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DAILY NEWS DECODE

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Indian-origin American Abhimanyu Mishra becomes youngest ever chess Grandmaster



- **Indian-origin American Abhimanyu Mishra has become the youngest-ever chess Grandmaster in the world. At 12 years, four months and 25 days,**
- **he obliterated the long-standing record held by Sergey Karjakin, who was 12 years and seven months old when he attained the title.**
- **Three years ago, India's R Praggnanandhaa had almost surpassed him but missed the opportunity by a whisker.**

India ranked at 10th position in ITU's Global Cybersecurity Index 2020



- India has been ranked as the 10th best country in the world in the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020, released by International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- The GCI 2020 is the fourth edition of the annual index and ranked 194 countries. The GCI measures the commitment of countries to cybersecurity at a global level.
- Countries were ranked on the basis of performance on five parameters, which includes: legal measures, technical measures, organisational measures, capacity development, and cooperation.
- India ranked at 10th position, with 97.5 points to rank among the top ten best countries in the world.
- The United States has topped the GCI 2020.
- The United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia is tied on the second position
- Estonia was ranked third in the index.

MICRO ATMs



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- In Ladakh, Cooperative Banking Service with Micro ATMs where both deposition and withdrawal of cash can be availed by the users will be introduced in far-flung areas.
- Micro ATMs are card swipe machines through which banks can remotely connect to their core banking system.
- Machine comes with a fingerprint scanner attached to it.
- In other words, micro ATMs are handheld point of sale terminals used to disburse cash in remote locations where bank branches cannot reach.
- Micro ATMs are similar to point of sale (PoS) terminals and are a doorstep mobile banking arrangement cum-mobile ATM device.
- Bank will assign a correspondent who will sign up customers in remote areas after verifying their identity (fingerprint can be used as an authentication tool for rural people).
- The fingerprint and personal details may also be linked to the Aadhaar Card, which will then serve as the ID proof required to withdraw money.

Accredited Investors.



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- Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced a framework for accredited investors.
- SEBI defines accredited investors as “a class of investors who may be considered to be well informed or well advised about investment products”.
- The accredited investors could be individuals, HUFs, sole proprietorships, family trusts, partnership firms, trusts and body corporates based on financial parameters.
- Anyone is eligible to become an accredited investor provided their annual income stands at Rs 2 crore or their net worth pegged at Rs 7.5 crore and financial assets should be at least 3.75 crore.
- "Accreditation Agencies" like subsidiaries of depositories and specified stock exchanges, and/or any other specified institutions can offer this title for one to become an accredited investor.

Nagaland declared 'disturbed area' under AFSPA



- The entire state of Nagaland has been declared a “disturbed area” till December 31, 2021 under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA).

- The AFSPA has been in force in Nagaland for decades and was not withdrawn even after a framework agreement was signed on August 3, 2015 between Naga insurgent group NSCN-IM and government interlocutor R N Ravi in the presence of PM Narendra Modi.
- The framework agreement came after over 80 rounds of negotiations spanning 18 years with the first breakthrough in 1997 when the ceasefire agreement was sealed after decades of insurgency in Nagaland.
- However, there has been no progress in the peace talks as the NSCN-IM has sought a separate flag and constitution for Nagaland, which has been rejected by the Central government.

- **Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), 1958 gives armed forces the power to maintain public order in “disturbed areas”.**
- **The Act came into force in the context of increasing violence in the Northeastern States decades ago.**



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Matera declaration



- It was adopted at the 'G-20 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting in Matera, Italy.



- The G20 ministers recognised that poverty alleviation, food security and sustainable food systems, are key to ending hunger, encouraging social cohesion and community development and promoting overall inclusive economic growth and sustainable development.
- They also called for implementing effective actions for the empowerment of women and youth in the rural-urban continuum.
- The declaration underlined the need for increasing catalytic investments for food security, nutrition, and sustainable food systems and territorial development, as part of the substantial COVID-19 emergency funding.
- It stressed on accelerating the adaptation of agriculture and food systems to climate change.

- The declaration emphasised on keeping international food trade open and strengthening global, regional and local diversified value chains for safe, fresh and nutritious food, as well as promoting a science-based holistic One Health approach.
- It has called upon the international community to step up efforts to build inclusive and resilient food chains and ensure adequate nutrition for all, in line with the “Zero Hunger” goal set for 2030.
- The Declaration reflects the Indian concern on issues like the welfare of small and medium farmers.
- It helps in promoting local food cultures and recognising agri-diversity.

