

Current Affairs search results for tag: national

### **1. Asia Pacific Sustainability Index 2021 ( July 4, 2022 )**

Recently the Asia Pacific Sustainability Index 2021 was launched by Knight Frank, a global property advisor.

- The index ranks 36 cities on the basis of urbanisation pressure, carbon emissions, climate risk and government initiatives.
- Four Indian cities, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Delhi and Mumbai have been ranked in the top 20 sustainable cities in this index.

#### **• Indian cities rank**

- Bangalore ranks first among Indian cities. Whereas it is ranked 14th in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Bengaluru is the only Indian city to have achieved the 'Gold' standard category.
- Bengaluru is followed by Delhi, which is ranked 17th in the Asia Pacific region.
- Hyderabad is ranked 3rd in India and 18th in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Mumbai ranks 4th among Indian cities and 20th in the Asia-Pacific region.

#### **• World cities rank**

- Singapore tops this index.
- It is followed by Sydney, Wellington, Perth and Melbourne.

#### **• Green bond in india**

- According to the report, there has been an increase of 523% year-on-year in issuance of green bonds in India.
- It was USD 1.1 billion in 2020 and has increased to USD 6.8 billion in 2021.
- Currently, India has become the sixth largest country in the Asia-Pacific region in terms of the total amount of green bonds issued in 2021.

#### **• Green Bonds in the Asia-Pacific Region**

- The sector issued USD 126 billion in green bonds in 2021, according to estimates from the Climate Bonds Initiative.
- China issued the largest amount of bonds worth USD 68 billion.

### **2. India's Participation in Seychelles Independence Day Celebrations ( July 4, 2022 )**

The Indian Navy contingent joined Seychelles Defence Force personnel and Seychelles citizens for the Independence Day celebrations.

- INS Kolkata, an indigenously built stealth guided missile destroyer of the Indian Navy, was deployed at Port Victoria, Seychelles on the occasion of Seychelles Independence Day on 29 Jun 22.
- A marching contingent of Indian Navy personnel accompanied by a musical band participated in the military parade held at the Unity Stadium in Roche Caiman on 3 July.
- The deployment marked the continued participation of the Indian military contingent in the Seychelles National Day since 1976.
- **INS Kolkata**
  - It is a stealth guided missile destroyer.
  - BrahMos missile and Barak 8 missiles were test fired from INS Kolkata in 2015.
  - It was constructed at Mazagon Dock Limited and was handed over to the navy on 10 July 2014 after completing its sea trials.
  - It was officially commissioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a ceremony held on 16 August 2014.
- **Seychelles**
  - It is an island republic in the Western Indian ocean . It is a part of Eastern Africa .
  - Capital : Victoria
  - President : Wavel Ramkalawan
  - Currency : Seychelles rupee

### **3. PM Narendra Modi inaugurate Digital India Week 2022 at Gandhinagar ( July 4, 2022 )**

Digital India Week 2022 inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Gandhinagar in Gujarat on 4 July.

- During the programme, several digital initiatives were launched by the Prime Minister with an aim to streamline service delivery to increase access to technology, make life easier and promote startups.
- The State Information Technology Department (IT) is organizing this event to mark the completion of seven years of Digital India.
- Theme of Digital India Week - New India Technology Inspiration
- PM also announced the first cohort of 30 Institutions to be supported under the Chips to Startup Programme.
- **Objective of the program**

- Enhancing technology penetration, streamlining service delivery systems to ease lifestyles and promoting startups.

- **‘Digital India Bhashini’**

- On this occasion, 'Digital India Bhashini' was unveiled by the Prime Minister.
- This will enable easy access to the Internet and digital services in Indian languages, including voice-based access, and help in content creation in Indian languages.

- **‘Digital India GENESIS’**

- PM also launched ‘Digital India GENESIS’.
- It is a national deep-tech startup platform that will explore, support, develop and build successful startups in Tier-II and Tier-III cities in India.
- A total outlay of Rs 750 crore is envisaged for this scheme.

- **‘Indiastack.global’**

- PM also launched 'Indiastack.global’.
- It is a global repository of key projects implemented under India Stack like Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, Coin Vaccination Platform and Government e-Marketplace.
- This offering from India for the Global Public Digital Goods Repository will help position India as a leader in building population-scale digital transformation projects.
- It will also prove to be of great help to other countries that are looking for such technological solutions.

- **‘MyScheme’**

- The Prime Minister dedicated the citizens ‘MyScheme’.
- It is a service discovery platform facilitating access to Government Schemes.
- It aims to offer a one-stop search and discovery portal where users can find the plans they are eligible for.

- **‘Meri Pehchaan’**

- The PM also dedicated the citizens ‘Meri Pehchaan’- National Single Sign On for One Citizen Login.
- National Single Sign-On is a user authentication service in which a set of credentials provides access to multiple online applications or services.

