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### 1. Odisha Village 'Govindpur' declared as Birds Village ( Sept. 26, 2022 )

Located near the Hirakud Lake in Bargarh district of Odisha, **Govindpur village** has declared itself as a "Birds Village". The residents of the village have resolved to keep the area pollution free and protect the migratory birds during its nesting period.

The Govindpur village lies within the Lakhanpur wildlife range and the locals have taken the initiative under the guidance of Hirakud wildlife division.

More than 2 lakh birds migrate to Hirakud Reservoir every year for breeding and stay for six months. The migratory birds of about 100 species come to the reservoir, spread over 746 sq km, in October every year.

With the declaration of the Hirakud Lake as Ramsar site in 2022, the area is expected to attract tourists, photographers in large numbers.

#### Hirakud Dam

The Hirakud Dam is the world's longest earthen dam built on river Mahanadi in Sambalpur district of Odisha. The dam is 25.79 km long and has an artificial lake called Hirakud reservoir.

It is a multipurpose river project which was conceived by [M. Visvesvaraya](#) in 1937, after recurrence of devastating floods in Mahanadi River.

The construction of the dam began in 1947 and it was inaugurated in 1957.

The largest earthen dam in the world is the Tarbela Dam on River Indus in Pakistan.

The largest earthen dam in India is the **Banasura Sagar Dam**, on the river **Karamanathodu** which is the tributary of the Kabini River. It is in Kerala.

It is also the 2nd largest earthen dam in Asia after Tarbela dam.

### 2. Union Agriculture Minister lays foundation stone of NSC organic seed farm in Morena, MP ( Sept. 26, 2022 )

The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, **Narendra Singh Tomar**, on 25 September laid the foundation stone of an organic seed farm of the National Seed Corporation (NSC) at **Morena**.

#### Important facts

- The Central Government has decided to set up a farm at Morena (MP) for the production of organic seeds by reclamation of the land in the rough area.
- For this, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has allotted **885.34 hectares of land in 4 villages of Morena (Gadora, Jakhauna, Rithora Khurd and Gorkha)** to the Union Agriculture Ministry.
- This land is a rough area of **Chambal** and farming was not possible due to the ravines in the area.

- On completion of this, new organic seeds of oilseeds will be available to the farmers of Madhya Pradesh.
- With this farm farmers will be introduced to modern technology, they will get high yielding seeds and their socio-economic status will improve.

### **De-notification of 207 hectares of land**

- He said that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has taken a major decision to recommend de-notification of **207 hectares of land** in the **National Wildlife Sanctuary of Chambal**.
- Due to de-notification, this area will be outside the sanctuary area, due to which sand will be available at cheap prices for construction/development works at the local level and this will also create new employment opportunities.

### **National Seed Corporation (NSC)**

- NSC is a Schedule '**B**'-Miniratna Category-I company.
- It is wholly owned by the Government of India under the administrative control of Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- It was established in **March-1963** to undertake production of foundation and certified seeds.
- Presently, it is producing certified seeds of about **621 varieties of 80 crops**.

### **3. President Droupadi Murmu Inaugurates Dasara Festival In Mysuru ( Sept. 26, 2022 )**

President of India **Draupadi Murmu** is on a visit to Karnataka from 26-28 September. On 26 September she inaugurated the **Mysuru Dasara Festival** at **Chamundi Hills, Mysuru**.

#### **Important facts**

- The famous 10-day Dussehra celebrations began with religious and traditional fervor on 26 September in this palace town.
- Celebrated as "**Nada Habba**" (**State Festival**), this festival reflects the rich culture and traditions of Karnataka.

#### **About Naada Habba - Dasara**

- It is the 10-day festival of Dussehra which is one of the most popular festivals in Karnataka, especially in the Mysore region.
- In Karnataka, the origin of Nada Habba is mainly associated with the slaying of the demon **Mahishasura by Chamundeshwari**.

- The highlight of the festival is a procession on the day of Vijayadashami (the last day) to mark the victory of good over evil.
- Important pujas, ceremonies and rituals associated with Dussehra in Mysore are celebrated at the Amba Vilas Palace by the Wodeyar, former rulers of the region.
- The head of the Wodeyar family conducts all the religious rituals associated with Dasara on all ten days.

