

News for State PSC Exams 07.08. 2020

G C Murmu appointed as CAG

- **Former J&K lieutenant governor G C Murmu a 1985 batch IAS officer**, appointed as the **Comptroller and Auditor General**. He will **succeed Rajiv Mehrishi**, who is retiring.
- The **President had appointed Murmu to be the CAG** from the date he took charge of the office.
- **Murmu served in the home department of Gujarat** when Modi was chief minister. Later, he also as **principal secretary in the state**.
- He worked in the finance ministry and handled the **Goods and Services Tax regime** as **additional secretary** and was **involved in the implementation of indirect tax reforms**.

Maharashtra set to introduce Digital education tools in partnership with Google

- The Maharashtra government has announced a partnership with Google for introducing digital education tools in schools across the state.
- It will **enable 2.3 crore students and teachers to access the technology giant's blended learning programmes** that combine classroom approach with online learning.
- **Google will deploy free tools like G Suite for Education, Google Classroom and Google Meet** to facilitate remote learning.

Cladonotus bhaskari, pygmy grasshopper

- A new species of pygmy grasshopper, discovered after 116 years by a group of foreign researchers in Sri Lanka, has been named after a 28-year-old Indian orthopterist (one who studies grasshoppers) and conservation biologist Dhaneesh Bhaskar of Kerala.
- *Cladonotus bhaskari*, the first new twighopper species found in 116 years.
- It was identified in the Sinharaja rainforest in Sri Lanka by the researchers from Germany and Croatia.

India plans to set up Japanese industrial township in Assam

- India is planning to set up the 13th Japanese industrial township in Assam, a move aimed at promoting economic ties between the two countries.
- Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Guruprasad Mohapatra informed.
- Presently, the work is on for Geographic Information System-enabled database of industrial areas and clusters across the country.

Kisan Special Parcel Train

- India's first Kisan Special Parcel Train or Kisan Rail to be operation from 7th Aug 2020.

- It will transport material between **Maharashtra's Devlali and Bihar's Danapur Railway station.**
- The Kisan Rail will carry fruits and vegetables and will make stoppages at several stations and pick-up and deliver them.
- The train will halt at **Nasik Road, Manmad, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Burhanpur, Khandwa, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Satna, Katni, Manikpur, Prayagraj Chheoki, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Nagar and Buxar.**

National Handloom Day

- The **National Handloom Day** is organised on 7th Aug 2020 by the Ministry of Textiles on a virtual platform.
- **7th August** was chosen as the National Handloom Day to **commemorate the Swadeshi Movement** which was launched on the **same date in the year 1905.**
- The objective is to **generate awareness** about the **Handloom Industry** among the public and its **contribution to socio-economic development.**
- **Textiles Minister Smriti Irani** attended as the **Chief Guest** on the occasion.

India granted \$15.46 million to India-UN Development Partnership Fund

- India has contributed **\$15.46 million** to **India-UN Development Partnership Fund** under its **commitment to support developing nations** across all the **Sustainable Development Goals.**
- The fund is managed by **United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)** and implemented under UN system since 2017.
- Out of the **\$15.46 million**, **\$6 million** will go to the overall fund for all developing countries and **\$9.46 million** is dedicated to Commonwealth countries.

Social Security Scheme for tendu leave collectors launched in Chhattisgarh

- Chhattisgarh CM **Bhupesh Baghel** has launched **Shaheed Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Sangraha Samajik Suraksha Yojana** for tendu leaves collectors.
- It is a social security scheme launched in the memory of political leader **Mahendra Karma.** It will benefit over **12.50 lakh** tribals and forest dwellers families
- **Tendu leaves** are used for making bidis. The scheme will **provide financial aid of Rs 2 lakh** to nominee, heir in case of normal **death, accidental death and accidental disability**

Former Union Home Secretary Ram D. Pradhan passes away

- Former Union Home Secretary **Ram D. Pradhan (92 years)** passes away in Mumbai due to age-related ailments.

- He was an **IAS officer of Maharashtra Cadre**. He served as the **Governor of Arunachal Pradesh (1987-1990)**
- He also headed 2-member committee to investigate 26/11 Mumbai terror attack.
- He was honoured with **Padma Bhushan in 1987**.
- He played a significant role in the signing of the **Assam Accord** and **Mizoram Peace Accord**.

Former Real Madrid goalkeeper Iker Casillas announces retirement

- Legendary Real Madrid & Spanish footballer **Iker Casillas (39 years)** has announced his retirement from professional football.
- He played as a goalkeeper for Real Madrid. He made **725 appearances for Real Madrid**, during which he **won three Champions League** titles and **five La Liga** titles.
- He also helped **Spain in winning the 2010 World Cup** and two **successive European Championships in 2008 and 2012**.