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## **1. India to host ASEAN countries conference on traditional medicines ( July 13, 2023 )**

India-to-host-ASEAN-countries-conference-on-traditional-medicines

The Ministry of AYUSH in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian Mission to ASEAN and ASEAN Secretariat, is organizing a Conference on Traditional Medicines for ASEAN Countries on 20th July, 2023.

### **An Overview of the News**

- The aim of the conference is **to strengthen cooperation and knowledge sharing between India and ASEAN countries in the field of traditional medicines.**
- **The "Act East Policy"** launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a new impetus to the strategic partnership between India and ASEAN.

### **Growth and Achievements of Ministry of AYUSH:**

- The Ministry of AYUSH has seen significant growth since it became an independent ministry in 2014.
- Collaboration with international organizations and national institutions has allowed high-quality research on AYUSH systems in various health conditions, including non-communicable diseases such as diabetes mellitus, cancer, mental health, and infectious diseases such as COVID-19.
- The ASEAN conference will serve as a platform for sharing research results and experiences in the field of traditional medicine.

### **Conference Goals:**

- To facilitate exchange of best practices and recent developments in the regulatory framework for the promotion of traditional medicine in ASEAN member countries.
- Strengthening international cooperation in AYUSH through collaboration and establishment of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ASEAN countries and other countries.

### **Participant Details:**

- A total of 75 participants will participate in the conference, including international delegates from eight ASEAN countries and two international delegates participating virtually.
- Delegates will brainstorm and share ideas on traditional medicine during the one-day conference held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

### **About Ministry of AYUSH**

- It is a **government ministry in India.**

- It is responsible for **the development, promotion and regulation of traditional systems of medicine.**
- AYUSH is the abbreviation of **Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Society** and aims **to promote education and research of the above.**
- The ministry provides educational and training programs.

Establishment - **2014**

Responsible Ministers - **Sarbananda Sonowal, Cabinet Minister and Mahendra Munjapara, Minister of State**

Ministry Executive - **Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary**

Ministry of Motherhood - **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India**

## **2. Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB): ( July 13, 2023 )**

Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB)-01

On 13 July 2023, the 11th meeting of the Executive Board of the **Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB)** was held in **Cartagena, Colombia.**

### **An Overview of the news:**

- An International Conference on **“A Global Perspective on the Challenges of the Regional Elections 2023”** was also organized by the National Civil Registry, Colombia.
- In the Executive Board meeting, the participants discussed various issues including programs and activities to be undertaken by A-WEB during 2023-24, Annual Progress Report of A-WEB and its regional offices including A-WEB India Centre, budget and membership related issues were discussed.

### **India's leadership in A-WEB:**

- A three-member delegation of the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** was led by **Chief Election Commissioner Rajeev Kumar** in the meeting.
- On the sidelines of the **11th A-WEB Executive Board** meeting, a bilateral meeting with the **National Election Commission of the Republic of Korea** on the ECI Electronic Postal Ballot System was also held.

### **A-WEB Chair in 2022:**

- During the 5th General Assembly meeting of A-WEB in Cape Town in November 2022, after CEC Rajeev Kumar successfully led the EMB through the COVID pandemic (2019-2022), A-WEB from ECI to the Electoral Commission of South Africa was assigned the presidency.

### **Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB):**

- It has become the largest global association of election management bodies giving a new impetus to the spread of electoral democracy.
- **Established:** 2013
- **Objective:** To make valuable contributions, professional support and advice by sharing innovations, experiences and skills with the participation and cooperation of its members.
- **Members:** 120 Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) from 111 countries and 21 international organizations.
- **Functions of A-web:**
  - A-WEB to organize capacity building programs for its member EMBs.
  - To study election management practices.
  - Conducting election visitor and observation programs in various countries for knowledge sharing with other member EMBs.

