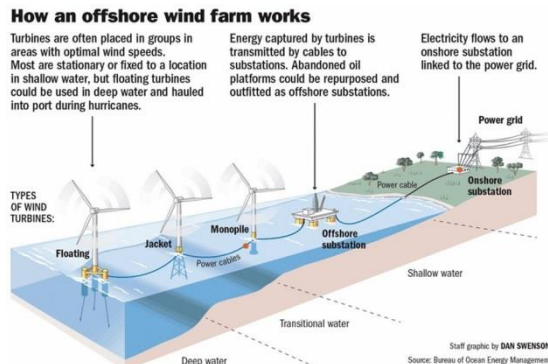


OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY IN INDIA

Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy held a meeting on transmission planning for offshore wind energy projects in India.



About:

During the meeting, transmission and evacuation infrastructure required for offshore wind projects of total capacity 10 GW off the coasts of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, was discussed.

- It was decided to bid out offshore wind energy blocks as per the following trajectory:
 - Bids equivalent to a project capacity of 4.0 GW per year for a period of three years starting with the current FY 22-23 for development off the coast of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat for sale of power through open access / captive / bi-lateral third party sale / merchant sale
 - Subsequently a project capacity of 5 GW will be bid out every year for a period of five years i.e. up till FY 29-30.
- The project capacity of 8 GW bid out in the first two years beginning FY 22-23 will also be able to avail of the benefits of green attributes like carbon credits.
- Evacuation and transmission of power from offshore pooling Substation (PSS) to onshore transmission will be provided free of cost for all offshore wind capacities that will be bid out up to FY 29-30.
- The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy through its implementing agency will issue the first bid in the next three – four months for leasing out offshore wind energy blocks equivalent to 4.0 GW capacity off the coast of Tamil Nadu.

RASHTRIYA PURUSKAR PORTAL

The Union Government has launched the Rashtriya Puruskar Portal for inviting nominations for various awards of the various Ministries, Departments and agencies to ensure transparency and public partnership.



About:

This common portal has been developed by the government to bring together all the awards under one digital platform.

The Portal aims to facilitate citizens to nominate individuals and organizations for various awards instituted by the Government of India.

Currently, nominations/recommendations for the following Awards are open:

- Padma Awards- Nomination open till 15/09/2022
- Sardar Patel National Unity Award- Nomination open till 31/07/2022
- Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award- Nomination open till 16/06/2022
- Jeevan Raksha Padak series of Awards- Nomination open till 30/09/2022
- Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Telecom Skill Excellence Award- Nomination open till 16/06/2022.

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

The UN nuclear watchdog, IAEA's 35-nation board of governors passed a resolution criticizing Iran for failing to explain uranium traces at undeclared sites.



About:

The resolution was submitted by the UK, France,

Germany and the US to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and was backed by 30 countries.

- Only Russia and China opposed the move. Iran condemned the resolution.
- The motion is the first to chide Iran over its nuclear ambitions since 2020. It comes as talks to revive the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) remain stalled.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

- The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an international organization that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
- Though IAEA was established as an autonomous organization on 29 July 1957 through its own international treaty, the IAEA Statute, the IAEA reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council.
- It is based in Vienna.

MANAS NATIONAL PARK

The one-horned rhinos of western Assam's Manas National Park, bordering Bhutan, are expected to have high life expectancy and significant growth in population, the 14th Assam rhino estimation census has revealed.



About:

Manas, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a tiger reserve, had about 100 resident rhinos prior to 1990, but a prolonged ethno-political conflict thereafter took a heavy toll with extremist groups known to have traded the horns of the herbivores for weapons.

- A rhino reintroduction programme under the Indian Rhino Vision 2020 was started in 2006.

- This entailed the translocation of rhinos from Kaziranga National Park and Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary besides orphans hand-reared at the Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation at Kaziranga.
- The current rhino population in the Manas National park was estimated at 40 after the census on April 1 and 2.

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

The Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru (IISc) is the new national leader in the QS World University Rankings, 2023 released, which also shows that all Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) improved their standing.

INDIA'S BEST		
Top Indian institutes in QS World University Rankings 2023		
2023	Institute	2022
155	IISc Bangalore	186
172	IIT Bombay	177
174	IIT Delhi	185
250	IIT Madras	255
264	IIT Kanpur	277
270	IIT Kharagpur	280
369	IIT Roorkee	400
384	IIT Guwahati	395

Source: QS (<https://www.TopUniversities.com/>)

About:

The latest edition of QS World University Rankings features 41 Indian universities, of which 12 improved their positions, 12 remained stable, 10 declined and seven are new entries.

- The IISc ranks 155th globally, and is the global leader in the citations per faculty (CpF) indicator, which QS uses to evaluate the impact of the research produced by universities.
- The IISc is the fastest rising South Asian university among the top-200 universities in the QS rankings, having climbed 31 places year on year. The IISc is the world's top research university, achieving a perfect score of 100/100 for CpF.
- The IIT Bombay, which was the top Indian university in QS World University Rankings of the previous edition, is the second best Indian institution this time and climbed five places globally to reach the 172 rank. The third best Indian university is the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IITD), followed by IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur.



CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK



- O. P. Jindal Global University is the top-ranked private institute in India, and moved up from the 701-750 ranking band to 651-700, followed by the Manipal Academy of Higher Education and Amity University.
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