

Daily Current Affairs: 20.09.2021

Sea Cucumber

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) team at **Mandapam, Tamilnadu** seized two tonnes of sea cucumber on **19th Sep 2021**.
- Quantity: 200 gunny bags of sea cucumber weighing 2000 kg
- Sea cucumbers are in high demand in China and Southeast Asia.



About the species

- Sea Cucumbers are marine animal with a leathery skin
- Sea cucumbers are part of a larger animal group called echinoderms, which also contains starfish and sea urchins.
- Sea cucumber is a banned marine species
- Sea cucumber in India is treated as an endangered species listed under schedule I of Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
- It is primarily smuggled from Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka in fishing vessels from Ramanathapuram and Tuticorin districts.

Source: PIB, AIR

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav



- Department of Commerce to observe 'Vanijya Saptah' from 20-26 September, 2021, marking the 75 years of progressive India and its glorious history
- The Ministry of Commerce & Industry is organizing special events and programmes throughout next week as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations.
- This includes mega events in 100 districts, organized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade along with Export and Market Development Assistance and state governments.
- Five National Seminars and Exhibitions will be organized by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in five regions of the country, - North, South, East, West and North-East.

Source: PIB, AIR

e-shram portal

- Over 1 crore unorganised workers have registered on e-Shram portal since its launch on August 26, 2021.



- Objective: To prepare a comprehensive database of unorganised workers from different sectors like construction, fishing, gig apparel manufacturing, street vending, , agriculture and allied, transport sector, and domestic work among others.
- As per the Ministry of Labour and Employment, 43% of the beneficiaries are female and 57 % are male.
- Bihar, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal have seen the highest number of registrations under the initiative.

Source: AIR

"Aap Ke Dwar - Ayushman" mega drive in Gujarat



- The mega-drive launched to monitor COVID-19 cases.
- Under this drive to enroll them for Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana - PMJAY & Ma Card scheme of the state government.
- More than 75 thousand RTPCR and Rapid Antigen tests are being conducted daily to check the Covid19 cases in the state.

Source: AIR

All beneficiaries in country will get fortified rice: Union govt.



- To mitigate the anaemia and micro-nutrient deficiency in the country, the Centre would supply Fortified rice through public distribution system within 2024 to all the beneficiaries.
- Fortifying rice involves grinding broken rice into powder, mixing it with nutrients, and then shaping it into rice-like kernels using an extrusion process.
- These fortified kernels are then mixed with normal rice in a 1:100 ratio and distributed for consumption.
- All the beneficiaries of cover the PDS, anganwadis and MMS in at least the 112 aspirational districts will be covered

Source: AIR

Indian Paralympic contingent to work in few areas outside sports



- The move is aimed to motivate people and help bring changes to mark the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav
- India had sent the highest ever contingent of 54 Divyang sports persons across nine disciplines in the recently concluded Tokyo Paralympics.
- The Indian Paralympians created history by winning 19 medals.

Source: AIR

National Open Athletics



- Harmilan Kaur sets national record in 1500m on the second day of the 60th National Open Athletics Championships.
- The championship organised in Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Hanamkonda in Telangana.
- Naresh Kumar (Andhra Pradesh) and Tarandeep Kaur (Delhi) honoured as the fastest male and female athlete of the meet by winning the 100 metres dash.

Source: AIR

The largest veterinary center



- The largest veterinary center in India is being set up in Pune, Maharashtra.
- The Forest Department will set up an Infection Treatment Center at Bawadhan to provide timely treatment to injured animals.

- The center, to be set up on an area of 22 acres, will provide shelter to disabled animals.
- The injured animals currently live in a three-acre area of Rajiv Gandhi Snake Park in Katraj.
- Due to the increase in the number of animals, it has been decided to start an infection treatment center at Bawadhan.

Source: AIR

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