



24/03/24 - 30/03/24



C.A. SHORTS

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WORLD TB DAY

World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is an annual observance celebrated on March 24 to raise awareness around the disease, increase efforts to eradicate the disease, and mobilise support for those affected by TB.

Theme

- **World Tuberculosis (TB) Day, 24 March 2024, continues with the theme “Yes! We can end TB”. With continued efforts and awareness campaigns, the aim is to eradicate the world's deadliest disease.**

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What is TB?

- **Tuberculosis, an infectious disease that mainly affects lungs, is one of the leading killer diseases that led to 1.3 million deaths in 2022.**

- **Caused by a type of bacteria called *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the disease spreads through the air when infected people cough, sneeze or spit.**
- **Tuberculosis is preventable and can be treated with a combination of antibacterial medications for a period of 6 to 12 months.**

History

- **March 24, 1882 is considered a significant date in the battle against tuberculosis as it is on this day that Dr Robert Koch discovered the bacteria that causes TB.**
- **This groundbreaking announcement led to better understanding, diagnosis, and eventual treatment of the disease.**
- **It was not before the year 1982, on the centenary of Dr. Koch's discovery that the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) proposed observing March 24 as World TB Day to raise awareness about TB and its global impact.**
- **The first World TB Day was officially observed in 1983, and since then, it has become an annual event.**

Significance

- The day is an annual reminder to continue with the research and investment on treatment strategies, prevention methods and awareness around tuberculosis.
- As per WHO (World Health Organisation), about a quarter of the global population is estimated to have been infected with TB bacteria.
- About 5–10% of people infected with TB will eventually get symptoms and develop TB disease.
- TB disease is usually treated with antibiotics and can be fatal without treatment.
- It's important to practice good hygiene when coughing, avoiding contact with other people and wearing a mask, covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.





CLINICAL TRIALS OF SPANISH TB VACCINE IN INDIA

- Clinical trials of the Spanish tuberculosis (TB) vaccine MTBVAC have begun in India.
- Vaccine maker Bharat Biotech is conducting the trials in partnership with Spanish biopharmaceutical company Biofabri which is responsible for clinical and industrial development of the vaccine.
- MTBVAC is the only vaccine against tuberculosis undergoing clinical trials based on a genetically modified form of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the pathogen that causes the disease.

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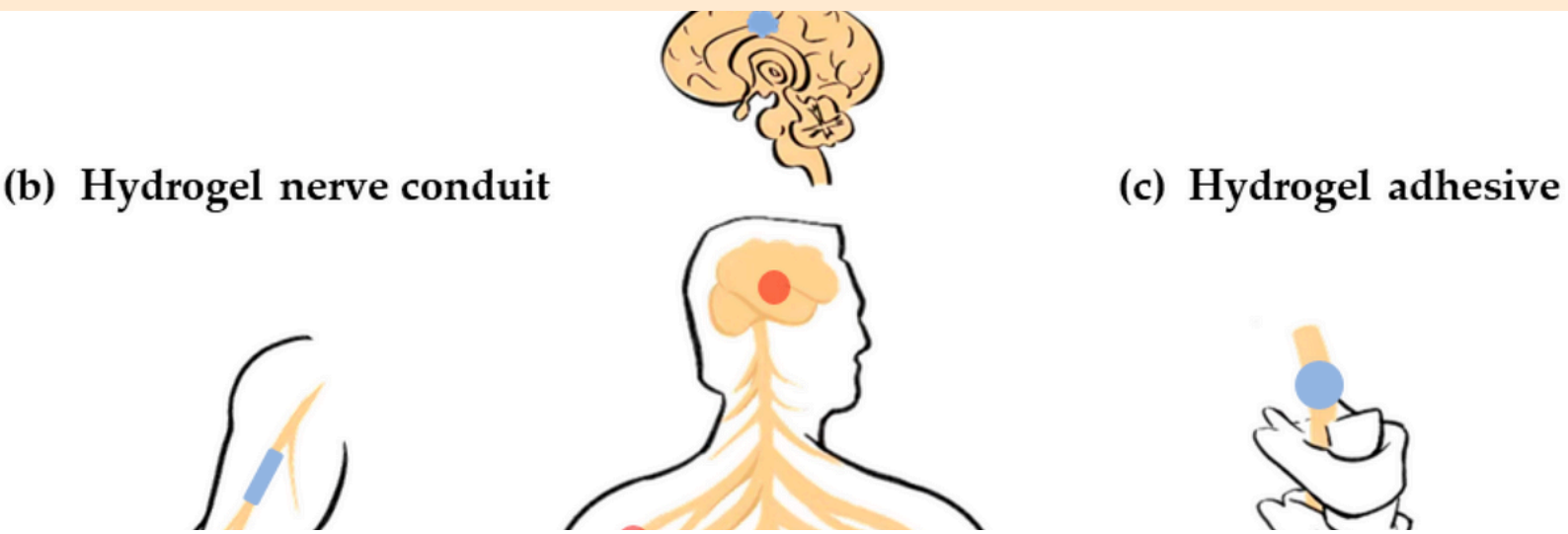
UTTARAKHAND TO TRANSLOCATE FOUR TIGERS TO RAJASTHAN

