

International

The 10th World Water Forum opens in Indonesia's Bali



Key Points:-

- ❖ President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo officially opened the 10th World Water Forum on Monday (20 May 2024) at the Bali International Convention Center (BICC) in Nusa Dua, Bali.
- ❖ The organization of the world's largest water forum was recognized as the best in its history, leaving a memorable impression on heads of state, delegates, and participants who attended.
- ❖ especially since it is the first forum held after the COVID-19 pandemic,
- ❖ The 10th World Water Forum focuses on four topics, namely water conservation, clean water and sanitation, food and energy security, and mitigation of natural disasters.
- ❖ This year, the Forum is expected to host 350 sessions and receive 100,000 participants and visitors, 56 ministers, 12 heads of state, and about 2,000 journalists.

History:-

- ❖ The Forum is the world’s largest event on water organized, since 1997, every three years with a different host country.
- ❖ The Forum provides a unique platform for the water community and key decision-makers to collaborate and make long-term progress commitments on global water challenges to provide clean and fair water for all.

The University of Tokyo inaugurated the world's highest observatory in Chile



News:-

The Atacama Observatory (TAO) of the University of Tokyo has just opened

With an elevation of 18,500 feet, it has surpassed the renowned Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA), which is situated at 16,570 feet, to become the tallest astronomical observatory globally.

Regarding The Tokyo Atacama Observatory:-

- ❖ The TAO telescope, with an optical-infrared capacity of 6.5 meters, is situated atop Mount Chajnantor in the Atacama Desert of Chile at a height of 18,500 feet.
- ❖ Co. Chajnantor is situated close to the Atacama Desert in the Andes Mountains.
- ❖ The high altitude, low humidity, and bright skies of the Atacama Desert make it one of the greatest places on Earth for astronomical observations. These factors make the desert an ideal place to explore the universe.
- ❖ Because of its high altitude, thin atmosphere, and reliably dry weather, the region is ideal for seeing almost the whole range of near-infrared wavelengths.

Equipment:

- ❖ Two pieces of science equipment specifically tailored for infrared investigations are mounted on TAO's 6.5-meter telescope.
- ❖ The goal of SWIMS (Simultaneous-color Wide-field Infrared Multi-object Spectrograph) is to comprehend how galaxies evolve.
- ❖ Research on planet formation and the origin of materials is done by MIMIZUKU (Mid-Infrared Multi-field Imager for gaZing at the Unknown Universe).
- ❖ Maharashtra's Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope

National

Sikkim Celebrates Saga Dawa Festival



- ❖ Saga Dawa is a festival celebrated in Sikkim.
- ❖ It takes place on the fifteenth day of the fourth month of the Northern Buddhist Calendar every year.
- ❖ Celebrated on the anniversary of Buddha Shakyamuni's birth, enlightenment, and Mahaparinirvana (death), Saga Dawa is regarded as the holiest Buddhist holiday. Another name for this day is the "Triple Blessed Occasion."
- ❖ Saga Dawa holds great significance for the Buddhist community, and its observance in Sikkim underscores the state's deep spiritual and cultural heritage.

About Sikkim:-

- ❖ **Capital** :- Gangtok
- ❖ **Chief Minister** :- Prem Singh Tamang (SKM)
- ❖ **Governor** :- Lakshman Acharya

Maharashtra

Marathi Natya Parishad Lifetime Achievement Award Announced!

News:-

- ❖ Dramatists who have performed well in the field of Marathi theater are honored every year by the Natya Parishad.
- ❖ This year, on behalf of Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Natya Parishad, Mumbai, on 14th June, the Go.B. Deval award ceremony has been organized.
- ❖ Prashant Damle, president of Natya Parishad informed that all the awards will be given at 4 pm this year at Yashwantrao Chavan Natya Sanskul, Manmala Tank Road, Matunga on 14 June 2024.
- ❖ For this year, senior cine-drama actor Ashok Saraf and actress Rohini Hattangadi have been announced for lifetime achievement awards.
- ❖ The awards were not distributed for the last three years.



Award winner

1. **Rohini Hattangadi** – All India Marathi Theater Council, Lifetime Achievement Award
2. **Ashok Saraf** – All India Marathi Theater Council, Lifetime Achievement Award
3. **Ganesh Talekar** – Leela Mehta Bhargavarao Pange Worker Award
4. **Prashant Joshi** – Dr. No. A. Barway Memorial Award
5. **Deepali Ghonge** – Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Theater Council sponsored by Mr. Kamlakar Vaishampayan Memorial Award
6. **Shashank Limaye** – Mrs. Shibani Joshi Awarded by Mr. Bhalchandra Trimbak Joshi Memorial Award
7. **Vijay Jagtap** – Sankarrao Bhosale sponsored by Balkrishna Dh. Bhosle Memorial Award
8. **Sanjay Deodhar** – Vs. Khandekar Drama Review Award
9. **Govind Godbole** – Kalindi Keluskar awarded, A.C. Keluskar Memorial Award
10. Acting, Kalyan Abhijit Jhunjjarrao
11. Praneet Bodke
12. Ashok Dhare
13. Sunil Bendkhale
14. Shyam Askarkar
15. Ritesh Salunke

