December 16, 2023

#### Sugarcane:

#### (Importance level-3/5)

- → The food ministry reversed a ban on using sugarcane juice for ethanol production for the 2023-24 supply year.
- The revision follows a ban issued earlier in December to preserve domestic sugar supply and control prices.
- → The oil marketing companies will release revised allocations for the production of ethanol from sugarcane juice and B-heavy molasses for each distillery.



### **Indian Navy and IIT Kanpur:**

#### (Importance level-4/5)

26, G3, PARIS GANGA APARTMENT, GANGAI AMMAN KOVIL STREET, VADAPALANI, CHENNAI-26 |Phone-9884222249/9176448448 1

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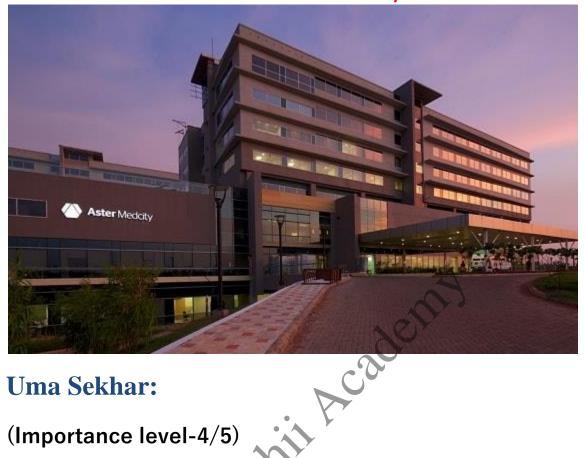
- → Indian Navy and IIT Kanpur have signed a MoU for joint R & D, technology development and innovative solutions.
- → They aim to enhance field solutions, training capacity building and academic exchange in Engineering related to defence technologies.
- → The collaboration fosters a symbolic relationship between academia and armed forces, promoting innovation and knowledge exchange.



### **Aster Medcity:**

#### (Importance level-4/5)

- → Aster Medcity, a unit of Aster DM Healthcare in Kochi, Kerala won the "Best Multi-Specialy Hospiatl Emerging" category in The Week Hansa Research 2023.
- ➔ The hospital is known for performing various successful surgeries and conducting breakthrough medical procedures. Aster Medcity has become the first JCI accredited multispecialty hospital in Kerala and has earned Green OT Certification.



### **Uma Sekhar:**

### (Importance level-4/5)

- → Uma Sekhar, the first Indian woman candidate was historically elected to the Governing Council of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law.
- → Earning 45 out of 59 votes, She secured her seat for 2024-2028. UNIDROIT, an intergovernmental organization based in Rome, focuses on modernizing and coordinating private, particularly commercial, law between states.



### **SBI report:**

#### (Importance level-4/5)

- → The SBI report predicted that in 2024, total voter turnout at the current rate of polling can touch 68 crors of which 49% can be women.
- → It further said, in 2029, total voter turnout at the current rate of polling could touch 73 crore of which women voters at 37 crore could be outstripped men voters at 36 crore.



# NITI Aayog and International Food Policy Research Institute:

### (Importance level-4/5)

- → NITI Aayog and International Food Policy Research Institute sign SoI for agricultural and rural development.
- → International Food Policy Research Institute will provide policy analytics and support in transforming food systems along with a broad exchange of knowledge from its global partnerships.
- → The collaboration is expected to foster insights into the role of agriculture in India's economic development highlighting its importance in the nation's transformation over the next 25 years.



### **IUCN Red List:**

#### (Importance level-4/5)

→ The IUCN Red List update reveals that 25% of freshwater fish are at risk of extinction with 17% of these threatened species affected by climate change.

.C?

→ It highlighted the impact of illegal logging and trade on mahogany and risk of extinction for Central South Pacific and East Pacific green turtles. The update underscored immediate actions to restrain global warming to 1.5 degree Celsius.



