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1. Army organises Walong Fair on the occasion of Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Battle of Walong (Nov. 11, 2022)

Army organises Walong Fair

The Indian Army organised the **Walong Mela** on 10 November 2022 to mark the **Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Battle of Walong**.

Important facts

- The **Dao Division of Spear Corps** has organised this fair at Walong circle of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- It aims to remember the unsurpassed bravery and sacrifice of the Indian Army while defending Indian territory against the Chinese invasion of **1962**.
- The objective of the Mela was to familiarise the public with the Indian Army and to encourage a sense of belongingness and togetherness.
- The Mela held in Walong included a variety of spectacular sports and sporting events.

Battle of Walong

- Walong is one of the easternmost region of India in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- In the **Indo-China War of 1962**, the Indian Army defended against China in all areas except Walong in Arunachal Pradesh.
- With less ammunition and resources, the **6th Kumaon Infantry Battalion** launched a counterattack between 14 and 16 November 1962 against the Chinese army with the aim of deterring the approaching enemy.
- Indian troops fought the Chinese for more than 20 days in Walong, India's easternmost city, which is adjacent to the Tibet region.

2. 3-day mega agriculture fair and exhibition at Morena, Madhya Pradesh (Nov. 11, 2022)

3-day mega agriculture fair and exhibition

The Union Ministry of Agriculture is organising a three-day **Mega Agriculture Fair and Exhibition** in collaboration with the State Government and District Administration at **Morena, Madhya Pradesh** from November 11, 2022.

Important facts

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** inaugurated the mega agricultural fair and exhibition.

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the local MP, **Narendra Singh Tomar** were **presided over** the Inaugural ceremony.
- About 35,000 farmers of Chambal-Gwalior zone participated in this event.
 - Agriculture fairs and exhibitions are being organised to make the **Gwalior-Chambal region** advanced and a pioneer in agriculture.
 - In this fair, scientists of agricultural universities, agricultural zone centres, officers and employees of agriculture department, representatives of various government and non-government organisations related to agriculture guided the farmers.
 - For the guidance of the farmers, 12 different sessions and 4 group sessions will be organised every day on various important topics, in which agriculture experts from across the country will give information and presentations.
 - Companies and institutions dealing with the supply of various inputs to the private sector agriculture will showcase their products.
 - On this occasion, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated **103 Amrit Sarovar** and laid the foundation stone of **Sanjeevani Kendras**.

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4. MoU to set up effective governance systems under DAY-NRLM (Nov. 11, 2022)

effective governance systems under DAY-NRLM

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with **Gurugram-based Veddis Foundation** to support setting up of effective governance systems under the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)** on 10 November, 2022.

Important facts

- The partnership with MoRD and Veddis Foundation is for **three years** and is a non-financial partnership.
- The MoU was signed by Joint Secretary, Rural Livelihoods, Nita Kejrewal from MoRD and Murugan Vasudevan, CEO, Veddis Foundation in a meeting chaired by Secretary, Rural Development, Nagendra Nath Sinha.
- As per the MoU, Veddis Foundation will set up a PMU in the Rural Livelihoods (RL) Division of the Ministry of Rural Development for the next five years.
- The MoU will also strengthen the state's capabilities, establish innovative models and implement a national strategy for convergence of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and SHGs.
- One of the initial focuses as part of the MoU is an annual report on the status of SRLMs in which the various SRLMs are expected to be evaluated on the basis of 'Governance Index'.

About Veddis Foundation

- Veddis Foundation has set up Project Management Units-PMUs in the State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLMs) of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur.
- It will work on a 360-degree approach for effective implementation of the top level priorities of the government in Rajasthan in future.

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)

- It was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development in **June 2011**.
- It aims to reduce rural poverty by increasing livelihood opportunities through skill development and better access to financial services for rural poor households in the country.

- With an annual budget outlay of over Rs 13,000 crore, the program covers 7.15 lakh villages in 723 districts, and covers over 8.6 crore rural households.

