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26 October 2023

National and International News

<p>Book: Lords of Wankhede</p>	<p>Context The book titled “Lords of Wankhede” was recently launched.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is authored by WV Raman and R Kaushik. • The Lords of Wankhede explores the evolution of Indian cricket in the 28 years between the two World Cup successes.
<p>Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI)</p> <div>  </div>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euro zone PMI hit lowest in nearly 3 years and has stirred recession worries. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMI is an economic indicator, which is derived after monthly surveys of different companies. • It measures activity at the purchasing or input stage. • In this sense, it is very different from industrial production which is indicative of actual production. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ E.g., the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) measures output. <p>Did you know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are two types of PMI — Manufacturing PMI and Services PMI. • The index shows trends in both the manufacturing and services sector. • PMI does not capture informal sector activity. • PMI data for India is released by S&P Global - a global major in financial information and analytics.
<p>Personality in news: Bishan Singh Bedi</p> <div>  </div>	<p>Context Bishan Singh Bedi passed away following prolonged illness.</p> <p>About Bedi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was an Indian cricketer who was primarily a slow left-arm orthodox bowler. • He played Test cricket for India from 1966 to 1979 and formed part of the famous Indian spin quartet. • He played a total of 67 Tests and took 266 wickets. • He also captained the national side in 22 Test matches. • He was awarded the Padma Shri award in 1970 and the C. K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004



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ADDAPEDIA

Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Mission Mahila Sarathi



Context

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has **flagged off 51 State transport corporation buses** under **Mission Mahila Sarathi** on the occasion of Durga Ashtami in Ayodhya

Key points

- These buses will have **women drivers and conductors**.
- The initiative seeks to connect and **empower women**

United Nations Day 2023

- **United Nations Day** is an annual commemorative day, reflecting the official creation of the United Nations on **24 October 1945**.
- It is celebrated on 24th October each year.
- The United Nations Day 2023 theme is **“Equality, Freedom and Justice for All.”**
- This year marks the **75th anniversary**.

EU report calls for 2% global wealth tax on billionaires

Context

The European Union Tax Observatory in its **‘Global Tax Evasion Report 2024’** has called for a global minimum tax on billionaires equal to 2% of their wealth.

Key points

- This step was taken because tax evasion was enabling billionaires to enjoy effective tax rates equivalent to 0% to 0.5% of their wealth.
- This would both address evasion and “generate nearly **\$250 billion** from less than 3,000 individuals
- While the number of taxpayers affected by it would be miniscule, the tax rate for them (2%) “would still be very modest” given that the wealth of billionaires has grown at 7% a year annually on average since 1995 (net of inflation).



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Cheetah and Chetak helicopters to be replaced by LUH



Context

- The Army will start phasing out the first lot of vintage **Cheetah and Chetak helicopters from 2027** on completion of their total technical life.
- This is to induct the **indigenous light utility helicopters (LUHs)** to replace them

About LUH

- The LUH is a **3-tonne class helicopter** with glass cockpit for reconnaissance and surveillance roles and as a light transport helicopter.
- The helicopter will be capable of **flying at 220 kmph**, with a service ceiling of 6.5 km and a **range of 350 km with 400 kg payload**

Bat Genomes



Context

Scientists have embarked on comprehensive studies of bat genomes, revealing invaluable insights into their distinctive biology.

Key points

- Bats boast relatively small genomes, typically consisting of around **2 billion bases**, making them ideal subjects for genomic research.
- The ambitious **Bat1K** global genome consortium is currently undertaking the task of sequencing genomes of all bat species worldwide, promising further revelations about their genetic makeup.
- The research will highlight how bats enjoy a **unique defense against a range of diseases, including cancer.**

Facts about Bats

- Bats are the **only mammals on the earth that can maintain sustained flight.**
- They also have **relatively long life-spans** and are relatively more protected from a variety of diseases, including cancer.
- They also **have a unique ability in echolocation**, whereby they use sound to navigate and locate objects, freeing them from being constrained by the availability of light like humans are.
- By population, **bats make up 20% of all mammals.**
- There are more than 1,400 species of bats today around the world; more than 60 are endangered and 170-odd are classified as vulnerable.
- In all, bats **play crucial roles in maintaining the ecological balance**, and are essential for pollination

Did you know?

The bumblebee bat weighs only 2 grams whereas the flying foxes, which have a wingspan of 1.5 metres, weigh up to 1.6 kg.



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Canada's actions are in violation of Vienna Convention

Context

- According to the Indian External Affairs Minister, Canada's inability to provide safety and security to Indian diplomats challenges the "**most fundamental aspect**" of the **Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations**.

About Convention

- The **Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961)** is a treaty that defines the framework for the conduct of diplomatic relations between countries.
- It was **adopted in 1961** by the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities **held in Vienna, Austria**.
- This treaty **lays down the rules and regulations of diplomatic relations** between countries and also the privileges that diplomats enjoy in other countries.
- India ratified the convention through the **Diplomatic Relations (Vienna Convention) Act of 1972**.

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