

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

The Indian Ocean is warming at a higher rate than other oceans, said the latest report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released, with scientists warning that India will witness increased heat waves and flooding, which will be the irreversible effects of climate change. The current overall global warming trends are likely to lead to an increase in annual mean precipitation over India, with more severe rain expected over southern India in the coming decades.

Glaciers in the Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region will keep shrinking and the snow cover will retreat to higher altitudes, the latest IPCC report said. The Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), approved by 195 member countries, warned that extreme precipitation is projected to increase in major mountainous regions with potential cascading consequences of floods, landslides and lake outbursts in all scenarios.

The tribal outfits in Rajasthan have demanded inclusion of over 165 village panchayats of seven districts in the scheduled areas under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) to facilitate the control of local communities over minor minerals and minor forest produce as well as development activities in the region. It will also ensure statutory protection of the tribal population. On the occasion of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on Monday, the tribal groups said the population of Scheduled Tribes in these panchayats had crossed 50%, making them eligible to be declared as scheduled areas. Consequently, the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, will apply to these areas.

A week into India's United Nations Security Council (UNSC) month long presidency, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a debate on maritime security. The debate, titled, 'Enhancing Maritime Security — A Case for International Cooperation', had heads of state or government in attendance, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta and Premier of Vietnam Pham Minh

UN SLAMS CHILD MARRIAGE

1.The UN has condemned underage forced marriages in Zimbabwe following the death of a 14-year-old girl reportedly during childbirth.The death has sparked widespread anger on social media and among children's rights activists.

2.Child marriages across the world:The total number of girls married in childhood stands at 12 million per year.Across the globe, levels of child marriage are highest in sub-Saharan Africa, where 35 per cent of young women were married before age 18, followed by South Asia, where nearly 30 per cent were married before age 18.Lower levels of child marriage are found in Latin America and Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

3.UN and other international efforts towards ending child marriages:**1979 Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women,The 1964 Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages,The right to 'free and full' consent to marriage is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,In 2016, UNICEF, together with UNFPA, launched the Global Programme to End Child Marriage,The elimination of child, early and forced marriage is now part of the Sustainable Development Goals under Target 5.**

4.Laws to prevent child marriages in India: The Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1929 to restrict the practice of child marriage. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 to address and fix the shortcomings of the Child Marriage Restraint Act.

ATLANTIC

MERIDIONAL

OVERTURNING

CIRCULATION(AMOC)

1.According to a recent study, the Atlantic Ocean's current system-AMOC, an engine of the Northern Hemisphere's climate, could be weakening to such an extent that it could soon bring big changes to the world's weather.Climate models have shown that the AMOC is at its weakest in more than a 1,000 years.

2.The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) is a large system of ocean currents that carry warm water from the tropics northwards into the North Atlantic.

3.How does the AMOC work?The AMOC is a large system of ocean currents, like a conveyor belt, driven by differences in temperature and salt content – the water's density.As warm water flows northwards it cools and some evaporation occurs, which increases the amount of salt.Low temperature and a high salt content make the water denser, and this dense water sinks deep into the ocean.

4.The cold, dense water slowly spreads southwards, several kilometres below the surface.Eventually, it gets pulled back to the surface and warms in a process called "upwelling" and the circulation is complete.

5.If the AMOC collapsed, it would increase cooling of the Northern Hemisphere, sea level rise in the Atlantic, an overall fall in precipitation over Europe and North America and a shift in monsoons in South America and Africa.

DELHI HC SAYS ADOPTION NOT LIMITED BY REASON

1.The Delhi High Court has ruled that a person interested in adopting a child was not limited by his or her religion, if adoption was sought under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act.

2.The court was hearing a case where Christian couple had adopted a child under the Hindu law.

3.Legal Framework Governing Adoption Laws in India: **In India, adoption falls under the ambit of personal laws, and due to the incidence of diverse religions practised in our country, mainly two different laws operate.**

Muslims, Christians, Parsis, and Jews are governed by the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, as formal adoption is not allowed in these religions.

4.Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Jains, on the other hand, follow the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956.Juvenile Justice Act also deals with adoption.

Chinh. The UNSC adopted a 'Presidential [India's] Statement' which reaffirmed that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) establishes the legal framework for maritime activities.

'Nation First, Always First' will be the theme of India's 75th Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort from where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the nation.

