



22 April 2024

National and International News

World Earth Day 2024



Why in the news?

- Earth day is dedicated to **demonstrating support for environmental protection.**

About World Earth Day 2024:

- **Date:** Earth Day will be observed on **April 22, 2024.**
- **Theme:** The theme for 2024 is "**Planet vs. Plastics**", focusing on **reducing plastic pollution and its impact on human and environmental health.**
- **Goals:** The aims include a **60% reduction in plastic production by 2040, phasing out single-use plastics by 2030, and promoting innovative technologies for a plastic-free future.**
- **Negotiations:** Concurrent with Earth Day, the fourth round of negotiations for the **United Nations Global Plastic Treaty** will take place, aiming for stringent commitments against plastic pollution.

Think:

- Know about the **Global Plastic Treaty.**

Global Financial Stability Report 2024

Why in news?

- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** released the latest **global financial stability report.**
- The report warns about **risks to the global financial system from several factors:**
  - Persistent high inflation
  - Rising lending in the unregulated credit market
  - Increasing cyber-attacks on financial institutions.

Key points of report:

- **Geopolitical risks**, such as the **ongoing war in West Asia and Ukraine**, could **affect aggregate supply** and **lead to higher prices.** This might **prevent central banks from lowering rates** in the near future.
- In 2023, **India was the second-largest recipient of foreign capital after the U.S.** However, this could change quickly if western central banks indicate that they could maintain high interest rates for a prolonged period.



## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- The report also highlights concerns about the growing unregulated private credit market, where non-bank financial institutions lend to corporate borrowers.

### Did you know:

- IMF also publishes **World Economic Outlook (WEO)** twice a year, typically in **April** and **October**.
- It Provides **detailed analysis of global economic performance and projections**.

### Places in news: Rafah crossing

### Why in news?

- **Israeli strikes** occurred overnight in the **southern Gaza city of Rafah**.
- The strikes resulted in the death of 22 people.

### About Rafah crossing:

- **Location and Function:** Rafah Crossing is the **only border crossing between Egypt and the Gaza Strip**. It serves as the **primary passage for Gazans to access the outside world** and for the delivery of humanitarian aid.
- **Control:** The crossing is controlled by **Egypt**, following an **agreement with Israel made in 2007**.





## Longevity India Initiative

## Why in news?

- The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** has announced the launch of a project called the **Longevity India Initiative**.

## About Longevity India Initiative:

- The initiative is aimed at **extending the human health span**, the period during which a person remains healthy, and **tackling ageing-related challenges**.
- It is a **Multidisciplinary Collaboration**.
- It seeks to **develop interventions** that can **effectively manage age-related diseases** and promote healthy ageing across India.
- **Research areas include**
  - Identifying biomarkers of ageing,
  - Early disease indicators, and
  - Developing new therapeutics and technologies.

## Mpox or Monkeypox

## Why in news?

- A study published on April 18 by **Nature Communications** extensively **sequenced the genome of the mpox virus** implicated in the **2022 outbreak** using **advanced genome sequencing technologies**.

## About Mpox:

- It is a **DNA virus**.
- **Cause:** Mpox is caused by the **monkeypox virus**, which is a **member of the Orthopoxvirus genus** in the family **Poxviridae**.
- **Transmission:** The **virus can spread from person to person** through **close contact with respiratory secretions, skin lesions of an infected person, or recently contaminated objects**. Transmission can also occur via droplets during prolonged face-to-face contact.
- **Vaccination:** Vaccines used for smallpox such as the **JYNNEOS** (also known as Imvamune or Imvanex) vaccine are effective against Mpox.

## Think:

- Know about **genome sequencing technologies**.

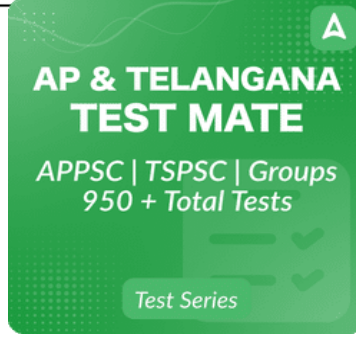


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