

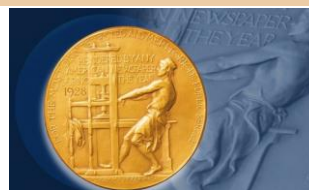
Sri Lanka signs 20-Year Power Deal with Adani Green Energy for Wind Stations



Key Points:

- ❖ Sri Lanka has sealed a 20-year power deal with Adani Green Energy Ltd of India.
- ❖ Sri Lanka's Cabinet of Ministers have approved the project under which two wind power stations will be developed by Adani, marking a crucial step towards sustainable energy solutions.

2024 Pulitzers Winner announced



Key Points:

- ❖ Columbia University of the United States of America announced the 2024 Pulitzer Prize winners.
- ❖ The awards, considered the most prestigious in the fields of journalism and arts, were conferred by Columbia University on the recommendation of the Pulitzer Prize Board.
- ❖ **Book, Drama, and Music Category**

Category	Winner
Fiction	Night Watch by Jayne Anne Phillips
Poetry	Tripas: Poems by Brandon Som
Drama	Primary Trust by Eboni Booth
Memoir and Autobiography	Liliana's Invincible Summer: A Sister's Search for Justice by Cristina Rivera Garza
History	No Right to an Honest Living: The Struggles of Boston's Black Workers in the Civil War Era by Jacqueline Jones
Biography	King: A Life by Jonathan Eig by Martin Luther King Jr Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom by Ilyon Woo
Music	Adagio (For Wadada Leo Smith) by Tyshawn Sorey

General Nonfiction	<i>A Day in the Life of Abed Salama: Anatomy of a Jerusalem Tragedy</i> by Nathan Thrall
Biography	<i>King: A Life by Jonathan Eig</i> by Martin Luther King Jr <i>Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom</i> by Ilyon Woo

Journalism Category

Category	Winner
Public Service	Pro Publica (Joshua Kaplan, Justin Elliott, Brett Murphy, Alex Mierjeski, and Kirsten Berg)
Editorial Writing	David E. Hoffman (The Washington Post)
Breaking News Photography	Photography Staff of Reuters
Investigative Reporting	Hannah Dreier (The New York Times)
International Reporting	Staff of The New York Times
Audio Reporting	Staff of the Invisible Institute and USG Audio
Feature Photography	Photography Staff of Associated Press

About Pulitzer Prize

- ❖ The Pulitzer Prize was instituted by Joseph Pulitzer.
- ❖ He was a newspaper owner who, in 1904, provided for the foundation of the Pulitzer Prize as an incentive for excellence in Journalism, art, and culture.
- ❖ The first Prize was provided in 1917.

Uttarakhand Govt Launches Pirul Lao Paise Pao Campaign



Key Points:

- ❖ The Uttarakhand government has launched the Pirul Lao-Paise Pao campaign to contain the raging forest fire in the state.

- ❖ Under the Pirul Lao-Paise Pao campaign, the local youth and villagers will collect dry Pirul (Pine tree leaves) in the forest and take them to the designated Pirul collection centre.
- ❖ The Tehsildar in their respective areas will manage the pirul collection centre under the supervision of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate.
- ❖ The Pirul will be weighed and stored at the collection centre, and the villagers or youth will be paid Rs 50 per kg, which will be directly transferred to the bank accounts.
- ❖ The collected Pirul will be packed and processed, and sold to the industries for further use.

World Thalassaemia Day

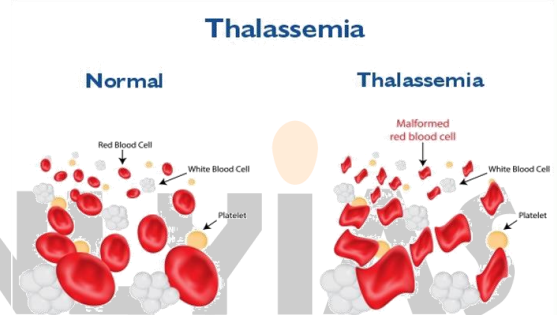


Key Points:

- ❖ World Thalassaemia Day is observed on May 8th every year.
- ❖ Objective – To raise awareness about thalassaemia, a genetic blood disorder characterised by abnormal haemoglobin production.
- ❖ Theme 2024 – Empowering Lives, Embracing Progress: Equitable and Accessible Thalassaemia Treatment for All.

