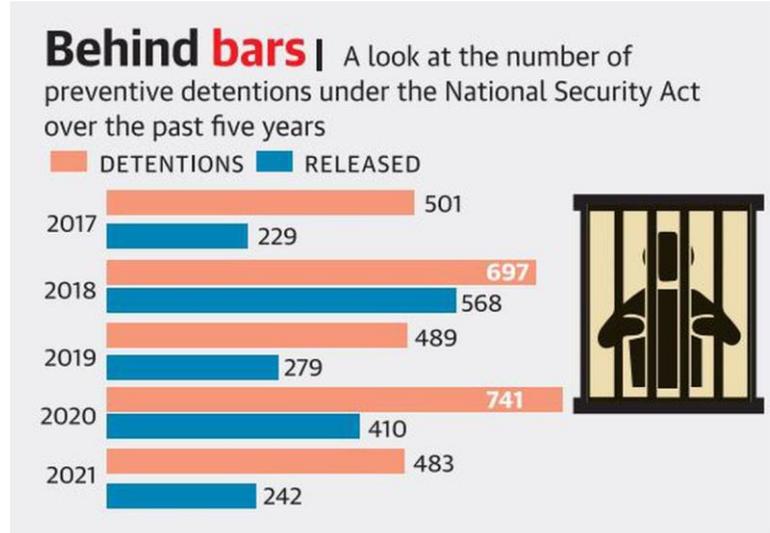


1. Preventive Detention

Topic: Polity and Governance



In News: According to NCRB data, Preventive detentions in 2021 saw a rise of over 23.7% compared to the year before.

More on the Topic:

- Over 1.1 lakh people being placed under preventive detention.
- Of these, 483 were detentions under the National Security Act, of which almost half (241) were either in custody or still detained as of the end of 2021.
- A total of over 24,500 people placed under preventive detention were either in custody or still detained as of the end of last year.
- Among other laws under which the NCRB has recorded data on preventive detentions are **the Goonda Act (State and Central) (29,306)**, **Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 (1,331)**, and a category classified as **“Other Detention Acts”**, under which most of the detentions were registered (79,514).
- Several laws like **the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act** and **Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act** also provide for making preventive detentions.
- **District magistrates and the police also often make preventive detentions to control law and order** in emerging communal clashes or clashes between any two communities even when it might not always lead to public disorder.

About Preventive Detention:

- Preventive Detention is the most contentious part of fundamental rights in the Indian constitution.
- The Article 22 (3) of the Indian constitution provides that if a person is arrested or detained under a law providing for preventive detention, then the protection against arrest and detention under Article 22 (1) and 22 (2) shall not be available.

The grounds for Preventive detention are:

- Security of state.
- Maintenance of public order.
- Maintenance of supplies and essential services and defence.
- Foreign affairs or security of India.

Views Against Preventive Detention:

- **Arbitrariness is involved in the process.** The police determinations of whether a person poses a threat are not tested at a trial by leading evidence or examined by legally trained persons.
- Quiet often, there is no trial (upto 3 months), no periodic review, and no legal assistance for the detained person. **This is violation of Basic fundamental rights.**
- It does not provide any procedural protections such as to reduce detainees' vulnerability to torture and discriminatory treatment, and to prevent officials' misusing preventive detention for subversive activities.
- **Many times governments have used it as a tool for suppression.** In the absence of proper safeguards, preventive detention has been misused, particularly against the Dalits and the minorities.

Supreme Court's View on Preventive Detention:

- The Supreme Court has observed that these powers accorded to the State were **"exceptional" and that since they affect the liberty of an individual, they should be used sparingly.**
- The court had also noted that these powers **should not be used to control ordinary law and order problems.**
- **In the case of Banka Sneha v. State of Telangana,** the Supreme Court held that Preventive Detention Order can only be passed against a Detenu if his activities adversely affect or are likely to adversely affect the maintenance of public order.

