



e-FIR System in Gujarat

❖ Context

- Union Minister Home Minister has launched the e-FIR system in Gandhinagar recently which will enable the citizens to file an FIR online, without visiting the police stations.

❖ Key Highlights

- Through this online service, the citizens of the state will be able to file complaints online at home.
- within 48 hours of registering the FIR, the police will contact the complainant directly and visit the scene of vehicle theft/mobile phone theft and complete the investigation within 21 days and send a report to the court.
- The complainant will also be informed about the registration of this online complaint and the progress made in the investigation through Email/SMS.

- And at the same time, the insurance company will also be informed by the police through email/SMS so that it will help the plaintiff to get his insurance claim easily.
- The e-FIR service has been coordinated with the Gujarat State Police CCTV Command and Control.
- Gujarat Police would be equipped with the latest technology to ensure the safety and security of the citizens of the state, with the intention of online police operations in the state.

India- Bangladesh Agreement on Trans Border Crimes

❖ Context

- At the Director-General level border co-ordination conference between India and Bangladesh, the two sides have agreed for time and place-specific joint operations and patrolling to curb trans-border crimes and strengthen "mutual trust and harmony" among the forces.



❖ Key Highlights



- Both side stressed on the importance of **Coordinated Border Management Plan (CBMP)** in curbing contraband smuggling, such as narcotics (especially YABA tablets), firearms, fake Indian rupee notes, and gold.

- Both sides agreed to undertake joint efforts to bring down the number of incidents of assault/border crime by intensifying public awareness program, undertaking appropriate socio-economic developmental programs in vulnerable areas, educating border population about the sanctity of IB and preventing criminals/inhabitants from crossing the IB.
- New Delhi and Dhaka also decided to constructively engage their respective higher authorities for completing pending developmental work within **150 yards of IB.**

Migratory Monarch Butterflies

❖ Context

- The migratory monarch butterfly, a sub-species of the monarch butterfly, has been classified 'endangered' in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.



❖ Key Highlights

- The monarch butterfly is known by scientists as **Danaus plexippus**, which in Greek literally means "sleepy transformation."
- The name evokes the species' ability to hibernate and metamorphize.
- Monarch butterflies travel between 1,200 and 2,800 miles or more **from the northeast United States, and southeast Canada to the mountain forests in central Mexico**, where they find the right climate conditions to hibernate from the beginning of November to mid-March.
- Habitat destruction and climate change are mainly responsible for pushing the insect towards extinction.
- Butterflies are important pollinators and provide various ecosystem services such as maintaining the global food web.



- A smaller population of the species is also found in countries like **Australia, Hawaii and India.**

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Breakthrough in Alzheimer's Drug Research

❖ Context

- A scientist from a medical college, Thrissur in association with scientists from a Japanese research institution, has unveiled the atomic level binding mode of Tacrine with human acetylcholinesterase.

❖ Alzheimer Disease (AD)

- AD is a **progressive neurologic disorder** that causes the brain to shrink (atrophy) and brain cells to die.
- It is characterised by : **Loss of connections** between nerve cells (neurons) in the brain.
 - Formation of abnormal clumps (called **amyloid plaques**) and tangled bundles of fibres (called **neurofibrillary, or tau, tangles**) in the brain.

❖ Acetylcholinesterase (AChE)

- It is an enzyme involved in the rapid breakdown of the **neurotransmitter acetylcholine**, thus promoting AD.

❖ Tacrine

- Though pathologies of AD have been well studied, the treatment has been highly challenging due to the scarcity of the number of drugs.
- Tacrine, **the first marketed drug for AD**, reversibly inhibits the enzyme acetylcholinesterase (AChE).

- However, due to **hepatotoxicity** (damage to liver), Tacrine has been withdrawn from the market.

❖ Significance of the Finding

- There is no treatment that cures Alzheimer's disease or alters the disease process in the brain. Tacrine is still being used as a potential starting point to design highly efficient anti-AD drugs without hepatotoxicity.
- The majority of research has been performed with **electric eel AChE**, considering it a surrogate model.
- There are high structural similarities between the acetylcholinesterase from humans and that of pacific electric ray fish (electric eel).
- In 1993, Israeli scientists demonstrated how Tacrine binds to acetylcholinesterase isolated from the electric eel.
- **However, the binding of Tacrine with human acetylcholinesterase was unknown for almost three decades.**

Salim Ali's Fruit Bat

❖ Context

- A recent study indicates that more than 50% of habitats, suitable for 37 species of bats including Salim Ali fruit bat, in the Southern Western Ghats lie outside protected areas.



