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GURRENT AFFAIRS

18 JULY, 2023

NATIONAL

1. Global IIT

Why in news – IIT Delhi signed an MoU for the establishment of the IIT Delhi campus in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Key Points -

- It is an addition to the 'IITs go Global' campaign.
- This would be the 2ndinternational IIT campus after IIT Madras Zanzibar.

2. Oommen Chandy

Why in news – Former Kerala chief minister Oommen Chandy passed away.

Key Points -

- He served as the state's chief minister from 2011 to 2016, and from 2004 to 2006.
- He was the longest-serving legislator in the Kerala Assembly.
- He had represented the Puthuppally Assembly constituency from 1970. (2021 - 12th consecutive win).

3. Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA)

Why in news - IGIA became the first airport in the country to launch a 4thrunway as well as an elevated taxiway.

Key Points –

- IGIA is India's busiest and the world's 7thbusiest airport.
- The new runway is capable of handling widebody jets such as Airbus 380, Boeing 777 and Boeing 747-8.

4. Kaas Plateau

Why in news - Sediments from a seasonal lakein the Kaas Plateau have indicated a major shift in the Indian Summer Monsoons.

Key Points –

- Sediment profile indicated a relatively reduced rainfall and weak southwest monsoon during the late Holocene (around 2827 years Before Present).
- Study conducted by Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune and National Centre for Earth Sciences, Thiruvananthapuram.

About Kaas Plateau -

- Location Western Ghats. about 140 km from Pune.
- Included in the UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site in 2012.
- Designated as a biodiversity hotspot.
- Often called Maharashtra's 'valley of flowers'.
- Name is derived from the Kaasa tree(rudraksha family).



INTERNATIONAL

1. Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF)

Why in news - World Health Organization (WHO) has sounded alert about CCHF.

Key Points –

 Rising temperatures have raised fears of a spread of viruses generally not found in colder climates.

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- Cases have so far been reported in Spain, Russia and Turkey, and the UK.
- In India, one person succumbed to CCHF in June in Gujarat.

About CCHF -

- Viral haemorrhagic fever.
- Spread through ticks, viraemic animal tissues (animal blood).
- Endemic to Africa, the Balkan countries, Middle East, and parts of Asia.
- High case fatality ratio 10–40%.
- First detection (1944) Crimean Peninsula (near the Black Sea). Later (1969) Congo Basin.
- No vaccine for the virus in either humans or animals.

2. Emergency in Nigeria

Why in news - Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu has declared a state of emergency.

Key Points -

- Aim to tackle rising food prices and shortages.
- 25 million Nigerians were at high risk of food insecurity in 2023.
- Nigeria is Africa's most-populous country.

3. Typhoon Talim

Why in news - Typhoon Talim hit Hong Kong.

Key Points –

- Typhoon Talimmeans "sharp" or "cutting edge" in Filipino.
- Tropical cyclone in the western Pacific Ocean is known as Typhoons.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

1. BHARAT

Why in news - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare launched a new campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund titled BHARAT.

Key Points –

- BHARAT Banks Heralding Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation.
- Campaign duration 1 month(from July 15, 2023 to August15, 2023).
- It aims to raise Rs 7200 crore.

 Purpose - to unlock the immense potential of the agricultural sector and empower farmers with modern infrastructure and facilities.

ECONOMY

1. Trade in local currency

Why in news - India and the UAE agreed to start trade settlement in their currencies.

Key Points –

- Both also agreed to link their fast payment systems to make international financial interactions simpler.
 - a) India Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
 - b) UAE Instant Payment Platform (IPP).
- Both aimed to achieve the target of USD 100 billion in trade. (Currently - USD 85 billion).
- Currency of the UAE Emirati Dirham (AED).

Value Addition -

- Structured Financial Messaging System (SFMS)
 - a) It is a secure messaging standard developed to serve as a platform for intra-bank and inter-bank applications.
 - b) It is an Indian standard similar to SWIFT.
 - c) Hq Hyderabad.
- India-UAE trade witnessed a 20% increase since the signing of CEPA.
- India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) entered into force onMay 1, 2022.
- UNFCCC COP28 (November 30 December 12, 2023) Dubai, UAE.

SECURITY

1. 15thNomadic Elephant – 2023

Why in news - India-Mongolia joint military exercise "Nomadic Elephant – 2023" to commence at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Key Points –

- Last edition (2019) Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- From India Indian Army soldiers from the Jammu and Kashmir light infantry Regiment.

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2. "Northern/Interaction-2023" exercise

Why in news - China and Russia to hold a joint military drill in strategic waters in the Sea of Japan, or East Sea



Key Points -

 It is seen as a response to Washington's attempts to work more closely with Tokyo and Seoul to prepare for possible Taiwan conflict.



- Strategic maritime corridors (as per China)
 - a) Tsushimastrait
 - b) Soya strait
 - c) Tsugaru strait

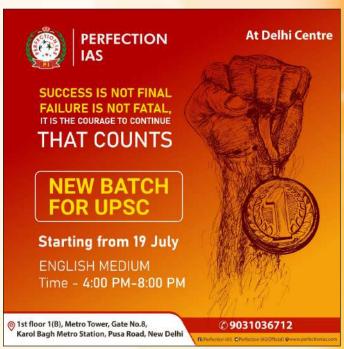
BIHAR

1. "Bhoomi Samman" award

Why in news - Nalanda district has been selected for the Platinum Award of "Bhoomi Samman".

Key Points -

- Reason For the successful implementation of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Program (DILRMP).
- DILRMP is run by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development.
- Nalanda district has achieved 100% land recordsdigitization.
- On July 18, District Magistrate Shashank Shubhankar received the Platinum Award from the President.



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➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS <

- Which medal has been won by Ajit Singh in javelin throw at the Para Athletics Championship in Paris Gold Medal.
- ➤ According to whose report more than 13 crore people have been freed from poverty in five years between 2015-16 to 2019-21 NITI Aayog.
- Who has become the new Prime Minister of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev.
- Who has released a new AI based notes app called NotebookLM– Google.
- Who has become the first Indian bowler to claim the wickets of a father and son duo in his glorious Test career Ravichandran Ashwin.
- What is the position of India with 27 medals in the 25th Asian Athletics Championships in Bangkok Third.
- For the first time, Japan has offered medical scholarship for students from which country Bhutan.
- Who has become the first Indian opener to score a Test century on overseas debut - Yashasvi Jaiswal.
- Razorpay has launched the first international payment gateway in which country Malaysia.
- In which state India's first AI anchor Lisa has been launched Odisha.