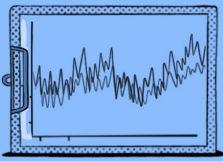





26 October 2023

## National and International News

<p><b>Book: Lords of Wankhede</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> The book titled “Lords of Wankhede” was recently launched.</p> <p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is authored by <b>WV Raman</b> and <b>R Kaushik</b>.</li> <li>The Lords of Wankhede explores the evolution of Indian cricket in the 28 years between the two World Cup successes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI)</b></p> <div>  <p><b>Purchasing Managers’ Index</b> <i>[pər-ˈtʃæs-ɪŋ ˈmɑː-ni-jərs ˈɪn-deks]</i> An index that measures the month-over-month change in economic activity within the manufacturing sector.</p> </div>	



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	<p>matches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He was awarded the <b>Padma Shri award</b> in 1970 and the <b>C. K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award</b> in 2004</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mission Mahila Sarathi</b></p> 	<p><b>Context</b> Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has <b>flagged off 51 State transport corporation buses</b> under <b>Mission Mahila Sarathi</b> on the occasion of Durga Ashtami in Ayodhya</p> <p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These buses will have <b>women drivers and conductors.</b></li> <li>• The initiative seeks to connect and <b>empower women</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>United Nations Day 2023</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>United Nations Day</b> is an annual commemorative day, reflecting the official creation of the United Nations on <b>24 October 1945.</b></li> <li>• It is celebrated on 24th October each year.</li> <li>• The United Nations Day 2023 theme is “<b>Equality, Freedom and Justice for All.</b>”</li> <li>• This year marks the <b>75th anniversary.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>EU report calls for 2% global wealth tax on billionaires</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> The European Union Tax Observatory in its ‘<b>Global Tax Evasion Report 2024</b>’ has called for a global minimum tax on billionaires equal to 2% of their wealth.</p> <p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This step was taken because tax evasion was enabling billionaires to enjoy effective tax rates equivalent to 0% to 0.5% of their wealth.</li> <li>• This would both address evasion and “generate nearly <b>\$250 billion</b> from less than 3,000 individuals</li> <li>• While the number of taxpayers affected by it would be miniscule, 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).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cheetah and Chetak helicopters to be replaced by LUH</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Army will start phasing out the first lot of vintage <b>Cheetah and Chetak helicopters from 2027</b> on completion of their total technical life.</li> </ul>



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- This is to induct the **indigenous light utility helicopters (LUHs)** to replace them

### About LUH

- The LUH is a **3-tonne class helicopter** with 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 400 kg payload**

### Bat Genomes



### Context

Scientists have embarked on comprehensive studies of bat genomes, revealing invaluable insights into their distinctive biology.

### Key points

- Bats boast relatively small genomes, typically consisting of around **2 billion bases**, making them ideal subjects for genomic research.
- 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

### Context



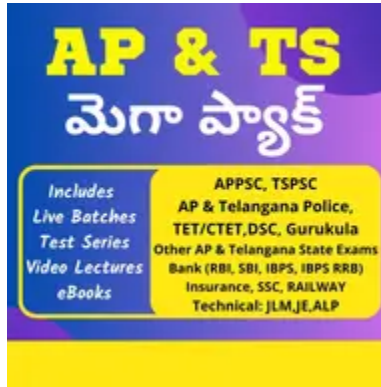
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## of Vienna Convention

- 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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