

1. Government constitutes High-level Ministerial Committee for implementation of Paris Agreement

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), under the chairmanship of Secretary, has constituted a high-level inter-ministerial **Apex Committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement (AIPA)**.
- Senior officials from fourteen ministries will serve as Members to AIPA who will oversee the progress in implementation of India's NDC (Nationally Determined Contributions).
- The year 2021 would mark the beginning of implementation of the Paris Agreement.
- **Paris Agreement**-Signed in 2016, the agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change deals with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, adaptation, and finance. It sets out a global framework to avoid climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

2. India signs \$132.8-million loan agreement with ADB to strengthen Meghalaya's power supply

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Centre signed a \$132.8-million loan agreement, aimed at strengthening and modernising the distribution network and improving the quality of power supplied to households, industries and businesses in Meghalaya.
- **Note:** This project supports Meghalaya's '24x7 Power for All' initiative and this project will help develop a distribution sector roadmap and a financial roadmap for the Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited (MePDCL).

3. Assam government launches Orunodoi scheme

- Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched a massive beneficiary scheme covering almost 22 lakh families across the state from December 1.
- **Note:** Under the Orunodoi scheme, an amount of Rs 830 per month will be given to the qualified 22 lakh families to purchase fundamental items like medicines, pulses, sugar, etc. and the state government will spend Rs 2,400 crore annually.

4. India continues to make impressive gains in reduction of malaria burden: WHO

- According to the **World Malaria Report 2020** released by the World Health Organisation (WHO), India is the only high endemic country which has reported a decline of 17.6 percent in 2019 as compared to 2018. The Annual Parasitic Incidence reduced by 27.6 percent in 2018 compared to 2017.
- The percentage drop in the malaria cases was 71.8 percent and deaths were 73.9 percent between 2000 to 2019.
- **Note:** Malaria elimination efforts were initiated in the country in 2015 and were intensified after the launch of National Framework for Malaria



Elimination in 2016 by the Health Ministry. The National Strategic Plan for Malaria Elimination was launched by the Health Ministry in July, 2017 which laid down strategies for the next five years.

5. Cyclonic Storm 'Burevi'

- According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Cyclonic Storm Burevi is a currently active tropical cyclone which has made landfall in Sri Lanka and is threatening parts of southern India.
- **Note:** It is the fifth named cyclone in the 2020 North Indian Ocean cyclone season. The others are Cyclone Gati, Cyclone Nisarga, Cyclone Nivar and Cyclone Amphan.
- Cyclone Burevi is the third Cyclone to hit Tamil Nadu in two years after Cyclone Gaja in 2018 and Cyclone Nivar recently.

6. Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhry assumes charge as Director General Border Roads (DGBR)

- Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry assumed the charge as 27th Director General of the Border Roads Organization on 01 December 2020.
- **Note:** He replaces Lieutenant General Harpal Singh who has been appointed as a new Engineer-in-Chief of Indian Army.

7. MDH owner 'Mahashay' Dharampal Gulati passes away

- Dharampal Gulati, the owner of the iconic spice brand MDH (Mahashian Di Hatti), passed away at 98.
- He received the Padma Bhushan award from President Ram Nath Kovind in 2019.

8. December 4, Indian Navy Day

- Indian Navy Day is celebrated every year on December 4 to commemorate the attack on the Karachi harbour during the India-Pakistan war in 1971. On this day, the Indian Navy's attack on Karachi harbour contributed to the ultimate victory of the Indian Armed Forces over Pakistan.
- The theme of Navy Day 2020 is "Indian Navy Combat Ready, Credible & Cohesive".
- **Note:** Presently, Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) is Admiral Karambir Singh.
- The Navy plans to celebrate 2021 as 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' as part of commemorating the 50th anniversary of the victory in the 1971 war.

