

Weekly Current Affairs

4th Week January 2022

Important News: State

Shirui Lily Festival 2022



- The fourth edition of State Level Shirui Lily Festival 2022 organized in Manipur.
- This annual festival is organized every year by the Department of Tourism, Government of Manipur to create awareness about the Shirui Lily flower.
- The Shirui Lily Festival is held every year in the months of April and May as this is the time when the Shirui Lily flowers bloom.
- Shirui Lily flower is found only in the Ukhrul district of Manipur and cannot be planted anywhere in the world.

Shirui Lily

- Shirui Lily is the state flower of Manipur, which is three feet tall and bell-shaped blue-pink flowers.
- Its scientific name is *Lilium mackliniae*.
- It is locally called Kashsong Timrawon by the Tangkhul tribe, which is named after Timrawon.

Source: News on Air

'Social Empowerment Camp'

Why in News:

- 'Social Empowerment Camp' for Divyangjans and Senior Citizens has been organized in Bharatpur district of Rajasthan.



key points:

- The Social Empowerment Camp has been organized by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPWD) in collaboration with ALIMCO and Bharatpur District Administration.
- The objective of the Social Empowerment Camp is to distribute aids and assistive devices among senior citizens under the 'Divyangjan' and 'Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana' (RVY scheme) under the ADIP scheme of the Government of India.
- Under the Social Empowerment Camp, free of cost aids and assistive devices have been distributed to 1155 Divyangjans and 586 Senior Citizens under the schemes of the Central Government.
- The beneficiaries included in the social empowerment camp were pre-identified in the evaluation camps organized by Bharatpur District Administration, Rajasthan, supported by ALIMCO last year.

Source: Jansatta

Lavender Festival

Why in News:

- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, a two-day lavender festival was organized by the Science and Technology Research Council under the aegis of the Ministry of Science and Technology at Bhandarwah town in the Doda district.



key points:

- Lavender Utsav is organized under the Central Government Aroma Mission to promote the One Product One District program.
- Lavender festival was organized for the first time in Bhaderwah, due to which Bhaderwah valley has been recognized as Lavender Capital.
- Lavender Utsav has been organized with the objective of increasing the income of farmers associated with Aroma Mission.
- During Lavender Utsav, six plants for extracting lavender oil have also been inaugurated in different villages of Bhaderwah Valley under the Aroma Mission.

Source: Akashwani

Important News: India

Raja Ram Mohan Roy



Why in the news:

- The 250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy will be celebrated from 22 May 2022 to 22 May 2023 under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' by the Union Ministry of Culture.

key points:

- The main objective of this event is to present to the people the various social reform works done by Raja Ram Mohan Roy.
- The function has been organized at Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation, Salt Lake, Kolkata, and Science City Auditorium, Kolkata.
- During the ceremony, Culture Minister Shri G.K. The statue of Raja Ram Mohan Roy was virtually unveiled.

- A seminar and quiz program for children has also been organized at the function and a multimedia presentation on various aspects of the life of Ram Mohan Roy was also presented at the function.

Related Facts

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772 – 1833) was an Indian reformer. He is considered by many historians to be the "Father of Bengal Renaissance".
- He waged a crusade against Hindu customs such as Sati, polygamy, child marriage, and the caste system and demanded women's rights in property.
- The Brahmo Samaj was founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in 1828.
- In 1817, with the help of David Hare, he founded the Hindu College in Calcutta.
- The most popular magazine of Raja Ram Mohan Roy was Sambad Kaumudi. These included issues such as freedom of the press, the inclusion of Indians in high positions of service, and separation of executive and judiciary.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy was given the title of Raja by the Mughal Emperor Akbar II.

Source: PIB

Organized Workshop on "Green India through Renewables"

Why in News:

- A workshop on “Green India through Renewables” was organized by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) in association with the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce Industries and Agriculture (MCCAI) in Pune, Maharashtra.



key points:

- India has set an ambitious target of 500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity by 2030.
- An amount of Rs 14,445 crore has been sanctioned to Maharashtra by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) for 422 RE project accounts.
- The main objective of the workshop is to improve the quality of life by producing clean energy as well as reducing CO2 emissions.
- The theme presentation of the workshop was done by Mr. Chintan Shah, Technical Director, Renewable Energy Development Agency of India Limited.

