

Daily Current Affairs 22/07/2021

1. National Health Mission (NHM)



Why in News

- The Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare informed the Rajya Sabha about Health Sector Reforms through **National Health Mission (NHM)**.
- NHM supported health system reforms have resulted in development of resilient health systems.

Key Points

About National Health Mission (NHM):

- NHM was launched by the Government of India in 2013 subsuming the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) (launched in 2005) and National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) (launched in 2013).
- **NHM support** is provided to States/ UTs for setting up of new facilities as per norms and upgradation of existing facilities for bridging the infrastructure gaps based on the requirement posed by them.
- **NHM support** is also provided for provision of a range of free services related to maternal health, child health, family planning, adolescent health, universal immunization programme, and for major diseases such as Tuberculosis, vector borne diseases like Dengue, Malaria and Leprosy etc.

Other major initiatives supported under NHM:

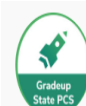
- Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram
- Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram
- Implementation of Free Drugs and Free Diagnostics Service Initiatives
- PM National Dialysis Programme
- Implementation of National Quality Assurance Framework (in all public health facilities)
- Mobile Medical Units & Tele-consultation services (implemented to improve access to healthcare particularly in rural areas)
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
- Ayushman Bharat

Achievements of NHM

- In the 15 years of implementation, the NHM has enabled achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for health.
- It has also led to significant improvements in maternal, new-born, and child health indicators.
- **Equitable development:** There was also a sustained focus on the health of tribal populations, those in Left Wing Extremism areas, and the urban poor.
- **Growth in Public Health Facilities:** NHM adopts a health system approach and targets to build a network for public health facilities with Health & Wellness Centers.



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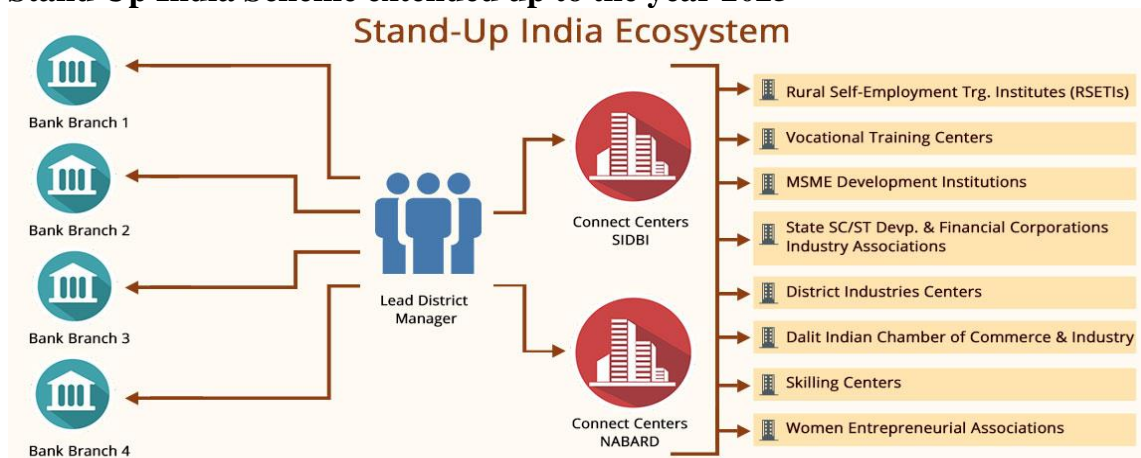
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- **National Ambulance Services**
- **Human Resource Augmentation:** NHM supports states for engaging of service delivery HR such as doctors, nurses and health workers and also implements the world's largest community health volunteer programme through the ASHAs.
- **High Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE):** Recognising the need for reducing the current high levels OOPE, and that, almost 70% of the OOPE is on account of drugs and diagnostics, the Free Drugs and Free Diagnostics Services Initiatives have been implemented under the NHM.

Source: PIB

2. Stand Up India Scheme extended up to the year 2025



Why in News

- The Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance informed that the Stand Up India Scheme has been extended up to the year 2025.

Key Points

About Stand Up India Scheme:

- The Scheme was launched by the Prime Minister on 05th April, 2016.