Information about the award:-

- ❖ The Lifetime Achievement Award is planned to be given by the newly elected governing body immediately after the Natya Parishad elections.
- ❖ Theater workers who have done substantial work in the field of theater are honored every year by the Natya Parishad.
- ❖ A gathering of artists will be organized on this occasion.
- ❖ Also, the best prize-winning one-act plays, children's dramas, one-act plays, theatrical songs, theatrical music pada singing, and theatrical recital programs will be performed on the occasion of the 100th Natyakalecha Jaguar.
- ❖ Prashant Damle has appealed to artists and theater lovers to attend this event.

Economics

In 2024, more than 262 lakh MT of wheat had been procured



Key points:-

- ❖ All of the nation's major procurement states are successfully acquiring wheat during the Rabi Marketing Season 2024–2025.
- ❖ This year's overall wheat procurement in Central Pool has already surpassed last year's total procurement of 262.02 LMT, with over 262 LMT procured thus far.
- ❖ The Rabi Marketing Season has benefited 22.31 lakh farmers, according to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution, with an overall MSP outflow of 59,715 million rupees.
- ❖ The process of acquiring rice is also going well. To date, 98.26 lakh farmers have provided over 728 LMT of paddy, or 489.15 LMT of rice, directly, with an MSP outflow of more than one lakh sixty thousand crore rupees.
- ❖ The MSP for wheat, which is Rs 150 per quintal greater than the previous season, was set by the government at Rs 2275 per quintal.
- ❖ To encourage purchasing in respective states, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have provided bonuses of Rs 125 per quintal in addition to MSP.

Five procuring states,

- ❖ namely Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh, made significant contributions to the procurement process. These states procured 124.26 LMT, 71.49 LMT, 47.78 LMT, 9.66 LMT, and 9.07 LMT, respectively.
- ❖ With the above quantity of procurement, the combined stock of wheat and rice at present in Central Pool surpassed 600 LMT which puts the country in a comfortable position to meet its requirements of food grains under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and other welfare schemes and for market interventions too.

Other Information:-

- ❖ Since July 2023, exports of non-Basmati white rice have been prohibited to monitor domestic prices and guarantee food security in the country.
- ❖ Nonetheless, in response to requests from other nations and to help them meet their demands for food security, the central government has approved the export of non-basmati white rice to a number of those nations.

Cropping Seasons of India

- ❖ India has three cropping seasons -- summer, kharif, and rabi.
- ❖ Crops that are sown during October and November and the produce harvested from January depending on maturity are Rabi.
- ❖ Crops sown during June-July and dependent on monsoon rains are harvested in October-November are kharif.
- ❖ Crops produced between Rabi and Kharif are Summer crops.
- ❖ Paddy, moong, bajra, maize, groundnut, soyabean, and cotton are some of the major Kharif crops.

Sport

Monu Ghangas wins a spot in the men's discus throw for the 2024 Paralympics in Paris



Key points:-

- ❖ With a best throw of 34.7 meters in the Men's Discus Throw F11 event at the World Para Athletics Championships 2024 in Kobe, Japan.
- ❖ Indian para discus thrower Monu Ghangas guaranteed his place in the Paris Paralympics 2024.
- ❖ Monu, however, was only able to secure fourth place in the eight-person final, missing out on a medal. With a best throw of 42.76 meters, Oney Tapia of Italy won the gold medal in the final, while Mahdi Olad of Iran took home the silver with a throw of 42.36 meters. With a throw of 37.82 meters, Australian Bil Marnikavic won the bronze medal.

Mariyappan wins his first para Worlds gold



- ❖ Mariyappan Thangavelu, a two-time Paralympic winner, won his first gold medal at the World Para Athletics Championships on May 21, 2024, in Kobe, Japan, by clearing 1.88 meters in the men's T63 high jump competition.
- ❖ In addition, he broke Sharad Kumar's 1.83-meter championship record with this score.
- ❖ Varun Singh Bhati, a fellow countryman, came fourth (1.78m) in the same competition and just missed placing on the podium.
- ❖ At the World Para Athletics Championships in Kobe, Japan, Sumit Antil successfully defended his F64 javelin throw world title with a best throw of 69.50 meters. Sandeep, another athlete from India, took home the bronze with a throw of 60.41 meters.

Appointment

Chad names its China envoy as new prime minister



- ❖ Allamaye Halina, a former ambassador of Chad, has been named the next Prime Minister (PM) of the Republic of Chad by President Mahamat Idriss Deby Itno.
- ❖ The opposition leader Succes Masra, who left the position on May 22, 2024, was succeeded by Allamaye Halina. Succes Masra took office as Chad's prime minister in January 2024.

- ❖ Former state protocol director general Allamaye Halina is a diplomat.
- ❖ He has previously represented Chad as an ambassador to China.

