




30 September 2023

National and International News

<p>Person in news: Kiran Baliyan</p> 	<p>Context Recently she won a bronze medal in women's shot put.</p> <p>Key fact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She won the medal in the 19th edition of the Asian Games held in Hangzhou(China). • India won the medal in this category after 72 years. • Kiran Baliyan is the second Indian to win a medal in women's shot put in Asian Games. <p>Did you know? Barbara Webster, an Anglo-Indian from Bombay, won a bronze in the inaugural edition in New Delhi in 1951.</p>
<p>Asian Development Bank(ADB)</p>	<p>Context The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved \$100 billion to invest in the Asia Pacific region.</p> <p>Key fact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approval unlocks the fund through capital management reform. • funds are to be available for the next 10 years to support Asia and the Pacific • These resources are to manage crisis situations and climate-change challenges. • The reforms were introduced through an update of ADB's Capital Adequacy Framework (CAF).
<p>Asian Development Bank (ADB)</p>	<p>Asian Development Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a multilateral development bank established on 19th December 1966. • Its Headquarters is in Manila, Philippines. • It currently has 68 members. • India became a member in 1966. • Its primary mission is to "foster economic growth and cooperation" among countries in the Asia-Pacific Region.



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- ADB assists members and partners by **providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments** to promote social and economic development.

Did you know?

As of 2022, ADB's five largest shareholders are Japan and the United States(15.6%), the People's Republic of China (6.4%), **India (6.3%)**, and Australia (5.8%).

SASTRA Ramanujan Prize

Context

The 2023 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize will be awarded to **Ruixiang Zhang of the University of California, Berkeley**

Key points

- Zhang's fundamental work spans analytic number theory, combinatorics, Euclidean harmonic analysis, and geometry.

About the prize

- The Ramanujan Prize was **founded by the Shanmugha Arts, science, technology, and Research Academy (SASTRA)**.
- It is located near **Kumbakonam, India**, Srinivasa Ramanujas ' hometown.
- It is awarded every year **to a young mathematician** judged to have done outstanding work in Ramanujan's fields of interest.
- The **age limit for the prize has been set at 32** (the age at which Ramanujan died)

Did you know?

This Award is an annual \$10,000 prize

Electoral bond

Context

The government announced the sale of the 28th tranche of electoral bonds at all authorized branches of the State Bank of India.

Key points

- Electoral bonds are a **financial instrument introduced by the Government of India in 2018**
- An electoral bond is a **bearer instrument**, like a promissory note, that is payable to the bearer on demand to donate their contributions to political parties.
- The various denominations for electoral bonds, ranging from Rs. **1,000 to Rs. 1 crore**.



- SBI is the only bank authorized to sell these bonds.
- The political parties have to disclose the amount to the Election Commission.

Did you know?

Only registered political parties are eligible to receive electoral bonds.

Global Innovation Index 2023

Context

India has maintained the 40th position out of 132 economies in the Global Innovation Index 2023

About Index

- It is published by the **World Intellectual Property Organization**.
- It is an **annual index**
- It **measures the innovation performance** of the country.
- **Index is based on the following Parameters**
 1. human capital and research
 2. infrastructure
 3. market sophistication
 4. business sophistication
 5. knowledge and technology outputs create outputs
 6. Institutions

PM Gati Shakti Scheme



Context

The PM Gati Shakti Scheme has recommended six major road and rail projects worth ₹52,000 in Odisha and Kerala.

Key facts

- It includes **two greenfield highways proposed through Gujarat and**
- **two new railway projects in Odisha and Kerala.**

About Scheme

- PM Gati Shakti is a National plan for **multimodal connectivity**
- It is essentially **a digital platform**.
- The aim of the scheme is **to bring 16 Ministries together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation** of infrastructure connectivity projects.
- will incorporate the infrastructure schemes of various Ministries and State Governments like Bharatmala Sagarmala Inland dry/land ports, Udan, and Economic Zones



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- It is based on the **six pillars**
 1. Comprehensiveness
 2. Prioritization
 3. Optimization
 4. Synchronization
 5. Analytical
 6. dynamic.

Quantum Computer

Context

In a paper in Nature Physics, a researcher at Google Quantum AI reportedly demonstrated in theory that simulating random quantum circuits and determining their output will be difficult for classical computers.

- Quantum computing is a rapidly emerging technology that harnesses the laws of quantum mechanics to solve problems too complex for classical computers.
- It is a fundamentally different way of processing information compared to today's classical computing systems.