- Renewable Energy Development Agency of India Limited aims to create an ecosystem for RE manufacturing and storage generation with the help of which the domestic manufacturing sector can be promoted.

Source: The Hindu

Inauguration of two-day adaptation-cum-training program for Haj 2022 deputies

Why in News:

- A two-day adaptation-cum-training program for Haj 2022 deputies was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Minority Affairs, Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, in New Delhi.



key points:

- The objective of the two-day training program is to provide Haj deputies all the information regarding Haj pilgrimage, accommodation in Mecca and Medina, transportation, health facilities, safety measures etc.
- For Haj 2022, pilgrims will go on the Haj pilgrimage through the Haj Committee of India from 10 departure points- Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Cochin, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, and Srinagar.
- A total of 357 Haj Coordinators, Assistant Haj Officers, Haj Assistants, Doctors, and Paramedics will be deployed in Saudi Arabia by the Government to assist the Indian Haj pilgrims.
- Three branch dispensaries and one hospital have been established in Madinah to ensure proper health facilities for the Indian Haj pilgrims.

Source: Indian Express

Quadrilateral agreement for development and management of sewage infrastructure at Maheshtala

Why in News:

- Quadrilateral agreements have been signed by National Mission for Clean Ganga for sewage infrastructure development and management at Maheshtala, West Bengal under Hybrid Annuity (Annuity) mode.



key points:

- This agreement is a replacement agreement between National Mission for Clean Ganga, Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority, M/s Maheshtala Wastewater Management Pvt Ltd, and the Austrian Development Bank.
- The objective of the project is to stop the flow of sewerage from the city to the river Ganga, and the major components of the project include 35 MLD Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), 4 Pumping Stations, 6 Diversion Structures, Repair and Rehabilitation Works, 15 Years of Operation and Maintenance. etc. have been included.
- M/s Maheshtala Wastewater Management Pvt Ltd will be financed by the Austrian Development Bank based on the achievement of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in terms of wastewater quality.
- The project is based on a Hybrid Annuity (Annuity) mode according to which 40% of the construction cost is to be paid during the construction period of 24 months and the remaining 60% as quarterly annuity along with interest and operation & maintenance costs be done over a period of years.

What is the National Mission for Clean Ganga?

- The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is the implementation wing of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA).
- The National Mission for Clean Ganga is a registered society, constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 12 August 2011 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

Source: The Hindu

National Women Legislators Conference 2022

Why in News:

- The National Women Legislators Conference 2022 was inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.



key points:

- The inauguration was done by President Ram Nath Kovind during his visit to three states - Kerala, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh.
- The National Women Legislators Conference 2022 has been organized by the Kerala Legislative Assembly in Thiruvananthapuram on such a large scale.
- National Women Legislators Conference is being organized under the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence in 2022, in which women members of various Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils including both the houses of Parliament have been included.
- The main goal of the two-day National Women Legislators Conference 2022 is to draw attention to contemporary relevance focusing on women's rights, gender equality, adequate representation of women in decision-making bodies, etc.
- The concluding session of the National Women Legislators Convention 2022 will be inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on May 27.

Source: PIB

'ABHA' Mobile Application

Why in News:

- National Health Authority has announced a modified version of the ABHA Mobile Application for the maintenance of health records under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.



Key Points:

- ABHA App, formerly known as NDHM Health Records App, is available on Google Play Store.
- Revised Ayushman Bharat Health Account (Aura) mobile application has been made more practical and to improve usability, a new User Interface (UI) has been added to it, with the help of New app any person can edit their profile on ABHA app, Link or Unlink ABHA Number (14 Digits) with the ABHA address.
- With the help of the new ABHA app, health-related records can also be added to this app in digital form.
- ABHA app is currently available on Google Play Store, its IOS version will be released soon.

Source: The Hindu

Swachh Survekshan 2023

Why in News:

- Swachh Survekshan 2023 was launched under the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 by the Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.



key points:

- The theme for garbage-free cities of Swachh Survekshan 2023 is 'Waste to Wealth'.
- Swachh Survekshan 2023 will be evaluated in 4 phases as compared to 3 phases of earlier Swachh Survekshan.
- Field assessment of citizen verification and processing facilities will be started in Phase III as well as Phase IV in Swachh Survekshan 2023.
- Swachh Survekshan 2023 gives priority to the principle of three R's – Reduce, Recycle and Reuse, i.e. Reduce Waste, Recycle and Reuse.

