



8 August, 2023

Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar

Context: The 'Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar' campaign, a joint effort of MoHUA and MoEFCC, started on May 15, 2023, and will continue for three weeks until June 5, 2023, World Environment Day.

- Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar' campaign empowers Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to set up 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' (RRR) Centres.
- The campaign runs under SBM-U 2.0 and is a public outreach effort, not a separate scheme.
- RRR Centres accept items like plastic, clothes, footwear, books, and toys.
- The goal is to encourage citizens, institutions, and businesses to adopt RRR practices, minimizing waste and promoting resource conservation.
- The campaign promotes awareness about Mission LiFE and aims to nudge behavior change for a cleaner and greener environment.
- The focus is on integrating RRR practices into the urban sanitation ecosystem to create a circular economy.
- Measures include door-to-door awareness drives, social media campaigns, and influencer engagement.
- Guidelines for ULBs were provided by MoHUA to support the campaign's implementation.

RRR Centres

- **RRR Centres:** One-stop spots for citizens to deposit items like clothes, shoes, books, toys, and plastic.
- **Participation:** Active involvement in mega collection drives for old and unused items.
- **Wide Reach:** 7000+ RRR Centres established across cities and states.
- **Door-to-Door:** Collection vans collect toys, books, clothes, and electronics.
- **Recycling and Reuse:** Repurposing items to promote sustainability.
- **Engagement:** Innovative methods like videos, geo-tagging, and animations.
- **Resource Conservation:** Promoting a circular economy by reducing waste.
- **Innovation:** Recycled plastic for furniture, repurposing items.
- **Education and Recreation:** Spaces for reading, playing, and learning.
- **Youth Involvement:** Spreading awareness through initiatives.
- **Eco-Friendly:** Green practices, like Bhopal's eco-friendly RRR Centre.
- **Expansion:** More RRR Centres planned for cities.

GSAT 24

Context: Yesterday, Tata Play initiated the utilization of GSAT-24 satellite, a result of collaboration with New Space India Limited (NSIL) in line with India's 'Make in India' vision.

- GSAT-24, a 4,180 kg 24-Ku band communication satellite, was built by ISRO for NewSpace India Limited (NSIL).
- The Ariane 5 rocket successfully deployed GSAT-24 into a geostationary orbit.
- This satellite serves DTH application needs with pan-India coverage.
- NSIL undertook its first demand-driven communication satellite mission post space sector reforms.
- GSAT-24 is configured on ISRO's proven I-3k Bus platform.
- The satellite is expected to operate for 15 years.

Classes of Indian Satellites

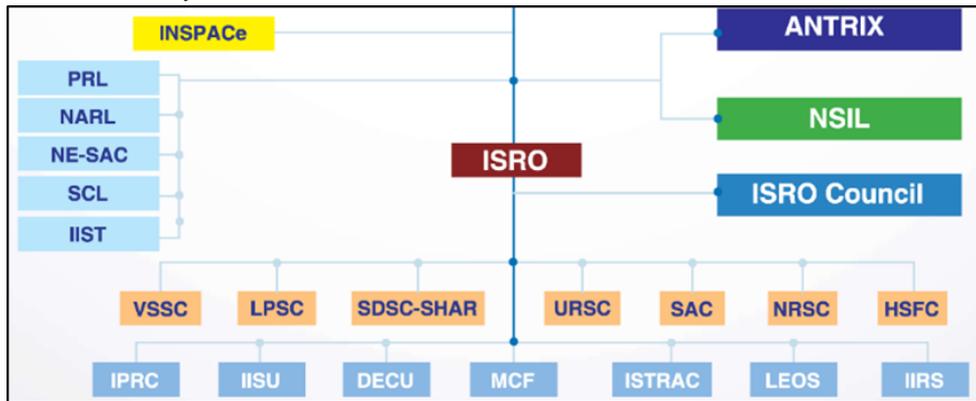
- **Communication Satellites:** These satellites enable telecommunication, broadcasting, disaster warning, and Search and Rescue services.
 - e.g., GSAT-15, GSAT-19.
- **Earth Observation Satellites:** These satellites monitor land, water, and atmospheric conditions, supporting cartography.
 - e.g., CARTOSAT series, RESOURCESAT series.
- **Scientific Spacecraft:** Used for astronomy, planetary sciences, and atmospheric research.
 - e.g., Astrosat, Chandrayaan missions.

