

Daily Current Affairs

21 November 2024

U.N. Methane Monitoring Program Report

- **U.N. has monitored methane leaks** and has sent **1,200 alerts to governments** and companies. **Only 12 major alerts received** any action, which is just 1% of the total alerts.
- **Roland Kupers, the program's lead architect**, expressed disappointment in the response. Many parties had pledged to reduce **methane emissions by 30% by 2030**. **Methane is a potent greenhouse gas**.



- It is **80 times more effective than carbon dioxide** over 20 years. Methane has already **contributed to a 0.5°C rise in global temperatures**.
- Reducing methane emissions is crucial for climate action.
- **Plugging leaks in oil and gas wells** is effective, and is one of the quickest methods to reduce methane emissions. Fixing leaks also saves money by preserving valuable products.

Past initiatives (2022) for curbing methane emissions around the Globe:

- There is extensive coverage at the United Nations Climate Conference in **Egypt (COP27)** and the growth of the **Global Methane Pledge (GMP)** since 2022.
- At **COP28 in Dubai**, United Arab Emirates, IMEO launched the new Methane Alert and Response System (MARS).
 - This system collects data from multiple satellites and alerts countries and companies when emissions are detected.
- Under the GMP, more than 150 countries have committed to collectively reducing their methane emissions by **30%** across all sectors by 2030.
- IMEO collaborates with governments, scientists, satellite operators, and companies to integrate and improve the quality of methane emissions data, specifically identifying mitigation opportunities.

- Despite global pledges, methane emissions remain at record highs. Emissions from the oil and gas industry have not decreased since 2019. Commitment from **150 countries and 140 companies** has not translated into action.
- **Turkmenistan reported the highest number** of leaks. Nearly 400 plumes were detected there. The **United States followed with 178 leaks. Azerbaijan recorded 32 leaks.** Satellite data is crucial for identifying leaks. However, cloud cover can limit its effectiveness. Companies plan to use this data to comply with future methane regulations.



Karnataka To Set Up 3 Global Innovation Districts

- Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced the establishment of three **Global Innovation Districts (GIDs)** in Bengaluru, Mysuru, and Belagavi to attract and support **Global Capability Centres (GCCs)** in the state.
- The announcement was made at the **27th Bengaluru Tech Summit**, where the CM also highlighted the launch of India's first dedicated GCC policy, aiming to empower innovation.



- These innovation districts will be **key pillars in Karnataka's strategy** to foster research, development, and emerging industries, alongside strengthening its position as a global tech hub.
- The **GIDs in Bengaluru, Mysuru, and Belagavi** will be dedicated parks for GCCs, with Bengaluru's district forming part of the **Knowledge, Wellbeing, and Innovation City (KWIN City)**.



- The **KWIN City will position Bengaluru** as a global hub for innovation and research, supported by Karnataka's unmatched engineering talent and its leadership in AI professionals.
- A significant aspect of Karnataka's strategy is the '**Nipuna Karnataka**' initiative, designed to create an industry-ready workforce. The state aims to skill one lakh people through partnerships with global tech giants like Microsoft, Intel, Accenture, IBM, and the BFSI Consortium. This will ensure the availability of top-tier expertise for GCCs.

India's Unemployment Rate

- In the **July-September 2024 quarter**, India's urban unemployment rate **decreased to 6.4%**, marking the lowest level observed in recent years. The rate has dropped **from 6.6% in the previous quarter** and remains consistent with the rate recorded in the same period last year.
- This improvement **reflects positive trends in employment**, particularly in urban areas, indicating progress in job creation and labor force participation.
- **Urban Unemployment Rate** : 6.4% in the July-September 2024 quarter, down from 6.6% in the previous quarter.



- This marks the **lowest unemployment** rate recorded in recent times.
- The **rate was 6.6% in the same quarter** of the previous year (2023).
- Unemployment Among Men and Women
- **Men's Unemployment**: Decreased to 5.7% (from 5.8% in April-June 2024).

- **Women's Unemployment:** Decreased to 8.4% (from 9% in April-June 2024).
- **LFPR increased to 50.4%** in the July-September 2024 quarter (up from 50.1% in the previous quarter).
- **Women's LFPR remained steady** at 25.5% (slightly up from 25.2% in the previous quarter).
- Worker Population Rate (WPR) in Urban Areas
- **WPR: 47.2% in the July-September 2024** quarter for those aged 15 and above.
- For men, the WPR was 70.7%, while for women, it was 23.4%.
- Definitions
- **Unemployment Rate:** The percentage of unemployed people in the labor force.
- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):** The percentage of the working-age population that is either working or actively seeking work.
- **Worker Population Rate (WPR):** The percentage of the total population (aged 15 years and above) that is employed or actively looking for work.

Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab

- President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the **125th Birth Anniversary Celebration of Utkal Keshari, Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab**, in New Delhi.
- During the event, a special **commemorative stamp and coin** will be released in the honour of Dr. Mahtab.
- Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab was born on **21 November 1899, in Agarpara, Odisha**. He was a multifaceted leader in Indian history, known as a freedom fighter, politician, historian, writer, social reformer, and journalist.
- Dr. Mahtab is remembered for his strong will, determination, and influence, earning recognition as one of the state's foremost leaders.

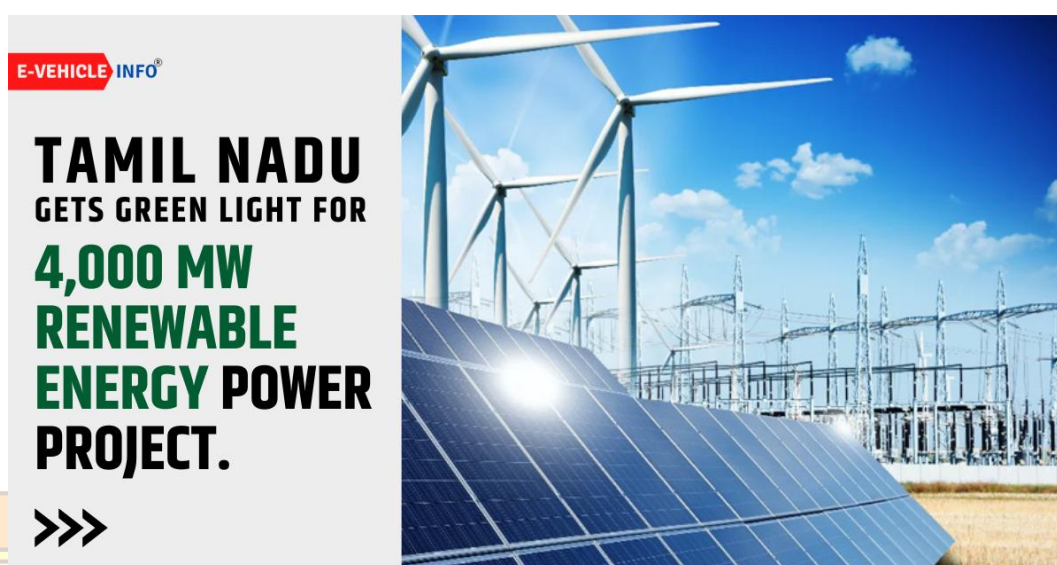


Tamil Nadu's Green Energy Corridor-II Initiative

- **Green Energy Corridor-II (GEC-II) Scheme** is a project for Tamil Nadu, which aims to enhance the state's renewable energy transmission capacity. The initiative is part of a larger national effort to integrate renewable energy sources into the grid.



- The **Central Electricity Authority (CEA)** has outlined this plan in its recent report. The **project is valued at ₹719.76 crore** and focuses on **integrating 19 gigawatts (GW)** of renewable energy.
- Tamil Nadu will contribute **4,000 megawatts (MW) of this total**. The infrastructure will include **624 circuit kilometers (ckm)** of transmission lines and 2,200 substations. The total cost of the **project is ₹12,031.33 crore**.



- The **Central Financial Assistance (CFA)** stands at **₹3,970.34 crore, which is 33%** of the overall cost. Funding will also come from loans via institutions like KfW, REC, and PFC.
- The CFA is subject to approval by the **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs**. Detailed Project Reports (DPR) have been prepared by the states involved. Changes to the schemes have been requested and approved by the Union Ministry for New and Renewable Energy.
- The project aims to **streamline the integration of renewable energy** into the existing infrastructure. The first phase, **GEC-I, aimed to integrate about 23 GW of renewable energy**.
- By 31 March 2024, 18.72 GW had been commissioned. By 30 June 2024, 9,135 ckm of transmission lines and 21,313 MVA of transformation capacity were completed.
- Tamil Nadu, along with Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Karnataka, has completed all **GEC-I transmission projects**. Under **GEC-I, 2.20 GW of renewable energy** was planned. Tamil Nadu has successfully added 1.77 GW and completed 1,068 ckm of transmission lines.

26 Nepali Diplomats To Attend Training In India

- A group of **twenty-six Nepali diplomats** and officers from across ten key Ministries and Departments of the Government of Nepal is visiting India from 20 to 30 November 2024 to participate in the **first Special Training Programme for Nepali diplomats** and officers at the **Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS)**, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.



