

Daily Current Affairs 26.09.2022

Important News: International

Palm oil Alliance formed by 5 South Asian Countries

Why in News:

- The key edible oil industry groups from Asia's top five palm oil importers—India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal—join forces to form the Asian Palm Oil Alliance (APOA).



Key Points:

- Alongside the Globoil Oil Summit in Agra, the Asian Palm Oil Alliance had its first general body meeting.
- One of the top conferences, fairs, and awards for the Globoil edible oil and agri commerce is the Globoil Summit.
- The Asian Palm Oil Alliance works to increase palm oil consumption in its member nations while defending the commercial and economic interests of palm oil-consuming nations.
- The Asian Palm Oil Alliance will further broaden its membership to include businesses or trade associations working across the continent to produce or refine palm oil.
- The vegetable oil that is currently used worldwide most frequently is palm oil.
- Numerous products, including detergents, plastics, cosmetics, and biofuels, are made with palm oil.
- Together, Indonesia and Malaysia produce nearly 90% of the world's palm oil, with Indonesia producing the most—more than 45 million tons in 2021.
- The top three consumers of the good are the European Union, China, and India (EU).
- Asia consumes around 40% of the world's palm oil, whereas just 12% of the palm oil trade takes place in Europe.
- The two countries that export the most palm oil worldwide are Indonesia and Malaysia.
- With 15% of the world's imports, India is Asia's top importer of palm oil, followed by China (9%), Pakistan (4%) and Bangladesh (2%).

Source: The Hindu

Important News: National

India achieves significant landmarks in reduction of Child Mortality

Why in News:



- In a significant milestone, India has achieved landmark achievement in further reduction of child mortality rates. As per the Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report 2020 released on 22nd September 2022 by Registrar General of India (RGI), the country has been witnessing a progressive reduction in IMR, U5MR and NMR since 2014 towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets by 2030.

Following a steady downward trend, IMR, U5MR, and NMR have further declined:

- **Under 5 Mortality Rate (U5MR)** for the country has shown significant decline of 3 points (Annual Decline Rate: 8.6%) from 2019 (32 per 1000 live births in 2020 against 35 per 1000 live births in 2019). It varies from 36 in rural areas to 21 in urban areas.
 - U5MR for Female is higher (33) than male (31). There has been a decline of 4 points in male U5MR and 3 points in female U5MR during the corresponding period.
 - Highest decline of U5MR is observed in the State of Uttar Pradesh (5 points) and Karnataka (5 points)
- **Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)** has also registered 2-point decline to 28 per 1000 live births in 2020 from 30 per 1000 live births in 2019 (Annual Decline Rate: **6.7%**).
 - The Rural-Urban difference has narrowed to 12 points (Urban 19, Rural-31).
 - No gender differential has observed in 2020 (Male -28, Female - 28).
- **Neonatal Mortality Rate** has also declined by 2 points from 22 per 1000 live births in 2019 to 20 per 1000 live births in 2020 (Annual Decline Rate: **9.1%**). It ranges from 12 in urban areas to 23 in rural areas.

As per SRS 2020 Report:

- **Six (6) States/ UT have already attained SDG target of NMR (<=12 by 2030):** Kerala (4), Delhi (9), Tamil Nadu (9), Maharashtra (11), Jammu & Kashmir (12) and Punjab (12).
- **Eleven (11) States/UT have already attained SDGs target of U5MR (<=25 by 2030):** Kerala (8), Tamil Nadu (13), Delhi (14), Maharashtra (18), J&K (17), Karnataka (21), Punjab (22), West Bengal (22), Telangana (23), Gujarat (24), and Himachal Pradesh (24).

Source: PIB

Nirmala Sitharaman to launch e-learning platform Bharat Vidya

Why in News:

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will introduce Bharat Vidya, an online learning portal for Asian and Middle Eastern topics.



Key Points:

- Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute created and created Bharat Vidya (BORI).

- Bharat Vidya is a groundbreaking online learning environment that provides both free and paid courses on a variety of topics related to Indian art, architecture, philosophy, language, and science.
- The first six courses offered by Bharat Vidya will cover Veda Vidya, Indian Philosophy, Sanskrit Education, the 18 Parva of the Mahabharata, Basics of Archeology, and Kalidas and Bhasha.
- In order to grant credit for its courses, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute will work with Indian and foreign universities.
- The Bharat Vidya courses are in compliance with NEP 2020, the New Education Policy.

Source: Indian Express

Important News: Economy

UCO Bank becomes first lender to get RBI's approval for rupee trade

Why in News:

- UCO Bank has been granted permission by Reserve Bank of India to open an exclusive Vostro account with Gazprom Bank of Russia for trading settlement in Indian Rupees.



key points:

- UCO Bank, a Kolkata-based lender, is the first bank to get regulatory approval following the RBI's decision to allow Indian banks to trade in Indian currency in July.
- UCO Bank formerly known as United Commercial Bank was established in the year 1943 in Kolkata.
- UCO Bank is one of the nationalized banks in India, and the ownership of UCO Bank is under the Ministry of Finance of the Government.
- Gazprom Bank is a Russian lender bank, which was established by Gazprom, the world's largest gas producer and exporter, to provide banking services for gas industry enterprises.
- Gazprom Bank is one of the top three banks in Russia.
- Currently Gazprom Bank provides a full range of banking and investment services to over 45,000 corporate and three million private customers.

