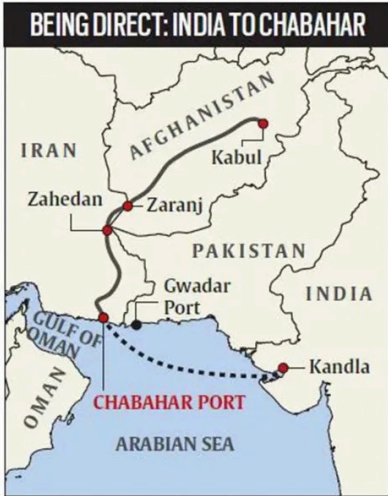




14 May 2024

National and International News

<p>Chabahar port</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight years after the conclusion of the general framework of cooperation, India and Iran signed a 10-year contract for the operation of the Chabahar port in Iran. • The long-term agreement was signed between Indian Ports Global Ltd. (IPGL) and the Port and Maritime Organisation (PMO) of Iran. <p>About Chabahar port:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chabahar Port, situated in Iran's Sistan-Baluchistan Province. • It is located on the Gulf of Oman, making it Iran's only oceanic port. • It is near Pakistan's Gwadar Port and offers India a strategic foothold in the region, allowing bypass of Pakistan for access to Afghanistan and Central Asia. • India has been a key player in the development of Chabahar Port. • The cooperation includes investments in infrastructure like the development of terminals and operational systems. • Chabahar is part of India's strategy to counter Chinese influence in the region, especially concerning the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).
<p>Vibrant Village Programme (VVP)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government is planning to spend over ₹2 crore per kilometre of road construction. • The roads will be constructed along the China border in Uttarakhand and Sikkim. • This initiative is part of the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP). <p>About VVP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vibrant Village Programme (VVP) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented over the financial years 2022-23 to 2025-26. • Objective: The programme aims for comprehensive development of villages and



VIBRANT VILLAGES PROGRAMME

Benefits:

- Inclusive growth of villages on northern border
- Will improve the quality of life of people
- Will reverse the outmigration adding to improved security

blocks on the northern border, improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages.

- It also aims to encourage people to stay in their native locations in border areas, reversing the outmigration from these villages, and improving the security of the border.
- Funding:** The programme will provide funds for the development of essential infrastructure and the creation of livelihood opportunities in 2967 villages in 19 Districts and 46 Border blocks of 4 states and 1 UT along the northern land border of the country: Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and the UT of Ladakh.
- Action Plans:** Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats, and 100 % saturation of Central and state schemes will be ensured. There will be no overlap with the Border Area Development Programme.

Indian Ocean basin-wide (IOBW) index

Why in news?

- Researchers have discovered a potential link between anomalies in sea-surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean and the intensity of global dengue epidemics.
- This link could potentially improve the prediction of dengue outbreaks, giving countries more time to prepare and respond.

Key points:

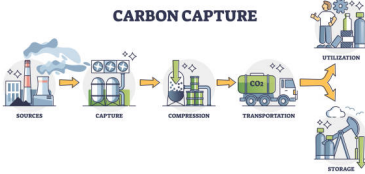

- A new paper published in the journal Science identified a specific indicator, the Indian Ocean basin-wide (IOBW) index.
- According to the study, the IOBW index exhibits a close association with dengue outbreaks in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres.

About IOBW:

- The Indian Ocean basin-wide (IOBW) index represents the average sea-surface temperature variations across the tropical Indian Ocean.
- The IOBW index has emerged as a key indicator for predicting the magnitude and timing of dengue epidemics in each country.
- The IOBW index has a more pronounced impact on temperatures in tropical regions. For example, Brazil, a country in the Southern Hemisphere, bears a higher burden of dengue.



Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Hemisphere witnesses a peak dengue epidemic period between July and October, while the Southern Hemisphere sees a peak in February and April, both during their respective summers. • The amplitude of dengue incidence was high when the IOBW index was positive and low when it was negative.
<p>Mammoth carbon dioxide capture and storage facility</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swiss start-up Climeworks has launched Mammoth, the largest carbon dioxide capture and storage facility of its kind. • The captured CO2 is intended to be buried underground. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goal of this project is to prove that this technology can contribute to the fight against global warming. • Mammoth began operations this week and is situated on a dormant volcano in Iceland. <p>About Mammoth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mammoth is the largest carbon dioxide capture and storage facility. • It is the second commercial direct air capture (DAC) facility by Climeworks in Iceland, significantly larger than its predecessor, Orca, which began operations in 2021. • The working principle of this cutting-edge technology involves drawing in air and chemically extracting carbon dioxide. • The extracted CO2 can then be stored underground, converted into stone, or reused. • The process of carbon sequestration utilizes Iceland's abundant geothermal energy for power.
<p>Rat-hole coal mining</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The High Court of Meghalaya appointed a one-member panel to handle coal-related issues. • The panel has raised concerns about the lack of progress in restoring the environment. • This environmental damage was caused by rat-hole coal mining in the State. <p>About Rat-hole coal mining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rat-hole mining is a method of manual drilling most common in Meghalaya, especially in the West Jaintia Hills, East Jaintia Hills, and West Khasi



Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

	<p>Hills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The term “rat hole” refers to the narrow pits dug into the ground, typically just large enough for one person to descend and extract coal using primitive tools such as pickaxes, shovels, and baskets. • Rat-hole mining is broadly classified into two categories: Side-cutting procedure and Box-cutting.
--	---

Kerala Regional News

<p>Senna spectabilis or Manjakonna</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The members of Prithvi Roots are working to eliminate the invasive plant species Senna spectabilis, locally known as ‘Manjakonna’, from the Muthanga forest in Wayanad. • This species is known to destroy the undergrowth in the forest and cause man-animal conflicts in the Western Ghats. <p>About Senna spectabilis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a deciduous tree native to tropical areas of America. • The thick foliage of the tree arrests the growth of other indigenous tree and grass species. • The plant has become an invasive alien species in parts of Africa and also in South-India.
<p>M.C. Kattappana</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The noted theatre artist M.C. Kattappana passes away. • M.C. Kattappana, whose real name was M.C. Chacko, was a renowned theatre artist from Kerala. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He began his professional theatre journey in 1977 with Attingal Deshibhimani. • He also featured in a handful of movies, including acclaimed films such as ‘Kazhcha’, ‘Palunku’, and ‘Nayakan’. • In 2007, he was bestowed with the State Government Award for Best Actor for his role in Kollam Arena’s production ‘Arum Kothikkunna Mannu’.



<p>AMRUT scheme</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 941 out of 1,102 projects under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme have been completed in Kerala. • A total of 1,111 projects were proposed to be implemented in the nine mission cities of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Kochi, Thrissur, Guruvayur, Palakkad, Kozhikode, and Kannur. <p>About AMRUT scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMRUT scheme, aimed at transforming urban living conditions through infrastructure enhancements. • AMRUT aims to provide basic civic amenities to improve the quality of life for all, especially the poor and the disadvantaged. • The focus is on infrastructure services like water supply, sewerage, and urban transport. • The scheme was launched in June 2015 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. • Targeting 500 cities nationwide, AMRUT encompasses cities with populations over 100,000, along with some specific cities of religious and cultural significance.
<p>Russian Literary Festival 2024</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian Literary Festival 2024 was organized jointly by the Moscow-based Russkiy Mir Foundation and the Russian House in Thiruvananthapuram. • The festival was inaugurated by writer Paul Zacharia. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event was held in connection with the 225th birth anniversary of poet Alexander Pushkin and the 135th birth anniversary of poet Anna Akhmatova. • The festival included a series of seminars, competitions for students, recitals of Pushkin's poems, and exhibitions. • Literature has contributed immensely to strengthening friendly relations between India and Russia.
<p>Praveshanolsavam</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State-level school 'Praveshanolsavam' marks the start of the new academic year. • It will be held at the Government Higher Secondary School, Elamakkara, on June 3.



മലയാളം



Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- The programme will be inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Kerala.

About Praveshanolsavam:

- Praveshanolsavam is a **state-level school event** marking the **start of the new academic year**.
- It is **typically held on the first day of an academic year**.
- The event is organized in **all primary or aided schools in the state**.
- The **aim of the event** is to **welcome new students**.
- The **event includes various activities** such as **training for teachers in Artificial Intelligence, anti-drug campaigns on campuses, and cleaning drives before the start of the new academic year**.

Copyright © by Adda247

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of Adda247.