







26 March 2024 **National and International News**

Operation Indravati	 Context: In response to the recent turmoil in Haiti, the Indian government has launched Operation Indravati to evacuate its citizens from the violence-stricken country to the neighboring Dominican Republic. Key points: Haiti has been grappling with a state of emergency triggered by recent violent attacks. Haiti, a Caribbean country, has plunged into chaos due to gang warfare. Gang control in Haiti's capital has reached 80%, according to the UN, with fighting ongoing in the remaining areas. Capital: Port-au-Prince
<image/>	 Context: The Pushpak, also known as the Reusable Launch Vehicle Technology Demonstrator (RLV-TD), is India's first uncrewed flying testbed for this ambitious project that aims to significantly reduce payload delivery costs to low Earth orbit. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced a successful landing experiment as part of its ongoing efforts to develop reusable space launch vehicles. Project Cost: The total cost of the Pushpak (RLV-TD) project was approximately ₹95 crore.
Exchange-traded funds	 Objectives of the Project: Primary Objective: Develop a TSTO reusable launch vehicle to achieve an 80% reduction in payload delivery costs to low Earth orbit. Testing Objectives: Evaluate key technologies such as hypersonic flight, autonomous landing, powered cruise flight, and air-breathing engine propulsion. Context: The Securities and Exchange Board of India





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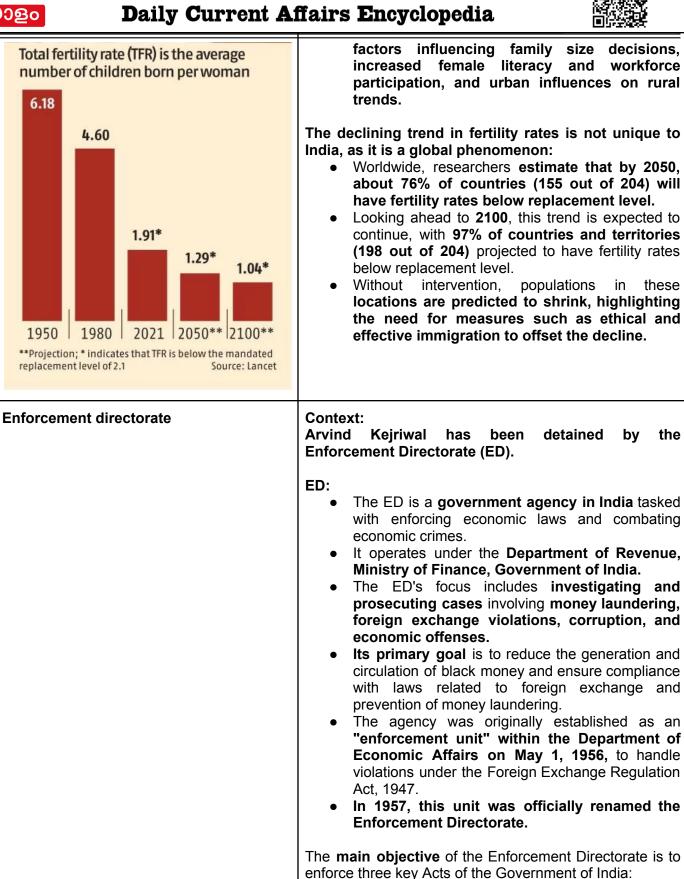
	 (SEBI) has instructed mutual fund companies to halt new investments in schemes that invest in overseas exchange-traded funds (ETFs) from April 1, 2024. SEBI's decision stems from the fact that investments in these foreign ETFs are nearing the mandated limit of \$1 billion.
	 An exchange-traded fund (ETF) is a type of security that tracks an index, commodity, bonds, or a basket of assets, similar to an index fund. Unlike regular mutual funds, ETFs are traded like common stocks on stock exchanges. The price of an ETF changes throughout the day as it is bought and sold on the stock exchange. The trading value of an ETF is based on the net asset value of the underlying stocks it represents. ETFs are known for their high daily liquidity and low fees compared to mutual fund schemes, making them appealing to individual investors. They are also considered more tax efficient. There are five main types of ETFs: equity ETFs, bond ETFs, commodity ETFs, international ETFs, and sectoral/thematic ETFs.
1.29 by 2050: Impact of India's falling fertility rateContext: India is facing a concerning birth rate decline, indicated by the Lancet's forecast of a fertility rate drop to 1.29 by 2050.	
	 Key points: By 2050, one in five Indians will be a senior citizen, posing challenges as there will be fewer younger individuals to care for the aging population. The declining total fertility rate (TFR) in India, currently at 1.29, well below the replacement rate of 2.1, is a major factor driving this trend. Globally, the TFR has decreased significantly over the last 70 years, from around five children per woman in 1950 to 2.2 children in 2021. In India specifically, the TFR has dropped from 6.18 in 1950 to 1.91 in 2021, reflecting a diminishing working-age population. Factors contributing to this decline in fertility rates include family planning programs, behavioral changes promoting smaller families, economic



















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the Foreign Exchange M (FEMA); the Prevention Act, 2002 (PMLA); and the	of Money Laundering he Fugitive Economic

	Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA).		
•	• The Enforcement Directorate is headquartered in		
	New Delhi and is headed by the Director of		
	Enforcement.		