# "Logistics Ease Across Different State 2023":

#### (Importance level-4/5)

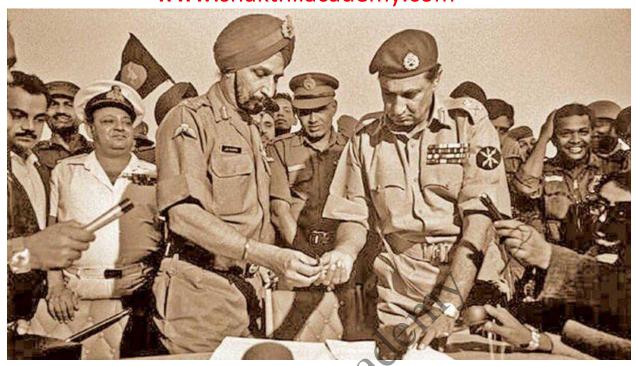
- → The "Logistics Ease Across Different State 2023" Report has been published by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.
- → Achievers: Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Punjab, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Tripura, Delhi.
- ➔ Fast Movers: Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Puducherry. Aspirers: Goa, Odisha, West Bengal, Bihar, Chattisgrah, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram.



### **Vijay Diwas:**

#### (Importance level-4/5)

- → Vijay Diwas, observed on December 16 every year, stands as a testament to the valor and sacrifice of the Indian armed forces during the 1971 war against Pakistan.
- → This day holds deep historical significance as it marks India's resounding victory, resulting in the creation of Bangladesh. The day is dedicated to honoring the soldiers who laid down their lives for the country.



## Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University:

### (Importance level-4/5)

- → In a landmark decision, the Indian Parliament has given its nod to the establishment of the Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in Telangana.
- → The approval comes in the form of The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2023, which successfully passed through the Rajya Sabha, having been previously cleared by the Lok Sabha.
- → This move signifies a significant stride towards providing quality education in tribal regions and fostering inclusive learning environments.

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### **Telangana:**

### (Importance level-4/5)

- → Telangana, known for its vibrant culture and rapid urbanization, is set to embark on a transformative journey as the state government unveils its ambitious plan to decentralize development.
- → Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan recently announced the strategic division of the state into three zones, positioning Hyderabad as the central hub for this groundbreaking initiative.
- → According to Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan, the first zone will encompass the city within the Outer Ring Road (ORR), the second will extend from the ORR to the proposed Regional Ring Road (RRR), and the third will cover areas beyond the RRR.
- → This zoning approach aims to distribute development efforts evenly, ensuring comprehensive growth across the entire state.



## Ministry of Defence:

### (Importance level-3/5)

- → The Ministry of Defence, in a significant development on December 15, 2023, sealed a landmark contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Pune.
- → This groundbreaking agreement entails the procurement of Electronic Fuzes for the Indian Army over a 10-year period, amounting to a total cost of Rs 5,336.25 crore.
- → Aligned with the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' vision, this contract is a crucial step towards achieving self-sufficiency in ammunition manufacturing and securing the nation's defense needs for the next decade.

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### **DRDO:**

#### (Importance level-4/5)

- → The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has achieved a significant breakthrough with the successful flight trial of the Autonomous Flying Wing Technology **Demonstrator.**
- → This cutting-edge technology is a crucial component of India's covert stealth combat drone project, codenamed Ghatak.
- → The Aeronautical Test Range (ATR) in Chitradurga, Karnataka, witnessed this remarkable feat, positioning India among the elite nations mastering the controls for the Flying Wing configuration.



## **CBIC:**

#### (Importance level-3/5)

- → Mr. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC), inaugurated the India-Korea Electronic Origin Data Exchange System (EODES) on December 6, 2023, in New Delhi.
- → The ceremony was attended by Mr. KO Kwang Hyo, Commissioner of Korea Customs Service (KCS), and his delegation.
- ➔ EODES aims to streamline the implementation of the India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) through the electronic exchange of origin information between the customs administrations of both nations, specifically for goods traded under CEPA.



### **Road traffic deaths:**

### (Importance level-4/5)

- → The annual global count of road traffic deaths decreased by 5% to 1.19 million, as per the World Health Organization's Global Status Report on Road Safety.
- → More than 2 deaths occur per minute, totaling over 3,200 per day. Despite the global reduction, road traffic deaths continue to rise in India and remain the leading cause of death for children and youth aged five to 29 years.



## **Global status report** on road safety 🤦



### **T10:**

#### (Importance level-4/5)

- → The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is reportedly considering the introduction of a T10 format cricket league, aiming for a launch window between September and October 2024.
- → This move aligns with the flourishing popularity and valuation of cricket leagues, particularly the Indian Premier League (IPL), which recently attained a decacorn status with a valuation of approximately \$10.7 billion.



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