What is Thalassaemia?

- ❖ Thalassaemia is a genetic disorder that affects the production of haemoglobin, leading to a shortage of red blood cells and anaemia.
- ❖ While carriers of the thalassaemia gene may lead normal lives, those with thalassaemia major require repeated blood transfusions and are susceptible to various infections, organ complications, and potential organ failure.



Filmmaker Sangeeth Sivan passes away



Key Points:

- ❖ Renowned filmmaker from Kerala Sangeeth Sivan passed away at the age of 61.
- ❖ He had films like 'Vyootham,' 'Daddy,' 'Gandharvam,' and the 'Yodha'. Apart from this, he also made 10 Hindi movies like 'Kya Kool Hai Hum' and 'Apna Sapna Money Money'.

Nile fever



Key Points:

- ❖ The Kerala government on Tuesday (May 7) said that cases of West Nile fever have been reported from three districts in the state – Thrissur, Malappuram and Kozhikode. One person died of the viral disease on Monday and six other cases have been reported in recent days.
- ❖ State Health Minister Veena George has now asked these regions to stay vigilant and ordered that steps be taken for mosquito control, according to a statement released by her office.
- ❖ The minister said that there was no need to be concerned about the virus, but requested anyone showing signs of fever or other symptoms of the West Nile infection to seek treatment immediately, a PTI report said.

What is the West Nile Virus?

- ❖ The West Nile Virus (WNV) is a mosquito-borne, single-stranded RNA virus. It is a flavivirus and is related to the viruses that cause Japanese encephalitis and yellow fever.

How does the West Nile Virus spread?

- ❖ *Culex* species of mosquitoes act as the principal vectors for transmission. Infected mosquitoes spread the disease among humans and animals, including birds, which are the reservoir host of the virus.
- ❖ “Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds, which circulate the virus in their blood for a few days.
- ❖ The virus eventually gets into the mosquito’s salivary glands. During later blood meals (when mosquitoes bite), the virus may be injected into humans and animals, where it can multiply and possibly cause illness,” says the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- ❖ WNV can also spread through blood transfusion, from an infected mother to her child, or through exposure to the virus in laboratories. It is not known to spread by contact with infected humans or animals.
- ❖ According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it does not spread “through eating infected animals, including birds.” The CDC notes that the incubation period for WNV disease is typically 2 to 6 days, but can range from 2 to 14 days, and can be several weeks in immunocompromised people.
- ❖ To date, no human-to-human transmission of WNV through casual contact has been documented.

What are the symptoms of West Nile fever?

Key Points:

- ❖ The disease is asymptomatic in 80% of the infected people. The rest develop what is called the West Nile fever or severe West Nile disease. For them, the symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, body aches, nausea, rash, and swollen glands.
- ❖ “It is estimated that approximately 1 in 150 persons infected with the West Nile Virus will develop a more severe form of disease... Recovery from severe illness might take several weeks or months. Some effects to the central nervous system might be permanent,” says the CDC.
- ❖ It usually turns fatal in persons with comorbidities and immunocompromised persons (such as transplant patients). But the death rate is relatively low compared to Japanese encephalitis, which shows similar symptoms.

What is the treatment for West Nile Virus disease?

Key Points:

- ❖ No WNV-specific prophylaxis, treatment or vaccine is available. Only supportive treatments are given to neuroinvasive WNV patients.
- ❖ Health authorities globally advise for personal protective measures to reduce the risk of mosquito bites, such as using mosquito repellents.
- ❖ Public health departments are to also ensure larval source reduction, especially at breeding and resting sites for the mosquito vectors.