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- **Navigation Satellites:** Provide navigation services for civil aviation and precise positioning.
 - e.g., NavIC.
- **Experimental Satellites:** Conduct a range of scientific and technological experiments.
 - e.g., RISAT series, AISAT, TESAT.
- **Small Satellites:** Compact platforms for earth imaging and research.
 - e.g., Microsat series, Anusat.
- **Student Satellites:** Encourage educational institutions in developing nano/pico satellites.
 - e.g., STUDSAT, Sathyabamasat.



Swathi Weapon Locating Radar (WLR)

Context: Indian Army deploys Swathi WLR (Mountains) to locate enemy artillery and enhance combat strength.

Overview and Capabilities

- Swathi WLR is a mobile artillery-locating phased array radar developed in India.
- Detects and tracks incoming artillery, rocket fire, and mortar rounds.
- Determines point of origin for counter-battery fire.
- Developed jointly by LRDE and BEL.
- Utilizes passive electronically scanned array radar technology.
- Detects up to 7 targets simultaneously.
- Offers adaptive radar resource scheduling.
- Provides real-time data and digital map display.
- Remote operation and communication capabilities.
- Enhances situational awareness and response time.

Performance and Tracking

- Tracks artillery rounds, mortars, and rockets.
- Tracks fall of shot for friendly artillery fire correction.
- Detects large calibre artillery rounds up to 30 km.
- Detects unguided rockets up to 40 km.
- Operates effectively in high-density fire environment.
- Tracks targets at various angles and aspect angles.
- Utilizes monopulse signals with pulse compression for improved performance.
- Employs adaptive weapon locating algorithm based on modified Runge-Kutta method.

Swathi Plains Radar (WLR)	Swathi Mountains Radar (WLR-M)
Function:	Function:
Locates guns, mortars, rockets on flat terrain	Designed for mountainous, high-altitude operations
Tracks fall of shot from friendly weapons	Detects mortar shells, rockets, tracks projectiles
Corrective measures for flat terrains	Classifies targets, rejects clutter, aircraft
	Offers trajectory estimation, launch/impact points
	Automatically corrects for height, enhances accuracy
Capabilities:	Capabilities:
Differentiates projectile and non-projectile	Detects and tracks enemy artillery, mortars, rockets
Rejects unwanted signals like clutter, birds	Tracks friendly fire trajectories for precise strikes
Offers trajectory estimation and launch/impact	Detects small projectiles, considers environment
Automatically adjusts for height, enhancing	High mobility, adaptable to changing operational needs
Stores trajectory data, facilitates	Sleweable platform for agile scanning without
communication with higher echelons	repositioning.

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NEWS IN BETWEEN THE LINES

National Tiger

Conservation Authority



National Tiger Conservation Authority: The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is a special group under the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC). It started in 2006, following the rules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act from 1972.

Objectives of NTCA: Empowering Project Tiger's guidelines for better adherence and teamwork in managing Tiger Reserves by both central and state governments.

Composition of NTCA:

- **Chairperson:** Minister in charge of MoEFCC.
- **Vice-Chairperson:** Minister of State in MoEFCC.
- Three Members of Parliament.
- Secretary (MoEFCC) and other appointed members.

'Project Tiger':

- Launched on April 1, 1973, as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) by MoEFCC.
- Project Tiger is globally recognized as the most significant species conservation effort of its kind.

Line of Actual

Control (LAC)



Line of Actual Control: The Line of Actual Control (LAC) refers to the demarcation line that separates the areas controlled by India and China in the border regions they share.

Border Length and States: India shares a 3,488 km border with China across Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

Unofficially Demarcated Border: The India-China border is not fully demarcated and lacks an official boundary.

Divisions of LAC: The LAC is categorized into three sectors: western (Ladakh, Kashmir), middle (Uttarakhand, Himachal), and eastern (Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh).

Areas Under Dispute: Due to lack of official demarcation, differing perceptions of the LAC exist between India and China. Territorial disputes persist in areas along the LAC, leading to differing claims.

LAC Length Dispute: India sees LAC as 3,488 km, China views it as 2,000 km, causing disagreement.

Present Issues: Unrest in Myanmar hampers projects like the Trilateral Highway due to security breakdown.