Objective and Nature of Loan:

- The objective of this Scheme is to facilitate loans from Scheduled Commercial Banks of value between Rs. 10 lakh and Rs. 1 Crore to at least one Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe borrower and at least one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up a green field enterprise.
- This enterprise may be in manufacturing, services, agri-allied activities or the trading sector.
- In case of non-individual enterprises, 51% of the shareholding and controlling stake should be held by either an SC/ST or Woman Entrepreneur.
- The offices of SIDBI and NABARD are designated Stand-Up Connect Centres (SUCC).

Recent Changes:

- For F.Y.2021-22, the margin money requirement for loans under the Scheme has been reduced from 'upto 25%' to 'upto 15%' and activities allied to agriculture have been included in the Scheme.

Performance:

- As on 28.06.2021, a total of 1,16,266 loans amounting to Rs. 26204.49 crore have been extended under the Scheme since inception.

Source: PIB

3. Punjab becomes first state in country to introduce SOHUM (AABR)



Why in News

- Punjab Government introduced **SOHUM-Automated Auditory Brainstem Response system (AABR)** under **Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Programme**.
- Punjab is the first state in the country to introduce SOHUM (AABR).

Key Points

- This initiative will effectively screen hearing loss in newborn and young children.
- This device will certainly help in effective assessment and further management of hearing loss in a timely manner.

Note:

- In a developing country like India 5-6 per thousand children are born with this defect.
- Around 63 million people are suffering from hearing impairment and related diseases in India.

About SOHUM:

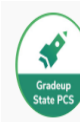
- It is an indigenously developed newborn hearing screening device developed by the **School of International Biodesign start-up SOHUM Innovation Labs India Pvt. Ltd.**
- It was developed under the **Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology.**

Source: TOI

4. DRDO successfully flight-tests surface-to-air missile Akash-NG



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Why in News

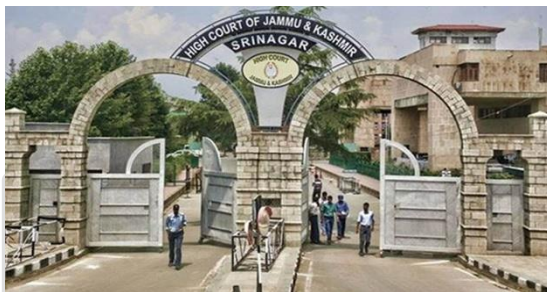
- Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight-tested the New Generation Akash Missile (Akash-NG), a surface-to-air Missile from Integrated Test Range off the coast of Odisha.

Key Points

- The missile has been developed by Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories.
- During the test, the missile demonstrated high manoeuvrability required for neutralising fast and agile aerial threats.

Source: PIB

5. 'Common High Court of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and UT of Ladakh' changed to 'High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh'



- Long-winding and cumbersome' nomenclature 'Common High Court of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and UT of Ladakh' has been changed to 'High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh'.
- The order was notified by the Department of Justice in the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** has signed the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2021**, to effect the change.

Source: Indian Express

6. Two Indian organisations win the UNDP Equator Prize 2021



Why in News

- Two Indian organisations bag the prestigious UNDP Equator Prize 2021, for their exceptional achievement in showcasing local, innovative, nature-based solutions for tackling biodiversity loss and climate change.

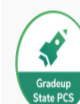
Key Points

- The **two organizations from India** out of the ten winners globally are— **Aadhimalai Pazhangudiyinar**

Producer Company Limited and Snehakunja Trust.



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- They will each receive a prize of US\$10,000 and the opportunity to join a series of special virtual events associated with the UN General Assembly, the Nature for Life Hub and the UN Food Systems Summit later this year.

About Aadhimalai Pazhangudiyinar Producer Company Limited:

- This 1,700-member cooperative, managed and run entirely by Indigenous people from the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Southern India, has improved livelihoods across 147 villages by processing and marketing a diverse range of forest produce and crops.

About Snehakunja Trust:

- Snehakunja Trust has protected sensitive wetland and coastal ecosystems in the Western Ghats and the Karnataka coast for 45 years. Snehakunja Trust is currently piloting the **first blue carbon project** in India.

About Equator Prize:

- The Equator Prize, organized by the Equator Initiative within the United Nations Development Programme, is awarded biennially to recognize outstanding community efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Source: undp.org

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