

➤ **Organ Transplantation** is the act of surgical removal of an organ from one person and placing it into another person.

There is a wide gap between patients and the organs that are available in India:

🔥 **Ex: Only 6000 renal transplants annually against 1.8 lakh persons** suffering from renal failure.

This **high Burden** (Demand versus Supply gap) has resulted in **increase in organ trade in India.**

➤ **Other issues in Organ Transplantation in India**

🔥 **Lack of Organized systems for organ procurement from deceased donor.**

🔥 **Poor Awareness and attitude towards organ donation. High Cost** (for uninsured and poor patients).

➤ **Primary legislation** related to organ donation and transplantation in India is **Transplantation of Human Organs Act (THOA), 1994.**

🔥 Government is also **implementing National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP)** to promote organ donation and transplantation.

➤ Earlier this year, **government released modified National Organ Transplantation Guidelines.**

🔥 It allowed those above **65 years of age to receive an organ for transplantation from deceased donors.**

🔥 It also removed the **domicile requirement to register as an organ recipient.**



About NOTTO

It is a **National level organization** set up under **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.**

➤ It functions as **apex centre for coordination and networking for procurement and distribution of organs and tissues and Registry of Organs and Tissues Donation and Transplantation in country.**

Lok Sabha expels an MP from the Parliament based on the ethics committee report in a cash-for-query case

➤ The Lok Sabha Ethics Committee found the **MP guilty of “unethical conduct” and “contempt of the House”** and recommended MP’s expulsion from the House.

➤ **Process of removal of MP through Ethics committee:**

Complaint Submission- A complaint can be filed **against members of the House by other members** and also **outsiders** through a member along with evidence of alleged misconduct.

◆ The **Speaker can also refer** to the Committee any complaint against an MP.

Committee Evaluation: It makes a **prima facie inquiry** before examining a complaint and makes recommendations after evaluating the complaint.

⊕ **Report and decision:** It presents its report to the Speaker, who asks the House if the report should be taken up for consideration.

➤ The **decision of the House can be challenged in court.**

➤ **Article 101** gives only three grounds on which an MP’s seat can be vacated: **Resignation, Disqualification and Continuous absence from the House for 60 days.**

Ethics committee

About	Lok Sabha	Rajya Sabha
Origin	Constituted in 2000	Constituted first in Rajya Sabha in 1997
Members	15 (from Lok Sabha)	10 (from Rajya Sabha)
Time period of members	Hold office for a term not exceeding 1 year.	Hold office until a new committee is nominated
Nominated by	Speaker	Chairman

India Attends 6th National Security Adviser level Meeting of Colombo Security Conclave held in Mauritius

Key Developments

- ⊕ Agreed on a **Roadmap of Activities for 2024** in the face of **traditional, non-traditional and emerging hybrid challenges** in Indian Ocean region (IOR).
 - ◆ **Non-traditional security issues** are challenges that arise primarily out of **non-military sources**, such as climate change, infectious diseases, natural disasters, etc.
- ⊕ Announced launch of **Ocean Information Services portal**.
 - ◆ Portal aims to facilitate **exchange of oceanographic information**.

About Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)

- ⊕ **Formed in 2011** as **trilateral maritime security** grouping of **India, Sri Lanka and Maldives**.
- ⊕ Later **Mauritius joined as 4th member** and **Bangladesh & Seychelles** as observer countries.
- ⊕ It has **permanent secretariat based in Colombo**, to coordinate activities and implement decisions.
- ⊕ **CSC focuses on 5 pillars** :
 - ◆ **Maritime safety and security**,
 - ◆ **Countering terrorism and radicalisation**,
 - ◆ **Combating trafficking and transnational organised crime**,
 - ◆ **Cyber security and protection of critical infrastructure** and
 - ◆ **Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief**.

Other Regional Cooperation Mechanism in IOR

Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC).

Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of IOR.

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).

Indian Ocean Commission (India is not a member but observer to it).

Significance of CSC

- ⊕ In line with vision of **Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)** and **Neighbourhood First Policy**.
 - ⊕ Provides **cooperative environment and collaborative mechanism** in maritime neighbourhood of IOR.

