

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. North India's first Skin Bank inaugurated at New Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital ( June 21, 2023 )**

#### **first-Skin-Bank-inaugurated-at-New-Delhi's-Safdarjung-Hospital**

**North India's first Skin Bank** was inaugurated at **New Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital** on 20th June.

#### **An overview of the news**

- This facility serves as a repository where **deceased donors can donate their skin**, which can be **utilized in the treatment of burns**.
- Deceased donors can donate their skin **within six hours of death**. Once donated, the skin undergoes a processing procedure and can then be used for **treating burns and trauma patients**.

#### **Benefits for Patients**

- Union Health Minister **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** highlighted that the **Skin Bank facility** will be a significant **benefit for patients**.
- It will contribute to providing a better quality of life for individuals suffering from severe burns and injuries.

#### **Skin Bank in India**

- There are a total of **16 skin banks** in the country where the **skin of dead persons** can be donated.
- Out of the **16 skin banks, seven are located in Maharashtra**, four in Chennai, three in Karnataka, and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.
- These skin banks are spread across different regions of the country.
- **Maharashtra** has the highest number of skin banks, with a total of seven.

### **2. Estonia becomes first Central European nation to allow same-sex marriage ( June 21, 2023 )**

same-sex-marriage

Estonia's parliament passed a law legalizing same-sex marriage, making it the first Central European nation to do so.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- Same-sex marriage is prohibited in several former communist Central European countries that were once part of the **Soviet-led Warsaw Pact**.
- In **2014**, Estonia legalized same-sex partnerships.

- In **2016**, the government passed an **anti-discrimination law to protect LGBTQ+** individuals from discrimination in employment, education, and other areas.

### **About Estonia Same-sex Marriage Bill:**

- The bill was passed by **55 votes in the 101-seat parliament**, with the support of a coalition of liberal and social democratic parties led by **Prime Minister Kailas, who will win the 2023 election**.
- The new law will go into **effect in 2024**.
- A recent poll by the Center for **Human Rights found that 53% of Estonians** support same-sex marriage, **compared to 34% a decade earlier**.
- The Estonian parliament voted on the bill and it passed, making **Estonia the first country in the Baltic region to legalize same-sex marriage**.

### **Why Same-sex marriage in Estonia?**

- According to the government, half of Estonians in the **LGBTQ+ community have recently experienced harassment**.
- **Tomas Jermalavicius, head of studies at the International Center for Defense and Security**, believes that Estonia's successful legalization of same-sex marriage was aided by changing public opinion and Kailas' strong electoral victory.
- **Latvia and Lithuania**, the other **two Baltic nations** formerly annexed by the **Soviet Union**, have **not yet legalized same-sex marriage**.
- Same-sex partnership bills in **Latvia and Lithuania are stuck in their parliaments**.
- Same-sex marriage allows same-sex couples to formalize their commitment and build a stable foundation for their families.

### **3. UNDP partners with DAY-NULM towards empowering women entrepreneurs ( June 21, 2023 )**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** and the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)** recently have joined forces in a collaborative partnership.

#### **An overview of the news**

- The objective of this partnership is **to empower women to make career choices** in the field of entrepreneurship.
- The partnership aims to provide support to women who are interested in starting or expanding their own enterprises.

- It focuses on sectors such as the care **economy, digital economy, electric mobility, waste management, food packaging**, and more.

### **Entrepreneurship Development and Enterprise Growth**

- The project, which spans three years and is **extendable beyond 2025**, is centered around fostering entrepreneurship development and accelerating enterprise growth.
- In the initial phase, it will cover **eight cities**.

### **On-Ground Mobilization and Business Development Services**

- UNDP and DAY-NULM will work together to engage in on-ground mobilization activities.
- This includes identifying areas of urban poverty and potential entrepreneurs.

### **About The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

- It is the leading agency of the **United Nations**.
- It works to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality in **170 countries and territories**.
- It helps countries to develop policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities, and to build resilience to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals**.
- Its work is concentrated in three focus areas; **sustainable development, democratic governance and peace building, and climate and disaster resilience**.