It has regional offices in Mumbai, Chennai, • Chandigarh, Kolkata, and Delhi, each headed by a Special Director of Enforcement.

Kerala Regional News

3.88L young voters in Kerala	 Context: Deadline for enrolment in electoral roll for upcoming Lok Sabha elections ends. 3.88 lakh young voters aged 18-19 registered in the state. Significant increase of 3.11 lakh young voters since draft electoral roll published on October 27. Kerala leads in enrolment rate of first-time voters nationwide. Chief Electoral Officer (Kerala) Sanjay Kaul credits success to Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiatives.
Kerala Withdraws Ban on Social Media Activity for Health Workers	 Context: The Kerala government reversed a controversial decision that prohibited health department employees from creating content on social media platforms. The initial circular, issued by the Directorate of Health Services (DHS) on March 13th, 2024, raised concerns about potential violations of the code of conduct and interference with official duties. The revised notice cites "administrative reasons" for withdrawing the ban. This reversal comes after health officials sought clarification on using social media responsibly while adhering to government employee regulations













World Tuberculosis day	 Context: Every year on March 24th, World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is observed worldwide to raise awareness about the devastating health, social, and economic consequences of TB, and to step up efforts to end the global TB epidemic. This day commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacteria that causes tuberculosis, a disease that still affects millions globally.
	 Raise Awareness: World TB Day serves as a platform to educate individuals, communities, policymakers, and healthcare professionals about the signs, symptoms, transmission, prevention, and treatment of tuberculosis. Mobilize Resources:
	 The theme for World Tuberculosis (TB) Day 2024 is "Yes! We can end TB!"











Renowned Artist A Ramachandran's Works to be Displayed in New Kerala Museum	Context: A special museum will be set centre in Kollam to display the artist A Ramachandran. It Kerala soon.
	 Museum Dedicated special museum will be district cultural centre to of internationally Ramachandran. Generous Donation: donating 48 paintings of the state of Kerala. Ad Ramachandran's wife, also be included in the of Fulfilling a Wish: Ramachandran's lifelon museum in his home originally from Attingal, in a letter to Chief M before his passing in Fe Extensive Collection: encompasses painting including large pieces r

t up at the district cultural e paintings of renowned will be handed over to

- to Ramachandran: A e established at the Kollam to showcase the paintings acclaimed artist Α.
- The artist's family is valued at Rs 300 crore to dditionally, 12 paintings by Tan Yuan Chameli, will collection.
- This donation fulfils ng dream of establishing a e state. The late artist, had expressed his desire Minister Pinarayi Vijayan ebruary 2024.
- : The donated collection gs dating back to 1957, measuring 12 feet wide by 6 feet tall.
- Preparation Underway: Discussions regarding the transfer of the artworks have taken place between Ramachandran's son, Rahul, and Kerala's chief secretary. The proposed museum site in Kollam has also been visited by Rahul.
- Preserving collection Legacy: А of Ramachandran's personal art books will be preserved in the library of the Durbar Hall Art Centre at the Kerala Lalithakala Akademi.

VAAN Electric Moto Partners with Kerala Blasters FC	 Context: VAAN Electric Moto partners with Kerala Blasters Football Club, pioneering sustainable mobility in sports
	About:
	 Historic Partnership: VAAN Electric Moto becomes the official E-Mobility Partner of Kerala Blasters Football Club, marking a collaboration between green technology and sports. Sustainable Ride: To celebrate the alliance, VAAN launches the innovative electric mountain bike 'Stelvio' with Ivan Vukomanović, Kerala Blasters FC coach, as















brand ambassador.

Limited Edition Bike: A special Kerala Blasters 10th Anniversary edition "Blasters Edition" mountain bike is unveiled by prominent players Milos Drincic, Danish Faroog, and Daisuke Sakai.

Engagement Boost: Popular film actress Fan Samskruthy Shenoy reveals the Kerala Blasters video launch.

Shared Vision: Jithu Sukumaran Nair, VAAN CEO, highlights the collaboration's aim to promote sustainable mobility and their alignment with the Blasters' focus on voung talent.

Greener Future: Ivan Vukomanović expresses enthusiasm about the partnership's potential to transform fan engagement and advocate for a sustainable future.

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