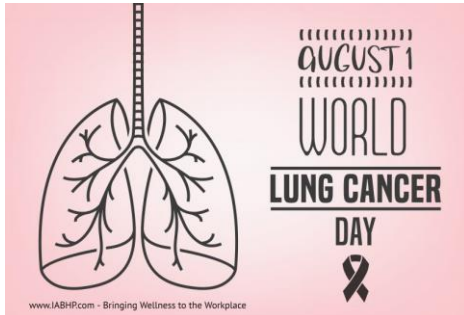


Current Affairs=05-08-2020

World Lung Cancer Day 2020: August 1



World Lung Cancer Day is observed annually on **August 1** to raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and its global impact, creating an educational movement to understand the risks of lung cancer and early treatment around the world.

The day highlights the problems that can arise due to lack of adequate research funding.

- The World Lung Cancer Day campaign was initiated in 2012 by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (**FIRS**) in collaboration with the members of the international lung health community such as the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) and also including the American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST) in the U.S.

International Plastic Bag Free Day 2020 – July 3



The International Plastic Bag Free Day is a global initiative by the activists from activist associations like Zero Waste Europe's Bag Free World and German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GAIA), observed on 3rd July every year to create a worldwide awareness about the Plastic pollution and the

contribution of the single use plastics to the global catastrophe.

The first International Plastic Bag Free Day was observed on 3rd July 2009.

Background:

The day is dedicated to highlight the critical issues caused by that disposable single use carry bags and to create awareness on the effects of these plastics on nature, marine life and animal life.

Events:



i. To celebrate the International Plastic Bag free Day, more than 2000 organisations from all over the world participate in the #BreakFreeFromPlastic movement, global movements to eliminate the use of single-use plastics.

Prahlad Singh Patel virtually inaugurated 1st golf course of Mizoram, “Thenzawl Golf Resort”



Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (Independent charge) Prahlad Singh Patel virtually inaugurated the first golf course of Mizoram i.e. “**Thenzawl Golf Resort**” Project, implemented under the **Swadesh Darshan (SD)** Scheme of Ministry of Tourism, from New Delhi.

- The Project was sanctioned under the “Integrated Development of New Eco Tourism” of Swadesh Darshan project and was constructed by **Edufice Infrservices Private Limited** of New Delhi.
- It should be noted that the centre has sanctioned **Rs.92.25 Crore** for development of the North East Circuit at Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek, Mizoram out of which an amount of **Rs.64.48 Crore** was sanctioned for various components at Thenzawl including the Golf Course.
- India has more than 230 golf courses in all.

Uttarakhand to develop India’s first snow leopard conservation centre in Uttarkashi forests



Chief minister of Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat chaired a meeting along with State forest minister Harak Singh Rawat and other officials to look into the setting up of the conservation centre.

i. The conservation centre is set to come up at a place named **Lanka, near Bhaironghati bridge** in

Uttarkashi district.

ii. It will be built by the Uttarakhand forest department along the United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**) as part of its six-year long project **Securing**

livihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of high range Himalayan ecosystems (**SECURE**) Himalayas.

iii. Dutch Conservation Architect Anne Feenstra shared the details of the conservation centre.

iv. The conservation centre is expected to create awareness of the Big Cat among the people.

Snow Leopard in Uttarkhand:-

i. According to several researches, Uttarakhand is home to 86 snow leopards at present.

ii. In Uttarakhand, snow leopards are found in Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, Gangotri National Park, Askot Wildlife Sanctuary and other places of altitude between 3000-4500 meters.

About Snow Leopard:

- According to the World Wild Fund for Nature India (WWF), India is home to 450-500 snow leopards.
- Snow Leopard is listed under Schedule – I of Wildlife Protection Act of India which gives the big cat absolute protection against hunting and poaching .
- It is listed as “vulnerable” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red list.

Northern Railway runs the first-ever Vyapar Mala express train for small traders



Northern Railway ran its first Vyapar Mala Express train from Kishanganj in Delhi bound for Jirania in Tripura. It will help small traders to move their cargo in short time, cost effective, convenient and environment-friendly mode of transportation.

The train has 46 wagons and It is an express service where piece-meal stock will reach its destination in a shorter time.

Other facts about the train:

i. The train departed at Kishanganj, Delhi to reach Jirania and It will cover 2673 Km from Punjab to Tripura.

ii. Wheat was loaded in 34 wagons at Guniana station of Firozpur Division by Food Corporation of India and Rice and Pulses have been loaded in the remaining wagons.

- iii. The Railway board has earned more than ₹ 94 lakh from this Vyapar Mala Express train.
- iv. It will help the smaller traders to move their cargo in short time, cost effective, convenient and environment-friendly mode of transportation.

US conducted test flight of unarmed Minuteman 3 missile

US MISSILE TEST FLIGHT

- The US has tested an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile
- It launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California and landed 4,200 miles away near the Marshall Islands
- The max range for the missile is said to be around 8,000 miles, which could take it from California to North Korea

Map labels: CALIFORNIA, CHINA, N.KOREA, Max range 8,000 miles, Test flight

i. On August 4, 2020, the United States (US) Air Force conducted a scheduled test launch of an LGM-30G Minuteman III, an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) carrying a load of three unarmed reentry vehicles, from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, US to a target in the Pacific Ocean.

- ii. Missile’s three reentry vehicles traveled 4,200 miles (6,759 kilometers) to the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands as part of a developmental test.
- iii. Minuteman III, manufactured by Boeing is a long-range, solid-fuel, three-stage ICBM with the capability to carry single or multiple nuclear warheads.

Polar Bears in Arctic will become extinct by 2100: The Study published in Nature Climate Change

The polar bear: apex predator of the Arctic
Classified as a marine mammal as its range is on sea ice

- ▶ Length 1.8-2.7 metres (6-9 feet)
- ▶ Weight 360-590 kg (800-1,300 pounds)
- ▶ Habitat range Mostly on the sea ice of the Arctic Ocean. Depends on sea ice to hunt its main prey - seals
- ▶ Conservation status Threatened with extinction as sea ice declines due to climate change
- ▶ Population 22,000-31,000
- ▶ Lifespan 25-30 years

Sources: IUCN, WWF, CITES, NWF
AFP Photo/KT MILLER

The new study of University of Toronto Scarborough published in the journal of Nature Climate Change titled “Fasting season length sets temporal limits for global polar bear persistence” on 20th July 2020, states that climate change is

starving the polar bears into extinction and concluded that the Polar bears in the Arctic will become extinct by 2100.

Decline in Sea Ice:

- i. The sea ice of the arctic region has been declining at the rate of 13% per decade since 1970, which provides a vital habitat for the wild lives like polar bears, seals and walruses.
- ii. The study shows the declining sea ice forces the carnivores to cover more hunting areas.
- iii. The report states that the animals have reached their survival limits due to the shrink of arctic sea ice.

William English, co-creator of computer mouse, passes away aged 91



On July 26, 2020 the co-creator of the mouse, Mr. William English died at the age of 91 in California due to respiratory failure. He was born in 1929, Kentucky and studied electrical engineering at university before joining the US Navy.

He built the first mouse in 1963, with the help of the sketches made by Doug Engelbart while they were working on

early computing.

About his invention

- i. The first prototype of the mouse was built at the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) which was a wooden block with a single button, two rolling wheels underneath at 90-degree angles that would record vertical and sideways movement.
- ii. In 1968, at the San Francisco's Civic auditorium, the mouse was put out to public view with demonstration using a video, and a NASA-owned projector, the size of a car. The demo was later called as "the mother of all demos."