- The Uttarakhand government has agreed to translocate four tigers to Rajasthan following a request from the western State.
- The process of selecting the tigers has already begun.
- The tigers will not be captured from protected forest area but from the buffer zone, according to guidelines of National Tiger Conservation Authority.
- Protection Status of Tigers:
 - Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I
 - International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List: Endangered.
 - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES): Appendix I.



PAKISTAN TO MULL REVIVAL OF TRADE TIES WITH INDIA

- Pakistan's newly appointed foreign minister has said that Pakistan will “seriously examine” whether to restart trade with India.
- In 2019, both India and Pakistan had taken trade measures against each other — after the Pulwama bombing in February, India had withdrawn the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan and raised tariffs on all trade multi-fold; after India’s Article 370 moves in Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019, Pakistan had suspended direct trade ties with India amidst a number of other diplomatic measures.
- The closure of trade had mostly affected businessmen and transporters engaged at the Attari-Wagah land border.



GEL FOR RESEALING THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AFTER NEUROSURGERY

- Scientists have engineered a tough, sticky biomaterial that can reseal areas of the nervous system opened during surgery involving the brain and spinal cord, minimising the risk of a dangerous surgical complication.
- Their material avoids the need for standard sutures used in the operating room and displayed promising performance during tests involving rodents, pigs, and human nervous system tissue.
- Current approaches reseal the membrane with sutures.



ROBUSTA COFFEE

- Robusta coffee farmers in South India are jubilant post-harvest with their produce fetching an all-time high price.
- Though the harvest is almost complete, there has been a huge shortfall in the supply of coffee to the market this year, thereby contributing to the increase in coffee prices, said Salu George, a coffee trader in Wayanad.
- There are five varieties of coffee including:
 - Coorg Arabica coffee
 - Wayanad Robusta coffee
 - Chikmagalur Arabica coffee
 - Araku Valley Arabica coffee
 - Bababudangiris Arabica coffee



AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX

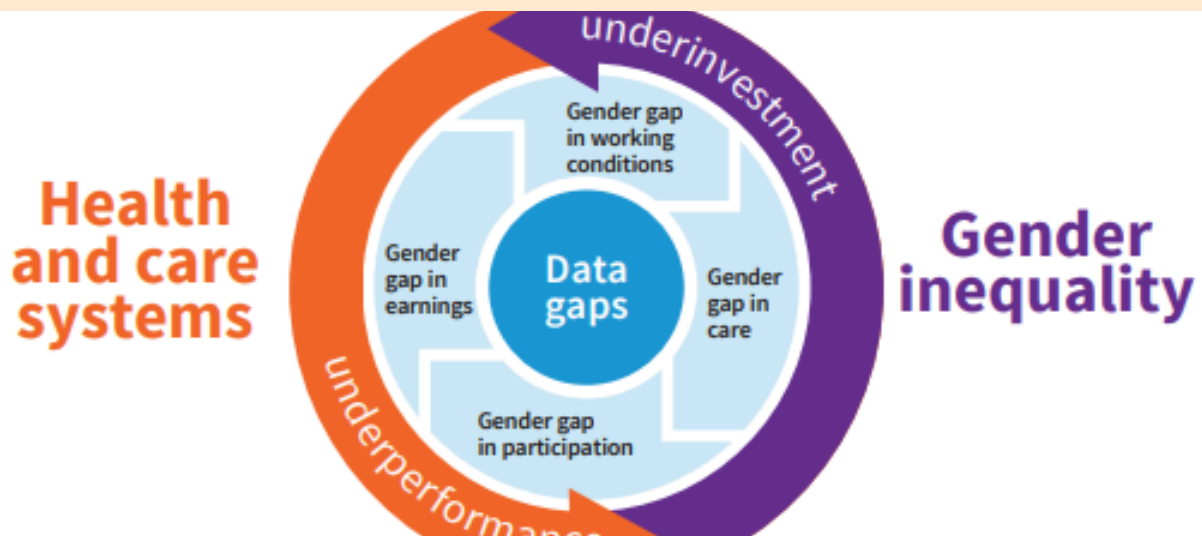
- Ferrari's Carlos Sainz clinched victory at the Australian Grand Prix.
- At The Australian Grand Prix, Carlos Sainz of Ferrari emerged victorious, marking a remarkable comeback just two weeks after surgery.
- Sainz who secured the only non-Red Bull victory last season.