### **India A-Web Centre:**

- In the A-WEB Executive Board meeting held in **Bengaluru** in September 2019, it was decided to set up an India A-WEB Center in **New Delhi**.
- It conducts documentation and research for sharing the best knowledge of A-WEB members and for training and capacity building of officials.
- Journal published by India A-Web Centre: '**A-Web India Journal of Election**'.

### **3. Third World Hindu Conference organized in Bangkok ( July 8, 2023 )**

Third-World-Hindu-Conference

According to the **World Hindu Foundation**, the third '**World Hindu Congress**' (WHC) **2023** will be organized in **Bangkok** in November.

#### **An Overview of the news:**

- The three-day **Vishwa Hindu Sammelan** will be organized by the **Vishwa Hindu Foundation** from November 24 at the **Convention Center in Bangkok**.

#### **Organizer of World Hindu Congress:**

- The World Hindu Congress is being organized by the **World Hindu Foundation**. Its trustee is **Swami Vigyananand**.
- Swami Vigyanananda is the Managing Trustee of the Vishwa Hindu Foundation as well as the **Joint General Secretary** of the **Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP)**.

#### **Invited members from India:**

- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh **Yogi Adityanath**, Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh **Mohan Bhagwat** and **Ma Amritanandamayi** have been invited to this event.
- Representatives of Hindu organizations and prominent Buddhist teachers from all over the world have been invited to the conference.
- Among politicians from India, only Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** has been invited.

**Former World Hindu Congress:**

- The first World Hindu Congress was held in **Delhi in 2014** and the second in **2018 in Chicago, USA**.

**Organizing Issue:**

- According to Trustee Swami Vigyanananda, the achievements of Hindus will be discussed in the Congress of Bangkok along with discrimination against Hindus in different regions of the world and ways to deal with it.
- According to the World Hindu Foundation, there are **1.2 billion Hindus** living in about **200 countries** of the world and this forum provides an opportunity to discuss together irrespective of caste, creed, gender, language or any other discrimination.
- Tibetan Buddhism Guru **Dalai Lama** has participated in the first World Hindu Congress held in **Delhi**.

**Number of Representatives:**

- The first Congress was attended by **1800 delegates** and the second Congress by over **2400 delegates**. This time the number of delegates has been **limited to 2500**.

**4. U20 Mayoral Summit begins in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, Gujarat ( July 7, 2023 )**

U20-Mayoral-Summit-begins-in-Ahmedabad

The Urban 20 (U20) Mayoral Summit began in the twin cities of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar located in Gujarat, India.

**An Overview of the News**

- The summit was attended by delegates and participants from **35 cities in India as well as 57 cities around the world**.
- The opening ceremony of the summit was conducted by **Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Kaushal Kishor**.

**Thematic Sessions:**

- The summit held thematic sessions focusing **on six priority areas of the U20, including environmental responsibility, climate finance and water security**.
- The purpose of these sessions is **to facilitate discussion and knowledge sharing between mayors and city officials**.

**U20 communiqué and G20 agenda:**

- The main outcome of the U20 Mayoral Summit is the handing over of the U20 Communiqué by the mayors present to the G20 leaders.

- The U20 Communiqué is a collaboratively produced document that emphasizes
- actionable measures and highlights the role of cities in advancing the G20 agenda.

## **5. G20 Space Economy Leaders' meeting begins in Bengaluru ( July 7, 2023 )**

G20-Space-Economy-Leaders'

The 4th edition of G20 Space Economy Leaders Meeting was held in Bengaluru, India.

### **An Overview of the News**

- This is the first face-to-face meeting under the umbrella of the G20, previous meetings were held virtually or in a hybrid format.

### **Theme:**

- The theme of the fourth edition is "**Towards a New Space ERA**".
- The theme is in line with the overarching theme of the G20 summit, which is "**One Earth, One Space and One Future**".