Way Ahead:

- There is a need for security and human rights to go hand in hand.
- A proper system should be made which will make sure that the rights are being made available to the detenu during the detention period.
- If any accusations for coercive actions are made, it should be taken in a serious way and should be followed by a proper investigation by an appropriate authority.
- The preventive detention laws are **not completely just fair and reasonable and need some changes or alterations** to fit in well within the scope of the Right to life and liberty.
- It should be done away in the future after due

Source: Indian Express

2. Mohenjo-daro

Topic: Art and Culture



In News: In flood-stricken Pakistan, where an unprecedented monsoon season has killed hundreds of people, the rains now threaten a famed archaeological site Mohanjo-daro.

More on the Topic:

- The ruins of Mohenjo-daro, located in southern Sindh province near the Indus River, and a Unesco world heritage site, are considered among the best preserved urban settlements in south Asia.
- They were discovered in 1922 (Discovered by: RD Banerji), and mystery still surrounds the disappearance of its civilisation, which coincided with those of ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.
- Mohenjo-Daro was **the largest city of the Indus valley civilization**. Both Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro can be called the capital cities of the civilization.

Features:

- **Great Bath:** The most famous building found at Mohenjo-Daro is a great bath. The water for the bath was provided from a well in an adjacent room. The floor was made up of bricks.
- Floor and outer walls were bituminized so that there is no leakage of water. There are open porch's on four sides of the bath.
- **Granary:** A granary has been found which the largest building of the Mohenjo-Daro is. This granary is divided into 27 rooms of different size and shape.
- **Assembly Hall:** A square pillared hall is another important building found at Mohenjo-Daro. The scholars agree that this pillared hall was a site for social gatherings.

- Mohenjo-Daro has shown an **extensive usage of bricks**.
- Known to be a model planned city of ancient civilisation, **houses here had bathrooms, toilets and drainage system**.
- Roads and streets were laid out along an approximate **“grid” pattern**, intersecting at right angles.
- **Dancing girl statue, Pasupati Seal, and Statue of Beard man** are some of the important findings from Mohenjo-Daro.

Source: Hindu

3. OPEC Countries

Topic: International Affairs

WORLD
 OPEC Member Countries



In News: The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries – or OPEC – and its allies have decided to cut production of crude oil for October by 100,000 barrels per day.

More on the Topic:

- OPEC + decision to cut oil output by 100,000 barrels a day is only 0.1% of global demand. Therefore, it is grossly inadequate to affect oil prices.

About OPEC:

- OPEC stands for Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. It is a permanent, intergovernmental organization.

- It was created at the Baghdad Conference in September 1960 by Venezuela, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait.
- Currently, it has 13 members. Its headquarters are in Vienna, Austria.
- OPEC membership is open to any country that is a substantial exporter of oil and which shares the ideals of the organization.

About OPEC+:

- Opec+ refers to the alliance of crude producers, who have been undertaking corrections in supply in the oil markets since 2017.
- OPEC plus countries include Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan.

Source: Hindu

4.SIDS Lighthouses Initiative

Topic: International Affairs



In News: The capacity building roundtable for islands in the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea was organised by IRENA through its SIDS Lighthouses Initiative.

More on the Topic:

- It was launched at the **UN Climate Summit in 2014 to support Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** in their energy transition efforts from fossil fuel dependence to renewables.
- It supports **global, regional and national level efforts towards achieving the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**
- Taking into account the success in surpassing the previous targets, the SIDS LHI has revised its target to 10GW of total renewable energy installed capacity in all SIDS by 2030.

About IRENA:

- The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is **an intergovernmental organisation that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future.**

- IRENA promotes the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy, including bioenergy, geothermal, hydropower, ocean, solar and wind energy in the pursuit of sustainable development, energy access, energy security and low-carbon economic growth and prosperity.

Source: Indian Express

5. Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST)

Topic: Government Schemes



In News: A new I-STEM (Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map) initiative called “Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST)” was launched by ministry of Science and Technology.

More on the Topic:

- Through the WEST initiative, I-STEM shall provide a separate platform to scientifically inclined women researchers, scientists, and technologists for pursuing research in basic or applied sciences in frontier areas of science and engineering.
- Women may join the WEST program and explore opportunities to become stakeholders in various domains and pursue careers in R&D at various levels: technicians, technologists, scientists, and entrepreneurs.
- Opportunities range from operating scientific equipment and maintaining them, to designing and manufacturing them.

