

Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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1. **IGNCA organises Rabindra Jayanti in New Delhi (May 19, 2023)**

Rabindra Jayanti was organised in **New Delhi** on 12 May by the **Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts (IGNCA)**.

An Overview of the News

- The event was organised in collaboration with **Sri Guru Gobind Singh Tricentenary University** and **Sanchara Foundation**.
- The '**Vigyan Vaibhav**' portal developed by IGNCA was launched during the event.
- This portal is dedicated to seventy five Indian scientists.
- Minister of State for Culture and External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi inaugurated the portal.
- The event included special cultural performances such as Rabindra Sangeet and a cultural presentation.

IGNCA:

- It is a major **government-funded arts organisation in New Delhi, India**.
- It is an **autonomous institute** under the **Union Ministry of Culture**.
- It was launched on **19 November 1985 by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi**.
- Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts was formed and registered on 24 March 1987 in New Delhi.

2. **Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023 (May 19, 2023)**

Asia-Petrochemical-Industry-Conference-2023

Union Minister of Health, Chemicals and Fertiliser **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya** presided over the **Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023 in New Delhi** on 19th May.

An overview of the news

- The **Chemical and Petrochemicals Manufacturers Association (CPMA)** of India hosted the 41st edition.
- The theme of the event was "**Ushering in a Sustainable Future**".
- Over 1200 delegates from seven member nations as well as participants from **Europe, China, America, Mid East and other Asian Countries** and global partners participated in the conference.
- Mansukh Mandaviya said that the Indian chemical manufacturing industry has indeed been one of the emerging global manufacturing hubs for petrochemicals.

- India is determined to be a trusted partner in the **global supply chain of chemicals and petrochemicals** to the world.

Objective of Conference

- The main objective of the conference is to spur discussion and co-operation on the issues of the day being faced by the industry related to growth, trade, investment, and sustainability, in Asia-Pacific and also around the world.

About Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference

- The conference is hosted on a rotational basis by the seven member countries—**Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan and India.**
- It is a prominent event held annually in Asia that brings together **industry professionals, experts, and stakeholders** from the petrochemical sector.
- The conference aims to facilitate **knowledge exchange, foster collaborations, and address challenges and opportunities** in the petrochemical industry across the Asian region.

About CPMA

- It is the apex forum in the country representing the **Indian Chemicals & Petrochemicals Industry.**
- It was **established in 1993.**
- It offers its members a podium to collectively present their ideas, voice their concerns and offer suggestions on industry issues.
- It provides a linkage between the **industry, the Government and the society at large.**

3. UK announces sanctions on Russian diamonds and metals ahead of the G7 meeting in Japan (May 19, 2023)

g7-meeting-in-japan

The **United Kingdom** has announced sanctions on the **military-industrial complex** and metals as well as **Russian diamonds** in a new round of sanctions ahead of the G7 meeting in Japan.

An Overview of the News

- The ban specifically covers imports of **copper, aluminium and nickel** of Russian origin.
- In addition to trade sanctions, the **UK is targeting 86 members of Russia's military-industrial complex** and individuals involved in key industries such as energy, metals and shipping.

- The UK government aims to crack down on sanctions violations and target those who aid the **Kremlin** in undermining the effect of existing sanctions.

About G7

- It is an **intergovernmental political forum**.
- It consists of seven member states: **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States**.
- In addition to the seven member states, the European Union is also part of the G7 as a non-enumerated member.

Formation - **25 March 1973**

First G6 Summit - **15 November 1975**

United Kingdom:

- It is an island nation located in **northwestern Europe**. It consists of four countries: **England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland**.

Capital - **London**

Prime Minister - **Rishi Sunak**

Emperor - **Charles III**

4. Defence production crosses Rs 1 lakh crore mark for the first time ever (May 19, 2023)

Defence-production

The **value of defense production in the financial year (FY) 2022-23** has **crossed the Rs one lakh crore mark for the first time**.

An overview of the news

- The value is currently **Rs 1,06,800 crore** and may increase further once data is received from the remaining private defense industries.
- The present value of defense production in FY 2022-23 is over **12 per cent higher than Rs 95,000 crore in FY 2021-22**.

Government's efforts to boost defense production

- Simplified **defence industrial licensing, relaxation of export** controls and grant of No Objection Certificate.
- Specific incentives introduced under the **foreign trade policy**.
- **Defence Production & Export Promotion Policy 2020**.