### **Discussion On Space Economy**

- On the first day, heads of national space agencies, leaders of space industries from G20 countries and representatives of guest countries participated in the discussion.
- The focus was **on increasing the share of the space economy in the global economy**.
- The goal is **to foster connections and cooperation within the space business sector**.
- Proceedings of the meetings are intended to support the goal of responsibly and continuously improving the share of the space economy in the global economy.
- President of IN-SPACe - **Dr. Pawan Kumar Goenka**

### **About the G20**

- It is an **international forum of the world's leading economies established in 1999**.
- Its primary objective is **to promote international financial stability and sustainable economic growth**.
- The G20 serves as a forum to discuss and coordinate policies related to a wide range of economic and financial issues such as **trade, investment, employment, energy and climate change**.

## **6. Startup20 Shikhar summit begins in Haryana's Gurugram ( July 3, 2023 )**

The two-day Startup20 Shikhar summit organised by Startup20 Engagement Group began on 2 July 2023 in Gurugram, Haryana under India's G20 chairmanship.

### **An Overview of the News**

- The importance of **education and awareness in nurturing a culturally sensitive startup ecosystem** was emphasised during the conference.
- The Startup20 initiative aims **to foster a conducive business environment in the G20 countries and support talented individuals from diverse backgrounds to drive commercialization, expansion and innovation.**

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### **About Haryana**

- It is a state located in **North India**, which is bordered by **New Delhi on three sides.**
- The eastern boundary of Haryana is formed by the **Yamuna River**, which separates it from the state of **Uttar Pradesh.**
- It shares its western border with the state of Punjab.
- Haryana has **Zakir Hussain Rose Garden, which is located in Chandigarh.**
- Rock Garden is located in Chandigarh, which displays sculptures made using recycled materials.

Capital - **Chandigarh**

Governor - **Bandaru Dattatreya**

Chief Minister - **Manohar Lal Khattar**

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry - **Som Prakash**

## **7. 17th Indian Cooperative Congress ( June 29, 2023 )**

17th-Indian-Cooperative-Congress

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **17th Indian Cooperative Congress (ICC)** on the 1st July at **Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.**

### **An overview of the news**

- The **National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI)** is organizing the **two-day event** with the theme "**Amrit Kaal: Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India.**"
- The Union Home and Cooperation Minister, **Amit Shah**, will chair the congress.
- The Indian Cooperative Congress aims to discuss various trends in the cooperative movement, showcase best practices adopted by successful cooperatives, and deliberate on the challenges faced by the cooperative world.
- An exhibition will also be held during the congress, showcasing various products of **Self-Help Groups and NCUI Cooperative Education Field Projects under the banner of NCUI HAAT.**
- The event is expected to connect approximately five crore members live during the congress.

### **About National Cooperative Union of India**

- It is the apex organization representing the entire **cooperative movement in India.**
- It was **established in 1929** as the **All India Cooperative Institutes Association.**
- Through the merger of the **Indian Provincial Cooperative Banks' Association** with the All India Cooperative Institutes Association, it was reorganized as the **Indian Cooperative Union.**
- **In 1961**, it took on its current name as the National Cooperative Union of India.
- Since its inception, the NCUI has been at the **forefront of the cooperative movement** in India, acting as a torchbearer.
- The NCUI plays a vital role in promoting and supporting cooperative initiatives throughout the country.

### **8. International Conference on Green Hydrogen to be held in New Delhi ( June 28, 2023 )**

International-Conference-on-Green-Hydrogen-to-be-held-in-New-Delhi

The Government of India is hosting the **International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2023)** from **5th to 7th July 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.**

#### **An overview of the news**

- The conference provides a platform for stakeholders in the sector to explore the **evolving landscape of green hydrogen and innovative solutions.**
- Specific discussions on **hydrogen production, storage, distribution, and applications, the conference** will address topics such as green financing, upskilling of human resources, and startup initiatives in the sector.

- The conference will facilitate the sharing of international best practices and provide opportunities for learning from global experiences in the field of **Green Hydrogen**.

### **Objective of the Conference**

- The primary objective of the conference is to **examine the establishment of a Green Hydrogen ecosystem** and promote a systemic approach to achieve global decarbonization goals through the **utilization of Green Hydrogen**.
- The conference aims to bring together global experts from the scientific and industrial communities to discuss the **latest advancements and emerging technologies in the field of green hydrogen**.

