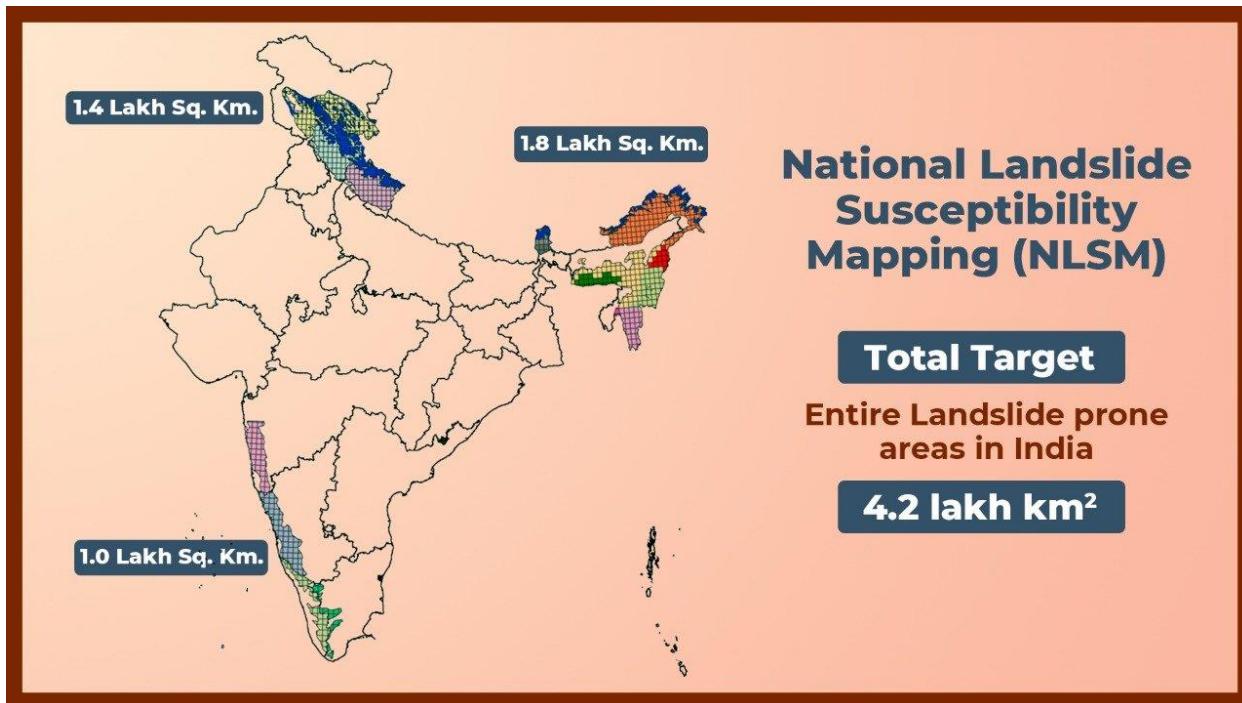


1. MANIPUR LANDSLIDE

Topic: Geography



In News: A massive landslide has occurred at Manipur's Noney district.

More on the Topic:

- A landslide is defined as the movement of a mass of rock, debris, or earth down a slope under **the direct influence of gravity**.
- Landslides are generally classified by **type of movement** (slides, flows, spreads, topples, or falls) **and type of material** (rock, debris, or earth). Sometimes more than one type of movement occurs within a single landslide.

Causes of Landslide:

- Gravity is the primary driving force for a landslide to occur, but there are other factors affecting slope stability that produce specific conditions that make a slope prone to failure.
- In many cases, the landslide is triggered by a specific event (such as a heavy rainfall, an earthquake, a slope cut to build a road, and many others), although this is not always identifiable.

India specific data on landslides:

- Landslides and avalanches are among the major hydro-geological hazards that affect large parts of India.
- **Around 15% of the country's region is prone to landslides.** The Himalayas of Northwest and Northeast India and the Western Ghats are two regions of high vulnerability.
- Some major recent incidents are Kerala (2018), Himachal Pradesh (2018), etc.

About Financial Stability Report:

- FSR is published twice each year by the RBI that presents an assessment of the health of the financial system. FSR details the current status of different financial institutions such as all the different types of banks and non-banking lending institutions.

