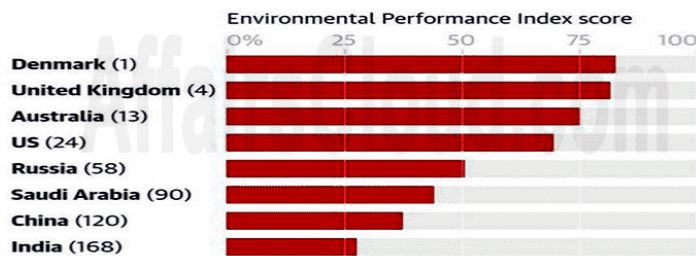# Current Affairs=08-06-2020

India ranks 168th in Environment Performance Index 2020; Denmark tops

On June 07, 2020, According to the biennial **Environment Performance Index (EPI) 2020** released jointly by **Yale University and Columbia University**, **India** has ranked **168** out of 180 countries with a score of 27.6 out of 100. While the Denmark has been topped the list with a score of 82.5.

i. The EPI provides a quantitative basis for comparing, analyzing, and understanding environmental performance of the countries based on 32 key sustainability indicators across 11 categories.

Environmental Performance Index score

Denmark (1)
United Kingdom (4)
Australia (13)
US (24)
Russia (58)
Saudi Arabia (90)
China (120)
India (168)

Here's the list of top 3 nations in EPI 2020:

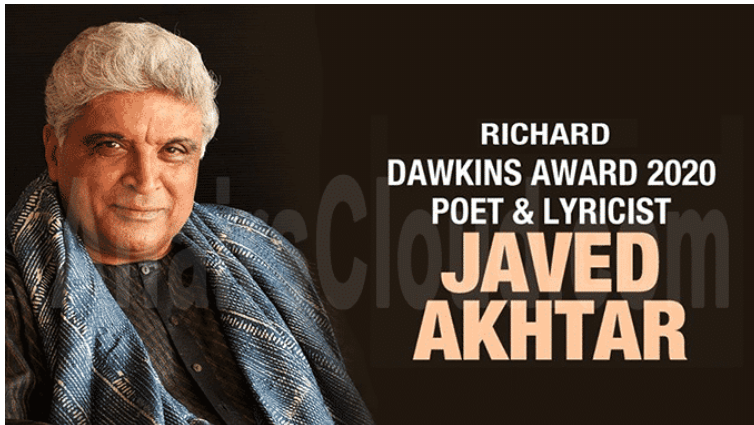| Rank	Country Name	EPI score
1	Denmark	82.5
2	Luxembourg	82.3
3	Switzerland	81.5
168th	**India**	**27.6**

India's Performance on EPI:

In EPI 2018 , India's rank was 177 with a score of 30.57 out of 100.
India ranks 179 at the 2020 EPI under Air Quality category.
India places 148th under biodiversity and habitat.
India places 106th in the world on climate change mitigation.

Poet and writer Javed Akhtar becomes the first Indian to receive Richard Dawkins Award 2020

Javed Ahktar, renowned poet, lyricist and writer became the first Indian to receive the Richard Dawkins Award 2020 for critical thinking, holding religious principles up to scrutiny, advancing human progress and humanist values.

i.The award was created by **Margaret Downey**, Leader of Secular Community in **2003.**

ii.Since the **Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason & Science** became a part of CFI, Richard Dawkins, an evolutionary biologist, bestselling author and atheist, housed the award with the CFI.

2020 World Archery Field Championships postponed to 2022 due to COVID-19

i.The World Archery(WA) and Yankton organising committee decided to postpone the **2020 World Archery Field Championships** which was scheduled on september at the National Field Archery Association(NFAA) Easton Yankton Archery Centre**(NEYAC)**, the world's largest archery centre until **2022**

ii.To safeguard athlete's well-being & restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic outbreak causes for the delay to conduct this championship.

iii.Yankton is set to host the 2021 World Archery Championships.