Rhesus Macaque



What is Rhesus Macaque?

Rhesus Macaque (*Macaca mulatta*) is a species of Old World monkeys belonging to the *Macaca* genus.

Distribution: Found across a wide range of habitats in South Asia, including India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and China.

Physical Characteristics: They have a medium-sized body with a pink face, long tail, and distinctive facial features.

Research Importance: They are extensively used in scientific research due to their physiological and genetic similarity to humans.

Habitat: Inhabit a variety of environments, ranging from forests to urban areas, making them adaptable to diverse conditions.

Conservation Status: The IUCN Red List categorizes them as "Least Concern," implying that they are not currently facing a significant risk of extinction.

Disease Vectors: Rhesus macaques can serve as carriers for diseases like herpes B virus, leading to potential risks to humans.

Cold Out Syrup



What is Cold Out Syrup?

"COLD OUT" is a combination syrup containing paracetamol and chlorpheniramine. It is used to treat symptoms of the common cold and allergies.

Manufacturer: Manufactured by Fourrts India for Dabilife Pharma Private Limited. The alert was based on a report received from a third party in the Republic of Iraq.

Quality Issue: The syrup was reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) as substandard or contaminated by a third party.

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	<p>Contaminants Detected: Laboratory analysis revealed the presence of unacceptable amounts of diethylene glycol (0.25%) and ethylene glycol (2.1%) as contaminants in a sample of "COLD OUT" syrup.</p> <p>Safety Limits: The acceptable safety limit for both ethylene glycol and diethylene glycol is no more than 0.10%.</p> <p>Global Impact: The incident underscores the significance of stringent quality control measures for pharmaceutical products to ensure public health and safety.</p>
<p>Havana Syndrom</p> 	<p>What is Havana Syndrome? Havana Syndrome refers to a set of mental health symptoms experienced by US intelligence and embassy officials in various countries, including hearing certain sounds, nausea, vertigo, headaches, memory loss and balance issues.</p> <p>Origin: The term originated in Cuba in late 2016, after the US opened its embassy in Havana following the normalization of US-Cuba relations.</p> <p>Incidents: Havana Syndrome has been reported by US officials and diplomats in various countries, including China, Russia, Poland, Georgia, Taiwan, Colombia, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Austria and more.</p> <p>Symptoms: Affected individuals experience sudden bursts of pressure in the brain, persistent headaches, disorientation and insomnia.</p> <p>India's Involvement: An incident of Havana Syndrome was reported in India involving a US intelligence officer traveling with CIA director William Burns.</p>
<p>Places in News</p> <p>Neyveli</p>	<p>Neyveli, a town in Tamil Nadu known for lignite reserves and electricity generation, is facing protests due to NLC India Ltd.'s mining expansion plans. The controversy revolves around land acquisition and its impact on agriculture.</p> <p>Political Boundaries: Neyveli is located in the Cuddalore district in northern Tamil Nadu, India. Physical Features: Neyveli is known for its lignite reserves, which have been vital for electricity generation.</p> <p>Mining Expansion and Protests: NLC India Ltd. (NLCIL) faced protests and violence over its mining expansion plans in Neyveli. Farmers and political parties objected to NLCIL's land acquisition exercise, which has led to controversy.</p> <p>Land Acquisition Dispute: The dispute began when NLCIL attempted to take possession of land acquired a decade ago, leading to protests by farmers. Farmers demanded higher compensation and questioned the sustainability of mining on agricultural land.</p> <p>Compensation Demand: Farmers demand compensation as per the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Act, 2013, which calculates compensation based on market value.</p> <p>Delay in Possession and Disenchantment: NLCIL acquired land from 2006 to 2015 but failed to take possession for years.</p> 

POINTS TO PONDER

- ❖ Which institution developed India's first 'Farmland price index'? – IIM Ahemdabad
- ❖ Which company recently announced to launch 'AMBER alerts' to find missing children? – Meta
- ❖ India's first liquid-mirror telescope has been commissioned in which state/UT? – Uttarakhand
- ❖ What's the primary goal of Kerala's 'Shubhayatra' scheme? – Positive Migration facilitation
- ❖ Which country's women's compound archery team made history by winning a gold medal at the World Archery Championships 2023 held in Berlin, Germany? - India

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