❖ Key Highlights

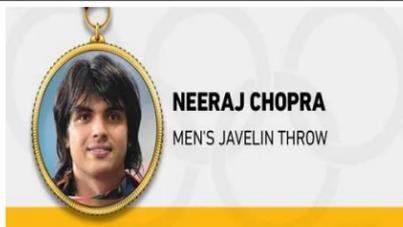
- It is one of the rarest bats in the world.
- It was first collected by Angus Hutton, a planter and naturalist in the **High Wavy Mountains (Meghamalai Range)** in the Western Ghats of Theni district, Tamil Nadu in 1948.
- It was named after Indian ornithologist Salim Ali in 1972.
- It is evolutionarily distinct, monotypic and endangered frugivorous bat species **endemic to the southern Western Ghats of India.**

- It is restricted to **montane tropical evergreen forests, coffee and cardamom plantations** with an altitude range of 800-1,100m.
- Habitat loss, anthropogenic pressure from the plantations, meat consumption, and use in traditional medicine are reducing the already endangered population of this species.
- **Conservation status :**
 - **IUCN:** Endangered
 - **WPA:** Schedule I

Neeraj Chopra Wins Silver Medal

❖ Context

- Neeraj Chopra scripts history by becoming first Indian to win silver medal at World Athletics Championships; Grabs 2nd position in Men's Javelin Throw final.



❖ Key Highlights

- In the prestigious competition held at Eugene in Oregon, United States, the champ grabbed second position with his best throw of 88.13 metres.
- Grenadian javelin thrower Anderson Peters won the gold medal with a throw of 90.54 meters.

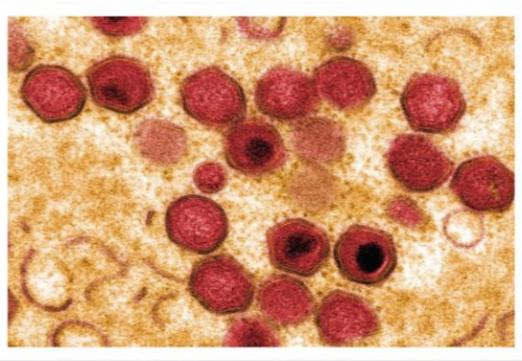
- He is the second Indian after former long jumper Anju Bobby George, who won a bronze medal in long jump at 2003 in Paris.
- **World Athletics Championships:** The **World Athletics Championships** (until 2019 known as the **World Championships in Athletics**) are a biennial athletics competition organized by World Athletics (formerly IAAF, International Association of Athletics Federations).

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News in Between the Lines

African Swine Fever



❖ Context

- Kerala has reported cases of African swine fever in Wayanad.

❖ Key Highlights

- ASFV is **endemic to sub-Saharan Africa** and exists in the wild through a cycle of infection between ticks and wild pigs, bushpigs, and warthogs.
- It is a highly contagious viral disease of pigs. It causes a **hemorrhagic fever**.
- In its acute form the disease generally results in **high mortality**.
- There are **neither vaccines nor cures**. For this reason, it has serious **socio-economic consequences** in affected countries.
- Though typical signs are similar to swine flu, it is a **different disease to swine flu**.
- The virus does not affect people and there is **no impact on human health**.
- It is **highly resistant in the environment**, meaning that it can survive on clothes, boots, wheels, and other materials.

Athelia Rolfsii



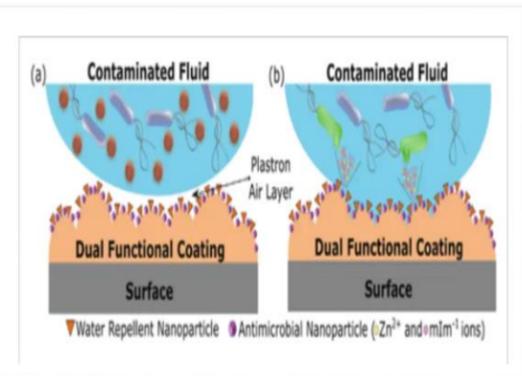
❖ Context

- For the first time, **fruit rot** caused by the fungus *Athelia rolfsii* is being reported in **jackfruit** (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*) in India.

