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Important News: World

40 million more people experienced food insecurity in 2021 than 2020: Report



Why in News

- According to the report by the **Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC)**, some 40 million more people globally experienced acute food insecurity at crisis or worse levels in 2021 than 2020.
- The **GNAFC** is an international alliance of the United Nations, the European Union, governmental and non-governmental agencies working to tackle food crises together.

Key Points

- Of these, over half a million people (570,000) in Ethiopia, southern Madagascar, South Sudan and Yemen were classified in the most severe phase of acute food insecurity.
- The document showed that around 193 million people in 53 countries or territories experienced acute food insecurity at crisis or worse levels in 2021.

There were three main drivers for the food insecurity according to the report:

- The first was conflict. The report was written prior to the Russian invasion of Ukraine February 24, 2022. But it found that conflict forced 139 million people in 24 countries / territories into acute food insecurity. This is an increase from 99 million in 23 countries / territories in 2020.
- Another cause was weather extremes, which forced over 23 million people in eight countries / territories into acute food insecurity, up from 15.7 million in 15 countries / territories in 2020.
- A third cause was economic shocks. Over 30 million people in 21 countries / territories suffered acute food insecurity in 2021 due to economic shocks, down from over 40 million people in 17 countries / territories in 2020.

Source: DTE

India falls 8 positions to 150th rank in RSF 2022 World Press Freedom Index



Why in News

- According to the report released by **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)**, India's ranking in the **2022 World Press Freedom Index** (20th edition) has fallen down to 150th position from last year's 142nd rank out of 180 countries.

Key Points

- The ranking of India's neighbours, except that of Nepal, have also slid down, with the index placing Pakistan at 157th position, Sri Lanka 146th, Bangladesh 162nd and Maynmar at 176th position.
- Nepal has climbed up by 30 points in the global ranking at 76th position.
- This year, **Norway (1st)**, Denmark (2nd), Sweden (3rd), Estonia (4th) and Finland (5th) grabbed the top positions, while North Korea remained at the bottom of the list.

Source: HT

Important News: India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's France visit



Why in News

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid an official visit to France on May 4, 2022 on his way back from the 2nd India-Nordic Summit in Copenhagen.

Key Points

- In Paris, Prime Minister Modi met Emmanuel Macron, President of France, in one-on-one and delegation level formats.
- The two leaders held discussions on the entire range of bilateral issues, including cooperation in defence, space, blue economy, civil nuclear and people-to-people ties.

Note:

- This is PM Modi's fifth visit to France after August 2019, June 2017, November 2015 and April 2015.
- Both leaders also met on the sidelines of the G20 Rome Summit in October 2021, G20 Osaka Summit in June 2019 and G20 Buenos Aires Summit in December 2018.
- India and France, which are strategic partners since 1998, have a multifaceted partnership across the spectrum in defence, civil nuclear, economy, space and maritime security, clean energy and environment, counter-terrorism, people-to-people ties.
- India and France are founding members of the **International Solar Alliance** announced by Prime Minister Modi at UN Climate Change COP21 in November 2015.

Source: TOI

One District One Product Brands



Why in News

- Pashupati Kumar Paras, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries launched Three **One District One Product (ODOP)** brands under the **Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme**.

Key Points

- The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has signed an agreement with NAFED for developing 10 brands of selected 20 ODOPs under the branding and marketing component of the PMFME scheme.

About the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme:

- Launched under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, PMFME Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme that aims to enhance the competitiveness of existing individual micro-enterprises in the unorganized segment of the food processing industry and to promote formalization of the sector and provide support to Farmer Producer Organizations, Self Help Groups, and Producers Cooperatives along their entire value chain.
- With an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore over a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25, the scheme envisions to directly assist the 2,00,000 micro food processing units for providing

financial, technical, and business support for up-gradation of existing micro food processing enterprises.

Source: PIB

PLASTINDIA 2023



Why in News

- Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launched **PLASTINDIA 2023**-11th International Plastic Exhibition & Conference.

Key Points

- Dr. Mandaviya stated that “these exhibitions are important because they will attract international plastic players to the country and provide a platform to learn and exchange ideas and technology”.
- India’s Petrochemical Industries has been one of the fastest-growing industries in the Indian economy with high demand growth.
- India is projected to contribute more than 10% of the incremental global growth in Petrochemicals over the next decades.
- Indian Chemical industry has become a global player and earns foreign exchange for the nation with the "Make in India, Make for World" approach.
- Exports of Indian Chemicals have registered growth of 106% in 2021-22 over 2013-14.
- The petrochemicals industry should develop a strategy to reduce high carbon footprint, and ocean pollution and focus on adopting green technologies to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070.

About PLASTINDIA 2023:

- PLASTINDIA refers to a series of exhibitions under the Plastindia Foundation, which will hold the 11th International Plastics Exhibition, Conference and Convention from 1st-5th February, 2023 at ITPO Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- It will showcase India as the global hub for sourcing processed items related to Plastics, Raw materials, Machinery and products for use in all segments of human life.

Source: PIB

Important News: State

J&K Delimitation Commission issues final notification



Why in News

- The Delimitation Commission headed by Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai, (a retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India), and Sushil Chandra, (Chief Election Commissioner) and K. K. Sharma, (State Election Commissioner, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir), as Ex-Officio members of the Delimitation Commission met to finalise the Delimitation Order for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
- The Gazette notification for the same has also been published.

Key Points

As per the final Delimitation Order, the following will come into effect from the date to be notified by the Central Government:-

- Out of the 90 Assembly Constituencies in the region, 43 will be part of Jammu region and 47 for Kashmir region keeping in view the provisions of Section 9(1)(a) of the Delimitation Act, 2002 and Section 60(2)(b) of Jammu & Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019.
- After consultation with Associate Members, representatives of political parties, citizens, civil society groups, 9ACs have been reserved for STs, out of which, 6 are in Jammu region and 3 ACs in the Valley.
- There are five Parliamentary Constituencies in the region.
- The Delimitation Commission has seen the Jammu & Kashmir region as one single Union Territory.
- Therefore, one of the Parliamentary Constituency has been carved out combining Anantnag region in the Valley and Rajouri & Poonch of Jammu region.
- By this reorganisation each Parliamentary Constituency will have equal number of 18 Assembly Constituencies each.
- It may be recalled that the Delimitation Commission was constituted by the Govt. of India, in exercise of powers conferred by Section 3 of Delimitation Act, 2002 (33 of 2002), for the purpose of delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
- The Delimitation Commission was entrusted with the work of delimiting the Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir on the basis of 2011 Census

and in accordance with the provisions of Part-V of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (34 of 2019) and the provisions of Delimitation Act, 2002 (33 of 2002).

Note: The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir was carved out from the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir through the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (34 of 2019), passed by the Parliament.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Award and Honours

India chosen as first Country of Honour ever at Cannes Film Market



Why in News

- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur announced that **India will be the official Country of Honour at the upcoming Marche' Du Film**, organized alongside the 75th edition of Cannes Film Festival, in France.

Key Points

- The Minister said “It is the first time the Marché du Film has an official Country of Honour, and this special focus will continue annually with different nations in the spotlight at future editions.”
- India is also a “**Country of Honour at the Cannes Next**, under which 5 new Start Ups would be given an opportunity to pitch to the Audio-Visual Industry.
- In another highlight of India’s participation at this edition of Cannes Film Festival is the World Premier of the Movie “Rocketry” produced by R. Madhavan.

Source: PIB