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### 1. Inauguration of 40th 'Hunar Haat' in Mumbai ( April 18, 2022 )

Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports, Shri Anurag Thakur inaugurated the 40th edition of the 'Hunar Haat' in Mumbai.

- The 40th edition of Hunar Haat is a credible platform to promote 'Swadeshi' products.
- It is being held at MMRDA Ground, Bandra-Kurla Complex in Mumbai from 16th to 27th April, 2022.
- Atma Nirbhar Bharat is being strengthened by initiatives like Hunar Haat.
- In this 40th edition of Hunar Haat, more than a thousand craftsmen and artisans coming from 31 states have put up 400 stalls."
- Tejas Skills Program is a program launched by the Government of India.
- Under this initiative India will send skilled manpower to the UAE.
- Within a year, 30,000 skilled job-seekers will be sent to the UAE.
- About 'Hunar Haat'
- -it is an exhibition of handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans from the minority communities.
- -launched in 2016
- -its theme is Vocal for Local.
- -organiser Ministry of Minority Affairs under USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) scheme.
- -its aim is to provide market exposure and employment opportunities to artisans, craftsmen and traditional culinary experts.

# 2. Extreme poverty in India declined by 12.3 percentage points during 2011-2019 ( April 18, 2022 )

According to the World Bank Report Poverty in India is 12.3 percentage points lower in 2019 as compared to 2011.

- The poverty headcount rate has declined from 22.5 percent in 2011 to 10.2 percent in 2019.
- As per a policy research working paper of World Bank, Poverty reduction was higher in rural areas as compared to urban India.
- Rural poverty dropped by 14.7 percent while urban poverty declined by 7.9 percentage points during 2011 to 2019.
- Study says that farmers with small landholding sizes have experienced higher income growth.

- Real incomes for farmers with the smallest landholdings have grown by 10 percent in
- annualised terms between the two survey rounds in 2013 and 2019 compared to a 2 percent growth for farmers with the largest landholding.
- Extreme poverty has been measured in terms of the number of people living on less than \$1.90 a day (roughly Rs 145).
- About World Bank
- The World Bank is a provider of financial and technical assistance to individual countries around the globe.
- -it comprises 189 countries and five constituent institutions that work towards eradicating poverty and creating prosperity.
- -Currently, the World Bank has two stated goals that it aims to achieve by 2030.
- -The first is to end extreme poverty by decreasing the number of people living on less than \$1.90 a day to below 3% of the world population.
- -The second is to increase overall prosperity by increasing income growth in the bottom 40% of every country in the world.
- -HQ: Washington DC (USA)

## 3. Egypt approves India as wheat supplier ( April 16, 2022 )

Egypt, which is one of the largest importers of wheat from Ukraine and Russia, has approved India as a wheat supplier.

- Egypt is likely to lift about one million tonnes of wheat from India, of which 240,000 tonnes will be shipped in April itself.
- Export was approved after a rigorous process of field visits and checks in quarantine facilities in India by Egyptian authorities.
- The teams visited wheat fields in Madhya Pradesh, UP and Punjab to check for themselves the quality of wheat produced in India.
- India aims to export 10-11 million tonnes of wheat in FY23 due to the surge in global demand following the Russia-Ukraine crisis.

#### India's wheat export

- India's wheat exports rose to \$1.74 billion in April-January 2021-22 as against \$340.17 million in the same period last year.
- In 2019-20, wheat exports were worth USD 61.84 million, which rose to USD 549.67 million in 2020-21.
- India's wheat exports are mainly to neighbouring countries with Bangladesh having the largest share of more than 54 percent.

## 4. Musk set to buy Twitter with \$43 billion offer ( April 15, 2022 )

Elon Musk, Tesla's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has offered to buy Twitter.

- Twitter informed the stock market on April 14 that Musk sent it a letter on April 13, proposing to buy the rest of the company's shares.
- Musk has offered \$54.20 for each Twitter share. The offering comes in at over \$43 billion.
- Musk has described this price as his maximum and final offer.
- It is noteworthy that Musk currently owns more than nine percent of Twitter's shares. He is the largest shareholder of the company.

