Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) constitutes an inquiry committee to probe the security breach in Lok Sabha

- On the 22nd anniversary of the 2001 Parliament attacks, the **accused entered Lok Sabha and released colour gas canisters** emitting yellow smoke.
  - **Accused** are booked under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) by Delhi police.**
- **Parliamentary Security System**
  - **Security Oversight and Coordination:**
    - **Parliamentary Security Service** (of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha) is responsible for maintaining security and they are **assisted by various Security and Paramilitary agencies.**
    - **Carrying of firearms, ammunitions, banners, placards,** etc. in the House Complex is **prohibited**.
    - A **joint command and control centre** has been established for improved coordination.
  - Security infrastructure:
    - A special unit of **Delhi Police, CRPF** (Central Reserve Police Force), **CISF** (Central Industrial Security Force) and **the Fire Service** are involved.
    - Parliament building is equipped with **advanced facial artificial intelligence** mechanisms
  - **Restricted Access:**
    - **Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha** deals with "admission, withdrawal and removal of strangers.
      » It specifies that **Speaker**, whenever thinks fit, **may order the withdrawal of strangers** from any part of the House.
    - **Visitors** to Parliament **need security clearance from parliamentarians** making it their responsibility.
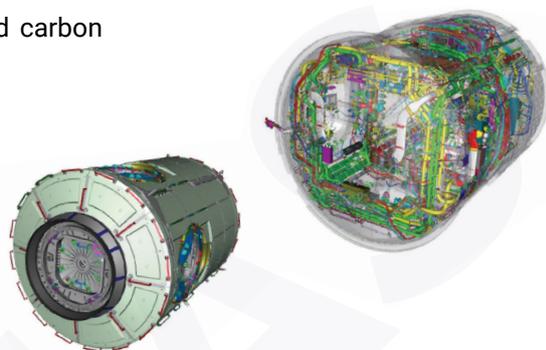
Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) summit adopts New Delhi Declaration

- **GPAI** has unanimously adopted **New Delhi Declaration to mitigate risks** (unemployment, lack of transparency etc.) **arising from development and deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI)** systems.
  - Earlier, **Bletchley Declaration** signed at UK AI Safety Summit **focused on AI related safety risks.**
- **Key highlights of New Delhi Declaration**
  - **Supports AI innovation in agriculture sector** as a new thematic priority, adding to previous GPAI themes including healthcare, climate action and building a resilient society.
  - Focuses on **collaboration, inclusion** and **creating a governance framework on AI.**
  - **Global framework for use of AI** should be rooted in **democratic values and human rights, personal data protection,** promoting responsible, sustainable, and human-centred use of AI etc.

  - **Promote equitable access to critical resources for AI innovation**, including computing and high-quality diverse datasets.
  - **Foster inclusivity** so that countries outside of the GPAI's purview, especially those in global south, can also reap AI benefits.
- **GPAI:** Established in **June 2020 with 15 member countries (including India),** GPAI is a **multi-stakeholder initiative** of global experts bridging AI theory and practice.
  - Currently, it is an **alliance of 29 members.**
  - India is the **lead chair of GPAI in 2024.**

ISRO to indigenously develop Environmental Control and Life Support System (ECLSS) for Gaganyaan mission: ISRO Chairman

- ECLSS is a **subsystem of a crewed space vehicle** which provides all necessary conditions to make life in space possible.
  - **ECLSS Tasks primarily include** atmosphere management, water management, food supply and waste management.
- **ECLSS consists of three key components**
  - **Water Recovery System** provides **clean water by reclaiming wastewater,** cabin humidity condensate, and water from the hydration system inside crew members' Extravehicular activity suits.
  - **Air Revitalization System** dedicated to cleaning circulating cabin air.
  - **Oxygen Generation System** consists of oxygen generation assembly and carbon dioxide reduction assembly.
- **Significance of indigenous ECLSS**
  - **Facilitate Gaganyaan Mission,** India's human space flight programme
  - **Reduce dependence on foreign space agencies** for manned missions.
  - **Promote knowledge and design capability** development for manned missions.
  - **Employment generation and human resource development** in advanced science and R&D activities.
- Gaganyaan Mission envisages demonstration of human spaceflight capability to Low Earth Orbit.
  - It aims to **launch crew of 3 members to an orbit of 400 km for 3 days** and bringing them back safely to Earth.
  - **LVM3 (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mk III)** is identified as its **launch vehicle**. It consists of solid stage, liquid stage and cryogenic stage.

