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1. Odisha Govt announces Rs 200 crores relief for drought hit distressed farmers (Nov. 15, 2022)

Odisha Govt announces Rs 200 crores relief for drought hit distressed farmers

Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** on 15 November 2022 announced an input Assistance of **Rs 200 crores** for the distressed farmers of the drought-affected areas of the state. The entire expenditure would be borne by the State Government.

About 2,63560 hectares of cropland in 12 districts have suffered crop loss of 33 percent and above due to the drought in the state . According to the Odisha government many affected farmers have not yet received their Crop Insurance dues from the Insurance companies.

To help the farmers of the state the Chief Minister has decided to provide assistance out of the state's own resources.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

- The Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in **2016** to provide a comprehensive insurance cover against the failure of the crops.
- The scheme has replaced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme.
- The scheme is being administered by the **Union Ministry of Agriculture and Family Welfare.**
- The insurance facilities to the farmers are provided by approved Insurance companies .
- The scheme has been made optional to the farmers since the 2020 Kharif season.

Premium to be paid for crop insurance by the farmers

Government has fixed the premium which has to be paid by the farmers. They are as follows:

- For the **Kharif crops** (all food grains and oil seeds) the farmer has to pay **2% of the premium.**
- For the **Rabi crops** (all food grains and oil seeds) the farmers will pay **1.5% of the premium.**
- For the annual (Rabi and Kharif) **horticulture** and **commercial crops** the farmers will pay **5% of the premium.**
- The rest of the premium amount is shared by the Central government and the concerned state government.

2. "In our LiFEtime" Campaign launched by India at COP 27 (Nov. 15, 2022)

"In our LiFEtime" Campaign launched by India at COP 27

The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**, jointly launched the **"In Our LiFEtime" campaign** at an event of the **COP 27** in Egypt on 14th November 2022.

Important facts

- The campaign aims to encourage youth between the **age group of 18 to 23 years** to become the messengers of sustainable lifestyles.
- The concept of **LiFE** was introduced by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi at COP 26 in Glasgow** on 1 November 2021.
- The campaign seeks to recognize young people around the world leading climate action initiatives that resonate with the concept of LiFE.
- Under this campaign youth will be encouraged to submit their climate actions which contribute lifestyle for the environment within their capacity.
- Youth are able to popularise new habits, adopt different technologies and are in a better position to contribute to the fight against climate change.
- Young people need to make low-carbon career choices and adopt such lifestyles as a part of their daily lives.

3. Wangala festival in Meghalaya (Nov. 14, 2022)

Wangala festival in Meghalaya

In **Meghalaya** the three-day **Wangala festival** celebration concluded on 12 November, 2022. This 3 day festival started on 10th November and ended on 12th November.

About Wangala festival

- It is also known as the festival of '**100 drums**', is a harvest festival celebrated by the '**Garos Tribes**' in Meghalaya every year.
- It is celebrated with a variety of dances to the tune of folk songs played on drums and primitive flutes made of buffalo horns.
- This festival is celebrated in worship of the **Sun God** and marks the end of the long harvest season.
- The festival also marks the end of long working days in the field for the Garo tribe before the arrival of winter.
- The festival is a way to preserve and promote the cultural identity of the Garo tribe of Meghalaya and showcase their tradition.

About Garo Tribes

- The Garos are Meghalaya's **second largest tribe**. **Khasi and Jaintia tribes** are the other two major tribes of Meghalaya.
- The Garos are believed to have originated in **Tibet**.

- However, **Christianity** has had a significant impact on the culture of the modern Garo community.
- The Garos have many dialects and cultural groups. Each of them originally settled in a particular area of the Garo Hills.

4. Manipur to celebrate Amur Falcon festival on 14 November (Nov. 13, 2022)

Manipur to celebrate Amur

The 7th edition of the Amur Falcon Festival will be held in the **Tamenglong district** of Manipur on 14 November 2022. The festival has been organised since 2015 to spread awareness about protection and conservation of world's longest flying migratory bird Amur falcon. The day-long festival is generally celebrated in the first or second week of November.

Amur Falcon (Falco amurensis)

The Amur falcon is the world's **longest travelling small raptors** of the falcon family. Raptor means which hunts other animals or birds as prey.

