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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

13 June 2024 National and International News

New craters on Mars

Why in the news?

- Scientists from the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in Ahmedabad have made a discovery on Mars.
- They have found three new craters on the planet.

Key points:

- These craters are located in the **Tharsis volcanic region** (around 21.0 S, 209 W) on **Mars**.
- The International Astronomical Union (IAU) Working Group for Planetary System Nomenclature has approved the naming of these three craters, based on the recommendation of the PRL.

About International Astronomical Union (IAU):

- Formation Date: The IAU was founded in 1919.
- **Headquarters**: Paris, France.
- Objective:
 - To promote and safeguard the science of astronomy through international cooperation.
 - To coordinate, develop, and promote astronomical research.
 - To ensure that astronomical observations and theoretical studies are shared and discussed globally.

Membership:

- Comprises over 13,500 individual members from 107 countries.
- Members are professional astronomers.
- Major Functions:
 - Naming and defining astronomical objects and phenomena.
 - Organizing scientific meetings, such as the General Assembly held every three years.
 - Providing guidelines and recommendations on astronomical standards and practices.







Nitrous emissions	oxide	(N2O)	 Why in the news? Nitrous oxide (N2O) emissions increased by 40% between 1980 and 2020. The largest emitter of N2O is China, followed by India and the US.
			 Key points: The Global Carbon Project, a network of climate scientists, conducted a study. The study found that 74 per cent of the nitrous oxide emissions in the past decade were due to agriculture. The main sources of these emissions were the use of nitrogen fertilizers and animal manure in agriculture. The top 10 emitters are China, India, the US, Brazil, Russia, Pakistan, Australia, Indonesia, Turkey, and Canada. N2O is the third most significant greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide and methane and is 273 times more potent than CO2 over 100 years. To keep the global temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius, N2O emissions from human activities must decrease by at least 20% from 2019 levels by 2050.







Atomic Clock	Why in the news? Researchers have built a portable optical atomic clock. This clock can be used onboard ships. According to the researchers, it is the most performant optical clock at sea. About Atomic Clock: An atomic clock is a device that measures time using the vibrations of atoms. It specifically uses the oscillations of the electrons in atoms to keep time. It is the most accurate time-keeping device available, with a margin of error of just a few billionths of a second per day. Atomic clocks are far more precise than conventional clocks because atomic oscillations have a much higher frequency and are much more stable. They are used in many applications that require very precise
	frequency and are much more stable.







Why in the news?

- There is an ongoing spell of extreme heat in many parts of the country.
- This situation has reopened discussions on the inclusion of heatwaves as one of the notified disasters.
- This inclusion is being considered under the Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005.

About Notified disasters:

- The Disaster Management Act, 2005 in India defines a disaster as a catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence arising from natural or man-made causes.
- The Act includes 12 categories of notified disasters:
 Cyclone, Drought, Earthquake, Fire, Flood, Tsunami,
 Hailstorm, Landslide, Avalanche, Cloudburst, Pest attack,
 Frost and cold waves.
- These notified disasters are eligible for relief assistance under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).
- Heatwaves are not currently included as a notified disaster under the Act, despite being a significant concern in India.
- Criteria for notifying a disaster under the Act:
 - The event must be a catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence.
 - o It must arise from **natural** or **man-made causes**.
 - It must result in substantial loss of life, destruction of property, or damage to the environment.
 - It must also be of such nature which is beyond the coping capacity of the community.



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International	Organization	of
Migration (IOI	M)	

Why in the news?

- A boat carrying migrants capsized off the coast of Yemen.
- The U.N. migration agency, the International Organization of Migration (IOM), reported the incident.

About IOM:

- **Establishment**: The International Organization for Migration (IOM) was established in 1951.
- Headquarters: IOM's headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Membership: As of now, IOM has 175 member states and 8 observer states.
- Objective: The primary objective of IOM is to promote humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, by providing services and advice to governments and migrants.

Kerala Regional News









Institute of Medicine (IPM)	Palliative	 Why in the news? The Institute of Palliative Medicine (IPM), Kozhikode and the Trivandrum Institute of Palliative Sciences (TIPS) under Pallium India have collaborated to work in areas of mutual interest.
		 Both institutions are major providers of palliative care in Kerala. About Institute of Palliative Medicine (IPM): The Institute of Palliative Medicine (IPM) is a pioneer in the palliative care movement in South East Asia. It is the first World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Community Participation in Palliative Care and Long Term Care (WHOCC) in developing countries. The IPM is instrumental in developing the "Kerala Model" of palliative care.
		 Palliative care is a specialized form of medical care aimed at providing relief from the symptoms, pain, and stress of serious illness. It is designed to improve the quality of life for patients facing life-threatening illnesses and their families. Palliative care addresses not only physical symptoms but also psychological, social, and spiritual issues.







World Day against	Child	Why in the news?
Labour		 Kerala will be declared a child labour-free State in 2025, Minister for Labour V. Sivankutty has said. The World Day against Child Labour is celebrated on June 12 every year.
		About World Day against Child Labour:
		 Establishment: The International Labour Organization (ILO) launched the first World Day Against Child Labour in 2002. Purpose: The day is intended to serve as a catalyst for the growing worldwide movement against child labour. Theme for 2024: The theme for the year 2024 is "Let's Act on Our Commitments: End Child Labour!". Goal: With the adoption of Sustainable Development Goal Target 8.7, the international community made a commitment to the elimination of child labour in all its forms by 2025.
Cyberwall project		Why in the news?
		 Steps are being taken to launch an Al-based 'Cyberwall' project under the State police's cyber division. Once fully operational, the public can use it to verify the authenticity of phone numbers, social media profiles, and URLs. The announcement was made during the discussion on the demands for grants in the 2024-25 Budget for the Police department. The Police department plans to link the project to Pol-App, the Kerala Police application.







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Why in the news?

- The International Centre for Polar Studies (ICPS) at Mahatma Gandhi University (MGU), Kottayam, has joined the University of the Arctic (UArctic).
- The decision to accept ICPS as a member university was made during the 5th UArctic Assembly Meeting held in Bodø, Norway.

About UArctic:

- Establishment: UArctic was established in 2001.
- Objective: **UArctic** aims to enhance educational opportunities and promote sustainable development in the Arctic region by fostering cooperation among its member institutions.
- **Membership**: UArctic consists of over 200 member institutions, including universities, colleges, research institutes, and other organizations committed to higher education and research in the North.
- **Programs and Activities:**
 - North2North Student Mobility Program
 - Arctic Indigenous Education
 - Field Schools
- **Key Initiatives:**
 - Arctic Council Cooperation: UArctic collaborates closely with the Arctic Council to support its priorities and initiatives.
 - o Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW): An annual event that brings together scientists, policymakers, and other stakeholders to discuss Arctic research and policy.

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Kerala Board	State	Planning	 Why in the news? The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) Regional Station, Kayamkulam is organising a two-day national seminar. The seminar is on 'Climate Smart Agriculture for Sustainable Soil and Plant Health in Plantation Crops'. The seminar will be inaugurated by V.K. Ramachandran, vice-chairman of the Kerala State Planning Board.
			 About Kerala State Planning Board: Establishment: The Kerala State Planning Board was established in 1967. Headquarters: Located in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. Objective: The primary objective of the Kerala State Planning Board is to assist the state government in formulating development plans and policies to promote sustainable and balanced economic growth in Kerala.

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