

Daily Current Affairs: 07.07.2021

KVIC's project BOLD

Why in the News?

- The **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)**, under the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, has launched the project “**Bamboo Oasis on Lands in Drought**” (**BOLD**).
- The project BOLD is the first of its kind exercise in the country, launched from the tribal village **NichlaMandwa in Udaipur, Rajasthan**.



Key Points

About Project BOLD:

- **5000 saplings** of special bamboo species – *Bambusa Tulda* and *Bambusa Polymorpha* specially brought from Assam – have been planted over 16 acres approx of vacant arid Gram Panchayat land of village NichlaMandwa.
- **KVIC** has thus created a **world record of planting** the highest number of **bamboo saplings** on a single day at one location.

Part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav:

- The initiative has been launched as part of **KVIC's “Khadi Bamboo Festival”** to celebrate 75 years of independence “, **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”**.
- KVIC is set to replicate the Project in Gujarat and Leh-Ladakh region by August 2021. KVIC will plant a total of 15,000 bamboo saplings before August 2021.
- **Note:** Recently, the Space Application Centre, ISRO, also published the **Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas** of India, which provides a state-wise area of degraded lands for 2018-19.

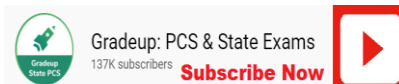
Benefits to the environment:

- Bamboos are great sources to reduce land degradation, prevent land desertification, achieve sustainable development, and solve food security issues.
- Preventing land desertification can further solve associated problems like soil infertility, soil erosion, and deforestation.

Other Initiatives to fight Desertification:

- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (India is the part of it)
- Soil Health Card Scheme
- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna
- National Mission for Green India

Source: PIB



China declared malaria-free by WHO

Why in the News?

- **China** was certified as **malaria-free** by the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, following a 70-year effort to eradicate the mosquito-borne disease.
- **China is the first country in the Western Pacific region** to be declared malaria-free in **more than 30 years**, following Australia in 1981, Singapore in 1982 and Brunei in 1987.



Key Points

- **China** has now maintained zero indigenous malaria cases for four consecutive years, down from an estimated 30 million cases and 300,000 deaths per year in the 1940s.

Global Status:

- China becomes the 40th territory certified malaria-free by the WHO.
- The last countries to gain the status were El Salvador (2021), Algeria and Argentina (2019), and Paraguay and Uzbekistan (2018).

About Malaria:

- Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites transmitted to people through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.
- According to the **WHO's World Malaria Report 2020**, there were an estimated 229 million malaria cases worldwide in 2019. The estimated number of malaria deaths stood at 409000 in 2019.
- **Note:** The WHO has also identified 25 countries with the potential to eradicate malaria by 2025 under its 'E-2025 Initiative'.

Initiatives in India:

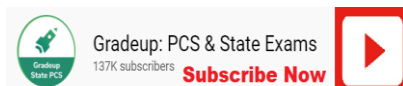
- National Framework for Malaria Elimination (NFME) in 2016 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. NFME is in line with WHO's Global Technical Strategy for Malaria, 2016-2030.
- The National Strategic Plan for Malaria Elimination, 2017-22
- The High Burden to High Impact initiative in four states (West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh)
- Distribution of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets to high burden areas
- Malaria Elimination Research Alliance-India (MERA-India) by the ICMR

Source: Indian Express

Indian Army Memorial in Italy

Why in the News?

- **Indian Army Chief Manoj Naravane** will inaugurate the **Indian Army Memorial at**



Cassino in Italy during his visit to the UK and Italy.

- In World War II, the memorial commemorates over 3,100 Commonwealth servicemen who took part in liberating Italy.
- 900 Indian soldiers were also commemorated on this memorial.



Key Points

India Army in Italy:

- Three infantry divisions (4th, 8th and 10th Divisions) of the Indian Army took part in the Italian campaign.

India's involvement in World War II:

- The Indian Army was the largest volunteer force during **World War II** (WWII), with over 2.5 million (more than 20 lakh) Indians participating.

World War I:

- World War I (WWI) was a global war originating in Europe that lasted from 28 July 1914 to 11 November 1918.

World War II:

- World War II (WWII) was a global war that lasted from 1939 to 1945. It involved the vast majority of the world's countries—including all of the great powers—forming two opposing military alliances: the Allies and the Axis powers.

Source: Indian Express

New Governors appointed in 8 states

Why in the News?

- In a major reshuffle, President of India Ram Nath Kovind appointed eight new governors giving them charge of the administration of new states. While many were transferred, others were new appointments.
- Union Minister and the **BJP's Rajya Sabha leader Thawarchand Gehlot** has been appointed as the **Governor of Karnataka**.

Key Points

- **Thawarchand Gehlot** has been appointed as the Governor of Karnataka.
- **Hari Babu Kambhampati** has been appointed as the Governor of Mizoram.
- **Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** has been appointed as the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
- **Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel** has been appointed as the Governor of Madhya Pradesh.
- **Satyadev Narayan Arya**, Governor of Haryana, has been transferred and appointed as Governor of Tripura.



- **PS Sreedharan Pillai**, Governor of Mizoram, has been transferred and appointed as Governor of Goa.
- **Bandaru Dattatraya**, Governor of Himachal Pradesh, has been transferred and appointed as Governor of Haryana.
- **Ramesh Bais**, Governor of Tripura, has been transferred and appointed as Governor of Jharkhand.

Source: The Hindu

Central Government creates a new 'Ministry of Co-operation'

Why in the News?

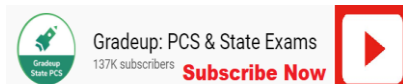
- A separate '**Ministry of Co-operation**' has been created by the Central Government for realizing the vision of '**Sahkar se Samridhhi**' or prosperity through cooperation.
- The creation of a separate Ministry for Co-operation also fulfils the budget announcement made by the Finance Minister.



Key Points

- This Ministry will provide a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in the country.
- In our country, a cooperative-based economic development model is very relevant where each member works with a spirit of responsibility.
- The Ministry will work to streamline processes for '**Ease of doing business**' for cooperatives and enable the development of **Multi-State Cooperatives (MSCS)**.

Source: PIB



Legendary actor Dilip Kumar passes away

Why in the News?

- Legendary actor Dilip Kumar, who was popularly known as the tragedy king of Bollywood, passed away at 98.



Key Points

- Dilip Kumar, real name Yusuf Khan, appeared in Indian cinema's most iconic and landmark films, including Mughal-e-Azam, Naya Daur, Devdas, Ram Aur Shyam, Andaz, Ganga Jamuna and Madhumati.
- He was the **first actor to win the Filmfare Award for Best Actor in 1954** and won it a total of **8 times**.
- He was honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1994 and Padma Vibhushan in 2015.
- He also received Pakistan's highest civilian honour, the Nishan-e-Imtiaz.

Source: Indian Express