A Complex Adaptive System Framework to Regulate Artificial Intelligence (AI): A Paper Released by Economic Advisory Council to PM

- ▶ **Paper provides a novel framework** to regulate AI based on **Complex Adaptive System** (a system where components interact and evolve in unpredictable ways) consisting of **five key principles**:
 - ⊕ **Creating a Specialist Regulator: An expert regulatory body** with a broad mandate and the ability to respond swiftly.
 - ⊕ **Ensuring Transparency: Through Open licensing of core algorithms** for external audits, and continuous monitoring of AI systems.
 - ⊕ **Defining Clear Lines of AI Accountability: By mandating standardized incident reporting protocols** to document any system aberrations or failures.
 - ⊕ **Mandating Manual 'Overrides' and 'Authorization Chokepoints'**: To empower humans to intervene when AI systems behave erratically.
 - ⊕ **Establishing Guardrails and Partitions: To Implement clear boundary conditions** to limit undesirable AI behaviors.
- ▶ **Need to Regulate AI:**
 - ⊕ Traditional methods fall short due to **AI's non-linear, unpredictable nature**.
 - ⊕ **Social Surveillance and Impersonation** leading to **loss of privacy** (Deepfakes).
 - ⊕ **National security threats** and compromised critical infrastructure.
 - ⊕ **Disrupt the democratic process**, lead to job loss, biased results etc.
- ▶ **Challenges in AI Regulation:**
 - ⊕ **Rapid technological advancements; Interdisciplinary nature of AI; Dynamic AI Ecosystem; Lack of standardization; Enforcement** challenges etc.

Developmental and Regulatory Policy Measures Taken by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **Enhancing Unified Payments Interface (UPI) Transaction Limit for Specified Categories:**
 - ⊖ It is proposed to enhance UPI limit for payments to **hospitals and educational institutions** from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per transaction.
 - ⊖ **Transaction limit for UPI is capped at ₹1 lakh**, except a few categories like Capital Markets, Collections, Insurance etc. **where the transaction limit is ₹2 lakh.**
 - ⊖ **About UPI**
 - ◆ **UPI** was launched in 2016, it is an instant payment system developed by **National Payments Corporation of India.**
 - ◆ UPI has a **2 Factor Authentication.**
 - ◆ UPI accounts for **over 40% of India's digital transactions.**
 - ◆ In recent past, **India made UPI Payment Deal with France, UAE and Sri Lanka.**
- **Setting up of Fintech Repository**
 - ⊖ Repository will be operationalised by **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub in April 2024 or earlier.**
- **Regulatory Framework for Web-Aggregation of loan products (WALP)**
 - ⊖ To increase **transparency** in their operations.
 - ⊖ **WALP** entails **aggregation of loan offers from multiple lenders** on an electronic platform,
 - ◆ which enables **borrowers to compare and choose** the best available option to avail loan from one of the available lenders.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approves reservation norms for Jute Packaging Materials (JPM) under JPM Act, 1987

- **JPM (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 (JPM Act 1987)** provides for **compulsory use of jute packaging material in supply and distribution** of certain commodities.
- **Mandatory packaging norms approved for Jute Year 2023-24 (1st July, 2023 to 30th June, 2024)** provide for **100% reservation of food-grains** and **20% of sugar** to be compulsorily packed in jute bags.
- **Benefits of reservation for JPM**
 - ⊖ **Protect the interest of domestic production of raw jute and JPM** in India, thereby, **making India self-reliant.**
 - ⊖ Provide **relief to 4 lakh workers employed in jute mills** and ancillary units.
 - ⊖ **Support livelihood** of around **40 lakh farm families.**
 - ⊖ **Protect environment as jute is natural, bio- degradable,** renewable and reusable fibre and hence fulfils all sustainability parameters.
 - **Jute (golden fibre)** is one of major industries in India's eastern region.
 - ⊖ India is world's **biggest producer of jute**, followed by Bangladesh.
- **Issues in Jute Industry:** Lack of machinery modernisation, labour shortage, rising raw material cost etc.
- **Other steps taken for Jute Industry**
 - ⊖ **Jute - Improved Cultivation and Retting Exercises** support pre and post harvesting operations;
 - ⊖ **Production Linked Incentive scheme** for Jute Diversified Products to increase exports;
 - ⊖ **Jute Technology Mission;** etc.

Also in News



Green Rising Initiative

- **UNICEF's Generation Unlimited**, in collaboration with India's **Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change**, introduced "Green Rising" initiative at COP28.
 - ⊖ **Aim** to empower youth-led climate actions and solutions.
 - ⊖ It was launched at **Dubai Cares (philanthropic organization)** hosted **RewirEd Summit.**
 - ⊖ **RewirEd Summit at COP28 is first ever global summit on education and climate.**
- **Earlier in 2018**, UN Secretary-General launched **Generation Unlimited.**
 - ⊖ It is a global **Public-Private-Youth Partnership**, to co-create and deliver innovative solutions on global scale.



