

# DAILY PT POINTERS

25<sup>th</sup> October, 2023



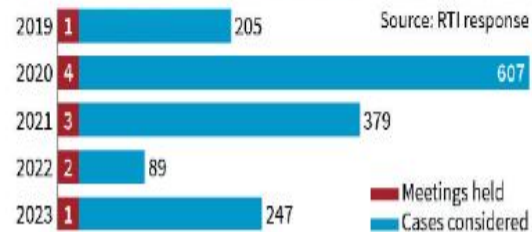
# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu : GS 2-Polity and Governance (Page 3)

### For Delhi's lifers, release after 14 yrs becomes a board game

#### Report card

The six-member Sentence Review Board held the required four annual meetings only once in the past five years



- Delhi's Sentence Review Board (SRB) has met only once this year against the mandatory requirement of four meetings a year, dampening chances of the early release of the prisoners serving life sentence in city jails.
- The six-member SRB decides whether convicts undergoing a life term can be released prematurely upon completing 14 years.
- The board is chaired by the Minister in-charge of prisons and includes the Principal Secretary (Home) and the Director General (Prisons) as members.

**Do you know ?** The Supreme Court in the *Laxman Naskar vs Union Of India* case in February 2000 had ruled that if the government has framed any rule or made a scheme for the early release of convicts then those rules or schemes will have to be treated as guidelines for the pardoning powers conferred on the Governor under Article 161 of the Constitution.

The Delhi Prison Rules, 2018, state that a prisoner undergoing life sentence will be eligible to be considered for premature release immediately after serving 14 years in jail. For more serious and heinous crimes, the rules suggest premature release only after 20 years.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu : GS 3- Environment (Page 3)

### 8 Sri Lankans, 4 T.N. fishers held; contraband seized

Sea cucumber and 594 kg of raw turmeric, which were being exchanged, seized by the Customs Division and Indian Coast Guard; crew and contraband handed over to the Customs Dept.



- Sea cucumbers are 'prohibited species' as per Schedule of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and illegal transaction of turmeric and other commodities across the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) is an offence under the Customs Act, 1962

### Do you know ?

- Found only in salt water, more than a thousand species of sea cucumbers exist around the world.
- Sea cucumbers are crucial to the marine ecosystem as they consume decomposing organic matter and convert it into recyclable nutrients for other marine life
- These squishy invertebrates are echinoderms, making them distant relatives to starfish and urchins.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : GS 1 / Art and Culture (Page 5)

## Mysuru Dasara celebrations end in a grand procession

Cultural extravaganza comes to a close with an impressive procession on 'Raja Marga'; Chief Minister flags off *Jamboo Savari* by showering flower petals on Goddess Chamundeshwari idol



- Mysuru Dasara, the Royal Festival of Karnataka, is celebrated as a 10-day Festival in Mysuru starting with nine nights called Navratri and last day being Vijayadashmi.
- The city celebrates this prominent and biggest Festival in a grand way displaying the beautifully decorated Elephants, Camels and Horses walking together in a procession
- Mysuru Dasara celebrations go back many centuries in time and it is believed was started during the time of the Vijayanagara empire.
- The grandeur of the Dasara celebrations was further enhanced by the Wodeyar dynasty which ruled the erstwhile Kingdom of Mysore for over 5 centuries
- The celebration of Dasara in Mysuru is now organised by the Karnataka State Government in conjunction with the royal family of Mysore. The festival is termed Nadahabba or State festival.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu : GS 3 / Environment / Disaster Management (Page 7)

### DATA POINT

## Losses from extreme events over 31 years were \$3.8 trillion

The number of disaster events increased from 100 per year in the 1970s to 400 in the last 20 years

### Cost of extreme events

The charts were sourced from a report published by the Food and Agriculture Organization titled 'The Impact of Disaster on Agriculture and Food Security 2024'



Chart 1: The chart shows the number of disasters by 50,000 grossing and total economic losses in \$ billion

