

DAILY PT POINTERS

6th December, 2023



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GS3-Environment (Page 1)

Global Stocktake draft calls for phasing out fossil fuels



- A new draft of the Global Stocktake, released at the ongoing UN Climate Summit (COP28)
- The global stocktake is a process for countries and stakeholders to see where they're collectively making progress towards meeting the goals of the Paris Climate Change Agreement – and where they're not
- the latest version of the Global Stocktake includes a clause committing all signatories to “an orderly and just phase out of fossil fuels”.
- The GST also includes a clause calling for “...tripling renewable energy capacity globally by 2030 compared to the 2022 level to 11,000 GW and doubling the global average annual rate of energy-efficiency improvement compared to the 2022 level to 4.1 per cent by 2030
- In Dubai, India was not among the 118 signatories to the ‘energy efficiency pledge’, which laid down this directive, reportedly on the grounds that it came with a caveat to give up the use of coal.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GS3-Environment (Page 1)

Glaciers shrank 1 m a year in a decade: WMO

Decade of extremes

The decade from 2011 to 2020 witnessed a rise in economic losses due to extreme weather, but also saw a drop in deaths

■ The drop in deaths was due to advancements in early warning systems and disaster management

■ This was also the first decade that the depleted ozone hole visibly showed recovery

■ Heatwaves caused the highest human casualties and tropical

cyclones inflicted the most economic damage

■ While climate finance nearly doubled, it needs to increase sevenfold by the decade's end



SOURCE: WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

- The **Global Climate 2011-2020: A Decade of Acceleration** report documents how extreme events across the decade had devastating impacts, particularly on food security, displacement and migration, hindering national development and progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
 - The number of casualties from extreme events has declined, associated with improved early warning systems, even though economic losses have increased.
 - Public and private climate finance almost doubled between 2011 and 2020. However, it needs to increase at least seven times by the end of this decade to achieve climate objectives.
 - The report was released at the UN Climate Change Conference, COP28, and emphasizes the need for much more ambitious climate action to try to limit global temperature rise to no more than 1.5°C above the pre-industrial era.
 - It compliments WMO's annual State of the Global Climate report.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GS1-Social Issues / GS2-Governance (Page 2)

Increase threshold income for EWS admissions in schools to ₹5 lakh: HC

Court says its order to stay till Delhi govt. comes up with a revised slab; asks to frame mechanism for income verification



- The High Court ordered the Delhi government to increase the threshold income for availing of the reservation under the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category in private schools to ₹5 lakh from the current ₹1 lakh per annum.
 - The threshold income of ₹1 lakh “does not precisely reflect the economic hardships faced by families in the contemporary times”
 - Under the Right to Education Act, 25% seats in private schools are reserved for candidates from the EWS category.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GSII /Polity and Governance (Page 12)

How did benefits for migrants impact Assam, asks SC

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL,
NEW DELHI

There is no material to indicate that the impact of benefits affected the cultural identity of the State

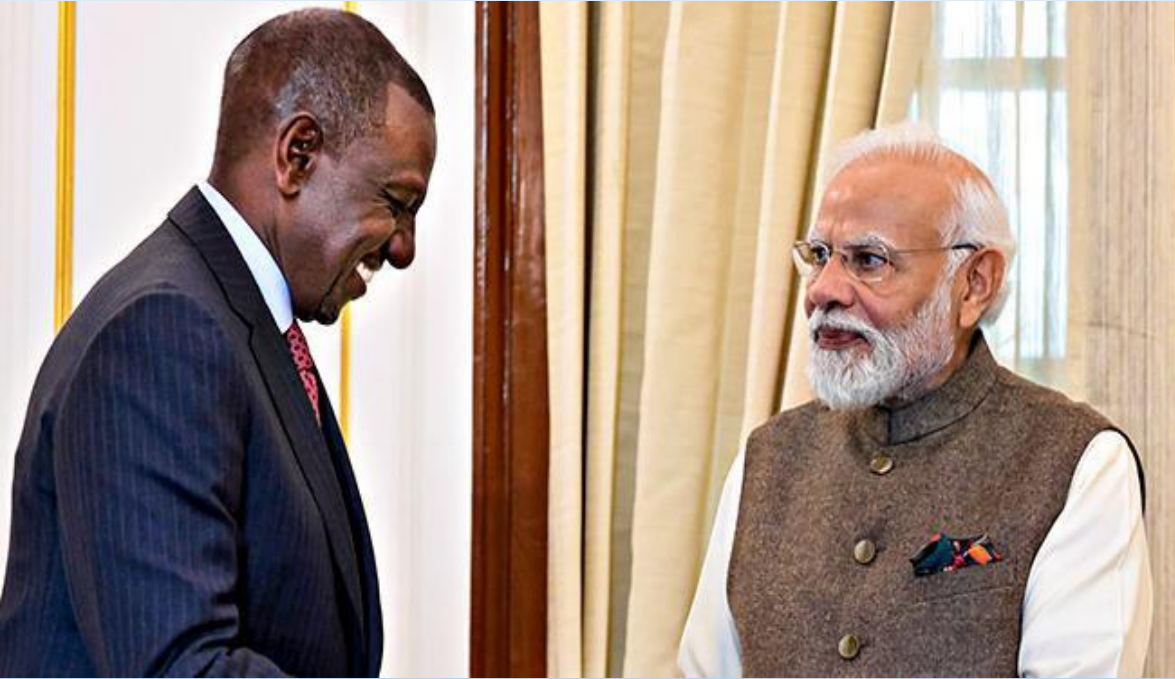


The Chief Justice is heading a Constitution Bench hearing a series of petitions challenging the constitutionality of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

