





4 December 2023

National and International News

<p>Loss and Damage Fund</p>	<p>Context On the first day of the 28th Conference of Parties or COP-28, member countries agreed to make operational a Loss and Damage (L&D) Fund meant to compensate countries already dealing with climate change.</p> <p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 'Loss and Damage' (L&D) fund is a financial mechanism designed to address the irreversible consequences of climate change • This fund recognizes and aims to compensate for the real losses incurred by communities, countries, and ecosystems due to the impacts of climate change.
<p>India set to launch X-ray Polarimeter Satellite</p> 	<p>Context The Indian Space Research Organisation has announced a plan to launch its first X-ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat) to investigate the polarisation of intense X-ray sources.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XPoSat is a satellite for low Earth orbit observation with a non-sun synchronous orbit at 650 km and a six-degree inclination. • Two payloads enable simultaneous study of temporal, spectral, and polarization features of bright X-ray sources. <p>Primary Payload - POLIX:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLIX, developed by Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru, measures polarization parameters in the medium X-ray energy range (8-30 keV) from astronomical sources. <p>Secondary Payload - XSPECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XSPECT provides spectroscopic information within the energy range of 0.8-15 keV, contributing to comprehensive X-ray studies. <p>Mission Duration: Expected mission life is around five years, ensuring an extended period for scientific observations.</p>



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<p>Air pollution causes over 2 million deaths annually in India: study</p> 	<p>Context Outdoor air pollution from all sources accounts for 2.18 million deaths per year in India, second only to China, according to a modeling study published in The BMJ.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fossil fuel-related air pollution causes 5.1 million annual deaths globally. • This accounts for 61% of the 8.3 million total deaths from outdoor air pollution in 2019. • Common conditions linked to these deaths include heart disease(30%), stroke(16%), lung disease(16%), and diabetes(6%). • About 20% of deaths are undefined but likely related to high blood pressure and neurodegenerative disorders Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. • The study emphasizes the urgent need to transition to clean, renewable energy sources.
<p>India offers to host 2028 climate meet</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refraining from fresh commitments to contain global temperature rise, Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address at COP-28, offered to host the 33rd edition of the annual summit due in 2028 in India. • A proposal to host the Conference of the Parties (COP) must be approved by other signatories to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). • India had previously hosted the summit in 2002.
<p>UAE announces \$30-bn fund to boost climate investments</p>	<p>Context The UAE, host of the 28th Conference of Parties (COP-28), announced a \$30-billion commitment to an investment fund called ALTÉRRRA.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The privately managed fund aims to mobilise \$250 billion globally by 2030 and be the largest of its kind. • An unspecified amount has been earmarked for the development of over 6 GW (1 GW is 1,000 MW) of new clean energy capacity in India. • This includes establishing 1,200 MW of wind and solar projects that will begin producing clean power by 2025. • ALTÉRRRA has been established by Lunate, an



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independent global investment manager, and is domiciled in the **Abu Dhabi Global Market**.

- ALTÉRRRA will have four key verticals namely: Energy Transition, Industrial Decarbonisation, Sustainable Living and Climate Technologies.

RBI, BoE agree to exchange information on CCIL

Context

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** and the **Bank of England (BoE)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning cooperation and exchange of information in relation to the **Clearing Corporation of India Ltd.**

Key points

- The MoU establishes a framework for the BoE to place reliance on RBI's regulatory and supervisory activities
- The MoU also demonstrates the **importance of cross-border cooperation** to facilitate international clearing activities and the BoE's commitment to deference to other regulators' regime

About Clearing Corporation of India Ltd.

The Clearing Corporation of India Ltd was established in April 2001 to render guaranteed clearing and settlement functions concerning transactions in G-Secs, money, derivative markets, and foreign exchange



Kerala Regional News

<p>WMO report 2023</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has reported that 2023 is set to be the warmest year on record. • The global mean temperature is about 1.40 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial level. • It was launched on the first day of the annual climate summit COP28 <p>Reason:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the sea surface temperatures soar, sea water tends to expand, causing the sea level to rise. • Besides, with the ocean warming, glaciers or sea ice are melting at a faster pace, which is contributing much more to sea level rise than compared with sea water expansion. • This poses a potential threat to all the coastal places across the world, including India. <p>Read more</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About the "Provisional State of the Global Climate in 2023"
<p>Arundhati Roy bags PG National Award 2023</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year's PG National Award of PG Sanskriti Kendra will be presented to eminent writer and social activist Arundhati Roy • This is the third PG award • The first one was given to prominent lawyer Prashant Bhushan and the second one to renowned media person N Ram • PG Sanskriti Kendra was started in 2019 in memory of Marxist thinker, writer and orator P Govinda Pillai
<p>Person in News: R Subbalakshmi</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actor and musician R Subbalakshmi passed away at age of 87 • She became immensely popular with her role in Kalyanaraman.



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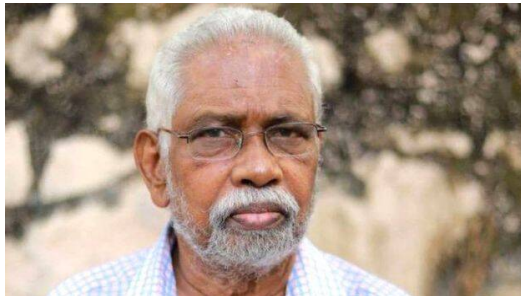
- She acted in about 75 films in Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu and Hindi.
- Her famous Malayalam movies include Nandanam, Pandippada, CID Moosa and Thilakkam.
- She had also acted in the Telugu remake of Kalyanaraman.

Arikomban's area be turned into protected forest

Context:

- In a significant move to conserve the rich biodiversity of the region, the Kerala government has decided to convert 364.39 hectares of land in Arikomban into a protected forest.
- The government had declared the region as a reserve forest under the Kerala Forest Act, 1961.
- The land will be declared a protected forest under Section 90.

Person in News: Dr M Kunjaman



Context:

- Dr M Kunjaman, a distinguished economist and significant Dalit thinker passed away at 74 years old.
- Dr. Kunjaman was a prominent figure in the field of economics, known for his insightful analyses of economic policies and his unwavering commitment to social justice.
- He was a strong advocate for the rights of Dalits and other marginalized communities, and his work made a significant impact on the discourse on social and economic equity in India.

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