INDIAN SCIENTIST PROF JAYANT MURTHY HONoured WITH ASTEROID NAME

- The International Astronomical Union has honoured an Indian scientist Prof Jayant Murthy by naming an asteroid after his name.
- Professor Jayant Murthy, an esteemed astrophysicist, has been recognized for his remarkable contributions to the field by having an asteroid named after him – (215884) Jayantmurthy.
- The asteroid, originally discovered in 2005 by MW Buie at the Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona, USA, and previously known as 2005.
- EX296, this asteroid orbits the Sun between Mars and Jupiter every 3.3 years.



FAIR SHARE FOR HEALTH AND CARE REPORT

- A new report by the World Health Organization addressed the gender gap in global healthcare, highlighting that while women comprise 67 per cent of the global health and social care workforce, they face an average pay gap of 24 per cent compared to men.
- Women in low- or middle-income countries could be \$9 trillion better off if their pay and access to paid work were equal to that of men, the Fair share for health and care report noted.

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MEDIA FACILITATION PORTAL FOR INFORMATION ON GENERAL ELECTION 2024

- Press Information Bureau has started a microsite <https://pib.gov.in/elect2024/index.aspx> having several features as one stop facilitation portal for mediapersons reporting for General Election 2024.

Key Features :

- Schedules for different phases of GE 2024 are provided as ready reckoner.
- A Digital Flip Book: This encompasses various interesting analytics and data rich features. The media persons can utilize this information for writing their articles.
- Updates about ECI notifications are uploaded on a real time basis.



'cVIGIL' APP

- Election Commission of India has launched the Mobile App “cVIGIL” to enable citizens to report on violation of election code of conduct.
- “cVIGIL” is a user-friendly and easy to operate application that empowers Citizens to report Model Code of Conduct Violations such as bribery, free gift, liquor distribution.

The cVIGIL app enabled voters

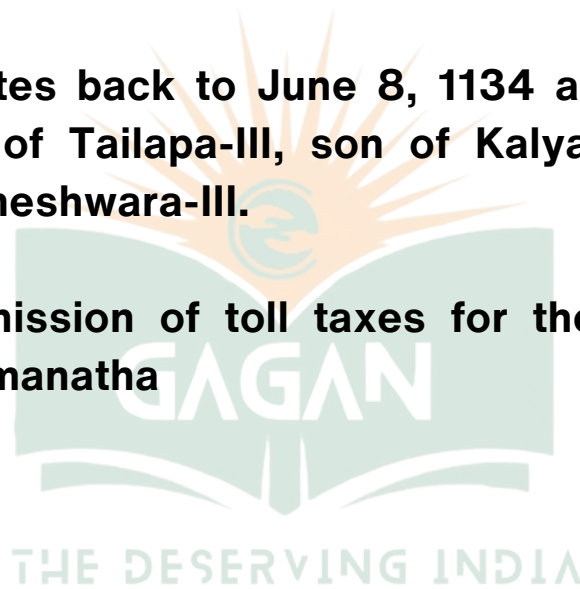
- Register Complaints
- Anonymous User
- Geotagging





900-YEAR-OLD CHALUKYA INSCRIPTION DISCOVERED

- A 900-year-old Kannada inscription from the Kalyani Chalukya dynasty has been discovered in a state of neglect at Gangapuram, a temple town in Jadcherla mandal, Mahabubnagar, Telangana.
- The inscription dates back to June 8, 1134 and was issued by the Customs Officers of Tailapa-III, son of Kalyani Chalukya Emperor 'Bhulokamalla' Someshwara-III.
- It records the remission of toll taxes for the perpetual lamp and incense of God Somanatha





KRISHI INTEGRATED COMMAND AND CONTROL CENTRE

- The Agriculture Minister has recently inaugurated the Krishi Integrated Command and Control Centre at Krishi Bhavan in New Delhi.

