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1. PM Modi and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina jointly unveils Unit-I of Maitree Super Thermal Power Project (Sept. 6, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina jointly unveiled Unit-1 of Maitri Super Thermal Power Project after bilateral and delegation level talks in Delhi on 6 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The project is being constructed under India's concessional financing scheme.
- This will add 1320 MW to the national grid of Bangladesh.
- The first unit of the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant will go into commercial operation early October.
- Unit-II of the power plant, also known as the Rampal coal-fired power project, is expected to be commissioned early next year.

India-Bangladesh delegation level talks :

- India-Bangladesh delegation level talks under the leadership of PM Modi and Hasina began at Hyderabad House in New Delhi.
- The Prime Minister of Bangladesh is on a four-day visit to India to strengthen the multi-faceted ties between the two countries.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Agenda of the talks :

- The agenda for talks between the two countries included connectivity, energy, water resources, trade and investment, border management and security, development partnership and regional and multilateral matters.

Seven MoUs between India and Bangladesh :

1. Interim bilateral agreement on water sharing of the Koshiyara river
2. Signing of MoU on Scientific Cooperation between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India and Bangladesh Council of Scientific Industrial Research (BCSIR).
3. MoU signed between National Judicial Academy, Bhopal and Supreme Court of Bangladesh to promote capacity building
4. Ministry of Railways signed an MoU with Bangladesh Railways, under which India will train personnel of Bangladesh Railways in Indian training institutes

- MoU signed between ministries of both countries to cooperate in providing IT solutions to
5. Bangladesh Railways
 6. MoU signed between Bangladesh Television and Prasar Bharati
 7. MoU between the two countries for promotion of cooperation in space technology and scientific and research

India - Bangladesh :

- Bangladesh and India share an international border of more than four thousand kilometres.
- The five states of India Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and West Bengal touch the border of Bangladesh.
- The land boundary between the two sides has been amicably resolved with the ratification of the landmark Protocol to Land Boundary Agreement in 2015.
- Bangladesh accounts for the largest share of foreign tourist arrivals in India.
- In 2021-22, Bangladesh has emerged as the largest trading partner for India in South Asia and the fourth largest export destination for India.
- Bilateral trade between the two countries has increased from \$9 billion to \$18 billion in the last five years.

2. India's first intranasal covid vaccine by Bharat Biotech gets DCGI nod (Sept. 6, 2022)

India's first intranasal Covid vaccine developed by Hyderabad based Bharat Biotech limited has received DCGI approval on 6 September 2022 for primary immunization against the infection for people above the age of 18.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The drugs can now be inhaled by the patient through a spray and there is no need for any injection through needles.
- In a tweet published on 6 September 2022, Mandaviya said that Bharat Biotech's ChAd36-SARS-CoV-S COVID-19 (Chimpanzee Adenovirus Vectored) recombinant nasal vaccine has been approved for primary immunization against COVID-19 in 18+ age group for restricted use in emergency situation.
- The **first indigenous vaccine** named **Covaxin** against covid-19 was also developed by Bharat Biotech.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

DCGI (Drugs Controller General of India) :

- The Drugs Controller General of India is the head of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, CDSCO is responsible for approval of Drugs, Conduct of Clinical Trials, laying down the standards for Drugs, control over the quality of imported Drugs in the country.

Drugs Controller General of India: **Venugopal Girdharilal Somani**

Headquarters: **New Delhi**

Full Form :

DGCI :- (Drugs Controller General of India)

3. Centre announces constitution of National level Committee for drafting of National Cooperation Policy (Sept. 6, 2022)

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister, Amit Shah on 6 September announced the constitution of a National level committee for drafting of the national cooperation policy document.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The national level committee, headed by former Union cabinet minister **Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu**, comprises **47 members** from all parts of the country.
- The committee comprises experts from the cooperative sector, representatives of national, state and district cooperatives, secretary cooperatives and registrars of cooperative societies of states and union territories.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

National Cooperation Policy :

- The new National Cooperation Policy is being formulated to realize the vision of '**Sahakar Se Samridhhi**' under the leadership of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah had recently announced that a National Cooperative Policy would soon be formulated to take a holistic approach to the above PACS cooperatives.
- The new National Cooperative Policy document is being prepared with a view to fulfill the mandate given to the new Ministry of Cooperation.
- The current National Policy on Cooperation was formulated in **2002**.

- Its objective was to facilitate the all-round development of co-operative societies and to
- provide them with the necessary support, encouragement and assistance.

Objectives of the new policy :

- To realize the vision of 'Sahakar Se Samriddhi'
- To empower the cooperative movement in the country and strengthen its reach at the grassroots level
- To promote a cooperative based economic development model and to support the cooperative sector in realizing its potential
- Creating legal and institutional infrastructure.

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5. NITI Aayog and BMZ hold inaugural NITI - BMZ Dialogue on Development Cooperation (Sept. 6, 2022)

NITI Aayog and the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) inaugurated the NITI-BMZ Dialogue on Development Cooperation via video conferencing on 5 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The talks set out a path to strengthen mutual cooperation between the two countries.
- The issue of tackling **climate change** was specifically discussed with the goals of **Agenda 2030**.
- It focused on five key areas of cooperation - the **Sustainable Development Goals, climate action, energy transition, emerging technologies and agro-ecology**.
- During the discussions, both sides highlighted the need to deepen mutual engagement to enhance natural farming in India.
- NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman **Suman Berry** said that the India-Germany partnership is an example of success in this complex world.
- The dialogue will help both countries realise their respective potential to incorporate climate action into the Sustainable Development Goals.

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7. Tamil Nadu requests for Supreme Court bench in Chennai (Sept. 6, 2022)

Chief Minister MK Stalin has again requested for the establishment of a regional bench of the Supreme Court in Chennai and allowed Tamil to be used as one of the official languages in the Madras High Court.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The outgoing Vice President, **M Venkaiah Naidu** had suggested bifurcation of the Supreme Court into four regional benches for speedy disposal of cases.
- He also emphasized on representation of all sections in the appointment of judges.
- However, the Supreme Court has said on this demand that there is no need for such benches outside Delhi.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Why is the Supreme Court located in New Delhi ?

- **Article 130** of the Constitution of India says the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.
- This means that the law allows the establishment of benches of the Supreme Court at several places with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of India and the President.
- The **Law Commission** in its **229th report** had suggested the establishment of a Constitution Bench of the Court at New Delhi and four other Benches in different regions of India.

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9. Preventive detentions in 2021 up by 23.7% compared to year before (Sept. 6, 2022)

With over **1.1 lakh** people in preventive detention, **2021** saw an increase of over **23.7%** in preventive detention compared to a year ago, according to the latest data released by the National Crime Records Bureau.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Of these, 483 were in custody under the National Security Act.
- A total of more than 24,500 people placed in preventive custody were either in custody or were still in custody till the end of last year.
- According to the 2017 NCRB report, a total of 67,084 people were detained in the year 2017 as a preventive measure.
- The number of persons placed under detention has been increasing steadily since 2017.
- The number is more than 98,700 in 2018 and more than 1.06 lakh in 2019 and 89,405 in 2020.
- According to data related to 2021, last year 1,10,683 people were placed under preventive detention.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Preventive Detention :

- It is a statutory power under the state, under which the state can detain any person to prevent him from committing any possible offence.
- Article 22 of the Indian Constitution provides protection to persons arrested or taken into custody.
- There are two types of detention - **punitive and preventive.**
- Under punitive detention, a person is punished after trial and conviction in court for the offence committed by him.
- Under preventive detention, a person is detained without trial and without conviction by the court.

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