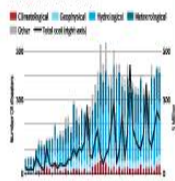


Chart 2: The chart shows the share of loss in agriculture by hazard type. About 60% of losses were caused by droughts

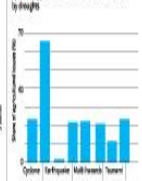


Chart 3: The chart shows the estimated loss in various product groups in million tonnes between 2001 and 2022

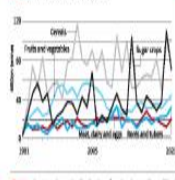


Chart 4: The chart shows total agricultural losses as a share of agricultural GDP by country groups (2001-2022)

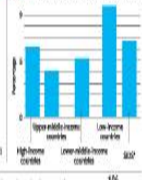


Chart 5: The chart shows the distribution of total estimated \$3.8 trillion losses by region (2001-2022)



- Disaster events are not only becoming more frequent and severe but their impact is also expected to worsen.
- The year 2023 brought an end to the warmest decade on record, marked by unprecedented extreme weather events and large-scale disasters. These catastrophes were worsened by ongoing conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A report by the Food and Agriculture Organization titled 'The Impact of Disaster on Agriculture and Food Security' found that the frequency of extreme disaster events has risen significantly over the past 50 years.
- The 1970s saw approximately 100 disaster events per year. In the last 20 years, that number went up to about 400, globally
- Agricultural activities and livelihoods rely heavily on environmental conditions, natural resources, and ecosystems. Globally, the agriculture sector faces growing threats from hazards such as flooding, water scarcity, drought, and environmental degradation.

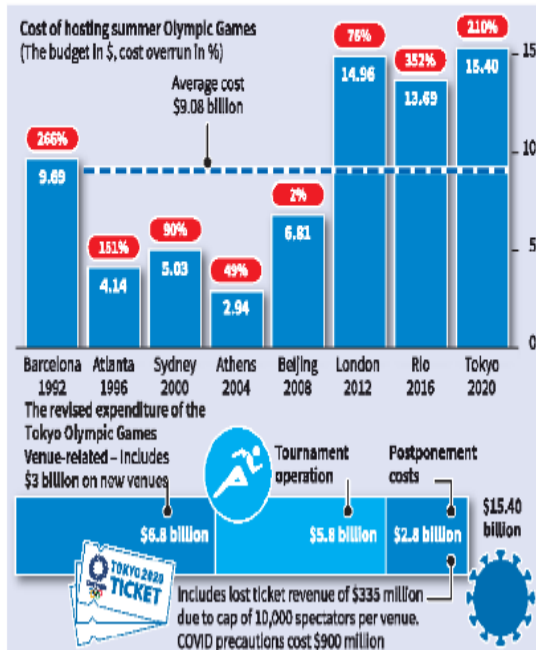
# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu : Miscellaneous (Page 8)

How were Olympic host cities initially selected? What are continuous and targeted dialogues and do they have a time limit? Which are the other countries apart from India interested in hosting the Games in 2036? What have been some of the large-scale sporting events that India has organised?

### The price of the Olympics

With India openly declaring its willingness to host the 2036 edition of the Olympic Games, a look at the cost of the Games as they become bigger and better each year



Source: Regression to the fall: Why the Olympics blow up, University of Oxford

© GRAPHIC NEWS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi publicly declared India's intention to host the Olympic Games, preferably in 2036, during the opening ceremony of the 141st International Olympic Committee (IOC) session in Mumbai on October 14.

- Only three Asian countries have ever hosted the Olympics — China, South Korea and Japan, with Japan hosting the games twice in 1964 and 2020

**How Olympic cities are selected:** There is now a two-stage process — a continuous dialogue and a targeted dialogue — without any fixed deadlines, to assess, discuss and guide potential hosts.

