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Important News: India

Report on Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+)



Why in News

- The Ministry of Education released the report on **Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) 2020-21** on school education of India.

Key Points

- The UDISE+ system of online data collection from the schools was developed by Department of School Education & Literacy in the year 2018-19 to overcome the issues related to erstwhile practice of manual data filling in paper format and subsequent feeding on computer at the block or district level in the UDISE data collection system since 2012-13.
- The present publication relates to UDISE+ data for the reference year 2020-21.

Main Findings of the Report:

- In 2020-21 **total students enrolled** in school education from primary to higher secondary stood at 25.38 crore. There is an increase of 28.32 lakh enrolments as compared to the 25.10 crore enrolment in 2019-20.
- **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)** which measures the general level of participation has improved in 2020-21 at all levels of school education compared to 2019-20. Level wise GER in 2020-21 as compared to 2019-20 are: 92.2% from 89.7% in upper primary, 99.1 % from 97.8% in elementary, 79.8% from 77.9% in secondary and 53.8% from 51.4% in higher secondary respectively.
- 96.96 lakh teachers are engaged in school education during 2020-21. This is higher by about 8800 in comparison with the number of teacher in school education in 2019-20.
- In 2020-21 the **Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR)** stood at 26 for primary, 19 for upper primary, 18 for secondary and 26 for higher secondary, showing an improvement since 2018-19. The PTR for primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary was 28, 20, 21, and 30-respectively during 2018-19.
- In 2020-21 over 12.2 crore girls are enrolled in primary to higher secondary showing an increase of 11.8 lakh girls compared to the enrolment of girls in 2019-20.

Source: PIB

WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India



Why in News

- The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of the **WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (WHO GCTM)** in Jamnagar, Gujarat by signing a Host Country agreement between the Government of India and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Key Points

- The WHO GCTM will be established under the Ministry of AYUSH.
- This would be the first and only global outpost Centre (office) for traditional medicine across the globe.
- Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organization announced the establishment of WHO GCTM in India on the occasion of 5th Ayurveda Day on 13th November, 2020.
- A Joint Task Force (JTF) is constituted for coordination, execution and monitoring of activities for the establishment of this Centre.
- JTF comprises representatives from the Government of India, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva and the World Health Organization.

Facts about World Health Organization (WHO):

- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
- **Founded:** 7 April 1948
- As of January 2021, the WHO has 194 member states.

Source: The Hindu

National Land Monetization Corporation



Why in News

- The Union Cabinet has approved the setting up **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)** as a wholly owned Government of India company with an initial authorized share capital of Rs 5000 crore and paid-up share capital of Rs 150 crore.

Key Points

- NLMC will undertake monetization of surplus land and building assets of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs).
- The proposal is in pursuance of the Budget Announcement for 2021-22.
- With monetization of non-core assets, the Government would be able to generate substantial revenues by monetizing unused and under-used assets.
- For CPSEs undergoing strategic disinvestment or closure, monetization of these surplus land and non-core assets is important to unlock their value.

Source: ET

Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 Amendment



Why in News

- The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Mines for amendment of Second Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') for specifying the rate of royalty in respect of Glauconite, Potash, Emerald, Platinum Group of Metals (PGM), Andalusite, Sillimanite and Molybdenum.

Key Points

- The approval would ensure auction of mineral blocks in respect of Glauconite, Potash, Emerald, Platinum Group of Metals, Andalusite and Molybdenum thereby reducing import of

these minerals, generating empowerment opportunity in the mining sector as well as manufacturing sector which will help in ensuring inclusive growth of a large section of the society.

- The Ministry of Mines will also provide methodology for calculation of Average Sale Price (ASP) of these minerals required for enabling auction of these mineral blocks.
- With further impetus given by the reforms made in the year 2021, more than 146 blocks have been put up for auction in the financial year 2021-22. Of this, 34 blocks have been successfully auctioned in the financial year.

Source: Business Standard

National Medical Commission removes upper age limit for appearing in NEET-UG exam



Why in News

- The National Medical Commission has removed the upper age limit for appearing in the NEET-UG examination.

Key Points

- The process for official notification to suitably amend the regulations on Graduate Medical Education 1997 to this effect has been initiated.
- Earlier, the age limit was 25 years for general category candidates and 30 years in the case of reserved category candidates.
- The National Medical Commission is the top regulatory body of medical education in the country.

About The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (Undergraduate) or NEET (UG):

- NEET (UG), formerly the All India Pre-Medical Test (AIPMT), is an all India pre-medical entrance test for students who wish to pursue undergraduate medical (MBBS), dental (BDS) and AYUSH (BAMS, BUMS, BHMS, etc.) courses.
- The exam is conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).

Source: newsonair

Important News: State

India's first 100% women-owned FLO Industrial Park



Why in News

- India's first 100% women-owned FLO industrial park in Hyderabad, promoted by **FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO)** in partnership with the Government of Telangana, was inaugurated.

Key Points

- The 50-acres FLO Industrial Park was established with an investment of Rs. 250 Crores, is the Flagship project and the first of its kind at a national level with participation open to Chapter Members and the national members of FLO.
- The park became operational by 25 women-owned and operated units representing 16 Green Category Industries.

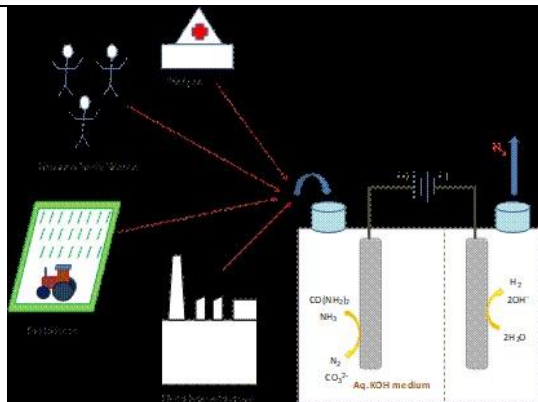
About FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO):

- FLO was established in 1983, as a division of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) which is the apex body of industry and commerce in India.
- As an All India Organisation for women, FLO has 18 Chapters pan India - Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Kanpur, Ludhiana, Mumbai, Northeast, Pune, Amritsar, Northeast & Uttarakhand, with its Head Office in New Delhi.

Source: India Today

Important News: Science

Hydrogen Production by Urea Electrolysis



Why in News

- Indian Scientists have designed an electrocatalyst system for energy-efficient hydrogen production with the help of electrolysis of urea.

Key Points

- The urea electrolysis is helpful towards urea-based waste treatment with low-cost hydrogen production.
- India is one of the top countries by urea production, and it produced 244.55 LMT of urea during 2019-20.
- The nitrogenous fertilizer industries generate a high concentration of ammonia and urea as effluents.
- This can be utilized for energy production towards our country's benefits.
- The energy requirement for production of hydrogen through water electrolysis can be reduced by 70 % through urea electrolysis.

Source: PIB

Important News: Sports

International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2022



Why in News

- India has taken first place in the medal standing in **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2022** in Cairo.

Key Points

- The Indian team finished on the top of the medals tally with a total of seven medals comprising of four gold, two silver and one bronze.
- Norway finished second and France third in the competition.

Source: newsonair

S Sreesanth announces retirement from all forms of first-class cricket



Key Points

- India pacer S Sreesanth announced his retirement from all forms of domestic cricket.
- S Sreesanth is a fast bowler who hailed from Kerala.
- Sreesanth played 27 Tests and 53 ODIs for India, taking 87 and 75 wickets respectively.
- The BCCI banned Sreesanth in August 2013 along with his Rajasthan Royals teammates Ajit Chandila and Ankeet Chavan.