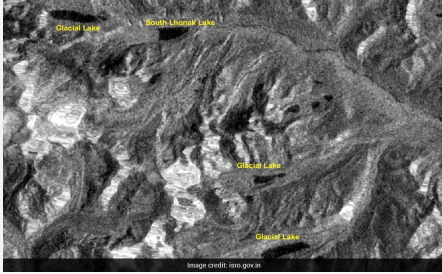




05 October 2023

International & National News

Glacial lake bursts in Sikkim



Context

The sudden **overflow of South Lhonak lake** caused flash floods in the Teesta river.

Key facts

- The flood caused the **Chungthang dam** to breach from its center from the sheer force and speed of the water Chungthang dam.
- This was likely caused by an “avalanche from the ice-capped feature”.
- Due to **overflow the 160 hectare glacial lake was reduced to only 60 hectares.**
- ISRO and Indian Institute of Science had already warned about South Lhonak lake

South Lhonak Lake

- It is a **glacial-moraine-dammed lake**, located at 5200 mt above sea level in Sikkim's far northwestern region.
- It is **one of the 14 potentially dangerous lakes susceptible to Glacial lake outburst flood (GLOFs)**
- It formed due to the melting of the Lhonak glacier

Think

- What is Glacial lake? How are they formed?

Chemistry Nobel Prize 2023

Context

The 2023 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to **Moungi G. Bawendi, Louis E. Brus and Alexei I. Ekimov** for the **discovery and synthesis of quantum dots.**

Quantum dots

- Quantum dots are **crystals a few nanometres wide and hold only a few thousand atoms.**
- The electrons in the dot's atoms are **very close to each other.**
- At this nanoscale, the **effects of quantum mechanics are more apparent.**
- Quantum dots are particles that are nanosized in all three dimensions.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They behave like <b>artificial atoms</b>, as they can have a fixed number of electrons in a confined space, leading to unique properties that are size-dependent.</li> </ul> <p><b>Did you know?</b> Quantum dots can contribute to flexible electronics, miniscule sensors, slimmer solar cells, and perhaps encrypted quantum communication in the future.</p>
<p><b>NIIF unveils \$600 mn India-Japan Fund</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund(NIIF) has entered into a collaboration with <b>Japan Bank</b> for International Cooperation (JBIC) to unveil a <b>\$600 million</b> India-Japan Fund.</p> <p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fund will have <b>JBIC</b> and <b>Government of India</b> as anchor investors.</li> <li>• It will focus on investing in <b>environmental sustainability and low carbon emission strategies</b>.</li> <li>• It aims to further enhance Japanese investments into India.</li> </ul>
<p><b>National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)</b></p>	<p><b>About NIIF</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NIIF is India's <b>first sovereign wealth fund set up by the Government of India in 2015</b>.</li> <li>• It is an investor-owned fund manager.</li> <li>• It is anchored by the Government of India (GoI)in collaboration with leading global and domestic institutional investors.</li> <li>• NIIF's mandate includes <b>investing in areas such as energy, transportation, housing, water, waste management</b> and other infrastructure-related sectors in India.</li> </ul>
<p><b>BlueWalker 3 satellite</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> Recently the observational studies have been conducted by an international team of scientists regarding the impact of the prototype BlueWalker 3 satellite on astronomy</p> <p><b>Key facts about observation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observations taken showed that the <b>satellite was among the brightest objects in the sky</b>.</li> <li>• researchers recognised that the <b>satellite constellations are important for improving worldwide communications</b>.</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• But they say that their interference with astronomical observations could severely hamper their progress in understanding of the cosmos.</li></ul> <p><b>About satellite</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>BlueWalker 3 is a prototype satellite</b>, part of a satellite constellation planned by its owner AST SpaceMobile.</li><li>• It is intended to <b>deliver mobile or broadband services anywhere in the world</b></li><li>• BlueWalker 3 is deemed the largest commercial antenna system ever deployed to low-Earth orbit.</li><li>• <b>It was launched in September of 2022.</b></li></ul>
<p><b>Central Turmeric Board</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> The Centre notified the constitution of the National Turmeric Board.</p> <p><b>About board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Board will have a <b>Chairperson appointed by the Centre.</b></li><li>• Its members will includes<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. the Ministry of AYUSH</li><li>2. Department of Pharmaceuticals</li><li>3. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare</li><li>4. Ministry of Commerce &amp; Industry</li><li>5. senior State government representatives from the three states on a rotational basis.</li></ol></li><li>• Selected national/State institutions involved in research, representatives of turmeric farmers and exporters will also be members of the Board.</li><li>• <b>A secretary will be appointed to the Board by the Commerce Ministry.</b></li><li>• The Board will focus on the development and growth of turmeric and turmeric products in the country.</li></ul> <p><b>Did you know?</b> India was the largest producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric. Maharashtra and Telangana are largest producer of turmeric.</p>
<p><b>Green shipping plan</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> Director General of Shipping announced the Green shipping plan to position maritime sector as eco-friendly</p>



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ADDAPEDIA

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	<p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The national action plan for green shipping promotes <b>eco-friendly practices and incentives for low emission ships.</b></li><li>• The sector's <b>vision encompasses</b><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. quadrupling port capacity</li><li>2. clean energy fuel hubs</li><li>3. cruise tourism growth</li><li>4. shipbuilding and recycling leadership</li><li>5. 5,000 km regional waterway grid</li></ol></li></ul>
<p><b>New defence indigenisation list</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Defence Minister released the fifth Positive Indigenisation List of 98 items to be procured</li><li>• He also released the Navy's updated indigenisation road map, "<b>Swavlamban 2.0</b>".</li></ul> <p><b>The items on the indigenisation list include</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• futuristic infantry combat vehicle,</li><li>• articulated all-terrain vehicles,</li><li>• several types of unmanned aerial vehicles,</li><li>• medium-range precision kill system for artillery,</li><li>• test equipment for guided weapon system for T-90 S/SK tanks,</li><li>• radars, armor plates for cabin nose section for Mi-17 helicopter,</li><li>• automated mobile test system for OSA-AK-M air defence system,</li><li>• gravity rollers for Mi-17V5 helicopter and flares of P-8I</li><li>• MiG 29-K aircraft.</li></ul>

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