

Daily Current Affairs

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India Develops First Indigenous MRI Machine

- India has developed its **first indigenous Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)** machine, set to be installed at the **All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi**, by October for trials.



- The move aims to reduce treatment costs and reliance on imported medical devices, as **80-85 percent of equipment** is currently imported. The indigenous MRI machine will help make India more self-reliant in medical technology.
- Talking to reporters, the Director of AIIMS New Delhi, M Srinivas, said that this initiative will help **various companies and institutions make** necessary changes and ensure that the country has the best equipment in the world.

India- China Hold 33rd WMCC Meeting

- The 33rd meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) was held in Beijing, China. In a statement, the **Ministry of External Affairs** said that the meeting comprehensively reviewed the situation along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas.



- The ministry said the **two sides also agreed to maintain** and strengthen relevant diplomatic and military mechanisms toward this end. They also exchanged views on the early resumption of cross-border cooperation and exchanges, including on **trans-border rivers and the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra**.
- Both sides also **agreed to work together to make substantial preparations** for the next meeting of the Special Representatives, which will be held in India later this year. The Indian delegation leader also paid a courtesy call on Assistant Foreign Minister Hong Lei.

Projects Honouring Bhagat Singh & Martyrs

- Centre has approved **two development projects for Punjab**, aimed at honouring the sacrifices of **Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev** at Khatkar Kalan and Hussainiwala in Ferozepur, where the trio was cremated.



- Both projects, titled '**Cultural and Heritage Stretch – A Symbol of Peace and Harmony at Hussainiwala Border**' and '**Heritage Street as a Tribute to Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh** at his native village Khatkar Kalan in Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar,' are designed as fitting tributes to the martyrs.
- These projects will be **developed at a cost of 78.44 crores of rupees**. Union Minister of State for Railways and Food Processing Industries Ravneet Bittu, informed that the initiative aims to preserve the historical and cultural legacy of the area, commemorating the sacrifices of the freedom fighters.

India, Singapore Sign Lol

- **India and Singapore signed a Letter of Intent (Lol)** for the Green and Digital Shipping Corridor (GDSC), with a focus on **digitalisation and decarbonisation**. **Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore and the Ministry of Ports, and Shipping** in a joint release said The Singapore-India Green and Digital Shipping Corridor, will enhance collaboration between both countries and help accelerate the **development and uptake of zero or near-zero GHG emission** technologies and the adoption of digital solutions.



- **The Lol was signed by R. Lakshmanan**, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) of India, and Teo Eng Dinh, Chief Executive of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore.
- The signing ceremony, held during the Singapore **Maritime Week is being held from March 24-28, 2025** was witnessed by Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for Sustainability and the Environment of Singapore, and Sarbananda Sonowal, India's Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said his visit to **Singapore with a high-level marine sector delegation** will strengthen the long-standing relationship. He said Moreover, the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership will deepen and broaden cooperation between the two countries.
- **Sonowal is on a three-day visit to Singapore and** is attending the maritime week which is expected to see participation from 20,000 delegates and exhibitors from around the world

Senior Citizens Commission

- **Kerala has become the first state** in India to establish a Senior Citizens Commission by passing the Kerala State Senior Citizens Commission Bill, 2025.
- **This statutory body aims to safeguard the rights and welfare of elderly citizens** and act as an advisory body for policymaking. The initiative underscores Kerala's commitment to ensuring the protection, rehabilitation, and empowerment of senior citizens.



- **Senior Citizens Commission** : A statutory body established under the **Kerala State Senior Citizens Commission Act, 2025**. First-of-its-kind in India, focusing exclusively on senior citizens' welfare. Functions as an advisory body for state policies concerning the elderly.
- **Aim of the Commission** : To safeguard the rights and welfare of senior citizens. Ensure rehabilitation, protection, and active participation of the elderly in society. Promote **inclusivity and dignity for senior citizens** in Kerala.



- **Key Features and Functions**
- **Policy Advisory**: Develops and recommends policies for senior citizen welfare.
- **Grievance Redressal**: Addresses complaints related to neglect, abuse, and exploitation.

- **Skill Utilization:** Encourages senior citizens to contribute their knowledge and experience to society.
- **Legal Support:** Assists elderly citizens with legal aid, especially in cases of abuse and property disputes.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Organizes programs to educate the public about the rights of senior citizens and the responsibilities of families.
- **Regular Reports:** Submits periodic recommendations to the state government for policy enhancements.

Black Carbon Threatens HKH

- **Glaciers across the world are retreating at an alarming rate**, with the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region experiencing the most significant losses. A recent **United Nations report, released on the World Day for Glaciers**, highlights that glacier loss in the HKH region **accelerated by 65% in 2011-2020** compared to the previous decade.



