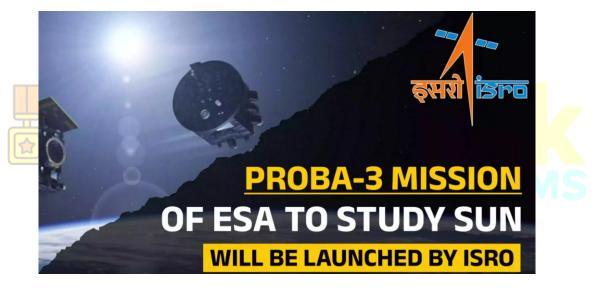


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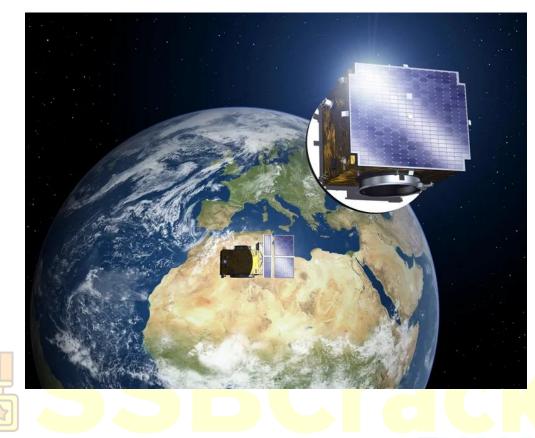
India To Launch ESA Mission PROBA-3

- Science and Technology Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that India will launch the European Space Agency mission named PROBA-3 next month from the Sriharikota Space Station.
- The mission will study the **Sun's faint corona closer to the solar rim**. Addressing the Indian Space Conclave 3.0 in New Delhi, the Minister highlighted that almost every sector in the country is using space technology.



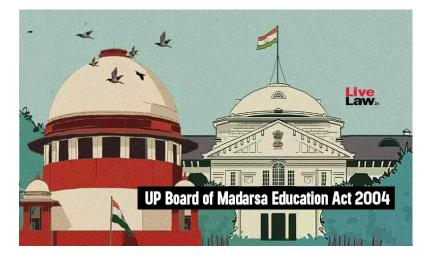
- He also added that **space technology also fosters** the creation of smart cities by providing navigation, satellite imaging, terrain mapping among others. The Minister also underscored India's vision to increase their contribution in the global **space economy from 2 percent to 10 percent** in the coming years.
- **Proba-3 mission is a European Space Agency** (ESA) mission that demonstrates the use of precise **satellite formation flying technologies**: The mission involves launching two small satellites that will fly together in a precise formation to mimic a single, large structure in space. This will test the ability of satellites to work together in a coordinated manner.
- The two satellites will work together to form a 144-meter-long solar coronagraph, which will create an artificial eclipse to study the Sun's corona.

The coronagraph will block out the Sun's bright surface light, allowing scientists to study the Sun's corona with unprecedented detail and proximity.



UP Board of Madarsa Education Act 2004

 Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the Uttar Pradesh Board of Madarsa Education Act, 2004. A bench comprising Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra gave the verdict against the Allahabad High Court's March 22 judgement that declared the Act as "unconstitutional" and violative of the principles of secularism.



- The Apex Court said that the statute can be struck down if a state lacks legislative competence. The **ruling means that madarsas** would continue to function in Uttar Pradesh with the state regulating the education standards.
- Earlier in April, staying the impugned decision, the Bench, also comprising **Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Manoj Misra**, had observed that the Allahabad High Court misconstrued the provisions of the Madarsa Act and the view taken by it was prima facie not correct.
- The Supreme Court, however, held the Madarsa Education Act "unconstitutional" to the extent it regulates higher education in relation to 'fazil' and 'kamil' degrees granting by Madarsas beyond class XII for being in conflict with the UGC Act. The Supreme Court said that the Allahabad High Court erred in holding that the madarsa law had to be struck down for violating basic structure, which is the principle of secularism.

Not All Private Properties Part Of 'Material Resources Of Community'

- Supreme Court in a majority ruling, held that not all private properties are part of the "material resources of the community" that the State must redistribute under Article 39(b) of the Constitution.
- However, it noted that some private properties could fall under this category if they are significant and serve the community.



