

Daily Current Affairs: 03.06.2021

Launch of Gopal Ratna Awards and Integration of e- Gopala app with UMANG platform

Why in the News?

- The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying announced the launch of the Gopal Ratna Awards and Integration of e- Gopala app with UMANG platform on the occasion of World Milk Day.
- Every year, the **first day of June is observed as World Milk Day**.



Key Points

About the Gopal Ratna Awards:

- The Gopal Ratna Awards are the National Awards **for the Cattle and Dairy sector**.
- The award has three categories - **i) Best Dairy farmer, ii) Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT) and (iii) Best Dairy Cooperative/ Milk producer Company/ FPO.**

About UMANG platform:

- **Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG)**, is a mobile app, a Digital India initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, by the Government of India for access to central and state government services.
- The app was developed by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology with the National e-Governance Division and launched in November 2017 by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

About e- Gopala app:

- **e- Gopala app (Generation of wealth through Productive Livestock)**, a comprehensive breed improvement marketplace and information portal for direct use of farmers, was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2020.

Other Initiatives related to the Dairy sector:

- National Animal Disease Control Programme & National Artificial Insemination Programme
- National Action Plan on Dairy Development 2022
- Rashtriya Gokul Mission
- Pashu-Aadhar



About Operation Flood (White Revolution):

- Operation Flood, launched on 13 January 1970, was the world's largest dairy development program and a landmark project of India's National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).
- Operation Flood is the program that led to the "White Revolution".
- **Vergheese Kurien** is known as the "**Father of the White Revolution**" in India.

Note:

- India is a global leader amongst dairying nations and produced 198.4 million tonnes of milk during 2019-20.
- Currently, India is the world's largest milk producer, with 22% of global production.

'Second Positive Indigenisation List'

Why in the News?

- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has notified the 'Second Positive Indigenisation List' of 108 items.



Key Points

About the Second Positive Indigenisation List:

- All the **108 items** will be procured from indigenous sources as per provisions given in **Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020**.
- This second list is planned to be implemented progressively with effect from **December 2021 to December 2025**.
- This will give further boost to indigenisation with active participation of public and private sector for fulfilling the twin objectives of achieving self-reliance and promoting defence exports.



Note: In August 2020, the ‘**First Positive Indigenisation**’ List comprising 101 items was notified.

About Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP 2020):

- The Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP 2020), which supersedes the Defence Procurement Procedure 2016 (DPP 2016), is a sincere effort by the Ministry of Defence to improve the capital procurement procedure.

Other Initiatives to boost domestic production of Defence Equipment:

- **Defence Industrial Corridors:** India has inaugurated two defence industrial corridors, one in Tamil Nadu and the other in Uttar Pradesh to boost the flagship “Make in India” programme.
- Increased Capital Acquisition Budget for Domestic Sector
- The Central government has increased the Foreign Direct Investment limit in the defence sector from 49 to 74% under automatic route and beyond 74% through the government route.
- Defence India Startup Challenge
- Corporatization of the Ordnance Factory Boards

Note: The Ministry of Defence is also expected to put out the final version of the ‘**Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy (DPEPP) 2020**’.

Jayanti: A new species of Spider Cricket

Why in the News?

- **Recently**, a team of zoologists headed by Dr Ranjana Jaiswara of the Zoology Department of Panjab University, Chandigarh, have discovered a new species of Spider Cricket in the **Kurra caves of Chhattisgarh**.
- The new subgenus was named **Jayanti after Professor Jayant Biswas**, one of the leading cave explorers in the country.



Key Points

About the New Spider Cricket:

- Jayanti has become the twelfth subgenus, or species, of cricket identified under the genus Arachnomimus Saussure, 1897.
- Males of the new Jayanti subgenus cannot produce sound and their females don't have ears.
- The newly discovered subgenus, Indimimus, is different from the two subgenera, Arachnomimus and Euarachnomimus, because of the male genitalia structure.

- Insects have a lock-and-key model genitalia structure which is unique to each subgenus.

Significance of the Discovery:

- The new species may be communicating by beating their abdomen or any other body part on the cave walls.
- **Vibrational communication** is one of the softest but fastest modes of signal transmission.
- Further studies on their skills of **vibrational communication may help in designing hearing aids for humans** which can capture quietest signals and amplify to an audible hearing range.
- With the discovery of Jayanti from India, the genus *Arachnomimus* is now known from 12 species. Distribution of these species is very wide, ranging from Brazil to Malaysia.
- In India, the diversity of spider crickets is still unexplored. Given India is home to four **biodiversity hotspots**, and all the hotspots have unexplored caves, there is significant scope for many more discoveries.

IFFCO launches “World’s First Nano Urea Liquid”

Why in the News?

- **The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)** launched the “World’s First Nano Urea Liquid”, a nutrient to provide nitrogen to plants as an alternative to the conventional urea.



Key Points

About Nano Urea:

- Urea that is produced from nano-technology to improve the efficiency of the nutrients of the crops is called Nano Urea.
- Nano Urea Liquid is developed to replace conventional urea and it can curtail the requirement of the same by at least 50%.
- Conventional urea is effective 30-40 per cent in delivering nitrogen to plants, while the effectiveness of the Nano Urea Liquid is over 80 percent.

WHO awards Harsh Vardhan with 'WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award'

Why in the News?

- On account of the World No Tobacco Day, World Health Organisation (WHO) has awarded Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan with 'WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award' for his accomplishments in the area of tobacco control.



Key Points:

- The award has been given to Mr Vardhan for **banning E-cigarettes and heated tobacco products.**
- His leadership was instrumental in the **2019 national legislation to ban e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products.**
- WHO has also awarded **Madhya Pradesh Voluntary Health Association and Uttar Pradesh Tobacco Control Cell** with the **World No Tobacco Day award** in the **South East region category.**

Note: World No Tobacco Day 2021 was celebrated on 31st May 2021.

Kerala's Smart Kitchen Scheme

Why in the News?

- The Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan has announced that the Secretary level committee is set to make the recommendations and guidelines for the implementation of the 'Smart Kitchen scheme' by July 10, 2021.



Key Points

About the Smart Kitchen Scheme:

- It aims to reduce the workload of women's domestic labour.
- The women will be provided a loan by the government to refurbish their kitchens with a low-interest rate in the installment schemes.

Aashritha V Olety becomes India's 1st woman flight test engineer

Why in the News?

- **Aashritha V Olety, an officer of the Indian Air Force (IAF),** has become the country's first woman flight test engineer.



Key Points

- Aashritha V Olety, a native of Karnataka, has graduated as part of the 43rd Flight Test Course after completing a one-year course at the pilot school.
- Olety will be responsible for evaluating aircraft and airborne systems before their induction into the armed forces.

Note: Excluding the medical wing in which women have been serving for decades, the army accounts for 6,807 women officers, the IAF 1,607 and the navy has 704 women officers. In percentage terms, women still form a small part of the military- 0.56% of the army, 1.08% of the air force and 6.5% of the navy.

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