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1. 3rd G20 TWG meeting to be held in Srinagar (May 17, 2023)

3rd-G20-TWG-meeting-to-be-held-in-Srinagar

The **third G20 Tourism Working Group (TWG)** meeting will be held in **Srinagar** from 22 to 24 May.

An Overview of the News

- Security arrangements on the **Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44)** have been reviewed by the Army and other security agencies.
- **NH-44 is the only all-weather road** connecting the **Kashmir Valley to the rest of the country.**
- A high-level meeting with senior police and CRPF officials was held at **Ramban, chaired by a brigadier-level officer.**
- Several security forces including **Army, BSF, Police, CRPF and Village Defense Committees** have been deployed along the **International Border (IB) and the Line of Control (LoC).**

About Jammu and Kashmir

Jammu and Kashmir was a state of India until August 2019, which was bifurcated as two union territories namely **Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on 31 August 2019.**

Capital- **Srinagar (May-October), Jammu (November-April)**

Lieutenant Governor - **Manoj Sinha**

Legislative Council - **36 seats**

Legislative Assembly - **89 seats**

Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, Justice - **Koteshwar Singh**

2. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated the National Homoeopathic Convention 'Homocon 2023' (May 15, 2023)

the-National-Homoeopathic-Convention

Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhami** inaugurated the **National Homoeopathic Convention 'Homocon 2023'** at **Doon University, Dehradun** and launched a documentary on Homeopathy.

An Overview of the News

- Homeopathy has been recognized as the second most practiced system of medicine in the world and its importance has been demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The commitment of the state government to establish Uttarakhand as a major AYUSH region is due to the economic and effective nature of homeopathy.

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**

About Uttarakhand

- It is a state in **North India.**
- **Rishikesh** is a major centre of yoga studies and gained prominence in **1968 after the Beatles' visit.**
- The **Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand** is home to the **Bengal tiger and other wildlife.**

Capital - **Dehradun (Winter)**

Chief Minister - **Pushkar Singh Dhami**

Governor - **Gurmeet Singh**

Official Animal - **Alpine Musk Deer**

3. 29th Biennial Conference of the All India Primary Teachers' Federation (May 15, 2023)**29th Biennial Conference**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Addressed the **29th Biennial Education Conference of All India Primary Teachers's Federation** organized at **Gandhinagar in Gujarat** on 12th May.

An overview of the news

- In his address, the Prime Minister said that technology can provide information but the right approach can be given only by teachers.

- He said that with the changing times, the real challenge before teachers today is to satisfy the growing curiosity of children and keep themselves updated.
- The conference was a significant event that brought together primary teachers from across India to discuss pertinent issues in the education sector.
- The theme of this summit is '**Teachers at the Heart of Transforming Education.**'

Purpose of the conference

- The objective of the conference is to provide a platform for primary teachers to exchange ideas, share experiences and collectively address challenges in primary education.

Focus on primary education

- The conference mainly focused on issues related to primary education, including **curriculum development, teaching methods, classroom management and welfare** of primary school teachers.

Professional Development and Training

- The conference emphasized the importance of professional development and training for primary teachers.

Policy discussion

- The conference discussed education **policies, reforms and initiatives at the national and state levels.**
- The participants shared their views, suggestions and concerns regarding the **policy implementation** and its impact on primary education.

Teacher Welfare and Rights

- The conference addressed the welfare and rights of primary school teachers, including issues such as pay structure, job security, working conditions, and professional recognition.

4. 2nd G20 Culture Group (CWG) Meeting in Odisha (May 15, 2023)

The **2nd-G20-Culture-Group second G20 Culture Group meeting**, also known as the **CWG meeting**, took place on 14 May in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha.**

Purpose of the meeting

- The CWG meeting aims to facilitate discussion and cooperation among G20 member states on cultural issues, heritage conservation, creative industries and cultural diplomacy.

Cultural Heritage Protection

- The meeting addressed the importance of preserving and protecting cultural heritage, including tangible and intangible cultural properties.
- The discussions included topics such as heritage conservation, cultural tourism and promotion of cultural diversity.

