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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

08 December 2023

National and International News

Unemployment rate in urban areas comes down: survey	 The unemployment rate in urban areas of the country decreased from 7.2% in July-September 2022 to 6.6% in July-September 2023, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) The survey is conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). Key points If 6.6% is the unemployment rate for persons of age 15 years and above, for men, it was 6%. For women, it decreased from 9.4% in July-September last year to 8.6% this year. The labour force participation rate (LFPR) in urban areas increased to 49.3% in July-September 2023 for persons aged 15 years and 		
	above. While for males, LFPR increased to 73.8%, for females, LFPR increased to 24.0%		
Cyclone Michaung	Context Cyclone Michaung has intensified in its move across the southwest Bay of Bengal and is likely to make landfall on the Andhra Pradesh coast between Nellore and Machilipatnam		
	 What are cyclones? A cyclone is a large-scale system of air that rotates around the center of a low-pressure area. It is usually accompanied by violent storms and bad weather. As per NDMA, a cyclone is characterized by inward spiraling winds that rotate anticlockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere. 		
	Think: Why are cyclones more frequent in Bay of bengal compared to the Arabian sea?		
How are Cyclones named?	IMD uses a specific naming convention for cyclones in the North Indian Ocean , including the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.		







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- In the mid-1900s, storms were named alphabetically, and the practice of using feminine names started.
- WMO/ESCAP(World Meteorological Organisation/United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) nations agreed to name cyclones in 2000.
- WMO/ESCAP member nations, including India, decided to assign names to cyclones.
- The decision was made in Muscat in 2000, involving 13 countries.

Member Nations:

 The WMO/ESCAP group, deciding cyclone names, includes India, Qatar, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE, and Yemen.

RSMC(Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre) Role:

 IMD, as one of the six RSMCs globally, names cyclones in the North Indian Ocean based on suggestions from 13 countries in the WMO/ESCAP region.

Naming Criteria:

- Cyclone names must be neutral, non-offensive, short, easy to pronounce, under eight letters, and unique.
- Countries provide names with pronunciation and voice over.

Categories of Cyclones

Wind Speed (km/h)
Less than 31
31-49
50-61
62-88
89-117
118-167
168 and higher

Revanth sworn in as Telangana CM

Context

- Anumula Revanth Reddy was sworn in as the first Congress Chief Minister of Telangana
- After the win he vowed to revive a tradition of inviting the public into the halls of power to present their grievances directly to him.
- He immediately signed his first file, to implement





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the six welfare 'guarantees' that headlined the Congress' poll manifesto.

Glaciers shrank 1 m a year in a decade: **WMO**

Context

According to The Global Climate 2011-2020: A Decade of Acceleration report by World Meteorological Organisation, the 2011-2020 decade, though warmest ever recorded in history, saw the lowest number of deaths from extreme events

Key points

- The 2011-2020 decade was the first since 1950 when there was not a single short-term event with 10,000 deaths or more
- The report also says that this was the first decade that the depleted ozone hole visibly showed
- Glaciers that were measured around the world thinned by approximately 1 metre per year on an average between 2011 and 2020.
- Greenland and Antarctica lost 38% more ice during the period than during the 2001-2010 period.
- The report further underlined that human-caused climate change significantly increased the risks from extreme heat events.
- Heatwaves were responsible for the highest number of human casualties, while tropical cyclones caused the most economic damage.

Global Stocktake draft calls for phasing out fossil fuels

Context

- For the first time, a key document being negotiated at the UN's annual climate summit has underlined the need for the world to do away with all fossil fuels, in its draft text.
- In previous years, climate talks have generally circled around the need for the world to wean itself away from coal, but negotiations have generally ended in a stalemate.

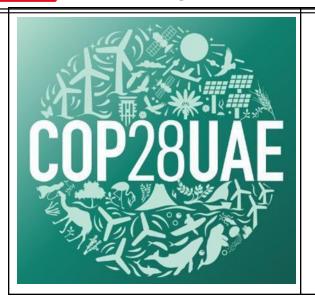
About Global Stocktake

• The Global Stocktake is a periodic review



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- **mechanism** established under the Paris Agreement in 2015.
- The stocktake takes place every five years, with the first-ever stocktake scheduled to conclude at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28)
- Its primary objectives are to assess individual countries' efforts to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and transition to renewable energy sources.
- The stocktake is designed to keep countries accountable and encourage them to increase their climate ambitions over time

Kerala Regional News

Rebecca Ballestra' award





Shawn and Milan

Context:

Milan George Jacob and Shawn Sebastian. Malayali 2023 youths, won the **Euro-Mediterranean** Centre on Climate Change's (CMCC) Climate Change Communication Award "Rebecca Ballestra" in Florence, Italy.

Key Points:

- Milan George Jacob of Mavelikkara and Shawn Sebastian of Kochi produced 'Faces of Climate Resilience', a 16-part short documentary series that captures the voices of people vulnerable to climate change in India.
- The project stood out among 372 entries (and 25 finalists) from over 50 countries.

Faces of Climate Resilience

- The project strives to make the complex science and data around climate change more tangible through people's experiences.
- The focus is on how individuals and communities are adapting to climate crisis, especially by embracing nature-based solutions and using traditional wisdom.







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	 It features stories from Kerala, highlighting Cheruthoni's climate-resilient infrastructure post-2018 flood, Kuttanad residents adapting homes against waterlogging, and Chendamangalam weavers' recovery. Since its launch in August 2022, 'Faces' has won awards at Documentaries Without Border International Festival (USA) and Aravali International Film Festival (India).
Museum of the Moon	British artist Luke Jerram's stunning seven-meter-wide replica of the full moon captivated audiences at the Science fest held at Kanakakunnu. Crafted from images captured by NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, the installation showcased intricate details of the lunar surface, unveiling craters, valleys and the hidden far side not visible from Earth.
Introducing 28% GST for online gaming	 The Kerala government has decided to introduce a Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 28 percent on activities like horse racing, gambling and online gaming. This decision is expected to have a retrospective effect from October 1, 2023 pending the signing of an ordinance by the Governor to amend the State Goods and Services Tax Act. The tax will be calculated based on the face value of the bet placed
Parks, open gyms under city flyovers	 The state Public Works Department (PWD) has come forward with a unique plan to construct parks beneath the major flyovers. The department identified 50 bridges and plans to construct parks across the state. In the initial phase, the parks will come up beneath bridges in Kollam S.N College and the Cochin International Airport in Nedumbassery. The financial aspects of these parks would be handled by corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives of various private-sector companies and coordinated by Kerala Tourism Infrastructure Limited
Highest charge-sheeting at 97% rin Kerala	Context: As per report:





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Kerala	has	the	highest	rate	of	filing
charge-	sheets	in the	country f	or offe	nses	under
the India	an Pen	al Cod	le (IPC) at	96%		
	charge-	charge-sheets	charge-sheets in the	charge-sheets in the country f		Kerala has the highest rate of charge-sheets in the country for offenses the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at 96%

- Puducherry featured second with 91.3% and West Bengal third with 90.6%
- Kerala also showed a high charge-sheeting rate of 99.1% for crimes under Special and Local Laws but it was the fifth-highest in the country

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