- This rapid melting poses severe risks to water resources, ecosystems, and communities dependent on glacier-fed rivers. The HKH region lost glacier **volume 65% faster in 2011-2020 compared to 2001-2010**.
- **If global temperatures rise by 1.5°C to 2°C**, HKH glaciers may lose 30-50% of their volume by 2100. **If warming exceeds 2°C, the region** could lose up to 45% of its 2020 glacier volume.
- **The HKH spans eight countries:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan. The region is the source of ten major river basins supporting nearly two billion people. Global Glacier Loss Trends

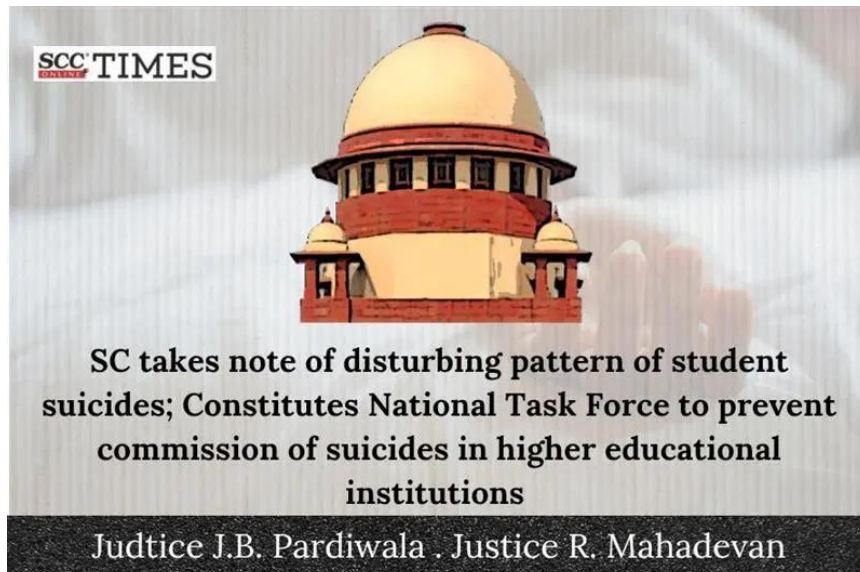
- **Around 1.1 billion people** live in mountainous regions, with two-thirds in urban areas.
- Global mountain glaciers could lose **26-41% of their mass by 2100** if temperatures rise **between 1.5°C and 4°C**.



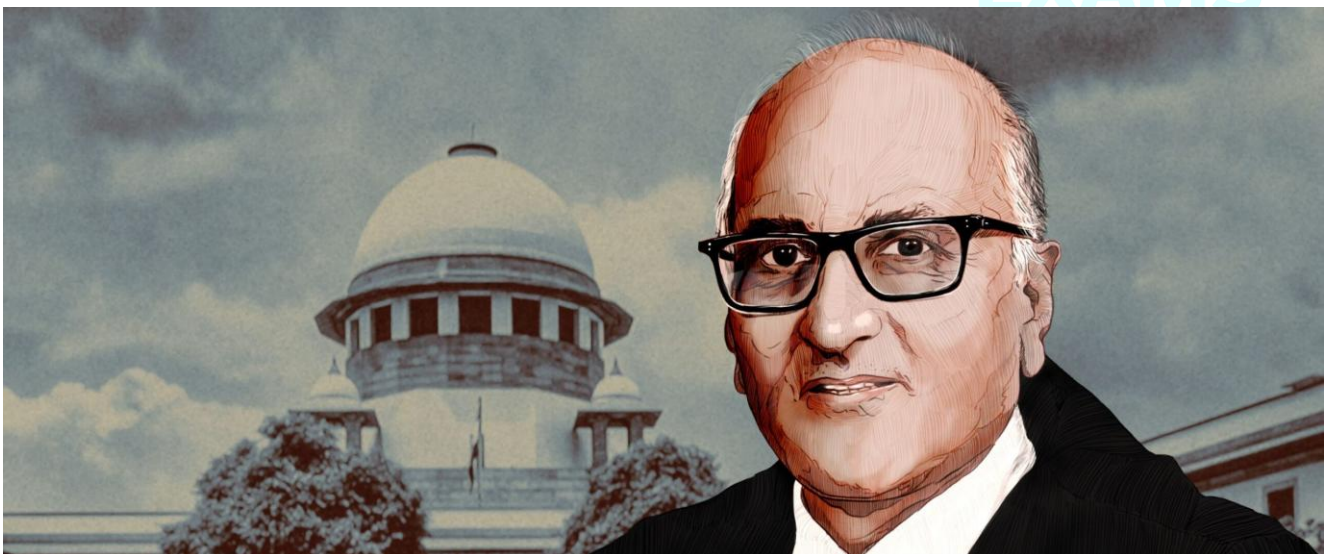
- The “**Third Pole**” (HKH) stores the **most ice outside** the Arctic and Antarctic.
- The rapid disappearance of glaciers, such as the Conejeras Glacier in Colombia, signals an accelerating crisis.
- Hazards of Glacier Melt : **Increased risks of Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs)**, flash floods, and landslides.
- GLOFs have caused **over 12,000 deaths globally in 200 years**, with 7,000 fatalities in the HKH region alone in the last 190 years.
- The **number of glacial lakes has risen significantly** since the 1990s, increasing disaster risks.

