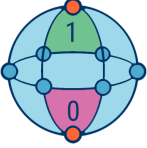
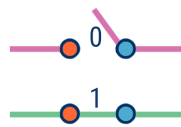
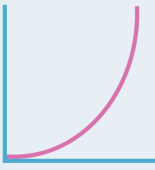
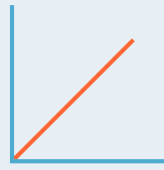
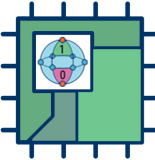





1. Quantum Computing

Topic: Science and Technology

Quantum Computing	Vs.	Classical Computing
 <p>Calculates with qubits, which can represent 0 and 1 at the same time</p>	<p>Calculates with transistors, which can represent either 0 or 1</p> 	
 <p>Power increases exponentially in proportion to the number of qubits</p>	<p>Power increases in a 1:1 relationship with the number of transistors</p> 	
 <p>Quantum computers have high error rates and need to be kept ultracold</p>	<p>Classical computers have low error rates and can operate at room temp</p> 	
 <p>Well suited for tasks like optimization problems, data analysis, and simulations</p>	<p>Most everyday processing is best handled by classical computers</p> 	

In News: Google claims to have made a significant breakthrough in an important subfield known as quantum error correction in a paper published recently.

More on the Topic:

- Quantum bits, or qubits, can store information in more than two ways (it can be both 1 and 0 at the same time).



- This means that **larger amounts of data can be processed in a given amount of time.**
- One of the many drawbacks is that the physical manifestation of a qubit requires extremely cold temperatures-just above 0 degrees Kelvin-and is vulnerable to even minor interference, such as light.
- They're also prone to errors, which is a major issue in computing.

Significance What is the significance of Google Breakthrough:

- Google has found a way to reduce this errors.
- The strategy is straightforward. Scientists store information across many physical qubits rather than relying on individual ones, and then view this collection as a single one (called a logical qubit).
- Google hypothesized that clumping a greater number of physical qubits together to form a single logical qubit would reduce the error rate.
- For a understanding it is something like Consider storing your photos on 49 hard drives to ensure that a single hard drive is error-free.
- The new breakthrough provides the broader scientific community with a foundation from which to advance related fields such as materials science, mathematics, and electrical engineering, all of which will be required to make an actual quantum computer a reality.

Source: Indian Express

2. International Criminal Court

Topic: International Relations



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In News: The International Criminal Court has issued an arrest warrant for war crimes for President Vladimir Putin and a second Russian official.

More on the Topic:

- The court informed that **Putin bears individual criminal responsibility for the abduction and deportation of Ukrainian children** since Russia's full-scale invasion began in February last year.
- The court also issued a warrant for Maria Lvova-Belova, Russia's commissioner for children's rights, who has been the public face of a Kremlin-sponsored program in which Ukrainian children and teenagers have been taken to Russia.

About International Criminal Court:

- The International Criminal Court was created two decades ago **as a standing body to investigate war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity under a 1998 treaty known as the Rome Statute.**
- Previously, the United Nations Security Council had established ad hoc tribunals to address atrocities in places such as the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.
- The court is based in The Hague, a Dutch city that has long been a center for international law and justice.
- India is not a party to Rome Statute along with US and China.

Limitations of ICC:

- As a judicial institution, the **ICC does not have its own police force or enforcement body;** thus, it relies on cooperation with countries worldwide for support, particularly for making arrests, transferring arrested persons to the ICC detention centre in The Hague, freezing suspects' assets, and enforcing sentences.
- This **State cooperation is problematic** for several reasons. It means that the ICC acts inconsistently in its selection of cases, is prevented from taking on hard cases and loses legitimacy.
- There is **insufficient checks and balances** on the authority of the ICC prosecutor and judges.
- ICC has been accused of being a **tool of Western imperialism and biased** in favour of powerful countries against weak states.

