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1. Arunachal Pradesh to get Northeast's first fish museum (Nov. 2, 2022)

Arunachal Pradesh

A fish museum, the **first of its kind in the Northeast**, would soon be built in **Arunachal Pradesh**, Fisheries Minister Tage Taki said.

Important facts

- The museum will be a part of the **Integrated Aqua Park (IAP)** sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Fisheries.
- It will have all the fish species of the state and will act as a training center for the fishermen.
- Three years ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced one IAP for each state and union territory under the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMSY)** to bring about a **blue revolution**.
- The proposed cost of the project is **Rs 100 crore**.
- **Rs 43.59 crore** was sanctioned for the project in the current financial year as first instalment.
- The existing **Tarin Fish Farm (TFF)** located in the high altitude **Bulla village** will be upgraded as an IAP where this museum will be built.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMSSY)

- It is a sustainable development scheme focused on the fisheries sector, to be implemented in all States/UTs from **FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25** (during a period of 5 years) under Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Under this scheme, an investment of **Rs 20,050 crore** will be made in the fisheries sector.
- Insurance cover, financial assistance and Kisan Credit Card facility are also provided to the fishermen under the scheme.
- Its objective is to rapidly promote rural development and rural economy by utilising rural resources.
- An impressive growth of **14.3 percent** has been registered in the fisheries sector till the year 2021-22 as compared to the year 2019-20.

2. PM Modi hands over houses built under PM Awas Yojana (Gramin) in Madhya Pradesh to over 4.51 lakh families virtually (Oct. 22, 2022)

PM Awas Yojana (Gramin) in Madhya Pradesh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 22 October 2022 handed over houses to 4 lakh 51 thousand families of Madhya Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Gramin virtually.

Virtually addressing the state-level program organized in **Satna**, the Prime Minister said that home brings progress for all as the village also progresses due to construction of houses along with the owner of the house. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh [Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) was also present in the programme..

Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, about 38 Lakh houses have been sanctioned so far in Madhya Pradesh and construction of about 29 Lakh houses has been completed at a cost of more than Rs. 35,000 crores.

Housing for All

Government of India has launched **Housing for All** scheme to provide pucca houses to the eligible person by **2022**.

The Housing for All target goal is to be achieved by two central government scheme ; **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana -Gramin (PMAY-U)** and **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban(PMAY-U)**

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana -Gramin (PMAY-U)

It was earlier known as **Indira Awas Yojana** . It was revamped and relaunched as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana -Gramin (PMAY-U) on 20th November, 2016 with effect from 1st April 2016.

The program envisages the completion of **2.95 crore** PMAY-G houses with all basic amenities for the identified beneficiaries by the year 2022.

It is being implemented by the **Union Ministry of Rural Development**.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban(PMAY-U)

It was launched on **25 June 2015** by the Government of India and it is being implemented by the Union **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**.

The scheme aims to provide pucca houses to all the eligible beneficiaries by 2022.

Around **1.12 crore houses** are to be constructed under the scheme .

3. Prime Minister Modi launches Mission LiFE globally in Kevadia, Gujarat (Oct. 20, 2022)

launches Mission LiFE globally

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) in the presence of the United Nations of the Secretary-General, [António Guterres](#) at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Kevadia on 20 October 2022.

Several world leaders including French President **Emmanuel Macron**, United Kingdom's Prime Minister **Liz Truss**, Georgia Prime Minister **Irakli Garibashvili**, Estonia Prime Minister

Kaja Kallas, and Madagascar President **Rajoelina** sent video messages for the global launch.

Speaking on the occasion the Prime Minister said that the vision of LiFE is to live a lifestyle that is in tune with our planet and does not harm it. And those who live such a lifestyle are called "Pro-Planet People." Mission LiFE will strengthen the concept of P3 (Pro-Planet People) and join the people of Earth.

LiFE ('Lifestyle for the Environment)

- The idea of LiFE ('Lifestyle for the Environment) was given by Prime Minister Modi at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow 2021.
- The idea promotes an environmentally conscious lifestyle that focuses on 'mindful and deliberate utilisation' instead of 'mindless and destructive consumption'.

Strategy of LiFE

According to the Prime Minister Office (PMO) the "Mission LiFE aims at following a three-pronged strategy for changing our collective approach towards sustainability.

First is by nudging individuals to practise simple yet effective environment-friendly actions in their daily lives (demand);

Second is by enabling industries and markets to respond swiftly to the changing demand (supply) and;

Third is to influence government and industrial policy to support both sustainable consumption and production (policy).

4. PM launches Gujarat government's Mission Schools of Excellence at Trimandir, Adalaj, Gujarat (Oct. 19, 2022)

Schools of Excellence at Trimandir

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched **Mission Schools of Excellence** at **Trimandir, Adalaj**, Gujarat on 19 October 2022. The Mission will help strengthen education infrastructure in Gujarat by setting up new classrooms, smart classrooms, computer labs and overall upgradation of the infrastructure of schools in the State. During the event at Trimandir, the Prime Minister also launched projects worth around Rs 4260 crores.

