

### 1. BHARAT campaign

#### Why in News:

- Under the BHARAT (Banks Heralding Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation) Campaign, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has launched a new campaign for banks under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.

#### Key Points:

- The campaign involves Rs 7200 crore and it is a month long initiative to get support from members of commercial banks in the public, private sector and other small banks in promoting the Scheme of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund.
- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. Was launched by Indian government in 2020 to provide a medium-long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management infrastructure.
- The scheme will run for a period of 10 years from FY2020 –FY2030.
- The loans provided under it will have an interest subvention of 3 per cent per annum up to a limit of Rs 2 crores.
- Under Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme, eligible borrowers can avail credit guarantee for a loan up to Rs. 2 crores.



Source: Indian Express

## 2. Bard Chatbot

### Why in News:

- The parent company of Google, the Alphabet will roll out Bard Chatbot in Europe and Brazil.

### Key Points:

- The BARD chatbot is an Artificial Intelligent tool which responds to questions in a human-like way.
- The user can communicate with the chatbots in 40 different languages, including nine Indian languages. The users can also change the tone and style of Bard's responses according to their needs and requirements.
- The Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that creates a wide range of data like images, videos, audio, text and 3D models.
- The GENAI learns from existing datasets and uses this knowledge to generate new and unique outputs. Thus producing highly realistic and complex content in very simple manner.



Source: Business Standard

## 3. Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY)

### Why in News:

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) to empower senior citizens in India and ensure their social inclusion.



## Key Points:

- It is a central sector scheme which was earlier known as the National Action Plan for Senior Citizens.
- The scheme aims to cater to the financial and social needs of elderly people in India to create an inclusive society.
- There are two components of the scheme -
  - Integrated Program for Senior Citizens – to provide for basic amenities and entertainment opportunities.
  - State Action Plan for Senior Citizens – where each state formulates its own action plan for the welfare of senior citizens
- The scheme has 5 schemes subsumed under it –
  - Poshan Abhiyan for the elderly
  - Awareness generation and capacity building for the welfare of senior citizens
  - Scheme on promoting the silver economy
  - Livelihood and skilling initiatives for senior citizens
  - Channelizing CSR funds for elderly care
- Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY), which provides assisted living devices to senior citizens suffering from age-related disabilities is also included under this scheme.



Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana 2023

Source: Times of India

### Important News: Book

#### 4. 'Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow'

#### Why in News:

- Vinod Mankara, the author of the new book 'Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow' has released his book from the Launchpad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.



## Key Points:

- The book is a collection of science articles, including space science, astronomy, biology, anthropology and mathematics. It covers various topics such as the James Webb space telescope, dark sky tourism, black hole confirmation, the dog Laika's first space journey and so on.
- 'Prism' is an exploration into the aesthetic and poetic aspects of science and it would help common people develop a close bond with science and feel its beauty.
- Mankara is the maker of 'Yanam', a science-Sanskrit documentary on India's historic Mars Orbiter Mission 'Mangalyaan'.
- He has won national and state awards multiple times, have six films and 685 documentaries to his credit.
- Somanath himself has penned the foreword for the 167-page book in which he said it was full of the "marvels of science".



Source: Livemint

## Important News: States

### 5. Kui language

#### Why in News:

- The government of Odisha has approved the recommendation to include Kui Language in the VIII Schedule of the Indian constitution.

#### Key Points:

- Kui language is a vernacular tribal language of Odisha.
- It is known by several other names also like Kandh, Khondi, Kanda, Kodu, Kuinga.



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- The language is written in Odia Script.
- The inclusion of the Kui language in the 8th schedule will help in the preservation, promotion and propagation of this language and associated culture.
- As per cabinet committee, more than 7 lakh people of Kandh tribe of Odisha will be benefitted from this decision.



Source: The Hindu

## Important News: States

### 6. Dudhwa Tiger Reserve

#### Why in News:

- The death of four tigers in the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve has raised concerns regarding safety of the tigers.

#### Key Points:

- The Dudhwa Tiger Reserve is the protected area in Uttar Pradesh located on the India-Nepal border.
- The protected area mainly spread across the Lakhimpur Kheri and Bahraich districts.
- It is the only place in Uttar Pradesh where one can spot both the Tigers and Rhinos together.
- It is one of the finest examples of exceedingly diverse and productive Terai ecosystems.



Source: Economic Times

## Important News: Economy

### 7. Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB)

#### Why in News:

- An international conference on the theme “A global view on the challenges of regional elections 2023” is also being organised by National Civil Registry, Colombia on July 13, 2023.

#### Key Points:

- The Association of World Election Bodies is the largest association of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) worldwide with 119 EMBs as Members & 20 Regional Associations/Organisations as Associate Members.
- The A-WEB was founded in October, 2013 in Seoul, Republic of Korea on the shared vision among its members of achieving sustainable democracy around the world through the strengthening of the processes of election management in member countries.
- India has been closely associated with A-WEB since its inception and has actively participated in capacity-building programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives.
- The India A-WEB Centre has been established in New Delhi to document and research best practices and provide training and capacity building for A-WEB members.
- The A-WEB organizes capacity building programmes for its member EMBs and undertakes Election Visitor and Observation Programmes in various countries to study election management practices and share knowledge with other member EMBs.



Source: Indian Express



## Important News: Days

### 8. World Youth Skills Day 2023

#### Why in News:

- The World Youth Skills Day, observed annually on July 15th since 2014 as declared by the United Nations.

#### Key Points:

- The theme of this year's World Youth Skills Day is - Skilling teachers, trainers and youth for a transformative future.
- This year, World Youth Skills Day aims to highlight the important role that teachers and educators play in shaping the youth.
- The United Nations declared World Youth Skills Day on July 15 in 2014. Since then, the special day is celebrated every year on the same day.
- The day was declared to create awareness for the youths about the importance of having the required skill sets for the job at hand.



Source: Economic Times



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## EXAM PREP

