

International

WHO declares that India has eliminated Trachoma as a public health problem in 2024



About News:-

- ❖ Trachoma has been declared eradicated as a public health issue in India, Nepal, and Myanmar by the World Health Organization (WHO). India is now one of 19 nations worldwide to have eradicated trachoma as a public health issue. According to the WHO, trachoma still poses a serious threat to public health in 39 nations and results in blindness for almost 19 lakh individuals globally.
- ❖ WHO has credited the government's National Trachoma Control Program with its success, as have the Swachh Bharat Mission and Jal Jeevan Mission.

What is Trachoma?

- ❖ The bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis is the cause of trachoma, an eye condition. This extremely contagious illness is transmitted from one sick individual to another by infected fingers.
- ❖ fomites (items or materials like clothing, cutlery, and furniture that are likely to spread infection).
- ❖ Getting close to flies that have come into contact with an infected person's eyes or nose discharge.
- ❖ Inadequate access to water and sanitation facilities, congested families, and unsanitary circumstances.

- ❖ The inner side of the upper eyelids becomes scarred after a trachoma infection. The eyelid margin turns inward as a result of this scarring, and the person's eyelashes come into contact with the eyeball. Trachomatous trichiasis is a painful disorder that can cause blindness and visual impairment if treatment is not received.

Countries Free of Trachoma

The World Health Organization reports that 19 nations have effectively eradicated trachoma as a public health issue. These include the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Morocco, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Togo, China, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Gambia, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Benin, Cambodia, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

World Health Organisation

- ❖ Established:- 7 April 1948.
- ❖ Headquarters:- Geneva, Switzerland
- ❖ Members:- 194 countries
- ❖ Director General :- Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

National

President's rule lifted in Jammu & Kashmir as new govt prepares to take charge

About News:-

A new Chief Minister will be appointed after the Central Government formally dissolved President's Rule in Jammu & Kashmir. The revocation was implemented using the authority provided by the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, and pertinent constitutional provisions, as stated in a notification issued by President Droupadi Murmu.



Taking away the President's Rule

- ❖ The President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir was formally abolished on October 13, 2024, paving the way for the establishment of a new administration in the Union Territory.
- ❖ The Union Home Ministry published a gazette notice, signaling a major political shift in the area.

The Law's Revocation Framework

- ❖ The revocation was executed by Articles 239 and 239A of the Indian Constitution and Section 73 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.
- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu signed an order formalizing this action, which went into force right before the Chief Minister was appointed.

Formation of a New Government

- ❖ In the most recent Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, the National Conference (NC)-Congress combination won, opening the door for the establishment of a government.
- ❖ The alliance's leader, NC Vice President Omar Abdullah, will take over as Jammu and Kashmir's next chief minister.

State

Telangana becomes third state to start caste survey

About News:-

The Telangana government has initiated the process of a comprehensive household caste survey in the state aimed at targeted and equitable resource distribution among all communities. With this, Telangana will become the third state to hold such a caste-based headcount after Andhra Pradesh and Bihar.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The government has also appointed a commission headed by former high court judge justice Shameem Akhtar to study sub-classification of Scheduled Castes for extending reservation benefits in education and employment.



- ❖ The Bihar caste survey – the first in independent India to successfully enumerate all castes – last year found that OBCs comprise 63.13% of the state, SCs formed 19.65% and STs 1.68%. “Upper” castes were found to be 15.52% of the population.
- ❖ Subsequently, the Bihar government hiked reservations to 75% in government jobs and education. Challenges to the survey are pending before the Supreme Court.
- ❖ On January 19, the Andhra Pradesh government kickstarted an exercise aimed at creating a comprehensive database of people based on their castes.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde Inauguration of Marathi Bhasha Bhavan & Various Development Works in Mumbai



About News:-

- ❖ Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde today (13 Oct) performed bhoomipujan and inauguration of Marathi Bhasha Bhavan in Navi Mumbai and various development works in Mumbai city.
- ❖ Speaking at the inauguration, CM Eknath Shinde said that Bhasha Bhavan would help in the conservation, research, and dissemination of the Marathi language. He also said that suggestions from literary and other fields for Bhasha Bhavan will be respected.

Key Points:-

- ❖ On the occasion, the CM also inaugurated various development projects for the city. Mr. Shinde said apart from developing infrastructure in Maharashtra, the state government has given priority to raising the standard of living of the common people through public welfare schemes.
- ❖ He said that common people are getting support through schemes like Chief Minister

Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana, Lek Ladki, and Vyoshree.

- ❖ He highlighted major infrastructure projects like Coastal Road, Atal Setu, Metro, and Samridhi Highway.

Economic

Foreign Investors Withdraw Rs 58,711 Cr in October Amid Escalating Israel-Iran Conflict and Rising Crude Prices

About News:-

Foreign investors turned net sellers in October, withdrawing shares worth 58,711 crore rupees in the month so far owing to the escalating conflict between Israel and Iran, a sharp rise in crude oil prices, and the strong performance of the Chinese market.



