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7 December 2023

International & National News

Armed Forces Flag Day



- Armed Forces Flag Day on **December 7** honors soldiers, sailors, and airmen for safeguarding borders and ensuring peace at the cost of their lives.
- Armed Forces Flag Day, established on **August 28, 1949**, serves as a remembrance and fundraising initiative by the **Ministry of Defence**.
- Citizens contribute by purchasing badges and stickers on this day, with funds aimed at improving armed forces personnel's lives.
- Funds raised are crucial for providing better facilities and resources to selfless soldiers, sailors, and airmen.

India backs UN resolution against Israel for not leaving Syrian Golan

Context

- India has voted in favour of a draft resolution in the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** that expressed deep concern over Israel not withdrawing from the **Syrian Golan**.
- The Syrian Golan is a region in **southwest Syria** that was occupied by Israeli forces on June 5, 1967.
- The resolution also stressed the **illegality of the Israeli settlement** construction in the Golan.

Muslim student strength in higher education fell by 1.79 lakh in 2020-21

Context

Report based on analysis of UDISE+ and AISHE data shows:

- Muslim student enrolment in higher education (18-23 age group) **dropped over 8.5% in 2020-21**.
- This Reflects a significant decline in educational participation among Muslim youth.

Key points

- While 21 lakh Muslim students enrolled for higher education in 2019-20, the **number fell to 19.21 lakh in 2020-21**.
- The enrolment percentage of Muslim students in Classes 11 and 12 is lower than that in the previous classes.
- The States such as **Bihar and Madhya Pradesh** have relatively low Gross Enrolment Ratio for Muslim students
- **Assam (29.52%) and West Bengal (23.22%)** recorded high dropout rates among Muslim students, while **Jammu and Kashmir** recorded 5.1% and **Kerala** 11.91%.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

Major oil and gas firms pledge to go carbon neutral by 2050

Context

- Several oil and gas companies have committed to become net zero — or carbon neutral — by 2050, according to the 28th Conference of Parties (COP-28) president-designate **Sultan Al Jaber**
- The **International Energy Agency (IEA)** estimates that oil and gas operations account for **around 15% of total energy-related emissions globally**, or about 5.1 billion tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

Five Indian weightlifters to take part in IWF Grand Prix II

Context

- Five Indian weightlifters will be representing the country at the **International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) Grand Prix II Weightlifting** competition starting in Doha.
- The event is a **qualifier for the 2024 Paris Olympics**

Key points

- India will be sending a total of five lifters, including two women.
- **Ajith Narayan and Achinta Sheuli** will be in the men's 73 kg.
- **Mirabai Chanu** will be attending the event for a weigh-in.
- **Bindyarani Devi** will figure in the non-Olympic women's 55kg weight division while **Gurdeep Singh** will be in action in the +109kg, another non-Olympic weight division.

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