About Krishi integrated Command and Control Centre:

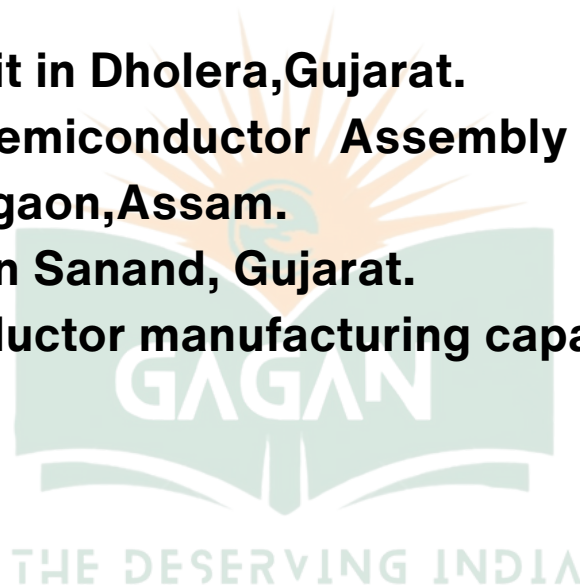
- The ICCC incorporates multiple IT applications and platforms to provide actionable insights and aid informed decision-making.
- The dashboard offers insights, alerts, and feedback on agriculture schemes, programs, projects, and initiatives, empowering stakeholders with comprehensive information.

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THE PM INAUGURATED 3 SEMICONDUCTOR PROJECTS.

- **The Indian Prime Minister inaugurated three semiconductor projects in Gujarat and Assam:**
 - 1. Fabrication unit in Dholera, Gujarat.**
 - 2. Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility in Morigaon, Assam.**
 - 3. OSAT facility in Sanand, Gujarat.**
- **Aim: semiconductor manufacturing capability.**





EXERCISE CUTLASS EXPRESS

- The Indian Navy recently took part in a major maritime exercise called Exercise Cutlass Express.
- It is an exercise conducted in East African coastal regions and the West Indian Ocean.

Exercise Cutlass Express is a multinational maritime exercise sponsored by the U.S. Africa Command and led by U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa.





ABEL PRIZE

- **The Abel Prize recognises pioneering scientific achievement in mathematics.**
- **The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters has awarded the 2024 Abel Prize to Michel Talagrand of the French National Center for Scientific Research, Paris, France.**
- **Michel Talagrand received the prestigious prize “for his groundbreaking contributions to probability theory and functional analysis, with outstanding applications in mathematical physics and statistics.”**



ALLAHABAD HIGH COURT STRIKES DOWN MADRASA EDUCATION ACT

- The Allahabad High Court has declared the UP Board of Madarsa Education Act of 2004 as unconstitutional.
- The court ruled that the act violated the principle of secularism, as well as several articles of the Constitution, including Articles 14, 21, and 21 as well as Section 22 of the University Grants Commission Act of 1956.
 - Article 14 : Equality before law.
 - Article 21 : Ensures the protection of life and personal liberty.
 - Article 21A : Guaranteeing the right to education.
 - Section 22 : Right to confer degrees.

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Fool Bahadur

Translated by Abhay K.

PHOOL BAHADUR - THE FIRST MAGAHI NOVEL IN ENGLISH

- Recently, J&K Lt. Governor launched an English translation of Magahi novel 'Fool Bahadur' in Patna.
- The translation was done by Abhay K, a renowned writer from Nalanda, Bihar, published by Penguin Random House India.
- Originally written by Jayanath Pati and published in 1928.
- Magahi is an Indo-Aryan language.
- Magahi is represented in Kaithi script, mainly spoken in districts of Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.



IIT-G TRANSFERS TECH FOR SWINE FEVER VAX

- **IIT Guwahati Develops India's 1st Recombinant Vaccine For Swine Fever.**
- **Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati successfully transferred a pioneering vaccine technology to BioMed Pvt. Ltd for commercial production.**
- **This vaccine marks the first recombinant virus -based solution for classical swine fever developed in India, offering a swift and cost - effective method for Pig vaccination.**
- **Although swine fever does not affect humans, it is a highly contagious disease among pigs.**



ILO-IHD REPORT

- India Employment Report 2024 released by the International Labour Organisation and the Institute of Human Development..
- India's youth account for almost 83% of the unemployed workforce.

