

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

The transport of food accounts for nearly one fifth of the carbon emissions in the food system — more than seven times the amount previously estimated. In 2017, the domestic and international movement of food added emissions equivalent to 3 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. Wealthy nations were responsible for generating nearly half of all emissions.

The human brain reaches adult size by the age of 10; but its wiring and its abilities continue to change through a lifetime. After the age of 40, the brain begins to shrink in volume. Less blood flows through the brain, and hormone and neurotransmitter levels go down. Ageing leads to slowing down in some functions such as the learning of new tasks. Learning requires the formation of new connections in the brain, a property called neuroplasticity. Your brain is a dynamic entity that is constantly remodelling itself in response to new experiences. Some brain structures show greater plasticity and rewiring than others. Ageing affects them more extensively than others. One such structure is the hippocampus. Located between the ears, it plays a key role in the formation and consolidation of new and lasting memories, and thus of learning and experience.

Teaching children with Autism Spectrum Disorder poses many challenges for special educators working in this area. One of these challenges is that the interventions needed are highly specific to each child. In a class, therefore, when handling more than one child, the teacher may benefit from support offered by robotic assistants — the commercially available robots. There is a need to research this aspect and provide cost effective solutions.

Last year, an experiment suggested that the muon had inexplicably strong magnetism, possibly breaking a decades long streak of victories for the standard model. Now, revised calculations by several groups suggest that the theory's prediction of muon magnetism might not be too far from the experimental prediction after all.

The U.S. Supreme Court has prohibited the Environmental

INDIA ELECTED TO ICH COMMITTEE

1. India has been elected as a member of the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) for the 2022-2026 cycle. India as a Member - India has served as a member of the ICH Committee twice - from 2006 to 2010 and from 2014 to 2018.

2. India will be a part of two Committees of UNESCO - Intangible Cultural Heritage (2022-2026) and World Heritage (2021-2025). As a member of the UNESCO's ICH committee, India will address the imbalance in the inscriptions on the 3 lists of the Convention, i.e. Urgent Safeguarding List, Representative List and Register of Good Safeguarding Practices.

3. **Functions - The core functions of the UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the ICH are to Promote the objectives of the convention,** Provide guidance on best practices and Make recommendations on measures for the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage. It also examines requests submitted by States Parties for the inscription of intangible heritage on the Lists as well as proposals for projects.

4. The committee is also in charge of granting international assistance. Members - There are 24 members in the Intergovernmental Committee of the 2003 ICH Convention. They are elected in the General Assembly of the Convention, according to the principles of equitable geographical representation and rotation. States Members to the Committee are elected for a term of four years.

G-20

1. The 17th G20 Heads of State and Government Summit will take place in Bali at November 2022. After Indonesia's term as President to the G20, India will assume the presidency of G20 from December 2022. The G20 was formed in 1999 in the backdrop of the financial crisis of the late 1990s that hit East Asia and Southeast Asia in particular.

2. The G20 is a strategic multilateral platform connecting the world's major developed and emerging economies. Aim - To secure global financial stability by involving middle-income countries. Together, the G20 countries include 60% of the world's population, 80% of global GDP, and 75% of global trade. Members - Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the US, and the EU. Spain is invited as a permanent guest.

3. Presidency - The presidency of the G20 rotates every year among its members. The country holding the presidency, together with the previous and next presidency-holder, forms the 'Troika' to ensure continuity of the G20 agenda. Italy, Indonesia, and India are the Troika countries right now. Working - The G20 has no permanent secretariat.

4. The agenda and work are coordinated by representatives of the G20 countries, known as 'Sherpas'. The 'Sherpas' work together with the finance ministers and governors of the central banks. On the advice of the G7 Finance Ministers, the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors began holding meetings to discuss the response to the global financial crisis that occurred.

5. Events - The first G20 Summit took place in 2008 in Washington DC, USA. In addition to Summits, the Sherpa meetings (that help in negotiations and building consensus), and other events are also organised throughout the year. Each year, the presidency invites guest countries.

MISSION VATSALAYA

1. The guidelines of the Ministry of the Women and Child Development (WCD) has mandated the states to retain the official name of the Mission Vatsalya, in order to access Central funds and benefits under the scheme.

2. Mission Vatsalya is an umbrella scheme for Child Protection

Protection Agency (EPA) from crafting regulations to drive the country's power industry away from coal and towards cleaner energy sources. The ruling could make it much harder for the U.S. to curb greenhouse gases as promised under the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement.

U.K. health officials are urging people to get vaccinated against polio, after the virus made a rare appearance in London last month. A poliovirus strain was detected during routine surveillance of wastewater in February. The mutated version of the same strain was picked up again in the following months, suggesting that the virus has spread between people.

Political parties in Sri Lanka are scrambling to form an all party government, a day after President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe pledged to resign in the wake of a historic citizens' protest. Sri Lankans are living through a harrowing economic collapse, with accessing essentials such as fuel, food, and medicines becoming an everyday battle.

With funding starting to dry up due to global macroeconomic factors, the startup ecosystem in India is bracing itself for a "long and bitter winter" and potential mass layoffs in the next 12 to 18 months, particularly in sectors such as edtech and gaming that got a significant push during the pandemic, according to experts. In the April-June quarter, startup funding fell by about 40% to about \$67 billion, Amit Nawka, partner, deals & startups leader, PwC India, noted, adding that prior to this, startups were seeing investments of about \$1011 billion per quarter.

