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06 June 2024

Maharashtra State Specific News

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| <p>Sant Tukaram</p> | <p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">For the 339th Palkhi ceremony of Jagadguru Shri Santshreshtha Tukaram, pairs of bulls have been selected to carry the Palkhi chariot during the Sant Tukaram Palkhi Sohala 2024. <p>About Sant Tukaram:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full Name: Tukaram Bolhoba AmbileBirth: 1608 CE in Dehu, a village near Pune, MaharashtraDeath: 1649 CEBhakti Movement: Sant Tukaram was a prominent figure in the Bhakti movement, a devotional trend that emerged in medieval Hinduism.Influence of Vitthala: His devotion was primarily towards Lord Vitthala (a form of Krishna) of Pandharpur.Teachings: Emphasized the importance of a personal god and the expression of love and devotion to God through bhajans and kirtans (devotional songs).Abhanga: Known for his Abhangas (devotional poetry)Gatha: His collected works are known as Tukaram Gatha, which is revered in Marathi literature.Equality and Social Justice: Advocated for equality and criticized the caste system and ritualistic practices.Humanism: Preached compassion, humility, and the welfare of all beings.Festivals: His life and works are celebrated in festivals such as Tukaram Beej and Ashadhi Ekadashi. |
| <p>Allocation of Symbols to Political Parties by the Election Commission of India</p> | <p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">In recent General elections, independent candidates who ran on the 'Trumpet' symbol in Maharashtra, similar to Pawar's 'Trumpeter' symbol, collectively received 432,211 votes across these constituencies.The Election Commission labeled the symbol given to many independents as 'Trumpet' on the ballot papers, leading to significant voter confusion about which 'Trumpet' symbol to select. |



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| | <p>About Allocation of Symbols:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Authority and Guidelines: The Election Commission of India (ECI) is responsible for the allocation of symbols to political parties as per the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968.● Categories of Symbols:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Reserved Symbols: Assigned to recognized national and state parties.○ Free Symbols: Available for candidates of registered but unrecognized parties and independent candidates.● Symbol Allocation Process:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ National and State Parties: Automatically allocated their reserved symbols.○ Registered but Unrecognized Parties: Must choose from the list of free symbols.○ Independent Candidates: Also choose from the list of free symbols.● Symbol Reservation Criteria:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A political party must fulfill specific criteria related to the percentage of votes polled or the number of seats won in previous elections to retain its symbol. |
| <p>Southwest monsoon</p> | <p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The southwest monsoon is expected to arrive in Maharashtra within the next three days, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). <p>About Southwest monsoon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Seasonal Timing: The Southwest Monsoon typically begins in early June and lasts until the end of September.● Geographical Coverage: It affects the Indian subcontinent, including India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and parts of Pakistan.● Monsoon Winds: These winds originate from the southern hemisphere and move northwards towards the Indian subcontinent.● Two Branches: The monsoon has two branches –<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Arabian Sea Branch: Hits the western coast of India, including Kerala, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.○ Bay of Bengal Branch: Travels through the Bay of Bengal and affects the northeastern states and eastern India. |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monsoon Trough: A low-pressure area that extends from the northwest to the Bay of Bengal, influencing the intensity and distribution of rainfall. ● Withdrawal: Starts from northwest India around the beginning of September and recedes completely from the country by mid-October. |
| <p>Namami Goda project</p> | <p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Namami Goda project to be presented next week. ● The Namami Goda project aims to make the Godavari river pollution-free. <p>About Namami Goda project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective: To rejuvenate and clean the Godavari River, addressing pollution and conserving water resources. ● Initiation: Launched as part of the larger "Namami Gange" initiative which focuses on cleaning major rivers in India. ● Geographical Scope: Primarily targets the stretches of the Godavari River in the state of Maharashtra. ● Key Components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pollution Abatement ○ Afforestation ○ Riverfront Development ○ Water Quality Monitoring |
| <p>IIT-Bombay among top 150 universities in QS world university rankings</p> | <p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In the latest QS World University Rankings, 61% of Indian universities have shown significant improvement. ● The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) is now the top-ranked institution in India, climbing from 149th to 118th globally. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) retained its position as the best institute in the world for the 13th consecutive year. ● IIT-Delhi also saw a significant rise, improving by 47 ranks to 150th globally. ● This is the first time in 13 years that IIT-B has been ranked within the top 150. |



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