Spinner Dolphin



- A four-foot-long male Spinner dolphin (*Stenella longirostris*) carcass was washed ashore in Odisha's Paradip town within the Bhitarkanika National Park.
- They are small cetaceans with a slim build and member of the family Delphinidae of toothed whales.
- This species has an elongated rostrum and a triangular or sub-triangular dorsal fin.
- They are found in off-shore tropical waters around the world.
- It is famous for its acrobatic displays in which it spins along its longitudinal axis as it leaps through the air.
- It is sometimes referred to as the long-snouted dolphin to distinguish it from the similar Clymene dolphin, which is often called the short-snouted spinner dolphin.
- The species was described by John Gray in 1828.
- It is included in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and in Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species.

- It is categorised as 'Data deficient' on the IUCN Red List.
- Though the species primarily inhabits coastal waters, islands, banks, in the eastern tropical Pacific, they live far from shore.

The four subspecies are:

- Eastern spinner dolphin (*S. l. orientalis*) from the tropical eastern Pacific.
- Central American or Costa Rican spinner dolphin (*S. l. centroamericana*) also found in the tropical eastern Pacific.
- Gray's or Hawaiian spinner dolphin (*S. l. longirostris*), from the central Pacific Ocean around Hawaii.
- Dwarf spinner dolphin (*S. l. roseiventris*), first found in the Gulf of Thailand.

