



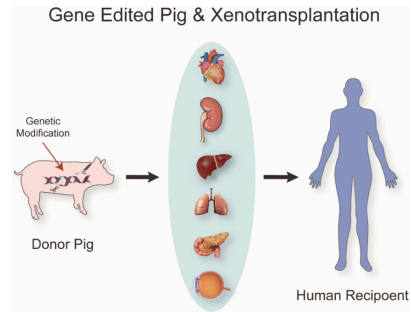
15 May 2024

National & International News

<p><b>India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX)</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>State Bank of India (SBI) has become the first trading-cum-clearing member at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX).</b></li></ul> <p><b>About IIBX:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) is <b>India's first International Bullion Exchange.</b></li><li>● It is <b>based at GIFT City</b> (Gujarat International Finance Tech City) <b>IFSC</b> (International Finance Services Center), <b>Gandhinagar, Gujarat.</b></li><li>● IIBX has been conceptualized <b>to provide a gateway to import bullion into India and provide a world-class bullion exchange ecosystem.</b></li><li>● It aims to <b>promote bullion trading, investment in bullion financial products, and vaulting facilities in IFSCs.</b></li><li>● The <b>IIBX is regulated by the International Financial Services Centers Authority (IFSCA).</b></li></ul> <p><b>Did you know?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Bullion refers to <b>physical gold and silver of high purity.</b></li><li>● It is often <b>kept as bars, ingots, or coins.</b></li><li>● Bullion can sometimes be considered <b>legal tender.</b></li><li>● It is often <b>held as reserves by central banks or held by institutional investors.</b></li></ul>
<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 on operations in the semi-urban and mountainous terrain.</b></li></ul>



## Xenotransplantation



### Why in news?

- The **first recipient of a modified pig kidney transplant passed away.**
- This **occurred around two months after the surgery was carried out.**
- The patient was 62-year-old **Richard “Rick” Slayman.**

### About Xenotransplantation:

- Xenotransplantation is a procedure that **involves the transplantation, implantation or infusion into a human recipient of either live cells, tissues, or organs from a nonhuman animal source.**
- It can also involve **human body fluids, cells, tissues or organs that have had ex vivo contact with live nonhuman animal cells, tissues, or organs.**
- Xenotransplantation involving the **heart was first tried in humans in the 1980s.**
- The animal organ selected for the procedure has to undergo **genetic modifications** to prevent the human body from rejecting it.

## 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.**



বাংলা



### Venezuela may be the 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 organization, 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.

#### About Glaciers:

- A glacier is a **large, persistent body of dense ice that is constantly moving under its 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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