### **Other festival in karnataka**

- **Hampi Festival or Vijaya Utsava** - this is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of an ancient poet Purandaradasa.
- **Karaga Festival** - this is a folk dance performed as a tribute to Draupadi.
- **Pattadakal Dance Festival** - this is conducted to honor the famous temples every year in the month of January.
- **Kambala Festival** - On the first day of Kambala, a parade is conducted with all the buffalos.
- **Ugadi** - it symbolizes New Year for Kannadigas.

### **4. Prime Minister Modi greets women of Telangana on the occasion of Bathukamma ( Sept. 25, 2022 )**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the women of Telangana on the auspicious occasion of **Bathukamma** on 25 September 2022.

Bathukamma 'means 'Goddess of Life' and is celebrated during Dussehra.

It is a state festival of Telangana where women pay respects to nature by making large stacks of flowers, called Bathukamma.

Women decorate a special pot with seasonal flowers, fill the pot with offerings to the goddess, go in a procession, and later immerse the pot in a local pond.

### **State Symbol of Telangana**

- The State Bird - **Palapitta** (Indian Roller or Blue Jay).
- The State Animal - **Jinka** (Deer).
- The State Tree - **Jammi Chettu** (Prosopis Cineraria).
- The State Flower - **Tangedu** (Tanner's Cassia).

### **5. Amit Shah inaugurates building of four BOPs at SSB Camp Kishanganj in Bihar ( Sept. 24, 2022 )**

**Union Home Minister Amit Shah on 24 September inaugurated the building of four BOPs in SSB camp Kishanganj, Bihar and asserted that the boundary of the country is fully secured.**

**IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- He inaugurated the building of four Border Observation Posts (BOPs) at Fatehpur, Pektola, Beria, Aamgachi, and Raniganj at the SSB camp in Kishanganj.
- The Union Home Minister asked the Seema Suraksha Bal (SSB) personnel to remain vigilant along the border to prevent infiltration and smuggling of humans and animals from Nepal and Bangladesh.
- He said the SSB should adopt the latest technology including Drone and CCTV to ensure perfect security along bordering areas.
- He said SSB jawans are not only protecting bordering areas but also performing a commendable job to eliminate the Naxal menace in Bihar and Jharkhand.
- A meeting on border security is going on between Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Director Generals of BSF, SSB and ITBP at the BSF camp in Kishanganj.

***About Sashastra Seema Bal :***

- Sashastra Seema Bal was established on 20 December 1963 after the Indo-China war.
- The Sashastra Seema Bal guards the country's borders with Nepal (1,751 km) and Bhutan (699 km).
- On 13 April 2014, the Union Home Ministry for the first time approved the induction of young women into the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) as Combat Officers.
- Headquarters- **New Delhi**

**6. Punjab fined Rs 2180 crore by the NGT for its failure to treat waste ( Sept. 23, 2022 )**

**The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has imposed a penalty of Rs 2,180 crore on the Punjab government for its failure to treat solid and liquid waste, leading to a huge gap in their generation and treatment.**

A bench headed by NGT Chairperson **Justice AK Goel** said corrective action could not wait for an indefinite period and health issues could not be deferred for long.

It said the compliance of environmental norms on the subject of waste management had to be high on priority. The government has to provide funds for this purpose.

It asked the state government to deposit the fine amount in a separate fund which will be used to build infrastructure for treatment of waste.

The NGT is monitoring compliance of Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, and other environmental issues by states and Union territories.

**IMPORTANT FACTS -*****National Green Tribunal :***

- It deals with cases relating to the environment protection and conservation of forest.
- It was set up in 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.
- The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the **Code of Civil Procedure, 1908**, but is guided **by principles of natural justice**.
- **New Delhi** is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai are other four places of sitting of the Tribunal.\
- **Chairperson : Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel**

**7. Chhattisgarh government to start 'Hamar beti Hamar mann' for women safety in the state ( Sept. 23, 2022 )**

**The Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in a tweet on 23 September 2022, has announced that the government will launch the Hamar beti Hamar Mann' campaign for the safety of women, especially girls.**

The state government will deploy a special women police patrol on girls' schools, colleges and prominent places where women and girls visit. A mobile number will also be issued for the 'Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan' helpline, on which the girls will be able to register their complaints.

