

Daily Current Affairs 13/07/2021

1. India Industrial Land Bank (IILB)



Why in News

- The **India Industrial Land Bank (IILB)**, a **GIS-based portal**, has seen a 30% increase in page views each month since April 2021.

Key Points

About India Industrial Land Bank (IILB):

- **The Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT)** has developed IILB.
- It is a one-stop repository of all industrial infrastructure-related information – connectivity, infra, natural resources & terrain, plot-level information on vacant plots, line of activity, and contact details.
- Currently, the IILB has approximately 4000 industrial parks mapped across an area of 5.5 lakh hectare of land, serving as a decision support system for investors scouting for land remotely.
- The system has been integrated with industry-based GIS systems of 17 states to have details on the portal updated on a real-time basis and **will achieve pan-India integration by December 2021**.
- Regarding country wise **visitors**, after India, the US has the maximum number of visitors followed by Australia, UK, Singapore, UAE, Germany, and Indonesia.

About Geographic Information System (GIS):

- It is a computer system for capturing, storing, checking, analyzing and displaying data related to positions on Earth's surface.
- It can show many different kinds of data on one map, such as streets, buildings, and vegetation.
- It can use any information that includes location.
- The location can be expressed in many different ways, such as latitude and longitude, address, or ZIP code.

Source: PIB

2. 1st India-UK Financial Markets Dialogue



Why in News

• Recently, India and the United Kingdom (UK) held the inaugural meeting of the **India-UK Financial Markets Dialogue** ('the Dialogue').

Key Points

About the India-UK Financial Markets Dialogue:

• The Dialogue was led by senior officials from the Indian Ministry of Finance

and HM Treasury.

- The Dialogue began with a government to government discussion, focused **on four themes:**
 - (1) GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) City, India's flagship international financial centre
 - (2) Banking and payments
 - (3) Insurance
 - (4) Capital markets
- At the meeting, Indian and UK participants discussed progress on the UK-India **GIFT City Strategic Partnership**.
- Both sides agreed on areas for further collaboration, including sustainable finance and FinTech, with the aim of supporting increased UK industry presence in the centre.
- The **Dialogue** was established at the **10th Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD)** in October 2020 to deepen bilateral ties in the financial sector.
- Financial Cooperation is one of the key pillars of the **2030 Roadmap adopted by the two countries** during the recent meeting of the two Prime Ministers and the India-UK Financial Market Dialogue is one of the key elements of this Financial Cooperation.

About India-UK trade:

- India-UK trade has more than doubled since the first EFD in 2007, with bilateral investment supporting over half a million jobs across both countries.
- India-UK economic ties are important as together, they are two of the world's top seven economies with a combined Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of over \$5 trillion.

Source: PIB

3. STI-led BRICS Innovation Cooperation Action Plan



Why in News

- All BRICS countries have agreed to the **STI-led BRICS Innovation Cooperation Action Plan (2021-24)** proposed by **India** during the **12th Meeting of BRICS S&T Steering Committee**.
- **Department of Science and Technology (DST), India**, hosted the 12th Meeting of BRICS S&T Steering Committee.

Key Points

About STI-led BRICS Innovation Cooperation Action Plan:

