



20 Aug 2024

National and International News

<p>Green Tug Transition Program</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Union Minister of Port Shipping and Waterways recently launched the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Green Tug Transition Program (GTTP). <p>About Green Tug Transition Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Launch Date: GTTP (Green Tug Transition Programme) was launched on May 22, 2023, under the 'Panch Karma Sankalp' initiative.Objective: To phase out conventional fuel-based harbour tugs operating in Indian Major Ports and replace them with green tugs powered by cleaner and more sustainable alternative fuels.Nodal Agency: National Centre of Excellence in Green Port & Shipping (NCoEGPS) will act as the nodal entity for the programme.Long-term Vision: India aims to become a 'Global Hub for Green Ship' building by 2030 with the launch of GTTP.Technology: 'Green Hybrid Tugs' will be powered by Green Hybrid Propulsion systems, which will eventually transition to non-fossil fuel solutions like Methanol, Ammonia, and Hydrogen.
<p>Aarogya Maitri Health Cube</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Indian Army and Air Force recently conducted a first-of-its-kind paradrop of the Aarogya Maitri Health Cube, the world's first indigenously-made portable hospital, at an elevation of 15,000 feet. <p>About Aarogya Maitri Health Cube:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">World's First Portable Hospital:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed indigenously under Project BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri).Includes essential medical equipment and supplies such as a mini-ICU, operation theatre, X-ray machine, blood test equipment, cooking station, food, water, and a power generator.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aarogya Maitri Cube Cage Design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total of 36 mini-cubes in a single cage, providing survival supplies for 48 hours for 100 survivors. ○ Two cages can be joined (master cube one and master cube two) to include 72 cubes in total, capable of assisting 200 survivors.
<p>Gross Environment Product Index</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Uttarakhand has become the first state in India and the world to launch a Gross Environment Product Index, focusing not just on ecosystem services but also on ecosystem growth. <p>About Gross Environment Product Index:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GEP Index: A novel, integrative metric designed to evaluate ecological development caused by human interventions. ● Constituents: The index is determined by the condition of four main environmental constituents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Air quality ○ Water quality ○ Number of trees planted in a year ○ Measure of the area of organic soil ● Formula: GEP index = (Air-GEP index + Water-GEP index + Soil-GEP index + Forest-GEP index) ● Purpose: Provides quantifiable assessments of improvements in air, water, soil, and forest quality.
<p>Hakki Pikki Tribe</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members of the Hakki Pikki tribal community have successfully ventured into the hair oil industry as entrepreneurs. <p>About Hakki Pikki Tribe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tribe Name: Hakki Pikki (Hakki means 'bird' and Pikki means 'catchers' in Kannada). ● Traditional Occupation: Semi-nomadic tribe, traditionally involved in bird catching and hunting. ● Location: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Primarily reside in Karnataka. ○ Also found in Western and Southern states of India, mostly near forest areas.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Migration History: Migrated from Northern India, mainly from Gujarat and Rajasthan. ● Language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Speak an Indo-Aryan language called 'Vaagri' at home. ○ Use Kannada for daily business interactions. ○ Endangered Status: UNESCO has listed 'Vaagri' as one of the endangered languages.
National Coal Index (NCI)	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The National Coal Index (NCI) witnessed a significant decline of 3.48% in June 2024, dropping to 142.13 points provisionally, compared to 147.25 points in June 2023. <p>About National Coal Index (NCI):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Coal Index (NCI): A price index reflecting changes in coal prices each month relative to a fixed base year. ● Base Year: FY 2017-18. ● Purpose: To provide an index that accurately reflects the market price of coal. ● Release: Issued monthly by the Ministry of Coal. ● Exclusions: Washed coal and coal products are not included in the index.

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