

GURRENT AFFAIRS

20 JULY, 2023

NATIONAL

1. INDIAcoalition

Why in news - The Opposition alliance for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls has been named INDIA.

Key Points -

- INDIA Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance.
- Top leaders of 26 Opposition parties from across the country met in Bengaluru.
- 26 Opposition parties won 134 seats in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and secured a 35% vote share.

Value Addition -

Evolution of political parties in India –

- 1952-64 (Nehruvian era)
 - a) The Congress Party was the dominant party.
 - b) India was essentially a one party system also termed as 'Congress system'.
- 1964-77 (Uneasy Transition)
 - a) 1967 elections Congress failed to secure majorities in eight states.
 - b) Regional parties started growing all over the country.
- 1977-80 (Coalition politics)
 - a) First coalition at union kevel led by Janata Party in 1977 (PM Morarji Desai).
 - b) Emergence of a Multi-Party System in India.
- 1980-89 (Emergence of regional parties)
 - a) 8thLok Sabha Elections (1984) Telugu Desam, a regional party of Andhra Pradesh, emerged as the main opposition party.

Congress System 1947-1967 1977 - 1979 - Janata Government 1980 - 1989 - Return of Congress 1989 - 2014 - Coalition governments

2014 - 2024 - BJP System

Coalition Era -Post 1967

- 1989-2014(Multi-party system & Coalition politics)
 - a) Marred by compulsions of coalition.
 - b) 'Rainbow' coalitions Lasted only a short time (due to growth of regional parties).

- c) Empowerment for regional parties electoral federalism.
- 2014-2024 Full majority government.

INTERNATIONAL

1. World's largest office

Why in news - India's Surat Diamond Bourse overtakes The Pentagon as world's largest office building.

Key Points -

- It is a15-storey building. (Floor space 7.1 million square feet).
- Designed by Morphogenesis (Delhi-based).
- It is based on the concept of Panchtatva (water, fire, air, earth and sky).
- Surat is known as the world's diamond capital, where 90% of the precious stones are cut.
- The Pentagon, the US defense department's headquarters in Virginia, has 6.5 million sq ft area.

2. India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT)trilateral highway

Why in news - Dr. S Jaishankar discussed IMT trilateral highwayat the 12thForeign Ministers' Meeting of the Mekong Ganga Cooperation (MGC) in Bangkok.

Key Points –

 Around 70% of construction work on the ambitious IMT Trilateral Highway has been completed.

About IMT Trilateral Highway -

- Length 1,360-km-long highway (land route).
- Connect Moreh (Manipur, India) with Mae Sot (Thailand) via Myanmar.
- Proposal extending the highway to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam called East-West Economic Corridor.
- Technical executing agency National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

About Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC)-

- Established November 10, 2000, Vientiane, Laos.
- Members India, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

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- Ganga and the Mekong are two large rivers in the region.
- Mekong is the world's 12thlongest river and the 3rdlongest in Asia.



GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

1. TCRM Matrix framework

Why in news – NITI Aayog released the Techno-Commercial Readiness and Market Maturity Matrix (TCRM Matrix) Framework.

Key Points –

 Aim - to revolutionize technology evaluation, foster innovation, and fuel entrepreneurship in India.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

3rdGlobal Maritime India Summit(GMIS) 2023

Why in news – SarbanandaSonowal launched the Curtain Raiser of Global Maritime India Summit, 2023in Mumbai.

Key Points -

 To be organized by - Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.

- Focus areas Ports of the Future;
 Decarbonization; Coastal Shipping & Inland
 Waterways Transportation etc.
- The summit is slated for October17-19, 2023, at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- Exclusive industry partner FICCI.

ENVIRONMENT

1. Financing India's renewable energy

Why in news — European Investment Bank (EIB) plans to invest about €1 billion in India's renewable energy sector.

Key Points –

- Focus Green hydrogen and solar panels.
- EIB is the lending arm of the European Union.
- So far EIB has made about €4 billion investment in India. (e.g., metro rail projects inLucknow,Bengaluru, Pune etc).
- The EIB is also a part of the industry-led, Indian Hydrogen Alliance.
- India is the largest investment destination of EIB outside Europe.

Value Addition -

- India aims to achieve 8 million tonnes capacity of green hydrogen by 2030.
- The government is currently supporting two green hydrogen pilot projects i.e., Gurugram and Bengaluru.
- Other green hydrogen projects not funded by the government – Jorhat (AS), Kawas (GJ), Bikaner (RJ).

ECONOMY

1. CRCS-Sahara India Refund Portal

Why in news – Amit Shah launched the portal to refund the money to the depositors of the Sahara Group's cooperative societies in 45 days.