❖ Key Highlights

- *Athelia rolfsii* is a **soil-borne fungal pathogen** with a wide host range which attacks **various commercially cultivated crops** belonging to different families.
- One disease which is found in **immature jackfruit** is the **Rhizopus fruit rot**, but it does not affect mature fruit.

New Surface Coating Against Virus, Bacteria



❖ Context

- University of Sydney scientists have developed a sprayable coating that can prevent the surface spread of infection from bacteria and viruses, including COVID-19.

❖ Key Highlights

- The coatings register an **11-fold decrease in viral contamination** compared to the non-coated surfaces.
- It creates an **air filled barrier** that repels water. Pathogens remain trapped in water droplets and the surface is protected.
- If this mechanism fails, a secondary burst of ions is triggered, by carefully designed nanomaterials dispersed in coating, that kills pathogens.

Near Free Public Transport in Germany



❖ Context

- Germany has made mobility across its wide network of public transport almost free by issuing a monthly ticket at Euro 9 valid for unlimited trips.

❖ Key Highlights

- The move aims to wean away people from using personal cars which may help in reducing inflation and combating global warming.
- In **2020, Luxembourg became the first country** to make public transport free.

Community Radio Stations



❖ Context

- The **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)** has floated a consultation paper to seek stakeholder views on licensing of community radio stations.

❖ Key Highlights

- **Community Radio Stations (CRS)** serve a local and well-defined community focusing on the day-to-day concerns, specific information and entertainment needs. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting grants the licence to operate CRS for **five years**.

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Anusilan Samiti



- Eligible organisations are civil society and voluntary organisations, state agriculture Universities (SAUs), ICAR institutions, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, registered societies, autonomous Bodies, public trusts registered under Societies Act and educational institutions.
- **Individuals, political parties, organisations running for profit** and those banned by governments are **not eligible**.

❖ Context

- Union Education and Skill Development Minister calls for including information about Anusilan Samity in **National Curriculum Framework (NCF)** to inspire the next generation.

❖ About Anusilan Samity

- The organisation arose from a conglomeration of local youth groups and gyms (akhara) in Bengal in 1902.
- It was founded by Satish Chandra Pramatha Mitra, Aurobindo Ghose and Sarala Devi, Anusilan Samity was one among the many illustrious institutions from the pious land of Bengal that shaped the nation's conscience through nationalist writings, publications and emphasis on Swadeshi.

Micronesia Records its First Covid Outbreak



❖ Context

- A small island country in the Pacific Ocean with a population of just over 0.1 million is the latest to lose its COVID-free tag after an over two year-long run.

❖ About Micronesia

- **Micronesia** is a subregion of Oceania, consisting of about 2,000 small islands in the western Pacific Ocean.
- There are four main island groups in Micronesia :
 - The Caroline Islands (Federated States of Micronesia and Palau).
 - The Gilbert Islands (Kiribati).
 - The Mariana Islands (Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, US).
 - The Marshall Islands.

163rd Anniversary of Income Tax Day



❖ Context

- The **163rd** anniversary of Income Tax Day was observed by **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** & all its field offices across the country on 24th July 2022.

❖ Income Tax Department

- On July 24, 1860, **Sir James Wilson** introduced income tax for the first time in India.
- Headquartered in **New Delhi**, the Income Tax department is responsible for direct tax collection for the Government of India.
- It functions under the **Department of Revenue in the Ministry of finance**, and is headed by an apex body called the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- The Department has achieved the highest ever revenue collection of over 14 lakh crore in the last fiscal year 2021-22.

15th President of India



❖ Context

- Droupadi Murmu has been elected as the 15th President of India.

❖ Key Highlights

- Ms Murmu bagged 64 per cent of the votes in the poll and opposition Candidate Yashwant Sinha got 36 per cent.
- Of the four thousand seven hundred 54 valid electors, Ms Murmu got votes of two thousand 824 lawmakers including 540 MPs and the value of the vote is Six lakh 76 thousand 803.
- **First tribal woman:** Ms Murmu is the first tribal woman and the second woman to hold the position of President of India.
- **Oath:** Chief Justice of India, administered the oath of office to Ms Murmu on 25th July 2022 at the Central Hall of Parliament.

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