Swachh Survekshan

- Swachh Survekshan was launched in 2016 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs as a competitive framework to encourage cities to improve the status of urban sanitation and encourage large-scale citizen participation.

Source: PIB

Efforts made by the World Economic Forum to accelerate climate action in India

Why in News:

- The Indian arm of the Climate Action Coalition has been set up by the World Economic Forum to accelerate climate action and carbon reduction efforts in India.



key points:

- The Indian arm, as part of the World Economic Forum's Climate Task Force, aims to achieve the goals set in the White Paper Mission 2070.
- The main objective of the Indian branch is to reduce the rate of carbon emissions in India.
- India aims to become a low-carbon country by 2070.
- India's campaign for low carbon emissions will involve the government, business, and other stakeholders to fulfill the ambitious resolution Panchamrut of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Indian arm of the World Economic Forum will function as a part of the World Economic Forum's Climate Task Force in India.

Source: News on Air

Important News: World

World Economic Forum

Why in News:

- The annual meeting of the World Economic Forum was held from 22 May 2022 to 26 May 2022 in Davos, Switzerland, which the Indian delegation is led by the Minister of Commerce and Industry of India, Mr. Piyush Goyal.



key points:

- The theme of the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum held this year is 'History at a turning point'.
- Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz have been invited to attend the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum as speakers.

What is the World Economic Forum?

- The World Economic Forum is a not-for-profit and international organization established in 1971, whose establishment is credited to Klaus Schwab.
- The headquarters of the World Economic Forum is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The World Economic Forum aims to provide a common platform for leading political, business, social, and academic leaders to shape global, regional, and industrial agendas.

Source: The Hindu

Business Roundtable held in Tokyo

Why in News:

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the Business Round Table Conference held in Tokyo on May 23, 2022.



key points:

- The event was attended by top executives and CEOs of 34 Japanese companies, most of which have investments and operations in India.
- During the event, the Prime Minister highlighted the measures being taken for business in India under 'Make in India for the world'.
- During the event, the Prime Minister highlighted India's strong startup ecosystem with initiatives like National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme, and Semiconductor Policy.
- India has received a record FDI of USD 84 billion in the financial year 2020 - 2021 which shows confidence in India's economic potential.

Source: PIB

Investment Promotion Agreement signed by India

Why in News:

- The Investment Promotion Agreement has been signed in Tokyo, Japan by the Foreign Secretary of India and the CEO of the International Development Finance Corporation of America.



key points:

- The Investment Promotion Agreement was signed by Vinay Kwatra, Foreign Secretary of India, and Scott Nathan, Chief Executive Officer of the International Development Finance Corporation of America.
- Based on the Investment Promotion Agreement, India aims to increase the investment of the Development Finance Corporation in India so that it can get more support for the development of the country.
- The Investment Promotion Agreement, signed in Tokyo, Japan, will replace the 1997 agreement signed between the two countries, aimed at promoting investment assistance programs in addition to the Development Finance Corporation.
- Corporations and related agencies are active in India since 1974, through which investment assistance of \$ 5 billion 800 million has been provided in India so far.

Source: PIB

Quad Leaders' Summit

Why in News:

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi attending the Quad Leaders' Summit, in Tokyo, Japan on May 24, 2022, which includes the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Fumio Kishida, the President of the United States of America, Mr. Joseph Joseph Biden and the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Anthony Albanese was involved.



Key Points:

- This was the second individual meeting of the heads of the Quad countries, while a total of four meetings of the Quad have been held so far.
- The first virtual meeting of the Quad countries was held in March 2021, the second virtual meeting was held in Washington DC in September 2021, and the third virtual meeting was held in March 2022.
- A Quad Partnership on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) was announced by politicians to enable a more effective and timely response against disasters in the Indo-Pacific region.

- The Prime Minister emphasized the goal of fulfilling the positive and constructive agenda of the Quad.