- The nine-judge bench, led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, included Justices Hrishikesh Roy, B.V. Nagarathna, Sudhanshu Dhulia, and others. The 8:1 majority verdict authored by the CJI, with Justice Nagarathna partially agreeing and Justice Dhulia dissenting.
- The judgment also rejected earlier interpretations that broadly included private resources as community assets, emphasizing that prior statements on the matter were not binding.

Sunflowers Were The First Ones To Know'

- Film and Television Institute of India, FTII's student film 'Sunflowers Were The First Ones To Know' has qualified for the 2025 Oscars in the Live Action Short Film Category.
- This Kannada language short film directed by FTII student Chidananda S Naik is inspired by Indian folk stories and traditions.

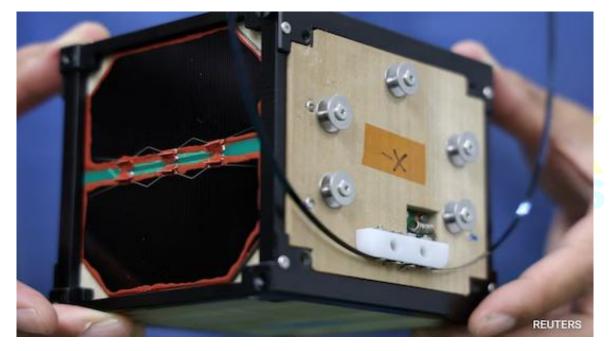


- The film had earlier this year won the **first Prize at the Cannes Film Festival's** La Cinef Selection. The La Cinef Jury at Cannes had commended the film for its illuminating storytelling and masterful direction.
- Having received acclaim on the festival circuit, 'Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know' is now poised to compete alongside the world's best short films. The campaign for Sunflowers will feature special screenings, press opportunities, and Q&A events, providing Academy members and audiences worldwide with a glimpse into the universal power of India's storytelling traditions.

• Beyond its accolades, 'Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know' serves as an invitation for viewers to engage with Indian culture and storytelling, illuminating the universal themes that resonate deeply with audiences globally.

World's First Wooden Satellite, LignoSat

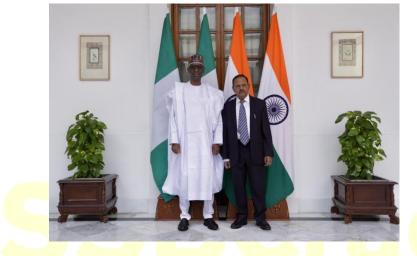
- In Japan, the **world's first wooden satellite** was launched into space today aims to prove that **wood is a space-grade material**.
- The satellite LignoSat is scheduled to orbit the Earth for six months.
- According to media reports, designed by researchers at Kyoto University in Japan, LignoSat is made of honoki, a kind of magnolia tree that was traditionally used to make sword sheaths.



- The Japanese researchers conducted a 10-month experiment aboard the **International Space Station** (ISS) and found that honoki was the timber most suited for space applications.
- After the experiment, the team constructed LignoSat using a traditional Japanese crafts technique without screws or glue to hold the satellite together.
- The satellite will measure how wood endures the extreme environment of space, where temperatures fluctuate from -100 to 100 degrees Celsius every 45 minutes as objects orbit through darkness and sunlight. It will also gauge timber's ability to reduce the impact of space radiation on semiconductors.

India and Nigeria

 The Second Strategic and Counter-Terrorism Dialogue between India and Nigeria concluded today in New Delhi. During the two day long Dialogue, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and his Nigerian counterpart Nuhu Ribadu held in-depth discussions within the framework of the strategic India-Nigeria partnership on threats and challenges emanating from terrorism, extremism, radicalization, including through cyberspace, as well as from international crime, arms and drug smuggling.



- The two sides **identified specific areas of cooperation** to enhance their fight against all forms of terrorism, reiterating their firm belief that there can be no justification for terrorism in any form or manifestation.
- They agreed to enhance cooperation in bilateral capacity building and also strengthen cooperation in the international arena. During his visit, National Security Adviser of Nigeria Nuhu Ribadu also visited the premises of the National Security Guard in Manesar.

UN & IGAD Report

- At least 65 million people are food insecure in the Horn of Africa. It was revealed by a joint report released today by the UN and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, IGAD, an East African bloc.
- This figure marks a slight **decline from 66 million in August**, attributed to improved rainfall over the past two seasons, particularly in the IGAD region.



- According to reports, of the 65 million affected people, 36 million reside in IGAD member states, including Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda.
- The report said, **extreme weather and climate change**, now more severe and frequent, are the primary drivers of food insecurity.







