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1. Sankalp Smarak' dedicated to the nation by CINCAN (Dec. 30, 2021)

Sankalp Smarak' dedicated to the nation by CINCAN

- A Sankalp Smarak was dedicated to the nation by Lt Gen Ajai Singh, Commander-in-Chief Andaman and Nicobar Command (CINCAN), exactly 78 years after Netaji's arrival on 29 Dec 2021.
- It was on this day that the national tricolour flag was hoisted for the first time on Indian soil, at the Gymkhana Ground (present Netaji Stadium) in Port Blair by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose..
- He also announced Andaman and Nicobar as the first Indian Territory free from British rule.
- Subhash Chandra Bose, and renamed Andaman and Nicobar island as "Shaheed-dweep" (Martyr Island) and "Swaraj-dweep" (Self-rule Island).

2. Jharkhand Government to give Rs. 25 /Litre subsidy on Petrol to poor (Dec. 30, 2021)

- Jharkhand Chief Minister has announced that the government will provide a subsidy of Rs 25 per litre on petrol to the ration card holder families for petrol used in two wheelers.
- The money will be transferred directly in their bank account.
- **The government will provide subsidies on 10 liters of petrol per month to the eligible families.**

3. Ministry of Skill Development's project to upskill weavers and artisans of Nagaland (Dec. 29, 2021)

- This is a pilot project under **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), a component of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).**
- It will be held in **Dimapur Nagaland.**
- The objective of this initiative is to upskill about 4000 local weavers and artisans to enhance their productivity through assessment and certification in traditional handicrafts, thus improving the competencies of the unorganized workforce of the region.
- The artisans and weavers will be **aligned with the standardized National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF).**
- The pilot project will also augment the marketing skills and techniques to promote local handmade products, thus aiming at industry and market linkages, **encouraging micro-entrepreneurship.**
- The **training delivery partners for the upskilling initiative are Cane Concept and Handloom Naga.**
- The selection of artisans and weavers will be made based on their existing experience.
- **National Skill Development Corporation, the nodal implementation agency for the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, supported by Handicrafts and Carpet Sector Skill Council (HCSSC) will monitor the day-to-day progress of the project.**
- The project aims at achieving learning outcomes including entrepreneurship development, digital literacy, communication skills at the workplace, and development of sales, and marketing skills.

4. First International Water Festival (Dec. 29, 2021)

- The first International water festival is being organised by the Kerala Government at Beypore port, in Kozhikode district of Kerala.
- The Festival will be from December 26 to 31 December 2021.
- The festival will be held at the Beypore Marina, **where the river Chaliyar meets the Arabian Sea.**

5. Others can now buy non-agricultural land in Jammu and Kashmir (Dec. 28, 2021)

- The Centre and J&K government held the first ever '**Real Estate Summit 2021**' in **Jammu on 27th December 2021**, to encourage people from across India to invest in real estate and property in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Under the newly introduced **Jammu and Kashmir Development Act**, the term 'being permanent resident of the State' as a criterion has been 'omitted', paving the way for investors outside Jammu and Kashmir to invest in the Union Territory.
- As a result, **any citizen of India can buy non-agriculture land in Jammu and Kashmir.**
- The summit was organised by the **Union ministry for housing and urban affairs in collaboration with the J&K government.**
- During the summit, **39 memorandum of understandings (MOUs)** were signed, half of them on construction of residential homes.
- The summit witnessed the signing of 20 MOUs for development of housing projects, seven others for commercial, four for hospitality, three for infra-tech, three for film and entertainment and two for finance related projects.

Article 35A of the Indian Constitution only permanent residents of Jammu and Kashmir had the right to buy land in the State.

On 31 October 2019, Government of India withdrew the special status of Jammu and Kashmir by abrogating article 370 and 35A and made it a Union Territory. Ladakh was separated from it and made a separate Union Territory.

