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Important News: India

Drone Certification Scheme



- The **Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)** notified a **Drone Certification Scheme (DCS)** to ensure minimum safety and quality requirements as it will boost indigenous manufacturing.
- The **Drone Certification Scheme** notified on January 26, 2022, under Rule 7 of the **liberalized Drone Rules, 2021** will help in simpler, faster and transparent type-certification of drones.
- Along with the liberalised drone rules, airspace map, the PLI (production-linked incentive) scheme and the single window DigitalSky Platform, this will help drone manufacturing industry in India, grow.
- This is another step in making India the drone hub of the world by 2030.
- A multi-stakeholder steering committee (MSC) chaired by a known professional, who is respected by government and industry alike, will oversee the scheme, along with a QCI (Quality Control of India) secretariat.

Source: Business Standard

Fit India Quiz 2021



- Results of the Preliminary Round of the **first-ever Fit India Quiz**, India's biggest sports and fitness quiz for students were announced.
- Results of the nation-wide competition organised by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** has revealed that two students from Uttar Pradesh have outperformed students from all other states to become the top scorers of the Preliminary Round.
- Divyanshu Chamoli of Delhi Public School, Greater Noida won the top spot, he was closely followed by Shashwat Mishra of Sunbeam School, Lahartara, Varanasi.
- The preliminary round of the Fit India Quiz, saw participants from 13,502 schools from more than 659 districts across the country, out of which students of 361 schools across 36 States and Union Territories have now been shortlisted for the State Rounds.

- The Quiz has a prize money of 3.25 crores which will be given out to winning schools and students at various phases of the quiz.

About Fit India Movement:

- Fit India Movement is a nation-wide movement in India to encourage people to remain healthy and fit by including physical activities and sports in their daily lives.
- It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on 29 August 2019.

Source: PIB

Important News: Defence

Exercise Paschim Lehar



- A joint maritime exercise **Paschim Lehar (XPL-2022)** conducted by the Indian Navy off the West Coast was concluded on 25 January 2022.
- The exercise was conducted over a duration of 20 days with an objective to validate operational plans of the Western Naval Command and enhance Inter-Service synergy among the Indian Navy, IAF, Indian Army and Coast Guard.
- The exercise was conducted under the aegis of FOC-in-C, Western Naval Command.
- The intra-theatre exercise included mobilisation and participation of over 40 ships and submarines of the Indian Navy.

Source: PIB

Important News: Appointment

Vinodanand Jha appointed as new chairperson of the PMLA Adjudicating Authority



- **Vinodanand Jha** has been appointed as the chairperson of the **PMLA Adjudicating Authority** for a period of 5 years.
- Vinodanand Jha, a 1983-batch retired IRS officer has been serving as the Member (Finance and Accounts) in the Authority since September 2018.
- The PMLA Adjudicating Authority is a three-member body whose mandate is to adjudicate the cases of attachment of assets orders issued under the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)**.

About Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002:

- Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted by the NDA government to prevent money-laundering and to provide for confiscation of property derived from money-laundering.
- PMLA and the Rules notified there under came into force with effect from July 1, 2005.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Award and Honours

President and Police Medal Announced



- On the occasion of Republic Day, 51 police officers and staff of the state have been awarded President's and Police Medals.
- Out of them, 4 police officers were awarded 'Presidential Distinguished Service Medal' for outstanding service, 7 were awarded 'Police Bravery Medal' and 40 were awarded 'Police Medal' for commendable service.

About the award

- Every year on the eve of Republic Day, the 'Police Medal' is announced by the Union Home Department for the bravery of the police across the country.
- This year, It has been announced a total of 939 Police Medals have been awarded to 88 policemen for Presidential Distinguished Service Medal (PPM), 189 Police for Police Bravery Medal (PMG), 662 Police for Police Medal for Commendable Service (PM) and two for President's Bravery Medal.

Recipient of the Presidential Distinguished Service Medal

- Vinay Mahadevrao Korgaonkar (Additional Director General of Police (PCR), Fort Mumbai)
- Pralhad Nivruti Khade (Commandant SRPF, Group 6, Dhule)
- Chandrakant Rambhau Gundge (Inspector of Police PTC Nanvij, Daund, Pune)
- Anwar Beg Ibrahim Beg Mirza (Sub-Inspector of Police SP, Nanded)

Source: Loksataa

Important News: Sports

Lucknow's IPL team to be called Lucknow Super Giants



- The Lucknow franchise of the IPL (Indian Premier League) will be called **Lucknow Super Giants**.
- Last year, the franchise was purchased by the Sanjiv Goenka-owned RPSG group for an amount of Rs 7090 Crores.
- The other new team to enter the competition is from Ahmedabad who was bought by the Irelia Company Pvt Ltd. for Rs 5635 Crores.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Personality

Noted Kathakali Dancer & Padma Shri recipient Milena Salvini of France passes away



- **Noted Kathakali dancer Milena Salvini** of France passed away.
- Italian-born Salvini was a regular visitor to India, especially Kerala where she learnt Kathakali, and ran 'Centre Mandapa', a school for Indian dance forms, in Paris.
- The Government of India conferred the **Padma Shri** award on Salvini in 2019 for her contribution in the field of performing arts.

Source: Business Standard

Important News: Important Days

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

- International Holocaust Remembrance Day or the International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust is an international memorial day on 27 January.



- The day commemorates the victims of the Holocaust, which resulted in the murder of one third of the Jewish people, along with countless members of other minorities by Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945.
- 27 January was chosen to commemorate the date that Auschwitz concentration camp was liberated by the Red Army in 1945.
- It was designated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 1 November 2005.

Source: un.org