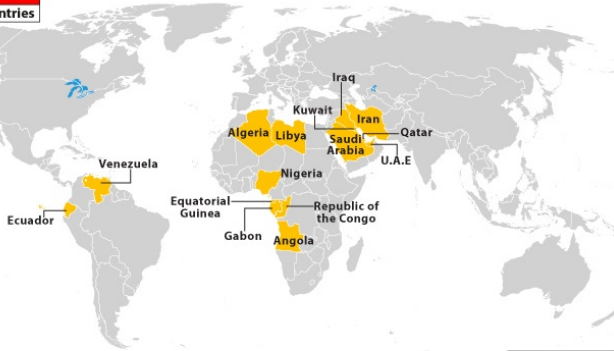




Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Four New Countries Consulted to Join OPEC



Recently, the [Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries \(OPEC\)](#) Secretary General announced that discussions are underway with four new countries, namely **Azerbaijan, Malaysia, Brunei, and Mexico**, to join the organization.

OPEC, which was established in 1960 with founding members **Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela**, now consists of **13 member states**. OPEC produces around 30% of the world's [crude oil](#), with its members accounting for approximately 60% of the global petroleum trade. In 2016, OPEC expanded its alliance by including 10 major oil-producing countries, **forming OPEC+**.

OPEC+ includes the **13 OPEC member countries along with Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan, and Sudan**. The objective is to coordinate and unify **petroleum policies, stabilize oil markets**, ensure a steady **supply of petroleum to consumers**, provide a **reliable income for producers**, and deliver a **fair return on investment** in the petroleum industry. The headquarters of OPEC is in **Vienna, Austria**.

Read more: [Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries \(OPEC\)](#)

India Tops Global Charts for Childhood Diabetes and Deaths

A new study published in the journal JAMA Network has revealed that **India witnessed the highest number of childhood diabetes cases and deaths** globally in 2019. The study highlighted that India also had the highest [disability-adjusted life-years \(DALY\)](#), representing the loss of **one year of full health, according to the World Health Organization. Global childhood diabetes **cases increased by 39.4% since 1990**, with 227,580 cases and 5,390 deaths reported in 2019.**

The rise in [type 2](#) diabetes in children is linked to global **childhood obesity, unhealthy lifestyles, and parental history of the condition**. Childhood diabetes is a condition where a **child's body cannot produce or use insulin** properly. Insulin is a hormone that helps **move sugar from the blood into the cells for energy**. There are two main types of **childhood diabetes: type 1 and type 2**.

Read more: [Type 1 Diabetes](#), [New Injection for Type 2 Diabetes](#)

JIMEX 23



The **seventh edition of the bilateral [Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 \(JIMEX 23\)](#)** is set to take place from **5th to 10th July 2023** in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**.

JIMEX 23 brings together units from the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) and the Indian Navy. The exercise will involve the participation of various naval assets such as **guided missile destroyers, corvettes, [submarines](#), maritime patrol aircraft, and [helicopters](#).**

Read more: [Japan-India Maritime Exercise](#), [Maritime security](#)

DGCA India and EASA Collaborate for Unmanned Aviation Advancement

The **[Directorate General of Civil Aviation \(DGCA\)](#)** India and the **[European Union Aviation Safety Agency \(EASA\)](#)** have solidified their collaboration through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) focused on **[Unmanned Aircraft Systems](#) and [Innovative Air Mobility](#).**

The MoU encompasses licensing of **personnel, training, air traffic management, infrastructure,** and the establishment of **Unmanned Aircraft System Traffic Management (UTM)** standards and services.

Read more: [Directorate General of Civil Aviation](#), [Unmanned Aircraft Systems](#)

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