

Daily Current Affairs

25 September 2024

First Comprehensive Cancer Multi-Omics Data Portal

- **Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA)** has introduced India's first multi-omics data portal. This new platform allows **researchers and doctors** to access important data from Indian cancer patients.
- It represents a major **step forward in cancer research**, helping to create treatments specifically for Indian people.
- In the past, cancer treatments in India were often based on research from Western countries.



- However, **cancers in Indian patients can be different** from those studied in the West. This means that some treatments may not be as effective because they don't take into account the unique characteristics of cancers found in Indian populations.
- The **ICGA's main goal is to collect detailed** information about the genetic makeup and molecular characteristics of cancers in Indian patients. This information can then help doctors and researchers create better and more personalized treatment plans, specifically designed for Indian people.
- **This portal is the first of its kind in India** that combines different types of molecular data, such as DNA, RNA, and protein information, from breast cancer

patients. It also includes data on how these patients responded to their treatments, making it a valuable resource for future research.

Tribal Development Scheme

- **Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan**, a groundbreaking initiative by the **Central Government of India**, has chosen **Mana village** in the Joshimath block of Chamoli district for implementation.
- This selection marks a significant step towards improving the socio-economic conditions of tribal communities in the region.



- The financial commitment to this initiative is substantial, with a total budget of **Rs 79,156 crore** allocated for its implementation. This budget is a collaborative effort between the central and state governments:
- **Central Government contribution:** Rs 56,333 crore
- **State Governments contribution:** Rs 22,823 crore
- This significant financial investment underscores the government's commitment to tribal development and welfare.



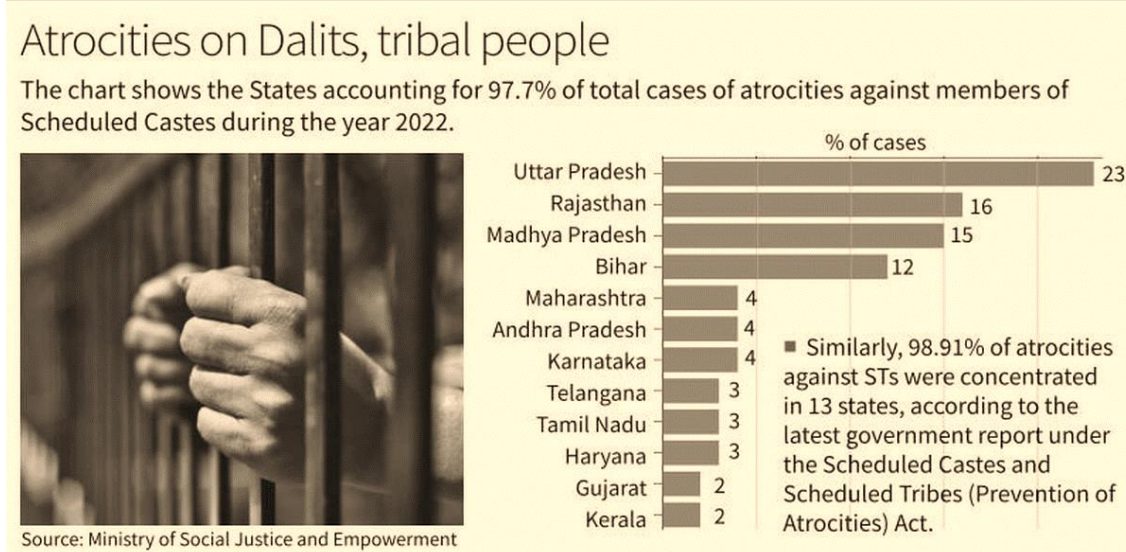
- **According to the 2011 census**, India's cumulative tribal population stands at over 10.45 crore people belonging to Scheduled Tribes (ST). This significant demographic underscores the importance of targeted development initiatives for these communities.

