





11 January 2024

National and International News

<p>National Human Trafficking Awareness Day</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed annually on January 11th • In 2007, National Human Trafficking Awareness Day was declared by the United States Senate to be celebrated on January 11 • It aims to raise awareness about the horrific crime of human trafficking and the millions of people impacted by it worldwide. • This day serves as a crucial reminder to stay vigilant, educate ourselves, and take action to combat this modern-day slavery. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human trafficking is the illegal trade of people for various purposes, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, organ harvesting, and domestic servitude. <p>Did you Know?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue is internationally recognized as the universal color for human trafficking prevention
<p>Rapid decline in India-Maldives ties</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ties between India and the Maldives have witnessed a worrying downward spiral in recent months. • This sudden shift, marked by diplomatic tensions and public animosity, raises concerns about the future of regional stability and cooperation. <p>Triggering factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anti-India remarks by Maldivian officials 2. Change in Maldivian government.



<p>Black fluid blankets Manipur rivulet, alert sounded</p>	<p>3. Geopolitical influences</p> <p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Manipur Government on January 11 sounded an alert after a goeey black fluid blanketed a rivulet on Jan 10 night. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A thick, viscous black fluid has mysteriously covered a rivulet in Manipur, raising concerns about environmental contamination and potential health risks. The incident occurred near the Loktak Lake which is a Ramsar wetland of international importance.
<p>Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per Central Government's annual cleanliness survey, Indore and Surat were adjudged the 'cleanest cities' in the country Navi Mumbai retained the third position i. In the category of 'best performing States' in 'Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023', Maharashtra bagged the top rank, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
<p>Direct tax collections cross 80% of 2023-24 target</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> India's net direct tax collections have touched ₹14.7 lakh crore, meeting over four-fifths of this year's target and reflecting a growth of 19.4% over the same period of 2022-23. The provisional direct tax collections continue to register 'steady growth' with gross collections rising 16.77% to ₹17.18 lakh crore, led by a 26.11% rise in Personal Income Tax (PIT) inflows. Corporate Income Tax or CIT collections grew at a relatively muted pace of 8.32%.



EU's carbon border tax



Context:

- The EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), also known as the carbon border tax, is a policy that aims to level the playing field for European industries facing stricter carbon emission regulations compared to their non-EU counterparts.
- It essentially puts a price on the carbon emissions embedded in certain imported goods, such as cement, steel, aluminum, fertilizers, electricity, and hydrogen.
- The EU's ambitious goal is to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 requires significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.



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