

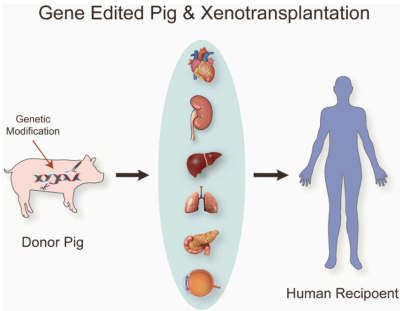


15 May 2024

National and International News

<p>India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Bank of India (SBI) has become the first trading-cum-clearing member at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX). <p>About IIBX:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) is India's first International Bullion Exchange. • It is based at GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tech City) IFSC (International Finance Services Center), Gandhinagar, Gujarat. • IIBX has been conceptualized to provide a gateway to import bullion into India and provide a world-class bullion exchange ecosystem. • It aims to promote bullion trading, investment in bullion financial products, and vaulting facilities in IFSCs. • The IIBX is regulated by the International Financial Services Centers Authority (IFSCA). <p>Did you know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullion refers to physical gold and silver of high purity. • It is often kept in the form of bars, ingots, or coins. • Bullion can sometimes be considered legal tender. • It is often held as reserves by central banks or held by institutional investors.
<p>Exercise SHAKTI</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 7th edition of the India-France Joint Military Exercise SHAKTI commenced today at Umroi, Meghalaya. • The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 13th to 26th May 2024. • Exercise SHAKTI is a biennial training event conducted alternatively in India and France. • The last edition was conducted in France in November 2021. • The joint exercise will focus on operations in the semi-urban and mountainous terrain.
<p>Xenotransplantation</p>	<p>Why in news?</p>



<p>Gene Edited Pig & Xenotransplantation</p>  <p>Genetic Modification Donor Pig Human Recipient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>About Xenotransplantation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>World Wildlife Crime Report 2024</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>About World Wildlife Crime Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>Venezuela may be first nation to lose all its glaciers</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venezuela may become the first nation in modern history to lose all its glaciers. <p>Key points:</p>



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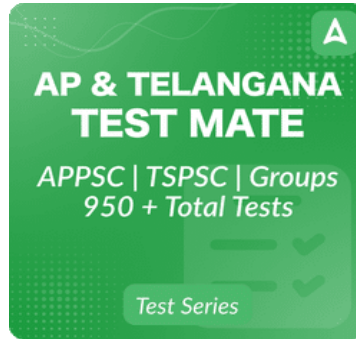
Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia



- The **International Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI)**, a scientific advocacy organisation, **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 own 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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