Source: Business Standard

REC Limited becomes 12th company to get 'Maharatna' company status

Why in News:



- concentrate on the power sector The designation of "Maharatna" Central Public Sector Enterprise has been bestowed upon Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC) REC Limited.



Key Points:

- The 12th business to receive Maharatna status is REC Limited.
- The Board of Maharatna CPSEs is permitted to make equity investments up to 15% of the net value of the CPSE in question in order to launch financial joint ventures, fully owned subsidiaries, and mergers and acquisitions in India and abroad.
- Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and Saubhagya, two of the Government of India's major programmes, have benefited greatly from REC, which has helped the nation electrify its villages and homes.
- REC now acts as the focal point for the Revamped Distribution Area Scheme (RDSS), which aims to improve the distribution industry's operational and financial problems.
- REC, which was founded in 1969, focuses on funding and expanding India's electricity sector.
- State Electricity Boards, State Governments, Central/State Electricity Utilities, Independent Power Producers, Rural Electricity Cooperative Societies, and Private Sector Utilities are all given financial support by REC.

Source: Economic Times

Important Awards

Indian writer and poet Meena Kandasamy wins German PEN Prize

Why in News:

- Indian writer and poet Meena Kandasamy has been announced as the recipient of this year's Hermann Kesten Prize by the PEN Center in Darmstadt, Germany.



key points:



- The Herman Keston Prize honors individuals who stand up for the rights of oppressed writers and journalists, in the spirit of the Charter of the PEN Association.
- Germany's PEN Center will present this award to an Indian writer at a ceremony in Darmstadt on 15 November this year.
- The winner will also be awarded €20,000 (\$19,996) as prize money.
- This year, the PEN Center also presented the website "Weiter Schreiben" (German for "keep writing") with a special award aimed at encouraging writers in exile and giving writers from conflict zones a platform to express their views. is honoring.
- Meena Kandasamy was born in the year 1984 in Chennai, Kandasamy is a feminist and anti-caste activist.
- Meena Kandasamy has also been honored with the Women's Award for Fiction, the International Dylan Thomas Prize, the Jhalak Prize and the Hindu Lit Prize for her novels.

Source: Livemint

Important Days

National Cinema Day 2022

Why in News:

- 23 September is celebrated as National Cinema Day by the Multiplex Association of India.



key points:

- The Multiplex Association of India (MAI) has declared National Cinema Day as a 'thank you' to cinema audiences who have helped cinemas successfully reopen post the pandemic.
- To celebrate this day, MIA has provided movie tickets to the viewers for just Rs.75.
- It is offered by MIA across 4000 screens, including theaters like PVR, INOX, Cinapolis, Carnival, Miraj, City pride, Asia, Mukta A2, Movie Time, Wave, M2K and Delight.
- The date for celebrating National Cinema Day was earlier fixed on September 16, 2022 but was later extended to September 23 by MIA.
- National cinema is a term sometimes used in film theory and film criticism to describe films associated with a specific nation-state.
- The Multiplex Association of India (MAI) is a nationwide group of cinema operators that informs, educates and advocates on behalf of the cinema exhibition sector.

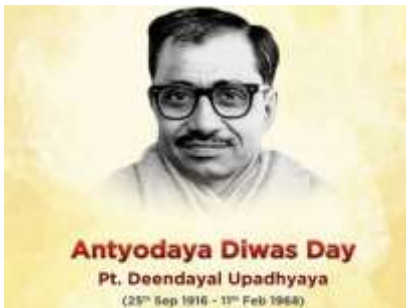
Source: Times of India

Antyodaya Diwas 2022



Why in News:

- Every year 25 September is celebrated as Antyodaya Diwas in India.



key points:

- Antyodaya Diwas marks the birth anniversary of Indian leader Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay and is celebrated annually in his honor to remember his life and legacy.
- Antyodaya means upliftment of the poorest of the poor.
- The aim of Antyodaya Diwas is to reach out to the most vulnerable section of the society.
- Antyodaya Diwas inspires the government and the people to help bring prosperity and success to the communities that are today considered the most vulnerable sections of the society.
- The objective of Antyodaya Diwas is to provide inclusive development to the country so that no member of the society is left behind.
- Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was born on 25 September 1916 in Chandrabhan village near Fareh town in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.
- In the 1940s, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay also met founder KB Hedgewar and attended a 40-day camp in Sangh Shiksha and the second year of training in the RSS education wing.
- The Bharatiya Jana Sangh Party was co-founded by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay in 1951, the predecessor of the Bharatiya Janata Party.
- Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay passed away at the age of 51.

Source: Indian Express