Bharitalasuchus Tapani

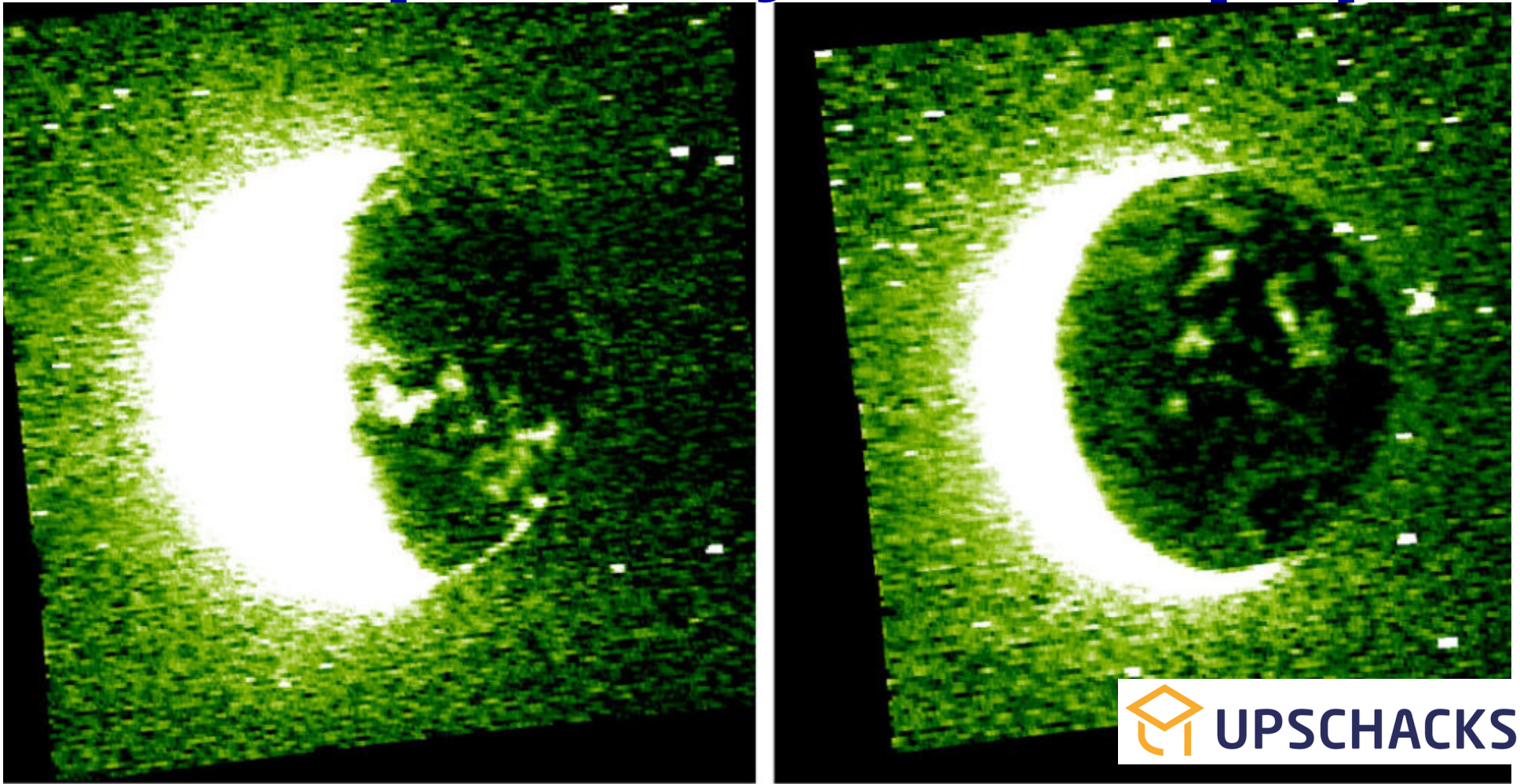


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- Recently, an international team has thrown light on Bharitalasuchus Tapani, a carnivorous reptile that lived 240 million years ago.
- In the mid 20th century, researchers from the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, carried out extensive studies on rocks of the Yerrapalli Formation in Telangana, uncovering several fossils.
- By studying some of these specimens stored at the Institute, an international team has now thrown light on this carnivorous reptile.
- A precise identification had not been possible earlier because the family was not known from other examples in India.
- It belongs to a genus and species previously unknown to science.
- Bharitalasuchus is an extinct genus of erythrosuchid archosauriformes known from the Middle Triassic Yerrapalli Formation of India.

- It contains a single species, *Bharitalasuchus tapani*, known from a holotype and paratype consisting of tooth-bearing cranial fragments.
- The species is named after paleontologist Tapan Roy Chowdhury in honour of his contribution to Indian vertebrate paleontology and especially his extensive work on the Yerrapalli Formation tetrapod fauna.
- *Bharitalasuchus tapani* were robust animals with big heads and large teeth, and these probably predated other smaller reptiles.
- They were approximately the size of an adult male lion and might have been the largest predators in their ecosystems.
- In the Telugu language, Bhari means huge, Tala means head, and Suchus is the name of the Egyptian crocodile-headed deity.
- The first Erythrosuchidae remains were discovered in South Africa in 1905 and more were found in China and Russia.
- The South African one is about 245 million years old, while the ones from China and Russia are around 240 million years old.
- So the Indian one is one of the youngest fossil records we have of an erythrosuchid.

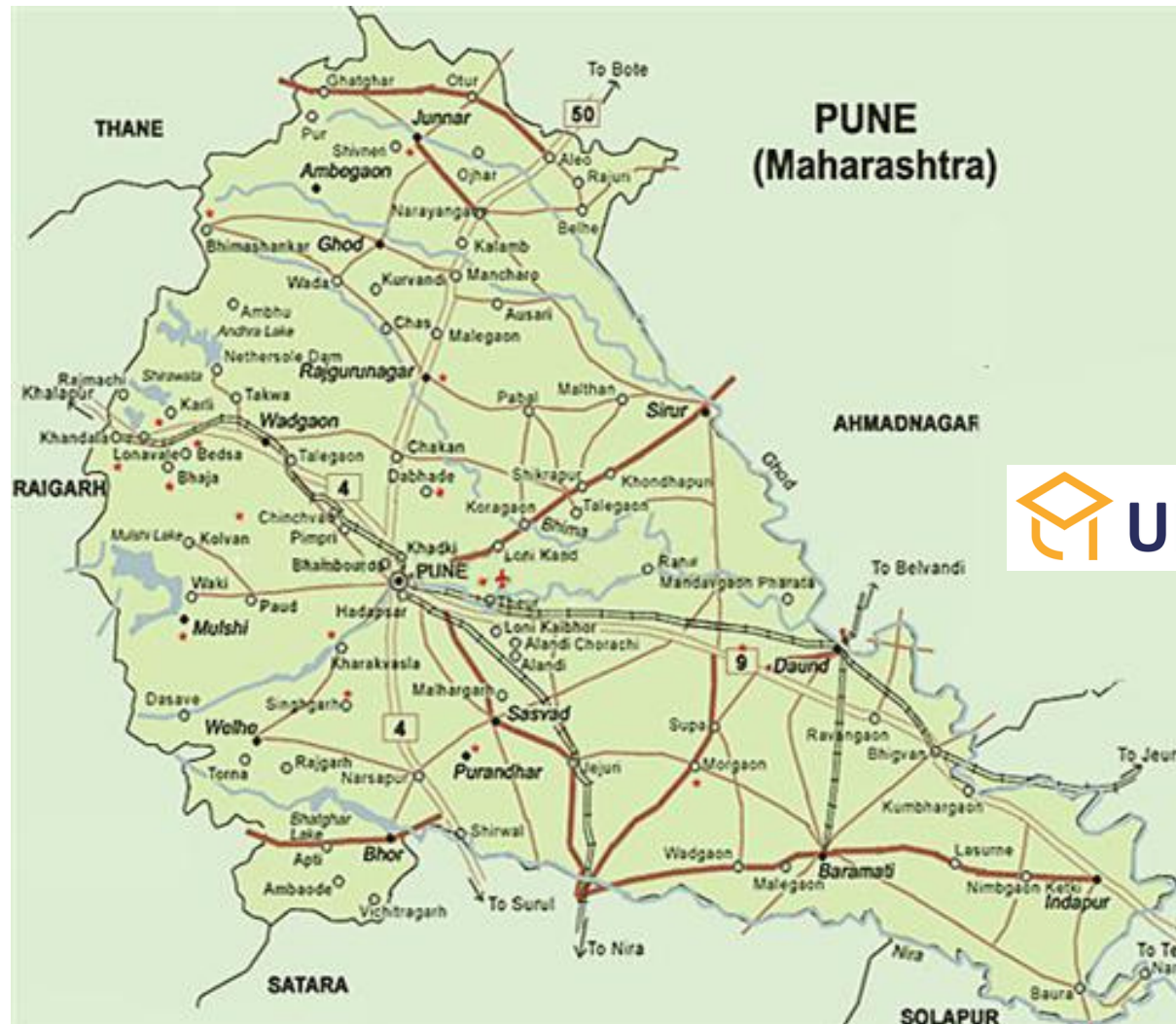
1st global pics of Mars' discrete auroras captured by UAE's Hope probe