About Chand:-

- ❖ **Capital:-** N'Djamena
- ❖ **Currency:-** Central African CFA franc

Award

A scientist of Indian descent is the recipient of the very coveted Shaw Prize for 2024



- ❖ The annual Shaw Prize in Astronomy will be awarded to US professor of astronomy Shrinivas R. Kulkarni, who is of Indian descent, for his ground breaking research on millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, and other variable or transitory astronomical events.
- ❖ Other Shaw Prize recipients include US scientists Peter Sarnak, who received the Shaw Prize in Mathematical Sciences, and Swee Lay Thein and Stuart Orkin, who received the Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine in equal shares. Kulkarni is the George Ellery Hale Professor of Astronomy and Planetary Science in the Division of Physics, Mathematics, and Astronomy at the California Institute of Technology.
- ❖ For his groundbreaking research on millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, and other variable or transitory astronomical events, Shrinivas R. Kulkarni is given the Shaw Prize in Astronomy.

Regarding the Shaw Prize:-

- ❖ The Shaw Prize Foundation, founded in 2002, awards the "Nobel of the East," or Shaw Prize, to notable individuals each year in honor of their contributions to the fields of astronomy, mathematical science, life science, and medicine.
- ❖ Renowned philanthropist Run Run Shaw founded the Shaw Prize, which was first awarded in 2004.
- ❖ Shaw Prize winners took home a cash award of USD 1.2 million.

Miscellaneous

Ladakh: Local REJUPAVE Road Construction Technology Is Effectively Used in BRO's Project Vijayak in Kargil



Key Points:-

- ❖ The indigenous REJUPAVE road construction technology in Ladakh has been effectively employed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for Project Vijayak in Kargil.
- ❖ REJUPAVE was created by the Ministry of Science and Technology's Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI) and used to build high-altitude bituminous roads in extremely low temperatures on the Drass-Umbala-Sankoo Road, which is situated in Drass, the second-coldest inhabited place in the world.
- ❖ The novel asphalt modifier REJUPAVE, which is made of biomass and renewable resources, reduces the amount of heating bituminous mixtures need and keeps them warm while in transport.
- ❖ The LGG-Damteng-Yangste (LDY) road stretch near the 18,000-foot Chinese border in Arunachal Pradesh and the world's highest road tunnel, the Sela road tunnel, were both constructed using this method in the past by BRO.
- ❖ It has now undergone successful testing at a height of 13,000 feet on the Drass-Umbala-Sankoo Road.
- ❖ The REJUPAVE was provided to Project Vijayak BRO for this technological trial by M/s Verma Industries, a CSIR CRRI technology partner.
- ❖ According to REJUPAVE's senior scientist and creator, Satish Pandey, the technique helps preserve environmentally delicate regions like Ladakh by lowering greenhouse gas emissions while also making road construction easier in frigid climates. In colder climates, roads constructed with REJUPAVE will be more resilient to low temperatures and cracking.
- ❖ According to Lt Col Divyankit Nainwal, Officer Commanding 55 RCC of Project Vijayak, REJUPAVE lowers bituminous mix manufacturing and rolling temperatures by 30–40 degrees Celsius while minimizing heat loss in transit.

- ❖ With the use of this technology, organizations like BRO, PWD, and NHDICL can operate within a wider operational window, which speeds up the construction of durable road networks in difficult environments like Drass.

Important day

World Fish Migration Day - 25 May



Key points:-

World Fish Migration Day (WFMD) will be celebrated on 25 May

- ❖ 2024 Theme is 'Free Flow'

History:-

- ❖ The history of Fish Migration Day dates back to 17 years ago, when Herman Wanningen, the founder of the World Fish Migration Foundation organized a local Fish Migration Day event in the Netherlands.
- ❖ To his surprise, many people attended the event.
- ❖ This encouraged him to organize an international Fish Migration Day event in 2014. After the huge success of this event, World Fish Migration Foundation was established as a non-profit organisation.
- ❖ The World Fish Migration Foundation now has 3,000 partners in over 60 countries who support celebrating migratory fish. In total, there are more than 570 events that reach a total of 70 million people every year.
- ❖ The organization's efforts have led to the reopening of millions of barriers for migratory fish in the region of the Dutch authority in the last 20 years.

SIGNIFICANCE:-

- ❖ The significance of World Fish Migration Day is to raise awareness about the importance of migratory fish and their habitat.
- ❖ It also serves as a reminder that free-flowing rivers are essential for the health of the planet and the well-being of people who depend on these ecosystems.
- ❖ This day is dedicated to the conservation of migratory fish species and the restoration of their natural habitats.
- ❖ World Fish Migration Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the threats faced by migratory fish and the steps that can be taken to address these challenges.

- ❖ WFMD celebration aims to promote the potential benefits of free-flowing rivers for fisheries and ecosystems.
- ❖ Some of the World Fish Migration Day activities include scientific studies, recreational activities, and educational seminars.
- ❖ These activities are aimed at raising awareness about the importance of protecting migratory fish and their habitat.