Key Points -

 On March 29, 2023, the Supreme court directed the transfer of Rs 5,000 crores from the Sahara-SEBI Refund A/c to the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS) for disbursing them to the genuine depositors.

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Between 2008 and 2011, Sahara group collected around Rs. 24,000 crore (approximately US\$ 3.2 billion) from over 30 million investors through optionally fully convertible debentures (OFCDs), which were not subject to regulatory oversight.

SCIENCE - TECH

1. Llama 2

Why in news – Meta and Microsoft have extended their partnership with the announcement of Llama 2.

Kev Points –

- Llama 2 is an open-source AI language model.
- Microsoft's Azure cloud service will be used to deploy the AI model.
- It may substitute costly proprietary models like ChatGPT and Google Bard.

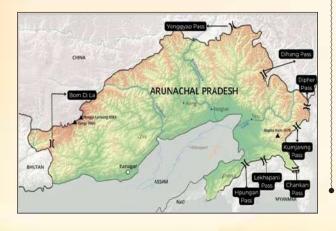
FESTIVALS

1. Chachin Grazing festival

Why in news – It celebrated in Arunachal Pradesh.

Key Points –

- It celebrated by the local graziers of Tawang regionnear Bumla Pass.
- Chachin and other grazing areas serve as the backbone of the local Monpa (tribe) lifestyle.
- Bum La Pass connects Tibet and India's Tawang district in Arunachal Pradesh.



Value Addition -

 Passes in Arunachal Pradesh–Bumla, Bom Di La, Dihang Pass, Yonggyap Pass, Dipher Pass, Kumjawng Pass, Hpungan Pass, Chankan Pass.

STATES/UTS

1. Gruha Lakshmi scheme

Why in news - Karnataka started the registration process for the Gruha Lakshmi scheme.

Key Points -

- Aim to provide financial assistance of Rs 2,000 to women heads of households.
- Women or their husbands who pay income tax or GST are not eligible under the scheme.
- Only one woman in a family will be the beneficiary of this scheme.

BIHAR

1. Bhoomi Samman 2023

Why in news - On July 18, 2023, President Draupadi Murmu presented 'Bhoomi Samman 2023'.

Key Points –

- Presented to
 - a) Brajesh Mehrotra, Additional Chief Secretary, Land Records Department, Bihar
 - b) Collectors of 5 districts with platinum certificates for the Platinum Category (>99% work efficiency).
- Reason for their outstanding performance in the field of land management and administration.
- 5 districts Nalanda, Jehanabad, Lakhisarai, Bhojpur and Kishanganj.
- The Digital India Land Records Management Programme has been run by the Department of Land Resources since 2008-09.
- Under Union Ministry of Rural Development.

2. Ramsar sites

Why in news -State govt to pitch for inclusion of 4 wetlands as covetedRamsar sites.

Key Points –

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SURRENT AFFAIRS

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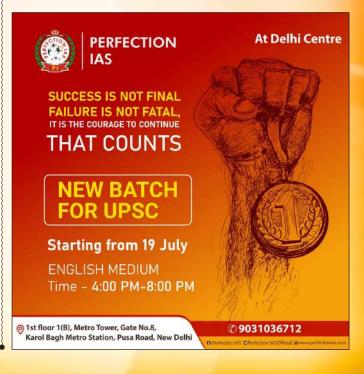
- 4 wetlands
 - a) Udaipur lake (West Champaran).
 - b) Vikramshila Dolphin Sanctuary (Bhagalpur).
 - c) Gogabeel lake (Katihar).
 - d) Gokul reservoir (Buxar).

- Currently, Bihar has only one Ramsar site, KabarJheel in Begusarai.
- Wetlands are now part of the Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali Mission and 4thagriculture road map.









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➤ CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS <

- ➤ ISRO has tied up with whom to develop nuclear-powered engines for rockets Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC).
- Which country has blocked the Black Sea grain deal Russia.
- Which player has won his first Wimbledon title Carlos Alcaraz.
- ➤ Which State/UT has topped the Geo Tagging of Cluster Development Projects in the country Jammu& Kashmir.
- Who has inaugurated the new Integrated Terminal Building of Veer Savarkar International Airport, Port Blair Narendra Modi.
- Which state government has relaunched the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) – Telangana.
- ➤ The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by which year 2030.
- **▶** Which IIT has announced the research awards for 2022 IIT Roorkee.
- Which country hosted the ASEAN Countries Conference on Traditional Medicines – India.
- Where has the 36thFlying Training Organization of India started Tamil Nadu.