Source: Indian Express

3. Simultaneous Elections

Topic: Polity and Governance



In News: The government has batted for holding simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and state assemblies.

More on the Topic:

- Simultaneous elections were held in the country during the first two decades after Independence up to 1967.
- Dissolution of certain Assemblies in 1968 and 1969 followed by the dissolution of the Lok Sabha led to the “disruption of the conduct of simultaneous elections.”

Pros of folding Simultaneous Election:

- The Law Commission of India (Chair: Justice B.S. Chauhan) has listed out following Pros.
- (i) save public money,
- (ii) reduce burden on the administrative setup and security forces,
- (iii) ensure timely implementation of government policies, and
- (iv) ensure that the administrative machinery is engaged in development activities rather than electioneering.

Cons of Simultaneous Election:

- To conduct simultaneous elections in India, many amendments to the constitution of India are to be made.
- Article 83 of the Constitution provides for the tenure of both Houses of the Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha).

- Article 83(2)11 provides for a term of five years for Lok Sabha, from the date of its first sitting unless dissolved earlier.
- Article 172 (1) provides for five year tenure for State Legislative Assembly from the date of its first sitting.
- Simultaneous elections threaten the federal character of our democracy.
- Large national parties would reap the economies of scale of one large election every five years, to the disadvantage of regional parties.
- It is against the constitutional fabric.
- Some political scientists' say voters may be **influenced to vote on national issues** (thus **benefiting national parties**) even for State elections, thereby diluting electoral neutrality
- Frequent election ensures political and developmental accountability of parties in power. But SE might dilute that.

Source: Hindu

4. Silver jubilee celebration of 'Kudumbashree'

Topic: Government Schemes



In News: President has inaugurated silver jubilee celebration of 'Kudumbashree' and launches 'Unnathi' in Kerala.

More on the Topic:

- 'Kudumbashree' – one of the largest women's self-help networks in the world.
- The 'Kudumbashree' SHG was started in **1998 by government in Kerala**.
- In its conceptualisation, **it was markedly different from the self-help group (SHG) movements in many parts of India.**