National Task Force On Student Mental Health

- **Supreme Court of India established a National Task Force (NTF)** to address the alarming rise in student suicides in higher educational institutions. This decision followed the **tragic deaths of two students** at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, which brought into light the urgent need for a comprehensive approach to mental health in academia.



- The **Supreme Court** noted a **“disturbing pattern”** of suicides among students, particularly in prestigious institutions. In recent years, over 13,000 students have reportedly taken their own lives, with many cases linked to academic pressure, discrimination, and harassment.
- The **NTF will be chaired by former Supreme Court judge Justice S. Ravindra Bhat**. It includes members from various sectors such as higher education, social justice, and mental health. The task force aims to identify causes of student suicides and recommend regulatory improvements.



- **The NTF is tasked with preparing a comprehensive report that includes:**
 - Identification of predominant causes leading to student suicides.
 - Analysis of existing mental health regulations.
 - Recommendations for strengthening protections for students

- The NTF is empowered to conduct surprise inspections of educational institutions.
- The court's ruling also brought into **light issues of caste discrimination** faced by students from marginalised communities. The families of the deceased students alleged that caste-based discrimination contributed to the tragic incidents. The NTF will address these systemic issues as part of its mandate.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. India- China Held 33rd WMCC Meeting In

- A. Beijing
- B. New Delhi
- C. Kolkata
- D. Shanghai

ANSWER: A

2. First Senior Citizen Commission Formed In

- A. Gujarat
- B. Kerala
- C. Telangana
- D. Himachal Pradesh

ANSWER: B

3. Which State Was The First In India To Implement National e-Vidhan Application

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Nagaland
- C. Gujarat
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: B

4. The Sixth Edition Of Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain 2025 Initiative Was Launched In Which State

- A. Haryana
- B. Gujarat
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Madhya Pradesh

ANSWER: A

5. The Strait Of Hormuz Connects Which Two Water Bodies

- A. Red Sea and Mediterranean Sea
- B. Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman
- C. Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal
- D. Black Sea and Caspian Sea

ANSWER: B

6. Vinod Kumar Shukla, Who Won The 59th Jnanpith Award, Belongs To Which State

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Bihar
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. Jharkhand

ANSWER: C

7. Who Has Won The 2025 Chinese Grand Prix

- A. Max Verstappen
- B. Lewis Hamilton
- C. Charles Leclerc
- D. Oscar Piastri

ANSWER: D

8. Which Teams Did India Defeat In Both The Men's And Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 Finals

- A. Iran
- B. Pakistan
- C. Bangladesh
- D. England

ANSWER: D

9. Pranati Nayak Is Associated With Which Sport

- A. Badminton
- B. Gymnastics
- C. Wrestling
- D. Weightlifting

ANSWER: B

10. Which Legislature Became The 28th To Adopt The National e-vidhan Application

- A. Delhi Legislative Assembly
- B. Maharashtra Legislative Assembly
- C. Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly
- D. Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly

ANSWER: A

11. Who Has Been Elected As The New Chairman Of The Indian National Trust For Art And Cultural Heritage

- A. Ramesh Sharma
- B. Ashok Singh Thakur
- C. Vikram Sethi
- D. Rajiv Menon

ANSWER: B

12. What Is “ Sheathia Rosemalayensis ”

- A. Tropical flowering plant
- B. A type of Virus
- C. New species of freshwater algae
- D. Traditional medicine

ANSWER: C

13. Who Has Been Appointed As The New India Head Of Bank Of America

- A. Rajiv Sharma
- B. Kaku Nakhate
- C. Vikram Sahu
- D. Jin Su

ANSWER: C

14. Where Was The 10th Edition Of The Raisina Dialogue 2025 Hosted

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

ANSWER: B

15. How Long Days Did NASA Astronauts Butch Wilmore And Sunita Williams Stay Aboard ISS Before Returning To Earth

- A. 286 days
- B. 200 days
- C. 150 days
- D. 100 days

ANSWER: A

16. What Is The Latest Round Of India's Remittances Survey Conducted By The RBI

- A. 4th
- B. 5th
- C. 7th
- D. 6th

ANSWER: D

17. When Will World Meteorological Day 2025 Be Observed

- A. March 23
- B. April 23
- C. March 21
- D. March 25

ANSWER: A

18. What Year Was The Immigration And Nationality Act Passed

- A. 1949
- B. 1952
- C. 1965
- D. 1980

ANSWER: B

19. Which Company Launched The Second Indigenous Frigate 'Tavasya'

- A. Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- B. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
- C. Goa Shipyard Limited
- D. Cochin Shipyard Limited

ANSWER: C

20. Two Schools, Viz. Mathura School Of Art And Gandhara School Of Art Flourished In Which Among The Following Era

- A. Shakas
- B. Kushans
- C. Satavahanas
- D. Guptas

ANSWER: B