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29 April 2024

### National and International News

#### National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)



#### National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

#### Why in news?

- The **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** of India is preparing to defend the government's human rights processes at a meeting in **Geneva**.
- The meeting is crucial as a decision on whether the NHRC will retain its "A status" is expected to be made.

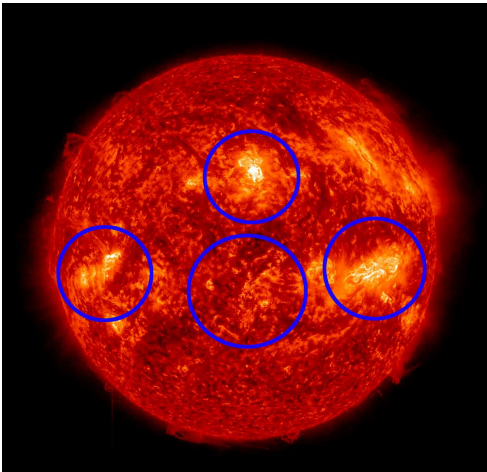
#### Key points:

- The decision on the NHRC's rating would affect its ability to vote at the UN Human Rights Council and some UNGA bodies.
- The meeting of the **Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA)** of the UN-recognised **Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)** will be held on May 1.
- According to a **six-point submission by the SCA** in March 2023, the NHRC has failed to create conditions required to be "able to operate independent of government interference".

#### Think:

- Know about NHRC.
- Know about Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI).

#### Sympathetic Solar Flares



#### Why in news?

- Astronomers recently observed a rare event, a "**super-sympathetic**" solar flare.
- This event featured **four simultaneous eruptions**.

#### About Solar flares:

- **Solar flares** are intense bursts of radiation that come from the **release of magnetic energy associated with sunspots**.
- The increased solar radiation from a solar flare can lead to **geomagnetic storms**, which may **impact power grids and cause auroras** (northern and southern lights) at lower latitudes.

#### About Sympathetic Solar Flare:

- Sympathetic solar flares **occur when sunspots or filaments are invisibly linked by massive magnetic field loops** that arch above the **solar surface**.



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Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)



UN Climate Technology Centre & Network  
UNFCCC Technology Mechanism

Why in news?

- The Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) is celebrating its 10th anniversary.

Key points:

- The CTCN is the implementation arm of the UNFCCC's **Climate Change Technology Mechanism**, which is mandated under the **Paris Agreement**.
- It is hosted by the **UN Environment Programme (UNEP)**.
- The CTCN was established to **speed up the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies for low carbon and climate resilient development**, as requested by developing countries.

Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)

Why in news?

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** released a **master direction for Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)**, effective from April 24, 2024.

About Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs):

- Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) are **specialized financial institutions that buy bad debts from banks and try to recover them**.
- ARCs are **registered under the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** and **regulated under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Securities Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act, 2002)**.
- **ARCs perform various functions such as**
  - Acquiring financial assets,
  - Changing or taking over management,
  - Selling or leasing the business of the borrower, rescheduling debts,
  - Enforcing security interest, and
  - Settling dues payable by the borrower.



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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### Biohacking

#### Why in news?

- **Biohacking is gaining popularity in India.**
- It is especially picking up in metro cities like **Delhi** and **Mumbai**.
- The trend is also **gradually spreading to Tier II and III cities in the country.**

#### About Biohacking:

- Biohacking is a term used to describe various methods **aimed at enhancing the body's ability to function at peak performance and potentially extend lifespan.**
- It involves using techniques from fields such as **biology, genetics, neuroscience, and nutrition.**
- The goal of biohacking is to **enhance physical or mental performance, improve overall health and well-being, or achieve a specific health outcome.**

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