- The government had issued two "**positive indigenization lists**" which included **209 items that could not be imported.**
- The government has also announced two dedicated corridors in **Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh** to act as clusters of defense manufacturing.
- The number of defense licenses issued by the government to industries has increased by **almost 200 per cent in the last 7-8 years.**
- These measures have given a boost to the defense industrial manufacturing ecosystem in the country and have generated tremendous employment opportunities.

The vision of the government

- To achieve a **turnover of \$25 billion**, including **exports of \$5 billion** in **aerospace and defence goods and services by 2025.**

5. CCI approves merger of Credit Suisse Group with UBS Group (May 19, 2023)

Competition Commission of India (CCI)

The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** on 18 May **approved the proposed merger of Credit Suisse Group AG with UBS Group AG.**

About UBS Group AG (UBS)

- **UBS Group AG (UBS)** is a **multinational investment bank and financial services company**
- It is a **Switzerland based company** and is active globally.
- UBS's businesses include **wealth management, asset management, investment banking services, and retail and corporate banking.**
- In India, UBS's business is primarily focused on **brokerage services.**

About Credit Suisse Group AG (Credit Suisse)

- Credit Suisse Group AG (Credit Suisse) is a **multinational investment bank and financial services company** established in **Switzerland.**
- Credit Suisse is active globally and its businesses include wealth management, asset management, investment banking services, and retail and corporate banking.
- In India, Credit Suisse's businesses include **wealth management and investment banking services.**

Competition Commission of India (CCI)

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is the **chief national competition regulator in India.**

- It was set up under the **Competition Act, 2002**
- It comes under the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs.**
- It promotes healthy market competition and prevents activities that have an adverse effect on competition in India.
- CCI also approves combinations under the act so that two merging entities do not overtake the market.
- Headquarter - **New Delhi**
- Current Chairman - **Ashok Kumar Gupta**

6. First Inter-Ministerial Committee Meeting held on World Food India 2023 (May 19, 2023)

First Inter- Ministerial Committee Meeting
Secretary, Food Processing Industries (FPI) **Anita Praveen**, chaired the **First Inter-Ministerial Committee Meeting** with senior representatives from Ministries/Departments/Boards on 16th May 2023 in **New Delhi.**

An overview of the news

- The agenda of the committee meeting was to apprise the officials about the preparations made so far for **World Food India 2023** and to discuss the participation of concerned Ministries/Departments/Organizations in the event.
- This was in continuation of the series of interactions held to apprise them of the **Ministry's action plan** for the upcoming World Food India 2023 and discuss possible areas of collaboration.
- The meeting was attended by senior officials from key Ministries and Departments of the Central Government.
- In the meeting, the stakeholders were requested to share the specific action plan regarding the **mega food event to be held in Delhi from 3rd to 5th November 2023.**
- The next meeting of the **Inter-Ministerial Committee** is expected to be held in **June 2023** to strengthen the partnership/participation of various stakeholders.

About World Food India

- World Food India (WFI) is a **global event** to facilitate partnerships between **Indian and international businesses and investors.**
- It is a gateway to the Indian food economy and an opportunity **to showcase, connect and collaborate.**
- It is organized by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India.**

- WFI is the largest gathering of **investors, manufacturers, producers, food processors, policy makers** and organizations from the global food ecosystem.
- It aims to provide investment and business opportunities in the food processing sector for leading Indian and international companies.
- World Food India 2023 theme is “**Processing for Prosperity**”.

7. Next five years expected to be hottest on record: UN (May 18, 2023)

Next-five-years-expected-to-be-hottest-on-record-UN

The **United Nations' World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** has warned that the **next five years will be the warmest period on record** due to the combined effects of El Niño and greenhouse gases.

An Overview of the News

- The WMO predicts that global temperatures are likely to **exceed a 1.5°C increase by 2027**, with a 98 percent chance of setting **new heat records** in at least one of the **next five years**.
- There is a two-thirds chance that the more ambitious target set by the Paris climate agreement will be exceeded within one of the next five years, indicating that global temperatures are set to rise further.
- The years between 2015 and 2022 are among the warmest ever recorded, and temperatures are expected to rise as climate change accelerates.
- The Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to "well below" two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, preferably 1.5 degrees Celsius. However, the global average temperature in **2022 was already 1.15°C higher than the average measured between 1850 and 1900**.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

- It is a **specialised agency of the United Nations** and the organisation facilitates cooperation among member states.
- It promotes international cooperation in **atmospheric science, climatology, hydrology and geophysics**.
- It supports research and development in atmospheric science, which includes the study of Earth's atmosphere and its properties.
- WMO focuses on understanding long-term weather patterns and climate variability.