International Labour Organization

- The ILO is a UN agency whose mandate is to advance social and economic justice through setting international labour standards.
- Founded in 1919 under the League of Nations (under Treaty of Versailles) it is the first and oldest specialised agency of the UN.
- India was one of the founding members of the ILO, joining the organisation in 1919.



DROP IN FDI INFLOWS MIRRORS GLOBAL TRENDS

- India's net Foreign Direct Investment inflows have dropped almost 31% to \$25.5 billion over the first ten months of 2023-24.

About Foreign direct investment

- Foreign direct investment is a category of cross-border investment in which an investor resident in one economy establishes a lasting interest in and a significant degree of influence over an enterprise resident in another economy.
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade: DPIIT formulates and implements policies to promote and regulate foreign investment in India across sectors.
- Reserve Bank of India: RBI manages the monetary aspects of foreign investments in India.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India: SEBI regulates FDI in the capital market.

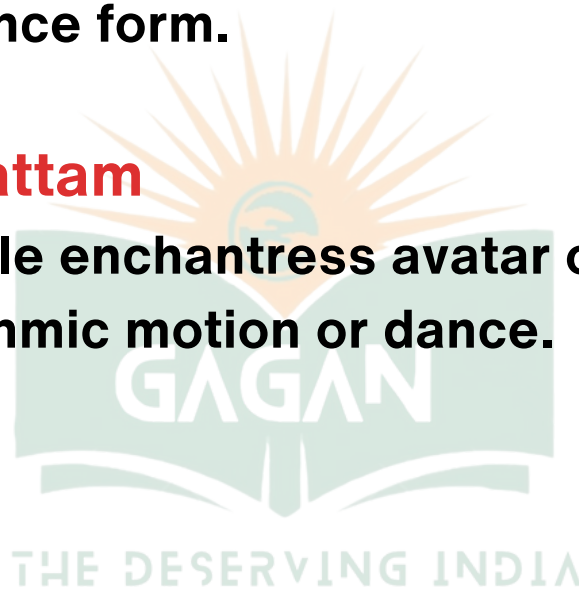


MOHINIYATTAM DANCE FORM

- The Kerala Kalamandalam, a deemed university for arts and culture, has unanimously lifted gender restrictions allowing boys for learning Mohiniyattam, a classical dance form.

About Mohiniyattam

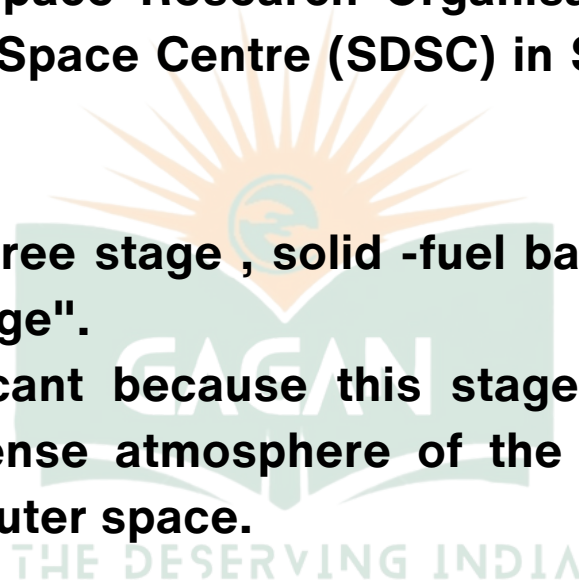
- Mohini – female enchantress avatar of Vishnu.
- Aattam – rhythmic motion or dance.





VIKRAM 1 SPACE LAUNCH VEHICLE

- Skyroot Aerospace, the leading space-tech company, has successfully test-fired the Stage-2 of Vikram-1 space launch vehicle, called Kalam-250, at the propulsion testbed of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), at its Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- Vikram 1 is a three stage , solid -fuel based rocket, testing the “second stage”.
 - It is significant because this stage propels satellites from the dense atmosphere of the earth to the deep vacuum of outer space.





LEGALIZING SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

- Thailand's lower house of Parliament has passed a groundbreaking bill to legalize same-sex marriage, marking a significant step towards equality in Southeast Asia.

