

22nd August 2024

President of India confers National Geoscience Awards-2023

The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, conferred the prestigious National Geoscience Awards (NGA) for the year 2023



Key points

- ❖ This year, a total of 12 awards to 21 Geoscientists, including academicians and professionals from across the country.

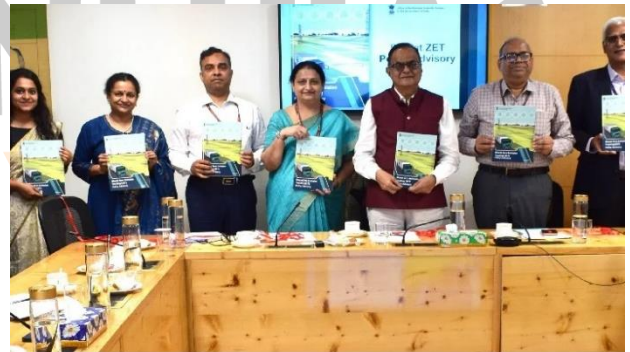
There are three categories

- ❖ National Geoscience Award for Lifetime Achievement (01 award), National Geoscience Award (10 awards), and National Young Geoscientist Award (01 award) in various specialized fields of geosciences.
- ❖ The National Geoscience Award for Lifetime Achievement was bestowed upon Prof. Dhiraj Mohan Banerjee, Emeritus Scientist at the Indian National Science Academy (INSA).

- ❖ The National Geoscience Awards continue to symbolize recognition and appreciation for outstanding achievements in geosciences, mineral exploration, and natural hazard investigations driving forward the pursuit of excellence and sustainable development.

“Bharat Zero Emission Trucking (ZET) Policy Advisory” document

Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India, launched the advisory document titled “Bharat Zero Emission Trucking (ZET) Policy Advisory” at Vigyan Bhawan.



Key points

- ❖ The Bharat ZET Policy Advisory document has been conceived as a dynamic document, outlining a comprehensive set of 30 policy interventions designed to accelerate ZET adoption in India.
- ❖ These interventions are categorized into five key areas: incentives, regulations, infrastructure, business and financing, and stakeholder-centric initiatives.

- ❖ The development of this advisory document was steered and guided by a Policy Advisory Panel (PAP) constituted by the Office of the PSA.
- ❖ The induction and wider adoption of ZETs require technical expertise and systematic policy interventions to create an enabling techno-socio-economic ecosystem in India.

World's oldest person, dies aged 117

Recently the oldest living person Maria Branyas Morera has passed at the age of 117 in the nursing home in Spain.



Key points

- ❖ Guinness World Records had previously confirmed him as the oldest living person in world in January 2023 after the death of France's Lucile Randon, aged 118 years.
- ❖ Following the death of Branyas, the oldest living person, as per the US Gerontology Research Group, is Japan's Tomiko Itooka, who was born on 23 May 1908 and is 116 years old at the moment.
- ❖ Branyas was born on March 23, 1907, in San Francisco, California, and after living in Texas and New Orleans she moved with her family to Spain in 1915 during World War I.

- ❖ The longevity record holder is still Jeanne Louise Calment who was the oldest documented person in history having died at 122 year and 164 days of age in 1997.

Para-Drop Operation of the Worlds First Portable Hospital at 15,000 Feet

The IAF and the Indian Army carried out a historic airborne operation on Monday in which para-dropped the Aarogya Maitri Health Cube hovering at about fifteen thousand feet.



Key points

- ❖ The indigenously developed cubes in trauma care have been developed under Project BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri) to cater to basic medical needs in rural areas.
- ❖ This operation is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of getting important commodities delivered to Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) affected areas.
- ❖ For the actual delivery, the IAF used its long-range tactical transport aircraft, the C-130J Super Hercules, to parachute and land accurately the cube.

- ❖ The para brigade of the Indian Army was especially roped in because of its precision and operational expertise in the deployment of the cube, which was dropped using the precision drop technology to ensure that the structure was delivered safely in proper shape and place.

The First Private Spacewalk

SpaceX's Polaris Dawn mission, set for August 26, 2024, will be the first private spacewalk in history.



Key points

- ❖ The mission is crewed and has four members among which are Scott "Kidd" Poteet, Sarah Gillis, as well as Anna Menon.
- ❖ They will also wear new space suits and conduct extra vehicular activity for two hours.
- ❖ The mission will use the Falcon 9 rocket and the Crew Dragon capsule known as Resilience for its third flight.
- ❖ As an added bonus, the mission will have Zero Gravity Cool Ranch Doritos. Such screws-counter-screws as a slimline, oil enrobed crust designed to stop the powdered topping from floating away are features that capture the mission's creativity.

