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11 January 2024

International & National News

National Human Trafficking
Awareness Day



Context:

- **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** is observed annually on **January 11th**
- In **2007**, **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** was declared by the **United States Senate** to be celebrated on **January 11**
- It aims to raise awareness about the **horrific crime of human trafficking** and the millions of people impacted by it worldwide.
- This day serves as a crucial reminder to **stay vigilant, educate ourselves**, and take action to combat this modern-day slavery.

About:

- **Human trafficking** is the illegal trade of people for various purposes, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, organ harvesting, and domestic servitude.

Did you Know?



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blue is internationally recognized as the universal color for human trafficking prevention
Rapid decline in India-Maldives ties	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ties between India and the Maldives have witnessed a worrying downward spiral in recent months.• This sudden shift, marked by diplomatic tensions and public animosity, raises concerns about the future of regional stability and cooperation. <p>Triggering factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Anti-India remarks by Maldivian officials2. Change in Maldivian government.3. Geopolitical influences



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Black fluid blankets Manipur rivulet, alert sounded

Context:

- The **Manipur Government** on **January 11** sounded an alert after a **gooey black fluid** blanketed a rivulet on Jan 10 night.

About:

- A **thick, viscous black fluid** has **mysteriously covered** a rivulet in **Manipur**, raising concerns about **environmental contamination** and **potential health risks**.
- The incident **occurred near the Loktak Lake** which is a **Ramsar wetland** of international importance.

Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023



Context:

- As per Central Government's annual cleanliness survey, **Indore** and **Surat** were adjudged the '**cleanest cities**' in the country
- **Navi Mumbai** retained the **third position** i.
- In the category of '**best performing States**' in '**Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023**', **Maharashtra** bagged the top rank, followed by **Madhya Pradesh** and **Chhattisgarh**.



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Direct tax collections cross 80% of 2023-24 target

Context:

- India's net direct tax collections have touched ₹14.7 lakh crore, meeting over four-fifths of this year's target and reflecting a growth of 19.4% over the same period of 2022-23.
- The provisional direct tax collections continue to register 'steady growth' with gross collections rising 16.77% to ₹17.18 lakh crore, led by a 26.11% rise in Personal Income Tax (PIT) inflows.
- Corporate Income Tax or CIT collections grew at a relatively muted pace of 8.32%.

EU's carbon border tax



Context:

- The EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), also known as the carbon border tax, is a policy that aims to level the playing field for European industries facing stricter carbon emission regulations compared to their non-EU counterparts.
- It essentially puts a price on the carbon emissions embedded in certain imported goods, such as cement, steel, aluminum, fertilizers, electricity, and hydrogen.
- The EU's ambitious goal is to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 requires significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.



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