US House of Representatives voted to formally open an impeachment inquiry into the President

- **Impeachment in US and India**

Specification	USA	India
Applicability	**President, Vice President, and all civil officers** of the Federal Government are subject to impeachment.	**Only President** (under Article 61 of constitution).
Grounds of Impeachment	Treason, Bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.	**Violation of the Constitution**
Process	 ⊙ **Charges:** Any member of the **House of Representatives.** ⊙ **Voting - Simple majority** of the House of Representatives. ⊙ **Presiding Officer for trials:** Chief Justice of US.	⊙ **Charges preferred by:** Either **House of Parliament** provided such charges are **signed by at least 1/4th of members** of the House. ⊙ **Voting:** Resolution needs to be passed by **not less than 2/3rd of total membership** of each House. 　○ Once passed in one House, it is sent to **other House**, where an **investigation into the charges** precedes vote on resolution. ⊙ **Presiding Officer:** Presiding Officer of respective Houses.
Consequence	⊙ Impeachment serves as an **indictment, not removal.** ⊙ After impeachment, **Senate** (upper house) is **convened like a court.** President can only be removed **if at least 2/3rd of Senate votes** for it after the hearings. ⊙ **Andrew Johnson, Bill Clinton, and Donald Trump** were impeached but **none were removed.**	⊙ **Impeachment** results in the removal of the President from office. ⊙ **No President has been impeached** so far.

Urgent action needed to protect children and prevent the uptake of e-cigarette: says WHO

- **E-cigarettes heat a liquid to create aerosols** that are **inhaled** by the user.
  - These e-liquids may or may not have nicotine but **do not contain tobacco.**
  - However, they typically contain **additives, flavors and chemicals that can be toxic.**
- E-cigarettes are also known as **vape pens, vapes, electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) electronic non-nicotine delivery systems (ENNDS), etc.**
  - According to the WHO **E-cigarettes target children** through **social media and influencers.**
  - **Children 13–15 years old** are using e-cigarettes at rates higher than adults.
- Rates of e-cigarette **use among 16–19-year-olds has doubled** between 2017–2022.
- **Other impacts of E-cigarettes**
  - E-cigarettes are **not shown to be effective for quitting tobacco** use at the population level.
  - E-cigarettes **with nicotine are highly addictive.**
  - Generate toxic substances that cause **cancer and increase the risk of heart and lung disorders.**
  - Negatively affects **fetal development and brain development** (leading to learning disorders).
- **Regulation of E-cigarettes in India: Prohibition of Electronic Cigarette Act (PECA) 2019** prohibits the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement of e-cigarettes.

Oil spill occurred in Ennore region of Chennai after Cyclone Michaung-induced floods

- As per Indian Coast Guard, Oil spill **originating from Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd refinery** has spread across 20 square kilometres into the sea.
- An oil spill is the **release of a liquid petroleum hydrocarbon into environment, especially marine areas.**
- **Causes of Oil Spills:** Equipment breaking down due to human errors; deliberate acts by illegal dumping; natural disasters like hurricanes, etc.
- **Impacts of oil spill**
  - **Destroys insulating ability of fur on mammals and impacts water repelling qualities** of a bird's feathers.
  - Impacts **immune system and reproduction of dolphins and whales** by oil inhalation.
  - Health problems like **heart damage, immune system effects,** headache due to strong odour, skin irritation, etc.
  - **Obstruct passage of sunlight into sea,** thereby destroying photosynthesising phytoplankton.
  - **Impacts mangrove forests** as they can **no longer shield coastlines.**
- **Bio remediation technology developed in India for Oil spills**
  - **Oilzapper (developed by TERI),** an eco-friendly technique of using the bacteria to get rid of **oil sludges and oil- spill.**
  - **Oilivorous-S** (jointly developed by TERI and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd) has an **additional bacterial strain** that makes it **more effective against sludge and crude oil** with **high-sulphur content.**

Steps taken for Preventing Oil Spills

- **India**
  - National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan by Indian Coast Guard.
  - Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 has provision of Prevention and Containment of Pollution of sea by oil.
- **Global**
  - International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), and Prevention of Pollution of marine environment from Ships (MARPOL).
    - India is party to both conventions.

Also in News

Haemophilia

- Haemophilia and Health Collective of North **(HHCN) proposed new guidelines for treatment of Persons with Haemophilia (PwH)** in India.
- Haemophilia is a **bleeding disorder** in which the blood does not clot properly.
  - It is **usually inherited** with an **X-linked recessive inheritance pattern.**
    - It is caused by mutation in one of the genes that provides instructions for making clotting factor proteins needed to form a blood clot.
    - These **genes are located on the X chromosome.**
  - Acquired haemophilia is a **separate non-inherited condition.**

Inverted Duty Structure (IDS)

- **Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry submitted a list of items** to Ministry of Finance **to address IDS.**
- **IDS** refers to a tax structure where **taxation on imports of inputs is at higher rates than finished products.**
  - **Free Trade Agreement** pacts signed by India with its partner countries is one of the reasons for IDS.
- **Impact of IDS**
  - IDS **go against** the **'Make in India' initiative** as it encourages import of finished products.
  - Adversely impacts the **export competitiveness.**
  - IDS may also result in **reduced tax revenue** as domestic production declines.