A return to the 19th century border demarcation as being demanded by Mizoram may be impractical but a resolution can be found to the border dispute between the two States, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

The Odisha government stepped up efforts to strengthen the sports infrastructure in the State by deciding to build 89 indoor stadiums, which can be used as hospitals during health emergencies and shelters during natural disasters.

Since the military coup in Myanmar on February 1, 2021, 8,486 people crossed over into India from across the border and out of this, 5,796 were sent back, the government informed Parliament on Monday. With regard to the Pakistan border, the Defence Ministry said that there were 33 infiltration attempts this year till June 30. There were no cases of infiltration reported along the border with China this year, Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.

The Centre's delay, for months and years on end, to act on the recommendations of the Collegium and appoint judges to High Courts has affected the early adjudication of important cases, especially high-stake commercial issues, the Supreme Court lashed out in an order.

The Centre will spend ₹11,000 crore on a new mission to ensure self-sufficiency in edible oil production at a time when India's dependence on expensive imports has driven retail oil prices to new highs, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said. This financial outlay for the National Mission on Edible Oil Oil Palm (NMEOP) will be over a five-year period, Agriculture Ministry officials later said.

PRADHAN MANTRI DAKSHTA AUR KISHALTA SAMPANN HITGRAHI(PM-DAKSH) YOJANA

1.The government has launched 'PM-DAKSH' portal and app to make the skill development schemes accessible to the target groups of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Safai Karamcharis.

2.About the scheme:**The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment from the year 2020-21.Under the scheme, eligible target groups are being provided skill development training programmes on upskilling/reskilling**, short term training programme, long term training programme and entrepreneurship development program (EDP).

3.Eligibility: Marginalized persons of SC, OBC, Economically Backward Classes, De-notified tribes, Sanitation workers including waste pickers, manual scavengers, transgenders and other similar categories.

4.Significance and the need for the scheme:Most of the persons of target group are having minimal economic assets; therefore, provision of training and enhancing their competencies is essential for economic empowerment/ upliftment of these marginalized target groups.

5.Many of the persons of target group belong to the category of rural artisans who have become marginalized owing to coming of better technologies in market. There is also a need to empower the women amongst the target group, who, due to their overall domestic compulsions, cannot be involved in wage employment which normally involves long working hours and sometimes migration to other cities.

HYDROGEN FUEL

1.Under 'Mission Net Zero Carbon Emission Railway' by 2030, Indian Railways are set to run trains on hydrogen fuel-based technology. For this, it is considering retrofitting of existing trains.

2.Hydrogen is the lightest and first element on the periodic table. Since the weight of hydrogen is less than air, it rises in the atmosphere and is therefore rarely found in its pure form, H₂.At standard temperature and pressure, hydrogen is a nontoxic, nonmetallic, odorless, tasteless, colorless, and highly combustible diatomic gas.

3.Hydrogen fuel is a zero-emission fuel burned with oxygen. It can be used in fuel cells or internal combustion engines. It is also used as a fuel for spacecraft propulsion.

4.Molecular hydrogen is not available on Earth in convenient natural reservoirs. Most hydrogen on Earth is bonded to oxygen in water and to carbon in live or dead and/or fossilized biomass. It can be created by splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen.

5.Efforts in this regard:Recently, **the Finance Minister in the Union budget for 2020-21 formally announced the National Hydrogen Mission** which aims for generation of hydrogen from green power resources.

INDO-TIBETAN BORDER POLICE(ITBP) FORCE

1.ITBP has commissioned its first two women officers (Prakriti and Deeksha) in combat recently.

2.**The ITBP started recruiting women combat officers in its cadre from 2016 through an all-India examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Before this, it had combat women only in the constabulary ranks.**

3.Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (ITBPF) is a Central Armed Police Force functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

4.It is India's primary border patrol organization for its border with China's Tibet Autonomous Region.Constituting instrument: Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

NATIONAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY(NIA)

1.The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted under the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act, 2008.

It is also the Central Counter Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency.

2.**It is empowered to deal with terror related crimes across states without special permission from the states. Established under the National Investigation Agency Act 2008. Works under the Ministry of Home Affairs.**

3.The 2019 amendments empowers the NIA to probe terror attacks targeting Indians and Indian interests abroad.

Australian special envoy and former Prime Minister Tony Abbott said a free trade agreement between his nation and India would signal the “democratic world’s tilt away from China.

ISLAND OF EVIA

1. Also called Euboea, it is the second-largest Greek island in area.
2. It is separated from Boeotia in mainland Greece by the narrow Euripus Strait.
3. It was recently in news because of raging wildfires.