

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense, lush green forest. Several cars are visible on the road, including a white car, a blue car, and a white van. The road has white dashed lines for lane markings. The overall scene is vibrant and scenic.

www.upschacks.com

DAILY NEWS DECODE

04.02.22

Indian scientists develop self-disinfecting, washable COVID-19 masks



- The Ministry of Science and Technology on Friday announced that a team of Indian scientists have developed a self-disinfecting antiviral mask to fight COVID-19.
- The mask is biodegradable, highly breathable and washable in nature.
- As per the ministry, it is coated with copper-based nanoparticles that are efficient against coronavirus as well as other viral and bacterial infections.

www.upschacks.com

CHANDRAYAN-3



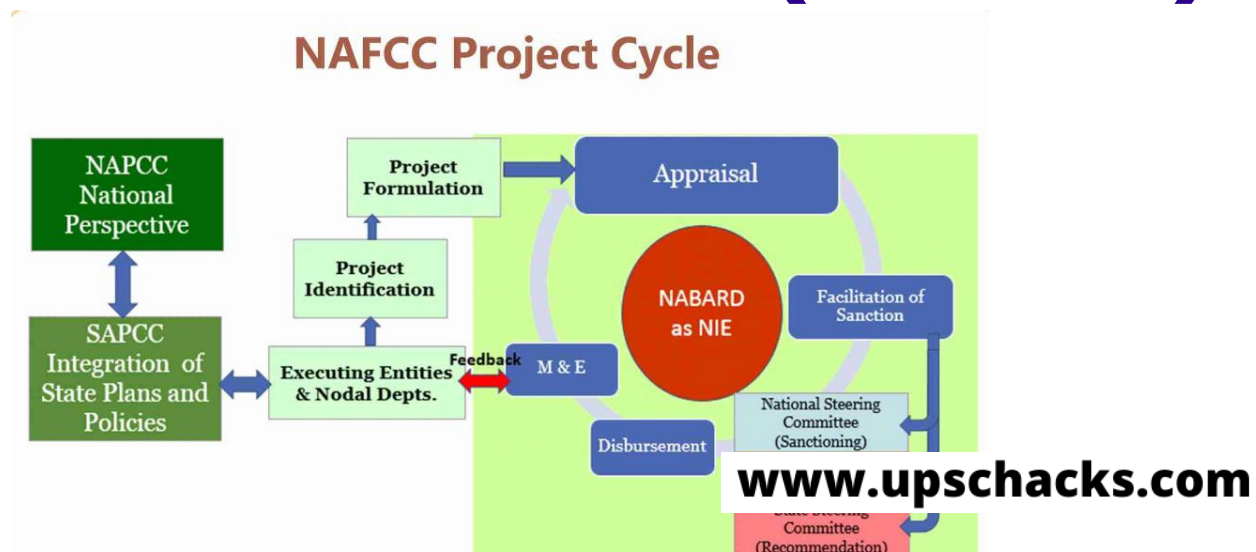
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will make its third venture to the Moon through the Chandrayaan-3 mission in August this year.
- This was stated by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply to Lok Sabha.
- Chandrayaan-3 is a planned third lunar exploration mission by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- Following Chandrayaan-2, where a last-minute glitch in the soft landing guidance software led to the failure of the lander's soft landing attempt after a successful orbital insertion, another lunar mission for demonstrating soft landing was proposed.
- Chandrayaan-3 will be a mission repeat of Chandrayaan-2 but will only include a lander and rover similar to that of Chandrayaan-2. It will not have an orbiter.

