

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### 1. Govt restricts use of Glyphosate in agriculture ( Nov. 1, 2022 )

Glyphosate in agriculture

The government has recently banned the use of **herbicide glyphosate** and its derivatives, considering the health hazards to humans/animals. Only authorised pest control operators are allowed to use it.

#### About Glyphosate

- It is a widely used herbicide that controls broadleaf weeds and grasses.
- It works by blocking an enzyme essential for plant growth.
- It was developed in 1970, and its scientific name is **N-(phosphonomethyl) glycine**.
- This product is mainly used in agriculture.
- Glyphosate and its formulations are widely registered and are currently used in over 160 countries, including the European Union and the United States.
- Farmers around the world have been using it for safe and effective weed control for more than 40 years.
- In India, glyphosate is approved for use only in tea gardens and non-planting areas with the tea crop. Its use elsewhere is illegal.

#### Health impacts of glyphosate

- The worrying findings were revealed in a 2020 study by **Pan India on the status of glyphosate** use in the country.
- The health effects of glyphosate range from **cancer, reproductive and developmental toxicity to neurotoxicity and immunotoxicity**.
- Symptoms include burning, swelling, skin irritation, mouth and nose pain, unpleasant taste, and blurred vision.
- The large-scale use of glyphosate in non-designated areas has serious consequences.
- The use of all weedicides, including glyphosate, is depleting food resources and depriving them of adequate nutrition.
- It was being used in more than 20 crop fields.

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## **3. Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) Asia Pacific Conference ( Nov. 1, 2022 )**

CANSO conference

**Goa** is hosting a three-day long **Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) conference** from 1st to 3rd November 2022.

### **Important facts**

- Delegates will discuss and collaborate on key issues that will help shape the future of Asia's aviation industry and turn the vision of the **Global Council for Complete Air Transport Systems (CATS) of 2045** into reality.
- Theme of 2022 conference - **“Think Global, Collaborate Regional, Accomplish Local”**.

- The conference also covered Digitization and Automation, which play an important role in strengthening CANSO's vision for the skies of the future.
- Delegates will also be able to witness some of the cutting edge technology that will help modernise air traffic management in the region.

### **About CANSO**

- The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) is the global voice of the air traffic management (ATM) industry and is shaping future skies.
- Its members support more than **90% of the world's air traffic** and include air navigation service providers, airspace users and operators, manufacturers and aviation industry suppliers.
- It brings together the world's air navigation service providers, leading industry innovators and air traffic management experts to share knowledge, develop best practices, and shape the future of safe and seamless airspace.
- Founded - **1996**
- Director General - **Simon Hocquard**

### **About Airports Authority of India**

- Airports Authority of India is an organisation/authority functioning under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.
- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) manages a total of **133 airports** which include 11 international airports, 8 customs airports, 81 domestic airports and 25 civil enclaves in defence airfields.
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## **5. Second edition of Naval Commanders' Conference ( Nov. 1, 2022 )**

Naval Commanders' Conference

The **second edition** of **Naval Commanders' Conference** of 2022 begins on 1 November, 2022 in **New Delhi**.

### **Important facts**

- During the four-day conference, Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** will address and interact with naval commanders on matters related to national security.

- Chief of Defence Staff General **Anil Chauhan** and the Chiefs of Indian Army and Indian Air Force will also interact with the Naval Commanders.
- During the conference, the Chief of Naval Staff, along with other Naval Commanders, will review major operations, material, logistics, human resource development, training and administrative activities undertaken by the Indian Navy over the past few months.
- They will deliberate on plans for important future activities and initiatives.
- The conference will also focus on the dynamics of the geo-strategic situation in the region and the Navy's readiness to deal with it.

Chief of Defence Staff - **General Anil Chauhan**

Chief of Indian Air Force - **V. R. Chaudhari**

Chief of Indian Army - **General Manoj Pande**

Chief of Indian Navy - **Admiral R Hari Kumar**

## **6. PM Modi declares Rajasthan's Mangarh Dham national monument ( Nov. 1, 2022 )**

Mangarh Dham national monument

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has declared **Mangarh Dham** in Rajasthan a **national monument** on 1 November, 2022.

### **Important facts**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the '**Mangarh Dham ki Gaurav Gatha**' programme in **Banswara district of Rajasthan** on 1 November.
- The event is being organised by the **Ministry of Culture**. The Chief Ministers of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are also participating in this program.
- He addressed a gathering of members of **Bhil tribals** and other tribes at Mangarh Dham in Banswara district.
- PM paid tributes to the tribals who were massacred by the British army in **1913 in Mangarh** in Rajasthan.