Creative Industries and Economic Development

- The meeting explored the role of creative industries such as art, design, film, music and fashion in economic growth, job creation and innovation.
- Participants shared best practices and discussed policies to support the growth of the creative sectors.

Cultural Diplomacy and Soft Power

- The meeting recognized the role of cultural diplomacy in building bridges between nations and enhancing mutual understanding.

Youth Engagement and Cultural Education

- The meeting emphasized the importance of involving youth in cultural activities and promoting cultural education.

Outcome and Collaboration

- The outcome of the CWG meeting will be the adoption of joint statements, recommendations or action plans for cultural cooperation among G20 member states.
- These outcomes may include collaborative projects, capacity building initiatives, or cultural exchange programs.

What is the G20 Culture Group?

- The G20 Culture Group is a forum within the G20 framework that focuses on cultural cooperation and exchange.
- It brings together representatives of G20 member states to promote dialogue and cooperation in the cultural field.

5. G7 Ministerial Meeting on Health Innovation in Nagasaki, Japan (May 15, 2023)

G7 Ministerial Meeting on Health Innovation

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya** addressed the **G7 Health Ministerial meeting on Global Health Architecture in Nagasaki, Japan** on 13th May.

An overview of the news

- The meeting was organized to discuss the **global health challenges** and ways to ensure preparedness, prevention and response to future health emergencies.
- The health ministers of the G7 countries and the "**Outreach 4**" countries of **India, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand** were invited to the meeting.

Objectives of the meeting

- To foster collaboration and exchange ideas on health innovation.
- Addressing global health challenges, and promoting advancements in healthcare research, technology, and policies.

Topics discussed

- The G7 health ministers discuss various pressing health issues such as infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, vaccine development, healthcare accessibility, digital health, and the use of artificial intelligence in healthcare.

Sharing best practices

- The meeting provides an opportunity for G7 countries to share best practices, success stories, and lessons learned in healthcare innovation and delivery.

About G7

- The G7 is a group of seven major industrialized countries, including **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States**.
- The G7 holds annual meetings to discuss various global issues, but these meetings are usually held in different locations each year.
- The **48th G7 summit** was hosted by Germany in 2022.

6. 1st Ministerial meeting of India-EU Trade and Technology Council (May 13, 2023)

The first ministerial meeting of the **India and the European Union Trade and Technology Council (TTC)** will be held in **Brussels** on 16 May.

An overview of the news

- The meeting will be co-chaired by the **Ministers of External Affairs**, Commerce and Industry and Communications, Electronics and Information Technology from the Indian side.
- **India is only the second country after the US with which the European Union (EU) has a TTC**, and the two sides agreed to launch the strategic mechanism

during the visit of European Commission President **Ursula von der Leyen** to India in April 2022.

- The TTC aims to deepen trade and investment ties between India and the European Union, as well as foster greater cooperation on technology and innovation.

About India-EU Trade and Technology Council

- The trade and technology council was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen during Ms Leyen's visit to India in April 2022.

Three Working Groups under the TTC

1. A Working Group on Strategic Technologies, Digital Governance and Digital Connectivity
2. A Working Group on Green and Clean Energy Technologies
3. A Working Group on Trade, Investment and Resilient Value Chains

India-EU Trade relation

- **India is the 10th largest trading partner** of the European Union, accounting for **2.1% of the total trade in goods**.
- **The EU is India's third largest trading partner**, accounting for **€88 billion in goods trade in 2021** or a little over 10% of total Indian trade.
- Trade in services between the two sides reached **€30.4 billion in 2020**.

About European Union

- The European Union is a group of **27 European countries**.
- The United Kingdom which was the founding member of the European Union has left the organisation.
- It was **founded on 1 November 1993**
- Headquarters: **Brussels, Belgium**

7. 6th Indian Ocean Conference- 2023 (May 12, 2023)

6th Indian Ocean Conference- 2023

The **6th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC)** is taking place in **Dhaka, Bangladesh** from May 12-13, 2023.