Extravehicular Activities

- ❖ Extravehicular Activity (EVA), are activities performed by space-suited astronauts outside their spacecraft in orbit above the Earth. This collection of 20 framed photographs and corresponding captions include those activities performed during an EVA, which may include satellite capture and repair, assembly/connection of exterior spacecraft components, or performing special experiments or tests.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das ranked top central banker globally for the second consecutive year

For the second time in a row, Reserve Bank of India Governor, Shaktikanta Das, has been graded 'A+' in the Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards 2024.



Key points

- ❖ The Central Banker Report Cards, issued by the Global Finance since 1994 concerns the efficiency of nearly 100 central bank governors of the countries, territories and, regions such as European Union, Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, Bank of Central African States, and the Central Bank of West African States.
- ❖ The rankings are given out of "A+" to "F" depending on the performance in facets such as inflation, economic growth, stability of the currency, and interest rate control.
- ❖ Christian Kettel Thomsen of Denmark and Thomas Jordan of Switzerland are also in the 2024 Hall of Fame; they received an "A+" rating. Owned and published by Media Development Partners Inc.,
- ❖ Global Finance was started in 1987 and has a circulation of 50000 and goes to 193 countries and territories.
- ❖ Located in New York, the publication has offices in various countries and holds awards for the best performers in banking and financial services annually..

Reserve Bank of India (RBI): Origin

- ❖ **Formation:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was established through the Reserve Bank of India Act of 1934, based on the recommendations of the Hilton Young Commission, with a share capital of Rs. 5 crore.

- ❖ The Central Office of the Reserve Bank was set up in Kolkata but was permanently shifted to Mumbai in 1937.
- ❖ Initially, the RBI was owned privately but was nationalized in 1949. It is completely owned by the Government of India.
- ❖ RBI acted as Burma's (Myanmar) central bank until April 1947 and also as the central bank for Pakistan until June 1948.

Structure

The operation of the Reserve Bank of India lies with a 21-member central board of directors consisting of:

- ❖ Governor;
- ❖ 4 Deputy Governors;
- ❖ 2 Finance Ministry representatives;
- ❖ 10 government-nominated directors;
- ❖ 4 directors to represent local boards' headquarters of RBI.

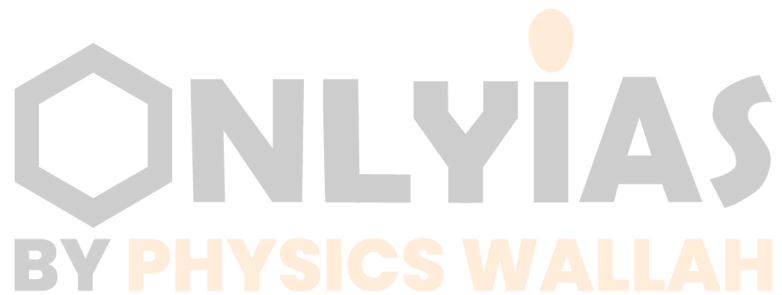
Short News

- ❖ Amul has been recognized as the strongest food and dairy brand globally, according to the Brand Finance Food & Drink 2024 report.
- ❖ Union Minister of Power Manohar Lal Khattar has launched three online platforms to enhance the efficiency, transparency, and effectiveness of the power sector. The portals are named as Portal for Online Monitoring of Projects –

Thermal (PROMPT), Disaster Resilient Infrastructure for Power Sector (DRIPS), and JAL VIDYUT DPR.

- ❖ Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai inaugurated India's first fully digital court, 247 ONCOURTS, in Kollam, Kerala, specifically designed to handle cheque bounce cases.

- ❖ Former director-general of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Girish Sahni, passed away on August 19 at the age of 68.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a three-day visit to Poland and Ukraine.



Important Daily Current Affairs Question

Q1. What was the name of the world's oldest person who recently passed away at the age of 117 in Spain?

- (a) Jeanne Louise Calment
- (b) Lucile Randon
- (c) Tomiko Itooka
- (d) Maria Branyas Morera

Answer -D

Q2. Which of the following company is going to launch world first private space walk?

- (a) Spacex
- (b) Bule origin
- (c) Boeing
- (d) Virgin galactic

Answer -A

