

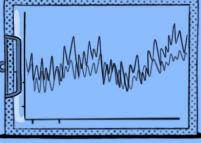



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26 October 2023

International & National News


<p>Book: Lords of Wankhede</p>	<p>Context The book titled “Lords of Wankhede” was recently launched.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is authored by WV Raman and R Kaushik. The Lords of Wankhede explores the evolution of Indian cricket in the 28 years between the two World Cup successes.
<p>Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI)</p>  <p>Purchasing Managers’ Index [par-chas-ij 'ma-ni-jars 'in-deks] An index that measures the month-over-month change in economic activity within the manufacturing sector.</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eurozone PMI hit its lowest in nearly 3 years and has stirred recession worries. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PMI is an economic indicator, which is derived after monthly surveys of different companies. It measures activity at the purchasing or input stage. In this sense, it is very different from industrial production which is indicative of actual production. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E.g., the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) measures output. <p>Did you know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are two types of PMI — Manufacturing PMI and Services PMI. The index shows trends in both the manufacturing and services sectors. PMI does not capture informal sector activity. PMI data for India is released by S&P Global - a global major in financial information and analytics.
<p>Personality in news: Bishan Singh Bedi</p>  <p>Bishan Singh Bedi 1946 - 2023</p>	<p>Context Bishan Singh Bedi passed away following a prolonged illness.</p> <p>About Bedi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He was an Indian cricketer who was primarily a slow left-arm orthodox bowler. He played Test cricket for India from 1966 to 1979 and formed part of the famous Indian spin quartet. He played a total of 67 Tests and took 266 wickets. He also captained the national side in 22 Test matches. He was awarded the Padma Shri award in 1970 and the C. K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004
<p>Mission Mahila Sarathi</p>	<p>Context</p> <p>Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has flagged off 51 State transport corporation buses under Mission Mahila Sarathi on the occasion of Durga Ashtami in Ayodhya.</p>



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	<p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These buses will have women drivers and conductors. • The initiative seeks to connect and empower women
<p>United Nations Day 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations Day is an annual commemorative day, reflecting the official creation of the United Nations on 24 October 1945. • It is celebrated on 24th October each year. • The United Nations Day 2023 theme is “Equality, Freedom and Justice for All.” • This year marks the 75th anniversary.
<p>EU report calls for 2% global wealth tax on billionaires</p>	<p>Context The European Union Tax Observatory in its ‘Global Tax Evasion Report 2024’ has called for a global minimum tax on billionaires equal to 2% of their wealth.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This step was taken because tax evasion was enabling billionaires to enjoy effective tax rates equivalent to 0% to 0.5% of their wealth. • This would both address evasion and “generate nearly \$250 billion from less than 3,000 individuals • While the number of taxpayers affected by it would be minuscule, the tax rate for them (2%) “would still be very modest” given that the wealth of billionaires has grown at 7% a year annually on average since 1995 (net of inflation).
<p>Cheetah and Chetak helicopters to be replaced by LUH</p> 	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Army will start phasing out the first lot of vintage Cheetah and Chetak helicopters from 2027 on completion of their total technical life. • This is to induct the indigenous light utility helicopters (LUHs) to replace them <p>About LUH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LUH is a 3-tonne class helicopter with a glass cockpit for reconnaissance and surveillance roles and as a light transport helicopter. • The helicopter will be capable of flying at 220 kmph, with a service ceiling of 6.5 km and a range of 350 km with a 400kg payload
<p>Bat Genomes</p>	<p>Context Scientists have embarked on comprehensive studies of bat genomes, revealing invaluable insights into their distinctive biology.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bats boast relatively small genomes, typically consisting of around 2 billion bases, making them ideal subjects for genomic research.



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- The ambitious **Bat1K** global genome consortium is currently undertaking the task of sequencing genomes of all bat species worldwide, promising further revelations about their genetic makeup.
- The research will highlight how bats enjoy a **unique defense against a range of diseases, including cancer.**

Facts about Bats

Did you know?

The bumblebee bat weighs only 2 grams whereas the flying foxes, which have a wingspan of 1.5 metres, weigh up to 1.6 kg.

- Bats are the **only mammals on the earth that can maintain sustained flight.**
- They also have **relatively long life spans** and are relatively more protected from a variety of diseases, including cancer.
- They also **have a unique ability in echolocation**, whereby they use sound to navigate and locate objects, freeing them from being constrained by the availability of light like humans are.
- By population, **bats make up 20% of all mammals.**
- There are more than 1,400 species of bats today around the world; more than 60 are endangered and 170-odd are classified as vulnerable.
- In all, bats **play crucial roles in maintaining the ecological balance** and are essential for pollination, insect control, etc.

Canada's actions are in violation of the Vienna Convention

Context

- According to the Indian External Affairs Minister, Canada's inability to provide safety and security to Indian diplomats challenges the **"most fundamental aspect"** of the **Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.**

About Convention

- The **Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961)** is a treaty that defines the framework for the conduct of diplomatic relations between countries.
- It was **adopted in 1961** by the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities **held in Vienna, Austria.**
- This treaty **lays down the rules and regulations of diplomatic relations** between countries and also the privileges that diplomats enjoy in other countries.
- India ratified the convention through the **Diplomatic Relations (Vienna Convention) Act of 1972.**

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