- **About Digital India Programme**

- It was launched on July 1, 2015.
- Its vision is to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- **Its aims are-**

1. creating digital infrastructure,
2. delivering services digitally
3. making people digitally literate

#### **4. India's first National Coalition Forum for Urban Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) ( July 2, 2022 )**

India's first National Coalition Forum for Urban Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) was launched at the 11th World Urban Forum in Poland.

- **Important facts**

- The National Alliance Forum was launched by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), Climate Centre for Cities (NIUA C-Cube), World Resources Institute India (WRI India-World Resources Institute India) and their partners.
- NIUA focuses on research, knowledge management, policy, advocacy and capacity building on urban development and management to develop sustainable, inclusive and productive urban ecosystems in the country.

- **About nature based solutions(NBS)**

- NbS is defined by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as the act of protecting, sustaining, managing and restoring natural and modified ecosystems that contribute to human well-being and biodiversity while effectively and adaptively addressing social challenges. associated benefits.
- NbS helps in mitigating the impact of climate change as well as providing benefits to many ecosystems including addressing various social challenges, building disadvantaged and vulnerable urban communities most affected by climate change induced disasters.

- **About World Urban Forum**

- The World Urban Forum (WUF) is the premier global conference on sustainable urbanism.
- WUF was established in 2001 by the United Nations to investigate rapid urbanisation and its impact on communities, cities, economies, climate change and policies.
- WUF11 is co-organized by UN-Habitat, Poland's Ministry of Development Fund and Regional Policy, and the Municipal Office of Katowice, Poland.

#### **5. Ashadhi Bij - The Kutch community's New Year ( July 2, 2022 )**

Ashadhi Beej is celebrated every year on the second day of the month of Ashadha as Hindu New Year by the Kutch community in the Kutch region of Gujarat.

- **Important facts**

- In 2022, it was celebrated on 1 July. It is also known as Kutchi New Year.

- Kutchi New Year is a traditional festival and is celebrated in homes.
- This festival marks the beginning of rains in the Kutch region of Gujarat.
- During Ashadhi seed, the humidity in the atmosphere is tested to predict which crop will do better in the coming monsoon.
- Lord Ganesha, Goddess Lakshmi and other regional deities are worshipped on this occasion.
- In other parts of Gujarat, the Hindu New Year is celebrated on Kartik Shukla Paksha after Diwali.

- **Rann of Kutch**

- The Rann of Kutch in India is located in the Thar Desert biogeographic region in the Indian state of Gujarat. This area is also spread in the Sindh province of Pakistan.
- The Rann of Kutch covers a vast area of about 10,000 square miles and is located between the Gulf of Kutch and the mouth of the Indus River in southern Pakistan.
- In the north-east corner of the Rann of Kutch is the Luni River, which originates from Rajasthan.
- The Rann of Kutch is counted among the wetlands of India.
- The Gulf of Kutch lies to the west of this region and the Gulf of Khambhat is to the east.
- The region is home to a large population of the wild Asian donkey, which is a member of the wild horse family.
- The Indian Wild Ass Sanctuary is famous for the Chote Rann of Kutch.
- The Rann of Kutch is the only region in India that gives refuge to migratory flamingos.
- The region is home to a total of 13 species of lark.
- Some of the other bird species found in the marshlands of Kutch include Ibis, Spoonbill, Common Crane, Pelican etc.
- The Biosphere Reserve of the Rann of Kutch is considered an important area for the conservation of critically endangered vulture species.

## **6. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. is sworn in as the Philippines 17th president ( July 2, 2022 )**

Ferdinand Marcos Jr. sworn in as the 17th President of the Philippines.

- Ferdinand Marcos Jr took the oath at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Manila.
- Ferdinand Marcos Jr. will serve as president until 2028.
- Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has replaced Rodrigo Duterte, who served as the President of the Philippines from 2016 to 2022.

- Sara Duterte Carpio has been elected Vice President.
- Marcos Jr. won the presidential election in May with 60 percent of the vote over rival Maria Leonor Robredo.
- The President is the head of the executive branch of the Philippine government. The President is directly elected by the people.
- The term of the President in the Philippine Constitution is six years.

• **About Philippines**

- The Philippines is a country located in Southeast Asia.
- It got complete independence on 4 July 1946 after the Second World War.
- It is the country with the fifth longest coastline in the world.
- The Philippines is the second largest producer of geothermal energy in the world, after the United States.
- Capital - Manila
- Currency - peso

**7. Habitat World Cities Report 2022 ( July 2, 2022 )**

Recently the United Nations published its report titled "Habitat World Cities Report 2022".