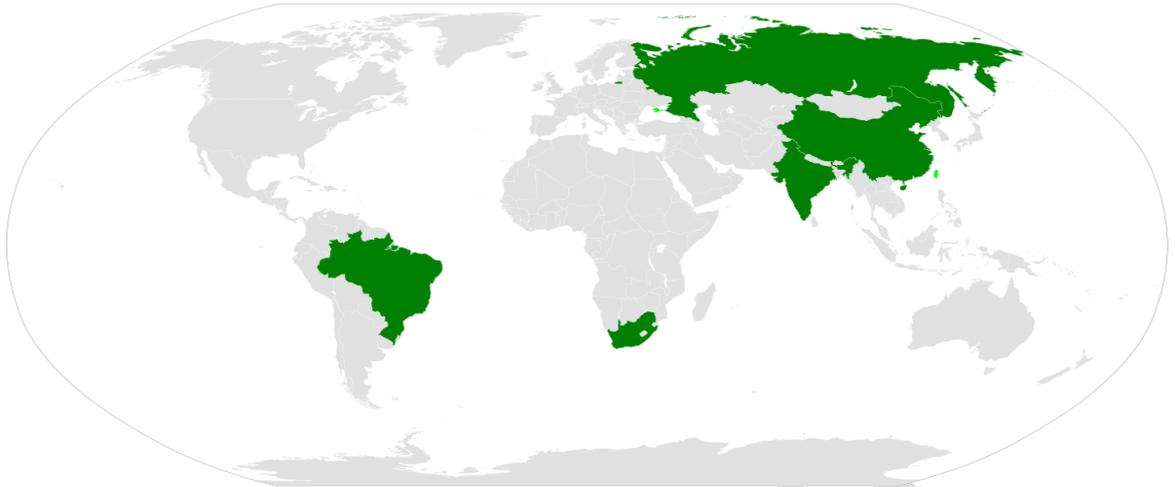
- Indian had proposed the plan to facilitate sharing of experiences of each other's innovation ecosystem and networking of innovators and entrepreneurs.
- The Details of the Action Plan would be worked out by **BRICS Science, Technology Innovation Entrepreneurship Partnership (STIEP) Working Group**.

Thematic Areas:

- The BRICS officials discussed in detail about the thematic areas for this year's call for proposals at the meeting and unanimously agreed for collaboration in ten thematic areas.
- All countries agreed to thematic areas proposed by India **for the 6th edition of BRICS Young Scientist Conclave**, which will be held in **Bangalore during 13-16 September 2021**.
- The 3 themes to be discussed at the conclave include **Healthcare, Energy Solutions, Cyber-Physical System**, and their applications.

Note: The **13th BRICS Summit** will be held under India's Chairship in 2021, and it will be the third time India will host the BRICS Summit after 2012 and

2016.



- The theme for India's Chairship for 2021 would be '**BRICS @ 15: Intra-BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation, and Consensus**'.

Facts about BRICS:

- **Formation:** 2009
- **Countries:** Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa

BRICS is an important grouping bringing together the major emerging economies from the world, comprising:

- 41% of world population with 3.14 billion people
- Total combined area of 29.3% of the total land surface of the world
- 24% of global GDP
- 16% of world trade

Note: The above data is based on World Bank data (2019).

Source: PIB

4. SPARSH [System for Pension Administration (Raksha)]



Why in News

- **The Ministry of Defence (MoD)** has implemented a web-based system SPARSH [System for Pension Administration (Raksha)].

Key Points

About SPARSH:

- It is an integrated system for automation of sanction

and disbursement of defence pension.

- This web-based system processes pension claims and credits pension directly into the bank accounts of defence pensioners without relying on any external intermediary.
- It envisages establishment of Service Centres to provide last mile connectivity to pensioners who may be unable to directly access the SPARSH portal for any reason.
- In addition to several offices of the Defence Accounts Department, which are already functioning as Service Centres for pensioners, the two largest banks dealing with defence pensioners – State Bank of India (SBI) and Punjab National Bank (PNB) – have been co-opted as Service Centres.

Other Initiative:

- **One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme:** OROP implies that uniform pension be paid to the Armed Forces Personnel retiring in the same rank with the same length of service regardless of their date of retirement.

Source: PIB

5. Indian Army names Military Firing Range after Vidya Balan



Why in News

- In recognition of Vidya Balan's phenomenal contribution to Indian cinema, the Indian Army has recently named one of its firing ranges after the actress.
- The **Vidya Balan Firing Range is located in Gulmarg, Kashmir.**

Key Points

- Vidya Balan is an Indian actress in Hindi cinema.
- She is the recipient of several awards, including a

National Film Award and six Filmfare Awards.

- She was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in 2014.

Note: Vidya Balan was recently invited to join the board of the **Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences**, the governing body behind the Oscars.

Source: Economics Times

6. Noted Ayurvedic physician, Dr. PK Warriar passes away



- Dr. PK Warriar, Ayurvedic physician, was the managing trustee of the Kottakkal Arya Vaidya Sala - the famous Ayurveda treatment centre and producer of high-quality Ayurveda medicines.
- Dr. Warriar was honoured with the Padma Shri in 1999 and the Padma Bhushan in 2010.

Source: PIB

Gradeup