Source: PIB

Quad Scholarship Fellowship Program

Why in News:

- US President Joe Biden launches a new fellowship program like the Quad Scholarship to bring together allies in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics at the Quad Summit.



key points:

- The Quad Scholarship will be awarded to students from the United States, Japan, Australia, and India pursuing postgraduate and doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics at American universities.
- Quad Scholarship will be awarded to a total of hundred students every year under which it will be awarded to 25 students from each Quad group country.
- This is one of its kind of initiative under which students will get good education opportunities.
- The main objective of this initiative is to establish linkages between the next generation of scientists and technology professionals.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Economy

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

Why in News:

- India has recorded the highest ever annual foreign direct investment (FDI) inflow of US\$ 83.57 billion in the financial year 2021-22.





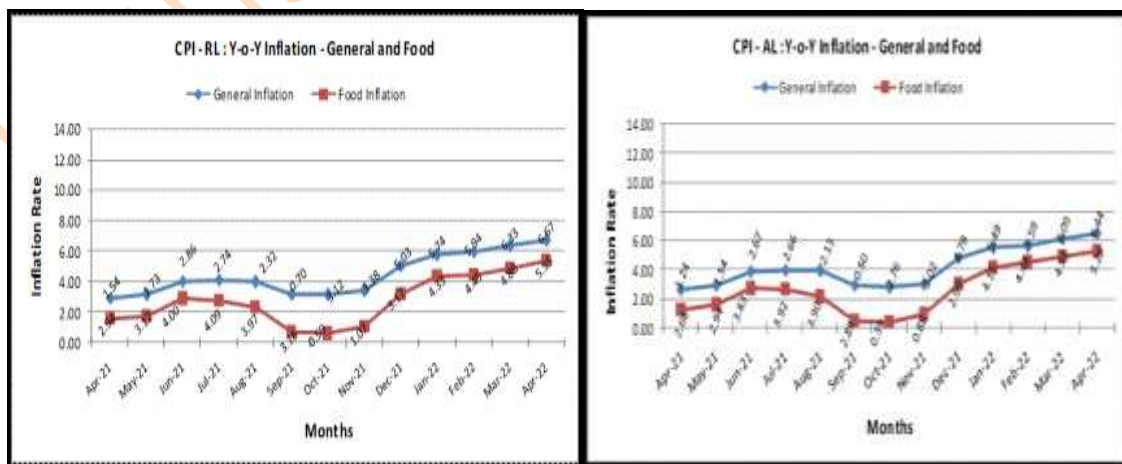
key points:

- FDI equity inflows into manufacturing sectors have increased by 76% this year in FY 2021-22 (USD 21.34 billion) as compared to the previous FY 2020-21 (USD 12.09 billion).
- In terms of top investor countries in FDI equity inflows, 'Singapore' has topped with 27%, followed by the United States (18%) and Mauritius (16%) as the top states.
- 'Computer software and hardware has emerged as the top recipient sector of FDI equity inflows during FY 2021-22, followed by the service sector (12%) and the automobile industry (12%) as the top recipient sector, respectively. is included in.
- Under the 'Computer Software and Hardware' sector in India, Karnataka (53%), Delhi (17%), and Maharashtra (17%) were the major recipient states of FDI equity inflows during FY 2021-22. with the top 3 positions.
- Karnataka is the top recipient state with 38% share in total FDI equity inflows during FY 2021-22, followed by Maharashtra (26%) and Delhi (14%).

Source: PIB

All India Consumer Price Index for Agricultural and Rural Laborers

Why in News:



- The All-India Consumer Price Index for agricultural and rural workers was released by the Ministry of labour and Employment.

key points:

- All India Consumer Price Index for agricultural and rural workers released for the month of April,
- The All-India Consumer Price Index for Agricultural and Rural Laborers increased by 10 points to 1108 points and 1119 points respectively.
- The major contributors to the increase in the general index of agricultural laborers and rural laborers came from an increase in prices of rice, wheat flour, jowar, bajra, ragi, vegetables, and fruits, to the extent of 7.32 and 7.13 points, respectively.
- The rise or fall in the index varied from state to state with Tamil Nadu at the top of the index table with 1275 points while Himachal Pradesh with 880 points ranked at the bottom.
- The point rate of inflation based on CPI-AL and CPI-RL is 6.44% and 6.67% in April 2022, as compared to 6.09% and 6.33% in March 2022, respectively.

