

DAILY PT POINTERS

18th March , 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB- : Defence

Ministry of Defence

INDIAN ARMY CONTINGENT DEPARTS FOR SEYCHELLES FOR JOINT
MILITARY EXERCISE “EXERCISE LAMITIYE – 2024”

Posted On: 17 MAR 2024 10:51AM by PIB Delhi



- Indian Army contingent departed for **Seychelles** to participate in the Tenth edition of Joint Military Exercise “**LAMITIYE-2024**” between the Indian Army and Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF).
- The Joint Exercise will be conducted at Seychelles from 18-27 March 2024. ‘LAMITIYE’ meaning ‘**Friendship**’ in the Creole language is a biennial training event and has been conducted in Seychelles since 2001.
- The aim of the Exercise is to enhance interoperability in Sub-conventional Operations in **Semi-Urban environment** under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter on Peace Keeping Operations.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB- : Education

Ministry of Education

Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT) to be Conducted Nationwide Under ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram

Posted On: 16 MAR 2024 2:20PM by PIB Delhi



News

- The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education, Government of India, is set to conduct the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT) as part of the ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram on 17th March 2024, across 23 states.

About

- Approximately 37 lakh learners will appear for this important nationwide assessment.
- The assessment comprises three subjects - Reading, Writing, and Numeracy - each carrying 50 marks, totalling 150 marks.
- This test is developed to evaluate the foundational literacy and numeracy skills of registered non-literate learners.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

AIR : Geography

Volcano Eruption In Reykjanes Peninsula In Iceland; State Of Emergency Declared In Southern Iceland



News

- A volcano has erupted once again in Reykjanes Peninsula in Iceland, marking the fourth eruption since December.

Do you know ?

- **Iceland** is located on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, between the **Eurasian and the North American tectonic plates**. It is a seismic and volcanic hot spot as the two plates move in opposite directions.
- The **Reykjanes peninsula** is in South West Iceland, characterized by immense lava fields, volcanoes, and heightened geothermal activity.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

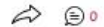
The Hindu: Society-Page 1

Where names carry numbers

Children of the Lisu and Singpho communities in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam are named according to the order they are born in the family, incorporating numbers into their names

March 17, 2024 11:44 pm | Updated 11:44 pm IST - MIAO

RAHUL KARMAKAR



READ LATER PRINT



News

- Children of the **Lisu and Singpho communities** in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam are named according to the order they are born in the family, incorporating numbers into their names.

About

- The **Lisus** belong to the **Tibeto-Burman family** and inhabit the contiguous hilly regions of **Arunachal Pradesh, China, Myanmar, and Thailand**.
 - They number about 5,000 in India.
 - Lisu boys and girls have separate sets of numbered names to indicate the order of their birth.
- The tradition of numbered names is also prevalent among the **Singphos**, an ethnic group inhabiting **27 countries, including China's Yunnan province**.
 - **In India**, they mostly inhabit the Changlang and Namsai districts of **Arunachal Pradesh**, and the Tinsukia district of **Assam**.

The Hindu: Culture-Page 5

Sangita Kalanidhi award for vocalist T.M. Krishna

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Carnatic vocalist and Magsaysay Award winner T.M. Krishna has been selected for the Sangita Kalanidhi award of the Music Academy for 2024.

The news about the award was conveyed to Mr. Krishna by N. Murali, president, Music Academy, when the singer was performing, with his wife San-geetha and students, at the memorial of St. Thyagaraja at Thiruvaiyaru.

The Executive Committee of the Music Academy

him the award on the basis of sheer excellence in music," said Mr. Murali.

"It is very overwhelming to be chosen for the award and it is a special moment in my life," said Mr. Krishna, who visits the memorial of Thyagaraja once in a year to perform.

Mr. Krishna, a student of Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer, said Sangita Kalanidhi was without doubt a very important award in the Carnatic music world.

"It is also humbling because the recipients of the awardees include my teacher Semmanugudi Srinivasa Iyer and



A file photo of T.M. Krishna (left) and Neena Prasad.

Seetharama Sarma and Chengalpet Ranganathan before coming under the tutelage of Semmanugudi

tener base of the art by taking it to varied social settings and focusing on its exploratory as opposed to

presented to mridhangam player Parassala Ravi (V. Raveendran Nair) and vocalist Geetha Raja.