- The spacecraft is planned to be launched in August 2022.
- This year is expected to be quite busy for ISRO as major projects such as Gaganyaan and Aditya solar mission are also in the pipeline. ISRO will conduct 19 missions till December this year.

www.upschacks.com

www.upschacks.com

NATIONAL ADAPTATION FUND FOR CLIMATE CHANGE (NAFCC)



- The National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) was established to support adaptation activities in the States and Union Territories (UTs) of India that are vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
- NAFCC is implemented in project mode and till date, 30 projects are sanctioned in 27 States and UTs.
- The NAFCC projects implemented in the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh include activities relating to coastal areas and these projects are –
- Promotion of integrated farming system of Kaipad in coastal wetlands of North Kerala
- Management and rehabilitation of coastal habitats and biodiversity for climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Livelihood in Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu and

- **Climate Resilient interventions in Dairy Sector in coastal and Arid areas in Andhra Pradesh.**
- **Till date, a sum of Rs. 6,35,68,108/- has been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh under NAFCC.**

www.upschacks.com

www.upschacks.com

STATUE OF EQUALITY



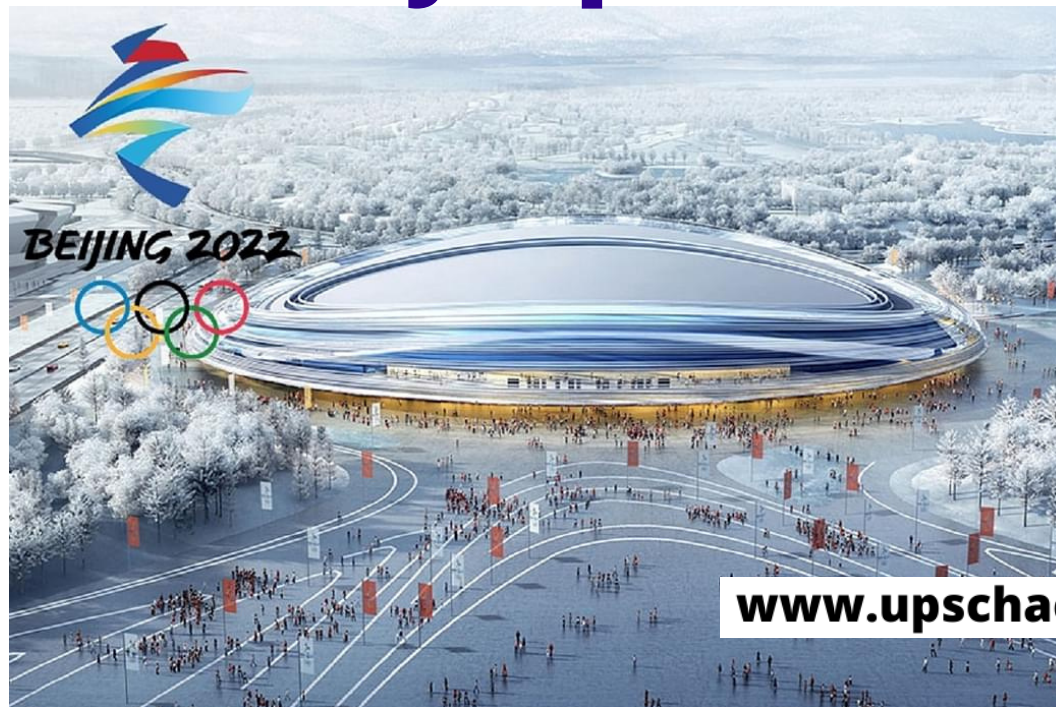
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Statue of Equality, a gigantic statue of Ramanujacharya, on February 5 on the outskirts of Hyderabad.
- Ramanuja was an advocate of social equality among all sections of people centuries ago, and encouraged temples to open their doors to everyone irrespective of caste or position in society at a time when people of many castes were forbidden from entering them.
- He took education to those who were deprived of it. His greatest contribution is the propagation of the concept of “vasudhaiva kutumbakam”, which translates as “all the universe is one family”.
- Born in 1017 in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu, Ramanujacharya is revered as a Vedic philosopher and social reformer. He travelled across India, advocating equality and social justice.