Atrocities On Dalits

- A recent government report highlights the **alarming rise in atrocities against Dalits**, officially known as Scheduled Castes (SCs), in India.
- Of the **51,656 cases registered** under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act in 2022, **Uttar Pradesh** accounted for the highest percentage at 23.78% with 12,287 cases, **followed by Rajasthan** with 8,651 cases (16.75%) and **Madhya Pradesh** with 7,732 cases (14.97%).
- **Notably, 97.7% of all reported atrocities** against SCs occurred in just 13 states, underscoring a concentrated issue in these regions. Additionally, Madhya Pradesh led in atrocities against Scheduled Tribes (STs) with 2,979 cases (30.61%).



- Key Findings on Atrocities Against SCs and STs (2022)
- **Dalits:** The report reveals that the majority of atrocities against SCs were reported from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh.
- **ST Cases:** Similarly, atrocities against STs were concentrated in 13 states, with Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan again leading in reported cases.
- **Conviction Rates:** Alarmingly, the conviction rate under the Act has dropped from 39.2% in 2020 to 32.4% in 2022, indicating systemic challenges in achieving justice for victims.



Loss And Damage' Fund

- **Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage**, aimed at assisting countries ravaged by climate-driven disasters, has **appointed Ibrahima Cheikh Diong**, a Senegalese finance specialist and dual U.S. citizen, as its first director.
- The fund, **created in 2022** under the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**, is **administered by the World Bank** and represents a significant win for developing nations who have long pushed for support against climate disasters.



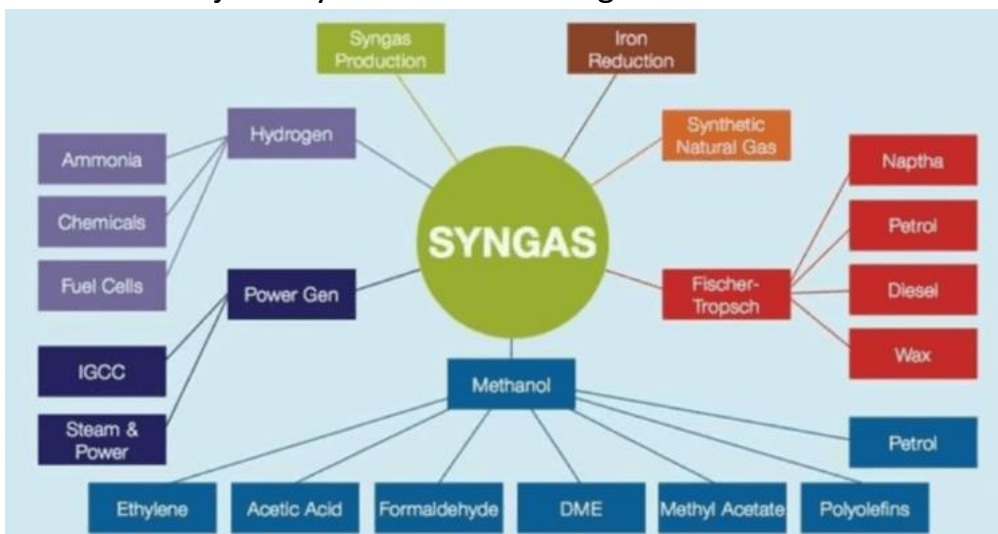
- Wealthy nations had resisted this fund, fearing it would lead to compensation demands for their greenhouse gas emissions.

- With Diong's appointment and the Philippines selected as the fund's headquarters, the **\$800 million pledged at COP28 in Dubai** last year can now be distributed.
- This progress is seen as critical ahead of the **upcoming COP29 summit in Baku**, Azerbaijan, where further financial contributions will be sought from countries.

