

Daily Current Affairs 20/10/2021

1. Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index 2021



Why in News

• **India** has maintained the **3rd rank** in the **Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI) 2021** released by consultancy firm **Ernst & Young Global Limited (EY)**.

Key Points

- The **US** and **China** are in **first** and **second place**, respectively.
- It is the **58th edition of RECAI**, which ranks the world's top 40 markets (nations) on the attractiveness of renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities.
- With the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) measures reaching the top of the agenda for companies and investors, RECAI also highlights that Corporate **Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)** are emerging as a key driver of clean energy growth.
- **India** ranks 6th among the top **30 PPA** markets.
- **Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) Index**: A new PPA Index – introduced in this edition of RECAI – focuses on the attractiveness of renewable energy purchases and ranks the growth potential of the country's corporate PPA market.

Source: newsonair

2. UIDAI to host “Aadhaar Hackathon 2021”



Why in News

• **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** will host a Hackathon titled “**Aadhaar Hackathon 2021**”.

• The Hackathon is starting on 28 Oct 2021 and will continue till 31 Oct 2021.

Key Points

Themes:

• **Aadhaar Hackathon 2021** is themed around **two topics**.

First theme: The first theme is around “Enrolment and Update”.

Second theme: The second theme is around “Identity and Authentication”.

About Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI):

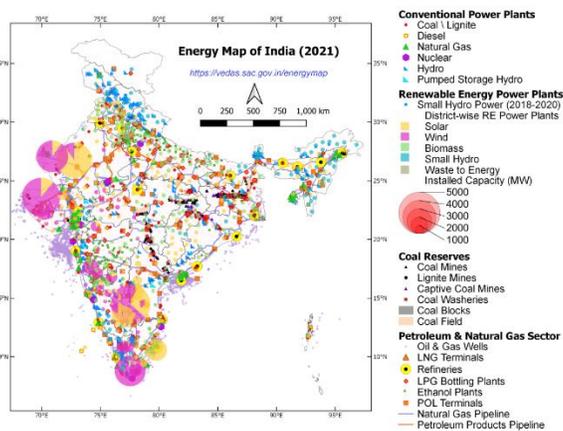
- It is a statutory authority established under the provisions of Aadhaar Act 2016 by the Government of India under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Founded:** 28 January 2009
- UIDAI is mandated to issue an easily verifiable 12 digit number as Unique Identity - Aadhaar to all Residents of India.

Other Hackathons:

- Drug Discovery Hackathon 2020
- Virtual Agri-Hackathon 2020
- CCTNS Hackathon & Cyber Challenge
- India - Australia Circular Economy Hackathon
- Hackathon Manthan 2021
- 5G Hackathon

Source: PIB

3. Geospatial Energy Map of India



Why in News

- NITI Aayog launched a comprehensive GIS Geospatial Energy Map of India.

Key Points

- NITI Aayog in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) Energy

Map of India with the support of Energy Ministries of Government of India.

- The GIS map provides a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country which enables visualisation of energy installations such as conventional power plants, oil and gas wells, petroleum refineries, coal fields and coal blocks, district-wise data on renewable energy power plants and renewable energy resource potential, etc through 27 thematic layers.
- It leverages the latest advancements in web-GIS technology and open-source software to make it interactive and user friendly.
- The Geospatial Energy Map of India will be useful in planning and making investment decisions.

- It will also aid in disaster management using available energy assets.

Source: PIB

4. Mount Harriet in Andaman to be named Mount Manipur



Why in News

- The Central government has decided to rename **Mount Harriet**, an island peak in Andaman and Nicobar islands as a tribute to the **freedom fighters of Manipur**.
- It will now be known

as **Mount Manipur**.

Key Points

- Manipur played a significant role in resisting the British in the Northeast during the 1857 revolution and in 1891.
- **Mount Harriet**, the third-highest island peak in Andaman and Nicobar islands, where Manipur's Maharaja Kulchandra Singh and 22 other freedom fighters were imprisoned during the Anglo-Manipuri war (1891).

Source: HT

5. New Species of Onion 'Allium Negianum' discovered in India



Why in News

- A plant discovered in **Uttarakhand** has been newly confirmed as a new species of Allium — the genus that includes many staple foods such as onion and garlic, among 1,100 species worldwide.
- The scientific name Allium Negianum honours the late Dr Kuldeep Singh

Negi, an explorer and Allium collector.

Key Points

- The new species found in Uttarakhand is described in journal the PhytoKeys.
- It grows at 3,000 to 4,800 m above sea level and can be found along open grassy meadows, sandy soils along rivers, and streams forming in snow pasture lands along alpine meadows.
- With a narrow distribution, this newly described species is restricted to the region of western Himalayas.

Source: Indian Express

6. Ship-to-Ship operation of LPG undertaken at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port by BPCL



Why in News

- For the first time in the history of major ports, **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)** carried out the **Ship-to-Ship (STS) operation** of LPG undertaken at **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port**.

Key Points

- BPCL engaged service provider M/s Fendercare Marine to render the services at the offshore STS location.
- The restricted draft in the river channel necessitates offloading of part cargo at neighbouring ports before calling at Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) or Kolkata Dock System (KDS) of **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata (erstwhile Kolkata Port Trust)**. Consequent to two port discharge, vessels incur dead freight and additional steaming time.

Source: PIB

7. IAS Ritesh Chauhan appointed as CEO of PM Fasal Bima Yojana



Why in News

- **IAS Ritesh Chauhan** has been appointed as the **CEO (Chief Executive Officer)** of the **Pradhan Mantri (PM) Fasal Bima Yojana** and Joint Secretary, Agriculture under the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare for a combined tenure of seven years up to September 22, 2023.

Key Points

- **Ritesh Chauhan** will succeed Ashish Kumar Bhutani, who was appointed in 2018.

About Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):

- **PMFBY** launched on 18 February 2016 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is an insurance service for farmers for their yields.
- It was formulated in line with the One Nation–One Scheme theme by replacing earlier two schemes National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS).
- The aim is to reduce the premium burden on farmers and ensure early settlement of crop assurance claims for the full insured sum.

Source: ET

8. NASA launches Lucy spacecraft, first space mission to study Jupiter's Trojans Asteroids



Why in News

- **NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)** launched **Lucy spacecraft, the first space mission (Lucy Mission)** to study **Jupiter's Trojans Asteroids.**

Key Points

- Lucy's mission is a 12-year expedition to study a record number of asteroids.

- It will be the first to explore the Trojans, thousands of rocky objects orbiting the sun in two swarms – one ahead of the path of giant gas planet **Jupiter** and one behind it.

Source: Indian Express

9. Earthshot Prize 2021



Why in News

- **Vidyut Mohan** (Co-founder of **Takachar**), a **Delhi** entrepreneur's agricultural waste recycling concept, won the **inaugural edition** of the **Earthshot Prize**.

- Indian company **Takachar** won the prize in the "**Clean**

our Air" category for the creation of a portable machine which turns agricultural waste into fertiliser so that farmers do not burn the waste and cause air pollution.

- Five winners were announced, each receiving a million pounds (\$1.4 million).

Key Points

About Earthshot Prize:

- It is a prize awarded annually from 2021 to 2030.
- It is given by the **Royal Foundation**, headquartered in London, England.
- It was launched in 2020 by **Prince William, Duke of Cambridge and David Attenborough**.
- Each year **five finalists** will be selected for their contributions towards the **five UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** — restoration and protection of nature, air cleanliness, ocean revival, waste-free living and climate action.

Source: ndtv