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Important News: International

8th India International MSME Start-up Expo and Summit 2022 launched by LG Sinha

Why in News:

- The 8th India International MSME Start-up Expo and Summit 2022 was officially launched by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha in New Delhi.



key points:

- 8th India International MSME Start-up Expo and Summit 2022 to enable SMEs, startups, businesses, industries, and service providers to discover new possibilities, connect with buyers and sellers, and exchange information about federal, state.
- About 45% of the total exports from India are exported by the MSME sector.
- Standardization, connectivity, and productivity are the three key elements for the long-term expansion of MSMEs.
- Vocal for local, district export hub, GeM portal, and market connectivity of domestic and global value chains primarily accelerate MSMEs.

- MSME exports grew by 54% in FY 2021-2022, while importer-exporter registrations grew by 173%.
- One of the fastest growing horticulture markets in the country is in Jammu and Kashmir.

Source: The Hindu

Important News: National

NITI Aayog declared Haridwar the best aspirational district in India

Why in News:

- Haridwar, the holy city of Uttarakhand, has been declared the best aspirational district on five parameters by NITI Aayog.



key points:

- Haridwar district has been ranked first in terms of infrastructure and with this, an additional allocation of Rs 3 crore has been provided by NITI Aayog for the development of Haridwar.
- The Aspirational District Program launched by NITI Aayog evaluates the performance of districts on the basis of five key parameters, which include-
 1. Health and Nutrition (30%)

2. Education (30%)
3. Agriculture and Water Resources (20%)
4. Financial Inclusion and Skill Development (10%)
5. Infrastructure (10%)

- The ambitious district program of NITI Aayog was launched in the year 2018.
- The ambitious district program aims to identify potential districts that can be developed into model blocks through socio-economic development.
- Under the ambitious district program, the central government takes necessary steps to improve the socio-economic condition of the identified districts and ensure inclusive and holistic development.
- A total of 117 districts were initially selected to be part of the Aspirational Districts Program (ADP) for the ambitious district program, whose development and performance are assessed by NITI Aayog through reports sent by district administrators every month.

Source: Indian Express

Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar campaign

Why in News:

- As part of the Swachh Sagar, Safe Sagar program, the Ministry of Earth Sciences has launched a coastal cleanup drive to clean 75 beaches nationwide in 75 days.



Key Points:

- The world's first and longest-running coastal clean-up initiative, Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar Abhiyan has attracted the most participants.
- In order to increase awareness of how the usage of plastic is killing marine life, the Swachh Sagar, Safe Sagar Abhiyan seeks to drastically alter people's behavior.
- The government has introduced a mobile application called "Eco Mitram" to raise awareness of the Clean Sagar, Safe Sagar program and to sign up the general public to voluntarily participate in beach cleanup activity.
- The initiative will come to a close on September 17, 2022, also known as "International Coastal Cleanup Day."
- International Coastal Cleanup Day is commemorated annually on the third Saturday in September all over the world.
- The goal of International Coastal Cleanup Day is to increase public awareness of the effects of litter accumulation on the oceans and beaches.

Source: PIB

Ministry of Education hosted Smart India Hackathon-2022

Why in News:

- The Ministry of Education is hosting the Smart India Hackathon-2022.



Key Points:

- The Smart India Hackathon (SIH) Hardware and the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) Software are the two versions of the Smart India Hackathon that are being held this year.
- The grand finals of the Smart India Hackathon for Hardware and Software were set for August 25-29 and August 25-26, respectively, this year.
- The inaugural Smart India Hackathon (SIH) took place in 2017.
- The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) Innovation Section hosts the annual Smart India Hackathon with the goal of assisting students in resolving issues brought about by businesses, non-governmental organizations, and governmental entities.
- The MoE has also launched the Smart India Hackathon-Jr. in an effort to encourage youth to adopt an innovative mindset and culture.

- The goal of the Smart India Hackathon is to give students in the nation a forum to address the most significant problems that we encounter every day. The first four competitions—Smart India Hackathon in 2017, Smart India Hackathon in 2018, Smart India Hackathon in 2019, and Smart India Hackathon in 2020—were very effective in energizing India's young people, particularly engineering students.

Source: Economic Times

PM Narendra Modi dedicates India's first earthquake memorial

Why in News:

- India's first earthquake memorial, Smriti Van has been dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bhuj, Gujarat.



key points:

- Smriti Van is a unique monument in which a huge memorial has also been constructed with the names of more than 12 thousand people who lost their lives in the devastating earthquake here in January 2001.

- The earthquake simulator at Smriti Van will provide the visitors with a real experience like the experience of an earthquake tremor.
- Smriti Van is a monument spread over 470 acres on Bhujio Hill near Bhuj city.
- Smriti Van Museum displays the topography, reconstruction initiatives, and success stories of Gujarat after the 2001 earthquake and informs about different types of disasters and future preparedness for any type of disaster.
- A block has also been constructed in Smriti One to recreate the experience of earthquakes with the help of a 5D simulator.
- One of the major attractions of this project is the special theater where visitors can experience earthquakes through vibration and sound effects.

Source: Times of India

Important News: Sports

Sports Ministry to host "Meet the Champion Project" on National Sports Day

Why in News:

- On National Sports Day, the "Meet the Champion Project" will be hosted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in 26 schools in the country.