- The urban population in India is projected to reach 675 million in 2035. This will be the second highest figure after China.
- After the COVID-19 pandemic, the global urban population is on the rise again. This will increase to 2.2 billion by 2050.
- India's urban population is expected to reach 675,456,000 in 2035 as compared to 483,099,000 in 2020.
- The percentage of population in India's urban areas will be 43.2 percent by 2035.

• **Global scenario**

- The urban population in China is projected to reach 1.05 billion in 2035.
- The urban population in Asia will increase to 2.99 billion in 2035.
- In the past two decades, India and China experienced rapid urbanisation and economic growth. As a result, the number of people living in poverty has decreased.
- Large economies like China and India account for the bulk of the world's population. The growth trajectory in these countries has affected global inequality.

• **About United Nations Human Settlement Program (UN-Habitat) -**

- It was established in 1978.

- UN-Habitat is the United Nations agency for human settlements assigned by the United Nations General Assembly the task of promoting socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities towards the goal of providing affordable housing for all.
- Headquarters- Nairobi, Kenya
- Executive Director- Maimunah Mohammad Sharif

## **8. New Manufacturing Facilities at Bharat Dynamics Limited Dedicated to the Nation ( July 2, 2022 )**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh dedicates to the nation new manufacturing facilities at Bharat Dynamics Limited, Bhanur.

- Rajnath Singh visited the Bhanur Unit of Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) in Telangana on July 2, 2022.
- During his visit he dedicated to the Nation a number of new manufacturing facilities set up by the Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU).
- These include the Warhead Facility at Bhanur Unit and Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker Facility at Kanchanbagh Unit.
- Rajnath Singh also unveiled a statue of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi in the BDL campus.
- **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)**
  - It is a Government of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Defence.
  - It was established in Hyderabad in the year 1970.
  - It manufactures guided missiles and allied defence equipment for the Indian Armed Forces.
  - It has been working in collaboration with DRDO and foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).

## **9. NITI Aayog releases compendium of various Ayush-based initiatives ( July 2, 2022 )**

NITI Aayog has released a compendium of AYUSH based medical interventions from States and Union Territories.

- The name of this compendium is "Mitigation and Management of COVID-19: Compendium of AYUSH-Based Practices from Indian States and Union Territories".
- This compendium gives detailed information on various AYUSH-based initiatives and measures taken by the States and Union Territories in view of the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

- It was released by NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Suman Beri and Minister of State for AYUSH and Women and Child Development Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai Kalubhai.
- In preparing this compendium of AYUSH-based measures, NITI Aayog has contacted all the States and Union Territories and urged them to share the AYUSH measures taken in mitigating and managing the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The report indicated that there is a need to further strengthen the traditional health systems in the country.
- The compendium also includes a summary of the Ministry of AYUSH, guidelines and initiatives of the Government of India.
- The measures mentioned in the collection were divided into five categories:
  1. Information about the targets of the measures adopted by the States and Union Territories
  2. AYUSH Human Resource and Infrastructure
  3. Quick Actions and Initiatives
  4. Digital Platforms and Tele-medicine
  5. Issues to arise or to be resolved

- **About NITI Aayog**

- It is the premier policy think tank of the Government of India, it provides directional and policy inputs.
- It designs strategic and long-term policies.
- It also provides relevant technical advice to the Centre, States, and Union Territories.
- The Governing Council of NITI Aayog is chaired by the Prime Minister and includes the Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories and the Lieutenant Governors of other Union Territories.
- It was constituted on January 1, 2015.
- NITI stands for National Institution for Transforming India.
- The Government of India constituted the NITI Aayog to replace the Planning Commission, which was set up in 1950.
- This step was taken to better meet the needs and aspirations of the people.

## **10. Indian Army, Air Force join to conduct landmark cycling expedition from Delhi to Drass ( July 2, 2022 )**



To commemorate 75 years of India's independence, the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force have joined forces to conduct a historic cycling expedition from Delhi to Drass beginning on 22 July.

- The team of cyclists will be led by Major Srishti Sharma of Corps of Signals.
- The Indian Air Force team is led by Squadron Leader Maneka.
- The team comprises 20 soldiers and air warriors and will be led by two women officers of the Army and Air Force.
- The expedition was flagged off on July 2 at morning from the National War Memorial in New Delhi.
- The cyclists will cover a distance of 1,600 km in 24 days.
- The expedition will culminate on the 26th of this month at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass in memory of the brave martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice during the Kargil War.
- The expedition will proceed through Punjab before entering Himachal Pradesh.
- **Aim of the expedition**
- Cyclists interact with school children at various stages along the way to raise the energy of young Indians towards nationalism.
- They will act as a beacon to guide the immeasurable enthusiasm and zeal of the future leaders of the country.