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Important News: National

Unveiling of National Emblem by Prime Minister

Why in News:

- The National Emblem Ashoka Pillar was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the roof of the new Parliament House, popularly known as Central Vista.



key points:

- The national insignia, made of 9,500 kg bronze, has a height of 6.50 meters.
- The National Emblem is installed at the top of the Central Hall of the new Parliament House.
- The state emblem of India is a replica of the Lion Pillar of Ashoka at Sarnath, which is preserved in the Sarnath Museum.
- The lion pillar of Ashoka has four lions at the top, with their backs facing each other, and below it is standing statues of an elephant in the valry, as well as a horse with a quartet, a bull, and a lion, which is in the shape of a bell. K is above the Padma, in the center of which is the Ashoka Chakra.
- The 'Dharmachakra' has been placed on top of this lion pillar carved out of a single stone.
- This symbol was declared as its national emblem by the Government of India on 26 January 1950.

Source: PIB

The new logo of Prasar Bharati unveiled

Why in News:

- The new logo of Prasar Bharati was unveiled by Information and Broadcasting Secretary Apoorva Chandra.



key points:

- The map of India in the new emblem of Prasar Bharati shows trust, service, security, and excellence for the nation.
- The dark medium blue color in the new insignia represents both the sky and the sea, which is associated with free space, freedom, intuition, imagination, inspiration, and sensitivity.
- Blue also represents depth, loyalty, honesty, wisdom, confidence, stability, trust, and intelligence.
- Prasar Bharati is an autonomous statutory body established on 23 November 1997 under the Prasar Bharati Act, it is the public service broadcaster of the country.
- Efforts are made to achieve the public service broadcasting objectives referred to in the Prasar Bharati Act through All India Radio and Doordarshan.

Source: Livemint

Amrit Sarovar Mission

Why in News:

- With a view to expediting the implementation of railway and highway projects in the country, the Union Government has directed the Ministry of Railways and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to use the soil or silt excavated from ponds and tanks under the Amrit Sarovar Mission in all districts granted permission.



key points:

- The Water Conservation Mission, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 24, aims to develop and improve 75 water bodies in each district of all states as part of the celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- Nationwide program to end on August 15, 2023, Amrit Sarovar Mission
- At least 50,000 reservoirs are likely to be constructed under this scheme.
- Since the project would involve the excavation of several thousands of tons of earth in the form of soil or silt, the Ministry of Rural Development has told the Ministry of Railways and the NHAI to map its infrastructure projects with the Amrit Sarovar sites in all States and UTs.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Agriculture

Special Fruit: Dragon Fruit

Why in News:

- Considering the health benefits of special fruit, dragon fruit, it has been decided by the government to promote the development of dragon fruit.



key points:

- Dragon fruit grows on the Hilo cereus cactus tree, also known as the Honolulu Queen.
- Dragon fruit is a native fruit of southern Mexico and Central America, but currently, it is grown all over the world due to its health benefits.
- The largest dragon fruit in India is cultivated in the state of Mizoram.
- Dragon fruit is considered useful for diabetic patients, low in calories and nutrients like iron, calcium, potassium, and zinc.
- The largest producer and exporter of dragon fruit in the world is Vietnam, the plant was brought to Vietnam by the French in the 19th century.
- In Vietnam, dragon fruit is locally called Than long.
- After Vietnam, the United States, Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan, China, Australia, Israel, and Sri Lanka are the producers and exporters of dragon fruit.

Source: Indian Express



Important News: Social Issue

Petition filed for termination of Talaq-e-Hasan

Why in News:

- A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking to invalidate Talaq-e-Hasan, the prescribed Islamic method of divorce, has been filed in the Supreme Court by Benazir Hina.



key points:

- According to Islamic rules, in instant triple talaq, a man pronounces talaq thrice at a time and a marriage ends immediately.
- Unlike instant triple talaq, talaq-e-Hasan is pronounced with an interval of at least one month or one menstrual cycle.
- Talaq-e-Hasan has been given legal validity in almost all Muslim countries, while in many Muslim countries like Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Kuwait, Iraq, Malaysia, etc., a ban has been imposed on instant triple talaq.
- A petition filed by Ghaziabad resident woman Benazir Hina has sought to make Talaq-e-Hasan unconstitutional, the prescribed Islamic method of divorce.
- In the petition filed by Benazir Hina, Talaq-e-Hasan has been called a law violative of Articles 14, 15, 21, and 25 of the Constitution.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: Sports

Wimbledon Tennis Competition, 2022

Why in News:

- Novak Djokovic of Serbia won the men's singles title at Wimbledon Tennis Competition, 2022.



key points:

- Novak Djokovic won the title by defeating Nick Kyrgios of Australia 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 in the final held in London.
- With this title, Djokovic became the fourth player after Roger Federer, Pete Sampras, and Björn Borg to win four consecutive Wimbledon titles.
- This is Djokovic's 21st Grand Slam title overall.
- The Wimbledon Championships, commonly known as Wimbledon or The Championship, is the oldest Grand Slam tennis tournament in the world.
- The Wimbledon Tennis Tournament has been held every year since 1877 at the All-England Club in Wimbledon, London, except for the period 1915–18 during World War I and 1940–45 during World War II.

Source: Indian Express

National Welfare and Pension Schemes issued by the Government

Why in News:

- Cash awards to sportspersons, a web portal for schemes of the National Welfare, Pension, and Sports Department, and revised schemes of the National Sports Development Fund website have been started by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.



key points:

- Under the revised scheme, at present any individual player can apply directly for all three schemes.
- Provision has been made in the revised scheme that applicants are now required to apply online for the cash prize scheme within six months from the last date of completion of the special event.



- Provisions like pension benefits for sportspersons participating in Deaflympics have also been included under this scheme.
- In order to implement the revised schemes and provide benefits, an online web portal has also been created by the Ministry in collaboration with the Sports Department for the convenience of the players applying for the above schemes.
- With the help of the introduced online portal, the facility of real-time tracking of players' applications and authentication through a one-time password sent to their registered mobile number will be facilitated.

Source: Indian Express

Important Personality

Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rai

Why in News:

- A two-day International Conference on "Contribution of Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rai as a Chemist and Freedom Fighter" was organized by the Ministry of Culture in association with the Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi, and Vigyan Bharati.



key points:

- The contribution of Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rai in the field of science was an important step toward nation-building.
- Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rai was also a scholar who supported educational reforms and took many important steps for political advancement as well as promoting employment through the industry.
- Many important chemical compounds were discovered by Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rai like mercurous nitrite etc.
- Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rai published more than 150 research papers in famous science journals like the Journal of the Chemical Society of London.
- Acharya Prafulla Chandra Rai has also made important contributions in the field of chemistry. He wrote several books on chemistry in which the life and experiences of a Bengali chemist is a popular book.

Source: Indian Express