Formation - **23 March 1950**

Headquarters - **Geneva, Switzerland**

WMO Secretary General - **Peteri Talas**

8. Government sets up fast track Corporate Exit Processing Center (May 18, 2023)

The government established the **Expedited Corporate Exit Processing Center (C-PACE)** and **C-PACE** is under the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)**.

An Overview of the News

- The C-PACE aims to streamline and speed up the process of winding up defunct companies.
- It centralises the process of winding up companies, making it easier and more efficient.
- This relieves the burden on the registry and ensures a clean and accurate database.
- Its establishment is part of the MCA's commitment to promote Ease of Doing Business and facilitate smooth exit of companies.
- It functions under the **Registrar of Companies (ROC)** as per **sub-section (1) of section 396**.
- The C-PACE office was inaugurated on May 1, 2023.
- The office is supervised by the **Director General of Corporate Affairs (DGCoA) in New Delhi**.

Director of Inspection and Investigation in MCA - **RK Dalmiya**

9. US court approved extradition of 26/11 attack accused Tahawwur Rana to India (May 18, 2023)

A **US court** has **approved the extradition of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack** accused **Pakistani-origin Canadian Tahawwur Rana to India**.

An overview of the news

- California District Court Judge **Jacqueline Chooljian** has approved the Indian government's request for Rana's extradition.
- **Rana was arrested in the US** on an extradition request by India for his role in the **2008 Mumbai terror attacks**, which killed over 160 people, including six Americans.
- India has charged Rana with offenses including **conspiracy to commit terrorist acts, waging war, murder and forgery**.
- Rana was **convicted in Chicago in 2011** of providing material support to the **Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba**, which planned the Mumbai terror attacks.

- **India's National Investigation Agency (NIA)** is probing his role in the 26/11 attacks carried out by Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists in 2008.

What is Extradition?

- Extradition is the **formal process of surrendering a person from one state to another.**
- The purpose of this process is the prosecution or punishment for offences committed by a person within the jurisdiction of the requesting country.
- The extradition of a fugitive criminal to India is regulated under the **Indian Extradition Act, 1962.**
- The Consular, **Passport and Visa (CPV) Division, Ministry of External Affairs** is the central/nodal authority to administer the Extradition Act.
- Extradition process can be initiated in case of under-investigation, under-trial and convicted criminals.

10. Parshottam Rupala launches Sagar Parikrama Yatra Phase-V (May 18, 2023)

Parshottam-Rupala-launches-Sagar-Parikrama-Yatra-Phase-V

The Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, **Parshottam Rupala** launched the **Sagar Parikrama Yatra Phase-V in Karanja, Raigad, Maharashtra** on 17th May.

An overview of the news

- The Sagar Parikrama Yatra Phase-V would be proceeding towards coastal regions are like **Gateway of India, Karanja (Raigad District), Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri District), Devgad (Sindhudurg District), Malvan, Vasco, Mormugaon, Canacona (South Goa).**
- Sagar Parikrama Yatra Phase-V commencing from **7th May, 2023 and ending at Canacona, Goa on 19th May, 2023.**
- The Yatra will cover various fisheries schemes and programmes, including **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and Kisan Credit Card.**
- After successfully completing four phases covering **19 locations in Gujarat, Daman & Diu, Maharashtra and Karnataka**, this groundbreaking initiative is garnering widespread support.

Sagar Parikrama Phase-I

- It was started on March 5, 2022 from **Mandvi, Gujarat to Okha-Dwarka**, and concluded at **Porbandar on 6 March covering 3 locations.**
- The programme was a huge success, with more than **5,000 people physically attending the event.**

Sagar Parikrama Phase-II

- It was held on September 23-25 2022 and covered seven locations.

Sagar Parikrama Phase-III

- Phase-III was held on February 18-21 2023 and covered coastal districts of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

Sagar Parikrama Phase-IV

- The fourth phase of the Sagar Parikrama program took place from March 18-19 covering three coastal districts of Karnataka.
- It covered three districts **Uttara Kannada, Udupi** and **Dakshina Kannada districts of Karnataka.**

About Sagar Parikrama

- It is a maritime evolutionary journey tour to be organized in all coastal states/UTs through sea route to show **solidarity with all fishermen, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders.**
- It aims to address the issues of fishermen and other stakeholders and facilitate their economic upliftment through various fisheries schemes and programs like PMMSY.