Amur Falcon breeds in the central Siberia region of Russia, eastern China. They migrate to the North Eastern states of **Manipur, Nagaland**, and part of **Assam** during October. They stay in India for about two months and in the month of November they cross the Arabian Sea to fly non-stop to South Africa and Kenya covering a distance of around 22,00 Km. The Amur Falcons are protected under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Nagaland falcon capital of world

Around a million Amur Falcon raptor stop at the **Pangti village** of the Wokha district in Nagaland during October -November month. This is the single largest congregation of the Amur Falcon bird in the world. Hence Nagaland is also known Falcon capital of the world

5. World's highest polling station situated in Himachal Pradesh records over 98% polling (Nov. 12, 2022)

World's highest polling station situated in Himachal Pradesh

World's highest polling station located in the **Tashigang village** of the Lahaul Spiti constituency recorded a turnout of 98.08% on 12 November 2022. The Tashigang village at an altitude of 15,256 feet, has 52 registered voters and 51 voted.

In an area where temperatures can dip to minus 16 degrees Celsius, a 100 percent turnout had been recorded during the 2019 **Mandi Lok Sabha** bye-election.

The voting to elect the 14th [Himachal Pradesh](#) legislative Assembly was held on 12 November 2022. The Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly has 68 seats.

The counting of votes will be taken up on 8 December along with the Gujarat Legislative Assembly and the process will be completed by 10 December 2022.

The election to constitute 15th [Gujarat Legislative Assembly](#) will be held on 1st and 5th of December 2022.

6. Kerala gets the Responsible Tourism Global award at the World Travel Mart held in London (Nov. 12, 2022)

Kerala gets the Responsible Tourism Global award

[World Travel Mart \(WTM\) London](#) Kerala's sustainable and inclusive tourism project STREET has received the **Responsible Tourism Global award** the World Travel Mart (WTM) London in recognition of the water conservation initiatives successfully carried out as part of the community-oriented destination development plans.

The state bagged the award for the commendable work it carried out for 'Conserving Water and Improving Water Security and Supply for Neighbours. 'The award is for the water conservation initiative taken up under the STREET project, which is a first of its kind initiative in the world.

The STREET (**Sustainable, Tangible, Responsible, Experiential, Ethnic Tourism**) focuses on theme-based street development approaches at tourism destinations to reduce over concentration of activities at core centers, and maximize the local community benefit.

'Water Street' which has been successfully implemented at Maravanthuruthu Panchayat in Kottayam District near Kumarakom was especially mentioned by the jury for choosing STREET for the award.

Kerala Tourism tagline: **God's own country**

7. Maharashtra cabinet issues proposal to set up Maharashtra Institute of Transformation (MITRA) (Nov. 11, 2022)

Maharashtra cabinet issues proposal

The **Maharashtra** government on 11 November issued a government resolution to form the **Maharashtra Institution for Transformation - MITRA**. This institution will work on the lines of **NITI Aayog** of the Central Government.

Important facts

- MITRA will be headed by **Chief Minister Eknath Sambhaji Shinde** and Deputy Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** will be the co-chairman.
- In **October**, the Maharashtra cabinet had given its approval for the formation of the Maharashtra Institution for Transformation (MITRA).
- Maharashtra Institute for Transformation will be the state's think tank for decision making based on comprehensive data analysis and studies on various sectors.
- This will enable the state to achieve the target of making the state a **\$1 trillion economy by 2027** and a **\$3.5 trillion economy by 2047**.

- A delegation led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde met the Chief Executive Officer and other officials of NITI Aayog.
- It will act as an advisor in the implementation of the schemes of the State Government.

NITI Aayog

- It is the apex public policy think tank of the Government of India and responsible for bringing ideas and focus to key areas through policy formulation.
- It is also responsible for promoting cooperative federalism in the country through the participation of state governments in the economic policy-making process.

