

Daily Current Affairs 03/09/2021

1. UNSC adopts resolution on Afghanistan



Why in News

- The **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)**, under **India's Presidency**, adopted a strong **resolution 2593 (2021) on Afghanistan**.

Key Points

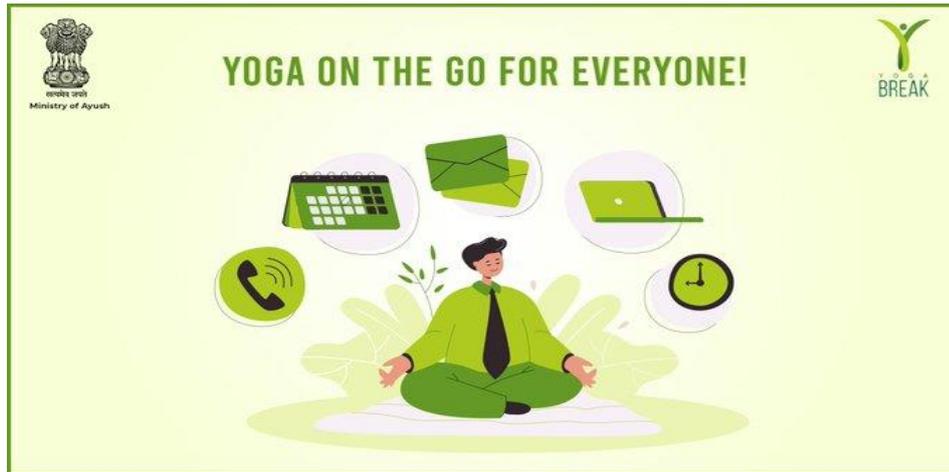
- The resolution, sponsored by the United Kingdom, France and United States, was adopted with 13 members, including India.
- But permanent and veto-wielding members Russia and China abstained.
- This was the first resolution adopted by the powerful 15-nation Council on the situation in Afghanistan following the takeover of Kabul by the Taliban and came on the penultimate day of India's Presidency of the Security Council for the month of August, 2021.
- **The resolution-** The territory of Afghanistan is not to be used to threaten any country or shelter terrorists, and that the international community expects the Taliban to adhere to the commitments they made regarding the safe and orderly departure of Afghans and all foreign nationals from the country.

India's steps:

- India has directed a high-level group composed of EAM (External Affairs Minister) S. Jaishankar, NSA (National Security Adviser) Ajit Doval and Other Senior officials to monitor the ground situation in Afghanistan with a focus on the immediate priorities of India.

Source: Indian Express

2. 'Y-Break' Yoga protocol App



Why in News

- **Union Minister of Ayush Sarbanand Sonowal** launched the ‘Y-Break’ mobile application (Yoga protocol App).

Key Points

About ‘Y-Break’ Yoga protocol App:

- It has been developed by **Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi**.
- The **five-minute Yoga protocol**, especially designed for working professionals to de-stress, refresh and re-focus at their workplace to increase their productivity, consists of Asanas, Pranayam and Dhyana.
- The Y- Break application will bring awareness about different Yoga practices and help the masses to practice Yoga anytime with ease.

Note: This module was launched in January, 2020 as a pilot project basis in six major Metro cities in coordination with different stake-holders.

Source: PIB

3. Indian Army to participate in Multilateral Exercise ZAPAD, 2021 in Russia



Why in News

- A 200 personnel contingent of the Indian Army will participate in **ZAPAD 2021**, a multi-nation military exercise being held at **Nizhniy, Russia** from 3rd to 16th September 2021.

Key Points

- ZAPAD 2021 is one of the theatre level exercises of the Russian Armed Forces and will focus primarily on operations against terrorists.
- The exercise aims to enhance military and strategic ties amongst the participating nations while they plan & execute this exercise.
- Over a dozen countries from Eurasian and South Asian Region will participate in this signature event.

Participating countries:

- In all, **17 countries** have been invited by Russia for the exercise.
- Of these **9 are Participating countries** which include Mongolia, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Russia, India and Belarus.
- The other **8 countries are Observers** which include Pakistan, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Uzbekistan and Sri Lanka, the source added.

The **NAGA Battalion group (India)**, participating in the exercise will feature an all Arms combined task force.

Exercise between India and Russia:

- Indra: Joint Exercise (Army, Navy, Air Force)

Source: The Hindu

4. Ladakh declares Black-Necked Crane as its State Bird, Snow Leopard as State Animal





Why in News

- The **Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh** declared the Black-Necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*) and Snow Leopard (*Panther unica*) as its state bird and animal, respectively.

Key Points

- Black-necked crane was previously the State bird of the former state of J&K, along with Hangul as the state animal.

About Black-necked crane:

- Black-necked crane was chosen as the state bird since it is only found in the eastern region of Ladakh.
- Crane is listed in Schedule I of the **Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972** and as **Near Threatened** on the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List**.

About Snow leopard:

- Snow leopards are mainly found in the western and eastern regions of the Himalayas, including Ladakh, J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
- Leopard is listed in Schedule I of the **Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972** and as **Vulnerable** on the **IUCN Red List**.

Note: The Centre on August 5, 2019 abrogated Article 370 of Constitution to end J&K's special status and pave the way for notification of UTs of Ladakh and J&K in October that year.

Source: TOI

5. Chandigarh Railway Station awarded 5-star 'Eat Right Station' certification



Why in News

- Chandigarh Railway Station has been awarded a **5- star 'Eat Right Station' certification** by **FSSAI** for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.

Key Points

- Chandigarh Railway Station** becomes the **fifth station in India** to get this recognition.
- The other railway stations with this certification include Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Station; (Delhi), Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus; (Mumbai), Mumbai Central Railway Station; (Mumbai) and Vadodara Railway Station.

About 'Eat Right Station' certification:

- This certification is granted by **FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India)** to railway stations adhering to standard food storage and hygiene practices.
- The certification is part of the **'Eat Right India' movement of FSSAI** to transform the country's food system to ensure safe, healthy food for all Indians.

Source: PIB

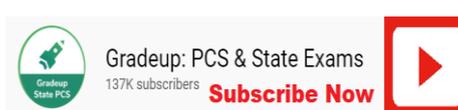
6. POWERGRID wins the global ATD BEST Award 2021



पावर ग्रिड कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)

Why in News

- Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID)**, a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India has been awarded the



coveted “Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award”.

- It secured **8th rank** among the 71 organizations from around the globe.

Key Points

- POWERGRID has won this International recognition for its diligent efforts in talent development practices and programmes.
- The talent development initiative in POWERGRID is driven by **POWERGRID Academy of Leadership (PAL)**.

About the Award:

- The Association for Talent Development (ATD, formerly ASTD) is the world's largest association dedicated to those who develop talent in organizations and ATD's BEST Award is the talent development industry's most rigorous and coveted recognition.

Source: PIB

7. Former Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist Chandan Mitra passes away



- Former Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist Chandan Mitra passed away at 65.
- Mitra was a nominated member of the Rajya Sabha from August 2003 to 2009.
- In June 2010, BJP got him elected to the upper house from Madhya Pradesh. His term ended in 2016.
- In July 2018, Mitra, Editor and Managing Director of The Pioneer, resigned from the BJP and **joined the Trinamool Congress (TMC)**.

Source: Indian Express