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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

15 May 2024

### National and International News

#### India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX)

#### Why in news?

- **State Bank of India (SBI)** has **become the first trading-cum-clearing member** at the **India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX)**.

#### About IIBX:

- The India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) is **India's first International Bullion Exchange**.
- It is **based at GIFT City** (Gujarat International Finance Tech City) **IFSC** (International Finance Services Center), **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.
- IIBX has been conceptualized **to provide a gateway to import bullion into India** and **provide a world-class bullion exchange ecosystem**.
- It aims to **promote bullion trading, investment in bullion financial products**, and **vaulting facilities in IFSCs**.
- The **IIBX is regulated by** the **International Financial Services Centers Authority (IFSCA)**

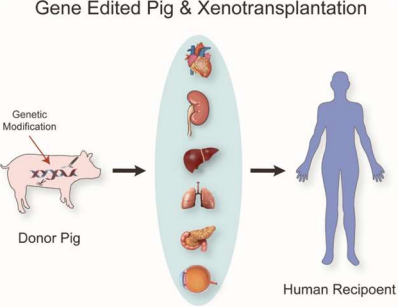
#### Did you know?

- Bullion refers to **physical gold and silver of high purity**.
- It is often **kept in the form of bars, ingots, or coins**.
- Bullion can sometimes be considered **legal tender**.
- It is often **held as reserves by central banks** or **held by institutional investors**.



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<p><b>Exercise SHAKTI</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>7th edition of the India-France Joint Military Exercise SHAKTI</b> commenced today at <b>Umroi, Meghalaya</b>.</li> <li>• The exercise is scheduled to be <b>conducted from 13th to 26th May 2024</b>.</li> <li>• Exercise SHAKTI is a <b>biennial training event conducted alternatively in India and France</b>.</li> <li>• The <b>last edition was conducted in France in November 2021</b>.</li> <li>• The joint exercise will <b>focus</b> on operations in the <b>semi-urban and mountainous terrain</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Xenotransplantation</b></p> 	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>first recipient of a modified pig kidney transplant passed away</b>.</li> <li>• This <b>occurred around two months after the surgery was carried out</b>.</li> <li>• The patient was 62-year-old <b>Richard "Rick" Slayman</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Xenotransplantation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Xenotransplantation is a procedure that <b>involves the transplantation, implantation or infusion into a human recipient of either live cells, tissues, or organs from a nonhuman animal source</b>.</li> <li>• It can <b>also involve human body fluids, cells, tissues or organs that have had ex vivo contact with live nonhuman animal cells, tissues or organs</b>.</li> <li>• Xenotransplantation involving the <b>heart was first tried in humans in the 1980s</b>.</li> <li>• The animal organ selected for the procedure has to undergo <b>genetic modifications</b> to prevent the human body from rejecting it.</li> </ul>



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### World Wildlife Crime Report 2024

#### Why in news?

- As per **World Wildlife Crime Report 2024**, The **rhino** and the **cedar** were the **most affected animal and plant species by global illegal wildlife trade** during **2015-2021**.
- The report was released by the **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**.

#### About World Wildlife Crime Report:

- The **2024 World Wildlife Crime Report** is the **3rd edition of the report**.
- **Earlier editions** were published in **2016** and **2020**.
- The **report probes trends in the illicit trafficking of protected wildlife species**.
- It presents systematic **analyses of wildlife crime harms and impacts**.
- The report also probes the **factors driving wildlife trafficking trends**.

### Venezuela may be first nation to lose all its glaciers



#### Why in news?

- **Venezuela may become the first nation in modern history to lose all its glaciers.**

#### Key points:

- The **International Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI)**, a scientific advocacy organisation, **announced that Venezuela's only remaining glacier, the Humboldt or La Corona in the Andes, is now too small to be classified as a glacier.**
- Over the last century, **Venezuela has lost at least six other glaciers.**
- Due to **climate change** and the **rise in global average temperatures**, ice loss is accelerating, contributing to the rise in sea levels worldwide.



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### About Glaciers:

- A glacier is a **large, persistent body of dense ice that is constantly moving under its own weight.**
- It forms where the **accumulation of snow exceeds its ablation** (the process of losing snow and ice by melting and evaporation) over many years, often centuries.

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