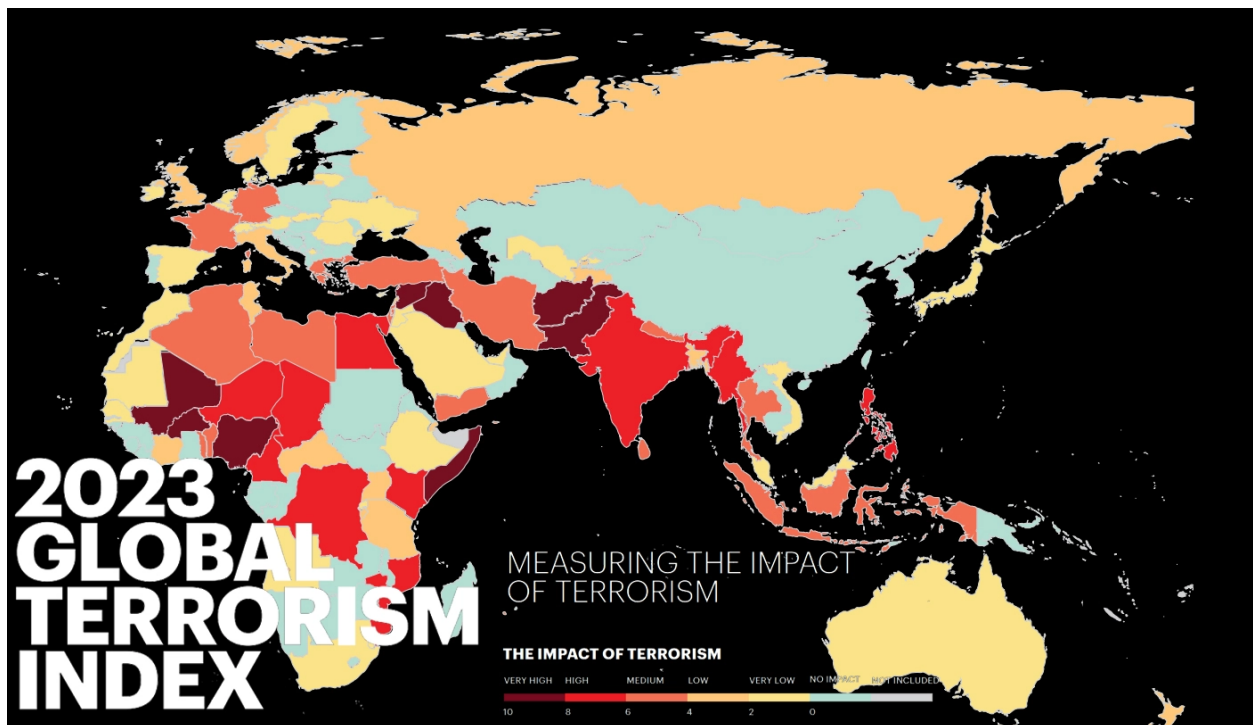


- It was envisioned as a part of the People’s Plan Campaign and local self-governance, with women at the centre of it.
- Thrift and credit activities at the grassroots level through the formation of saving groups are a common feature.
- **The election to coordinator positions has democratic element.**
- The micro-enterprises undertaken by the women NGs in Kerala strengthen the community bonds.
- The firms include that for organic vegetable growing, poultry and dairy, catering and tailoring.
- The community farms run by Kudumbashree groups are now acknowledged as a critical avenue for the rejuvenation of agricultural production in Kerala.

Source: Indian Express

5. Annual Global Terrorism Index (GTI)

Topic: Reports and Indices



In News: Annual Global Terrorism Index (GTI) was released by the Australia-based Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP).

More on the Topic:

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- **South Asia** remains the region with the worst average GTI score.
- Deadliest terrorist groups in the world in 2022: **Islamic State (IS); Al-Shabaab; Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), and Jamaat Nusrat Al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM)**
- Climate change is helping terrorist groups to raise funds, propagandize and recruit people.
- **India was among the 25 worst terror-hit countries** but also among 56 of the 120 nations surveyed with no respondents selecting war and terror as the biggest threat to their daily safety.
- The GTI score of India, which was listed **among countries with a “high” impact of terrorism and ranked 13th**, was 7.175 compared to 8.822 of **Afghanistan which topped the index**.
- The calculation of the score considered deaths, incidents, hostages, and injuries from terrorism, weighted over a five-year period.

Source: Business Standard

6. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)

Topic: Polity and Governance



!financialexpress.com

In News: The government has approved a proposal for listing of IREDA through initial public offer by the part sale of the government stake and fresh issue of equity shares to raise funds.

More on the Topic:

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited is formed in 1987 as a Mini Ratna Government of India Enterprise under Government of India and administratively controlled by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- The organisation is committed to providing innovative financing in Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency/Conservation and Environmental Technologies
- IREDA is currently a **wholly owned Government of India, Mini-Ratna CPSE**.
- It is registered as a **Non-banking Financial Company (NBFC) with RBI**. Recently, RBI has **granted Infrastructure Finance Company status to IREDA**.



- IREDA headquarters are located in New Delhi.

Source: Business Standard

7. Horseshoe Crab

Topic: Environment and Ecology



In News: Horseshoe crabs, medicinally priceless and one of oldest living creatures on the earth, appear to be disappearing from their familiar spawning grounds along Chandipur and Balaramgadi coast in Odisha's Balasore district.

More on the Topic:

- Scientists have urged Odisha government to immediately come up with a robust protection mechanism before the living fossil becomes extinct due to destructive fishing practices.
- The blood of Horseshoe crab is very important for preparation of rapid diagnostic reagent.

Source: Business Standard
