Factly Weekly

Compilation

2024

For UPSC CSE Prelims Exam

2nd Week

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INDEX

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Laysan albatross

News: Wisdom, a 74-year-old Laysan albatross and the world's oldest known wild bird, has laid what experts believe to be her 60th egg.

About Laysan albatross

Figure 1.Source- The Hindu

Laysan Albatross (Phoebastria immutabilis) is a pelagic bird **found predominantly in the North Pacific Ocean.**

- Approximately 99.7% of the population nests in the **Northwestern Hawaiian Islands**, with **Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge** serving as a critical breeding ground.
- **Key Characteristics:**
  o It is a medium-sized seabird with a **gull-like appearance** and long, slender wings for long flights.
  o It has blackish-brown backs and upper wings, with white primary feathers.
  o It primarily feeds on squid, fish, and crustaceans.
  o Laysan albatrosses are **monogamous** and usually **mate for life**, laying **one egg each year.**
  o Their typical **lifespan is around 68 years** with some individuals like Wisdom reaching 74 years.
- **IUCN Red List:** Near Threatened

Marbled Duck

News: Recently, a marbled duck was spotted at Sultanpur National Park after 30 years.

About Marbled Duck

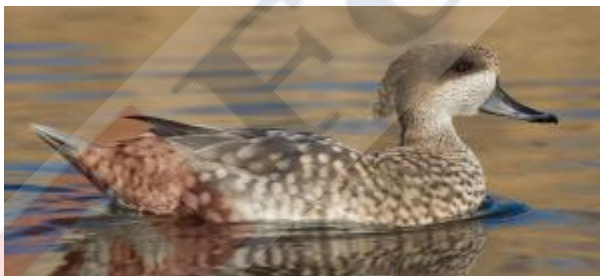*Figure 2.Source- Wikipedia*

- Marbled Duck, also known as **marbled teal**, is a **medium sized duck** with a **speckled brown body, dusky eye patch, long neck and wings, and dark bill.**
- **Native to Europe**, it is also found in **northern Africa, western and central Asia.**
- It is **tolerant of many types of wetlands** and typically seen temporary or semi-permanent wetlands.
  o It tends to **prefer brackish wetland and well-structured vegetation.**
- It is known to **breed in three distinct regions:** eastern and western Mediterranean and Iran, favouring low land, shallow fresh waters for breeding.
- **Threats:** wetlands destruction, illegal hunting, lead poisoning and pollution, spread of invasive alien species.
- It is classified as **Vulnerable by the IUCN.**

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Malayan Night Heron

News: The Malayan Night Heron has been spotted in Madurai for the first time, near the Alagar Kovil hills.

About Malayan Night Heron

Figure 3.Source- Wikipedia

- The Malayan Night Heron, also known as *Malaysian Night Heron*, is a *medium sized heron*.
- It has reddish-brown plumage, black underwings, black crown and crest, stout bill and short neck.
- It is *found in Southern and Eastern Asia*, migrating to India during the winter season. It usually inhabits forests, streams and marshes.
- It is *typically nocturnal* but can be *active during the day too*.
- It is generally solitary. It prefers roosting in trees and feeding in open areas.
- Its *IUCN status* is Least Concern.

