

# DAILY PT POINTERS

2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023



The Hindu: GS 2-Governance (Page 1)

# Selective confidentiality in electoral bonds may not suffice: SC

- The Supreme Court said the problem with electoral bonds scheme is that it provides for "**selective anonymity**" and "selective confidentiality" as the details are available with the State Bank of India (SBI) and can also be accessed by the law enforcement agencies.
- The Government of India has notified the Electoral Bond Scheme 2018 vide Gazette Notification No. 20 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 (as amended vide Gazette Notification dated 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2022).
- Electoral Bond is a bearer instrument in the nature of a Promissory Note and an interest free banking instrument.
- A citizen of India or a body incorporated in India will be eligible to purchase the bond.
- Political Parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last General Election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly of the State, shall be eligible to receive the Electoral Bonds. The Electoral Bonds shall be encashed by an eligible Political Party only through a Bank account with the Authorized Bank.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : Art and Culture (Page 4)

Keraleeyam festival, which seeks to showcase the State to the world, kicks off



- 'Keraleeyam', the biggest celebration of Kerala, will be held from November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 7<sup>th</sup> at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- Organized by the Government of Kerala, Keraleeyam aims to present Kerala's progress, achievements, and cultural heritage to the world



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu: GS 2-Polity and Governance (Page 4)

### State govt. accepts Shinde panel report on procedure to grant Kunbi certificates to Marathas

Backward Commission to undertake survey, recommends Maharashtra Cabinet; will give up water from today, says Jarange-Patil in fresh ultimatum to seek immediate reservation for the community; Chief Minister calls all-party meet



- The Maharashtra government accepted the first report of a committee headed by retired high court judge Sandeep Shinde, appointed to decide the procedure for granting Kunbi caste certificates to the Marathas in the Marathwada region.
- The process of the issuance of Kunbi certificates has begun.
  - Kunbi, a community associated with agriculture, is grouped under the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category in Maharashtra and enjoys reservation benefits in education and government jobs.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



**The Hindu : GS 1-Culture / GS2-Governance (Page 12)**

## Kozhikode and Gwalior enter creative cities list

THE HINDU BUREAU  
NEW DELHI

- Kozhikode in Kerala and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh have made it to the prestigious creative cities list of UNESCO for contributions in the fields of literature and music, respectively.
- The announcement was made by UNESCO on its official website on October 31, which is designated as World Cities Day.
- New cities were acknowledged for their strong commitment to harnessing culture and creativity as part of their development strategies, and displaying innovative practices in human-centred urban planning,

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : Miscellaneous (Page 12)



## Author Nandini Das wins 2023 British Academy Book Prize



- Indian-born author Nandini Das has been named the winner of the 2023 British Academy Book Prize for Global Cultural Understanding, a leading international non-fiction award with a prize money of £25,000, for her book *Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire*.
- The British Academy Book Prize, formerly known as the Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize, was established in 2013 to reward and celebrate the best works of non-fiction that demonstrate rigour.
  - The British Academy Book Prize, worth £25,000, is awarded annually for a non-fiction book that promotes global cultural understanding.

## Centre to depute national level monitors to oversee livestock schemes

*As per the appointment terms of reference for National Level Monitors (NLM), two types of monitoring will be conducted by them — regular and special.*

- The Centre has decided to deploy National Level Monitors (NLM) to oversee the implementation of its livestock schemes including National Livestock Mission and Rashtriya Gokul Mission.
- The NLMs will be third-party independent monitors — individuals and institutions deployed by the government. Individual NLMs will be selected from among retired Civil/Defence Services Officers, and academia.
- **Do you know ?**  
The contribution of livestock sector in agriculture in terms of output, has increased from 24.32 per cent (2014-2015) to 30.87 per cent (2020-21). The Livestock sector has been growing at a compounded annual growth rate of 7.93 per cent (at constant prices) from 2014-15 to 2020-21

Indian Express: Defence (Page 8)

# Rooster drones set to be handed over to Army's Northern Command tomorrow

*The features of these drones enable them to gather critical intelligence and conduct surveillance missions in urban areas, dense forests, and mountainous regions, where rolling proves advantageous.*

- Rooster drones, indigenously developed devices that can roll as a robot and fly as a drone, will be handed over to the Northern Command of the Indian Army at an event at Gandhinagar-based Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU)
- The drone draws its name from roosters that spend most of their time on the ground. They can also fly and perch atop a building or a tree. Each drone is enclosed in a frame which helps it not only in taking off vertically and land, but also roll on the ground. It also has cameras, and can land on top of a building or a window sill and quietly capture the details. So it is more useful than its counterparts like a quadcopter,



Indian Express: S&T (Page 17)

## India's own CAR-T cell therapy: What is it, when will it be available, and at what cost?

The drugs regulator has granted market authorisation to India's breakthrough CAR-T cell therapy for patients with B-cell lymphomas who didn't respond to standard treatments like chemotherapy.

- The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) this month granted market authorisation for NexCAR19, India's first indigenously-developed **CAR-T cell therapy**, to ImmunoACT, a company incubated by IIT Bombay.
  - This paves the way for the commercial launch of this therapy in India, where it is expected to be available to cancer patients at a tenth of the cost abroad.

### Do you know ?

CAR-T is a revolutionary therapy that modifies immune cells, specifically T-cells, by **turning them into potent cancer fighters** known as CAR-T cells. T-cells are special cells (white blood cells that find and fight illness and infection) whose primary function is cytotoxic, meaning it can kill other cells. In CAR-T therapy, we genetically modify them into cancer-fighting cells. These supercharged cells are then put back into the body, and they go after cancer cells — especially in blood cancers like leukaemia and lymphomas.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB : S&T/Environment (GS 3)

Novel therapeutic formulation developed for improved treatment of Indian red scorpion sting

Posted On: 01 NOV 2023 11:44AM by PIB Delhi



- A new therapeutic drug formulation (TDF) comprising of low doses of commercial equine anti-scorpion antivenom (ASA),  $\alpha$ 1- adrenoreceptor agonist (AAAs) and vitamin C, for inhibiting the Indian red scorpion venom-induced toxicity and associated symptoms can help improve clinical management of scorpion sting patients.
- Scorpion envenomation is a severe problem in many countries of the world.
- **Do you know ?**
  - The Indian red scorpion (*Mesobuthus tamulus*), with its life-threatening sting, is one of the world's most dangerous scorpions.