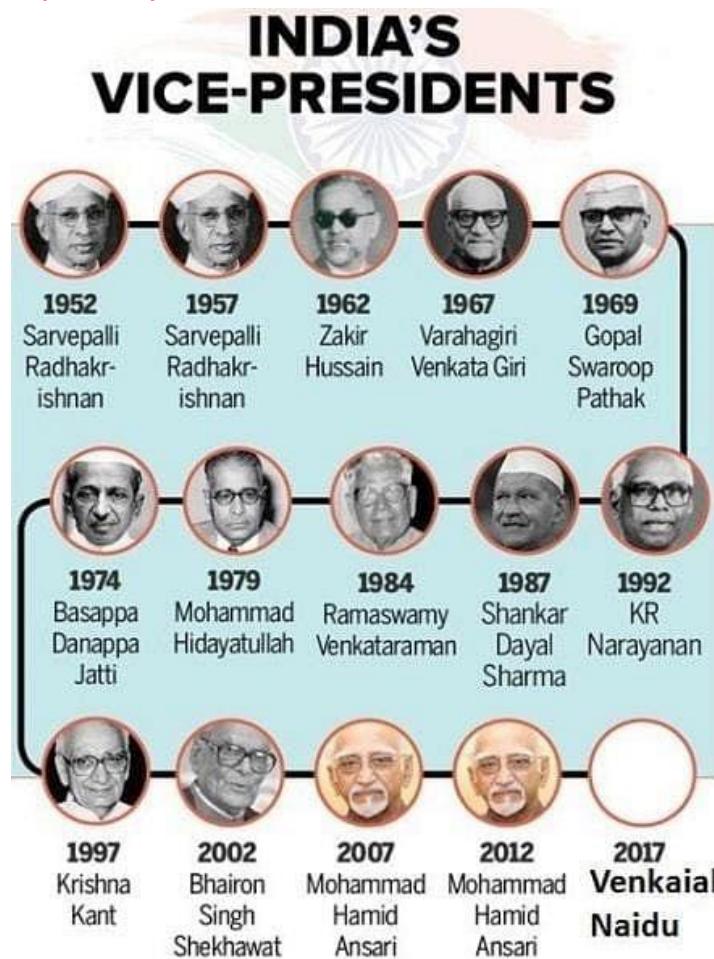
National Landslide Susceptibility Mapping (NLSM):

- Geological Survey of India has launched and undertook a national programme on landslide susceptibility mapping – Macro scale (1:50,000) National Landslide Susceptibility Mapping (NLSM) with an aim to cover the 0.42 million sq. km landslide prone areas of the country. This national programme was formally launched in 2014.

Source: Indian Express

2. VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Topic: Polity and Governance



In News: The Election Commission has announced the Vice Presidential election date.

More on the Topic:

- As per **Article 68 of the Constitution of India**, an election to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of the outgoing Vice-President is required to be completed before the expiration of the term.
- As per Rule 8 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974, polls for the election will be taken in the Parliament House.

Electoral College:

- As per **Article 66 of the Constitution of India**, the Vice-President is elected by the members of the Electoral College consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.
- Since, all the electors are members of both Houses of Parliament, the value of vote of each Member would be the same i.e. 1 (one).

Returning Officer:

- The Election Commission, in consultation with the Central Government, appoints the **Secretary General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, by rotation, as the Returning Officer**.

Clarification on Whip:

- Political parties cannot issue any whip to their MPs in the matter of voting in the Vice-Presidential election.

Source: The Hindu

3.'HARNESSING GREEN HYDROGEN – OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEEP DECARBONISATION IN INDIA" – NITI AYOG REPORT

Topic: Reports and Indices

Color	GREY HYDROGEN	BLUE HYDROGEN	TURQUOISE HYDROGEN*	GREEN HYDROGEN
Process	SMR or gasification	SMR or gasification with carbon capture (85-95%)	Pyrolysis	Electrolysis
Source	Methane or coal 	Methane or coal 	Methane 	Renewable electricity

Note: SMR = steam methane reforming.

* Turquoise hydrogen is an emerging decarbonisation option.



In News: The NITI Aayog, in its report titled 'Harnessing Green Hydrogen — Opportunities for Deep Decarbonisation in India', said the government should focus on enabling a cost reduction pathway for green hydrogen production in India.

More on the Topic:

- The report predicted that **hydrogen demand in India could grow more than four-fold by 2050**, representing almost 10 per cent of global hydrogen demand.
- In the longer term, steel and heavy-duty trucking are likely to drive the majority of demand growth, accounting for almost 52 per cent of total demand by 2050,

Recommendations:

- NITI Aayog has recommended **tax breaks like reduction or exemption of GST and custom duties on green hydrogen production**.
- It has also proposed **setting up green hydrogen corridors and offering grants to startups** working on green hydrogen solutions domestically.
- There is a need to facilitate investment through demand aggregation and dollar-based bidding for green hydrogen.
- **Encourage market development** using the industrial cluster, and viability gap funding.
- **Initiate Green Hydrogen standards and a labelling programme.**

Green Hydrogen:

- Green hydrogen is hydrogen gas produced through electrolysis of water — an energy intensive process for splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen — using renewable power to achieve this.
- Green hydrogen is crucial for sectors such as fertilizers, refining, methanol, maritime shipping etc.

Government Measures:

- **National Hydrogen Energy Board** (2003) for implementing and monitoring the National Hydrogen Energy Road Map and the National Hydrogen Energy and Fuel Cell Programme
- **Ministry of Power (MoP) Green Hydrogen Policy (GHP)** has set a target of 5 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) of green hydrogen production by 2030, more than 80% of the current hydrogen demand in the country.
- **High-level steering committee** under the chairmanship of Dr K. Kasturirangan for Hydrogen and Fuel cells.