### 5. Kangra tea gets EU GI tag ( April 15, 2022 )

Kangra tea of Himachal Pradesh has received the GI tag of the European Union. Kangra tea is in great demand in the market due to its many properties.

- It got the GI tag of India in the year 2005 itself.
- In Himachal Pradesh, 2311 hectares of land is under tea.
- Geographical Indication ie GI tag is found about the characteristics of the goods produced in a particular place.

#### Kangra Tea:

- Due to its medicinal properties and rapidly increasing use in cosmetics, its demand has increased rapidly globally.
- This tea is grown at an altitude of 900 to 1400 metres above sea level. Tea requires annual rainfall of 270 to 350 cm.

# 6. Israel has developed the world's first laser missile defence system: Iron Beam ( April 15, 2022 )

Israel has successfully test-fired a laser missile defence system for the first time in the world.

- The name of this missile defence system has been given 'Iron Beam'. This laser-based missile defence system destroyed mortars, rockets and anti-tank missiles in a single blow.
- Israel also has a missile defence system named Iron Dome, which has proved to be very useful for this. This is a very expensive defence system that costs thousands of dollars for repeated use.
- But the best thing about this iron beam is that it will cost only Rs 267 in one blow.

#### 7. Boris Johnson rejects calls to resign amid 'partygate' fine (April 14, 2022)

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has refused to resign after being fined for breaking his government's pandemic lockdown rules, saying he would instead redouble efforts to strengthen the economy and combat Russian aggression in Ukraine.

London police fined Mr. Johnson and other people on Tuesday for attending a birthday party thrown for the Prime Minister at his Downing Street offices on June 19, 2020.

The penalty made Mr Johnson the first British Prime Minister ever found to have broken the law while in office.

### 8. Prime Minister's Museum inaugurated in Delhi (April 14, 2022)

The Prime Minister's Museum (PM Museum) was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 14 April at Teen Murti Bhavan, Delhi.

- Through this museum, the contribution of the Prime Ministers made after the independence of the country will be told.
- It aims to sensitise and inspire the younger generation about the leadership, vision and achievements of all Indian Prime Ministers.
- The Prime Minister's Museum has been built in Teen Murti Bhavan. Earlier it was known as the Nehru Museum.
- It will now be known as the Prime Minister's Museum. It has been constructed in an area of 15,600 square metres.

# 9. Cabinet approves continuation of RGSA from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2026 ( April 14, 2022 )

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs 13 April 2022 has approved continuation of revamped Centrally Sponsored Scheme of **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)** for implementation during the period from 0**1.04.2022 to 31.03.2026** (co-terminus with XV Finance Commission period) to develop governance capabilities of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

The total financial outlay of the scheme is **Rs.5911 crore** with the **Central Share of Rs. 3700 crore** and that of **State Share of Rs.2211 crore**.

#### Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA):

Gram Swaraj Abhiyan was **launched on 1st April, 2018**. Targets villages where Dalit and tribal people are predominant.

Its goal is to increase social harmony, promote awareness about government programs being run for the poor and make them aware of these schemes. It contains the following provisions:

- The extension of this scheme is to all the states and union territories of the country.
- Both the central and state components have been included in the scheme.
- The share of the Center and the State in the State Governments will be in the ratio of **60:40** respectively.

The Centre-State funding ratio will be **90:10** in the North Eastern and Hill States. The central share will be 10 per cent for all union territories.

# 10. Single window portal for the benefit of pensioners and retired old citizens ( April 13, 2022 )

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh 12 April 2022 announced setting up of Single Window Portal for benefit of pensioners and superannuated elder citizens.

The Portal will not only enable constant contact with pensioners and their associations across the country but will also regularly receive their inputs, suggestions as well as grievances for prompt response.

### **Objective of Portal**

The objective of Common Pension Portal is to create a single window digital mechanism for pensioners to raise their grievances and get the same resolved without approaching different authorities in person.