

Daily Current Affairs 12/07/2021

1. ‘India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package: Phase II’



Why in News

- The Union Cabinet has approved a new scheme ‘**India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package: Phase-II**’ amounting to **Rs. 23,123 crore** for FY 2021-22.
- Phase-II would be implemented from 01 July 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Key Points

About the Phase-II of the Package:

- The Phase-II of the Package has Central Sector (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) components.

Aim:

- This scheme aims to accelerate health system preparedness for immediate responsiveness for early prevention, detection and management.
- Support would be provided to Central Hospitals, AIIMS, and other Institutions of National Importance for repurposing 6,688 beds for COVID management.
- The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) would be strengthened by providing Genome Sequencing machines.
- Support would also be provided for expanding the National Architecture of eSanjeevani Tele-consultation platform to provide upto 5 lakhs tele-consultations per day from the present 50,000 Tele-consultations per day.
- Create Paediatric units in all 736 districts and also, to establish Paediatric Centre of Excellence (PaediatricCoE) in each State/UT.
- Augment 20,000 ICU beds in the public healthcare system out of which 20% will be Pediatric ICU beds.
- Augment the existing fleet of ambulances - 8,800 ambulances will be added under the package.

About the Phase-I of the Package:

- In March 2020, when the country was faced with the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister announced a Central Sector Scheme of Rs. 15,000 crore for the "India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package".

2. Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary named Rajasthan's 4th tiger reserve

Why in News



- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change approved the conversion of the Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan's Bundi district into the 4th tiger reserve in the state.
- A proposal of converting the Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary into a tiger reserve was recently given a green signal by the technical committee of the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)**.
- It will be the country's 52nd tiger reserve.

Key Points

About Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary:

- The Sanctuary is spread across 1,071 square kilometres in Rajasthan's Bundi district.

The other three are - **Ranthambore Tiger Reserve** in Sawai Madhopur, **Sariska Tiger Reserve** in Alwar, and **Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve** in Kota.

About National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA):

- NTCA is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change constituted under enabling provisions of the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**, as amended in 2006.

About Project Tiger:

- Project Tiger is a tiger conservation programme launched in April 1973 by the Government of India.
- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme that provides the required support for the conservation of the tiger in the country.

About Wildlife Sanctuary:

- An area where animals and plants are protected under their natural habitat and are protected from any sort of disturbance is termed a Wildlife Sanctuary.
- There are 553 wildlife sanctuaries in India (National Wildlife Database, December 2019).

3. DBT-NIBMG creates world's first database of genomic variants of oral cancer 'dbGENVOC'



DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
Ministry of Science & Technology
Government of India

first database of genomic variants of oral cancer 'dbGENVOC'.
Key Points

About dbGENVOC:

- It is a browsable online database of GENomic Variants of Oral Cancer and is a free resource.
- It also allows a reasonable extent of statistical and bioinformatic analysis to be carried out online, including identifying variants in associated altered pathways in oral cancer.

Cancer in India:

- India had an estimated 1.16 million new cancer cases in 2018 as per the World Cancer Report 2020.
- The 6 most common cancer types in India are oral cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer, lung cancer, colorectal cancer and stomach cancer.

Oral cancer is the most prevalent form of cancer among men in India, largely fuelled by tobacco-chewing.

- Tobacco-chewing causes changes in the genetic material of cells in the oral cavity. These changes (mutations) precipitate oral cancer.

Other Related Initiatives:

- National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS)
- National Cancer Grid (NCG)
- National Genomic Grid (NGG)

About National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG):

Why in News

- DBT-National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG), Kalyani an Autonomous Institute funded by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India has created the **world's first database of genomic variants of oral cancer 'dbGENVOC'**.

- It has been established as an autonomous institution by the Government of India, under the aegis of the Department of Biotechnology.
- It is the first institution in India explicitly devoted to research, training, translation & service and capacity-building in Biomedical Genomics.

4. Indian economist Kaushik Basu awarded Humboldt Research Award Why in News



- Indian economist Kaushik Basu has been awarded the Humboldt Research Award 2021 for Economics.

Key Points

- Kaushik Basu is currently a professor of Economics at Cornell University.
- He was the chief economist of the World Bank from 2012 to 2016.

- He served as the Government of India's chief economic advisor from 2009 to 2012.
- He is a recipient of the Padma Bhushan award.

About Humboldt Research Award:

- The Humboldt Research Award is sponsored by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and awarded to as many as 100 recipients each year.
- The Award honours scientists and economists from across the world for their work.
- The award entails prize money of 60,000 euros and an offer to carry out research projects at a scientific institution in Germany for up to 12 months.

Note: Recently, Kaushik Basu has authored a new book on policymaking titled “**Policymaker's Journal: From New Delhi to Washington D.C.**”.

5. Jaipur to get India's second largest Cricket Stadium



Why in News

- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** released a financial grant of Rs 100 crore to the **Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA)**, which will be used to build India's second-largest cricket stadium.
- It will be the **world's third largest cricket stadium**.

Key Points

- The new stadium will have the capacity to accommodate 75,000 people and shall be constructed in two phases.
- The **first** largest cricket stadium -- **Narendra Modi Stadium** is situated in Ahmedabad while the **second** largest stadium is situated in **Australia's Melbourne**.
- Note:** In February, 2021, President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the newly-built Motera Stadium which was renamed as Narendra Modi Stadium.

6. Assassination of president of Haiti, Jovenel Moise



- Recently, Jovenel Moise, the president of Haiti, was assassinated at his residence in Port-au-Prince.
- He was a Haitian entrepreneur and politician who served as the president of Haiti from 2017 until his assassination in 2021.
- He was sworn in as president in February 2017 after winning the November 2016 election.

Facts about Haiti: Country in the Caribbean

Capital: Port-au-Prince

Currency: Haitian gourde



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7. July 11, World Population Day



Why in News

- World Population Day is an annual event, observed on July 11 every year.
- The main purpose of this day is to draw attention towards the issues arising out of the rising population across the globe.

Key Points

- World Population Day was established by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989.
- It was inspired by the public interest in Five Billion Day on July 11, 1987.
- The **theme for 2021** is 'the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on fertility'.
- In October 2011, the global population was estimated to be 7 billion. A global movement "7 Billion Actions" was launched to mark this.
- The world's population is expected to increase by 2 billion persons in the next 30 years, from 7.7 billion currently to 9.7 billion in 2050 and could peak at nearly 11 billion around 2100.

Note: India has the world's second-largest populace after China.