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INTERNATIONAL

1) "The State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2022"

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations released its flagship publication "The State of the World's Forests 2022: Forest Pathways for Green Recovery and Building Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable economies".
- As per the report, the rate of deforestation has decreased over the last 30 years but it was still 10 Mha per year from 2015 to 2020.
- Forests cover around 31% (4.06 billion ha) of the Earth's land surface.

NATIONAL

1) M15 petrol

- Indian Oil Corporation rolled out M15 petrol on a pilot basis in Assam's Tinsukia district. M15 is a blend of 15 % methanol and 85 % Petrol.
- It helps lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by about 5 to 10%. Blending 15% methanol in petrol would bring down GHG emissions by 20% in terms of particulate matter, NOx, and SOx, thereby improving the urban air quality.
- Methanol is a liquid chemical with the formula CH3OH. It is a light, volatile, colorless, and flammable liquid.

2) "SemiconIndia 2022"

- First "SemiconIndia 2022" conference, organised by India Semiconductor Mission in partnership with industry and industry associations, was inaugurated by Narendra Modi in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Theme of the conference 'Catalyzing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem'.
- The conference's aim is to make India a global hub for Semiconductor Design.

3) Kamla Devi

- The Indian Coast Guard launched the Fast Patrol Vessel 'Yard 2118' named as Kamla Devi, in honour of the Social reformer and freedom fighter Kamladevi Chattopadhyay.
- The Vessel is 48.9 metres long and 7.5 metres wide with a displacement of around 308 tonnes and is designed for maximum speed of 34 knots with an endurance of more than 1,500 nautical miles.

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STATE NEWS

1) Greenfield grain-based ethanol factory

- India's first greenfield grain-based ethanol factory was inaugurated in Bihar by Nitish Kumar (Chief Minister of Bihar).
- Ethanol production would help cut the cost of petrol.
- The produced ethanol would be sold only to Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum, and Hindustan Petroleum in the state as well as West Bengal and Jharkhand.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

1) Conference on Insolvency and Bankruptcy

- Recently, the first 2- day Conference on Insolvency and Bankruptcy was organised by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), jointly with the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA).
- Minister of State for Statistics and Programme highlighted that introduction of the proposed cross-border insolvency resolution framework will be a landmark step in redefining India's economic relations with the world.

2) "Pay as you Drive" program

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company, launched "Pay as you Drive" program.
- It is an insurance solution that provides distance-based insurance under its own damage section in order to lower upfront insurance premiums.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1) Dr Rajiv Ranjan

- The Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India approved the nomination of Dr Rajiv Ranjan, Executive Director of RBI as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee.
- He replaces Mridul Saggar.

IMPORTANT DAYS

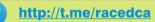
1) World Asthma Day

- World Asthma Day is observed on the first Tuesday of May across the world.
- In 2022, the day falls on 3rd May 2022.

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- It's aim is to create awareness about asthma, a condition in which the airways narrow and swell and may produce extra mucus.
- Theme: "Closing Gaps in Asthma Care".

2) World Press Freedom Day

- The United Nations World Press Freedom Day is annually observed across the globe on 3rd May to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom and to assess the state of press freedom throughout the world.
- Theme of 2022: "Journalism under digital siege"