



## Rapid Fire Current Affairs

### Dinosaur-Killing Asteroid and Aftermath

Recent research published in the **journal Nature Geoscience** has revealed the significant role played by dust ejected into the atmosphere by an **asteroid (Chicxulub Impactor) impact on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula 66 million years ago**.

- This research was conducted based on **paleoclimate simulations(PS)** using sediment from a North Dakota paleontological site called Tanis.
  - PS replicates Earth's climate for studying past climates and predicting future changes.
- The impact caused wildfires, quakes and a climate catastrophe, darkening skies, **dropping temperatures by 27°F**, and blocking photosynthesis, vital for plant life, resulting in an **"impact winter"** with severe consequences.
- Researchers calculated that the total amount of dust produced by the impact exceeded 2,000 gigatonnes, which was **11 times the weight of Mt. Everest**, playing a key role in extinction.
- The asteroid, 6-9 miles wide, ended the **Cretaceous Period(which began 145 million years ago and ended 66 million years ago)**, causing three-quarters of species, including **dinosaurs**, to vanish. Meanwhile, small, adaptable **mammals** thrived and eventually rose as Earth's dominant species.
  - Recovery took about 20 years, with pre-impact conditions returning in the same timeframe.

**Read More:** [Asteroids](#)

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### NMC's One Nation One Registration Platform

The **National Medical Commission (NMC)** plans to transform India's medical registration system with the **'One Nation, One Registration Platform'** for easy access to medical practitioner information.

- The NMC's initiative aims to eliminate **duplication and bureaucratic hurdles**, offering public access to **information about every physician in India**.
- A **National Medical Register(NMR)** patch pilot will provide doctors with **unique identification numbers for cross-state practice**.
  - A masked ID will be assigned to undergraduate students, which will be unmasked upon course completion, facilitating qualification updates and cross-state licensing.
  - The NMR will centralize data on doctors, including qualifications, registration dates, specialities, and more, streamlining accessibility.
- The NMC also outlines processes for additional qualifications, license renewal, and appeal options for rejected applications.

**Read more:** [National Medical Commission \(NMC\)](#)

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### Antarctic Avian Flu Outbreak

Scientists from the **British Antarctic Survey (BAS)** have identified the presence of **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)** in the **Antarctic region** for the first time, raising significant concerns for the delicate populations of **penguins and seals in the region**.

- The discovery found the HPAI in **Brown Skua populations on Bird Island, South Georgia.**
- Avian influenza, often referred to as bird flu, is a highly contagious viral infection that primarily affects birds.
  - In 1996, highly pathogenic **avian influenza H5N1** virus was first identified in domestic waterfowl in **Southern China.**

**Read more:** [Avian Influenza](#)

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## **IOM's Global Initiative for Legal Identity Solutions**

Recently, a **Legal Identity and Rights-Based Return Management Conference** was organized by [United Nations' International Organization for Migration \(IOM\)](#) at Copenhagen, Denmark to promote dialogue between countries of origin and destination for people without legal identities.

- It was highlighted that around **one billion people globally lack a legal identity**, impeding their access to services and freedom of movement, thereby leading to more **hazardous and irregular migration routes.**
- The initiative was organized within the framework of **IOM's Global Programme Enhancing Readmission and Legal Identity Capacities (RELICA)**, launched in 2022.
- IOM was established in 1951 and has its head office at **Le Grand-Saconnex, Switzerland.**

**Read more:** [International Migration Outlook 2022](#)

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