- Section 6A was a special provision inserted into the 1955 Act in furtherance of a Memorandum of Settlement called the Assam Accord signed on August 15, 1985 by the Rajiv Gandhi government.
 - Under Section 6A, foreigners who had entered Assam before January 1, 1966, and been “ordinarily resident” in the State, would have all the rights and obligations of Indian citizens.
 - Those who had entered the State between January 1, 1966 and March 25, 1971 would have the same rights and obligations, except that they would not be able to vote for 10 years.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: IR (Page 12)



- India extended a \$250 million Line of Credit for modernisation of agriculture in Kenya.
- both sides will carry out joint military exercises and will collaborate on counter-terror projects.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Environment (GSIII) (Page 13)

The journey towards a plastic-free world

What did the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC), under the United Nations Environment Programme, in its third round of negotiations discuss? How do they aim to end plastic pollution? What did the 'zero draft' say and was it endorsed by the end of the meeting?



- The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC), under the United Nations Environment Programme, met in Nairobi from November 13 to 19 for its third round of negotiations to develop an international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution worldwide.
- Under the UN Environment Assembly Resolution 5/14, the INC is responsible for delivering a global plastics treaty by 2025.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GS 3 (S&T) (Page 14)

Understanding how the Global Positioning System (GPS) works

GPS has significantly changed our expectations of where we are and our sense of place. The major sectors which employ the technology include agriculture, construction, surveying, logistics, search and rescue, air travel, meteorology, seismology, and military operations



- The U.S. Department of Defence started the GPS programme in 1973 and launched the first satellite in 1978.
 - The modern GPS satellite constellation consists of 24 satellites moving around the earth in six orbits. Each satellite completes two orbits in a single day. The overall programme has three main components — the space segment, the control segment, and the user segment.

The space segment, of course, consists of the 24 satellites. The six orbits they occupy are all 20,200 km above the earth, and each orbit has four satellites at all times. In this configuration, anyone on the earth will be able to 'see' at least four satellites at a time, which is a crucial requirement.

- India mooted its own Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System in 2006, later rechristened Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC). Its space segment consists of seven satellites: three in geostationary orbits and four in geosynchronous orbits. As of May 2023, the minimum number of satellites (four) could facilitate ground-based navigation.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: Species in news (GSIII)

THERE WERE ONCE 12 MILLION KIWIS IN NEW ZEALAND, BUT NOW ONLY 70,000 REMAIN, MAKING EVERY HATCHING SPECIAL

After decades of decline, kiwis breed again in New Zealand's capital



- The kiwi is a unique and curious bird: it cannot fly, has loose, hair-like feathers, strong legs and no tail.
- Kiwi are a symbol for the uniqueness of New Zealand wildlife and the value of natural heritage.
 - Brown kiwi
 - Great spotted kiwi/rorua
 - Little spotted kiwi
 - Rowi
 - Tokoeka

RIZZ

Rizz was chosen the Oxford University Press's Word of The Year 2023, beating situationship, prompt, and Swiftie

RISHIKA SINGH

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 5

THE OXFORD University Press (OUP) has chosen 'rizz' as its Word of The Year for 2023, a term that gained popularity after actor Tom Holland claimed he did not possess it in a *Buzzfeed* interview in June.

What does rizz mean?

According to the OUP, which publishes the Oxford English Dictionary, rizz is defined as "style, charm, attractiveness, and the ability to attract a romantic or sexual partner." The term is believed to be a shortened version of the word "charisma".

Rizz beat out the other three finalists — situationship (an undefined romantic relationship); prompt (command given to AI tools); and Swiftie (fans of Taylor Swift) — to be chosen the Word of the Year.

Previous words chosen by OUP have included vax (2021), climate emergency (2019), and, by public vote for the first time, goblin mode (2022).

Noting the contrast between goblin mode (rejecting societal expectations of beauty and perfection) and rizz, Casper Grathwohl, President, Oxford Languages, said it speaks perhaps "to a prevailing mood of 2023 where more of us are opening ourselves up after a challenging few years and finding confidence in who we are."



Actor Tom Holland contributed to the popularity of the word 'rizz'.

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"Through head-to-head competitions over a four-day voting period, the public narrowed down our shortlist of worthy contenders to four finalists: rizz, Swiftie, prompt, and situationship. These words were then put to our language experts, who considered our corpus data, the vote counts, and the public commentary around the words to choose the definitive word of the year for 2023," the OUP said.

The other words in the shortlist had included beige flag, heat dome, de-influencing, and parasocial.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Economy (GSIII)

KISAN E-MITRA

Posted On: 05 DEC 2023 5:55PM by PIB Delhi



- The PM-KISAN scheme is a central sector scheme launched in February 2019 to supplement the financial needs of land-holding farmers.
- Under this scheme, the financial benefit of Rs 6,000/- per year in three equal instalments every four months is transferred into the bank accounts of farmers' families across the country through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.
- the Government of India has developed Kisan e-Mitra (AI Chatbot) – Farmers' digital assistance to address their queries in their own languages, thereby empowering the farmers through technological interventions. The Kisan e-Mitra is removing the existing technological and language barriers of the farmers.
- The Kisan-eMitra, AI Chatbot is initially available in 5 languages i.e. English, Hindi, Odiya, Tamil and Bangla
- The Government of India has developed the PM-KISAN mobile app with the feature of face authentication-based e-KYC.