6. Union Home Minister inaugurates Bharat Darshan Park In Delhi (Dec. 25, 2021)

- Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation Mr. Amit Shah inaugurated Bharat Darshan Park in Punjabi bagh, Delhi.
- The mega park has been built from scraps by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation. and it has replicas of 17 monuments of India
- The park in Punjabi Bagh is spread over 8.5 acres and built at a cost of Rs 14 crore, has replicas of monuments from across the country, including **Mysore Palace(Karnataka), Charminar(Telangana) and Khajuraho Temple(Madhya Pradesh), Gateway of India(Mumbai), Konark Temple(Odisha), Nalanda ruins(Bihar), Meenakshi Temple(Tamilnadu), Hawa Mahal(Rajasthan), Hampi ruins(Karnataka), Victoria Memorial(Kolkata), Sanchi Stupa(Madhya Pradesh), Gol Gumbaz(Karnataka), Ajanta and Ellora Caves(Maharashtra) and Junagarh Fort(Rajasthan).**

- **The theme of the park is 'Unity in Diversity',**
- This is the second such park in Delhi after the 'Waste to Wonder Park', in Sarai Kale Khan, Delhi where seven wonders of the world have been installed through waste and scrap materials

7. CM of Tamil Nadu unveils 'Meendum Manjappai' campaign against plastic use (Dec. 24, 2021)

- The campaign known as '**Meendum Manjapai Vizhipunarvu Iyakkam**' (**Back to Yellow Cloth Bag Awareness Campaign**) was launched by the CM of Tamil Nadu **M K Stalin**.
- Brainchild of Environment and Foreign Secretary **Supriya Sahu**, the campaign **aims at encouraging people to dump plastic bags and revert to using the traditional yellow cloth bag.**

8. Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly passes a bill to recover property damage from protesters (Dec. 24, 2021)

- The Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly passed the **Madhya Pradesh Damage to Public and Private Property Recovery Bill, 2021.**
- The bill provides for the recovery of losses from people and organizations responsible for damaging public and private properties during protests.
- **Madhya Pradesh is the 3rd state to pass such a bill after Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.**
- **Abetment of the offense will carry the same penalty as the main offense.**
- The **bill provides for setting up a tribunal** composed of a retired judge and an IAS officer which would look into the claims of property damage during riots or public protests.
- **Application for compensation needs to be made within 30 days of vandalism and the tribunal will have to take a decision within 3 months of the application.**
- Tribunal order can only be challenged before the high court within a period of 90 days after the claim order is passed.

9. Maharashtra Assembly passes Shakti Bill (Dec. 24, 2021)

- The Maharashtra Assembly has unanimously cleared the Shakti Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020, on crimes against women and children.
- The Shakti Bill amends the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC), the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC), and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO Act) in their application to Maharashtra. It amends these laws for offences committed against women and children to curb sexual crimes committed against them.
- The legislation recommends capital punishment in rape cases, a time limit of 30 days to complete the probe from the day of registering the complaint, and places the onus on social media platforms and Internet data providing companies to share data for the police investigation.

NOTE

- Criminal law, including matters covered by the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC) falls under the Concurrent List of the Constitution. It means both the center and the state make law on criminal law

10. CM Dashboard inauguration by the CM of Tamil Nadu (Dec. 23, 2021)

To the point:

- The Chief Minister of **Tamil Nadu Thiru M.K. Stalin** launched the state-of-the-art "**CM Dashboard - Tamil Nadu 360**" monitoring system on 23rd December.
- This dashboard would **track, analyze and increase the efficiency of the government** and would avoid delay in decision making.
- This dashboard will **provide real-time information on all State government departments, storage levels of key reservoirs, rainfall patterns, price mesh, which monitors the price stability over 25 food grains/vegetables/fruits**, and it will provide projections on possible increases in price, enabling government intervention.
- Across the country, the Chief Ministers of a **few States, including Orissa, Punjab, Haryana have dashboards** which provide available information.