Mission Schools of Excellence

It is a five **year** Gujarat government project that aims to improve the quality of education in the state. It is a World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) funded project.

Budget of the project

The total budget for the mission is **Rs 10,000 crore**. World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) will provide a loan of Rs **7,500 crore** for the Gujarat government's Mission School of Excellence project.

Aim of the Project

- It will cover all 35,133 government and 5,847 grant-in-aid schools in the state.

- The funds will be spent on building 50,000 new classrooms, creating 1.5 lakh smart classrooms, 20,000 new computer labs and 5,000 Atal tinkering labs in 41,000-odd government and grant-in-aid schools across the state.
- It is estimated that nearly one crore school students will benefit directly from this ambitious project in the next five years.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

- It is a multilateral development bank which was set up in 2016.
- Its area of operation is in Asia and it provides loans to build Infrastructure of tomorrow - green infrastructure with sustainability, innovation and connectivity at its core.
- However its members are from around the world. At present it has **104 member countries**.
- China is the majority shareholder of the bank and India is the second largest shareholder of the bank
- The United States and Japan are not the members of the bank
- AIIB has given maximum loans to India

Current President of the Bank: **Jin Liqun of China**.

Headquarters: **Beijing, China**

5. Prime Minister Inaugurates 600 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (Oct. 17, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022** at **Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi** on 17 October, 2022.

Important facts

- The Prime Minister also inaugurated **600 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PMKSK)** under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.
- The Prime Minister also launched the **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Fertilizer Project - One Nation One Fertilizer**.
- One Nation, One Fertilizer will free the farmer from all kinds of confusion regarding the quality and availability of manure.
- During the event, the Prime Minister also released the **12th instalment** of Rs 16,000 crore under the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)** through Direct Benefit Transfer.
- The Prime Minister also inaugurated the Agriculture Startup Conclave and Exhibition.
- During the programme, the Prime Minister also launched an e-magazine on fertilisers, '**Indian Age**'.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras

- 3.25 lakh fertilizer shops will be developed across the country as **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendra (PMKSK)**.
- These will be the centres where farmers can not only buy fertilizers and seeds but also conduct soil tests and get useful information about farming techniques.
- Under this scheme, retail fertilizer shops in the country will be converted into PMKSK in a phased manner.

6. PM Modi distributed PMJAY-MA Yojana Ayushman cards in Gujarat (Oct. 17, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed **Ayushman cards** to the beneficiaries of **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana- Chief Minister Amrutam (PMJAY-MA) in Gujarat** on October 17.

Important facts

- The Prime Minister distributed Ayushman cards through video conference in a program organised in **Gandhinagar**, the capital of Gujarat.
- Ayushman PVC cards will be distributed to more than **50 lakh beneficiaries** under PMJAY-MA scheme in Gujarat.
- This card is made of **Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) material**.
- The Centre's PMJAY scheme, which provides health care facilities to the economically weaker sections, was linked to Gujarat's **Chief Minister Amrutam and Mukhyamantri Amrutam Vatsalya (MAV) health schemes in 2019**.
- Now all the beneficiaries of state schemes are eligible to get PMJAY-MA card.
- The **“Mukhyamantri Amrutam (MA)” scheme** was launched in **2012** by the then Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi to protect poor citizens from the cost of medical treatment and illness.

Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)

- It is the world's largest health insurance scheme which is fully funded by the government.
- It was launched in **February 2018**.
- Under this scheme a sum insured of **Rs.5 lakh** per family is provided for secondary care (which does not include specialist) as well as tertiary care (which include specialist).
- Under this, the health benefit package includes surgery, medicine and daily treatment, cost of medicines and diagnosis.

7. Prime Minister Modi to inaugurate PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 on October 17 (Oct. 15, 2022)

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate **PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022** on 17th October, 2022 at **Mela Ground, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, Pusa in New Delhi**.

Important facts

- On this occasion, the Prime Minister will release **Rs 16,000 Crores** under the PM-KISAN flagship scheme as **12th instalment** through Direct Benefit Transfer.
- The Prime Minister will also inaugurate the **Agri Start-up Conclave and Exhibition**.
- He will also inaugurate **600 PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PM-KSKs)** of the Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
- On this occasion he will also launch **Bharat Urea Bags**, India's biggest move in fertilizers-**One Nation One Fertilizer Scheme** for Farmers.
- During this event, the Prime Minister will launch an international weekly **fertilizer e-magazine** Indian Age.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)

- It was launched on **24 February, 2019 by PM Modi** to supplement financial needs of land holding farmers.
- Under the scheme financial benefit of **Rs 6000 per year** in three equal instalments, **every four month** is transferred into the bank accounts of farmers' families across the country through **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode**.
- It is a central sector scheme with **100% funding by the Government of India**.
- It is being implemented by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**.
- So far, eligible farmer families have received benefits of more than **Rs 2 lakh crore under PM-KISAN** through 11 instalments.

8. IMF lauds DBT scheme, calls it 'logistic marvel' (Oct. 13, 2022)

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on 12 October 2022 lauded the **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme** in India and described it as a "**logistical miracle**" considering the country's sheer size.