### **Organiser of the Conference**

- It is organized by the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research**, and the **Office of Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India**.

### **National Green Hydrogen Mission**

- The aim of the National Green Hydrogen Mission is to enable India to meet its climate change target of **net zero carbon emission by 2070** and make India a **production and export hub of hydrogen fuel**.

### **Aims of National Green Hydrogen Mission**

- Achieve the capacity to produce **5 million tonnes of green hydrogen per year by 2030** ,
- Capacity addition of **125 GW of renewable energy by 2030**.
- Reduction in carbon dioxide emission of nearly **50 Million Metric Tonne per annum by 2030**.
- Reduction in fossil fuel imports worth **Rs 1 lakh crore by 2030**.
- To attract investment over **Rs.8 lakh crore in the sector**.
- Target of creation of over **6 lakh jobs in the sector by 2030**.

## **9. 8th Global Pharmaceutical Quality Summit 2023 ( June 24, 2023 )**

8th-Global-Pharmaceutical-Quality-Summit-2023

The **Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA)** on 23 June successfully concluded the **8th edition of the Global Pharmaceutical Quality Summit at Mumbai**.

### **An overview of the news**



- The theme for the Summit was, '**Patient Centricity: New Paradigm of Manufacturing and Quality**'.
- The two-day Summit brought together **industry leaders, global regulators, quality experts, and stakeholders** to foster knowledge exchange and deliberate on areas of importance in shaping the pharmaceutical landscape in India.
- The event was inaugurated by **Samir Mehta**, Chairman, Torrent Pharmaceuticals and President, IPA.
- **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**, Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers and Health and Family Welfare addressed the summit.
- India played a vital role as the "Pharmacy to the World" during the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring a steady supply of quality medicines and vaccines across the globe.
- The Indian pharmaceutical industry has demonstrated its potential both in terms of quality and quantity.

### **About the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA)**

- IPA was **established in the year 1999 in Mumbai**.
- IPA represents **24 research-based national pharmaceutical companies**.
- Collectively, the IPA companies contribute to over **85 percent** of the private sector investment in pharmaceutical research and development in India.
- IPA companies are responsible for more than **80 percent** of the country's exports of drugs and pharmaceuticals.
- They also serve over **60 percent** of the domestic market in India.

## **10. G-20 Labor Engagement Group meeting started in Patna ( June 22, 2023 )**

G-20-Labor-Engagement-Group-meeting-started-in-Patna

The two-day meeting of the G-20 Labor Engagement Group began on 22 May 2023 in Patna, Bihar.

### **An Overview of the News**

- **Around 150 delegates** from the G-20 member **states and eight guest countries participated**.
- The ceremony was inaugurated by **Bihar Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** at the **Ashoka Convention Center in Patna**.
- This meeting includes universalizing social security and increasing **women's participation in the workforce (around 32% globally)**.
- The meeting also focused on the plight of migrant workers and the issue of knowledge and skill gaps among workers.

- The delegates will explore new employment opportunities and challenges in G20 countries.

Union Labor and Employment Minister - **Bhupendra Yadav**

Labor Resources Minister of Bihar - **Surendra Ram**

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- The G20 serves as a forum to discuss and coordinate policies related to a wide range of economic and financial issues such as **trade, investment, employment, energy and climate change**.

### **Bihar:**

- It is a state **located in eastern** India and **shares its border with Nepal**.
- This region is divided by the **river Ganga**.
- Bihar is known for its important **Buddhist pilgrimage sites**.
- The **Mahabodhi Temple** in Bodh Gaya is a revered site.

Formation - **22 March 1912**

Capital - **Patna**

District - **38**

Governor - **Rajendra Arlekar**

Chief Minister - **Nitish Kumar**

Rajya Sabha - **16 seats**

Lok Sabha - **40 seats**