Key points:

- Commonwealth Games and World Championship gold medalist Nikhat Zareen, Paralympics medalist Bhavna Patel and Tokyo Olympics medalist Manpreet Singh are some of the renowned athletes participating in the Meet the Champion project.
- The innovative school visit program "Meet the Champion Project" was launched in December 2021 by Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra.
- Champion Athlete aims to give school children an overall inspirational boost on the go by sharing their experiences, life lessons, and dietary advice.
- Sports Authority of India will also organize National Sports Day this year under the theme "Sports as an enabler for an inclusive and fit society" as part of the Fit India program.
- The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Thakur, and the Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Nisith Pramanik.

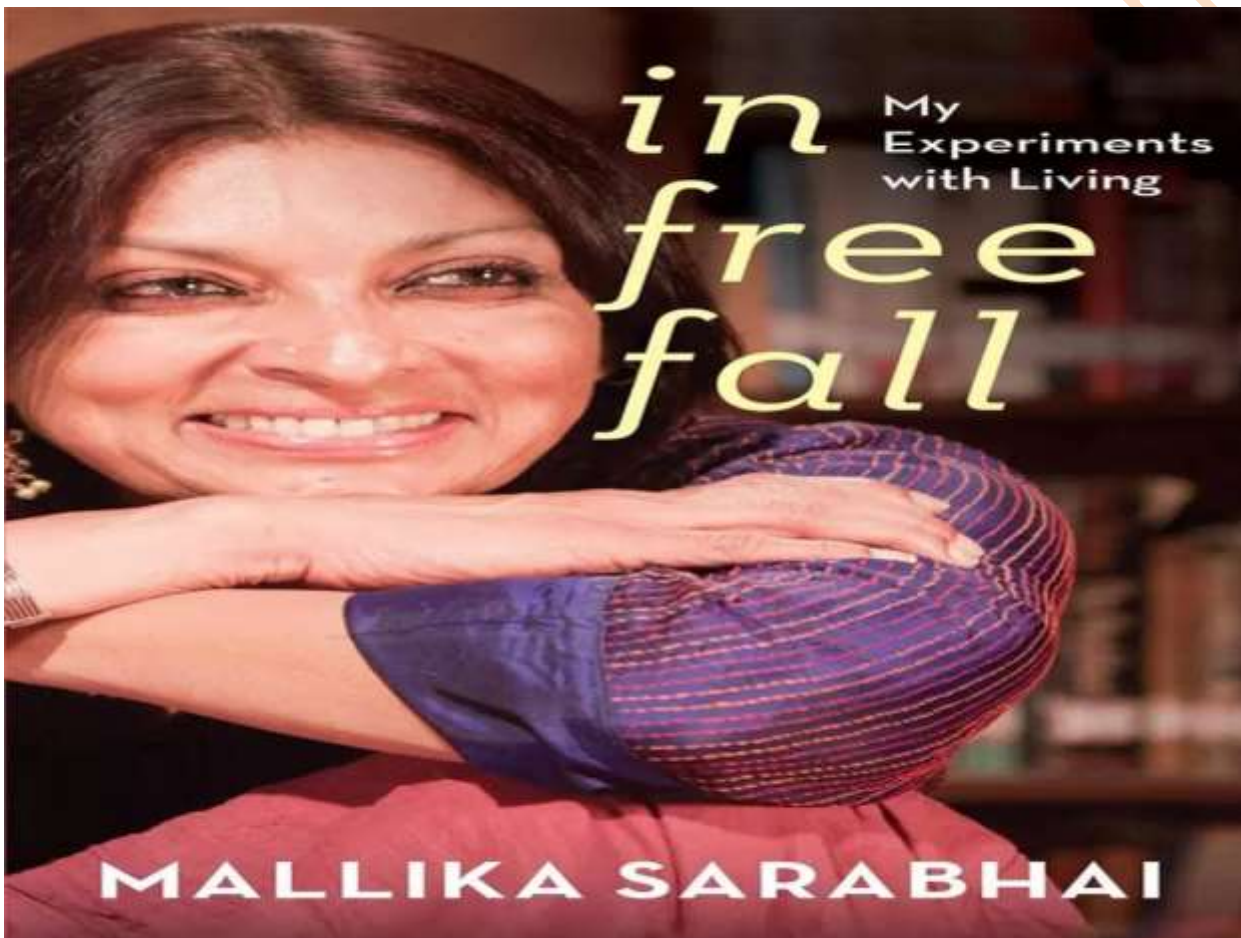
Source: Indian Express

Important Books

Acclaimed dancer Mallika Sarabhai turns author, releases her memoir 'Free Fall'

Why in News:

- "Free Fall: My Experiments with Living," a forthcoming self-help memoir by renowned classical dancer and activist Mallika Sarabhai, is now available.



Key Points:

- Speaking Tiger is going to release Mallika Sarabhai's book Free Fall.
- Free Fall is a book about "creating a lifestyle that works for you" and "becoming in tune with yourself, your body."

- You can find the lifestyle that suits you by reading Free Fall, which teaches you how to become in sync with your body and self.
- Mallika is a skilled Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam dancer. She is the daughter of the renowned Indian classical dancer Mrinalini Sarabhai and the illustrious space scientist Vikram Sarabhai.
- Mallika Sarabhai has become skilled in utilizing art to transform society.
- In Peter Brook's play Mahabharata, on which the movie was based, Mallika Sarabhai portrayed Draupadi.
- Darpana Academy of Arts is also directed by Mallika Sarabhai (Ahmedabad).

Source: Livemint