Other awards

TTK Awards will go to Thiruvaiyaru Brothers S. Narasimhan and S. Venkatesan, who are from a musical lineage that stretches back to Tyagaraja. Another artiste who will get the award is violinist H.K. Narasimhamurthy. The Musicologist Award will be given to Margaret Bastin.

This year's Nritya Kalanidhi award will be pre-

kali from Vembayam Appukkuttan Pillai. She obtained her Ph.D. from Rabindra Bharathi University for her thesis on Lasya and Than-dava in South Indian classical dances. She was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship from the University of Surrey.

The Sangita Kalanidhi awardee will preside over the academic sessions of the 98th Annual conference and concerts of the Music Academy to be held between December 15, 2024 and January 1, 2025, and will receive the award, together with those select-

News

- Noted carnatic vocalist and Magsaysay award winner T.M. Krishna has been selected for the Sangita Kalanidhi award of the Music Academy for 2024.

Sangita Kalanidhi Award

- Considered the highest accolade in the field of Carnatic music, it **came into existence in 1942**. Prior to that, a senior musician/expert was invited to preside over the Music Academy's annual conference.
- In 1942, it was decided that the musician so invited would be conferred the title of **Sangita Kalanidhi, the award comprising a gold medal and a birudu patra (citation)**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: S&T -Page 9



What is the HbA1C test and why is it used to check for diabetes?

If individuals older than 30 years should be screened for diabetes, according to the Indian Council of Medical Research's Guidelines for Management of Type 2 Diabetes, 2018. The American Diabetes Association approved HbA1c as a diagnostic tool for the same in 2019.

- One of the most commonly-used tests to diagnose pre-diabetes and diabetes (both type 1 and type 2) and to help manage diabetes, is the haemoglobin A1C (HbA1C) test, also known as the glycated haemoglobin or glycosylated haemoglobin test.

How does the test work?

- Sugar enters your bloodstream from the food you eat. The sugar, or glucose, attaches to the haemoglobin in your red blood cells.
- Haemoglobin is a protein that transports oxygen to all the cells of your body.
- Everybody has some sugar attached to their haemoglobin. Those with pre-diabetes and diabetes, however, have more.
- The HbA1C test measures the percentage of your red blood cells that have sugar-coated haemoglobin.
- The HbA1C levels are provided as either a percentage or in mmol/mol (which stands for millimoles per mole). A mole is a unit of measurement often used for chemical substances. The higher the percentage, the higher your blood glucose levels are.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu : S&T-Page 20

IceCube: the big, chill neutrino-spotter



- The **IceCube neutrino observatory** is a device at the earth's South Pole that detects subatomic particles called neutrinos.
- **Neutrinos** are light particles that very rarely interact with matter. This is why they're called "**ghost particles**".
- The **IceCube neutrino observatory** was built and is maintained by the IceCube Collaboration, which consists of many universities worldwide led by the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: History -Page 4

Son's tribute to father, 'piece of Gujarat in Delhi': Story of Chausath Khamba

The structure also finds mention in Sir Gordon Risley Hearn's book The Seven Cities of Delhi.



Chausath Khamba: literally translated to 64 pillars. Built in **1623-24 AD**, the structure houses the tomb of **Mirza Aziz Koka**, foster brother of Mughal Emperor Akbar.

About

- It is located in **Nizamuddin** precincts of Sufi Muslim shrines and tombs in New Delhi, India.
- It is a square structure constructed entirely of **white marble**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



Indian Express- : S&T -Page 11

What is SIMA, Google Deepmind's new AI that can play video games with you

SIMA points to a future of gaming where AI agents could play a key role. It also takes us a step closer to AI which can intelligently collaborate with humans not only in games but also in doing tasks in real-world environments.

- Google DeepMind on Wednesday (March 13) revealed its latest AI gaming agent called SIMA or Scalable Instructable Multiworld Agent, which can follow natural language instructions to perform tasks across video game environments. Simply, Google's new AI is all set to play video games with you.
- It also takes us a step closer to AI which can intelligently collaborate with humans not only in games but also in doing tasks in real-world environments.
- AI research lab Google Deepmind describes SIMA as an AI Agent, which is different from AI models such as OpenAI's ChatGPT or Google Gemini.