The Lok Sabha Secretariat said, that due to location at different places in the Parliament Complex, visitors were not able to view these statues conveniently.
- In this Prerana Sthal, arrangements are also being made to provide detailed information to the visitors through modern technology regarding the lives and contributions of these great freedom fighters.

India, Qatar

- In line with the vision of **strengthening investment cooperation** between India and Qatar, the **first meeting of the Joint Task Force on Investment (JTFI)** between the two nations was convened on in New Delhi.
- The Joint Task Force was co-chaired by Department of Economic Affairs, Secretary, **Ajay Seth** and the Undersecretary of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of Qatar **Mohamed bin Hassen Al-Malki**.



- In the spirit of fostering mutual growth and prosperity, the **Joint Task Force on investment** has reaffirmed the commitment of both the nations to strengthen bilateral relations and to leverage the collective potential for accelerated growth, investment opportunities and synergistic collaboration across diverse sectors ranging from infrastructure, energy to technology and innovation.
- The **JTFI has underscored the significance** of the robust economic relationship between India and Qatar rooted in shared values common objectives and a shared vision for inclusive development.

Volkhov River In Russia

- External Affairs Ministry said **four Indian students** who were studying at the Yaroslav-the-Wise Novgorod State University located in Veliky Novgorod, Russia, drowned in an unfortunate **incident in the Volkhov river**.
- The Ministry said in a release that a fifth Indian student was saved from drowning and is presently receiving medical attention.
- **Indian Consulate in St. Petersburg** remains in contact with the university and local authorities and is providing all possible assistance. Local emergency services have so far recovered two dead bodies from the Volkhov river.



UN WSIS Award

- **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**, established on **August 24, 1984**, by the Government of India, is a premier telecom research and development centre.
- Its mission is to revolutionize the **telecom sector in India** by developing cutting-edge technologies and products tailored to Indian conditions.
- At the **WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024**, held from May 27 to 31 in Geneva, Switzerland, C-DOT received the prestigious '**Champion**' award under the AI, C-7, E-environment category for its project "**Mobile-Enabled Disaster Resilience through Cell Broadcast Emergency Alerting.**"



- The UN award recognizes **C-DOT's outstanding contribution** towards strengthening the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and highlights its commitment to leveraging technology for societal impact, particularly in the area of disaster management and emergency preparedness.

- C-DOT has developed an **end-to-end mobile-enabled** Cell Broadcast Emergency Alerting Platform to deliver real-time messages during emergencies.
- This innovative solution allows mobile operators to send text messages to users in specific locations through mobile cell towers, effectively disseminating critical information during natural disasters, such as cyclones or earthquakes, or any other emergency situation.



- The **WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event** is organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- The **World Summit on Information Society (WSIS)** was first proposed by the ITU in 1998 to address issues related to the global digital divide and concerns over the undue dominance of the United States and its companies in controlling the internet. The agenda later expanded to include internet-related public policy issues, leading to the first WSIS in Geneva, Switzerland, in 2003.

Ramsar List

- India has added two bird sanctuaries from Bihar, **Nagi and Nakti** – to the **'Ramsar Sites' list**, taking the tally to 82.
- The newest **'Wetlands of International Importance'**, both man-made reservoirs situated in the Jhajha forest range of Jamui District in Bihar, were added to Ramsar Sites as part of World Environment Day, observed annually on June 5.
- These two new **wetlands are man-made reservoirs** situated in the Jhajha forest range of Jamui. Their catchments feature dry deciduous forests surrounded by

hills,” the Secretary of the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (DEFCC) of Bihar The **Nakti Bird Sanctuary** was developed primarily for irrigation through the construction of Nakti Dam.



- Since the dam’s construction, the wetland and its surrounding area have provided habitat for over **150 species of birds, mammals**, fish, aquatic plants, reptiles and amphibians.
- They include globally threatened species, including the endangered Indian elephant (*Elephas maximus indicus*) and a vulnerable native catfish (*Wallago attu*).
- **A Ramsar site is a wetland** site designated to be of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, also known as The Convention on Wetlands, an international environmental treaty signed on 2 February 1971 in Ramsar, Iran, under the auspices of UNESCO.



India’s First Biosphere in a Tiger Reserve

- Two environmentalists, **Jai Dhar Gupta and Vijay Dhasmana** created India’s first biosphere in a tiger reserve, called the **Rajaji Raghati Biosphere (RRB)** within the Rajaji National Park in **Uttarakhand**.
- Situated within the Rajaji National Park in Uttarakhand, the biosphere overlooks the rocky white Raghati riverbed, nestled in the Shivalik foothills.



- The biosphere is a **35-acre private forest initiative** aimed at identifying and reviving rare and endangered species of native trees while protecting the area from poachers and mining.
- The land earmarked for **RRB was previously barren and in a state of degradation**. “Thousands of non-native eucalyptus trees were removed within days of acquiring the land. Subsequently, the land was contoured to retain water, prevent erosion, and promote groundwater recharge.”



- They are also developing a **second biosphere above the Koyna River** in the buffer zone of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve near Pune, Maharashtra, along the Western Ghats.
- **Jai says “We collected seeds**, established a seed bank, and collaborated with biodiversity parks to germinate and cultivate saplings of trees such as haldu, rohini, mala, saal, jamun, pangana, etc, which were then planted across the biosphere,” who has also banned combustion-engine vehicles in the region.

