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State Food Safety Index



- **Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya** released the 3rd State Food Safety Index (SFSI).

Rankings of States:

- The Union Minister felicitated 9 leading States/UTs based on the ranking for the year 2020-21 for their impressive performance.
- **Among the larger states**, Gujarat was the top ranking state, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- **Among the smaller states**, Goa stood first followed by Meghalaya and Manipur.
- **Among UTs**, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and New Delhi secured top ranks.

About State Food Safety Index:

- The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** has developed State Food Safety Index to measure the performance of states on 5 significant parameters of Food Safety.
- **Parameters:** Human Resources and Institutional Data, Compliance, Food Testing – Infrastructure and Surveillance, Training & Capacity Building and Consumer Empowerment
- The first State Food Safety Index (for 2018-19) was announced on the first-ever World Food Safety Day on 7th June 2019.

Source: PIB

Global Innovation Index 2021



- **India** has climbed 2 spots and has been **ranked 46th** in the **Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021** rankings.
- India has been on a rising trajectory, over the past several years in the Global Innovation Index, from a **rank of 81 in 2015 to 46 in 2021**.

Global Performance:

- **Rank 1:** Switzerland
- **Rank 2:** Sweden
- **Rank 3:** U.S.
- **Rank 46:** India

India's Performance:

- India ranks 2nd among the **34 lower middle-income group economies**.
- India ranks 1st among the **10 economies in Central and Southern Asia**.

About Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021:

- The GII report is published by **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**

Source: PIB

National Cadet Corps Review Committee



- The **Ministry of Defence** has constituted a **15-member High Level Expert Committee** for a comprehensive review of the **National Cadet Corps (NCC)**.
- The committee will be chaired by former **Member of Parliament (MP) Bajjayant Panda** and will include former **Indian cricket team captain MS Dhoni**, industrialist **Anand Mahindra** and former sports minister **Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore**.

About National Cadet Corps (NCC):

- The NCC is the largest uniformed organization which aims at developing character, discipline, a secular outlook and ideals of selfless service amongst young citizens.
- The NCC is the youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces.
- **Founded:** 16 April 1948

Source: PIB

SPIN (Strengthening the Potential of India) Scheme



- **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** launched a unique Scheme called **SPIN (Strengthening the Potential of India)**.

- SPIN is a specially designed program to make potters self-sustainable.

Salient Features of SPIN Scheme:

- It is a no-subsidy program.
- KVIC facilitates potters to get bank loans under Pradhan Mantri Shishu Mudra Yojana.

Source: TOI

Maritime Exercise 'Samudra Shakti'



- **Indian Navy and Indonesian Navy** participated in the **3rd edition of Bilateral Maritime Exercise 'Samudra Shakti'** at **Sunda Strait, Indonesia** from September 20 to 22, 2021.
- **Indian Naval Ships Shivalik and Kadmatt** participated in the Exercise.
- The aim of the exercise is to strengthen the bilateral relationship, enhance mutual understanding and interoperability in maritime operations.

Note: In pursuance of India's Act East Policy, Exercise 'Samudra Shakti' was conceived in 2018 as a bilateral IN-IDN exercise.

Other Exercises with Indonesia:

- **Military Exercise:** Garuda Shakti
- **Maritime Exercise:** IND-INDO CORPAT, IND-INDO BILAT

Source: PIB

Discovery of new species of Hybodont Shark



- Researchers from the **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** and the **Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee** have discovered a new extinct species of **Hybodont Shark** from the **Jaisalmer Basin of Rajasthan**.

- The newly discovered crushing teeth from Jaisalmer represent a new species named by the research team as *Strophodusjaisalmerensis*.
- The genus *Strophodus* has been identified for the first time from the Indian subcontinent and is only the third such record from Asia, the other two being from Thailand and Japan.
- Hybodont sharks have been reported for the first time from the Jurassic rocks (approximately, between 160 and 168 million-years-old) of the Jaisalmer region of Rajasthan.

About Hybodont Sharks:

- Hybodonts, an extinct group of sharks, was a dominant group of fishes in both marine and fluvial environments during the Triassic and early Jurassic time.
- Hybodonts finally became extinct at the end of the Cretaceous time 65 million years ago.

Source: Indian Express

Sahitya Akademi Fellowship 2021



- The Sahitya Akademi announced Sahitya Akademi Fellowship 2021 for eight writers, including eminent **English author Ruskin Bond** and **Hindi writer Vinod Kumar Shukla**.
- The others who received the Fellowship are **Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay (Bengali)**, **M Leelavathy (Malayalam)**, **Dr. Bhalchandra Nemade (Marathi)**, **Dr Tejwant Singh Gill (Punjabi)**, **Swami Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit)**, **Indira Parthasarthy (Tamil)**.
- The Sahitya Akademi Fellowship is a literary honour in India bestowed by the **Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of Letters**.

Source: TOI

POSHAN mah Campaign



- Under the Central Government's Nutrition Month Campaign (POSHAN Mah), a Nutrition Month Campaign was implemented at Anganwadi in Ansigam in Washim District.
- In this, pregnant women, teenage girls, breastfeeding mothers, children up to 6 years of age are emphasizing the importance of nutrition in their diet and Anganwadi workers are going door to door to increase the weight of underweight children.
- On this occasion, pregnant women are being vaccinated and the importance of a healthy diet is being emphasized.

Source: AIR News

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