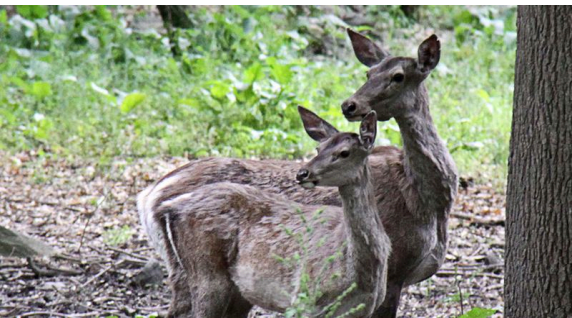




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Hindu_CA_04 Mar2024

<p>Seizure of CNC Machines Bound for Pakistan at Nhava Sheva Port</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Customs authorities at Nhava Sheva port recently intercepted a dual-use shipment on a vessel destined for Karachi, expressing suspicions regarding its potential utilization in Pakistan's nuclear initiatives. <p>About Nhava Sheva Port:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jawaharlal Nehru Port, also known as JNPT and Nhava Sheva Port, is the second largest container port in India after Mundra Port.• 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.
<p>Hanguls on the Path to Recovery</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The endangered hangul, a shy deer species native to Kashmir, is showing signs of recovery with a healthy mating season indicating a potential increase in numbers.• The official figure suggested there are 19.2 males per 100 females “which is much lower than the ideal ratio of 40-50 males per 100 females”. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hangul population declined sharply since 1947 but showed a steady increase from 183 in 2015 to 261 in 2021.• Conservation efforts include securing habitats, regulating traffic on highways, and identifying threats.• A captive-breeding facility has been set up to further protect the species. <p>About: 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">• Habitat: Dense riverine forests of the Valley and mountains of Jammu and Kashmir and northern Himachal Pradesh.• Threats: Rising pollution, poaching, habitat



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	<p>fragmentation due to land use, and climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Impact of Human Activities: Studies indicate that human activities are major factors contributing to the decline in the Hangul population. ● Conservation Status: The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has classified the Hangul as Critically Endangered in the Red Data Book. ● Legal Protection: The animal is listed under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
<p>Cabinet Approval for Semiconductor Plants</p> <p>Potential in India:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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. 	<p>Context: The Union Cabinet approved three semiconductor plant proposals to strengthen India's semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem.</p> <p>Semiconductor Fab with 50,000 wfsm Capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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) <p>Segments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● High performance compute chips with 28 nm technology ● Power management chips for EVs, telecom, defense, automotive, consumer electronics, display, power electronics, etc. <p>Semiconductor ATMP Unit in Assam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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.



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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.

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

Context:



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Prime Minister for the Second Time

- 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.

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.**