- The training programme will **include modules on issues of global political** and economic relevance, trade & connectivity, climate change and humanitarian assistance, development partnership, shared culture & heritage and also include visits to cities and places of historical and tourist interest outside New Delhi.
- **Prasanna Shrivastava, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy** of India in Kathmandu held an interaction with the 26 Nepali diplomats and officers before they departed for India. The visit of Nepali diplomats and officers to India continues our institutional exchanges and reflects the close and unique bilateral relationship between India and Nepal.

India Wins Women's Asian Champions Trophy

- In hockey, **India clinched the Women's Asian Champions Trophy** at Rajgir Hockey Stadium in Bihar. The Indian women's hockey team won their **2nd consecutive title** by defeating China 1-0 in the final match.
- With this victory, **India has equalled South Korea** with three titles each. Despite China's determined efforts, the first half ended goalless.



SSB Crack
EXAMS

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. India's Unemployment Rate In July-September 2024 Quarter

- A. 6.2%
- B. 6.3%
- C. 6.4%
- D. 6.6%

ANSWER: C

2. Which Country Wins Women's Asian Champions Trophy

- A. India
- B. China
- C. South Korea
- D. Bangladesh

ANSWER: A

3. Which Day Is Observed As National Epilepsy Day Every Year

- A. November 16
- B. November 17
- C. November 18
- D. November 19

ANSWER: B

4. Which Country Launched The “Global Energy Efficiency Alliance” At COP29

- A. India
- B. France
- C. United States (US)
- D. United Arab Emirates (UAE)

ANSWER: D

5. Dead Sea, Is Located Between Which Two Countries

- A. Syria and Lebanon
- B. Egypt and Saudi Arabia
- C. Israel and Jordan
- D. Turkey and Cyprus

ANSWER: C

6. A New Species Of Crocodile Newt, The Cao Bang Crocodile Newt, Has Been Discovered In Which Country

- A. Vietnam
- B. China
- C. Thailand
- D. Japan

ANSWER: A

7. Tumaini Festival, The Only Festival Held In A Refugee Camp, Recently Received Which Award

- A. UNESCO World Heritage Award
- B. Cultures of Resistance Award
- C. International Refugee Cultural Award
- D. Global Peace and Unity Prize

ANSWER: B

8. Which Government Agency Organized The Anti-terror Conference-2024 In New Delhi

- A. Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)
- B. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
- C. National Investigation Agency (NIA)
- D. Ministry of Defence

ANSWER: C

9. Which Two Organizations Signed An Agreement To Develop A “Millimeter Wave Transceiver For 5G Rural Connectivity”

- A. C-DOT and IIT-Roorkee
- B. ISRO and IIT-Delhi
- C. DRDO and IIT-Madras
- D. TRAI and IISc-Bangalore

ANSWER: A

10. What Is Allulose

- A. Invasive weed
- B. Asteroid
- C. Sweetening agent
- D. New drugs for Dementia

ANSWER: C

11. What Is The Name Of The UK’s Oldest Satellite That Has Recently Been Moved Without Record

- A. Skynet-1A
- B. Intelsat-901
- C. Voyager 1
- D. None of the Above

ANSWER: A

12. Scarborough Shoal, Lies In Which Sea

- A. Red Sea
- B. Black Sea
- C. Arabian Sea
- D. South China Sea

ANSWER: D

13. Where Was The 8th International Ancient Arts Festival Held

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

ANSWER: A

14. Pinaka Multi-barrel Rocket Launch System, Is Developed By Which Organization

- A. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- B. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- C. European Space Agency (ESA)
- D. China National Space Administration (CNSA)

ANSWER: A

15. Which Organization Hosted The South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council In Delhi

- A. United Nations Development Programme
- B. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- C. European Telecommunications Standards Institute
- D. World Bank

ANSWER: B

16. Which Organization Released The State Of The Climate 2024 Report

- A. International Labour Organization (ILO)
- B. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- C. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- D. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

ANSWER: D

17. Which Organization Released The World Energy Employment 2024 Report

- A. United Nations Development Programme
- B. International Monetary Fund
- C. World Bank
- D. International Energy Agency

ANSWER: D

18. Which State's Team Won The 14th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2024

- A. Odisha
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Haryana
- D. Andhra Pradesh

ANSWER: A

19. What Is The Rank Of India In The Sustainable Trade Index 2024

- A. 22nd
- B. 23rd
- C. 25th
- D. 29th

ANSWER: B

20. Who Among The Following Has Written "Bharat Durdasha"

- A. Maithili Sharan Gupt
- B. Munshi Prem Chand
- C. Swami Sahajanand Saraswati
- D. Bharatendu Harishchandra

ANSWER: D