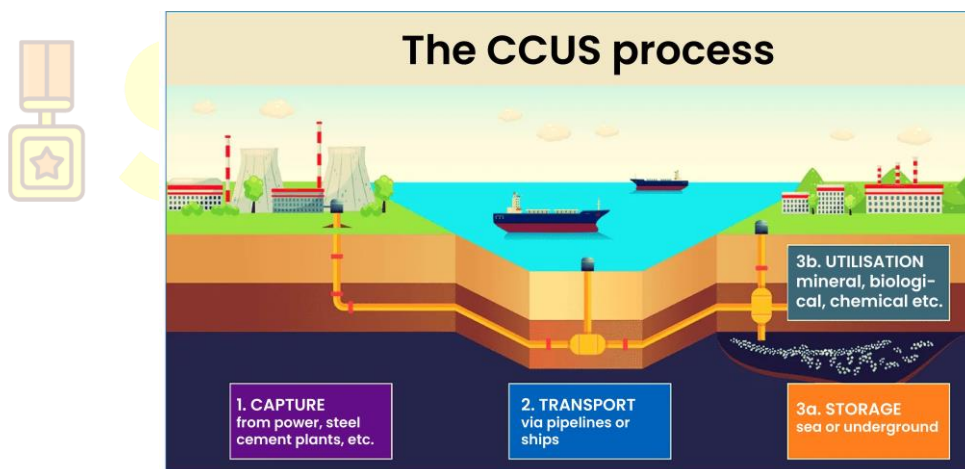


First CO₂-To-Methanol Pilot Plant

- The foundation stone for India's first of its kind **CO₂-to-Methanol pilot plant** with an overall **capacity of 1.4 Tons Per Day (TPD)** was unveiled virtually by Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, at Thermax Limited premises in Pune, Maharashtra.
- To demonstrate **CO₂ capture and utilization (CCU)** technologies, playing a crucial role in India's journey towards achieving net-zero carbon emissions.



- The **Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi)** and **Thermax Ltd.** will collaborate to develop the CCU technology. The plant with an overall capacity of 1.4 Tons Per Day (TPD) has been **designed considering CO₂ emissions** from a diverse range of sources, including power plants, cement and steel plants, fertilizer plants, and refineries.
- **Source of CO₂ for capturing** : Syngas produced during coal gasification, **Flue gas** from the combustion of carbonaceous fuels, and subsequently convert it to methanol.
- **Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage) involves** the capture of CO₂, generally from large point sources like power generation or industrial facilities that use either fossil fuels or biomass as fuel.
- If not being used on-site, the captured CO₂ is compressed and transported by pipeline, ship, rail or truck to be used in a range of applications, or injected into deep geological formations such as depleted oil and gas reservoirs or saline aquifers.



Nagar Van Yojana

- **Nagar Van Yojana (NVY)** was launched by the **Government of India in 2020** to increase the amount of greenery in cities.
- Within the first 100 days of this new initiative, the government aimed to create 100 urban forests, called Nagar Vans.
- This target was exceeded, with 111 Nagar Vans approved across 6 states and 1 union territory. The main goal of NVY is to **improve the quality of life in cities** by creating more green spaces.

- These urban forests will provide areas for relaxation, education, and environmental benefits. They also aim to help fight climate change by improving air quality and reducing the effects of rising temperatures in urban areas.



- **Government is providing Rs. 4 lakh per hectare** to help create and maintain these Nagar Vans. Each forest will cover an area between 10 to 50 hectares, depending on the size of the city. Cities with Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, and Urban Local Bodies will be part of the program.
- **Components of Nagar Vans**
- Each Nagar Van will have multiple features to serve different purposes. These may include:
 - Biodiversity Parks to protect various plant and animal species.
 - Smriti Vans, where trees are planted in memory of loved ones.
 - Butterfly Conservatories to attract and protect butterflies.
 - Herbal Gardens to grow medicinal plants.
 - Matri Vans, which are planted under the “Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam” (A Tree in Mother’s Name) initiative.