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- The first global pictures of Mars' "ghostly glowing" discrete auroras have been captured by United Arab Emirates' (UAE) Hope probe, which is the first-ever Arab interplanetary mission.
- Discrete auroras, which are only visible in ultraviolet light, are caused when charged particles from the solar wind smash into the gas molecules in Mars' thin atmosphere.

Pune becomes largest city in Maharashtra in terms of geographical area



- Pune has become the largest city in Maharashtra in terms of geographical area after the state government added 23 new villages to the existing city limits.
- The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) will now have a geographical area of 516.18 sq km, thus replacing Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), which has 440 sq km area, as the civic body with largest area.

What is a heat dome which led to hottest ever day in Canada?



- A heat dome occurs when strong, high-pressure atmospheric conditions trap hot ocean air like a lid or cap, creating vast areas of sweltering heat under the dome.
- On Tuesday, Canada experienced its highest-ever recorded temperature at 49.5°C.
- Over 200 deaths have been reported so far amid a record-breaking heatwave in Canada and northwestern US.

South Korea to use AI to detect and prevent suicide attempts



- South Korean researchers are developing an artificial intelligence (AI) system to detect and prevent suicide attempts.
- The system is being trained to learn patterns of behaviour by analysing data from cameras, sensors, and dispatch records of rescue services.
- Based on this information, the AI system can then forecast a hazardous situation and immediately alert the rescue teams, a researcher said.

112 years & 326 days old man confirmed as world's oldest living man by Guinness



- Puerto Rico's Emilio Flores Marquez has been confirmed by the Guinness World Records as the world's oldest person living (male) with a confirmed age of 112 years and 326 days, as of June 30.
- Born on August 8, 1908, Emilio was married for 75 years to his wife who passed away in 2010. He has five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Global economy can lose \$4 tn due to COVID-19's impact on tourism: UN



- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on tourism could cause a loss of more than \$4 trillion to the global economy for 2020 and 2021, according to a UN report.
- It said that international tourism and its closely linked sectors suffered an estimated loss of \$2.4 trillion in 2020.
- A similar loss may occur this year, the report added.

Large sea snail found at Andhra riverbank auctioned for ₹18,000; pics surface



- A rarely-seen sea snail that was found washed up on a riverbank in Andhra Pradesh has been auctioned for ₹18,000.
- The orange-coloured snail *Syrinx Aruanus*, popularly known as Australian Trumpet or False Trumpet, can grow to be at least 60 centimetres long and can weigh up to 18 kg.
- The species is one of the world's largest living snails.