



12 January 2024

National and International News

<p><b>National Youth Day</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Youth Day, observed on January 12th in India, celebrates the vibrant energy and immense potential of the nation's young people.</li> <li>• This day coincides with the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, a renowned philosopher and spiritual leader whose teachings emphasized character building, social responsibility, and the power of the youth to shape the future.</li> <li>• The day acknowledges the significant role young people play in driving social progress, innovation, and development.</li> <li>• It serves as a platform to inspire young people to embrace their potential, engage in their communities, and strive for positive change.</li> <li>• The theme for National Youth Day 2024 is "Arise, Awake, and Realize the Power You Hold."</li> </ul>
<p><b>Humboldt's enigma in context of India</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Humboldt's enigma refers to the puzzling observation that mountain regions, particularly in the tropics, harbor a disproportionately high level of biodiversity compared to other, seemingly more suitable habitats like tropical rainforests.</li> </ul> <p><b>Significance for India:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Unique biodiversity hotspots:</b> The Western Ghats and Sri Lanka harbor exceptional plant and animal species not found elsewhere, making them globally significant biodiversity hotspots.</li> <li>• <b>Climate change vulnerability:</b> Elucidating the factors behind the enigma aids in predicting how plant communities might respond to changing climate patterns, crucial for conservation efforts.</li> </ul>



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Jammu CSIR lab finds cannabis plant compound has antibiotic effects

Context:

- Scientists at CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu, have found that phytocannabinoids, a class of compounds found in the cannabis plant, possess some hitherto unexplored antibiotic properties.
- Cannabis has the potential to make a dent in India's fight against the escalating threat of antibiotic resistance.

Red Sea trouble impact on India

Context:

- The Red Sea, a crucial artery for global trade, has become turbulent due to recent attacks by Yemeni rebels.
- This "trouble" has sent ripples through India's trade, impacting various sectors and raising concerns.

Impact:

1. Increased Shipping Costs
2. Disruptions in Trade Flows
3. Potential Price Hike
4. Impact on Crude Oil Imports.

IIT Delhi team makes first hi-res landslide risk map for India

Context:

- Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) has made groundbreaking strides in disaster preparedness by crafting the first-ever high-resolution landslide susceptibility map for the entire country.
- This map, aptly named the 'Indian Landslide Susceptibility Map,' is a crucial tool for identifying areas prone to landslides, allowing for proactive mitigation strategies and saving lives.



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I-STEM to launch Samavesha project at IISc Bengaluru

Context:

- I-STEM (Indian Science, Technology, and Engineering facilities Map) is launching the Samavesha project at IISc., Bengaluru to enhance research collaboration in India by enhancing accessibility to facilities and labs.
- The project targets connecting researchers with scientific institutes through an online portal.

Rupee falls 4 paise to 83.05 against U.S. dollar

Context:

- The Indian rupee has depreciated 4 paise to close at 83.05 against the US dollar.
- A key factor behind the rupee's decline is the renewed selling pressure from foreign investors.
- Concerns about rising global crude oil prices and potential interest rate hikes in the US prompted portfolio withdrawals, draining the Indian market and putting downward pressure on the rupee.

Amazon's Audible laying off 5% of workforce

Context:

- Audible, the online audiobook and podcast service owned by Amazon, is laying off 5% of its workforce, marking the latest round of job cuts in the tech industry.
- This is the third round of job cuts at Amazon businesses this week, following layoffs in streaming and studio divisions.



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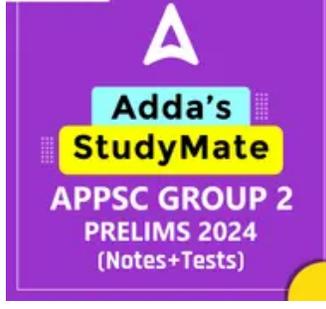
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