Key Provisions of the Bill

- Same-sex partners aged 18 and above will be able to register their marriages, granting them rights to inheritance, tax benefits, and child adoption.
- The legislation changes the legal definition of marriage from "a man and a woman" to "two individuals," and alters the status from "husband and wife" to "married couple."

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PREVENTIVE DETENTION LAWS

- Recently ,SC said that advisory boards should act like a safety net, protecting people's freedom from the government's arbitrary use of power.

Advisory boards under preventive detention laws are not rubber stamps for the government: Supreme Court
About Advisory Board

- Article 22 of the Constitution makes it mandatory for preventive detention laws to form advisory boards consisting of persons qualified to be High Court judges.
- Objective:
 - It must consider whether the detention is necessary not just in the eyes of the detaining authority but also in the eyes of the law.



CORE SECTOR OUTPUT GROWTH SPURTS TO 6.7% IN FEB.

- India's eight core sectors saw output growth rise to 6.7% in February, with coal, natural gas, and cement leading the surge, while fertilizers production dropped 9.5%, the sharpest decline since May 2021.
- January's Index of Core Industries (ICI) was revised to a 4.1% rise, the slowest growth in 15 months. Fertilizers output declined year-on-year for the second consecutive month, a first in two years.
- Overall output was at a three-month low, 4.9% below January's levels. Cement was the only segment to show a sequential increase, rising by 1.74% over January's production level.



HIP-DROP TACKLE

- **The National Football League (NFL) has prohibited the use of the hip-drop tackle.**
- **The competition committee unanimously voted in favour of the change.**
- **The hip-drop tackle is a controversial technique resulting in multiple player injuries.**

Hip-Drop Tackle

- **The hip-drop tackle is a technique where a defender wraps the ball carrier with both arms or holds them with both hands.**

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INDIAN-BRITISH WRITER'S BOOK ON AI SHORTLISTED FOR WOMEN'S PRIZE

- The inaugural Women's Prize for Non-Fiction has announced its shortlist of six books, including "Code Dependent: Living in the Shadow of AI" by Indian-British journalist and commentator Madhumita Murgia.
- The book explores the impact of artificial intelligence on human society.





INDIA-MOZAMBIQUE-TANZANIA TRILATERAL EXERCISE (IMT TRILAT 24)

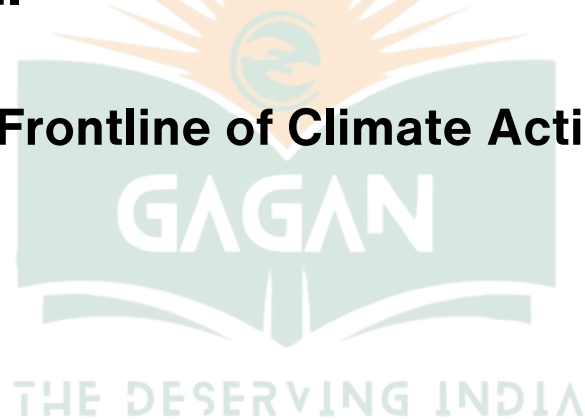
- The IMT TRILAT 24 Exercise recently concluded in Nacala, Mozambique in March.
- INS Tir and Sujata participated in IMT TRILAT 24.
- Aim : To enhance maritime cooperation and interoperability among the navies of India, Mozambique, and Tanzania.
- The first edition of IMT-TRILAT exercise was conducted in Oct -2022.





SEMINAR MEGHAYAM-2024

- **The METOC seminar ‘Meghayan-24’ was conducted by the School of Naval Oceanology & Meteorology and the Indian Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre at the Southern Naval Command.**
- **Theme : ‘At the Frontline of Climate Action’**





LAUNCH OF INDRA MOBILE APPLICATION

- An indigenous mobile application named INDRA (Indian Naval Dynamic Resource for Weather Analysis) was launched to disseminate weather-related information and forecasts, facilitating quick decision-making in naval operations.
- Developed in collaboration with BISAG and the Directorate of Naval Oceanology and Meteorology, the application aims to empower optimal decision-making.

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ISRO'S START 2024 PROGRAM

- **The Indian Space Research Organisation will conduct the Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START) 2024 program.**
- **Objectives of the START Program:** The main objective of the training program is to attract youngsters to the fields of space science and technology.
- **The training modules will cover introductory-level topics on various verticals of space science and technology, including Indian space exploration programs and research opportunities.**