Source: Indian Express



4. BANKS BOARD BUREAU (BBB)

Topic: Economy



In News: The Centre has transformed the Banks Board Bureau (BBB) into Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) by making some amendments.

More on the Topic:

- Guidelines for selection of general managers and directors of public sector general insurance companies have been made part of FSIB.
- FSIB will be transformed as a single entity for making recommendations for appointments of whole time directors and non-executive chairman of banks and financial institutions.

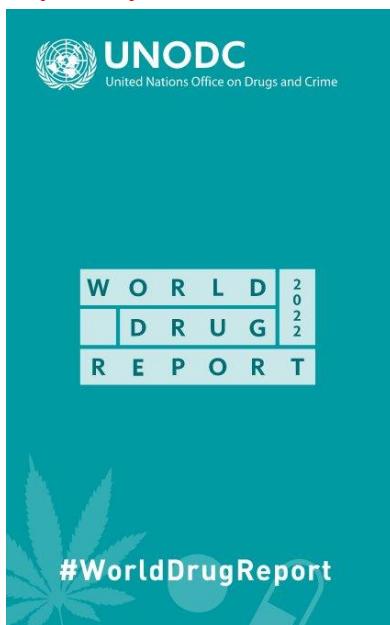
About Banks Board Bureau:

- **Banks Board Bureau (BBB) is an autonomous body of the Government of India** tasked to Search and Select apposite personages for Board of Public Sector Banks, Public Sector Financial Institutions and Public Sector Insurance Companies and recommend measures to improve Corporate Governance in these Institutions.
- Central Government notified the amendment to **the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1980** providing the legal framework for composition and functions of the Banks Board Bureau on March 23, 2016. The Bureau accordingly started functioning from April 01, 2016 as an autonomous recommendatory body.
- The BBB works as step towards governance reforms in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) as recommended by **P.J. Nayak Committee**.

Source: Indian Express

5. WORLD DRUG REPORT 2022

Topic: Reports and Indices



In News: UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has released its World Drug Report 2022.

More on the Topic:

- The cocaine manufacture reached a record high in 2020.
- Trafficking of cocaine mainly through marine containers, likely continued to increase in 2020 despite the pandemic as global cocaine seizures reached record high.
- The Middle East and South-East Asia are emerging grounds for synthetic drugs manufacturing.
- **India is the world's single-largest opiate market.** Opiates coming from Afghanistan have increased thereby increasing trafficking and associated organised crimes.

Source: Business Standard

6. YASUNI NATIONAL PARK

Topic: Environment and Ecology



In News: Oil Exploration at the Yasuni National Park is threatening its existence.

More on the Topic:

- The Yasuni National Park and Biosphere Reserve is a Humid Tropical Rain Forest located in the Amazon region of Ecuador.
- Yasuni National Park is home to 40% of Ecuador's crude oil reserves - in the Ishpingo-Tiputini-Tambococha (ITT) oil fields.

Significance:

- Different studies estimate that there are 150 species of amphibians, around 600 species of birds, and more than 3,000 plant species here, making it one of the most biodiverse areas on the planet.
- Similarly, there is an uncontacted indigenous population living in voluntary isolation in its forests, who also need to be protected

Source: Hindu

7. JAGANNATH RATH YATRA 2022

Topic: Culture



In News: Jagannath Rath Yatra has begun at Puri, Odisha. **More on the Topic:**

- The famous Jagannath Puri Rath Yatra, also known as the Festival of Chariots, is believed to be the oldest and largest chariot procession in the world. It is observed every year as per the Hindu calendar.
- The Jagannath Yatra is the only festival whose rituals allow Hindu deities to travel from the Jagannath Temple to Gundicha Temple, where they stay for a couple of days
- The yatra celebrates the rebirth of Lord Jagannath.
- He is accompanied by Devi Subhadra and Lord Balabhadra during Rath yatra along with nine sages depicting nine planets (Navgrahas) of Hinduism.

Source: Hindu

8. VARROA MITE

Topic: Environment and Ecology



In News: Varroa Mites have been detected at Australia.

More on the Topic:

- These parasites are deadly and could have a detrimental impact on Australian honey bees.
- The Varroa mite, or Varroa destructor, **is a parasitic insect that lives off honey bee larvae and adult honey bees.**
- These tiny red pests look similar to ticks and like ticks can carry harmful viruses. If a honey bee contracts a virus in the larval stage, adult honey bees can emerge malformed and weak.
- If each new generation continues to emerge weak, this can lead to the colony collapsing.

Significance of Honey Bees:

- Bees are vital to our survival. They help pollinate our food and keep our ecosystem in balance. Without them, there would be massive food shortages and ecological collapse

Source: Hindu