Santa Ana Winds

News: Santa Ana winds-driven wildfires have burned over 4,000 acres and impacted approximately 22,000 people in the coastal town of Malibu, California.
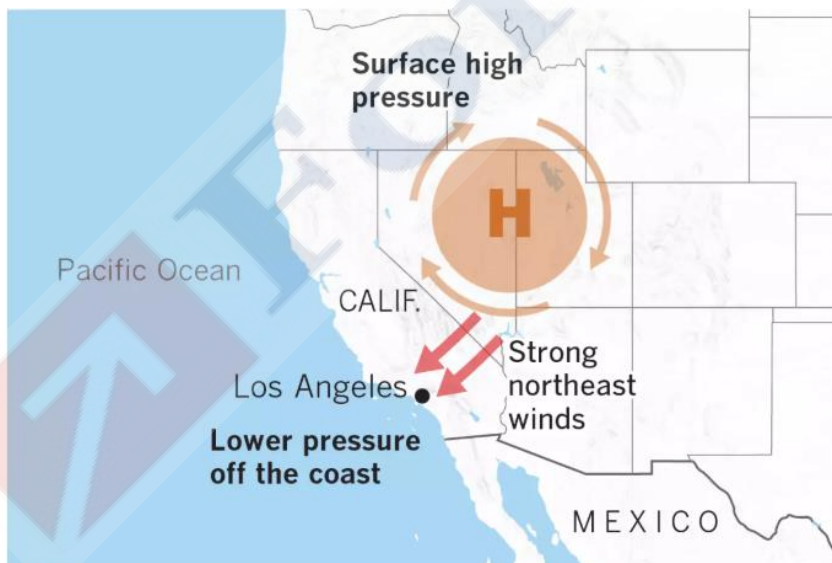
About Santa Ana Winds

Figure 4.Source- latimes

- **Definition**– Santa Ana winds are *dry and warm (often hot) winds* in the Southern California area that blow in from the desert — which includes the Great Basin of the western United States, incorporating Nevada and part of Utah.
- **Seasonal Occurrence**– Santa Ana conditions can occur whenever the Great Basin is cooler than Southern California, *usually between September and May*. However, they are *most notable in October*, as Southern California's climate during autumn increases the risk of wildfires.

- **Formation and effect:**

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- o Santa Ana winds occur when *high pressure forms over the Great Basin*, located between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada, while *low pressure develops along California's coast*.
- o This *pressure difference drives strong winds* from the inland deserts of the Basin, east and north of Southern California, over the mountains toward the Pacific Ocean.
- o As the winds move down the mountains, they *compress and heat up, causing their humidity to drop*, often below 20% and sometimes even below 10%.
- o The resulting dry conditions turn vegetation into highly flammable material, which contributed to fueling the flames in Malibu.

Caspian Sea

News: Kazakhstan state owned energy company said that it had decontaminated Soviet-era oil waste on the shores of the Caspian Sea, which has been reeling under the effects of pollution and global warning.

About Caspian Sea

Figure 5.Source- BBC

- It is the *largest inland body of water* in the world *by surface area*.
- It is *located between Europe and Asia*– to the east of Caucasus and west of the broad steppe of Central Asia.
- *Bordering Countries:* Russia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Turkmenistan, and Kazakhstan.
- Caspian Sea is primarily watered by *three major rivers:* Volga, Ural and Terek River.
- It has *fresh water in its northern parts* and *saline water in its southern parts.*
- It has a *mean salinity* of about a third of the salinity of average seawater.

Notre Dame Cathedral

News: Notre Dame Cathedral, one of France's most iconic landmarks, recently reopened after five years of restoration following the 2019 fire.

About Notre Dame Cathedral

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Source- Britannica

- It is a medieval Catholic cathedral located on an island in the *Seine River in Paris*, France.
- The cathedral is *dedicated to the Virgin Mary.*
- It is regarded as one of the best examples of *French Gothic architecture*.
- It contains important religious and historical artifacts, including the *Crown of Thorns*, believed to have been worn by Jesus during his crucifixion.
- It also houses France's largest musical instrument, *The Great Organ*.
- It is a *UNESCO World Heritage Site*.

History of Cathedral

Notre-Dame is thought to have been built on the site of a former *Gallo-Roman temple* dedicated to Jupiter.

- The construction of Notre-Dame began in 1160 under *Bishop Maurice de Sully* and was mostly completed by 1260.
- During the French Revolution, its spiritual role changed significantly, as it was converted into the "*Temple of Reason*" and later the "*Temple of the Supreme Being*."
- When *Napoleon Bonaparte* became ruler of France in 1801, he selected Notre-Dame for his coronation and vowed to restore it.

Architecture – Notre-Dame remains one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture , featuring *soaring spires*, *intricate stained glass windows*, and impressive *flying buttresses*.

