

### Bihar Special

#### 2% drop in Neonatal Mortality rate

##### Why in the news?

The mortality rate of newborns (zero to 28 days old) in the state's Special New Born Care (SNCU) unit has decreased by two percent in the last one year.

- ❖ **Mortality Rate Change:** Reduced from 5% to 3% due to increased discharge rates and improved facilities
- ❖ **Discharge Rate Increase:** Increased from 83% to 85% by May
- ❖ **Admissions:** 5,568 children admitted to SNCU by May 2024-25
- ❖ **Bed Occupancy:** 84% of SNCU beds occupied by infants
- ❖ **Appreciation:** SNCU's work praised in a recent high-level Health Department review meeting
- ❖ **Referral Cases Goal:** Instructions to reduce SNCU referral cases to less than 10%
- ❖ **Neonatal mortality rate:** Probability of dying during the first 28 days of life, expressed per 1,000 live births.

### Environment And Geography

#### Lancet Study

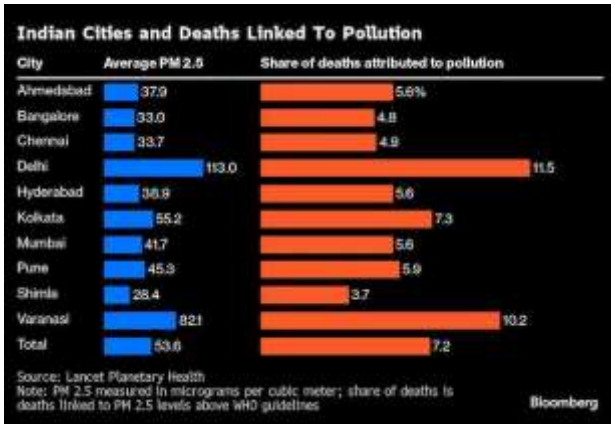
##### Why in the news?

33,000 people die each year due to high levels of PM 2.5 in 10 cities

- ❖ **Percentage of Total Deaths:** This accounts for 7.2% of total annual deaths
- ❖ **Affected Cities:** New Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Pune, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and Shimla
- ❖ **Highest Mortality Rate:** New Delhi with 11.5% of deaths
- ❖ **Lowest Mortality Rate:** Shimla with 3.7% of deaths
- ❖ **PM 2.5 Levels:** Typically exceed WHO's limit of 15 micrograms per cubic meter in all cities
- ❖ **Mortality Increase:** 1.42% increase in mortality rate for every 10 micrograms/cubic meter increase in PM 2.5
- ❖ **Study Data:** Examined 3.6 million deaths in cities from 2008 to 2019
- ❖ **Source:** Study published in Lancet

##### About Lancet:

- ❖ The Lancet is a weekly peer-reviewed general medical journal and one of the oldest of its kind. It is also one of the world's highest-impact academic journals.
- ❖ It was founded in England in 1823.



## Awards and Honors

### Golden Peacock Award

#### Why in the news?

L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Ltd. (L&TMRHL) has received the Golden Peacock Award in the Transportation (Railways) category for Excellence in Occupational Health & Safety (GPOHSA).

- ❖ **Recognition:** Unwavering commitment to safety
- ❖ **Focus:** Maintaining a safe and healthy work environment and underscores L&TMRHL's adherence to stringent Safety, Health, and Environmental (SHE) standards.
- ❖ **Company:** L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Ltd. (L&TMRHL), a subsidiary of Larsen & Toubro (L&T) L&TMRHL is a subsidiary of Larsen & Toubro (L&T), implementing the Project on a design, Built, Finance, Operate, and Transfer (DBFOT) basis.



### London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) Award

#### Why in the news?

N.K. Singh received a prestigious Honorary Fellowship from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

**Recognition:** Exceptional contribution to LSE and its global community over a sustained period

**Notable Recipients:** Joins The Rt. Hon. Lord Beveridge, Professor Sir Karl Popper, Professor Amartya Sen, Dame Eugina Charles, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and others

#### Current Roles:

- ❖ Co-convenor of the High-Level Expert Group for reforms of Multilateral Development Banks formed by the G20 and the President of the Institute of Economic Growth.

#### Previous Roles:

- ❖ Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission

- ❖ Chaired the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Review Committee (FRBM)
- ❖ Member of the Upper House of Parliament India, the Rajya Sabha, from 2008 to 2014.



#### Miscellaneous

#### 'Freedom 125'

#### Why in the news?

Bajaj Auto to launch the world's first CNG motorcycle, Freedom 125.

- ❖ **Announcement:** Exclusively made by MD Rajiv Bajaj to CNBC-TV18 in September 2023
- ❖ **Fuel Cost Reduction:** Expected to reduce fuel costs by 50%

#### International Relations

#### PM Narendra Modi's visit to Russia and Austria

#### Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Russia and Austria from 8-10 July, 2024

#### Russia Visit:

- ❖ **Dates:** 8-9 July, 2024

- ❖ **Event:** 22nd India-Russia Annual Summit
- ❖ **Agenda:** Review multifaceted bilateral relations and discuss regional and global issues of mutual interest
- ❖ **Significance:** First meeting between Modi and Putin since the Russia-Ukraine war began in February 2023

#### Austria Visit:

- ❖ **Dates:** 9-10 July, 2024
- ❖ **Significance:** First visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Austria in 41 years
- ❖ **Meetings:** call on Austria President Alexander Van der Bellen and hold talks with Chancellor of Austria Karl Nehammer.
- ❖ **Business Interaction:** Address business leaders from India and Austria
- ❖ **Community Interaction:** Prime Minister to interact with Indian community members in Moscow and Vienna



### News in Short

- ❖ Judge Of Madhya Pradesh High Court Sheel Nagu has been appointed as the Chief Justice Of Punjab & Haryana High Court.

- ❖ Noted educationist, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Ramesh Chandra Mishra passed away. He was the chairman of the Vidya Vihar group of Institutions and he also established the Vidya Vihar Institute of Technology in Purnea in 2009.



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