City of Lakes Project and 3i model

- At a discussion held by **C40**, Delhi's breakthroughs in fighting climate change like **City of Lakes project** and **3i model** were mentioned.
 - ⊖ **C40 is a global network of nearly a hundred mayors of world's leading cities that are united in action to confront climate crisis.**
- **Delhi's 3i model for Electric Vehicles** focuses on **Inclusion, incentivization, and Innovation.**
- **City of lakes** aims to rejuvenate water bodies in city.
 - ⊖ It creates **eco-tourism opportunities** and **enhances heat resilience**, particularly during extreme weather events.
 - ⊖ It led to an **increase of up to 2 meters in groundwater levels.**



Agni-1

- ▶ **Training launch 'Agni-1'** was carried out successfully from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.
- ▶ Agni-1 is **Short-Range Ballistic Missile** and is a very high precision missile system.
 - ⊖ **Range capacity:** over 700 Kms.
 - ⊖ It is **nuclear-capable**, road-mobile missile.
 - ⊖ **First deployed in 2007.**
- ▶ Agni-1 to 5 missiles are **designed & developed by Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).**



Dodo (*Raphus cucullatus*)

- ▶ Geneticists and conservationists have joined forces to re-introduce the Dodo, extinct since the late 17th century. **About**
- ▶ **Dodo:**
 - ⊖ **Flightless birds** that were **endemic to the island of Mauritius**, which is east of Madagascar in **Indian Ocean**.
 - ⊖ **Dodos are related to pigeons** and the closest living relative of the dodo is the **Nicobar pigeon**.
- ▶ **Reason for its extinction:**
 - ⊖ **Deforestation, hunting, and destruction of their nests** by animals brought to the island by the Dutch.



Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS)

- ▶ **Eastern Ghats Nature Interpretation Centre** inaugurated along the periphery of the **Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- ▶ **About KWS**
 - ⊖ **Location** –On the outskirts of **Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)**.
 - ⊖ **Forest** - **Dry evergreen forest** mixed with scrub and meadows. Terrain hilly with steep slopes.
 - ⊖ **Fauna** - Mammals like **Leopard (Indicator species)**, Barking Deer, Jackal, etc.
 - ⊖ **Flora** - Diverse flora representing **Eastern Ghats** like Bush plum tree, Jungle berry bunches etc.



Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2024

- ▶ **India this year further improved its global CCPI ranking** by securing **7th position** (last year it was 8th).
- ▶ **About CCPI**
 - ⊖ Released by **Germanwatch**.
 - ⊖ CCPI is an **independent monitoring tool** for tracking the climate protection performance.
 - ⊖ **It assesses countries performance in four categories:**
 - ◆ **GHG emissions** (40% of the overall score),
 - ◆ **Renewable energy** (20%),
 - ◆ **Energy use** (20%) ,
 - ◆ **Climate policy** (20%).
 - ⊖ **Top three places i.e 1-3 are vacant in CCPI.**
 - ⊖ Germanwatch also releases **The Global Climate Risk Index**.



Table Top Exercise

- ▶ **Indian Army** conducted Table-Top Exercise for **Women Officers of Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)**.
- ▶ Exercise is part of ongoing efforts of **Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK)**,
 - ⊖ **To strengthen international cooperation** and capacity- building in peacekeeping missions, with specific focus on **empowering women in the field**.
 - ⊖ **CUNPK is a premier institution of the Indian Army** to impart training in peacekeeping operations.



India-South Korea Electronic Origin Data Exchange System (EODES)

- ▶ **Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs** has launched **India- South Korea EODES**.
- ▶ **EODES will facilitate implementation of India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) by electronic exchange of origin information** between two customs administrations for goods traded under CEPA.
 - ⊖ It will provide a fresh impetus to **preferential trade between two countries**.

Places in News



Guyana (Capital: Georgetown)

- ▶ **Venezuela, Guyana** saw tensions over a border dispute around the **Esequibo river**, and an offshore area.
- ▶ **Political features**
 - ⊖ North eastern corner of **South America**.
 - ⊖ **Not landlocked**.
 - ⊖ Bordered by **Atlantic Ocean (north)**, **Suriname (east)**, **Brazil (south)**, and **Venezuela (west)**.
- ▶ **Geographical features**
 - ⊖ **Mountains:** Acarai Mountains, Pakaraima Mountains, Kanuku Mountains.
 - ⊖ **Highest point: Mount Roraima** (2,772 metres).
 - ⊖ **Main rivers:** Courantyne, Berbice, Demerara, and Essequibo (all empty into Atlantic).