> **About Gothic Architecture**
> - Gothic architecture is a style that *emerged in Europe* from the *mid-12th to the 16th century.*
> - It is characterized by masonry buildings with vast, open spaces and walls decorated with detailed tracery.
> - **Key features of Gothic architecture-** Pointed arches, ribbed vaults, flying buttresses, and stained-glass windows. Gargoyles and grotesques were also common, and the design often focused on light and tall, slender towers.
> - **Notable examples of Gothic architecture-** Chartres Cathedral in France, Westminster Abbey in London, the Cathedral of Milan.

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French architecture in India

Figure 6.Source-Rethinking The future

- French architecture in India is a blend of Indian and French styles.
- The most distinctive feature of French architecture in India is the *use of columns to support the roof* and *divide the building into sections*.
- **Key elements of the Indo-French architectural style** include dormers, shutter windows, rounded towers or gables, sloping roofs, and chimneys.
- *French Architects* like *Le Corbusier* laid the foundations of modern urban planning in India.
- **Examples of Indo-French Architecture Chandernagor, West Bengal**– Governor's House, the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, and the Church of St. Francis Xavier.

Subramania Bharati

News: Prime Minister has released the compendium of complete works of Mahakavi Subramania Bharati on his 143rd birth anniversary.

About Subramania Bharati

Source- Wikipedia

- He was a poet, freedom fighter, journalist, social reformer from Tamil Nadu.
- He was given the *title of Mahakavi* on account of being a pioneer of modern Tamil poetry.
- He started his career in journalism with *Swadesamitran* and was also associated with newspapers like The Hindu, Bala Bharata etc.
- He emphasised on women empowerment, opposed caste system and child marriage and advocated socio-religious reforms.
- His *notable works* are Kuyil Pattu, Panchali Sabatham, Kannan Pattu etc.

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Abathsahayeswarar Temple

News: The Abathsahayeswarar temple has been selected for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

About Abathsahayeswarar Temple

Figure 7.Source- Wikipedia

- The temple is in *Thukkatchi in Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu*.
- It is *1,300-year-old* and was constructed by *Kings Vikrama Chola and Kulothunga Chola.*
  o Kulothunga established an idol for Sarabeshwarar, which is the reason this deity is called *Aadhi Sarabeshwarar.*
- The temple *houses numerous deities* like Soundaryanayaki Ambal, Pillayar, Murugan etc.
- The temple has been restored using traditional and modern conservation techniques.

Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation
- Initiated by UNESCO in 2000.
- Recognises the efforts of individuals and organisations in Asia and Pacific in restoring, conserving, and transforming structures of heritage value.
- The objective is to protect cultural heritage sites.

Potti Sriramulu

News: The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, N. Chandrababu Naidu, reaffirmed the government's commitment to establishing a Telugu University named after Potti Sriramulu.

About Potti Sriramulu

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Portrait of Sriramulu Potti

Source- Indianculture.gov.in

- He was an *Indian freedom fighter* known for his pivotal role in the creation of Andhra State.
- He was bestowed with the title '*Amarajeevi*' for his supreme sacrifice for the cause of the people of Andhra.
- He was born on March 16, 1901, in the Madras Presidency, now part of Nellore, Andhra Pradesh.
- He is remembered for his *commitment to social justice* and the *upliftment of Dalits.*
- **Freedom struggle contribution:**
  - He was *inspired by Mahatma Gandhi* to join the freedom struggle.
  - He was actively participated in significant movements like the *Non-Cooperation Movement* (1920-1922), *Salt Satyagraha* (1930), and *Individual Satyagraha* (1941-42).
  - He was arrested by the British during the *Quit India Movement in 1942* and jailed along with Gandhiji.
- **Post independence**:
  - He began a hunger strike on October 19, 1952, demanding Andhra Pradesh's formation from the Madras Presidency.
  - After 58 days of fasting, he died on December 15, 1952, in Mylapore.
  - His sacrifice led to the announcement of Andhra Pradesh on December 19, 1952, with statehood granted on November 1, 1956.
- **Socio-religious activities:**
  - He was involved in the village reconstruction programmes at Rajkot in Gujarat.
  - He also *joined Gandhi ashram* (established by Yerneni Subrahmanyam) in Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh.
  - He undertook three fasts to support Dalit (Harijan) entry rights to holy places including Venu Gopala Swamy Temple in Moolapeta, and Nellore.

