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GURRENT AFFAIRS

22 AUGUST, 2023

NATIONAL

1. Dronetesting center

Why in news - India's first common testing centre for drones to be set up in Tamil Nadu.

Key Points -

- Location SIPCOT industrial park, VallamVadagal near Sriperumbudur.
- It would be set up under the Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS).

2. Night street racing

Why in news - Tamil Nadulaunched India's firstever night street racing circuit in Chennai.

Key Points -

- It is the first-ever street circuit in India and South Asia that will be hosting a night race.
- Tamil Nadu has partnered with Racing Promotions Private Limited (RRPL) for the project.

3. 'Digi Yatra' facility

Why in news - 'Digi Yatra' facilityhas been launched for the first time in the northeast.

Key Points –

- It was launched at Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport, Guwahati.
- 'Digi Yatra' app allows entry into the airport by scanning their faces (contactless and seamless movement).

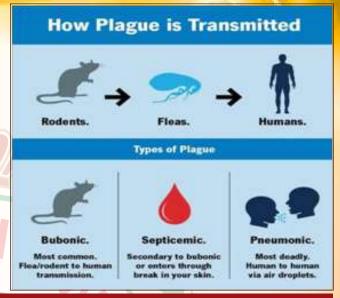
INTERNATIONAL

1. Bubonic Plague

Why in news - China's inner Mongolia recorded two cases of bubonic plague.

Key Points -

- Bubonic plague infection is spread mostly by fleas onrodents (bacteria - Yersinia pestis).
- It is the most common form of plague.
- It gets its name from the swollen lymph nodes (buboes) caused by the disease.
- On 23 September 1896, the first "official" case of the bubonic plague in India was reported in Bombay Presidency.



GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

1. 'Lakhpati Didi' Scheme

Why in news – Union government is planning skill development training for two crore women under the 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme.

Key Points –

- Aim to encourage women to start microenterprises.
- The scheme has been in place in some states.
- Women would be provided skill training so that they can earn over Rs 1 lakh per year.
- Women would be trained in skills like plumbing, LED bulb making and operating and repairing drones among others.

SCIENCE - TECH

1. Pibot

Why in news - Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST) is developing a humanoid robot named Pibot.

Key Points –

- The group of researchers led by Professor Shim Hyun-Chul.
- Pibot can fly aircraft without needing to modify the cockpit.
- It is the world's first humanoid pilot.

DELHI CENTRE: NEW BATCHES FOR **BPSC ENGLISH & HINDI MEDIUM** STARTING FROM 23RD AUGUST 2023.

NEW **UPSC FOUNDATION BATCH** IS STARTING FROM

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PATNA CENTRE: NEW BATCHES FOR BPSC ENGLISH MEDIUM STARTING FROM 23RD AUGUST 2023.

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- The humanoid robot can also communicate with air traffic controllers and humans in the cockpit using voice synthesis.
- The project is expected to be completely developed in 2026.

2. Wipro center of excellence (CoE)

Why in news – Wipro launchedCoEon generative AI on the premises of the Yardi School of Artificial Intelligence at IIT Delhi.

Key Points -

- It is part of the company's \$1 billion commitment to accelerating AI-led innovation as part of the Wipro ai360 ecosystem.
- Chief Technology Officer at Wipro Limited -Subha Tatavarti.

ENVIRONMENT

1. Desalination plant

Why in news – Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalinlaid foundation stone for 400 MLD desalination plantin Perur.

Key Points –

- It is claimed to be the biggest in Southeast Asia.
- The Rs 4,276.44 crore plant is to be set up with assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).
- It is expected to be completed by 2026.

AWARDS & HONOURS

1. George Ledley Award

Why in news – Indian-American Economist Rajchetty has been honoredby Harvard University.

Key Points –

• It recognizes the use of big data to address the barriers and illusions that prevent the American dream from becoming a reality.

STATES/UTS

1. Butter Festival

Why in news – TheButter Festival (Anduri Utsav)

was celebrated at DayaraBugyal of Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand.

Key Points -

- Villagers played 'Holi' by applying milk and butter instead of Gulal on each other.
- Bugyal means a meadow or pasture.
- DayaraBugyalis a pristine meadow in Uttarakhand.
- During summer months, Bhotiya tribes go to bugyals with their animals.

2. Maternalmental health program

Why in news – Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 40.5-million loanfor Meghalaya.

Key Points -

- It is sanctioned for integrated early childhood development (ECD) and maternal mental health program in Meghalaya.
- The project will strengthen home-based childcare and center-based childcare through daycare (Anganwadi) centers in Meghalaya.

3. Continued Learning Access Project (CLAP)

Why in news – Uttarakhandinaugurated the Continued Learning Access Project (CLAP).

Key Points –

 Under it, children will be able to access the latest knowledge through e-learning vehicle.

4. Amrit BrikshaAndolan campaign

Why in news – Assam launched Amrit BrikshaAndolan campaign.

Key Points -

- Under it, one crore saplings of commercial trees will be planted within three hours on September 17, 2023.
- Assamis aiming to grow 6 crore saplings in the government nurseries from next year.

BIHAR

1. Bahumanjila AavasanYojana

Why in news – The Urban Development and Housing Department has sent a detailed guide regarding the scheme to district authorities.

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Key Points -

- Aim Bihar State Housing Board will construct a multi-story building for the urban poor.
- It is a part of saat nischay-2 of self-reliant Bihar.
- Priority will be given to the eligible beneficiaries belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes displaced by the anti-encroachments campaign.
- Such families will be provided houses with carpet area up to 30 square metres.
- The houses built under the scheme will first be made available on rent to the beneficiaries on an agreement for 11 months.

2. Jeevika ki rasoi

Why in news – For the first time in Bihar, 5 Jeevika Didi's kitchen was ISO certified.

Key Points –

- These include Didi's Kitchen, which operates in two other districts of Bihar, including three in Patna.
- They have met all the standards of food safety.

 They have got thecertification with help of Project Concern International India.

3. Vimanika Aerospace

Why in news – Vimanika Aerospace is preparing a prototype of flying taxi with the help of IIT Patna.

Key Points –

- Founder of Vimanika Aerospace Manish Dixit.
- The startup was established in November 2022. The value of the company has gone up to Rs 100 crore.
- The founder has given credit to the startup policy of the state government.
- In November 2022, Manish Dixit received a fund of Rs 10 lakh under the state startup scheme for drone startup.
- The company is providing drone related services in 8 states outside Bihar. These include Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh.





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