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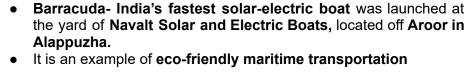
Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

15 December 2023

National and International News

India's fastest solar-electric boat launched

Context



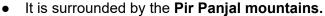


Key points

- It is named after the swift, long fish, Barracuda
- It was designed by Navalt and can be deployed even in the rough seas as a workboat to ferry up to 12 passengers and cargo.
- The 14-metre-long, 4.4-metre-wide vessel can attain a top speed of 12.5 knots (23 kmph) and has a range of seven hours on a single charge.
- It has twin 50 kW electric motors, a marine-grade LFP battery, and 6 kW solar power.

Dal Lake

• It is a lake in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.



- It is integral to tourism and recreation in Kashmir and is named the "Jewel in the crown of Kashmir" or "Srinagar's Jewel".
- Spread across an area of around 26 square kilometers, it is the second-largest lake in Jammu & Kashmir.
- The wetland is divided by causeways into four basins; Gagribal, Lokut Dal, Bod Dal and Nagin.
- Dal Lake is also popular for the **floating market (known as Raad)** where vendors have their own **Shikaras** and approach tourists.



Iran set to remove visa requirement for Indians

Context

- Iran is expected to remove visa requirement for Indian travellers.
- This is aimed at boosting the flow of tourists into Iran.
- This is the **first time** that Tehran has included ordinary Indian passport holders on the list.
- India has recently been placed on similar visa-exemption lists of countries such as Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

Aerodrome licence for Ayodhya Airport

Context

- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has granted aerodrome licence for the Ayodhya Airport
- The Airports Authority of India has developed the airport at a **cost** of ₹350 crore.
- The DGCA permit comes ahead of the Ram Mandir inauguration.





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WHO on use of e-cigarettes



Context

- According to the World Health Organization, E-cigarettes as consumer products are not shown to be effective for quitting tobacco use at the population level.
- There is an alarming evidence on its adverse population health effects

Key points

- Children in the age group of 13-15 years are using e-cigarettes at rates higher than that among adults in all WHO regions
- E-cigarettes with nicotine are highly addictive and are harmful to health.
- They generate toxic substances, some of which are known to cause cancer and some that increase the risk of heart and lung disorders.
- It can also affect brain development and lead to learning disorders for young people.
- Foetal exposure to e-cigarettes can adversely affect the development of the foetus in pregnant women.
- Exposure to emissions from e-cigarettes also **poses risks to** bystanders.

Did you know?

- In India, the possession of e-cigarettes and similar devices is a violation of the **Prohibition of Electronic Cigarette Act**, **2019**.
- Studies consistently show that young people who use e-cigarettes are almost three times more likely to use cigarettes later in life

India and U.S. combat financial crimes

Context

• India and the U.S had a bilateral dialogue on anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism.

Key points

- The countries agreed about the pressing need to accelerate global implementation of standards for virtual assets like crypto currencies.
- The countries also discussed steps to enhance transparency in beneficial ownership.

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