



19 January 2024

National and International News

<p>PM unveils three projects worth ₹4,000 crore in Kochi</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three infrastructure projects were unveiled by the PM in Kochi. • It included a new dry dock and an international ship repair facility (ISRF) of Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) and an LPG import terminal of Indian Oil Corporation Limited at Puthuvypeen <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new projects, including the country's largest dry dock, would catalyse the development of Kerala and southern parts of the country. • The new dry dock would enable big vessels to dock here for repairs, reducing dependence on foreign countries and thus saving foreign exchange. • The ISRF would transform Kochi into South Asia's largest ship-repair centre.
<p>CEEW study on rise of rainfall</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study — authored by Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), a research and policy think tank — analysed high-resolution meteorological data spanning four decades, from 1982 to 2022, which has been recorded by the India Meteorological Department (IMD). • According to it, Rainfall is increasing in more than half of India's 4,400-odd tehsils or sub-districts • While 55% of tehsils have seen a rise in rainfall, about 11% have experienced a fall.
<p>ASER study on basics maths ability</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) released a report titled "Beyond Basics" • It involved a survey by the civil society organisation Pratham among rural



	<p>students aged 14 to 18.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The household survey, conducted in 28 districts across 26 States, assessed the foundational reading and arithmetic abilities of 34,745 students. • It discussed the activities students are engaged in, their basic and applied reading and maths abilities and digital awareness and skills. <p>Key findings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, 86.8% of 14- to 18-year-olds are enrolled in an educational institution. There are small gender gaps in enrolment, but notable differences are visible by age. • The percentage of youth not enrolled is 3.9% for 14-year-old youth and is 32.6% for 18-year-olds • Most of the people in this age group were enrolled in the Arts/Humanities stream. • In Class 11 or higher, more than half are enrolled in the Arts/Humanities stream (55.7%) and girls are less likely to be enrolled in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics stream (28.1%) than boys (36.3%) • More than half struggle with division (3-digit by 1-digit) problems. Only 43.3% of 14-18-year-olds are able to do such problems correctly.
<p>13% of land mass in Kerala vulnerable to landslips</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An artificial intelligence-based map of Kerala has revealed that 13% of the land mass is extremely vulnerable to landslips, forming part of a multifaceted crisis gripping the region. • The map shows Idukki, Palakkad, Malappuram, Pathanamthitta, and Wayanad as highly vulnerable regions • Critical factors contributing to landslip vulnerability include first-order stream disturbances, slope toe cutting for road construction, and unscientific land use. • The vulnerability map, prepared under the aegis of Kufos, is the first AI-based landslip susceptibility map.



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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

ISRO upgrades its distress alert device for fishermen

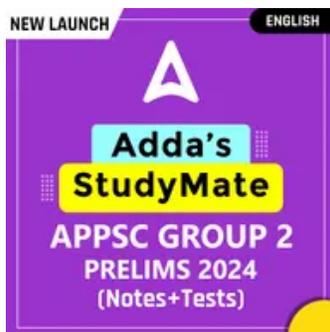
Context

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has developed an improvised distress alert transmitter (DAT) with advanced capabilities for fishermen at sea to send emergency messages from boats.
- The **DAT-SG has the facility to send back acknowledgement to the fishermen** who activate the distress alert from sea.
- The **information about potential fishing zones** are also transmitted to fishermen using DAT-SG on regular intervals.

India's domestic air passenger traffic

Context

- India's domestic air passenger traffic is expected to **touch 300 million by 2030, an almost two-fold rise from the 153 million in 2023**
- The country would still remain one of the most under-penetrated markets among the top 20 globally, **moving up from existing 3-4% to 10-15% by the end of decade.**



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