• The report highlighted that **conflict has led to widespread destruction** of infrastructure and essential sources of food and income, worsening the already critical food security situation.

World Soft Tennis Championship

• In Soft Tennis, India's Tanushree Pandey has clinched the Silver Medal at the World Soft Tennis Championship at Jingshan in China. She faced a defeat against Chiang Min Yu of Chinese Taipei, 3-4, in the Under 21 Women's Individual Singles final.

SSBCrack



• Earlier, **Tanushree triumphed over her Japanese opponent**, 4-3, in a fiercely contested semifinal match. While in the quarterfinal, she had defeated her Chinese opponent by the same scoreline.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. LignoSat Seen In News Is Associated With
- A. France
- B. J<mark>apa</mark>n
- C. Spain
- D. Russia ANSWER: B
- 2. PROBA 3 Mission Is Made By
- A. NASA
- B. ESA
- C. ISRO
- D. JAXA

ANSWER: A

- 3. Where Was 7th Session Of The International Solar Alliance Held
- A. New Delhi
- B. Chennai
- C. Bhopal
- D. Hyderabad

ANSWER: A

4. Duma Boko Has Been Elected As The President Of Which Country

- A. Rwanda
- B. Botswana
- C. Kenya
- D. Nigeria ANSWER: B
- 5. Turtle Wildlife Sanctuary, Is Located In Which District Of Uttar Pradesh
- A. Gorakhpur
- B. Prayagraj
- C. Varanasi
- D. Meerut

ANSWER: C

6. What Is Alstonia Scholaris

- A. Spider
- B. Tropical tree
- C. Invasive weed
- D. Butterfly ANSWER: B

7. Which Ministry Has Launched The Digital India Common Service Centre Project

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Science and Technology **ANSWER: B**
- 8. Bali Padyami Festival Is Celebrated In Which State
- A. Bihar
- B. Karnataka
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: B

9. Which State Government Declared A Heatwave As A State specific Disaster

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Jharkhand ANSWER: B

10. What Is The New Name Of The National Achievement Survey (NAS) For 2024

- A. PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan
- B. Udaan Survey
- C. Vidya Vikas Survey
- D. Sarv Unnati Survey ANSWER: A
- 11. What Is The Main Objective Of The "First In The World" Challenge Initiative, Recently Launched By ICMR
- A. To promote traditional medicine practices
- B. To fund international health conferences
- C. To develop groundbreaking health technologies
- D. None of the Above ANSWER: C

12. What Is Gastrodia Lohitensis

- A. Fish
- B. Orchid species
- C. Butterfly
- D. Spider

ANSWER: B

- 13. Which Indian Company Commemorated Its 50th Foundation Day With The Launch Of A Golden Jubilee Logo And Mascot "Angara"
- A. Indian Oil Corporation
- B. National Thermal Power Corporation
- C. Steel Authority of India Limited
- D. Coal India Limited

ANSWER: D

14. What Has Been Named Collins Dictionary's 2024 Word Of The Year

- A. Rebel
- B. Maverick
- C. Brat
- D. Iconoclast ANSWER: C
- 15. Where Is The 352nd Governing Body Meeting Of The International Labour Organisation (ILO) Currently Taking Place
- A. Geneva
- B. Paris
- C. Brussels
- D. Vienna

ANSWER: A

- 16. Where Will The First Asian Buddhist Summit, Themed "Role Of Buddha Dhamma In Strengthening Asia," Take Place
- A. Kathmandu
- B. New Delhi
- C. Thimphu
- D. Colombo ANSWER: B

17. Where Was India's Updated National Biodiversity Strategy And Action Plan Launched

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

ANSWER: B

18. Where Did India's EAM S. Jaishankar, Inaugurate A New Indian Consulate To Strengthen India-Australia Relations

- A. Sydney
- B. Melbourne
- C. Brisbane
- D. Perth ANSWER: C

19. What Is The Origin Of Koel River

- A. Parasnath hills
- B. Palamau Tiger Reserve
- C. Panna Tiger Reserve
- D. Pachmarhi hills

ANSWER: B

20. Who Conferred The Title Of Jagath Seth On Fateh Chand, A Defector Of The Battle Of Plassey

- A. Alivardi Khan
- B. Sirajuddaula
- C. Mir Zafar
- D. Muhammad Shah ANSWER: D