- The continuous dialogue is a non-committal stage not specific to any particular edition. It is basically a discussion between the IOC's Future Hosts Commission (FHC) and interested parties about the hosts' vision for the Games, its purpose and long-term legacy. This is followed by putting together a master plan and working out logistical details, with every potential host free to work out their own template. Also, unlike the past, the Games can be planned to be held across cities or even in conjunction with another country.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : GS II / Polity and Governance - Page 10

## Centre to introduce DNA, face matching systems at police stations across country

It will be implemented under the Criminal Procedure Identification Act which was passed last year; the law enables police and Central investigating agencies to collect, store, and analyse physical and biological samples, including retina and iris scan of arrested persons; NCRB to prepare the SOPs



the Centre is all set to roll out “DNA and face-matching” systems at 1,300 police stations across the country.

- The Criminal Procedure Identification Act enables the police and the Central investigating agencies to collect, store, and analyse physical and biological samples, including retina and iris scans of arrested persons.
  - The law was passed by Parliament in April 2022 and the rules were notified in September last year.
  - The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a Central organisation tasked with rolling out the Act, was assigned the task of finalising the standard operating procedures (SOP) to be followed by police officials.
  - Though the Act and rules do not explicitly mention the collection of DNA samples and face-matching procedure, the NCRB, in meetings with State police officials, informed them that the said measures would be rolled out in around 1,300 locations spread across police districts, commissionerates, and special investigation units at State headquarters.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : Polity and Governance -2 (Page 12)

SC uses rare power to help man fighting for postal job for 28 years

THE HINDU BUREAU  
NEW DELHI



- **Article 142(1) reads:** The Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it, and any decree so passed or order so made shall be enforceable throughout the territory of India in such manner as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament and, until provision in that behalf is so made, in such manner as the President may by order prescribe.
- **Article 142(2) reads:** “Subject to the provisions of any law made in this behalf by Parliament, the Supreme Court shall, as respects the whole of the territory of India, have all and every power to make any order for the purpose of securing the attendance of any person, the discovery or production of any documents, or the investigation or punishment of any contempt of itself.”



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu : Polity and Governance-2 / GS3-Food Security (Page 12)

### Food labels to have QR code to help the visually disabled

FSSAI says quick response codes should have comprehensive details about the product, including of ingredients, nutritional content and allergens; says move will ensure access to safe food for all



- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has recommended the use of quick response (QR) codes on food products for accessibility by persons with visual disabilities, stating that this would ensure access to safe food for all, including those with special needs.
- The FSSAI under its Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 has comprehensively outlined the information to be included on the labels of food products.
  - This includes product name, shelf life, nutrition facts, vegetarian/non-vegetarian logos, ingredient lists, allergen warnings, and other product-specific labelling requirements.

#### Do you know ?

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 recognises the rights and needs of individuals with disabilities, which emphasise accessibility and the promotion of health for persons with disabilities.

Indian Express : Economy (GS 3) Page 11

## US bond yield hits 16-year high of 5 pc: Why is it rising and what does it signal?

Historically, it was observed the bond yields in other countries, including India, rose when US yields showed any uptrend and vice versa. However, the quantum of increase varies depending on domestic factors.

### What's bond yield?

- A bond is a type of loan made by an investor to a borrower – a company or an institution – for a fixed period of time in return for regular interest payments. The yield on bond is the return an investor expects to receive each year over its term to maturity.
- **Do you know ?**  
Factors like rising crude oil prices, inflation risks and interest rate signals from the US Federal Reserve have contributed to the hardening of bond yields
- The rise indicates that the cost of funds in the financial system is rising and interest rates are on the upswing. The rising bond yield means the government will have to pay more as yield (or return to the investors), leading to a rise in cost of borrowings. This will have an overall impact on the financial system, putting upwards pressure on the general interest rates in the banking system.

## Telangana's law under scanner: How preventive detention works

The latest was in a ruling on September 4, where a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Dipankar Dutta underlined that the “pernicious trend prevalent in the state of Telangana” has not escaped the Court’s attention.

