

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

### INTERNATIONAL

- **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)**
- ✓ The G20 Summit announced the launch of the India-Middle East-Europe economic corridor.
- ✓ The economic corridor will include shipping and railway links, making trade between India and Europe 40% faster.



- ✓ It aims to boost trade, transport energy resources, and improve digital connectivity.
- ✓ The corridor involves countries like India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, EU, France, Italy, Germany, and the US.
- ✓ It aims to bolster economic development by fostering connectivity and economic integration between Asia, the Arabian Gulf, and Europe.
- ✓ It is considered to be a counter to China's Belt and Road Initiative.

### CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Global Biofuel Alliance at G20 Summit**
- ✓ On 9 September 2023, India has announced the launch of a Global Biofuel Alliance at G20 Summit in New Delhi.



- ✓ PM Modi has invited all of the countries to join the global biofuel alliance. India, USA and Brazil will work together with interested countries for developed of a Global Biofuel Alliance.
- ✓ India's proposal is to take an initiative at the global level to take ethanol blending in petrol to as high as 20%. PM Modi also said that India has launched National Green Hydrogen Mission to boost green hydrogen production.

## AWARDS

### ➤ **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize**

- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) professor Rajnish Kumar has been awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for his exceptional contributions to fundamental understanding of the nucleation and growth of clathrate hydrates, CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration in solid hydrates and methane recovery from marine gas hydrates.



- ✓ Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) bestows the prize on a person who makes outstanding contributions to human knowledge and progress – fundamental and applied – in a particular field of their specialisation.

## OBITUARY

➤ **Dennis Austin**

- ✓ Dennis Austin, one of the two creators of Microsoft PowerPoint, passed away at the age of 76. Austin created PowerPoint with Robert Gaskins and released it in 1987.



- ✓ The pair of software developers were part of the software company Forethought, which was acquired by Microsoft for \$14m months after PowerPoint, then called Presenter was launched.
- ✓ Dennis R. Austin was the principal software developer for PowerPoint from 1985 to 1996, particularly its versions for Apple Macintosh computers. Austin first encountered computers in high school at a summer program at the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

## REPORT

➤ **Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2023 Clean Air Survey**

- ✓ The recently released Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2023 (Clean Air Survey) report, conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board, reveals that Indore, Amravati, and Parwanoo boast the cleanest air in India.



- ✓ In cities with a population exceeding one million, Indore secured the top spot, followed by Agra and Thane. Bhopal, a notable performer, stood fifth, while the national capital, Delhi, claimed the ninth spot.
- ✓ However, Madurai, Jammu, and Kohima face significant challenges in terms of air quality. According to the report, these cities rank the lowest, highlighting the urgent need for targeted interventions to address their air pollution issues.

