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Important News: National

NITI Aayog: Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Gujarat top states in implementing the Poshan Abhiyan scheme

Why in News:

- Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Gujarat have been ranked as the top three states among large states in terms of the overall implementation of the Centre's flagship POSHAN Abhiyaan, according to a NITI Aayog report.



key points:

- According to the report published by NITI Aayog, Sikkim has performed best among smaller states.
- According to the report titled Poshan Abhiyaan in the Time of Pandemic, 12 out of 19 large states have implementation scores above 70 percent.
- According to the report released by NITI Aayog, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu have topped the Union Territories (UTs).
- As per the report, Punjab and Bihar are the least-performing states among the large states in terms of the overall implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan.
- According to the report, in 17 states and union territories, more than 75 percent of children aged 12-23 months were fully immunized, while in 11 states and union territories less than 25 percent were fully immunized.
- According to the report, 16 states and UTs had more than 75 per cent of children (0-59 months) diarrhoea cases treated with ORS, while there were 5 states and UTs that treated less than 25 per cent of child diarrhoea cases with ORS.
- As per the report released by NITI Aayog, the total fund utilization under POSHAN Abhiyaan has been reduced, with less than 50 percent fund utilization in 23 states and union territories.
- The report suggested that it is necessary to conduct a Convergence Action Plan (CAP) with the help of which convergence is result-oriented and interventions in all sectors reach the target beneficiaries.

Source: Navbharat Times

3 Indian cities in the UNESCO Network of Learning Cities

Why in News:

- Three cities in India have been included in the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities, which includes two cities Thrissur and Nilambur in Kerala and the Warangal district of Telangana.



key points:

- Nilambur is a famous eco-tourism destination in Kerala, and the majority of its population is dependent on agriculture and allied industries.
- Thrissur is an important center of educational and research institutions and is considered the cultural capital of Kerala, Thrissur in particular is also known as the gold arts and jewelry industry.
- Warangal is a city with the rich cultural heritage of Telangana and is also a major tourist destination of the state.
- With the inclusion of Warangal, 2 districts of Telangana have been included in this list, earlier Ramappa temple of Mulugu district was included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Ukraine's capital Kyiv, South African city Durban, and UAE city Sharjah have also been included in this list of UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities this year.
- In the year 2022, 77 cities from 44 countries of the world including India have been included in this list.
- Launched in the year 2013, the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC) is an international policy-based network.
- So far, 294 cities from 76 countries have been included in the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities list.

Source: The Hindu

Sammelan Manthan in Bengaluru

Why in News:

- 'Manthan' will be inaugurated in Bengaluru by the Union Minister for Roads, Transport, and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari.



key points:

- Manthan, organized by the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, is a three-day Invitational Conference cum Public Expo.
- The purpose of the Manthan is to discuss several issues and opportunities in the Roads, Transport, and Logistics sector and engage with the State.
- The theme of Manthan is 'Ideas to Action: Towards a Smart, Sustainable, Road Infra, Mobility and Logistics Ecosystem'.
- The event will be attended by several Ministers of State, PWD, Departments of the Ministries of Transport and Industry, and senior government officials from these Ministries.
- The event will be discussed in three areas which include-
- First on the roads, covering road development, new materials, technology, and road safety.
- In the second phase, the transport sector, which includes EV and vehicle safety.
- In the third phase, alternative and futuristic mobility, including ropeways, multimodal logistics parks, ranges, and digital interventions.
- The 41st meeting of the Transport Development Council will also be organized during this program.
- The next-gen mobile app m Transport will also be launched during the Manthan event.

Source: Economic Times

Important News: State

Digital India Mission

Why in News:

- Uttar Pradesh, with 9.12 million cases, is at the top in the number of disposal and submission of cases through the e-prosecution portal managed by the central government under the Digital India Mission.



key points:

- As of the end of August, Madhya Pradesh is second with 2.31 million, followed by Bihar and Gujarat.
- The e-prosecution portal launched by the states two years ago is an initiative of the Ministries of Home Affairs, IT, and Law to help the courts and the prosecution system to expedite criminal prosecution in heinous crimes.
- The portal provides e-communication between the Police Department and the Directorate of Prosecution under the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) which enables the transfer of data between courts, police, prisons, and forensic science laboratories.
- According to the latest data, the state of Uttar Pradesh also tops in cases related to crime against women and cybercrime as well as in cases related to Indian Penal Code (IPC) incidents involving conviction and seizure of illegal firearms.
- The Uttar Pradesh government aims to achieve the punishment of 1,000 convicts and crimes against women under the POCSO Act in 100 days.
- The e-prosecution mobile app is also being developed by the government which will involve digitization of all judicial processes of prosecutors in courts.
- The objective of the e-prosecution portal is to monitor the progress of the officers in all the districts to maintain continuous progress in the prosecution of important cases and thus instill a sense of confidence among the people.