About I-STEM:

- **I-STEM is a National Web portal for sharing R&D (Research and Development) facilities.**
- The portal facilitates researchers to access slots for the use of equipment, as well as to share the details of the outcomes, such as patents, publications and technologies.
- Launched in January 2020. It is an initiative of **the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India** under the aegis of Prime Minister Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) mission.

Source: PIB

6. Einstein Ring

Topic: Science and Technology



In News: The James Webb Space telescope captured an image of an almost perfect “Einstein ring”.

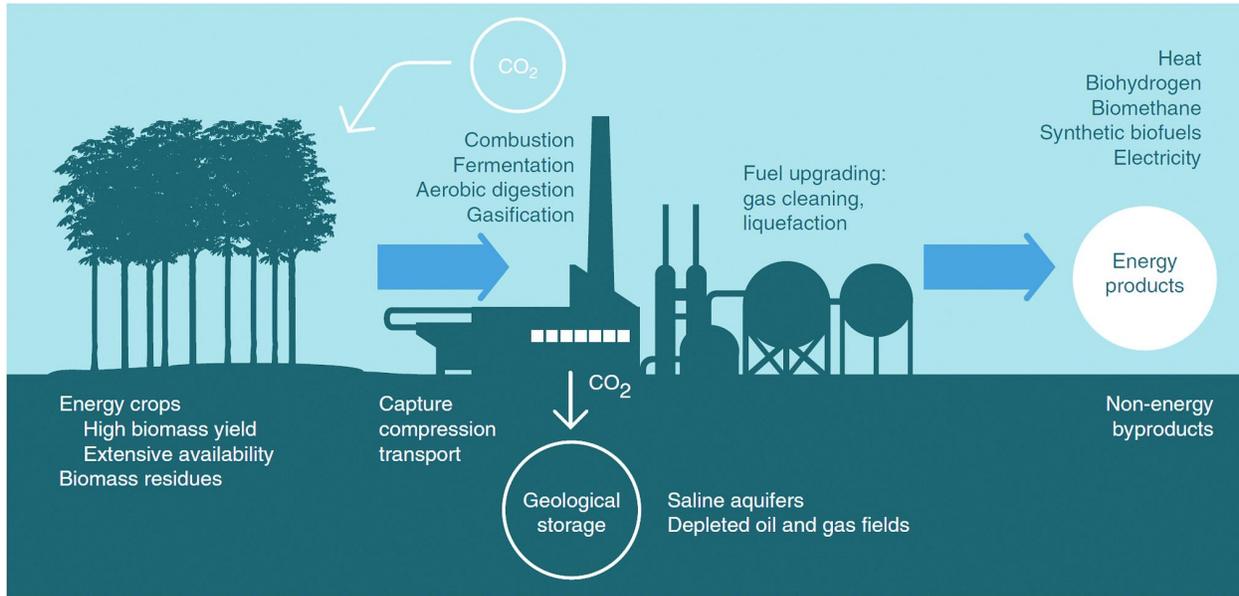
More on the Topic:

- Einstein Ring was first discovered in 1988 as the phenomenon of bending of the light was predicted by Albert Einstein.
- It is a ring of light created when **light from a galaxy, star or other cosmic objects passes near a massive object before reaching Earth.**
- Since gravitational force of large object bends the light, it develops gravitational lensing, forming a ring-like effect, making the light of galaxy appear as an almost perfect ring.

Source: Business Standard

7. Carbon capture and Storage (CCS) Infrastructure

Topic: Environment and Ecology



In News: Norway is building world's first open-access Carbon capture and Storage (CCS) infrastructure on Norway's North Sea coast.

More on the Topic:

- Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is a technology to reduce anthropogenic carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions into the atmosphere.
- CO₂ is captured at large stationary sources, such as fossil fuel-fired power plants, and is injected into the deep subsurface for long-time storage.
- CCS is a way of reducing carbon emissions, which could be key to helping to tackle global warming.

Source: Business Standard