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## **5. China blocks proposal to declare 26/11 attacks accused Sajid Mir global terrorist ( June 21, 2023 )**

### **China-blocks-proposal-to-declare-2611**

**China** has **blocked** a proposal by India and the U.S. at the **United Nations** to designate **Sajid Mir**, a **Pakistan-based LeT terrorist**, as a **global terrorist** on 20th June.

### **An overview of the news**

- The proposal aimed to blacklist Mir under the **1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee** of the **UN Security Council**, subjecting him to asset **freeze, travel ban, and arms embargo**.

### **Involvement in Mumbai Terror Attacks**

- Sajid Mir is wanted for his involvement in the **26/11 Mumbai terror attacks**, which took place in **November 2008**.
- He is considered one of India's most wanted terrorists, with a bounty of **5 million US dollars** placed on his head by the U.S.

### **China's Obstruction**

- China had previously put a hold on the proposal to designate Mir at the UN in September of the previous year.

- However, Beijing has now officially blocked the proposal, preventing his designation as a
- **global terrorist.**

### **Imprisonment and Doubts**

- In June, Sajid Mir was sentenced to over **15 years in jail** in a terror-financing case by an anti-terrorism court in Pakistan.
- Previously, Pakistani authorities had claimed that Mir had died, but Western countries remained unconvinced and demanded proof of his death.
- This issue became a significant concern during the **Financial Action Task Force's** assessment of Pakistan's progress on their action plan.

### **Role in Mumbai Attacks**

- Mir is a senior member of the Pakistan-based **Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)** terrorist organization.
- The U.S. State Department has stated that he was LeT's operations manager for the Mumbai attacks, playing a leading role in planning, preparing, and executing the terrorist acts.

## **6. Oman Creates History as First Foreign Government to Promote Country through Yoga ( June 21, 2023 )**

First-Foreign-Government-to-Promote-Country-through-Yoga

The **Indian Embassy in Oman** has introduced a unique video titled '**Soulful Yoga, Serene Oman**' on the occasion of the **International Day of Yoga 2023**.

### **An overview of the news**

- This initiative is considered pioneering and showcases the **beauty of Oman** while featuring yoga enthusiasts from different countries.
- The video stands out as it is a collaborative effort between the Indian Embassy and '**Visit Oman**,' a subsidiary of **Oman's Ministry of Tourism**.
- This partnership marks the first instance of a foreign government using yoga to promote its own country, highlighting the significance of this collaboration.
- The video not only demonstrates the increasing popularity of yoga worldwide but also highlights its growing prominence in Oman.
- With a significant **Indian community of 700,000 in Oman**, yoga has gained considerable traction in recent years.

### **Promoting Yoga through Initiatives**

- The Indian Embassy has been actively involved in promoting yoga in Oman through various initiatives.

- In 2022, they organized the '**Muscat Yog Mahotsav**,' a 75-day celebration featuring over 75 yoga events across major cities in Oman.
- This initiative was timed with the **75 years of India's independence celebrations**.

### **Oman Yoga Yatra**

- This year, the Embassy launched the '**Oman Yoga Yatra**,' a five-month-long journey leading up to a large-scale celebration of the International Day of Yoga 2023.
- The event, scheduled for June 21, 2023, is expected to attract more than 2,000 participants from diverse backgrounds.

### **About Oman**

- Sultan - **Haitham bin Tariq Al Said**
- Capital - **Muscat**
- Official Language - **Arabic**
- Official Religion - **Islam**
- Currency - **Omani rial**

## **7. Oman Creates History as First Foreign Government to Promote Country through Yoga ( June 21, 2023 )**

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### **8. Number of refugees globally stood at 35.3 million by end of 2022: UNHCR ( June 21, 2023 )**

According to the report of the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, by the **end of 2022**, the global number of refugees will reach **35.3 million**.