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6. Indian Army launches single-window facility for welfare, grievance redressal of 'veer naris' (Nov. 11, 2022)

Indian Army launches single-window facility

The Indian Army has launched a single-window facility for welfare and grievance redressal of 'veer naris' on 10 October, 2022.

Important facts

- The project was inaugurated by the **Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA)** at the Indian Army Veterans Directorate (DIAV) campus, **Delhi Cantt.**
- Veerangana Seva Kendra (VSK) will be available as a service on Indian Army Veterans Portal www.indianarmyveterans.gov.in.
- Veer Nari or Kin will have many means of contact including telephone, WhatsApp, e-mail.
- The widow of a member of the armed forces who sacrificed her life in war or military campaign is called 'Veer Nari'.
- A single window facility named **Veerangana Seva Kendra (VSK)** has been launched for the welfare of '**Veer Naris**' and redressal of grievances with the motto of '**Take Care of Your Own, No Matter What**'.
- The system caters to the applicant for tracking, monitoring and filing complaints with regular feedback.
- Veer Nari or Kin will have multiple means of contacting VSK through Telephone, SMS, WhatsApp, Post, E-mail and Walk-in.
- Stakeholders can monitor the status of complaints through Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software.
- The applicant will receive regular updates of the status through SMS and email.
- The 'Veer Naris' are appointed as VSK staff to maintain in-built engagement and empathy with the beneficiaries.
- The project is spearheaded by the branch of DIAV, AG and the technology solution is developed by **BISAG-N**, while **Hero MotoCorp** has supported the project through its CSR initiatives.

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8. India hosted the 2nd BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministers meeting (Nov. 10, 2022)

2nd BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministers meeting

India hosted the **Second Agriculture Ministerial-level meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiative** for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation ([BIMSTEC](#)) at New Delhi on 10 November under the chairmanship of the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar.

Important facts

- Agriculture ministers of **Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand** participated in the meeting.

- Tomar urged the member countries to develop a comprehensive regional strategy to strengthen cooperation for transformation in agriculture.
- Referring to the International Year of Millets - 2023, he urged for adopting a healthy diet for all.
- He asked the participating countries to actively participate in India's initiative to promote coarse cereals as food.

About 2nd BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministerial Meeting

- The meeting adopted the Action Plan for Strengthening **BIMSTEC Agricultural Cooperation (2023-2027)**.
- An MoU was signed between the BIMSTEC Secretariat and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and approval was given to bring the fisheries and livestock sub-sectors under the Agriculture Working Group.

About BIMSTEC

- BIMSTEC was established in 1997.
- It includes five countries of South Asia – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and two countries of South-East Asia – Myanmar and Thailand.

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10. India joins MAC, at 27th session of COP27 in Egypt (Nov. 10, 2022)

MAC, at 27th session of COP27 in Egypt

India has joined the **Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC)** at the **27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27)** at **Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt**.

Important facts

- After joining the alliance, India called for the integration of mangrove conservation with reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) programs for carbon sequestration.
- Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said studies have shown that mangrove forests can absorb four to five times more carbon emissions than landed tropical forests.

What are Mangroves?

- These are small trees and shrubs that grow along the coast and thrive in salt water and develop into unique forests on land and sea shore.
- Mangrove ecosystems are one of the most productive and ecologically important ecosystems in the world.
- They offer significant climate change mitigation and adaptation co-benefits because they are able to store carbon up to 400 percent faster than land-based tropical rainforests.
- They protect coastal areas from rising sea levels, erosion and storms and provide breeding grounds for marine biodiversity.
- About 80 percent of the world's fish population depend on these ecosystems for their survival.
- India contributes about half of the total mangrove cover in South Asia and the Sundarbans in West Bengal has the highest percentage of mangrove cover in India.

- West Bengal has the highest percentage of mangrove cover in India. It is followed by
- Gujarat and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
 - Maharashtra, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Kerala also have mangroves.

About Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC)

- MAC is an intergovernmental coalition that seeks to accelerate the conservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems.
- India is among the first five countries to join the MAC, which includes Australia, Japan, Spain and Sri Lanka.