About Maharashtra

- Establishment - **1st May 1960**
- Official Language - **Marathi**
- Neighbouring States - **Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Dadra And Nagar Haveli, Chhattisgarh**
- Members of Parliament - **Lok Sabha 48 (Rajya Sabha seats 19)**
- Legislature - **Bicameral (Assembly 289 and council 78 seats)**
- Capital - **Mumbai**

8. PM to inaugurate the RFCL fertilizer plant at Ramagundam in Telangana (Nov. 11, 2022)

PM to inaugurate the RFCL

In an effort to boost local production of fertilizer in the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on 12 November 2022 inaugurate the RFCL fertilizer plant at **Ramagundam** in Peddapalli district of Telangana. The plant which started commercial production in 2021 has been revived at a cost of Rs 6,338 crore.

The Prime Minister will also inaugurate 54.1 km of railway line from Bhadrachalam Road to Sattupalli built with a budget of Rs 990 crore.

Government effort to become self-sufficient in Urea by 2024

India is a big importer of Urea and meets around 30% of its 35 million tonnes of annual urea requirement from imports. **China, Oman, UAE, Egypt and Ukraine were the main source of Urea in 2021-22.**

India aims to end imports of urea from 2025 by boosting its local production capacity with the commissioning of new plants.

According to the Union Fertilizers and Chemical ministry, the government plans to commission and revive five new plants at **Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, Ramagundam in Telangana, Talcher in Odisha, Barauni in Bihar** and **Sindri in Jharkhand**. These plants are expected to add an additional capacity of 6.5 million tonnes of urea every year.

RFCL fertilizer plant

The Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemical limited (RFCL) was set up in 2015 to set up a natural gas based ammonia urea complex along at Ramagundam, Telangana with design capacity of 2,200 MTPD (metric tonnes per day) **Ammonia Unit** and 3,850 MTPD **Urea Plant**.

RFCL is a joint venture of **National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)**, **Engineers India Limited (EIL)**, **Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)** and **Telangana government**.

Gas Authority of India (GAIL) and HTAS Consortium (consisting of HT Ramagundam A/S, IFU and Danish Agribusiness Fund, Denmark) have also invested in the project.

9. Kerala becomes first state to implement uniform price of gold across the state (Nov. 11, 2022)

Kerala becomes first state gold

In November 2022, **Kerala** became the first state in India to implement a uniform price of gold across the state by the government.

Important Facts:

- Kerala is the first state in the country to introduce uniform price trading of gold on the basis of bank rate.
- In a meeting between officials of Malabar Gold and Diamonds, one of the country's largest gold and diamond retail chains and key members of All Kerala Gold and Silver Merchants' Association, it was decided to keep the price of 22 carat gold of 916 purity uniform. Is.
- This step of the government will prove to be helpful in protecting the interest of consumers across the state and bringing price transparency in the business.
- In Malabar Gold & Diamonds, the state with its 'One India One Gold Rate' policy has taken the initiative to introduce uniform gold price across all its stores in the country.

Basis for applying uniform price of gold at the national level

- According to M P Ahmed, Chairman, Malabar Gold and Diamonds Group, "Kerala being a top gold consuming state in the country can set the stage for a uniform gold price across the country.
- MP Ahmed also demanded that the selling price of gold everywhere in the country should be integrated.

- The price of gold across the country should be based on the bank rate. It is worth
- mentioning in this context that in most states the price of gold is Rs 150-300 per gram higher according to the bank rate.

Kerala

- Capital: **Thiruvananthapuram**
- Governor: **Arif Mohammad Khan**
- Chief Minister: **Pinarayi Vijayan**

10. Bhopal Railway Station awarded 'Eat Right Station' certification with a 4-star rating by FSSAI (Nov. 11, 2022)**Bhopal Railway Station awarded**

Bhopal Railway Station of Indian Railways has been awarded **4-star 'Eat Right Station' certification** for providing high quality nutritious food to passengers on 11th November, 2022.

What is 'Eat Right Station' certification?

- The '**Eat Right Station' certification** is provided by **FSSAI** to railway stations which set the standard in providing safe and nutritious food to the passengers.
- This certificate is awarded based on the findings of an FSSAI-empaneled third-party audit agency with a rating of 1 to 5.
- The 4-star rating indicates full compliance by the station to provide safe and hygienic food to the passengers.
- This certification is part of the 'Eat Right India' initiative.

Other railway stations with this certification

- The other railway stations with this certification include Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Station (Delhi), Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Mumbai), Mumbai Central Railway Station (Mumbai), Vadodara Railway Station, Chandigarh Railway Station.