Classical computing vs. Quantum computing

Classical computing


- It is based upon the **principles of classical mechanics**
- It is based on bits that can **either be 0 or 1 to represent data.**
- The classical **bit is the basic and smallest unit in classical computing.**
- The **byte is a collection of bits that can be used to represent larger information units**, like characters or numbers.
- The classical bit operations are **deterministic. This means that the output of a given input is always the same.**

Quantum computing

- Quantum computing **uses quantum-mechanical phenomena**
- It is based on **quantum bits”, or “qubits”,**
- It allows **superposition means "qubits", and can exist simultaneously in different states.**
- and **entanglement which means the state of a qubit can be connected to another's state**, even though they are physically separated.
- It can **solve complex phenomena,**
- This allows for the **simultaneous exploration of multiple solutions.**



Kerala Regional News

<p>National Highway renovation in Kerala</p>	<p>In News: The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has sanctioned Rs 2,560 crore for renovation works of NHs in Kerala for multiple projects.</p> <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The renovation works have been sanctioned for four development projects on the highway. • The projects include a stretch linking Talapady in Kasaragod district to Karode in Thiruvananthapuram. • The project will cover eight accidental spots identified on the Edappally-Mannuthy, and Walayar-Vadakkenchery stretches of NH • Black spots on NHs is a stretch of about 500m in length • All eight points will have an underpass constructed. <p>Did you Know? Projects like the Enchakkal flyover, service bridge in Thiruvallam, Anayara underpassage, and Poovar underpassage are also sanctioned.</p>
<p>Person in News: MS Swaminathan (Father of Green Revolution)</p>  <p><small>Adda247</small></p> <p><small>Father of India's 'Green Revolution,' MS Swaminathan Passes Away At 98</small></p>	<p>About M.S. Swaminathan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is known as the Father of India's Green Revolution. • He was born in Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, India. • MS Swaminathan is credited with developing high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice • Through his work in the 1960s and 1970s, he revolutionized the Indian agricultural sector, turning it towards self-sufficiency. <p>Did you Know? He was awarded Padma Shri in 1967, a Padmabhushan in 1972, and a Padmavibhushan in 1989</p>
<p>Kerala has turned Nipah Virus into a completely curable illness</p>	<p>In News: Kerala's healthcare system has turned deadly Nipah Virus into a completely curable illness.</p> <p>Key facts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerala health care department successfully reduced fatality to 33% from 90%.



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- The Kerala health care department saved a 9-year-old boy placed on a ventilator, which health experts say is a first in the world in Nipah treatment.
- The Nipah Virus was first detected in Kerala in 2018.

About Nipah

- Nipah virus (NiV) is a zoonotic virus that can spread from animals to humans.
- NiV can also infect pigs and other animals
- It can spread from person to person through close contact with infected individuals or their bodily fluids.
- The most common symptoms include fever, headache, vomiting, and respiratory problems.
- In some cases, NiV can also cause encephalitis (swelling of the brain), which can lead to coma and death.

Did you Know?

The natural host of NiV is the fruit bat (genus Pteropus), also known as the flying fox

Removal of encroachments in Munnar, Kerala

In News:

Kerala forms a task force headed by Collector to oversee the removal of encroachments in Munnar.

Key Points:

- Idukki Collector Sheeba George will lead the task force
- The task force comprises a Sub-Collector, a Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO), and a Cardamom Assistant Commissioner.
- The task force is mandated to remove illegal encroachments excluding those that are eligible to get title deeds.
- The government decided to form the task force based on a directive of the High Court.

KIIFB issue 1500 cr Non-Convertible debentures(NCDs)

In News:

The Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) has decided to issue NCDs worth Rs 1500 cr

Key facts

- The Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB), the state government's special purpose vehicle (SPV) for executing core-sector projects,



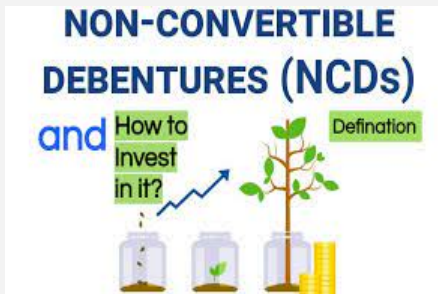
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- It is planning to raise Rs 1,500 crore by issuing non-convertible debentures (NCDs) to finance the project.
- KIIFB has already mobilized Rs 300 crore via green bonds in July 2023 at 8.49%, with a quarterly coupon.

About Green Bonds

- Green bonds are a type of fixed-income security
- Generally Issued **to raise capital for projects that have positive environmental or climate benefits.**
- Projects may involve renewable energy, energy efficiency, water conservation, sustainable transportation, and waste management.

Non-Convertible Debentures



About Non-Convertible Debenture

- NCDs are **fixed-income securities issued by companies to raise long-term capital.**
- They are **not convertible into equity shares**, which means that investors cannot convert their NCDs into shares of the company.
- NCDs are typically issued for a fixed tenure, with interest payments made on a periodic basis.
- **On maturity, investors receive the principal amount back.**

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