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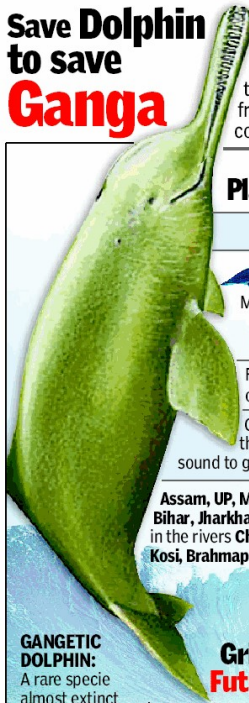
International & National News

<p>Silk production in India</p> <p>Central Silk Board(CSB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSB is a statutory body established under the Central Silk Board Act, 1948. It functions under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Textile. It is a national organization for the overall development of the silk sector in India. 	<p>Context</p> <p>India is constantly maintaining its second position in the production of silk with 18% of global production.</p> <p>Key facts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to India trade portal, the total silk production in India during 2021-2022 was 34,903 MT, an increase of 3.4% YoY over the previous year (33,770 MT). Countries sericulture employs nearly 10 mn people The share of mulberry is the largest among other varieties. Karnataka is the largest producer of state Andhra, Maharashtra, Assam, J and K, Gujrat, Bihar, are other states. <p>Did you know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> India produces all the five known commercial silks, namely, Mulberry, Tropical Tasar, Oak Tasar, Eri and Muga.
<p>World Bank forecast</p>	<p>Context</p> <p>According to World Bank forecast, Indian economy's growth forecast for this fiscal year is 6.3%</p>
<p>Gangetic Dolphin</p>	<p>About gangetic Dolphin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a freshwater species. It inhabits the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems of Nepal, India, and Bangladesh. It is India's National Aquatic Animal. A long thin snout, rounded belly, stocky body and large flippers are characteristics of the Ganges River dolphin. IUCN: Endangered Wildlife (Protection) Act: Schedule-I CITES: Appendix I



Save Dolphin to save Ganga

The Centre has declared the dolphin a national aquatic animal to save the rare freshwater species from disappearing from the country's aqua map



Know about **Platanista gangetica**

 **1.67m**

 Males grow up to **2.12m**

 Females grow up to **2.67m**

Females give birth to only one calf, once in **2-3** yrs

Generally blind, they catch their prey by emitting ultrasonic sound to gauge distance, mass etc

Assam, UP, MP, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand & W Bengal in the rivers Chambal, Sone, Kosi, Brahmaputra

Prefer deep waters, in & around Indian river confluences



GANGETIC DOLPHIN:
A rare specie almost extinct

Lost cousin: The Yangtze dolphin, Baiji, of China

Grim Future

Dwindling number due to killing, habitat fragmentation

Once counted in 10's of 1000's, the amount has reduced in last century to **1,500**
"Endangered" & placed in **Schedule-I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**

Did you know?

Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary is situated in **Bhagalpur of Bihar**

Nobel Prize in physics

Context

France's **Pierre Agostini**, Hungarian-Austrian **Ferenc Krausz** and French-Swedish **Anne L'Huillier** won the **Nobel Prize in physics**.

Key facts

- The prize awarded for the research, using ultra-quick light flashes **that enable the study of electrons inside atoms and molecules**.
- Their technique employs **pulses measured in attoseconds**
- The research has made it possible to **examine moves or changes so rapid that they were previously impossible to follow**
- potential **applications in both electronics and medical diagnostics**.

International Criminal Court

Context

Recently **Armenia's Parliament** voted to join the International Criminal Court.

International Criminal Court (ICC)



- It is the **only permanent international criminal tribunal**.
- It was **created by the 1998 Rome Statute** of the International Criminal Court
- It **started functioning on 1 July 2002** when the Statute came into force.
- Its **HQ is in Hague, Netherlands**.
- **India is not the member**
- It investigates and tries **individuals charged with the gravest crimes of concern to the international community**: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression.

Did you know?

123 States Parties recognize the ICC's authority **except the US, China, Russia, India and among others**.

Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)

Context

India's manufacturing activity eased to a five-month low in September

Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)

- It is an **economic indicator**, which is derived after monthly surveys of different companies.
- It measures activity at the purchasing or input stage.
- It is very different from industrial production which is indicative of actual production. E.g., the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) measures output.
- There are two types of PMI — **Manufacturing PMI and Services PMI**.
- The index shows trends in both the manufacturing and services sector.
- **PMI does not capture informal sector activity**.

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