The state government has also decided to deploy women prosecutors for the investigation of crimes related to women.

**IMPORTANT FACTS -*****Chhattisgarh :***

- It was known as **southern Kosala** in ancient times.
- The modern state of Chhattisgarh was created on **1 November 2000** by splitting Madhya Pradesh.
- The state shares boundaries with **6 states**. They are Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand to the north and northeast, Odisha to the east, Telangana to the south, and Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh to the west.
- Governor of Chhattisgarh: **Anusuiya Uikey**
- Capital : **Raipur**
- High Court seat : **Bilaspur**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -****State symbol :**

- State Animal : **Wild Water Buffalo**

- State Bird : **Hill Myna**
- State Tree : **Sal tree**
- State Flower : **Foxtails Orchid**

### **8. MoU signed between NSIC and Andhra Pradesh Medtech Zone Limited in health sector ( Sept. 23, 2022 )**

**An MoU was signed between National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC), a Public Sector Enterprise of the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, and Andhra Pradesh Medtech Zone Limited (AMTZ) on 22 September for cooperation in the healthcare sector.**

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Narayan Rane was also present on the occasion.
- The MoU was signed by Gaurang Dixit, Chairman and Managing Director, NSIC and Dr. Jitendra Sharma, Managing Director and CEO, AMTZ.
- This MoU will be an important step in enhancing the competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the health sector.
- Both the organisations can leverage their expertise and create excellent opportunities for MSMEs to build global alliances in the health sector and gain access to the latest medical technologies along with creating skilled manpower for the sector.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -**

##### ***National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC) :***

- It is an ISO 9001:2015 certified Government of India Enterprise under Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- It is working to promote and assist the development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in the country.

### **9. Amazon has chosen Rajasthan for its first its solar power plant in India ( Sept. 22, 2022 )**

**American e-commerce giant Amazon has announced that it will set up three solar farms in Rajasthan with a combined capacity of 420 megawatt (MW). This will be the first time that Amazon is setting up a solar farm in the country.**

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

***The proposed power plants :***

- The power plant will be developed by three companies .ReNew Power will develop 210 MW plant, Amp Energy India will set up 100 Mw and Brookfield Renewable Partners will develop 110 MW power plant .
- Amazon will also set up **23 new solar rooftop projects** in 14 cities of India, with a capacity to generate an additional 4.09 MW of power.

***Solar Power in India :***

- The National Institute of Solar Energy has assessed the Country's solar potential of about **748 GW**.
- The Government of India has set a target to have an installed solar power capacity of **300 GW by 2030**.
- According to the Government of India the total installed solar capacity was **48.55 GW at the end of November 2021**.
- India has the **5th largest installed solar power capacity** in the world after China, United States, Japan and Germany .

**10. Maharashtra govt to float fresh global tender for Dharavi redevelopment ( Sept. 22, 2022 )**

**The Maharashtra government has decided to float fresh global tenders for the redevelopment of Asia's largest slum Dharavi in 600 acres of prime land in the heart of the country's commercial capital Mumbai.**

**IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- New global tenders for Dharavi redevelopment will be invited in the next two-three weeks.
- About 95% of the conditions, norms and concessions will be the same as before.

***Dharavi Redevelopment Project :***

- The state of Maharashtra had envisaged converting this project with better urban infrastructure.
- This involved resettling 68,000 people, including those in slums and commercial establishments.
- The state had to provide 300 square feet of houses free of cost to the residents there with proof that their slum structure was in existence before January 1, 2000.
- The project was started in 2004 but due to various reasons it could not take off.

***About Dharavi :***

- Known as one of the largest slums in the world, Dharavi is located in the heart of India's financial capital Mumbai.
- A city within a city, it is an endless stretch of narrow dirty streets, open sewers and cramped huts.
- Although this area of 535 acres is owned by the government, the houses are maintained by the people living there.
- Dharavi Slum came into existence in 1884.
- At that time when people came to Mumbai, they did not have a place to live, they made their houses on government land and started living here and gradually it became a huge slum area.
- It is the largest slum in Asia in terms of population.