

## Daily Current Affairs 28/07/2021

### 1. SMILE Scheme



#### Why in News

- The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** has formulated a scheme “**SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise**”.
- SMILE also includes a subscheme - ‘**Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging**’.

#### Key Points

##### About the scheme:

- This scheme covers several comprehensive measures including welfare measures for persons who are engaged in the act of begging.
- It focuses extensively on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages and so on.
- It provides for the use of the existing shelter homes for rehabilitation of the persons engaged in the act of begging.

##### Implementation:

- The scheme would be implemented with the support of State/UT Governments/Local Urban Bodies, Voluntary Organizations, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), institutions and others.
- The **Ministry initiated pilot projects** on Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Persons engaged in the act of Begging in **10 cities** namely Bangalore, Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Indore, Mumbai, Nagpur, Ahmedabad and Patna.

##### Fund Allocation:

- Under this Scheme, funds allocated for the next 5 years are given: Rs. 50 Crore in 2021-22, Rs. 33 Crore in 2022-23, Rs. 33 Crore in 2023-24, Rs. 33 Crore in 2024-25, and Rs. 33 Crore in 2025-26.

##### Beggars in India:

- According to Census 2011, the total number of beggars in India is 4,13,670 (2,21,673 males and 1,91,997 females). State-wise, West Bengal leads by a considerable margin, followed by Uttar Pradesh.



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**Note:**

- The Ministry had released an amount of Rs.70 Lakh in 2019-20 to **National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC)** for skill development programmes for beggars.
- The Ministry had also released an amount of Rs. 1 Crore in 2019-20 to **National Institute of Social Defence (NISD)** for beggars.

**Source: PIB**

## 2. Exercise 'Cutlass Express 2021'



### Why in News

- **Indian Naval Ship Talwar** is participating in **Exercise Cutlass Express 2021**, being conducted from 26 July 2021 to 06 August 2021 along the **East Coast of Africa**.

### Key Points

#### About Exercise Cutlass Express 2021:

- It is an annual maritime exercise conducted to **promote maritime security in East Africa and the Western Indian**

### Ocean.

#### Participants:

- The 2021 edition of the exercise involves participation of 12 Eastern African countries, UK, US, India and various international organisations like International Maritime Organisation (IMO), Interpol, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, European Union Naval Force, Critical Maritime Routes Indian Ocean and EUCAP Somalia.

#### Note:

- Indian Navy is participating in the exercise in a 'trainer role'.
- **IFC-IOR (Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region)** is participating in the exercise.
- The participation of India is in accordance with its stated policy towards maritime cooperation and security in the Indian Ocean region and vision **Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)**.

#### About Western Indian Ocean (WIO):

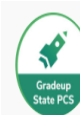
- The WIO connects North America, Europe and Asia, and as such is of global strategic importance.
- Its rich natural resource profile has pushed global players, including India, to view the region with increasing interest in recent years.



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### Inter-regional Cooperation in Western Indian Ocean region:

- Maritime Security regional programme
- Djibouti Code of Conduct/Jeddah amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct
- Indian Ocean Commission
- Indian Ocean Rim Association

Source: PIB

### 3. Gross Environment Product (GEP) in Uttarakhand

News



Why in

- The Uttarakhand government recently announced it will initiate valuation of its natural resources in the form of '**Gross Environment Product**' (GEP).
- It is along the lines of **Gross Domestic Product**

(GDP).

- **Gross domestic product (GDP):** GDP a monetary measure of the market value of all the final goods and services produced in a specific time period.

#### Key Points

#### About 'Gross Environment Product' (GEP):

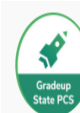
- It is an **assessment system to measure the ecological status of a region and is one of the components of green GDP.**
- It is **considered as the product and service value** that the ecosystem provides for **human welfare, economic and socially sustainable development.**

**About Green GDP:** While calculating Green GDP, economic growth with environmental factors is taken into consideration along with the standard GDP of a country. It factors biodiversity losses and costs attributed to climate change.

- The term "**ecosystem services**" was coined in 1981 to attract academics towards this aspect.
- According to American ecological economist Robert Costanza, ecosystem services are the benefits human populations derive from ecosystem functions.
- The definition is still in the process of evolution.
- In 1997, a group of 13 economists and ecologists led by Costanza showed that at global level the value of ecosystem services is about twice as much as the global GDP.



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### Need for Gross Environment Product:

- **Uttarakhand gives services to the tune of Rs. 95,112 crores per year to the nation** through its biodiversity and has more than 71% area under forests.
- It is **home to the Himalayas, wildlife reserves** such as Corbett National Park and Rajaji Tiger Reserves, and the **origin point of various rivers** such as Ganga, Yamuna and Sharada.
- GEP will **help in the conservation of the environment and climate change.**

Source: DownToEarth

#### 4. First Central University and first 'Integrated Multi-Purpose Infrastructure Development Corporation' for Ladakh



#### Why in News

- The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of the **first Central University** and the **first 'Integrated Multi-Purpose Infrastructure Development Corporation'** for Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh.

#### Key Points

##### About Central University:

- It will be set up with a total outlay of Rs 750 crore and will cater to all areas of the UT of Ladakh that include Leh and Kargil.

**Note:** The Bill in this regard will be introduced for amending the Central Universities Act, 2009.

##### About Integrated Multi-Purpose Infrastructure Development Corporation:

- The authorised share capital of the corporation will be Rs 25 crore.
- The establishment of the corporation will result in inclusive and integrated development of the UT of Ladakh.

**Note:** When the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act was enacted in 2019, there was a Jammu central university and a Kashmir central university, but there was no central university in Ladakh.

Source: newsonair



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### 5. Shibaji Banerjee to be conferred with Mohun Bagan Ratna 2021 posthumously



- Former goalkeeper of the Indian Football team, Late Shibaji Banerjee will be conferred with Mohun Bagan Ratna 2021 posthumously.

- During his 8 years long professional career, Banerjee won 4 Calcutta Football League, 5 Durand Cup, 5 IFA Shield, 4 Federation Cup and 2 Rovers Cup titles.

#### About Mohun Bagan Ratna award:

- It is an award presented each year on Mohun Bagan Day to outstanding former players, irrespective of sports played.

- Since 2001, on 29 July each year has been celebrated as Mohun Bagan Day.

Source: The Hindu

### 6. July 28, World Hepatitis Day 2021

#### Why in News

- World Hepatitis Day is observed each year on 28 July to raise awareness of viral hepatitis.

#### Key Points



- This year's theme is "Hepatitis can't wait", conveying the urgency of efforts needed to eliminate hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030.

**About Hepatitis:** Hepatitis, which causes inflammation in the liver, is a group of infectious diseases known as Hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E.

#### Note:

- **World Hepatitis Day** is one of 11 official global public health campaigns marked by the **World**

#### Health Organization (WHO).

- **Others** are World Health Day, World Chagas Disease Day, World Blood Donor Day, World Malaria Day, World Immunization Week, World Tuberculosis Day, World No Tobacco Day, World Patient Safety Day, World Antimicrobial Awareness Week and World AIDS Day.

Source: who.int



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