All-India Consumer Price Index Number (General & Group-wise): (Source PIB)

Group	Agricultural Labourers		Rural Labourers	
	March 2022	April 2022	March 2022	April 2022
General Index	1098	1108	1109	1119
Food	1025	1035	1032	1043
Pan, Supari, etc.	1914	1917	1924	1926
Fuel & Light	1222	1233	1216	1226
Clothing, Bedding &Footwear	1147	1162	1179	1195

Miscellaneous	1168	1177	1172	1181
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Source: PIB

Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal

Why in News:

- The Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal (FIF), which replaced the Foreign Investment Promotion Board, has completed its 5-year run.



key points:

- The Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal was launched on 24 May 2017.
- The Ministry of Commerce and Industry acts as the nodal department for the Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal.
- In the 5 years since the Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal (FIF) came into existence, 853 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals have been resolved with the help of which Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has increased by 39%.

Source: Times of India

Project 'Nigah'

Why in News:

- Project 'Nigah' is launched by Delhi Customs at ICD Garhi Harsaru, Gurugram.



key points:

- The objective of the Nigah project is to monitor container tracking and timely clearances to ensure ease of doing business.
- Project NIGAH is an initiative to track containers using ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module) which will help in better visibility of container movement inside ICD.
- The Nigah project will help Customs expedite long-standing containers and monitor timely clearances, thereby ensuring ease of doing business along with ensuring lead preventive checks.
- ICTM has been developed in collaboration with Custodian M/s.
- Live demo of Nigah project was given to all the participants in the organized conference.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Defense

NASM-SR missile

Why in News:

- The Indian Navy successfully test-fired an indigenous Naval Anti-Ship Missile NASM-SR from a Sea King Helicopter at the Integrated Test Range in Balasore, Odisha.



key points:

- The NASM-SR missile has been developed by the Défense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- NASM-SR is a short-range missile that has a range of 55 km and weighs 385 kg.
- The NASM-SR missile will replace the Sea Eagle missiles currently in use with the Navy.
- The NASM-SR has a 100 kg warhead and has sub-sonic capabilities, meaning it is capable of flying below the speed of sound at Mach 0.8.
- The NASM-SR has a maximum launch height of 3 km and the missile can skim 5 meters above sea level from the final approach to the target.
- A key feature of the NASM-SR is that it can also be fired from shore to target ships at sea.

Source: Indian Express

Project Wardeck

Why in News:

- Army Training Command signed an MoU with National Défense University (RRU) in Gandhinagar to develop the 'Wargame Research and Development Centre' in New Delhi.



key points:

- The 'Wargame Research and Development Centre' will be the first of its kind simulation-based training center in India to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to design virtual reality wargames.
- The Wargames Research and Development Centre will be used by the military to train soldiers and test soldiers' strategies through "Metaverse-enabled gameplay."
- The proposed warfare model will be designed for wars as well as counter-terrorism and counter-terrorism operations.
- The Wargame Research and Development Centre will be developed as a military area in New Delhi.

Source: Indian Express

Navy Foundation's 29th Governing Council Meeting

Why in News:

- Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral R. The 29th Governing Council meeting and Annual General Meeting was presided over by Hari Kumar as the Chairman of the Navy Foundation held on 22 May 2022 in Goa.



key points:

- Navy Foundation is a retired naval officers organization registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860.
- The Presidents/Vice Presidents/Secretaries of 16 Navy Foundation Chapters, along with the patrons of the Navy Foundation, represented the retired officers of their respective chapters.
- In the meeting, the Navy Foundation Governing Council gave its approval to include the 17th Chapter of the Naval Foundation in Bhopal.
- A web-enabled software application Handshake Portal was launched by the Chief of the Naval Staff in the meeting
- The major objective of Handshake Portal is to facilitate interaction/locating of friends/course mates/batchmates between serving and retired personnel as well as retired personnel.

Source: The Hindu

Bilateral Naval Exercise 'Bongosagar'

Why in News:

- The third edition of the bilateral naval exercise 'Bongosagar' between the Indian Navy (IN) and the Bangladesh Navy (BN) began on 24 May 2022 at Port Mongla, Bangladesh.



key points:

- The harbor phase of the Bongosagar exercise has been scheduled from May 24 to 25, followed by a sea phase in the northern Bay of Bengal from May 26 to 27.

