

November,2019:

1. **The Eleventh edition of Bal Sangam has begun in New Delhi.**

Note: The four-day festival will showcase enthralling folk and traditional performing arts and folk theatre dedicated to children. As many as twelve States including Assam, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat are participating in the event.

2. **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated the 8th National Tribal Craft Mela at State Tribal Museum Complex in Bhubaneswar.**

Note: As a part of Odisha Government's '5Ts' initiative, 45 Supplementary Readers prepared in 21 Tribal languages were released simultaneously by CM Patnaik. The objective of the National Tribal Craft Mela is to preserve, promote and popularize traditional tribal art and crafts.

3. **India gets USD 43 million from Green Climate Fund to boost climate resilience in 3 coastal states**

India recently kicked-off a USD 43 million project to boost climate resilience in three coastal states in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme.

About the Project

- The project is funded by the Green Climate Fund, established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to assist developing countries.
- It is a six-year project that will build climate-resilient livelihoods for the people in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha.
- The project also aligns well with the priorities of the National Action Plan on Climate Change, the State Action Plans, and the nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement.
- It establishes India as a leader on climate action, and marks an essential step for India to reach its goals outlined in the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," the UNDP said.

4. **First Night trial Agni-II conducted successfully**

India has successfully conducted the first night trial of Agni-II, its versatile surface-to-surface medium-range nuclear-capable missile from Dr Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast.

About Agni-II

- The missile was developed by DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organization).
- It is an intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM), has already been inducted into the armed forces.
- The missile is capable of striking range of 2,000 km.
- It can carry a payload of 1,000 kg and launch weight of 17 tonnes.
- It is 20 meters long and is a two-stage missile.
- AGNI Missile Agni II missile is a part of series of Agni missile with a range of 2,000 km.

5. Govt approved setting up of six plastic parks

Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister has given in a written reply in Rajya Sabha that the government has approved setting up of six plastic parks in different parts of the country.

About the Plastic Parks

- These parks are located in Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu.
- These parks will have an ecosystem with state of the art infrastructure building and enabling the common facility to consolidate and synergize the capacities of the domestic downstream plastic processing industry.
- The government provides grant funding up to 50 per cent of the project cost.
- The remaining project cost is to be funded by State Government beneficiary industries and by a loan from financial institutions.

6. Explained: What is Polydactyly?

Recently a 63-year-old woman in a village in Odisha who had suffered from polydactyly had been ostracised by the community as a “witch” because she was born with 12 fingers and 20 toes.

About polydactyly

- It is also known as polydactyly/polydactylism or hyperdactyly which is a birth defect in which humans and animals have supernumerary fingers or toes. Polydactylism is reported in perhaps one or two children per 1,000 live births and could be the most common abnormality of development seen in newborns worldwide.
- The defect develops during the sixth or seventh week of gestation, when an irregularity occurs in the splitting of the fingers from the hand or foot, creating an extra digit.
- Causes are believed to be genetic, in some cases hereditary.

Treatment: In most cases, the extra digits can be surgically removed; the procedure gets more challenging if there is bone with the skin and tissue, and most difficult when the bone has a joint.