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UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs

News: India has been elected to chair the 68th session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND).

About UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Figure 8.Source- Business Standard

- It is the principal policy-making body of the United Nations on drug-related matters.
- **Headquarters**: Vienna, Austria
- **Mandate**– It is mandated to *monitor global drug trends*, support Member States in formulating balanced policies, and *oversee the implementation of the major international drug conventions*.
- The Commission on Narcotic Drugs is responsible for deciding which substances are controlled under three key international drug agreements:
    - o The 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, amended in 1972.
    - o The 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.
    - o The 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.
- **Origin**:
    - o It was established by the resolution of the *United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)* IN 1946.
    - o In 1991, the General Assembly (GA) expanded the mandate of the CND to function as the *governing body* of *UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)*.
- **Membership & Bureau**-The CND has *53 member states* that are elected by ECOSOC. It is chaired by a Bureau including one member per Regional Group.
- The CND *meets annually* and adopts a range of decisions and resolutions. Intersessional meetings are convened throughout the year.
- **Subsidiary Bodies**– It has five subsidiary bodies: the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific and Africa, and the Subcommission in the Near and Middle East.

Significance to India

- This is the *first time that India has been named to Chair this important UN body*.
- This reinforces India's growing leadership role on the global stage and its commitment to addressing international issues through established multilateral mechanisms.

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National Human Rights Commission

National Human Rights Commission

News: Human Rights Day is observed on 10th December every year to commemorate the adoption of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

To celebrate the Human Rights Day, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is organising a programme at the Plenary Hall of the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

About NHRC

It is a *statutory body* established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and in conformity with the *Paris Principles (1991).* The Commission serves as the guardian of human rights in the country. **National Human Rights Commission**

Composition:

• The Commission is a multi–member body with a *chairperson* and *five members* (excluding the ex–officio members).
• **Chairperson**– A retired Chief Justice of India or a Supreme Court judge.
• **Members:**

✓ One member who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court.

✓ One member who is or has been the Chief Justice of a High Court.

✓ Three members appointed from individuals with knowledge of or practical experience in human rights matters.

 Note: At least one of the three members must be a woman.

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Ex–officio members–Chairpersons of National Commissions viz., National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women, National Commission for Minorities, National Commission for Backward Classes, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights; and the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.

Appointment– The chairperson and members are appointed by the President based on recommendations from a six–member committee, which includes The Prime Minister (head), Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Leaders of the Opposition in both Houses, The Central Home Minister.

Tenure– The chairperson and members serve a term of 3 years or until age 70, whichever comes first, and are eligible for reappointment.

Powers– NHRC has the powers of a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

About Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948.
- It highlights the fundamental human rights and freedoms that should be universally protected for all people, regardless of their race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, religion, or any other status.
- It asserts that every individual is entitled to the same rights and freedoms , without discrimination of any kind
- The UDHR consists of 30 articles, covering a wide range of civil, social, political, economic and cultural rights.
- It is premised on the principles of non-discrimination, equality, freedom and dignity, participation in society.
- It is *not legally binding.*

Manama Dialogue

News: Recently, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar attended the 20th IISS Manama Dialogue in Bahrain. **Manama Dialogue Explained.**

About the Manama Dialogue

Figure 9.Source- Ministry of External Affairs

- Manama Dialogue is an *annual global security and geopolitical summit held in Bahrain.*
- It was *initiated in 2004*.
- The Dialogue is *organised* by the International Institute for Strategic Studies in collaboration with Bahrain's Ministry of External Affairs.
- It provides a *platform* for national leaders, ministers, policy makers, and strategic thinkers *to address the most pressing regional security issues.*
- *2024 Theme* was "Middle East Leadership in Shaping Regional Prosperity and Security".
- It invites *participants* from Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, and Latin America.

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About International Institute for Strategic Studies

- *International think tank* which focuses on defence and security issues.
- *Established* in 1958
- *Headquartered* in London
- Provides *strategic advice and analysis* on issues related to global security, political risk and military conflict.