- The objective of the Bongosagar exercise is to develop a high level of interoperability and joint operational skills through maritime exercises and conduct a wide spectrum of warfare action between the navies of the two countries.
- Indian Naval Ship Kora, an indigenously built Guided Missile Corvette, and an indigenously built offshore patrol vessel Sumedha is involved in the Bongosagar exercise while the Bangladesh Navy is being represented by BNS Abu Ubaidah and Ali Haider, both of which are guided missiles. There are frigates.
- The sea phase of the Bongosagar exercise will facilitate the ships of both the navies to participate in intensive surface warfare exercises, weapon use, firing exercises, seafaring plan development, and coordinated air operations in a strategic scenario.

Source: PIB

Survey Vessel (Major) Project

Why in News:

- Ship Director, the second of the four Survey Vessel (Major) projects under construction by GRSE in association with L&T Shipbuilding for the Indian Navy, was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai.



key points:

- The directorship is designed to operate at a cruise speed of 14 knots and a maximum speed of 18 knots (knots).
- The directorship is indigenously developed under the Make in India initiative and uses indigenously developed DMR 249-A steel.
- Under this project, the Indian Navy established its first water connectivity in the Bay of Bengal.
- Of the four SVL ships, three have been partially constructed at L&T at Kattupalli under a collaborative approach between GRSE and L&T Shipbuilding.
- Earlier the first-class ship 'Sandhyak' was launched at GRSE, Kolkata.

Source: PIB

Science and Technology

BioRRAP

Why in News:

- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launched Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal (BioRRAP), a 'single national portal' for biotech researchers and start-ups.



key points:

- Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal has been made to promote start-ups keeping in mind the spirit of "One Nation, One Portal".
- Presently India has over 2,700 biotech start-ups and over 2,500 biotech companies India aims to be among the top 5 countries in the global bio-manufacturing sector by 2025.
- With the help of the Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal, each research that requires regulatory oversight will be identified by a unique ID called "BioRRAP ID".
- The objective of the Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal is to provide a new direction to research activities in India.

Source: PIB

Param Porul Supercomputer at NIT, Tiruchirappalli

Why in News:

- Param Porul Supercomputing was inaugurated at NIT, Tiruchirappalli to facilitate computational research under Phase II of the National Supercomputing Mission to Facilitate Computational Research.



key points:

- The Param Porul Supercomputer established at NIT Tiruchirappalli is a state-of-the-art supercomputer dedicated to the nation.
- Most of the components used to build the PARAM PORUL supercomputing system have been fabricated and assembled in India and the indigenous software stack developed by C-DAC in line with the Make in India initiative has also been used in PARAM PORUL supercomputer.
- PARAM PORUL supercomputer system is a supercomputer based on direct contact liquid cooling technology to achieve high power utilization efficiency as well as reduce its operating cost.
- Under the National Supercomputing Mission, so far 15 supercomputers with a computing capacity of 24 petaflops have been installed across the country and all supercomputers have been manufactured in India.

What is National Supercomputing Mission?

- The 'National Supercomputing Mission' was announced in March 2015 for a period of 7 years.
- The National Supercomputing Mission seeks to empower India's national educational institutions and R&D institutions by establishing a vast supercomputing grid through over 70 high-performance supercomputers.

Source: PIB

Environment

E-Waste Management in India

Why in News:

- The Ministry of Environment has issued a notification to know the public's reaction to e-waste management in India.



key points:

- There is a formal set of rules available for e-waste management in India, which were first introduced in 2016 and revised in 2018.
- As per the new notification, consumer goods companies and manufacturers of electronics goods will have to ensure that at least 60% of their electronic waste is collected and recycled by 2023

and 70% and 80% of this portion by 2024 and 2025 respectively. The target has been set to increase to %.

- As per the new notification, companies will have to pay 'environmental compensation' for missed targets.

Source: The Hindu

Monkeypox

Why in News:

- According to a new study on monkeypox published in The Lancet, some antiviral drugs have the ability to reduce the symptoms of monkeypox and reduce the amount of time a patient is infectious.



key points:

- According to the study published in The Lancet, patients' responses to two antiviral drugs – brincidofovir and tecovirimat – have been documented.
- The antiviral drugs brincidofovir and tecovirimat were developed to treat smallpox, but suitable drugs have demonstrated some efficacy against monkeypox in animals.
- Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by a virus, but there are currently no licensed treatments for such rare diseases as monkeypox.
- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), monkeypox can be contained in countries outside Africa where this type of virus is usually not detected, and the virus is more commonly found in remote parts of Central and West Africa.

