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Important News: World

5th BIMSTEC Summit



Why in News

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the **5th BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Summit** on 30 March 2022 hosted in virtual mode by Sri Lanka, the current chair of BIMSTEC.

Key Points

- The Summit's **theme** was “Towards a Resilient Region, Prosperous Economies, Healthy People”.
- Prime Minister Modi along with other leaders also witnessed the signing of three BIMSTEC agreements which represent progress being achieved in ongoing cooperation activities:
 - (i) BIMSTEC Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters
 - (ii) BIMSTEC Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Cooperation in the field of Diplomatic Training
 - (iii) Memorandum of Association on Establishment of BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility

Facts about BIMSTEC:

- **Headquarters:** Dhaka, Bangladesh
- **Founded:** 6 June 1997
- **Member:** Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand

Source: newsonair

Important News: India

Meghalaya's Living Root Bridges in UNESCO's tentative list of World Heritage Sites



Why in News

- **Meghalaya's Living Root Bridges**, found in over 70 villages in the state, have been included in the **tentative list of World Heritage Sites of the UNESCO**.

About Living Root Bridges:

- It is a type of simple suspension bridge formed by the method of tree shaping to form living plant roots across a stream or river.
- Once mature, some bridges can have as many as 50 people crossing them and can last for over 150 years.
- At present, there are about 100 known living root bridges spread across 72 villages in the state.

India's UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

- At present, there are 40 World Heritage Sites located in India. Out of these, 32 are cultural, 7 are natural, and 1 is mixed (meeting both cultural and natural criteria), as determined by the organization's selection criteria.

Source: Indian Express

"Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance"



Why in News

- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, approved a USD 808 million or Rs 6,062.45 crore, World Bank assisted programme on **"Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance" (RAMP)**.
- RAMP is a new scheme and would commence in FY 2022-23.

Key Points

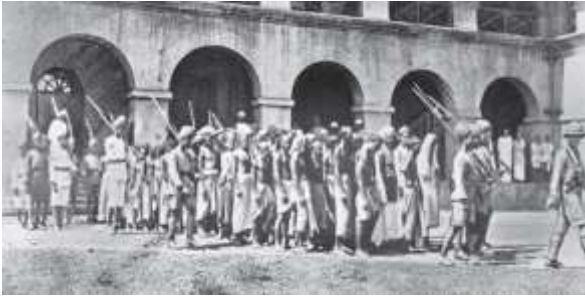
- RAMP is a World Bank assisted Central Sector Scheme, supporting various Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID) Resilience and Recovery Interventions of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME).
- RAMP programme with impacts across the country will directly or indirectly benefit all 63 million enterprises that qualify as MSMEs

Background:

- RAMP was formulated and proposed by the Government of India, for strengthening MSMEs in line with the recommendations made by U K Sinha Committee, KV Kamath Committee and Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PMEAC).

Source: HT

Malabar Rebellion



Why in News

- Recently, the **Indian Council for Historical Research (ICHR)** has deferred its decision on a recommendation to remove the **1921 Malabar Rebellion martyrs** including Variamkunnaathu Kunhahamad Haji and Ali Musliyar from the list of India's freedom fighters.

Key Points

- The **Malabar rebellion**, Moplah massacre, Moplah riots or Mappila riots occurred between August 1921 and 1922 in the southern part of the Malabar district of the Madras Presidency.

About Indian Council for Historical Research (ICHR):

- It is a captive body of the Ministry of Education established by an Administrative Order.
- It provides financial assistance to historians and scholars through fellowships, grants, and symposia.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Defence

IONS Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22)



Why in News

- The maiden edition of **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22)** was conducted at Goa and in the Arabian Sea from 26 – 30 March 2022.

Key Points

- The aim of the exercise was to enhance interoperability in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations among member navies.
- IMEX – 22 comprised a Harbour Phase at Marmugao port, Goa from 26 to 27 March 2022 followed by a Sea Phase in the Arabian Sea from 28 to 30 March 2022.
- The participation included warships, Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft and helicopters from the Navies of Bangladesh, France, India and Iran.

- 22 Observers from 15 IONS member navies, namely Australia, Bangladesh, France, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Qatar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE and UK also participated in the exercise.

Source: PIB

CCS approves procurement of 15 Light Combat Helicopters (LCH)



Why in News

- The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved procurement of 15 **Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) Limited Series Production** at the cost of Rs. 3,887 Cr along with Infrastructure sanctions worth Rs. 377 Cr.

Key Points

About Light Combat Helicopter Limited Series Production (LSP):

- LSP is an indigenously designed, developed and manufactured state of the art modern combat helicopter containing approx. 45% indigenous content by value which will progressively increase to more than 55% for SP Version.
- The Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) produces the helicopter.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Polity

Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2022



Why in News

- The Rajya Sabha passed the **Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022.**

Key Points

- The Bill seeks to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to omit Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes in Jharkhand and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 for inclusion of certain communities in the lists of Scheduled Tribes in the State.

- The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2022 was introduced in the Upper House of Parliament on February 7, 2022.
- **Note:** Earlier, Lok Sabha passed a bill to include the 'Darlong' community as a sub-tribe of the 'Kuki' in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Tripura

Source: TOI

Important News: Science

MATLAB on I-STEM National Portal launched



Why in News

- For the first time in the country, academic users in India will be able to access the **MATLAB software** suite at no cost through the **Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map (I-STEM) portal**.

Key Points

- The MATLAB software suite is hosted on the cloud server of I-STEM to provide user friendly access from anywhere in India.

About MATLAB:

- MATLAB is a proprietary multi-paradigm programming language and numeric computing environment developed by MathWorks.

About I-STEM:

- I-STEM is an initiative of Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India (PSA, GoI) under the aegis of **Prime Minister Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC)**.

Source: PIB

Important News: Sports

Mirabai Chanu wins the BBC ISWOTY 2021 award



Why in News

- Indian weightlifter **Mirabai Chanu** has been announced the winner of the third edition of the **BBC Indian Sportswoman Of The Year (ISWOTY) 2021 award**.

Key Points



- Mirabai Chanu created history in 2021 when she became the first Indian weightlifter to clinch a silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics.
- The '**BBC Emerging Player**' award has been presented to **Shafali Verma**, the youngest female cricketer who played for India in Women's Twenty20 International match in 2019.
- The first Indian woman to have won a medal at the Olympics in 2000, **Karnam Malleswari** has been presented the **BBC Lifetime Achievement award**.

Source: TOI

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