De-registration of political parties

- **Delhi High Court rejected a PIL to de-register political parties registered** with names having religious, caste, ethnic, and linguistic connotations.
- **Political Parties** in India are registered with Election Commission of India (ECI) under **Section 29A of Representation of People Act (RPA), 1951.**
  - However, RPA 1951 **does not provide any mechanism to de-register** political parties.
  - **Law Commission** (255th and 170th reports) on electoral reforms have **recommended granting ECI power to de-register** a party in cases of non-compliance.

Suspension of Member of Parliament (MPs)

- **13 MPs of Lok Sabha have been suspended** for their unruly behavior.
- **Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha**
  - **Rule 373:** Speaker may direct a Member to withdraw immediately from House and remain absent remainder of the day's sitting, if his conduct is grossly disorderly.
  - **Rule 374:** Speaker to name **member who disregards authority of Chair or abuses the rules of the House** by persistently.
    - And when member is suspended by House by **adopting the motion,** he stands suspended.
  - **Rule 374A:** In case of grave disorder occasioned by a Member (abusing Rules of House), such Member shall **stand automatically suspended.**

Moving Off Information Systems (MOIS)

- Central Motor Vehicle Rules-Technical Standing Committee and Automotive Industry Standards Committee have taken up the work to **formulate a standard on MOIS for vehicles.**
- MOIS is a system to **detect and inform the driver of the presence of pedestrians and cyclists** in close proximity forward blind-spot of the vehicle.
  - If deemed necessary, MOIS may **warn the driver of a potential collision.**
- **Benefits of MOIS:** Increases **traffic safety** for all road users; Prevent collisions etc.

Asymmetric federalism

- In recent judgement, Supreme Court held that Article 370 was a feature of **asymmetric federalism** and not sovereignty.
- Federalism is a **system of government in which power is divided between a central authority** and **various constituent units** of the country.
- Asymmetric federalism is understood to mean federalism based on **unequal powers and relationships** in political, administrative and fiscal arrangements spheres **between the units constituting a federation.**
  - India is said to be Asymmetric federal as there are **special provisions applicable to some States/ regions** e.g. north eastern states.

Urbicide

- Targeting of Gaza's **hospitals, bakeries, and schools by Israel** is being considered as **urbicide** by several activists.
- Urbicide is Latin for **'city killing'**.
  - It refers to an act of **ritualised, premeditated violence on built infrastructures.**
  - In the 1980s, scholars used the term to describe the **extensive destruction of Balkan towns** during the **Yugoslavic wars** from 1992 to 1996.
  - This concept **goes beyond merely destroying cities physically**. It also **eradicates memories, identities, and cultures** embedded in a city's fabric.

Lunar Anthropocene

- **Human activities on the moon** have propelled the moon into the **Lunar Anthropocene** according to a University of Kansas study.
- Lunar Anthropocene **parallels Earth's Anthropocene**, marking a **significant human impact on planetary systems.**
  - It is believed to have begun with the **USSR's Luna 2 mission in 1959.**
- **Earth's Anthropocene Epoch** refers to an **unofficial unit of geologic time.**
  - It is used to describe the most recent period in Earth's history when **human activity started to have a significant impact on Earth's climate and ecosystems.**

Personality in News — Baba Raghav Das (1896 -1958)

- Birth anniversary of Baba Raghav Das, popularly known as **'Poorvanchal Gandhi'**, was observed recently.
- Baba, born at **Pune**, Maharastra, made **'Yogiraj Anant Mahaprabhu'** his guru.
- **Gandhiji** during his visit to Gorakhpur in 1921 **called him Baba.**
- **Contributions:**
  - He **accompanied Gandhiji** during the 1930 **Dandi March.**
  - Took part in **Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan movement, in 1951**.
  - Started **leprosy homes** and **degree college in Deoria**, U.P.
  - Served as a **Member of the Legislative Assembly** in 1948.
- **Values**: Empathy, compassion, patriotism etc.

भारत INDIA 2.00

Baba Raghav Das
(1896 -1958)

AHMEDABAD   BHOPAL   CHANDIGARH   DELHI   JAIPUR   JODHPUR   GUWAHATI   HYDERABAD   LUCKNOW   PRAYAGRAJ   PUNE   RANCHI   SIKAR