### **An overview of the news**

- This figure represents an increase of more than eight million refugees from the previous year.

### **Most affected countries**

- More than half of all refugees worldwide, **52 percent**, originated from **three specific countries**.
- These countries are **Syria** with a refugee population of 6.5 million, **Ukraine** with 5.7 million and **Afghanistan** with 5.7 million refugees.

### **Definition of refugee**

- According to international law, refugees are persons who are forced to flee their home countries because of persecution or the presence of a serious threat to their **life, physical well-being, or personal liberty**.
- These persons seek protection in other countries.

### **World refugee day**

- To draw attention to the plight of refugees globally, the United Nations designated 20 June as World Refugee Day.
- This annual festival serves as an opportunity to raise awareness and highlight the **challenges faced by refugees around the world**.

### **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

- It is an **international organization** mandated to protect and support refugees, as well as finding **durable solutions to their displacement**.
- It was **established in 1950** to address the needs of refugees after **World War II**.
- It operates in various countries around the world, providing protection, assistance, and advocacy for refugees and other forcibly displaced persons.
- Headquarter - **Geneva, Switzerland**

## **9. UK launches new landmark trading scheme for developing countries ( June 20, 2023 )**

UK-launches-new-landmark-trading

The UK launched the Developing Countries Trade Scheme (DCTS) on 19 June.

An overview of the news

- This trade scheme provides a significant opportunity for India and 65 other poor and developing countries.
- The scheme simplifies trading rules and cuts tariffs on products entering the UK from 65 developing countries, including Bangladesh.

About Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS)

- This is a preferential trading program that has been introduced by the United Kingdom.
- The DCTS replaces similar arrangements that were previously in place during the UK's membership in the European Union.
- The primary objective of the scheme is to support trade and promote economic growth for 65 poor and developing countries.
- Through the DCTS, these countries are granted preferential treatment in terms of trade, with reduced or eliminated tariffs on certain products imported into the United Kingdom.



- By providing favorable trading conditions, the DCTS aims to enhance market access for these countries, stimulate economic activity, and foster mutually beneficial trade relationships.

### **Benefits of the scheme**

- It creates opportunities for businesses and supports **livelihoods** by facilitating trade between participating countries and the United Kingdom.
- By lowering trade barriers and providing preferential treatment, the scheme aims to **create employment opportunities** for individuals in participating countries.
- It plays a role in diversifying **local and international supply chains**, which contributes to **job creation and economic growth** in these countries.
- Through increased market access and favorable trading conditions, the scheme helps participating countries to access the UK market and expand their export capabilities.
- By increasing exports, countries can diversify their economies and reduce their dependence on limited products or markets.

## **10. Center launches 'Dakshta' course suite on iGOT platform to enhance skills of young professionals ( June 20, 2023 )**

Dakshta

The Central Government has introduced a new collection of courses called "Dakshata" on the iGOT Karmayogi platform announced by the Ministry of Personnel.

### **An Overview of the News**

- The course, known as "**Dakshta (Development of Attitude, Knowledge, Skills for Holistic Change in Administration)**", aims at **enhancing the skills of young professionals**.
- To oversee the core objectives of **the initiative, the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has set up Karmayogi Bharat, a government-owned non-profit special purpose vehicle**.
- **Karmayogi India** is responsible for owning, managing, maintaining and improving the **iGOT Karmayogi Platform**.
- Mission Karmayogi, which is the national program for civil services capacity building, aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of creating a developed and empowered India.
- The mission aims to create a smart, citizen-friendly and future-ready public workforce in line with the government's thrust on skill development and holistic transformation.

### **About iGOT Karmayogi**

- It is an online platform for **capacity building of civil service officers**.

- It combines five functional centres: **online learning, competency management, career management, discussion and networking.**
- The platform enables officials to deliver more effectively, enhancing government execution capabilities.
  - It offers **online, face-to-face and blended learning opportunities.**
  - Occasional forums facilitate discussion among officers.
  - It helps manage career paths and provides reliable competency assessments.