

World Ozone day, 2021

September 17, 2021

In news– India observed the 27th Global Ozone Day on 16th September.

About World Ozone Day-

- World Ozone Day is celebrated on 16th September each year to **commemorate the signing of the Montreal Protocol.**
 - **The Montreal Protocol is an international environmental treaty for phasing out production and consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances.**
 - It came into force on 16th September 1987.
 - The Day is celebrated every year to spread awareness among people about the depletion of Ozone Layer and the measures taken/ to be taken to preserve it.
- **In 1994,** the UN General Assembly proclaimed this day as World Ozone Day.
 - **The Ozone Cell, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC),** Government of India has been **celebrating World Ozone Day since 1995** at the National and State levels.
 - **The theme of World Ozone Day 2021 is** “Montreal Protocol – Keeping us, our food and vaccines cool”.

India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP)-

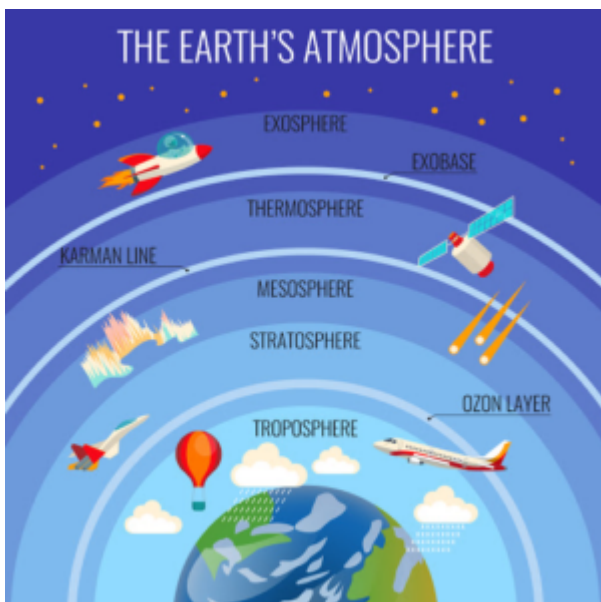
- During the same event, the Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change has **released the Action Plan for implementing recommendations of the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP)** for thematic Area Space Cooling in Buildings.
- **ICAP, the first of its kind in the world to be**

developed by the MoEF&CC, addresses cooling requirements across sectors and lists out actions which can help reduce the cooling demand through synergies in actions for securing both environmental and socio-economic benefits.

- **It aims to reduce both direct and indirect emissions.**

Ozone layer-

- The Ozone layer, also known as the Ozone shield, is a delicate layer of gas **in the Earth's stratosphere** that absorbs most of the Sun's ultraviolet rays, which is harmful to human life and other life forms.
- These rays can cause numerous skin diseases.
- Ozone is a gas that is made of three oxygen atoms, O₃.
- Depending on where the ozone layer is, it can either harm life or protect life on Earth.
- The ozone layer is found in the stratosphere around 15–30km above the earth's surface.



- It covers the entire planet and protects life on earth by **absorbing harmful ultraviolet-B (UV-B) radiation from the sun.**
- The first ozone hole was discovered 30 years ago in May 1985 over Antarctica. .