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National and International News

<p><b>Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) program</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Union Minister for Youth Affairs</b> is set to give a fresh boost to the Government's ambitious <b>Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) program</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About KIRTI Program:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Target Audience:</b> School children aged <b>9 to 18 years</b>.</li> <li><b>Main Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Talent Hunt:</b> Identify talent from every part of the country.</li> <li><b>Curb Addictions:</b> Use sports to reduce addiction to drugs and gadgetry distractions.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Launch Details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Initial Launch:</b> Rolled out across 50 centres in India.</li> <li><b>First Phase:</b> Assessing 50,000 applicants across 10 sports, including athletics, boxing, wrestling, hockey, and football.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Assessment Goals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Nation-wide Assessments:</b> Aim to conduct 20 lakh assessments in FY 2024-25.</li> <li><b>Talent Identification:</b> Utilize notified Talent Assessment Centres for evaluations.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Selection Methodology:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Transparency:</b> Emphasis on transparent selection processes.</li> <li><b>Technology Integration:</b> Use of Information Technology for selection.</li> <li><b>AI and Data Analytics:</b> Employ AI-based data analytics to predict athletic potential.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Decentralized Approach:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Pocket-based Talent Identification:</b> Focus on localized talent identification.</li> <li><b>Khelo India Scheme Objectives:</b> Align with the goals of achieving excellence in sports and encouraging mass participation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>The Voicebox Programme</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)</b> has partnered with <b>Netflix India</b> to launch "<b>The Voicebox</b>," an upskilling program for voice-over artists in India.</li> </ul> <p><b>About The Voicebox Programme:</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Training for Voice-over Artists: Languages Covered</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ English</li> <li>○ Hindi</li> <li>○ Marathi</li> <li>○ Bengali</li> <li>○ Malayalam</li> <li>○ Tamil</li> <li>○ Telugu</li> <li>○ Gujarati</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Eligibility:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Open to professionals with more than two years of experience in the media and entertainment sector.</b></li> <li>○ Preference given to women.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Funding:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sponsored by the <b>Netflix Fund for Creative Equity.</b></li> <li>○ <b>\$100 million per year over five years</b> dedicated to supporting underrepresented communities in TV and film industries globally.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Participant Details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Each batch accommodates up to 30 candidates.</li> <li>○ 210 participants selected through preliminary screening.</li> <li>○ <b>At least 50% of participants will be women.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Training Partner:</b> Pearl Academy, India's leading design institute.</li> <li>● <b>Special Project:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Seven top participants</b> from each batch will <b>contribute</b> to Netflix's project, "<b>Azaadi ki Amrit Kahaniya</b>".</li> <li>○ They will <b>narrate stories reflecting the Indian independence movement.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>UN Water Convention</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Ivory Coast</b> recently joined the <b>United Nations Water Convention</b>, becoming the <b>10th African nation</b> to do so.</li> </ul> <p><b>About UN Water Convention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Adopted:</b> Helsinki, 1992</li> <li>○ <b>Entered into force:</b> 1996</li> <li>○ <b>Known as:</b> Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Purpose:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Legally binding instrument promoting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sustainable management of shared water resources</li> <li>■ Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</li> <li>■ Prevention of conflicts</li> <li>■ Promotion of peace and regional integration</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>History and Accession:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Originally a <b>regional framework</b> for the <b>pan-European region</b>.</li> <li>○ Amendments <b>allowed all UN Member States to accede from March 2016</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Requirements for Parties:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prevent, control, and reduce transboundary impact</li> <li>○ Use transboundary waters in a reasonable and equitable way</li> <li>○ Ensure sustainable management of transboundary waters</li> <li>○ Cooperate through specific agreements and joint bodies for shared waters</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Framework Agreement:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Does not replace bilateral and multilateral agreements</li> <li>○ Fosters establishment, implementation, and further development of agreements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Last Universal Common Ancestor (LUCA)</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scientists in a new study suggest that the <b>Last Universal Common Ancestor (LUCA)</b> could have <b>formed just a few hundred million years after the Earth was formed</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About LUCA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>LUCA (Last Universal Common Ancestor):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Hypothesized common ancestor of all modern cellular life.</b></li> <li>○ Descendants include <b>single-celled organisms (bacteria)</b> and <b>complex organisms (redwood trees, humans)</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Significance:</b> Represents the <b>root of the tree of life before splitting into Bacteria, Archaea, and Eukarya</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Common Features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Same amino acids used for protein synthesis</b> in all cellular organisms.</li> <li>○ Shared energy currency (<b>ATP</b>).</li> <li>○ <b>Presence of cellular machinery like the ribosome for protein synthesis from DNA information.</b></li> <li>○ Universal use of DNA for information storage.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Timeline:</b> Existed about 4.2 billion years ago, 400 million years after Earth and Solar System formation.</li> <li>● <b>Characteristics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Similar to modern prokaryotes.</li> <li>○ Possessed an early immune system.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Research Methods:</b> Genetic analysis and evolutionary modeling pinpointed LUCA's existence.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Enemy Property in India</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The <b>Indian government has started auctioning properties classified as 'enemy properties'</b>.</li> </ul>



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### About Enemy Property in India:

- Enemy property includes **immovable and movable assets left behind by people who took citizenship of Pakistan and China after leaving India during the partition and post the 1962 and 1965 wars.**
- **Assets** include **real estate, bank accounts, shares, gold, and other valuables.**
- **Custodian of Enemy Property for India (CEPI):**
  - The CEPI is an authority created under the **Enemy Property Act, 1968.**
  - It is responsible for managing enemy properties in India.
- **Enemy Property Act, 1968:** Established the framework for managing properties of individuals who migrated to Pakistan and China.
- **Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2017:**
  - Stated that **successors of those who migrated to Pakistan and China have no claim over the properties left behind in India.**
  - Ensured that the **law of succession does not apply to enemy property.**
  - Prohibited the transfer of any property vested in the custodian by an enemy, enemy subject, or enemy firm.
  - Mandated that the custodian preserve enemy property until its disposal as per the Act's provisions.
- **Statistics:**
  - There are 13,252 enemy properties in India, valued at over Rs 1 lakh crore.
  - Most properties belong to people who migrated to Pakistan; over 100 belong to those who migrated to China.
- **State-wise Distribution:**
  - **Uttar Pradesh:** 5,982 enemy properties.
  - **West Bengal:** 4,354 enemy properties.

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