PM e-Vidya

News: Recently, the Union Minister for Education launched the DTH 24×7 Channel No. 31, as a part of PM e-Vidya initiative, to provide education through Indian Sign Language for students who have hearing disabilities.

About PM e-Vidya

Figure 10.Source- PIB

The scheme was launched in *May 2020*, as part of the *Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan*, by the *Ministry of Education.*

It aims to promote *inclusive, accessible and high-quality education* through *digital platforms* to minimise learning loss, particularly in the aftermath of the pandemic.

The scheme *aligns with the vision of the National Economic Policy (NEP) 2020*, aiming to provide equitable and quality education throughout the country.

The scheme *utilises technology* to ensure education is accessible to all students, thereby *bridging the digital divide* for learners across the country.

Key components of PM e-Vidya

DIKSHA: It serves as a *national repository of digital content*, including e-learning modules, textbooks, and teaching resources for teachers and students.

PM e-Vidya DTH TV Channels: Includes 200 DTH channels, enabling students to access educational content in multiple Indian languages for classes 1-12 across States/UTs.

SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds): A national MOOC platform providing *free online courses for students from schools to university levels.*

Radio, Community Radio & CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani: These platforms are used to *deliver educational content to a broader audience*, particularly in regions with limited internet connectivity.

Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY): E content tailored for visually and hearing-impaired students such as audiobooks, sign language videos, and talking books, is available on the NIOS website and Youtube.

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Right to disconnect

Right to disconnect

Source: The post **right to disconnect** has been created, based on the article "**Indians need the right to disconnect**" published in **"The Hindu"** on 10th December 2024

UPSC Syllabus Topic: GS Paper2- Governance-Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health,

Context: The article "Indians Need the **Right to Disconnect** brings to light the increasing stress and mental health challenges faced by Indian employees due to prolonged working hours and the inability to disconnect from work after office hours.

What do studies reveal about workplace stress in India?

1. A report revealed that Indian women in professional jobs like IT, media, and auditing work more than **55 hours a week**.
2. Workers in marginalized and unorganized sectors face even worse working conditions.
3. A study found that **49% of Indian workers** experience workplace stress that negatively impacts their mental health.

What is the right to disconnect?

1. The right to disconnect is the ability of employees to disengage from work-related communication outside official working hours.
2. It aims to ensure mental well-being and a better work-life balance.

How have other countries addressed the right to disconnect?

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1. **France**: The French Supreme Court ruled that employees are not required to work or respond to communication outside working hours. Not being reachable after hours cannot be classified as misconduct.
2. **Portugal**: It is illegal for employers to contact employees outside working hours except during emergencies.
3. **Spain**: Workers have the right to disconnect to protect their privacy and ensure their leave and holidays are respected.
4. **Australia**: The Fair Work Legislation Amendment established employees' right to disconnect outside working hours.
5. **Ireland**: Employees are entitled to disconnect from work for a healthier work-life balance.

Does India have laws for the right to disconnect?

1. India does not have specific laws recognizing the right to disconnect.
2. The Constitution and judicial pronouncements emphasize the need for a healthy and dignified work environment.

What constitutional provisions support workplace well-being?

1. **Article 38** mandates the State to promote public welfare.
2. **Article 39(e)** directs the State to protect workers' health and strength.

What judicial rulings reinforce workplace dignity?

1. In **Vishakha v. State of Rajasthan (1997)**, the Supreme Court recognized the right to dignity and provided guidelines to ensure workplace safety.
2. In **Ravindra Kumar Dhariwal v. Union of India (2021)**, the Court called for reasonable accommodations for workers with disabilities.
3. In **Praveen Pradhan v. State of Uttaranchal (2012)**, the High Court stated that workplace discipline should not involve humiliation or inhumane treatment.

Has there been any legislative action?

1. In 2018, MP Supriya Sule introduced a Private Member Bill in the Lok Sabha to establish the right to disconnect.
2. The bill proposed a **penalty of 1% of the total remuneration of employees** for companies that violated the provisions.

Why is the right to disconnect important for India?

