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Important News: National

E-learning platform

Why in News:

- Dak Karmayogi, an e-learning portal of the Department of Posts, was launched by the Minister of Communications, Railways, Electronics, and IT Shri Ashwini Vaishnav and Minister of State for Communication Shri Devusinh Chouhan in a function organized at Stein Auditorium of India Habitat Centre.



key points:

- The e-learning portal has been developed 'in the Institute' under the vision of 'Mission Karmayogi' as envisioned by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to bring efficiency to the work of all Government of India employees and to achieve the objectives of 'Minimum Government' and 'Maximum Governance'. With the aim of bringing about a change in the working efficiency of the bureaucracy. ,
- During the program Meghdoot Awards in eight different categories were also presented to the employees by Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, and Minister of State for Communication Shri Devusinh Chouhan.
- Meghdoot Award was instituted in the year 1984, this award is the highest award of the Department of Posts at the national level for overall performance and excellence.
- The Meghdoot Award is conferred in eight categories, with the awardees being awarded medals, certificates and a cash prize of Rs 21,000.

Source: Indian Express

12th India Chem-2022

Why in News:

- The meeting to plan the upcoming 12th India Chem-2022 was chaired by the Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.



key points:

- The theme of the 12th India Chem-2022 event this year is "Vision 2030 - Chem and Petrochemicals Build India".
- The 12th India Chem-2022 is one of the biggest events in the chemical and petrochemical sector in the Asia-Pacific region to be organized by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals in association with FICCI from 6-8 October 2022.
- The India Chem exhibition aims to showcase the huge potential of the Indian chemical industry and various industry sectors (such as chemicals, petrochemicals, agrochemical industries, processes, and machinery).
- India is not only the sixth largest chemical producer in the world but also exports chemicals to more than 175 countries, which accounts for 13 percent of India's total exports.

Source: PIB

PLI Scheme for White Goods

Why in News:

- Under Phase II of the PLI Scheme for White Goods (AC & LED Lights), 15 companies have been selected with a committed investment of Rs 1,368 crore.



key points:

- After evaluating 19 applications received in the second phase, 15 companies with a committed investment of Rs 1,368 crore have been selected, including 6 companies for manufacturing AC components with a

committed investment of Rs 908 crore and a committed investment of Rs 460 crore. Includes 9 LED companies.

- The PLI scheme in White Goods has been designed to create a complete component ecosystem for the Air Conditioner and LED Light industry in India and to make India an integral part of the global supply chain.
- The Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI Scheme) for White Goods (Air Conditioners and LED Lights) was approved by the Union Cabinet on April 2021 to be implemented from FY 2021-22 to FY 2028-29 with an outlay of Rs 6,238 crore.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: State

Pensioners Awareness Program

Why in News:

- Pensioners Awareness Program organized in Puducherry by the Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare (DOP&PW).



key points:

- This is the first physical event to cover the southern region of the country after the pandemic, attended by over 300 pensioners from Chennai and Puducherry in collaboration with the Pensioners Associations of Chennai and Puducherry.
- It aims to sensitize the pensioners about the changes made under the Government's "Ease of Life" initiative and under these special sessions were organized on digital methods of submission of Annual Life Certificate along with Income Tax matters related to pensioners. Is.
- The objective of these programs is to spread awareness among Central Government pensioners about various rules and procedures of pension eligibility and procedures, as well as to make the pensioners aware of the changes taking place from time to time through various amendments in the policy and procedures.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Defense

17A (P17A) Ship

Why in News:



- The foundation stone for the construction of the seventh ship (Y-12654) of the Indian Navy's iconic P17A was formally laid by Rear Admiral GK Harish, Director General, Naval Design (Surface Ship Group) at M/s Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai.



key points:

- Such keel laying is a major activity in shipbuilding, marking the formal start of the warship building process at the building berth.
- Seven warships are being built under the P17A category, out of which four are being built at MDL and three at GRSE with MDL as the lead yard.
- The construction of the P17A ships differs from the concept of battleship building by adopting the modern technology 'Integrated Construction (IC)', where the blocks are prepared before being added to reduce the construction period of the warships.
- The main objective of ship 17A (P17A) is to enhance the firepower of the Indian Navy Fleet.
- The 17A (P17A) warships are being built indigenously in line with self-reliant India and India's 'Make in India' commitment, with 75 per cent of the order of equipment and systems at indigenous firms, including MSMEs, with indigenous material.

Source: Livemint

Mk III Squadron

Why in News:

- Indigenous Advanced Light Helicopter Mk III Squadron inducted into service of Indian Coast Guard at Porbandar, Gujarat.



key points:

- The Mk III Squadron has been set up as a step toward achieving self-reliance in the field of Search and Rescue (SAR) and Maritime Surveillance in line with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.
- The Mk III helicopter is indigenously manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- The Mk III squadron is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment like electro-optical sensors, Shakti engines, a full glass cockpit, a high-intensity searchlight, an advanced communication system, an automatic detection system as well as a SAR homer with advanced radar.
- Presently 13 ALH Mk-III aircraft have been inducted into the Indian Coast Guard in a phased manner, out of which four aircraft are stationed at Porbandar.
- Since inducting into service, ALH Mk-III aircraft have carried out several operational missions including night SAR for the first time off the coast of Diu.

Source: Indian Express

Operation Sankalp

Why in News:

- The stealth frigate of the Indian Navy, INS Talwar is currently deployed for Operation Sankalp to commemorate the third consecutive year of Indian Navy presence in the Gulf to safeguard India's maritime interests.



key points:

- In view of the deteriorating security situation in the Gulf region, following the attack on merchant ships in the Gulf of Oman in June 2019, the Indian Navy has launched Maritime Security Operations, code 'Op Sankalp' in the Gulf region.
- The main objective of Operation Sankalp is to ensure safe passage for Indian flag ships passing through the Strait of Hormuz.
- Operation Sankalp is being carried forward in close coordination with all stakeholders including the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Shipping, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, and the DG Shipping.

Source: PIB

Important News: Environment

Environmentally sensitive areas

Why in News:

- Farmers in Kerala are protesting against the Supreme Court order to set up eco-sensitive zones of 1 kilometer around all protected areas, wildlife sanctuaries, and national parks.



key points:

- As per the National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016), lands within 10 km of the boundaries of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries have been notified as eco-fragile zones or eco-sensitive zones (ESZs), under unusual circumstances. The range of 10 km can be increased or decreased.
- The environmentally sensitive area is designed to serve as a "shock absorber" as well as a transition zone for protected areas.
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas The main objective is to reduce the negative impact on the "fragile ecosystems" by some human activities happening nearby.
- Gadgil committee and Kasturirangan committee have been constituted by the central government to identify eco-sensitive areas.

Source: The Hindu