Arctic Ice Giant Viruses

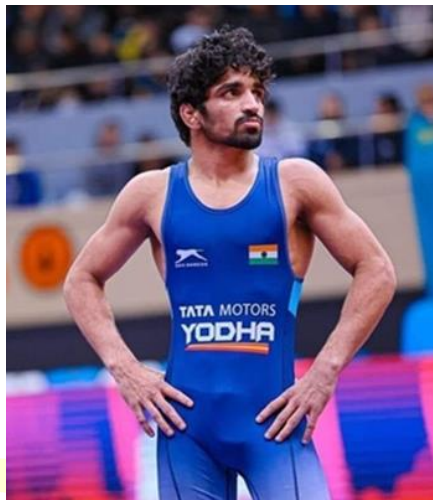
- **Giant viruses have been** found on the surface of Arctic ice, according to a new, ground-breaking study led by Laura Perini from the Department of Environmental Science at **Aarhus University**.
- These viruses, which can't be seen with the human eye, have been found for the **first time on the ice, living with algae**.
- This finding is important because the **viruses can eat algae**, which is a key factor in speeding up the melting of Arctic ice.



- When algae on ice sheets soak up the sunshine, temperatures rise and the ice melts faster. This makes the effects of global warming worse. The giant viruses might slow down the melting process by eating these algae, acting as a natural coolant.
- Scientists discovered these viruses **by looking at DNA and mRNA from samples** taken from different parts of the Arctic, like dark ice, red snow, and cryoconite holes.
- Certain markers found in the mRNA showed that these viruses are alive and doing well, which suggests that they are still interacting with the algae that live in these icy places.
- **Giant viruses are different from** other types of viruses because their genes are very complicated. This lets them do difficult biological tasks like DNA repair and replication. Their new discovery and the fact that they live on Arctic ice show how the fields of virology and environmental science are growing.

Aman Sehrawat

- In wrestling, **India's Aman Sehrawat** clinched the **silver medal** at the Budapest Ranking Series 2024 in Hungary last evening. Aman lost his final bout to the World Championships Silver medallist Rei Higuchi of Japan, 1-11, via technical superiority, in the men's freestyle 57 kg category. The silver medal will help Aman to boost his ranking for the upcoming Paris Olympics.



ISSF Rifle Pistol World Cup

- Women's 50m rifle 3-positions specialist **Sift Kaur Samra** won a bronze medal on Friday on the concluding day of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol in Munich, as India ended the competition with two medals. **Sarabjot Singh** had won gold in the Men's 10m Air Pistol yesterday. Sift shot 452.9, to give up silver by an agonizing 0.1 to China's Han Jiayu, the reigning Air Rifle Women's World Champion. World No. 1 Seonaid McIntosh of Great Britain won gold with a score of 466.7.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Volkhov River Seen In News Situated In

- A. Egypt
- B. Russia
- C. USA
- D. UK

ANSWER: B

2. UN WSIS Award 2024 Is Awarded To

- A. C DOT
- B. CSIR
- C. RBI
- D. ISRO

ANSWER: A

3. India's First Biosphere in a Tiger Reserve Is Made In

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Kerala
- C. Gujrat
- D. Haryana

ANSWER: A

4. Which Country Emerged As India's Third Largest Export Destination In 2023-24

- A. Netherlands
- B. Mexico
- C. Malaysia
- D. Singapore

ANSWER: A

5. Who Has Been Selected For Gudleppa Hallikeri Award 2024

- A. Shirshendhu Mukyopadhyaya
- B. Siddalinga Pattanashetti
- C. V.K.Gokak
- D. B Sriramulu

ANSWER: B

6. Who Received The Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award 2024

- A. Rameshchandra Shah
- B. Seeni Viswanathan
- C. Krishna Prakash
- D. Sandeep Joshi

ANSWER: C

7. What Is T Coronae Borealis (T CrB)

- A. Star
- B. Submarine
- C. Invasive plant
- D. Protein

ANSWER: A

8. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Odisha

ANSWER: C

9. Which Department Launched A Comprehensive Survey To Identify And Address Challenges Faced By MSME In Adapting To New Technologies

- A. Department of Telecommunications
- B. Department of Consumer Affairs
- C. Department of Commerce
- D. Department of Economic Affairs

ANSWER: A

10. Mount Kanlaon Is Located In Which Country

- A. Mexico
- B. Philippines
- C. Indonesia
- D. Chile

ANSWER: B

11. Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile , Recently Seen In The News, Developed By Which Country

- A. United States
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. Japan

ANSWER: A

12. What Is ' Thismia Malayana '

- A. A new species of plant
- B. A rare species of fern
- C. A type of traditional medicine
- D. An ancient irrigation technique

ANSWER: A

13. H5N2 Virus Is Related To Which Disease

- A. Malaria
- B. Dengue
- C. Bird flu
- D. AIDS

ANSWER: C

14. SPARSH Initiative Is Related To Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Communications
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs

ANSWER: A

15. Which Regulatory Body Launched ' Saarthi 2.0' Mobile App For Investors

- A. RBI
- B. SEBI
- C. NABARD
- D. FCI

ANSWER: B

16. NPCI International Payments Ltd Recently Joined Hands With Which South American Country To Enable UPI Payments

- A. Brazil
- B. Argentina
- C. Peru
- D. Chile

ANSWER: C

17. Where Was First IPEF Clean Economy Investor Forum' Meeting Held

- A. China
- B. Indonesia
- C. Singapore
- D. Bangladesh

ANSWER: C

18. Which Organization Introduced 'New Framework For Unaffected Price

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. RBI
- C. SEBI
- D. CSIR

ANSWER: C

19. Which Organization Recently Released 'Child Nutrition Report 2024'

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

ANSWER: A

20. Parnadatta Was Appointed Provincial Governor Of Saurashtra By

- A. Chandragupta Maurya
- B. Rudradaman
- C. Chandragupta II
- D. Skandagupta

ANSWER: D