1. Recognizing the right to disconnect will enhance productivity and support employee well-being.
2. It will foster healthier work environments and strengthen India's workforce.

By adopting such measures, India can better achieve its goal of becoming the **third-largest economy by 2030**.

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Bima Sakhi Yojana

News: Yesterday, Prime Minister launched the **Bima Sakhi Yojana** of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC).

About Bima Sakhi Yojana

Figure 11.Source- Wikipedia

- It is an *initiative of LIC* to appoint *over two lakh woman insurance agents* over the *next three years.*
- The *aim* is to empower women aged 18-70 years who are Class X pass.
- To promote *financial literacy and institutional awareness*, women agents will be provided with *specialised training* and a *stipend for the first three years.*
- *Stipend Amount:* The woman agents will get a stipend of Rs. 7000 per month for the first year, Rs. 6000 per month in the second year and Rs. 5000 per month in the third year.
- Bima Sakhis will also receive the *benefit of commission.*

About LIC
- It came into existence in *September 1956* after the *Life Insurance of India Act* was passed by the Parliament. This Act also nationalised the private insurance sector in the country.
- Its *mission* is to ensure financial security by providing products and services with competitive returns and by rendering resources for economic development.
- It is India's *largest government owned life insurance and investment corporation*, investing the mobilised fund in global financial markets and different government securities.
- *Key objectives* of LIC
  o Spread insurance across the country, particularly to rural areas and vulnerable section of society.
  o Making insurance linked savings attractive
  o Act as trustees of insured public
  o Meeting the various life insurance needs of the community
- It is *headquartered* in Bombay, Maharashtra.

RBI Governor Appointment

News: The Centre has announced the appointment of Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra as the 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

About RBI Governor Appointment

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Source- The Indian Express

- The RBI governor is appointed under the **RBI Act of 1934**, which stipulates that the chief is appointed by the central government.
- **Process**:
  - The **Financial Sector Regulatory Appointment Search Committee**, consisting Cabinet Secretary, current RBI Governor, Financial Services Secretary and two independent members, **prepares a list of people eligible to hold the post**.
  - The shortlisted candidates are interviewed, and the **list is forwarded to the Cabinet Committee on Appointments**, chaired by the Prime Minister, for final approval.
- **Tenure:**
  - The governor **serves a term of up to five years**, with the duration determined by the government at the time of appointment.
  - The central bank chief is **also eligible for reappointment** or **an extension**.
- **Qualifications**– The RBI Act, 1934 **does not mention any specific qualification** for the governor. People with different educational backgrounds were selected to head the institution.

Willow Chip

News: Recently, Google unveiled its next generation quantum computing chip called Willow.
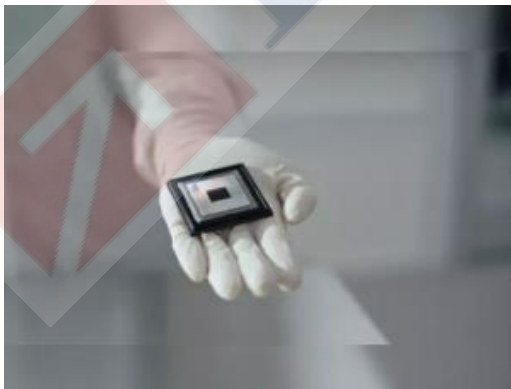
About Willow Chip

Figure 12.Source- The Economic Times

- It is a state of art **quantum computing chip** that has the potential to reduce errors exponentially.
- It successfully solved a complex mathematical problem in just five minutes, a task which supercomputer takes 10 septillion years to solve.
- It utilises **superconducting transmon qubits** for its operations.
  - These qubits exhibit **quantum behavior** at extremely low temperatures, functioning like artificial atoms in a quantum state.

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o Qubits are cooled to temperatures just above absolute zero *to maintain delicate quantum states*, *minimise vibrations and other disturbances* that could disrupt operations.

• Willow chip will enable the building of a useful quantum computer, which has applications in diverse areas such as drug discovery, battery design, and fusion energy.

