

DAILY PT POINTERS

21st March , 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu Page 1 - Culture (GSI)



Masan Holi celebration

- Masan Holi, also known as **Bhasm Holi**, is a distinctive Holi celebration held in **Varanasi**, India.
- It occurs on the day following **Rangbhari Ekadashi**.
- The tradition involves playing Holi with **ashes from pyres**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu Page 1 - S&T / Health

Centre seeks report from Punjab government on alleged violation of IVF age limit by Sidhu Moosewala's parents

The late singer's mother earlier this month gave birth to a baby boy, the news of which was shared by his father in a post on social media platform Instagram

March 20, 2024 08:22 pm | Updated 10:48 pm IST - NEW DELHI



BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN



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News

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has sought a report from the Punjab government on the **in-vitro fertilization (IVF)** treatment availed by Charan Kaur, the mother of late Punjabi singer and rapper Sidhu Moosewala.

About

- Under **Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021**, the age limit prescribed for a woman going under ART Services is between **21-50 years**.
- In vitro fertilization (IVF) is the joining of a woman's egg and a man's sperm in a laboratory. In vitro means outside the body. Fertilization means the sperm has attached to and entered the egg.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu Page 18 / Environment

HOME / SCI-TECH / SCIENCE **WHALES**

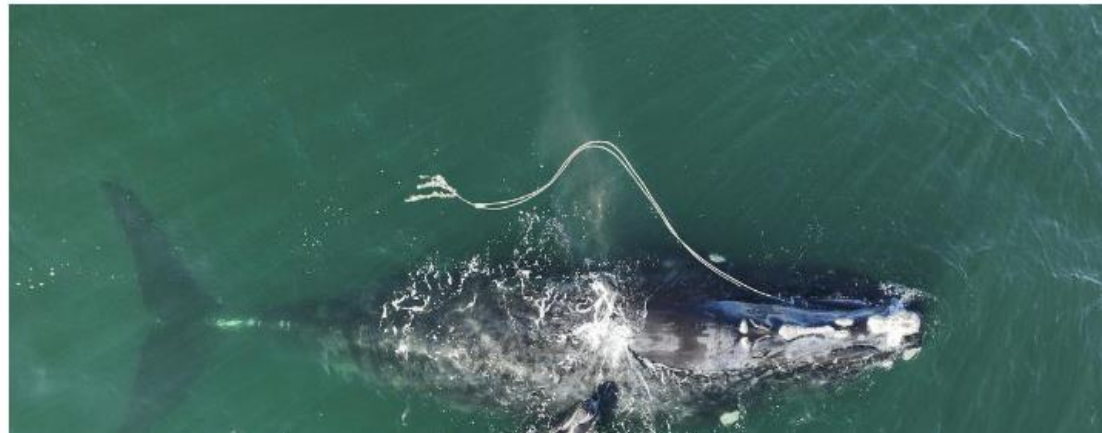
Female right whales may never breed after entanglement in fishing gear: study THE PREMIUM

The findings underline an urgent need for ropeless fishing gear to reduce threats to the survival of this critically endangered species

March 21, 2024 05:30 am | Updated 10:38 am IST

JOSHUA REED, LESLIE NEW, PETER CORKERON, ROB HARCOURT

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News

- According to a recent study, **female North Atlantic right whales** may never breed after entanglement in fishing gear.

About

- The North-Atlantic right whale is one of the most endangered of all large whales and is now mostly found along the **Atlantic coast of North America**, where it is threatened by entanglement in fishing gear and ship collisions.

Protection Status

- North Atlantic right whales are legally protected, both internationally and in U.S. waters, including policies that seek to reduce deaths or serious injuries resulting from entanglements.
- IUCN Status: listed as **Critically Endangered**

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu Page 18 / Space

HOME / SCI-TECH / SCIENCE **DART'S COLLISION**

Collision with NASA spacecraft altered shape of asteroid Dimorphos

When NASA sent its DART spacecraft to slam into the asteroid Dimorphos in 2022, the U.S. space agency demonstrated that it was possible to change a celestial object's trajectory, if needed, to protect Earth.

March 20, 2024 10:28 am | Updated 10:43 am IST

REUTERS

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A large image of the NASA logo is shown. The logo is a blue circle with the word 'NASA' in white, a red swoosh, and a white orbital path. A small image of the DART spacecraft is superimposed on the logo, appearing to be in orbit around the Earth.

News

- Collision with NASA spacecraft altered the shape of **asteroid Dimorphos**.

About

- When NASA sent its DART spacecraft to slam into the asteroid Dimorphos in 2022, the U.S. space agency demonstrated that it was possible to change a celestial object's trajectory, if needed, to protect Earth. It turns out that this collision changed not only the asteroid's path but its shape as well.
- **Dimorphos** is a moonlet of Didymos, which is defined as a near-Earth asteroid.
- Dimorphos and Didymos **do not pose an actual threat to Earth**.

News / Explained / Explained Economics / The big promise of small-scale LNG as fuel for India, with first SSLNG plant commissioned

 Premium

The big promise of small-scale LNG as fuel for India, with first SSLNG plant commissioned

GAIL's Vijaipur SSLNG unit is being seen as a key first step in taking SSLNG distribution deep inside the country. LNG has been used successfully as a fuel for medium and heavy commercial vehicles in countries such as China.

News

- Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri dedicated to the nation India's first small-scale liquefied natural gas (SSLNG) unit at GAIL (India) Ltd's Vijaipur complex in Madhya Pradesh.

What exactly is SSLNG?

- It refers to the liquefaction of natural gas and its transportation using unconventional means in a significantly smaller-scale operation than the usual large-scale liquefaction, regasification, and transportation infrastructure and processes. Simply put, LNG — gas in its liquid or super-chilled form — is supplied in specialised trucks and small vessels to industrial and commercial consumers in regions that are not connected by pipelines.

Why small-scale LNG?

- The government has been pushing for the adoption and use of natural gas across sectors, and aims to increase the share of natural gas in its primary energy mix to 15% by 2030 from a little more than 6% at present.

News / Business / India's top 1% income, wealth shares have reached historical highs: World Inequality Lab

India's top 1% income, wealth shares have reached historical highs: World Inequality Lab

Co-authored by economists Nitin Kumar Bharti, Lucas Chancel, Thomas Piketty, and Anmol Somanchi, the paper stated that the “Billionaire Raj” headed by “India’s modern bourgeoisie” is now more unequal than the British Raj headed by the colonialist forces.

News

- India’s top 1 per cent income and wealth shares have reached historical highs, according to a paper released by **World Inequality Lab**.

Findings

- The shares of income and wealth of India's top 1% at 22.6% and 40.1% respectively which is at their “highest historical levels” in 2022-23, beating even developed economies such as the US.