

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

The head of the World Trade Organisation predicted a “bumpy and rocky” road as the trade body opened its highest level meeting after over four years, with issues like pandemic preparedness, food insecurity against the backdrop of Russia’s war in Ukraine and overfishing of the world’s seas on the agenda. At a time when some experts question WTO’s future and relevance, Director General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala hopes the meeting involving more than 120 Ministers from 164 member countries yields progress toward reducing inequality and ensuring fair and free trade.

A team of researchers from the University of Delhi has discovered a unique set of fossilised dinosaur eggs, with one egg nesting within the other. While eggs within eggs are a rare phenomenon, they are so far known to occur only in birds and never known in reptiles. This discovery brings out newer connections between reptilian and avian evolution. The findings, published in the journal Scientific Reports, talk about the “egginegg” phenomenon in a titanosaurid dinosaur egg found at Bagh in Madhya Pradesh’s Dhar district .

20 percentage by which the legacy waste at the three landfill sites — Ghazipur, Okhla and Bhalswa — in Delhi has been processed since the project to flatten the mountains of garbage started in October 2019, while the deadline is just two and a half years away. According to data gathered from the Delhi Pollution Control Committee, a total of 21 lakh tonnes of legacy waste is being biominerally treated at the three landfill sites per year (since October 2019). The Ghazipur landfill site has seen the slowest progress.

45 thousand megawatt (MW), by which India’s power demand jumped this year as an intense heat wave sweeps through northern parts of the country and the economy expands, according to Power Minister R.K. Singh. India’s electricity demand on June 9 was recorded at an all time high of 2,10,792 MW, as 4,712 million units of electricity were consumed. Power plants are operating at full throttle to meet this demand, and the government has ordered coal import to meet the shortfall in domestic supplies.

ENERGY PROGRESS REPORT

1.The Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress Report, Provides the most comprehensive look available at the world’s progress towards global energy targets on access to electricity, clean cooking, renewable energy, and energy efficiency and Gives the international community the latest global dashboard to register progress on the SDG7 targets.

2.The annual report is prepared by the SDG7 Indicator Custodian Agencies, The International Energy Agency (IEA), The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), The UN Statistics Division (UNSD) at UN DESA, The World Bank, and The World Health Organization (WHO). The SDG 7 tracking report includes the official dashboard of global, regional and national progress on 4 key energy targets: 7.1: Ensuring universal access to electricity and clean cooking solutions; 7.2: Substantially increasing the share of renewable energy; 7.3: Doubling progress on energy efficiency; 7.A: Increasing international collaboration in support of clean and renewable energy.

3.Findings - This 2022 edition of the Energy Progress Report assesses achievements in the global quest for universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy by 2030. At today’s rate of progress, the world is still not on track to achieve the SDG 7 goals by 2030. Advances have been impeded, particularly in the most vulnerable countries and those that were already lagging.

4.Some degree of economic recovery has taken place, but there may be slow down as of new challenges from evolving COVID variants and an energy crisis provoked by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The report considers the consequences of the evolving pandemic, along with results from global modeling, to determine whether current policy ambitions can meet the SDG 7 targets.

5.It also aims to identify the additional actions that may be needed. It also examines the investments required to achieve the goals. It presents scenarios drawn from the International Energy Agency’s (IEA) World Energy Outlook 2021, and the International Renewable Energy Agency’s World Energy Transitions Outlook: 1.5°C Pathway.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

1.The Election Commission has notified the election of India’s 15th President. Under Article 62(1) of the Constitution, an election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.

2.The President is elected not directly by the people but by members of electoral college consisting of: The elected members of both the Houses of Parliament; The elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states; and The elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry. This Electoral College doesn’t consist of nominated members of Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha and the Assemblies, and members of state Legislative Councils.

3.Value of Vote - The votes are weighted, their value determined by the population of each state as per Census 1971. The value of each MLA’s vote varies from a high of 208 in Uttar Pradesh to a low of 7 in Sikkim. This means that UP’s 403 MLAs contribute $208 \times 403 = 83,824$ votes to the electoral pool, while Sikkim’s 32 MLAs contribute $32 \times 7 = 224$ votes. The weighted votes from all the Assemblies add up to 43 lakh.

4.The process demands that all the 776 MPs should contribute the same total of votes as the MLAs. Thus, the value of each MP’s vote is 5.43 lakh divided by 776, rounded off to 700. The combined electoral pool from the Assemblies and Parliament adds up to 10.86 lakh.

5.History-1952 and 1957: In both the first and the second election, Rajendra Prasad won without a no-contest. 1969: This election, necessitated by the sudden passing of President Hussain, was the most controversial of them all. Under Article

295 number of active Maoist militia members who surrendered before the Odisha Police in Swabhiman Anchal, Malkangiri. Swabhiman Anchal was seen earlier as a 'cutoff' area and a Maoist hotbed. Rebels from Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh used to take shelter in the region after committing crimes in the neighbouring States. The region was considered a safe haven for Maoists as it is surrounded on three sides by the Balimela reservoir. A dense forest on one side connects it to Andhra Pradesh.

