

## Daily Current Affairs 16.09.2021

### State Cabinet decides to issue ordinance on OBC reservation



- The decision to issue an ordinance on OBC reservation within the limit of 50 per cent reservation was taken at the state cabinet meeting.
- For this, changes will be made in the Maharashtra Gram Panchayat Act.
- Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and some other states have issued ordinances within the limit of 50 per cent.
- The same ordinance will apply to the current by-elections and other upcoming elections.
- This will reduce the number of OBC seats by 10 to 12 per cent.
- The state government has taken steps to save the remaining reservation even if these seats are reduced, and the ordinance will also stand in court.

Source: AIR News

### September 16, International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer



- September 16 was designated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.
- The theme for 2021 is 'Montreal Protocol – keeping us, our food and vaccines cool'.
- The ozone layer, a fragile shield of gas, protects the Earth from the harmful portion of the rays of the sun, thus helping preserve life on the planet.

#### Background:

- On 19 December 1994, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 16 September the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, commemorating the date, in 1987, on which the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was signed.

Source: un.org

## Hyderabad-based ICRISAT wins Africa Food Prize 2021



- Hyderabad-based International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) has been awarded the Africa Food Prize 2021 for improving food security in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Africa Food Prize 2021 was awarded at the Africa Forum for Green Revolution 2021 Summit in Nairobi, Kenya.
- ICRISAT got the award for the Tropical Legumes Project that has improved food security across 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

### About ICRISAT:

- It is a non-profit, non-political public international research organization that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa with a wide array of partners throughout the world.

Source: Indian Express

## First satellite and nuclear missile tracking ship INS Dhruv



- India has launched its first satellite and nuclear missile tracking ship INS Dhruv in Visakhapatnam.

### About INS Dhruv:

- INS Dhruv, with its anti-ballistic missile capabilities, will act as an early warning system for enemy missiles headed towards Indian cities and military establishments.
- It is India's first naval vessel that is capable of tracking nuclear missiles at a long range, which assumes a special significance with an increasing threat of nuclear ballistic warfare in the Indo-Pacific region.
- It was built by the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. in collaboration with the National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Note: India now joins an elite list of countries that presently consists of only France, the US, the UK, Russia, and China, who possess and operate such vessels.

Source: Hindustan Times

## Prime Minister lays the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh.
- Prime Minister also visited the exhibition models of the Aligarh node of Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor and Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University.

### About Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University:

- The University is being established by the Uttar Pradesh State Government in the memory and honour of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh.
- The University is being set up in a total area of over 92 acres at village Lodha and village Musepur Kareem Jarouli of Aligarh's Koil tehsil.

### About Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh:

- Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh was born in the Hathras District of Uttar Pradesh on 1 December 1886.
- He was an Indian freedom fighter, journalist, writer, revolutionary.
- He was a member of the second Lok Sabha in 1957–1962.
- He was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1932.

Source: PIB

## Digital Agriculture



- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare signed 5 MoUs with private companies for taking forward Digital Agriculture.
- MoUs were signed for pilot projects with CISCO, Ninjacart, Jio Platforms Limited, ITC Limited and NCDEX e-Markets Limited (NeML).
- The MoUs are on the line of the Digital agriculture mission.

### About Digital Agriculture:

- Digital Agriculture is “ICT and data ecosystems to support the development and delivery of timely, targeted information and services to make farming profitable and sustainable while delivering safe, nutritious and affordable food for all.”

**Benefits:**

- Based on these pilot projects farmers will be able to take informed decisions on what crop to grow, what variety of seed to use and what best practises to adopt to maximise the yield.
- The agriculture supply chain players can plan their procurement and logistics on precise and timely information.

Source: PIB

**Sansad TV will start**



- Rajya Sabha Speaker M Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi as well as Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, launched Joint Parliament TV on 15 September 2021.
- Parliament TV was created in February 2021 by merging Rajya Sabha TV and Lok Sabha TV. The government also appointed Chief Executive Officer of Parliament TV in March 2021.

**Parliamentary TV programming**

There are four main categories of Parliament TV programming:

1. The functioning of Parliament and democratic institutions
2. Governance and implementation of plans and policies
3. History and Culture of India and
4. Contemporary issues, interests and concerns.

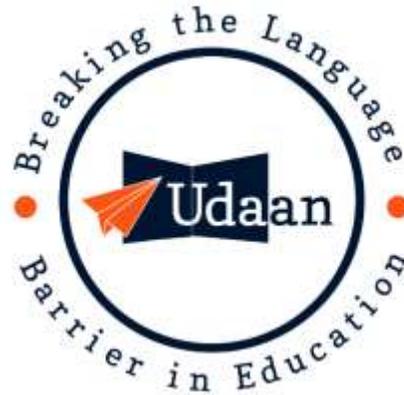
**About Parliament TV**

- Parliament TV is an Indian government television service that broadcasts programs of the two houses of Parliament and other public affairs programs. It was established in March 2021 by merging the two existing house channels, Lok Sabha TV and Rajya Sabha TV. The temporary channel will have 35 themes on which the programs will be broadcast. The programs will be the same and in two English and Hindi languages.
- CEO of Parliament TV: Ravi Kapoor is the current CEO of the channel. He is a retired IAS officer.

Source: PIB

## IIT-Mumbai launches 'Project Udaan'

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- The Udaan project was started with the aim of overcoming the language barriers that many students face while getting admission in higher education institutions.
- The project enables the translation of flight textbooks and other engineering study materials and other streams from English into Hindi and other Indian languages.
- The project was conceived by Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Bombay.
- It is a donation-based and artificial intelligence-based translation ecosystem.
- It helps to translate engineering textbooks and teaching materials for the sixth time as compared to manual tasking. This machine translation will help the human endeavor.

**Source: AIR News**