About Quantum Computing

Quantum computing is a field of computer science that leverages quantum mechanics, the science of very tiny particles like atoms, to solve problems faster than classical computers.

Classical computers use bits to represent information as 0 or 1, while quantum computers rely on quantum bits, which can be 0 or 1 or both at the same time.

HARANI

News: The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras has released 3D high resolution images of human foetal brain, achieving a major landmark in the domain of brain mapping technology.

About Dharani

Figure 13.Source- The New Indian Express

• It is the *largest publicly available digital dataset* of the human foetal brain.

• It is a *complete atlas of the human brain* with researchers providing detailed insights into brain development from the second trimester of the foetus.

• Dharani has been developed with *less than one-tenth of the initial funds* that were used to create the US-based Allen Brain Atlas.

• It will help in improving current foetal imaging techniques, early diagnosis and treatment of health conditions affecting the brain.

• It signifies *advancement in neuroscience research*, providing insights into neurological disorders like autism.

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Search and Rescue Aid Tool (SARAT)

News: The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, has recently upgraded its Search and Rescue Aid Tool (SARAT).

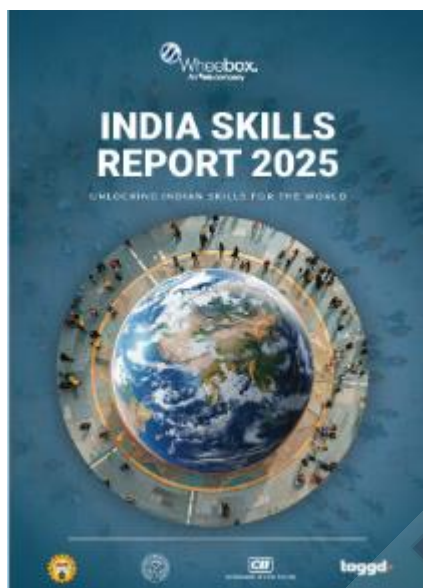**About Search and Rescue Aid Tool (SARAT)**

Figure 14.Source- INCOIS

- It was launched in 2016 by the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) under the Make in India program.
- It *facilitates search and rescue operations at sea* by quickly locating individuals or vessels in distress.
- **Key Features and Working:**
  o **Advanced Modeling**: The tool uses *ensemble modeling* to account for uncertainties in the initial location and time of the missing object. Movements are tracked based on ocean currents and winds.
  o **Technology Backbone**: It relies on *high-resolution Regional Ocean Modelling System (ROMS) data*, operationally run on High-Performance Computers at INCOIS.
  o **Customizable Options**: Users *can choose from up to 60 types of missing objects* (categorized by shape and buoyancy) and pinpoint the last known location using an interactive map or input distance and direction.
  o **Results and Communication**: The tool generates an *interactive map* showing the probable search area, with *results also sent via text and email. Localized languages* are supported to aid fishermen in distress.
- **Improvements in SARAT Version 2:**
  o The starting position for the search is now accurately set to the *last known location.*
  o Enhanced visualizations include *color-coded search regions*, improved clarity of probable search areas, and a marker to identify the last known position.

India Skills Report 2025

News: India Skills Report 2025 shows that more than half of Indian graduates are now employable, which is an increase from 33% a decade ago.

About the Report

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Source- Wheebox

- The report has been **released by Wheebox** in collaboration with **Confederation of Indian Industry, Association of Indian Universities and All India Council for Technical Education.**
- It is based on the evaluation of 6.5 lakh candidates who participated in the **Global Employability Test** across India.
  - o It also considers insights from over 1,000 corporations across 15 diverse industries.

Key Highlights of the Report

- The **employability** among Indian graduates **has increased to 54.81%** as against 51.25% recorded in the previous Global Employability Test.
- **Maharashtra** leads with 84% employability followed by Delhi, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Over half of Indian graduates are now employable**, a major increase from 33% a decade ago.
  - o This shift is underlined by **India's focus on emerging technologies** like artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and automation, leading to reshaping of traditional jobs and creation of new opportunities.
- The rise of **digital nomadism and hybrid work models** open new opportunities for Indian talent to contribute to the global economy.

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