Hangzhou Open Doubles title

- Indian tennis duo **Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth** won the doubles title in the ATP 250 Hangzhou Open 2024. They defeated the German pair of Constantine Frantzen and Hendrik Jebens at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Expo Centre. The Indian duo staged a remarkable comeback to triumph 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 10-7, marking their first ATP title together as a pair.
- For Jeevan, it ends a seven-year title drought, while for Vijay, this victory represents a career milestone as it is his first-ever ATP title.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Emu, A Flightless Bird, Is Native To Which Country

- A. Australia
- B. China
- C. India
- D. Indonesia

ANSWER: A

2. Which Organization Launched India's First Comprehensive Cancer Multi-omics Data Portal

- A. Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR)
- B. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- C. Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA)
- D. Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI)

ANSWER: C

3. Indian Council Of Medical Research Received 2024 @UN Inter-agency Task Force Award For Its Contribution In Which Field

- A. Agriculture
- B. Non-communicable diseases
- C. Vaccination services
- D. None of the Above

ANSWER: B

4. Pallikaranai Marshland, Is Located In Which State

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Kerala
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: A

5. Who Was Announced As First Indian Ambassador Of International Table Tennis Federation

- A. Yuki Bhambri
- B. Ashok Amritraj
- C. Sharath Kamal
- D. Sumit Nagal

ANSWER: C

6. Which Institution Opened Its First International Campus In Abu Dhabi, UAE

- A. IIT Delhi
- B. IIT Kanpur
- C. IIT Bombay
- D. IIT Roorkee

ANSWER: A

7. Digital Bus Initiative, Is Launched By Which Two Organizations

- A. National Digital India Mission and NIIT Foundation
- B. Ministry of Education and Infosys Foundation
- C. NITI Aayog and Department of IT
- D. Digital India Mission and Tata Consultancy Services

ANSWER: A

8. AIIMS Inaugurated A Tobacco Cessation Clinic In Which City

- A. Mumbai
- B. Delhi
- C. Chennai
- D. Kolkata

ANSWER: B

9. Pahari Korwa Tribe, Is A PVTG Of Which State

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Gujarat
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. Assam

ANSWER: C

10. Who Has Been Unanimously Re Elected As The Chairperson Of The Parliamentary Committee On Official Language

- A. Dharmendra Pradhan
- B. JP Nadda
- C. Rajnath Singh
- D. Amit Shah

ANSWER: D

11. A Statue Of Sakthan Thampuran, Is Installed In Which State

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

ANSWER: A

12. Indo-pacific Oceans Initiative Completed 5 Years Of Implementation, Was Launched In Which Year

- A. 2017
- B. 2018
- C. 2019
- D. 2020

ANSWER: C

13. Which Country Become First Country To Allow Voters To Elect Judges At All Levels

- A. Cuba
- B. Costa Rica
- C. Mexico
- D. Jamaica

ANSWER: C

14. Leechubagan reservoir is associated with which state/UT

- A. West Bengal
- B. Odisha
- C. Assam
- D. SikkimFalcon

ANSWER: C

15. M-Kavach 2' is a bot removal tool developed by which institution

- A. NIC
- B. C-DAC
- C. HAL
- D. EIL

ANSWER: B

16. Gabon Which Was Seen In The News, Is Located In Which Region

- A. Africa
- B. Europe
- C. Australia
- D. Asia

ANSWER: A

17. Which of the following battles is subject matter of Alha Khand, a 12th Century epic poetic work in Hind

- A. Battle of Mandsaur
- B. Battle of Chittor
- C. Battle of Mahoba
- D. Battles of TarainGermany

ANSWER: C

18. Who among the following was the immediate successor of Guru Nanak

- A. Guru Angad
- B. Guru Arjun
- C. Guru Amardas
- D. Guru RamdasBWF world championship

ANSWER: A

19. Which among the following is not a work of Amir Khusrau

- A. Khazyan-ul-Futuh
- B. Tughluq Nama
- C. Tarik-i-Alai
- D. Tabqat-i-Naisiri

ANSWER: D

20. Paunar Ashram Is Related To Which Of The Following Social Activist

- A. Vinoba Bhave
- B. Baba Amte
- C. Swami Sahajanand Saraswati
- D. Ambedkar

ANSWER: A