Key Points:-

- ❖ The outflow followed a nine-month high investment of 57,724 crore rupees in September. Since June, Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) have consistently bought equities, after withdrawing 34,252 crore rupees in April-May.
- ❖ Data with the depositories showed that overall, FPIs have been net buyers in 2024, except for January, April, and May. Looking ahead, global factors such as geopolitical developments and the future direction of interest rates will play a crucial role in determining the flow of foreign investments into the Indian equity markets, say experts. According to the data, FPIs made a net withdrawal of 58,711 crore rupees from equities between October 1 and 11.

Appointment

Manoj Kumar Dubey appointed CMD of Indian Railway Finance Corporation

About News:-



On October 10, Manoj Kumar Dubey, an Indian Railway Accounts Service officer from the 1993 batch, was named the Indian Railway Finance Corporation's (IRFC) chairman, managing director (CMD), and chief executive officer (CEO). The Ministry of Railways oversees IRFC, a miniratna public sector organization.

About Manoj Kumar Dubey:

- ❖ Manoj Kumar Dubey was the Container Corporation of India's (CONCOR) former Chief Financial Officer and Director of Finance.
- ❖ He has a proven track record in strategic operations and financial management.
- ❖ Dubey possesses an MBA from IIT-ISM Dhanbad, where he won the Silver Medal for finishing first in his batch, and is a graduate of Hindu College, University of Delhi.
- ❖ He has led efforts like e-tendering, e-auction systems, and the digitization of salary and pension procedures during his lengthy tenure with Indian Railways.
- ❖ In 2011, the Railways Minister presented him with the National Award for Outstanding Service.

Science & Technology

The upper stage of the historic PSLV-37 mission re-enters Earth's atmosphere eight years after the launch

About News:-

- ❖ On October 6, 2024, the upper stage of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle C-37 (PSLV C-37), operated by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), successfully re-entered Earth's atmosphere.
- ❖ By taking continuous proactive steps, ISRO hopes to accomplish a Debris Free Space Mission (DFSM) by 2030. This is a major milestone in that effort.
- ❖ Defunct man-made items in Earth's orbit, such as defunct satellites, spent rocket stages, and pieces from satellite collisions, make up space trash.



Key Points:

- ❖ At the North Atlantic Ocean, the orbital height degraded to 134×148 km, and re-entry took place.
- ❖ The Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee's (IADC) worldwide debris reduction rules, which specifically limit the post-mission lifespan of defunct objects in Low-Earth orbit (LEO) to 25 years, are by re-entry within eight years.
- ❖ By using controlled de-orbiting techniques, ISRO is currently attempting to lower the PSLV upper stages' remaining orbital lifetime to five years or fewer.
- ❖ Planned controlled re-entries for upper-stage disposal will be a feature of future PSLV flights.

Context:

- ❖ When PSLV-C37 was launched on February 15, 2017, it broke the previous record by launching 104 satellites, including 103 co-passengers and the main payload Cartosat-2D.
- ❖ Following the completion of its mission, ISRO and the US Space Command (USSPACECOM), stationed in Colorado, United States (US), followed the upper stage, which was left in an orbit of roughly 470×494 kilometers.

Award

The 2024 Nobel Prize in Economics Awarded to Acemoglu, Johnson, and Robbins

About News:-

- ❖ James Robinson, Simon Johnson, and Daron Acemoglu, the three economic sciences Nobel laureates for 2024, have shown how crucial social structures are to a nation's prosperity. Societies with weak legal systems and institutions that take advantage of their citizens don't develop or improve.
- ❖ Subject: Research on the formation of institutions and their impact on prosperity

Institutions Are Essential for Prosperity

- ❖ The laureates have demonstrated that a nation's success is largely determined by its social institutions as well as the laws and customs that regulate it.

- ❖ Societies with inclusive institutions foster growth and progress, whereas those with weak rule of law and exploitative institutions typically experience economic stagnation.



Sport

Ayhika Mukherjee & Sutirtha Mukherjee scripted history, clinching 1st-ever medal for India

About News:-

At the 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan, on October 13, 2024, the top-seeded Indian women's team of Ayhika and Sutirtha Mukherjee made history by becoming the first all-Indian women's team to take home a medal.

Key Points:

- ❖ From October 7-13, 2024, Astana, Kazakhstan hosted the 27th Asian Table Tennis Championships.
- ❖ In 1952, the then-Table Tennis Federation of Asia (TTFA) held the first Asian Table Tennis Championships in Tokyo, Japan, where India took home a bronze in the women's doubles division before the Astana event. In the women's doubles, India's Gool Nasikwala and Japan's Yoshiko Tanaka won a bronze medal together.
- ❖ An all-Indian women's team won the medal for the first time at the Astana event.



Important Day

World Students' Day - 15 October



About News:-

- ❖ In honor of the lives of former Indian President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, we commemorate World Students' Day annually on October 15. His birthday is celebrated on this unique day, which honors his contributions to Indian education.
- ❖ Theme: Empowering Students to Be Change Agents

Importance

- ❖ Students are recognized as future leaders and innovators on World Students' Day. It clarifies how education contributes to the development of a better future world. It encourages the student to work hard and persistently toward his goals. "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," is a famous quote from Dr. Kalam that demonstrates his belief in the transformative power of education.