Important facts

- The International Monetary Fund's deputy director, **Paolo Mauro**, said India's plan is a "logistic marvel that has helped hundreds of millions of low-income people".
- He said that countries across the world should learn from the DBT scheme as it is very impressive.
- He said that this program is specially targeted towards women, elderly and farmers and the technological innovation involved is commendable.

- **IMF Chief Economist Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas** said that India has emerged as a bright light at a time when the world is facing imminent prospects of recession.
- Gourinchas said that India needs some significant structural reforms to achieve the ambitious target of a \$10 trillion economy.
- The Chief Economist lauded India's digitization efforts and termed it as a game changer.

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme

- The process of transferring the subsidy amount directly into the account of the beneficiaries instead of providing it directly to the government offices is known as **DBT**.
- In this context, transfer can be defined as the payment that the government makes directly to the beneficiary without receiving any return. Scholarships and subsidies are some examples.
- The Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme was introduced on **1 January 2013**.
- Its main objective was to reform the government's distribution system and redesign the existing process in welfare schemes by making the flow of money and information faster, safer and fraud-free.

9. Center approves 'Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) Scheme' (Oct. 12, 2022)

To boost economic and social development in the North Eastern region the central government has decided to launch a 100% centrally funded scheme **Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE)**. The scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet in a meeting held on 12 October 2022 and chaired by the Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**.

PM-DevINE, was announced in the Union Budget 2022-23 to address development gaps in the North Eastern Region.

Duration of the Scheme

The scheme will be of **four year** duration from 2022-23 to 2025-26, which will coincide with the remaining period of the 15th Finance Commission.

Outlay on the scheme

The scheme is 100% centrally funded and the outlay for the scheme is **Rs 6,600 crore** for the next four years.

Who will implement the scheme?

The Scheme will be implemented by the Union Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) through North Eastern Council or Central Ministries/ agencies.

Objectives of the new Scheme

PM-DevINE will provide support to infrastructure and social development projects which may be larger in size and will also provide an end-to-end development solution instead of isolated projects.

PM-DevINE will lead to creation of infrastructure, support industries, social development projects and create livelihood activities for youth and women, thus leading to employment generation.

The objectives of PM-DevINE are to:

- (a) Fund infrastructure convergent, in the spirit of PM Gati Shakti;
- (b) Support social development projects based on felt needs of the NER;
- (c) Enable livelihood activities for youth and women;
- (d) Fill the development gaps in various sectors.

North Eastern States in India

Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland and Sikkim.

Union Ministry for Development of North Eastern Region: **Kishan Reddy**

10. Inter- Ministerial meeting held in Delhi to review Parali management (Oct. 3, 2022)

With the onset of the harvesting season for Kharif crops an Inter-Ministerial meeting under the co-chairmanship of Union Minister of Power **R.K Singh** and Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Bhupender **Yadav**, was held on 3 October 2022, in **New Delhi** to review the progress of biomass co-firing in thermal power plants along with Parali management in National Capital Region (NCR) and adjoining states.

The meeting was also attended by Chief Secretaries of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh along with senior officers.

Background to the meeting

Farmers in Haryana, Punjab and Western Uttar Pradesh burn their Parali in order to clear their harvested paddy fields and prepare for the Rabi season.

This burning of fields usually leads to heavy air pollution and toxic air in and around NCR during the winter season.

The meeting was held to take stock of the situation and the preparedness of the concerned government.

To encourage the farmers not to burn the parali and provide them an incentive, the government of India launched the SAMARTH mission.

Sustainable Agrarian Mission on use of Agro Residue in Thermal Power Plants (SAMARTH)

Sustainable Agrarian Mission on use of Agro Residue in Thermal Power Plants (SAMARTH) was launched by the Government of India in 2021.

Under SAMARTH the Union Ministry of power launched the National Mission on Use of Biomass in coal based thermal Power Plants.

AIM of the Scheme :

- It was launched by the Government of India to reduce stubble (parali) burning and to reduce carbon footprint of Thermal Power Plants while increasing the income of farmers.
- The farmers are encouraged to sell their crop residues, stubble to the power plants and earn extra income instead of burning in the field which increases pollution.
- Thermal power plants are encouraged to use crop residue along with coal for production of power. It will reduce the use of coal for power generation and consequently lesser amounts of carbon will be produced.
- The Ministry of Power's policy on "Biomass Utilization for Power Generation through Co-firing in Coal based Power Plants" issued in October 2021 mandates **all thermal power plants in the country to use 5 to 10% biomass along with coal for power production.**

Present Status of the SAMARTH mission

- Giving the achievement of the SAMARTH mission the government said that at present 39 thermal power plants had co-fired biomass pellets.
- In the NCR region, 10 thermal power plants have started co-firing.
- As on date, 83066 MT of biomass has been co-fired in 39 thermal power plants across the country totalling to a capacity of 55390 MW.
- In the NCR region, the biomass co-fired is 22,696 MT out of which 95% has been done by NTPC.