Source: All India radio

Awards and Honours

Sangeet Kalanidhi Award 2022

Why in News:



- The Sangeet Akademi announced to confer Sangeet Kalanidhi and other awards to various artists during the period 2020 to 2022, which were distributed by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin.



key points:

- Nagaswaram player Kizhavelur G. Ganesan received the Sangeeta Kala Acharya Award for 2020, singer and musicologist Reetha Rajan and musicologist Vainika R.S. for 2021.
- Renowned singer and guru Thamarkkad Govindan Namboodiri, versatile percussionist Nemani Somayazulu, and renowned kanjara artist AV Anand were presented with the T T K awards for 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively.
- The Musicologist Award for 2020 was presented to Dr. V Premalatha for the year 2020, Nritya Kalanidhi to Bharatanatyam exponent Ram Vaidyanathan (2020), and Narthaki Nataraja (2021).
- Widely respected acting expert and mentor, Bragha Bessel has been honored with the award in 2022.

What is Sangeeta Kalanidhi Award?

- The Sangeeta Kalanidhi Award, considered the highest honor in the field of Carnatic music, came into existence in 1942.
- Earlier, a senior musician/expert was invited to preside over the annual conference of the Sangeet Akademi.
- In 1942, it was decided that the musician thus invited would be conferred with the title of Sangeet Kalanidhi, an award consisting of a gold medal and a Birudu Patra (citation).
- Since 2005, Sangeeta Kalanidhi has also received the MS Subbulakshmi Award instituted by The Hindu.

Source: The Hindu

Important Days

World Turtle Day 2022





- Every year 23 May is celebrated as World Turtle Day.
- This year the theme of World Turtle Day 2022 is “Shelbreath”.
- World Turtle Day was first observed in 1990 by American Turtle Rescue (ATR), followed by World Turtle Day every year.
- is celebrated.
- It aims to protect turtles and tortoises from illegal trafficking, the exotic food industry, habitat destruction, global warming, and the pet trade.

Measures were taken for the conservation of turtles in India

- Five species of turtles are found in India, which include Olive Ridley, Green Turtle, Loggerhead, Hawksbill, and Leatherback.
- The Olive Ridley, Leatherback, and Loggerhead are listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, while the Hawksbill Turtle is listed as 'Critically Endangered' and the Green Turtle is listed as IUCN Threatened Species. listed as. listed as. Listed as 'endangered' on the Red List.
- The conservation of turtles in India is done under the Indian Wildlife Protection Act 1972, Schedule I, and through the Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation Program, the turtles have been protected in India.

Source: Indian Express

Commonwealth Day 2022



- Commonwealth Day is celebrated every year on 24 May.
- The theme of this year's Commonwealth Day is "Delivering a Common Future"
- Commonwealth Day is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of Queen Victoria of England (May 24, 1819)
- Commonwealth Day is celebrated mainly by all the countries that were once colonies of the British Empire.
- Commonwealth Day is celebrated on different dates all over the world like the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada celebrate this day on the second Monday of March, on the other hand, on the 24th of May, countries like India, and Belize observe Commonwealth Day.

Source: News on Air

National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam's 123rd Birth Anniversary



- Kazi Nazrul Islam was a staunch opponent of religious fanaticism, poet, musician and freedom fighter who gave a new direction to Bengali literature.
- Kazi Nazrul Islam was born in Churulia village in Asansol, West Bengal and his early education of Islam took place in the Madrasa of the Masjid.
- Kazi Nazrul Islam was awarded the then highest honor in 1945 by the University of Calcutta for his remarkable contribution to Bengali literature and after independence, the Government of India honored Kazi Nazrul Islam as 'Padma Bhushan' and the Government of Bangladesh as 'Mahakavi'.

