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National and International News

<p>First Pey Jal Survekshan Awards</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The inaugural Pey Jal Survekshan Awards, to be presented by the President on March 5th, will commend cities and states for their outstanding achievements in the water sector. The ceremony, hosted at Vigyan Bhawan, will honor a diverse array of 130 awards, recognizing exemplary performance in various categories. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards comprise of Prestigious Pey Jal Gold, Silver, and Bronze City Awards, where Gold signifies top performers (1st) in their respective population categories (1 to 10 Lakh, 10 to 40 Lakh, and More than 40 Lakh), Silver denotes the 2nd position, and Bronze the 3rd. Additionally, commendations will be awarded for Best Water Body, Sustainability Champion, Reuse Champion, Water Quality, City Saturation, and the coveted AMRUT 2.0 Rotating Trophy of the Year. The meticulous evaluation process, conducted under AMRUT 2.0 in 485 cities, considered a wide range of parameters, including access, coverage, water quality, and sustainability. Cities will be graded on a star rating scale, reflecting their performance across critical criteria. <p>AMRUT Mitra Initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This initiative aims to actively involve women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the urban water sector, empowering them to contribute significantly to household water management and infrastructure maintenance.
<p>Modi to inaugurate three ISRO facilities</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre in Thiruvananthapuram to review the progress of the Gaganyaan human spaceflight programme and dedicate three new facilities of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to the nation. The Gaganyaan mission, scheduled for 2025,



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	<p>aims to demonstrate India's capability in human spaceflight by sending astronauts into orbit and safely returning them to Earth.</p> <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The facilities to be inaugurated are the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trisonic Wind Tunnel at VSSC, ○ Integration facilities for the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, and the ○ Semi-cryogenic Integrated Engine and Stage Test Facility (SIET) at the ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu. • These facilities, developed at a cost of ₹1,800 crore, mark significant advancements in India's space capabilities.
<p>Garbhini-GA2</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researchers from BRIC-THSTI(Translational Health Science and Technology Institute) Faridabad and IIT Madras have developed an India-specific model, Garbhini-GA2, to precisely determine the age of a foetus in pregnant women during the second and third trimesters. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is part of an interdisciplinary group for advanced research on birth outcomes – the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) India initiative (GARBH-Ini) programme. • The model's accuracy is crucial for pregnant women's care and determining delivery dates accurately. <p>Gestation period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gestation refers to the duration between conception and birth, during which the baby develops inside the mother's womb. • Gestational age, a common term in pregnancy, indicates how far along the pregnancy has progressed, typically measured in weeks from the first day of the woman's last menstrual cycle. • A normal pregnancy usually lasts between 38 to 42 weeks.
<p>Sudarshan Setu</p>	<p>Context:</p>



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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Sudarshan Setu, India's longest cable-stayed bridge**, linking mainland Gujarat with Bet Dwarka island off the Okha coast in Devbhumi Dwarka.
- Also known as **Signature Bridge**, it is **Gujarat's first sea link**.
- **Total length:** 4,772m, including a 900-m-long cable-stayed section.
- **Cost:** Rs 978 crore, funded by the Union government.

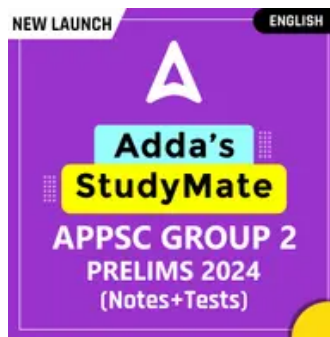
Maryam Nawaz sworn in as Chief Minister

Context:

- Maryam Nawaz has been sworn in as the Chief Minister of Punjab.
- This makes her the **first woman to hold this position in Pakistan's eastern Punjab province**.
- She won after receiving 220 votes in the 371-member Punjab Assembly.

About:

- Maryam Nawaz, the **daughter of former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif**, has become the fourth member of her family to hold the position of Punjab Chief Minister.
- Previously, this role was held by her father, his brother Shehbaz, and Shehbaz's son Hamza.
- Maryam became more involved in politics and assumed a significant role in the party after **Nawaz Sharif was disqualified from the prime minister's post in 2017**.



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