- Ramanuja revived the Bhakti movement, and his preachings inspired other Bhakti schools of thought. He is considered to be the inspiration for poets like Annamacharya, Bhakt Ramdas, Thyagaraja, Kabir, and Meerabai.
- He went on to write nine scriptures known as the navaratnas, and composed numerous commentaries on Vedic scriptures.

www.upschacks.com

www.upschacks.com

India to Boycott Beijing Winter Olympics

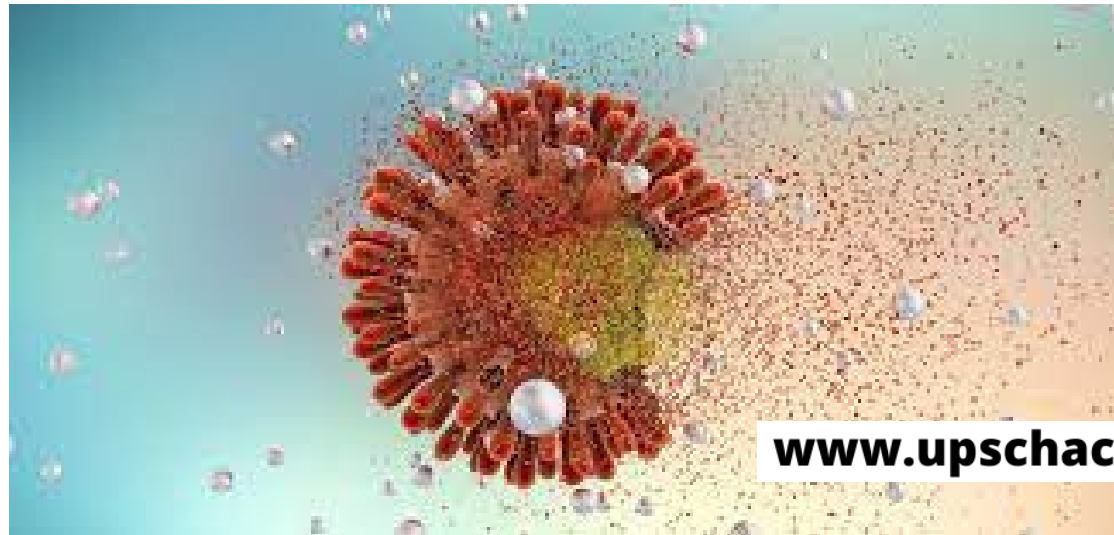


- It is India's first ever political boycott of Olympic games.
- Diplomatic boycott means there will be no diplomatic or political presence, however athletes and sports officials will be sent.
- State broadcaster Doordarshan also announced it will not telecast the opening and closing ceremonies live, where India has one athlete, skier Arif Khan, participating.
- India had earlier expressed support for the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, even as more than a dozen countries, led by the United States, had announced a boycott of the games.

- **The Winter Olympic Games is a major international sporting event that occurs once every four years for sports practiced on snow and ice.**
- **The first Winter Olympic Games, the 1924 Winter Olympics, were held in Chamonix, France.**
- **The 2022 Winter Olympics, officially called the XXIV Olympic Winter Games and commonly known as Beijing 2022, is an ongoing international winter multi-sport event that officially opened on 4 February 2022 and is taking place in Beijing, China, with some events in Yanqing and Chongli.**
- **In 2018, the winter Olympics was held in South Korea.**
- **The Italian cities of Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo will host the 2026 Winter Olympics.**

www.upschacks.com

New 'highly virulent' variant of HIV discovered in Netherlands



- **Scientists have discovered a new "highly virulent" variant of HIV in Netherlands.**
- **Individuals infected with the VB variant had a viral load between 3.5 and 5.5 times higher than those infected with other variants, researchers, including those from University of Oxford, said.**
- **The variant likely arose in the late 1980s and early 1990s in the Netherlands, according to the researchers**

www.upschacks.com