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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

04 March 2024

### National and International News

<p><b>Seizure of CNC Machines Bound for Pakistan at Nhava Sheva Port</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Customs authorities at Nhava Sheva port recently intercepted a <b>dual-use shipment on a vessel destined for Karachi</b>, expressing suspicions regarding its potential utilization in <b>Pakistan's nuclear initiatives</b>.</li></ul> <p><b>About Nhava Sheva Port:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jawaharlal Nehru Port, also known as <b>JNPT and Nhava Sheva Port</b>, is the second largest container port in India after Mundra Port.</li><li>• Operated by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust Authority (JNPTA), it is located on the eastern shores of the Arabian Sea in Navi Mumbai, Raigad district, Maharashtra.</li></ul>
<p><b>Hanguls on the Path to Recovery</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>endangered hangul, a shy deer species native to Kashmir</b>, is showing signs of recovery with a healthy mating season indicating a potential increase in numbers.</li><li>• The official figure suggested there are <b>19.2 males per 100 females</b> “which is much lower than the ideal ratio of 40-50 males per 100 females”.</li></ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hangul population declined sharply since 1947 but showed a steady increase from 183 in 2015 to 261 in 2021.</li><li>• Conservation efforts include securing habitats, regulating traffic on highways, and identifying threats.</li><li>• A captive-breeding facility has been set up to further protect the species.</li></ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <p>Hangul, a subspecies of the Central Asian red deer, is primarily found in the dense riverine forests of the Valley and mountains of Jammu and Kashmir as well as northern Himachal Pradesh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Habitat:</b> Dense riverine forests of the Valley and mountains of <b>Jammu and Kashmir and northern Himachal Pradesh</b>.</li><li>• <b>Threats:</b> Rising pollution, poaching, habitat fragmentation due to land use, and climate change.</li><li>• <b>Impact of Human Activities:</b> Studies indicate that human activities are major factors contributing to the decline in the Hangul population.</li><li>• <b>Conservation Status:</b> The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has classified the Hangul as <b>Critically Endangered in the Red Data Book</b>.</li><li>• <b>Legal Protection:</b> The animal is listed under <b>Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972</b>.</li></ul>



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**Cabinet Approval for Semiconductor Plants**

for

**Context:**

The Union Cabinet approved three semiconductor plant proposals to strengthen India's semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem.

**Semiconductor Fab with 50,000 wfsm Capacity:**

- **Location:** Dholera, Gujarat
- **Investment:** Rs. 91,000 crore
- **Partnership:** Tata Electronics Private Limited ("TEPL") and Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp (PSMC), Taiwan
- **Technology Partner:** PSMC, known for expertise in logic and memory foundry segments
- **Capacity:** 50,000 wafer starts per month (WSPM)

**Segments:**

- High performance compute chips with 28 nm technology
- Power management chips for EVs, telecom, defense, automotive, consumer electronics, display, power electronics, etc.

**Semiconductor ATMP Unit in Assam:**

- **Location:** Morigaon, Assam
- **Investment:** Rs. 27,000 crore
- **Company:** Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test Pvt Ltd ("TSAT")
- **Technology:** Developing indigenous advanced semiconductor packaging technologies including flip chip and ISIP
- **Capacity:** 48 million per day
- **Segments:** Automotive, EVs, consumer electronics, telecom, mobile phones, etc.

**Semiconductor ATMP Unit for Specialized Chips:**

- **Location:** Sanand, Gujarat
- **Investment:** Rs. 7,600 crore
- **Partnership:** CG Power, Renesas Electronics Corporation (Japan), and Stars Microelectronics (Thailand)
- **Technology Partner:** Renesas, a leading semiconductor company in specialized chips
- **Capacity:** 15 million per day
- **Segments:** Consumer, industrial, automotive, and power applications.

**Potential in India:**

- In 2019, India's semiconductor consumption hit US\$21 billion, showing a growth rate of 15.1%.
- The country is expected to surpass USD 80 billion in semiconductor consumption by 2026 and USD 110 billion by 2030.
- Leading semiconductor manufacturing nations are the USA, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, the Netherlands, and emerging producers like Germany.



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### ADITI scheme



#### Context:

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh unveiled the ADITI scheme at DefConnect 2024 to boost innovations in critical and strategic defence technologies.

#### Key points:

- **Scheme Name:** Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI)
- **Purpose:** Develop critical and strategic defence technologies.
- **Falls under:** **iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) framework.**
- **Period:** 2023-24 to 2025-26
- **Focus:** Innovations in critical and strategic defence technologies from startups
- **Grant Amount:** Up to **Rs 25 crore** for research, development, and innovation in defence technology
- **Benefits:** Nurtures youth innovation and advances country's technology sector
- **Technology Watch Tool:** To bridge gap between modern Armed Forces' needs and defence innovation ecosystem
- **Challenges:** 17 challenges launched in the first edition for Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force, and Defence Space Agency to develop latest technologies
- **R&D Importance:** Need for self-reliance in technology development due to limitations of technology acquisition through offset and FDI
- **Government's Support:** Reserved 75% of defence capital acquisition budget for purchases from local companies including MSMEs.

### Shehbaz Sharif Becomes Pakistan's Prime Minister for the Second Time

#### Context:

- Shehbaz Sharif, a leader of the Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N), has been elected as Pakistan's Prime Minister for the second time.

#### Key points:

- He secured 201 votes in the election held at the National Assembly, while his opponent **Omar Ayub Khan of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) received only 92 votes.**
- In his victory speech, Shehbaz Sharif emphasized his commitment to **revive Pakistan's economy and eradicate terrorism.**
- Shehbaz Sharif vowed to maintain **cordial relations with neighboring countries based on principles of equality and not to involve Pakistan in any geopolitical "great game."**
- While emphasizing the importance of improving ties with all nations, he also raised the Kashmir issue, urging for solidarity with the Kashmiri and Palestinian causes.



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### India's 1st Green Hydrogen Plant in Stainless steel sector

- **Union Minister for Steel and Civil Aviation, Sh. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, inaugurated India's 1st Green Hydrogen Plant in Stainless Steel Sector virtually.
- The plant, located at **Jindal Stainless Limited, Hisar, Haryana** is a global milestone, being the **world's first off-grid Green Hydrogen plant for the stainless steel industry**.
- It is also the **world's first Green Hydrogen plant with rooftop & floating solar**.
- The project targets a significant **reduction in carbon emissions**, contributing to a sustainable future.
- This project is also a **state-of-the-art green hydrogen facility** with a target to reduce carbon emissions considerably by around 2,700 Metric Tonnes per annum and 54,000 tons of CO2 emissions over next two decades.
- The government encourages **"green growth" and "green jobs" to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2070**.

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