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18th July

NATIONAL

1) NITI Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2022

- Tamil Nadu topped the third edition of the NITI Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2022 followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- Gujarat scored fourth position with a score of 73.22 followed by Andhra Pradesh, Odissa, West Bengal and Kerala in the ranking of coastal areas.
- Among the landlocked regions, Harayana topped the ranking with a score of 63.65 followed by Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.
- 4 pillars to assess the export preparedness: Policy Pillar, Business Ecosystem, Export Ecosystem, Export Performance.

2) New Terminal Building of Port Blair Airport

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the new integrated terminal building of Veer Savarkar International Airport in Port Blair. The new airport terminal building boasts several sustainability features.
- The new features include Double Insulated Roofing System, skylights maximize the use of natural sunlight, Energy-efficient LED lighting, the use of low heat gain glazing.

3) PM MITRA Park

- The Maharashtra government, and the Indian Ministry of Textiles joined hands by signing a memorandum of understanding to establish the PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park (PM MITRA Park) in Amravati, Maharashtra.
- The Government of India unveiled plans to establish 7 PM MITRA Parks across the country as designated sites for the textile industry.

























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4) The Global Food Regulators Summit

- India is set to inaugurate the Global Food Regulators Summit in New Delhi. The summit is expected to include participation from a wide range of stakeholders representing various countries, international organizations, and national entities.
- The event will serve as an important platform for participants to engage in discussions regarding food safety and regulatory matters.

5) 5G skill development center

- The Telecom Sector Skill Council and Kaushalya-The Skill University, Nokia has announced the establishment of a 5G skill development center in Gujarat.
- The Center of Excellence (CoE) at ITI Kubernagar will establish a skill Lab dedicated to training individuals in 5G technology skills.

6) 12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation

- In the 12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation Mechanism meeting, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar highlighted the importance of peace and prosperity in the Mekong region for India's Act East policy.
- The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation was established in 2000, at Vientiane, Laos at the First MGC Ministerial Meeting. It comprises six member countries, namely India, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.
- The four areas of cooperation are tourism, culture, education, transportation and communication.





















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7) Local Currency Settlement System

- Recently, India and the United Arab Emirates signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS) for using local currencies, the Indian rupee (INR), and the UAE Dirham (AED), for crossborder transactions.
- India-UAE trade was approx USD 85 billion in 2022. UAE is India's third-largest trading partner while India is UAE 2nd largest trading partner.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Honorary Doctorate to communist leader N. Sankaraiah

- Tamil Nadu government announced that veteran communist leader N. Sankaraiah will receive an Honorary Doctorate from Madurai Kamaraj University.
- He is the last living freedom fighter of India. In 1931 when Sankaraiah was just nine years old attended a rally condemning the execution of Bhagat Singh- his first political activity.
- The Tamil Nadu Government had honored N. Sankaraiah with the award of "Thagaisal Thamizhar" in 2021.

GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

1) Typhoon Talim

Typhoon Talim made landfall in Zhanjiang city, located in Guangdong province. The South China Sea witnessed the origin of Typhoon Talim, causing Hong Kong, Vietnam, and southern China to activate their disaster mitigation measures.





















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OBITUARY

1) Oommen Chandy

- Oommen Chandy, the former Chief Minister of Kerala, passed away at the age of 79. He represented the Puthupally constituency in Kottayam district.
- Oommen Chandy led the Congress-led United Democratic Front governments in Kerala.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) Nelson Mandela day

- Every year, on July 18th, Nelson Mandela day is observed to honour Nelson Mandela, a South African anti-apartheid activist who served as the first President from 1994 to 1999.
- The Day will also enlighten his transitional steps to defeat multiracial democracy in South Africa.

SPORTS

1) Wimbledon title

- Carlos Alcaraz defeated Novak Djokovic in a thrilling five-set final to win his first Wimbledon title. It is one of the four major tennis tournaments known as Grand Slam events. It is held annually in London, England, and is the oldest tennis tournament in the world.
- The other three Grand Slam tournaments are the Australian Open, the French Open, and the US Open.













