



12-05-2024 NEWS

Permanent Member status to Palestine

- A resolution leading to Palestine becoming a full member state of the UN has been passed in the UN General Assembly.
- A vote on the resolution was held in the 193-member General Assembly.
- In this, 143 countries voted in favor of the resolution.
- 25 countries abstained from voting. 9 countries including Israel and the USA voted against the resolution.
- At present, Palestine is only an observer at the UN General Assembly. This status, granted in 2012, enables Palestine to participate in General Assembly proceedings. But cannot participate in polls.
- Last month America vetoed a similar resolution brought by Algeria.

India supported the resolution:

- India voted in favor of the resolution to make Palestine a full UN member.
- India became the first non-Arab country to recognize the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people in 1974.

World's First Flying Taxi

- IIT Madras is a pioneer in inventing new technologies.
- It is currently working with a private company to develop a flying taxi.
- This all-electric taxi, if operational, will be the world's first flying electric taxi.
- This flying taxi will be very useful for the current road traffic crisis.
- This flying electric taxi can travel at a speed of around 200 kmph.
- About 15 feet long and 15 feet wide space is enough for this taxi to land and take off.
- It rises up as well as descends. 2 people can sit in it and travel.

Sahitya Akademi Fellowship

- Eminent author Ruskin Bond has been awarded the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship, the highest honour given by the literary organisation.

Notable works:

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| ◆ Vagrants in the Valley | ◆ Once Upon a Monsoon Time |
| ◆ Angry River | ◆ Strangers in the Night |
| ◆ All Roads Lead to Ganga | ◆ Tales of FosterGANJ |
| ◆ Leopard on the Mountain | ◆ Too Much Trouble |

What are the rules on contesting seats?

- According to the section 33(7)Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951, a candidate is permitted to contest an election from up to two constituencies.
- Section 70 of the same Act stipulates that a candidate can hold only one seat at a time, regardless of whether he or she has been elected from more than one seat.
- Thus, if a candidate wins from two seats, a byelection is necessary from the seat he or she vacates.
- A person has to be a voter in a particular State to contest Assembly polls from there.
- But to contest in a Lok Sabha election, a person can be registered as a voter in any constituency of the country.
- If a person is a registered voter in any constituency, he or she can contest from any seat in India, except Assam, Lakshadweep and Sikkim.