Source: Jansatt

Sports

India's first 'Olympic Value Education Program'

Why in News:

- India's first 'Olympic Value Education Program' (OVEP) by International Olympic Committee (IOC) was launched by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in Odisha in collaboration with Abhinav Bindra Foundation Trust (ABFT).



key points:

- The Olympic Value Education Program will be integrated into the school education system of Odisha which will be a value-based curriculum.
- The Olympic Value Education Program will be initially implemented in 90 schools in Rourkela and Bhubaneswar, covering about 32,000 children.
- The Olympic Values Education Program is a practical application of resources designed by the International Olympic Committee to introduce youth to the values of excellence, dignity, and Olympics Values.
- The Olympic Values Education Program was developed in the year 2006 to address the challenges of a sedentary lifestyle, lack of concentration, and dropout of adolescents.

Source: The Hindu

Reports and Indexes

National Achievement Survey (NAS) Report 2021

Why in News:

- The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education released the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 report.



key points:

- Earlier the National Achievement Survey was conducted in 2017.
- It assesses the school education system in the country by conducting a comprehensive assessment survey of the learning ability of children in classes III, V, VIII, and X with a cycle duration of three years.
- The National Achievement Survey includes Mathematics, Language and Environmental Studies (EVS) for Classes 3 to Class 5, Language, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science for Class 8, and Language, Math's, Science, Social Science, and English for Class 10, viz. The competencies of the students in the subjects are also assessed.
- According to the National Achievement Survey, about 80% of students who attended home during the pandemic felt that they learned better in school with the help of peers.
- 24 percent of students had a problem with no digital device at home, although 45% of students described the experience as "enjoyable", but 38% reported having difficulties in learning.
- According to the National Achievement Survey, the performance of SC, ST, and OBC students in various subjects and classes is not satisfactory as compared to the general category students.

Source: The Hindu

New Appointments

Appointment of new Lieutenant Governor of Delhi

Why in News:

- Vinay Kumar Saxena, who is currently serving as the Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), has been appointed as the new Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of Delhi.



key points:

- Served as Assistant Manager for 11 years with JK Group by Vinay Kumar Saxena and was later promoted to General Manager to look after the proposed port project in Gujarat.
- Vinay Kumar Saxena was appointed as the Chairman of KVIC in October 2015 before being appointed as the new Lieutenant Governor of Delhi.
- Over seven years, Vinay Kumar Saxena has rendered his service on schemes and products like 'Honey Mission', 'Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana', 'Empowerment of Leather Artisans', Khadi Nature Paints, Project.

Source: Indian Express

Justice Sabina



- Justice Sabina has been appointed as Acting Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- By the exercise of Article 223 of the Constitution of India, the President has appointed Justice Sabina as Acting Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- The newly appointed Justice Sabina will replace the current Chief Justice of the High Court, Mohammad Rafiq.
- Sabina is the senior-most judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court and will take charge from May 25.

What is Article 223?



- When the office of the Chief Justice of a High Court is vacant or when such Chief Justice is by reason of absence unable to perform the duties of his office, such one of the other Judges of the Court as the President may appoint for the purpose will perform the duties of the post.

Miscellaneous

Parliamentary Consultative Committee Meeting of Ministry of Power

Why in News:

- The Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy, Shri R. Of. A meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Power was held under the chairmanship of Singh at Tehri, Uttarakhand.



key points:

- The agenda of the meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Power was 'Need to increase hydro capacity'.
- India's per capita emissions are less than a third of the world average, while per capita emissions for developed countries are four to six times the global average.
- Significantly, the developed countries of the world contribute about 80 percent of the emissions, however, in the light of the Paris Agreement, the Government of India has set a target to adopt green energy.
- The main goal of the meeting is to meet the increasing demand for energy as well as to make appropriate arrangements to deal with climate change.
- India aims to achieve 500 GW from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030 over 153 GW installed by renewable sources.

Source: PIB

Aarohan 4.0

Why in News:



- A two-day meeting of senior officers of the Department of Posts and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) was inaugurated in Shimla.



Key Point:

- The agenda of the meeting is to discuss and deliberate on ways to take forward the financial inclusion drive in the country and provide banking solutions to every citizen of India.
- IPPB operates the world's largest postal network of the Department of Posts to provide door-to-door interoperable banking services to senior citizens, farmers, migrant laborers, and women, among others.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) was set up under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications with 100% equity owned by the Government of India.

Source: The Hindu