World oceans day 2020: June 8

Every year on June 8 **World oceans day**, the United Nations(UN) day is celebrated across the world to inform the public about the impact of human

activities on the ocean, create a global citizens' movement for the ocean, and mobilize & unite the world's population for the sustainable management of the world's oceans. The theme of 2020 is **"Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean".**

• This year's celebration will take place as a virtual event produced in partnership with Oceanic Global.
About the theme 2020:

i.Oceans face unprecedented stresses from factors ranging from pollution to climate change, these pressures are expected to rise in the future.

ii. There is a need to balance the preservation of a healthy ocean and ever-increasing economic activities that require a fresh approach and rethinking in many areas.

iii. The theme is particularly related to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development which will be happened From 2021 to 2030.

World Brain Tumor Day 2020 – June 8

June 8th is annually celebrated as the World Brain Tumor Day which was initiated by the **Deutsche Hirntumorhilfe** (German Brain Tumor Aid) in **2000** to pay respect to all the brain tumor patients and their families.

Note: The **grey ribbon** is the international symbol for the solidarity with brain tumor patients.

Aim: To improve the care for the patients and to educate the general public about the sufferings and seriousness of brain tumor.

World Food Safety Day 2020 – June 7

The **Second** World Food Safety Day was celebrated to promote actions that support food security, human health, agriculture and sustainable development and prevent, detect and manage foodborne diseases. The First World Food Safety Day was celebrated on **7th June 2019**.

The Theme of World Food Safety Day 2020 remains the same as the theme of 2019 **"Food Safety, everyone's business"**.

Background:
i. The Codex Alimentarius Commission agreed to promote the proposal to establish World Food Safety Day on **permanent basis** in the 39th session in 2016.
ii. The Food and Agriculture Organization **(FAO)** Conference and the World Health Organization **(WHO)** adopted the resolution to support the World Food Safety Day in 2017.
iii. In December 2018, The United Nations General Assembly decided to designate the 7th June as World Safety Day.

FSSAI State food safety index for 2019-20 released during webinar; Gujarat, Goa, Chandigarh topped

The 2nd State Food Safety Index (SFSI) for 2019-20 of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been topped by Gujarat among larger states and by Goa among smaller states. It was announced during a webinar conducted on the occasion of "World Food Safety Day" on **June 7, 2020** on the theme **"Food Safety is everyone's business"**.

- This webinar has recognized all those who ensured uninterrupted availability of safe food for everyone during COVID-19 pandemic.

- The State Food Safety Index ranks states on **five parameters** of food safety through a rigorous evaluation process every year. Following is the list of winners:

Rank	Winner
Large States	
1	Gujarat
2	Tamil Nadu
3	Maharashtra
Small States	
1	Goa
2	Manipur
3	Meghalaya
Union Territories (UTs)	
1	Chandigarh
2	Delhi
3	Andaman Islands

Key Points:

-FSSAI also released an e-handbook on **"Eat Right during COVID-19"** for citizens. It highlights safe food practices to be followed diligently and tips on health and nutrition. It is available at https://fssai.gov.in/cms/coronavirus.php.

-Earlier, FSSAI released the guidance note 'Food Hygiene and Safety Guidelines for Food Businesses during Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic' specifying hygiene and sanitary requirements, responsibility of management and sector specific requirements to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the food supply chain

India Loses 750 Tigers in Last Eight Years; Madhya Pradesh Reports Maximum Casualties: NTCA Survey

- The **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** has shared the data related to details of tiger deaths during the eight year period between 2012 and 2019.
- According to the official data of NTCA, as many as **750 tigers died in the country in the last eight years** due to poaching and other causes.
- Of these total tiger mortalities, 369 were due to natural causes, 168 due to poaching, 70 deaths are under scrutiny and 42 due to unnatural reasons, including accident or conflicts events and 101 seizures.
- The data showed that **Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of 526 tigers** in the country.
- However, **Madhya Pradesh reported the highest tiger deaths** during this eight year period at **173,** of which, 38 were due to poaching, 94

natural deaths, 19 under scrutiny, six due to the unnatural causes and 16 seizures.

- Maharashtra has reported second highest casualties at 125 during this period followed by 111 in Karnataka.
- It is reported that the **present tiger population in the country is estimated at 2967** (lower and upper limits being 2603 and 3346 respectively).