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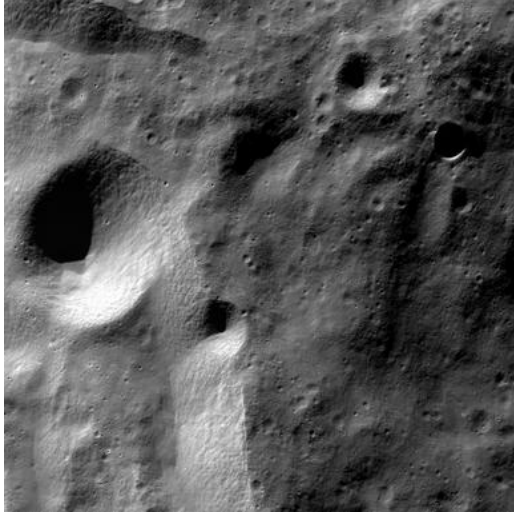


## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

2 May 2024

### National & International News

#### Water ice in polar craters of the moon



#### Why in news?

- The study was conducted by scientists from **ISRO's Space Applications Centre (SAC)** in collaboration with researchers from **IIT Kanpur**, the **University of Southern California**, the **Jet Propulsion Laboratory**, and **IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**.
- The research found **evidence of an enhanced possibility of water ice occurrence in the polar craters of the moon**.

#### Key points:

- The study suggests that **drilling on the moon to sample or excavate that ice will be crucial for future missions and long-term human presence**.
- The **extent of water ice in the northern polar region is twice that in the southern polar region**.
- The **primary source of sub-surface water ice in the lunar poles is believed to be out-gassing during volcanism in the Imbrian period**.
- The **distribution of water ice is likely governed by mare volcanism and preferential impact cratering**.

#### AUKUS



#### Why in news?

- South Korea is actively discussing participation in a landmark **defense technology pact** between **Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States**.

#### About AUKUS:

- AUKUS is a **trilateral security pact** formed between **Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States**, announced in September 2021.
- The pact referred to is **AUKUS**, which was **established in 2021 with two main goals**:
  - "**Pillar one**" aims to **provide Australia with nuclear-powered attack submarines**. South Korea is not expected to be part of this project.
  - "**Pillar two**" focuses on **developing advanced war-fighting capabilities such as artificial intelligence, undersea drones, and hypersonic missiles**.

#### The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act

#### Why in news?

- The **Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act** came into effect on **May 1, 2014**.



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## About Act:

- The Act was enacted to **legalize the vending rights of street vendors (SVs)**.
- It aims to **protect and regulate street vending in cities through State-level rules and schemes, and execution by Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)**.
- It commits to **accommodating all 'existing' vendors in vending zones and issuing vending certificates (VCs)**.
- It establishes a participatory governance structure through **Town Vending Committees (TVCs)**.
- The Act outlines mechanisms for **addressing grievances and disputes, proposing the establishment of a Grievance Redressal Committee** chaired by a civil judge or judicial magistrate.

## 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46)

## Why in news?

- The **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)**, through the **National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)**, will host the **46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting and 26th Meeting of the Committee for Environmental Protection in 2024**.
- These **meetings will take place from May 20 to 30, 2024, in Kochi, Kerala**.

## Key points:

- The **46th ATCM agenda** includes strategic planning for **sustainable management of Antarctica, biodiversity prospecting, and addressing climate change impacts**.
- The **26th CEP agenda** focuses on **Antarctic environment evaluation, impact assessment, management, climate change response, area protection and management plans, and conservation of Antarctic biodiversity**.

## Do you know:

- **India's first Antarctic research station, Dakshin Gangotri**, was established in **1983**. Currently, India operates two year-round research stations: **Maitri (1989)** and **Bharati (2012)**.
- These permanent research stations **facilitate Indian Scientific Expeditions to Antarctica**.
- In **2022**, **India enacted the Antarctic Act**, reaffirming its commitment to the Antarctic Treaty.

## Goldman Prize from Asia

## Why in news?

- **Alok Shukla** has been awarded the **2024 Goldman Prize from Asia**.
- He is the **convenor of the Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan**.
- He is also a **founding member of the Hasdeo Aranya Bachao Sangharsh Samiti**.



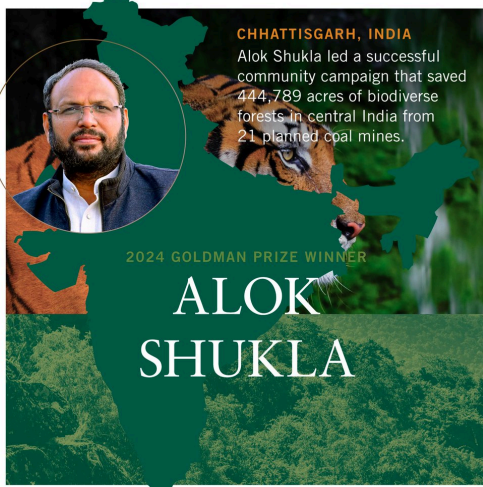
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### About Goldman Prize from Asia:

- The Goldman Environmental Prize **recognizes individuals for sustained and significant efforts to protect and enhance the natural environment**, often at great personal risk.
- It is also known as the **Green Nobel**.
- The prize **recognizes grassroots environmental heroes** from the **world's six inhabited continental regions**: Africa, Asia, Europe, Islands & Island Nations, North America, and South & Central America.
- The **first Goldman Environmental Prize** ceremony took place on **April 16, 1990**, timed to **coincide with Earth Day**.

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