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NIPUN Bharat Programme

Why in the News?

- Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched a **National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat)**.
- NIPUN Bharat ensures that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 3, by 2026-27.



Key Points

- This Mission has been launched under the aegis of the centrally sponsored scheme of **Samagra Shiksha**.
- This Mission will focus on providing access and retaining children in foundational years of schooling; teacher capacity building; development of high quality and diversified Student and Teacher Resources/Learning Materials; and tracking the progress of each child in achieving learning outcomes.
- NIPUN Bharat aims to cover the learning needs of children in the age group of 3 to 9 years.
- The success of NIPUN Bharat will primarily depend on teachers, so, there will be a special emphasis on capacity building of teachers.
- A special package for foundational literacy and Numeracy under **NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement)** is being developed by NCERT and around 25 lakh teachers teaching at pre-primary to primary grade will be trained this year on FLN.

Note: An approval of Rs 2688.18 crore has already been given under Samagra Shiksha scheme to the States and UTs for implementation of the various interventions for the Foundational Stage in 2021-22.

About Samagra Shiksha:

- It is a sector-wide development programme which subsumes the then existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes of **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**, **Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)** and **Teacher Education (TE)**.
- The Integrated Scheme envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to senior secondary levels.
- The Samagra Shiksha is implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme by the Department through a single State Implementation Society (SIS) at the State/UT level.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for Education:

- The vision of the Scheme is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education from pre-school to senior secondary stage in accordance with the **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for Education**.
- The Goal **SDG-4.1** states that 'By 2030, ensure that all boys and girls complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes'.
- The **SDG 4.5** states that 'By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of Education'.

Source: PIB

India ranked 10th in Global Cybersecurity Index 2020**Why in the News?**

- India ranked 10th in the 4th edition of the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020, a significant jump of 37 places from its previous GCI rank in 2018.

**Key Points**

- **Rank 1:** US
- **Rank 2:** UK, Saudi Arabia
- **Rank 3:** Estonia
- **Rank 10:** India

Note: India has also secured the **4th position in the Asia Pacific region**, underlining its commitment to cybersecurity.

About Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI):

- The GCI is a composite index created, analyzed and published by the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**, a specialized agency of the **United Nations**, to measure the commitment to cybersecurity of its **194 member countries**.
- GCI assessment is done on the basis of performance on **five pillars** of cybersecurity including – (i) Legal measures, (ii) Technical measures, (iii) Organizational measures, (iv) Capacity development, and (v) Cooperation.

Source: Indian Express

Gender Samvaad

Why in the News?

- The Second Gender Samvaad was organised by the Ministry of Rural Development's **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)** and the '**Initiative for What Works to Advance Women and Girls in the Economy**' (IWWAGE).
- Gender Samvaad showcases the work undertaken by states and women's self-help groups in addressing the impact of COVID-19.
- Gender Samvaad released **two compendiums** highlighting DAY-NRLM's efforts towards strengthening food, nutrition & health and stories of resilience from rural India during the COVID pandemic in 2021.



Key Points

About Gender Samvaad:

- Gender Samvaad, a joint attempt between **DAY-NRLM** and the **Initiative for What Works to Advance Women and Girls in the Economy (IWWAGE)**, was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- **Note:** With over 60 million women mobilised to be part of one of India's largest livelihoods programme, DAY-NRLM holds great promise for advancing women's socio-economic empowerment by organising them into self-help groups (SHGs) and federations of the rural poor.
- **About DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission):** The DAY-NRLM is the flagship program of Govt. of India for promoting poverty reduction through building strong institutions of the poor, particularly women, and enabling these institutions to access a range of financial services and livelihoods.
- **Aajeevika - NRLM** was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India in June 2011.
- In November 2015, the program was renamed DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission).

Compendiums:

- **First compendiums:** This included a compendium on the DAY-NRLM's efforts towards strengthening Food, Nutrition, Health and WASH through State Missions and community institutions.
- **Second compendium:** The second compendium captures stories of resilience from rural India during the COVID related pandemic in 2021, and how SHGs responded to the needs of women during and after the second wave.

Source: PIB

DRDO's Short Span Bridging System-10 m inducted into Indian Army

Why in the News?

- The first production lot of **12 Short Span Bridging System (SSBS)-10 m**, designed and developed by **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, has been inducted into Indian Army.



Key Points

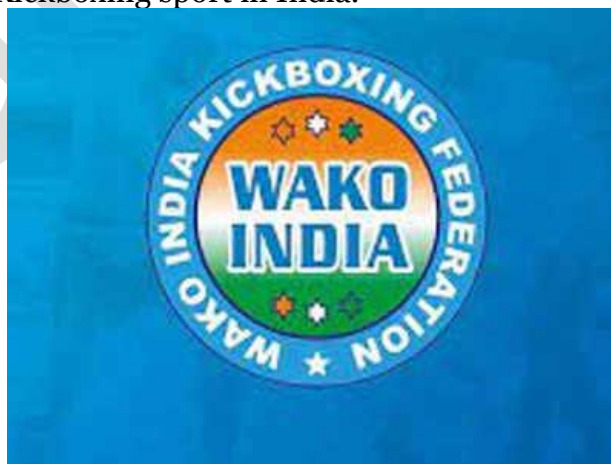
- The **SSBS-10 m** plays a crucial role of bridging the gaps up to 9.5 m as a single span providing a 4 m wide, fully decked roadway, ensuring faster movement of the troops.
- Research & Development Establishment (Engrs) Pune, a premier engineering laboratory of DRDO, has designed and developed the system in association with M/s L&T Ltd.
- The 12 bridges are part of 102 SSBS-10 m from M/s L&T Ltd, which is the production agency.

Source: PIB

WAKO India Kickboxing Federation gets government recognition as National Sports Federation

Why in the News?

- The Ministry of Youth affairs & Sports has decided to grant recognition to WAKO India Kickboxing Federation as National Sports Federation (NSF) for promotion and development of the Kickboxing sport in India.



Key Points

- WAKO India Kickboxing Federation is affiliated to **World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (WAKO)**, which is the International Federation for the sport of Kickboxing.

- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** Executive Board at its meeting in June 2021 has approved the recommendation for WAKO to become a fully recognized member of the Olympic family of sport.
- WAKO has been provisionally recognized as a member of the IOC since 30 November 2018.
- **Note:** The full recognition of WAKO will be finally decided by the IOC Session in Tokyo in July 2021.

Source: PIB

Nashik's Community Radio Station bags the National Award

Why in the News?

- **Radio Vishwas**, a **Community Radio Station** in Nashik, Maharashtra has bagged two awards at the **8th edition of the National Community Radio Awards** instituted by the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**.
- Radio Vishwas 90.8 won the **first prize** in the “**Sustainability Model Awards**” category and the **Second prize** in the “**Thematic Awards**” category for its radio program '**Education for All**' in the times of COVID-19.

Key Points

- **Radio Vishwas** is run by the **Vishwas Dhyani Prabodhini & Research Institute, Nashik, Maharashtra** and has been broadcasting since its launch.



Teachers and students record lectures for 'Education for All' initiative

About National Community Radio Awards:

- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had instituted National Community Radio Awards in the year 2011-12 to encourage innovation and healthy competition amongst Community Radio Stations.
- These Community Radio stations have played a significant role in communication during COVID-19 pandemic. As on date, there are 327 community radio stations in operation in India across various states.

Source: PIB