Source: Indian Express

'Jail Ka Khana' in Farrukhabad, UP gets a 5-star FSSAI rating

Why in News:

- Fatehgarh Central Jail in Uttar Pradesh's Farrukhabad district has been accorded a five-star rating by the Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for the quality of food served to inmates.



key points:

- The jail has been awarded a five-star 'Eat Right Certificate' by a third-party audit empaneled by FSSAI.
- It is a recognition of the quality and hygiene of the food, which means that quality food items are being provided to the prisoners in the jail.
- As per FSSAI's "Eat Right" accreditation, 1,100 inmates in Farrukhabad Jail are provided clean and healthy food.
- The jail administration has modernized it by installing large roti-making machines, dough kneading machines, and machine-cutters for vegetables, earlier the help of prisoners was taken in preparing roti, vegetables, and pulses.
- Earlier it was time-consuming as it was a manual process and about 50 prisoners were employed to prepare the food for each shift.

Source: Times of India

Mohla-Manpur-Ambag Chowki became the 29th district of Chhattisgarh

Why in News:

- Bhupesh Baghel, the chief minister of Chhattisgarh, officially declared the newly created district Mohala-Manpur-Ambagarh the 29th district in the state.



Key Points:

- On this occasion, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel also introduced the district map.

- Rajnandgaon district has been divided into a new administrative entity called Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh outpost.
- The newly created district of Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh has been included to the Durg division.
- S Jayavardhan, an IAS officer from the 2014 batch, has been appointed as the district's first collector, and Yeduvalli Akshay Kumar will serve as the district's first SP.
- The newly created district now includes Ambagarh Chowki, Mohala, and Manpur as well as three tehsils, three development blocks, and three Janpad Panchayats.
- The new district has a physical area of 2 lakh 14 thousand 667 hectares and a total population of 2 lakh 83 thousand 947, with 1 lakh 79 thousand 662 scheduled tribe members, or 63.27 percent of the district's total population.
- The district has 13, 89 Patwari Halka, and 185 Gram Panchayats. There are also 13 Revenue Inspector Circles.
- There are 9 total police stations in the district, 2 assembly districts, and 497 total voting places.
- There are 499 villages in the district of Mohala-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki as a whole.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Health

India's first intranasal COVID vaccine by Bharat Biotech gets DCGI approval

Why in News:

- India's first intranasal COVID vaccine by Bharat Biotech has been approved by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) for primary immunization against injection for people above 18 years of age.



key point:

- Intranasal COVID Vaccine is India's first indigenous vaccine for COVID-19.
- The vaccine has been termed as a big boost for India's fight against COVID-19 by Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya.
- Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL), is a global company in vaccine innovation and developer of vaccines for infectious diseases.
- BBIL announced that the development of the Intranasal COVID Vaccine (BBV154) has been approved for restricted use in emergencies.
- iNCOVACC is a recombinant replication-deficient adenovirus vectored vaccine with a pre-fusion stabilized spike protein.
- This vaccine was evaluated in Phase I, II, and III clinical trials with successful results.

- The vaccine is designed to allow intranasal delivery via nasal drops.
- The intranasal vaccine is designed to be cost-effective in low- and middle-income countries.

Source: Times of India

Important Days

International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies: 7 September

Why in News:

- The International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies is observed globally on 7 September every year with the aim of promoting and facilitating actions to improve air quality.



key points:

- The International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies focuses on the trans-border nature of air pollution, highlighting the need for collective accountability and collective action.
- It is a day recognized by the United Nations that aims to raise public awareness at all levels of why clean air is important to health, productivity, the economy, and the environment.
- This year's theme "The Air We Share" focuses on the trans-border nature of air pollution, emphasizing the need for collective accountability and action.
- During its 74th session, a resolution was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly to organize an International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies on December 19, 2019.
- UNEP was established on 5 June 1972 and is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya.
- The founder of UNEP is Maurice Strong, and the current UNEP chief is Inger Andersen.

Source: Dainik Bhaskar