- Preventive detention means detention of a person by the state without trial and conviction by court, but merely on suspicion. The detention could be up to a year unless extended.
- In countries such as Britain, United States and Canada, preventive detention is a wartime measure.
- In India, the Constitution itself makes space for preventive detention.
- Article 22 prescribes protection against arrest and detention but has a major exception. It says in Article 22 (3) (b) that none of those safeguards apply “to any person who is arrested or detained under any law providing for preventive detention.” The remaining clauses — Article 22(4)-(7) — deal with how preventive detention operationalises.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB : IR / Economy

## Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Sh. Piyush Goyal to attend 7th 'Future Investment Initiative' in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Posted On: 23 OCT 2023 12:52PM by PIB Delhi



- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Textiles, Sh. Piyush Goyal will be attending the 7th Edition of Future Investment Initiative (FII) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 24th to 25th October 2023.
- FII Institute is a global nonprofit foundation, launched by Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).
  - It aims to gather Government and business leaders from around the world to discuss new pathways for investment with the goal to create a global “Impact On Humanity”. Its four areas of focus are Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Robotics, Education, Healthcare, and Sustainability.

**Do you know ?** KSA is one of India’s most important strategic partners. The trade between both countries reached an all-time high of USD 52.75 billion in FY 2022-23. Cooperation between the two countries can also be witnessed with the establishment of India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council (SPC). India is the fourth country with which Riyadh has formed such a partnership, after the UK, France, and China.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

**PIB : Defence (GS 3)**

## EXERCISE HARIMAU SHAKTI-2023” COMMENCED IN UMROI CANTT, INDIA – INDIAN & MALAYSIAN ARMIES PARTICIPATE

Posted On: 23 OCT 2023 4:21PM by PIB Delhi



- Last edition of the Exercise was conducted in Pulai, Kluang, Malaysia in November 2022.
- Ex Harimau Shakti, scheduled till 5th November 2023, will engage approximately 120 personnel from both sides.
- It is aimed at enhancing military capability for conduct of Multi Domain Operations in a sub conventional scenario. During the exercise, both contingents will establish a Joint Command Post & establish an integrated surveillance grid along with a Joint Surveillance Centre.
- “Exercise HARIMAU SHAKTI” is aimed to enhance the level of defence co-operation between Indian Army and the Malaysian Army, which will also foster the bilateral relations between the two nations.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Polity and Governance (GS 2)

## PRADHAN MANTRI ANUSUCHIT JAATI ABHUYDAY YOJANA

Posted On: 23 OCT 2023 2:50PM by PIB Delhi



- Pradhan **Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhuyday Yojana (PM-AJAY)** is a merged scheme of 03 Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY), Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan ( SCA to SCSP) and Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana(BJRCY) and has been implemented since 2021-22 with an aim to reduce poverty of the SC communities by generation of additional employment opportunities through Skill development, income generating schemes and other initiatives and to improve socio-economic developmental indicators by ensuring adequate infrastructure and requisite services in the SC dominated villages.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## PIB: Cyber Security (GS 3)

### Bharat National Cyber Security Exercise 2023 Concludes: Elevating India's Cybersecurity Preparedness to New Heights

Posted On: 23 OCT 2023 7:18PM by PIB Delhi



- Bharat NCX 2023 represents a defining moment in India's unwavering commitment to cybersecurity excellence, underscoring the paramount importance of collaboration and knowledge-sharing among stakeholders from government, public, and private sectors.
- Bharat NCX 2023, organised intense training for the participants over six days and a red on blue Live Fire cyber exercise over five days, wherein participants challenged their cyber skills against a determined adversary. The exercise also had a Strategic Track for leadership level discussions on cyber threat landscape, incident response, crisis management to handle real world cyber challenges.
- Organized by the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), Government of India(GoI), in strategic partnership with Rashtriya Raksha University(RRU),