2.29 ₹ lakh crore, the value by which the market capitalisation (mcap) of the top10 most valued companies eroded last week, with Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) taking the biggest hit. The Sensex tumbled 1,465.79 points or 2.63%, while Nifty lost 382.50 points or 2.31% as investors rushed to safer assets because elevated crude oil prices triggered inflation fears. Corporate major Reliance Industries' mcap fell by ₹44,311.19 crore to ₹18,36,039.28 crore

An Adani project in Sri Lanka is yet again at the centre of a controversy, after a top official of the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) told a parliamentary panel that a renewable energy project in the island's northern Mannar district was given to the Adani Group after Prime Minister Narendra Modi "pressured" President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. CEB Chairman M.M.C. Ferdinando made the remark on Friday before the Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE), but soon withdrew it, saying he had been "emotional".

Tied not only to their hands but also to their daily wages, GPS enabled watches have kept safai karamcharis (sanitation workers) in Chandigarh under constant anxiety ever since the gadgets were introduced by the Municipal Corporation in 2020. With no laws or regulations yet to be formalised to check misuse of such monitoring devices, many legal experts feel that this "constant and dehumanising" surveillance must be stopped immediately. The Corporation introduced the watches to glean attendance of these workers and check the misuse of the manual attendance system.

Intelligence agencies have issued an alert to the security forces in Tamil Nadu on the possibility of smuggling of essentials to Sri Lanka by sea and "intrusion of immigrants" as the country is bracing for a severe economic crisis. Referring to the Sri Lankan Prime Minister's statement in Parliament on June 7 that it would be tough to obtain fuel/gas in

65(1) of the Constitution, Vice-President V V Giri assumed office as acting President, but resigned in 1969 as Vice President and also as acting President.

6. There were tensions within the Congress between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and a group of veterans known as the Syndicate. These tensions came to a head when the party officially fielded Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy while Gandhi threw her weight behind Giri, contesting as an independent.

AEGEAN SEA

1. Turkish President warned Greece - which has been building a military presence in violation of treaties that guarantee the unarmed status of the Aegean islands - to demilitarise islands in the Aegean Sea. Greece and Turkey are NATO allies, but they have a history of disputes over a range of issues, including mineral exploration in the eastern Mediterranean and rival claims in the Aegean Sea.

2. The ancient name of the Aegean Sea, Archipelago, was later applied to the islands it contains and is now used to refer to any island group. The Aegean Sea, an arm of the Mediterranean Sea, is located between the Greek peninsula on the west and Asia Minor on the east.

3. It is located between the southern Balkan and the Anatolian peninsulas, between the mainlands of Greece and Turkey, respectively. It is connected through the straits of the Dardanelles, the Sea of Marmara, and the Bosphorus to the Black Sea.

4. It also has a good connection to the Ionian Sea to the west, through the strait lying between the Peloponnese peninsula of Greece and Crete. The island of Crete can be taken as marking its boundary on the south. Significance - The Aegean Sea is the cradle of the two great early civilizations, those of Crete and Greece, from which much of modern Western culture is derived.

OARFISH

1. Oarfish (Regalecus glesne) is a long, pelagic lampriform fish of the Family Regalecidae (Order Lampridiformes). This reclusive deep-sea swimmer is found throughout the tropics and subtropics in rather deep water.

2. It is also called ribbon fish due to their long, skinny bodies or rooster fish because of their frilly, red dorsal crests. Seldom seen at the surface, it is credited as the "sea serpent" of some reported sightings. 3. Known as the "Messenger from the Sea God's Palace," it's commonly believed the animal is a harbinger of earthquakes and tsunamis.

CORVETTE

1. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has approved the capital acquisition of eight next generation corvettes (NGCs) for the Indian Navy. A Corvette is the smallest class of naval ships and it falls below the warship class of a frigate. These are highly agile ships and are categorised as missile boats, anti-submarine ships, coastal patrol crafts and fast attack naval vessels.

2. Corvettes date back to the 18th and the 19th century when they were extensively used in the naval warfare duels that were fought at high seas. However, these were powered by sails and masts, and disappeared for a while when steam powered naval ships made their appearance. Though the Royal Navy (UK) started using small warships in the 1650s, the first reference to a corvette warship was in the 1670s with the French Navy.

3. During World War II, the term Corvette was used to describe vessels which had anti-submarine roles assigned to them. Modern Corvettes can go up to 2,000 tons in displacement which helps in keeping them agile. Corvettes in the Indian Navy - The Indian Navy has the Kamorta Class Corvettes, which are also known as Project 28.

4. The four Kamorta Class Corvettes that the Indian Navy possesses are named INS Kamorta, INS Kadmatt, INS Kiltan and INS Kavaratti. These ships have an anti-submarine role and are manufactured at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers in Kolkata.

5. In-service Kamorta Class Corvettes have a high degree of indigenous equipment being used on the platform like, Bharat Electronic Limited (BEL) manufactured 'Shikari' sensor and processing system, BEL manufactured Bomber and Electronic Warfare Suits 'Ajanta', 'Sanket' electronic warfare systems and

the next three weeks and his appeal to people to restrict travel, the alert said people were panicked by the worsening economic crisis and the shortage of essentials.

'Kavach' decoy launchers.