3988 sq km region deforested in Brazil's Amazon rainforest, a record high for the first six months of the year. The Amazon, the world's largest rainforest, contains vast amounts of carbon, which is released as trees are destroyed, warming the atmosphere and driving climate change. Deforestation is creeping deeper into the forest. In the first six months of the year, the Amazonas state has recorded more destruction than any other state for the first time.

On July 5, Twitter moved the Karnataka High Court seeking to set aside multiple blocking orders of the Central government as well as to alter their directions to identify specific violative content than imposing a blanket ban on individual

Services (CPS) in the country. Mission Vatsalya promotes family-based non-institutional care of children in difficult circumstances based on the principle of institutionalization of children as a measure of last resort.

3.Objectives of Mission-Vatsalya are to Secure a healthy and happy childhood for each and every child in India, Ensure opportunities to enable them to discover their full potential and assist them in flourishing in all respects, in a sustained manner, Foster a sensitive, supportive and synchronized ecosystem for development of children, Assist States/UTs in delivering the mandate of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015 and achieve the SDG goals.

4.Components under Mission Vatsalya include Improve functioning of statutory bodies; Strengthen service delivery structures; Upscale institutional care/services; Encourage non-institutional community-based care; Emergency outreach services; Training and capacity building. Funds - The funds to states will be approved through the Mission Vatsalya Project Approval Board (PAB), which will be chaired by the WCD Secretary. The WCD Secretary will scrutinise and approve annual plans and financial proposals received from states and UTs for release of grants. Implementation - The scheme is implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme by the Ministry of the WCD in partnership with state governments and UT administrations.

5.Funding Pattern - It is implemented with the fund-sharing pattern in the 60:40 ratio. However, the Centre and state/ UT's share will be 90:10 for the 8 Northeastern states as well as Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the UT of Jammu & Kashmir. The Centre will cover the whole cost in UTs without a legislature.

6.SARA & CARA - Mission Vatsalya will support the State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARA). The SARA will coordinate, monitor and develop the work related to non-institutional care, including adoption in the state. The SARA will support the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) in promoting in-country adoption and regulating inter-country adoption. Other features - Mission Vatsalya, in partnership with states and districts, will execute a 24x7 helpline service for children, as defined under JJ Act, 2015.

7.Separate children's homes based on gender (including separate homes for transgender children) and age will be established for children in need of care, as well as for special needs children. The Open Shelters registered by the state government will also be supported to look after runaway children, missing children, trafficked children, and other children who want special needs. Open Shelters are not meant to provide permanent residential facilities for children but will complement the existing institutional care facilities.

IPBES REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF WILD SPECIES

1.A report released by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) has stated that about 50,000 wild species globally can meet the needs of billions of people. The IPBES Assessment Report on Sustainable Use of Wild Species offers insights, analysis and tools to establish more sustainable use of wild species of plants, animals, fungi and algae around the world.

2.This report is the first of its kind and has been conceived after a period of 4 years. One out of five people source their food from wild plants, algae and fungi. 2.4 billion depend on firewood for cooking and 90% of the 120 million population pursuing fisheries rely on small-scale fishing.

3.The report noted that indigenous people and local communities used local knowledge, practices and spirituality for the sustainable use of wild species. They respected nature and only took what they needed.

4.This ensured that healthy populations of wild species were maintained. The assessment shortlisted five categories of practices used for wild species Fishing, Gathering, Logging, Terrestrial animal harvesting which includes hunting and Non-extractive practices such as observing. The report examined specific uses for each category regarding food, materials, medical benefits, energy, recreational and ceremonial purposes and decorations over the past two decades.

SEBI RULES ON INSIDER TRADING

1.The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) proposed

accounts. Section 69A of the IT Act empowers the government to restrict access to any content in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of the country. Twitter holds that the government has allegedly not shown why the restrictions were necessary in the interest of public order or for any other reason. B The disparity in assessment of what constitutes 'free expression' and harm to public order among the two entities is the premise of the entire contestation.

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has been facing a spate of targeted cyber attacks on computers across its offices, according to an advisory it issued to employees last week reiterating earlier cyber security guidelines. "References are being received from security agencies of Government of India regarding targeted attacks on the compromised computers in various CPWD offices for collection of sensitive information. Frequency of such references has increased in past few months," the CPWD said.

bringing mutual fund (MF) transactions under the purview of insider-trading regulations to prevent abuse of sensitive information by key personnel. Currently, MF units are excluded from the definition of 'securities' under the Prohibition of Insider Trading (PIT) Regulations.

2. Insider trading refers to trading of shares by an 'insider' based on the Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (UPSI). It involves buying or selling shares of a listed company using information that can materially influence the stock price, but has not been made public yet. SEBI regulations define an 'insider' as someone who is a connected person or has access to UPSI.

3. A connected person can be anyone who during the 6 months preceding the insider trade has been associated with the company in some way. UPSI includes but is not restricted to information relating to a company's quarterly results, merger and acquisition deals, major capacity expansion or shutdown plans etc., When insiders use the UPSI they possess to conduct trades, they can be taken to task by the regulator.

4. While trading on UPSI is illegal, all insider trading is not barred. If such trades are disclosed to the stock exchanges as per SEBI rules, it isn't illegal. But a company must notify the exchanges within a few days about the trading details of the promoter/member of the promoter group or a director if securities worth ₹10 lakh plus are traded.