### **About Mangarh Dham**

- It is a memorial for around 1,500 tribals massacred by the British army **in 1913**, is located on the **Gujarat-Rajasthan border**, a region with a large tribal population.
- In 1913 the assembly of tribals and forest dwellers against the **British Raj in Mangarh** was led by the social reformer **Govind Guru**.
- This massacre of tribals, which took place **six years before Jallianwala Bagh**, is sometimes referred to as "**Adivasi Jallianwala**".

- On **November 17, 1913**, the British army killed hundreds of Bhil tribesmen in the hills of Mangarh.
- The Bhil tribe is called the "**Dhanush Man of India**" because they are highly skilled in learning the bow.

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## **8. Kalanamak Rice ( Nov. 1, 2022 )**

**Indian Agricultural Research Institute** has successfully tested two new dwarf varieties of **Kalanamak rice** (Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1638 and Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1652) in Uttar Pradesh which give double yield.

## **About Kalanamak Rice**

- It is a traditional variety of paddy with black husk and **strong aroma**.
- It is a non-basmati rice with medium slender grain length.
- It is believed to be a gift from **Lord Buddha** to the people of **Shravasti** when he visited the region after attaining enlightenment.
- This variety has been in cultivation since the original **Buddhist period (600 BCE)**.
- It is popular in the **Himalayan Terai (Kapilvastu)** of Nepal and eastern Uttar Pradesh, where it is known as the fragrant black pearl.
- Kalanamak rice was granted a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** by the Government of India in **2012**.

## **Two dwarf varieties of Kalanamak rice**

- Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1638
- Pusa Narendra Kalanamak 1652

## **Health Benefits of Kalanamak**

- It is rich in **micronutrients** such as Iron and Zinc.
- Therefore it is said to prevent diseases borne out of nutrient deficiencies.
- Regular consumption of Kalanamak rice is believed to prevent **Alzheimer's disease**.
- It contains **11% protein**, which is almost twice that of common rice varieties.
- It has a **low glycemic index** (49% to 52%) which makes it relatively sugar free and suitable for diabetics.
- It also contains antioxidants like **anthocyanins** which are useful in preventing heart disease.

## **Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)**

- It is also known as the **Pusa Institute**, India's national institute for agricultural research, education and extension.
- The institute was originally located in **Pusa, Bihar** as the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research in **1911**.
- In 1919 it was renamed as Imperial Agricultural Research Institute and after a major earthquake in Pusa, it was shifted to Delhi in **1936**.
- It is financed and administered by the **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**.

## **9. Goa Maritime Symposium ( Nov. 1, 2022 )**

Goa Maritime Symposium

The **fourth edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS)** is being conducted by the **Naval War College (NWC) at Goa** from 31 October to 1 November 2022.

### **Important facts**

- **The theme of GMS-2022** is Maritime Security Challenges in the Indian Ocean Region: Converting Common Maritime Priorities into Collaborative Mitigation Frameworks.
- The Symposium was inaugurated by **Rear Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar**, Commandant, Naval War College.
- The participants of the symposium include Captains/ officers of the rank of Commander or equivalent from navies/ maritime forces from friendly countries like Bangladesh, Comoros, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand besides India.

### **About Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS)**

- It was conceptualised and instituted by the Indian Navy in **2016**.
- It is a forum for promoting collaborative thinking, cooperation and mutual understanding between India and the major maritime countries of the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**.
- The Symposium is organised **biennially by NWC, Goa** and so far three editions of the event have been organised.

## **10. S Jaishankar participated in the virtual meeting of the Heads of Government of the SCO ( Nov. 1, 2022 )**

S Jaishankar participated

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar represented India at a virtual meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** on 1 November 2022.

### **Important facts**

- The **21st Meeting** of SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) is being held on 1 November 2022 in the virtual format.
- The meeting was attended by SCO Member States, Observer States, Secretary General of the SCO, Executive Director of the SCO **Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), Turkmenistan** and other invited guests.
- India remains actively engaged in various SCO activities and dialogue mechanisms in the region as well as other multilateral cooperation within the SCO framework.
- The leaders of the SCO member states met for the summit meeting in **Samarkand, Uzbekistan** on 16 September 2022.



- The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Samarkand Declaration was adopted.
- Member countries also called for the improvement of SCO activities and the development of efficient transport corridors for interconnectivity.

### **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**

- It is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation.
- It was founded in **2001**.
- The SCO Charter was signed in **2002**, and came into force in 2003.
- It is a Eurasian political, economic and military organisation.
- Its aim is to maintain peace, security and stability in the region.
- China, Russia and four Central Asian states - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan - were founding members of the SCO.
- Official Languages - **Russian and Chinese**
- Chairmanship - On the basis of rotation for a year by Member States
- The Council of Heads of Governments (CHG) is the second-highest council in the organization.