An overview of the news

- The sixth edition of the conference is being organized by the **India Foundation** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh** and the **S Rajaratnam School of International Studies**.
- The theme of this year's conference is '**Partnership for Peace, Prosperity and a Resilient Future**'.
- The conference was inaugurated by Bangladesh **Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina**.
- According to Bangladesh Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaha ryar Alam, around **150 foreign guests** including representatives from D8, SAARC and BIMSTEC will participate in the conference.
- The IOC is expected to provide a forum for discussion on a wide range of issues related to the Indian Ocean including **trade, security, climate change and regional connectivity**.
- The summit is an important event for Bangladesh, as it showcases t he country's growing role in regional affairs and highlights efforts to promote **peace, stability and prosperity in the Indian Ocean region**.

Aim of the conference

- The aim of the conference is to bring together high-level government delegations and think tanks from around 25 countries to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation among countries in the Indi an Ocean region.

About Indian Ocean Conference

- It has been launched by the Delhi-based think tank **India Foundation** along with its partners from **Singapore, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh**.
- The aim of the conference is to bring together Heads of States/Governments, Ministers, thought leaders, scholars, diplomats, bureaucrats and practitioners from across the region on a single platform.

8. 'Machines can See' - Summit on Artificial Intelligence held at Dubai (May 4, 2023)

The UAE government launched the '**Machines Can See 2023**' summit in **Dubai**, one of the **first international conferences in Artificial Intelligence (AI) across the region**.

An overview of the news

- The conference is being held in partnership between **Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy, and Remote Work Applications Office** and '**Machines Can See**' company.

- The conference aims to bring together experts from around the world to discuss **the future of AI and its potential to contribute to the UAE's vision of creating the next Silicon Valley.**
- The event was organized in collaboration with the **Dubai Department of Economic and Tourism and the Dubai Future Foundation.**
- The summit included **presentations and panel discussions from various experts in the field of AI.**
- The **UAE is the only country with a state-level AI programme**, which is a testament to its commitment to supporting the progress of AI technology.

What is Artificial Intelligence?

- It is a broad branch of computer science that deals with the creation of smart machines capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence.

9. National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign- 2023 (May 4, 2023)

Union Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** inaugurated the **National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2023-24** on 3rd May at NASC Complex New Delhi.

An overview of the news

- Agriculture remains the major pulse of the Indian economy and lies at the core of the **country's socio-economic development.**
- It accounts for about **19 percent of the GDP** and about **two-thirds of the population** is dependent on the agriculture sector.
- India's agriculture sector has been witnessing strong growth with an average **annual growth rate of 4.6 percent** over the past six years.
- As per the Second Advance Estimates (2022-23), the **production of food grains in the country is estimated at 3235 lakh tonnes** which is 79 lakh tonnes more than the production of food grains during 2021-22.

The objective of the conference

- To review and assess the crop performance during the preceding crop seasons.
- fix crop-wise targets for the Kharif season in consultation with State Governments.
- ensure supply of critical inputs.
- facilitate adoption of innovative technologies with a view to enhance production and productivity of the crops.
- Record production is estimated of rice, maize, gram, pulses, rapeseed and mustard, oilseeds and sugarcane.

National target for 2023-24

- In the conference, a **national target of 3320 lakh tonnes** has been fixed for the total food grain production for the year **2023-24**.
- The **target of pulses production** has been set **at 292.5 lakh tonnes** as against 278.1 lakh tonnes this year.
- **Oilseeds production** will be increased from 400 to **440 lakh tonnes in 2023-24**.
- **Shri Anna** aims to increase the total production from **159.1 lakh tonnes in 2022-23 to 170.0 lakh tonnes in 2023-24**.

10. Science 20 Engagement Group meeting under India's G20 chairmanship begins in Lakshadweep (May 1, 2023)

Science 20 Engagement Group meeting under India's G20 chairmanship begins in Lakshadweep

On 1 May, the **Science 20 Engagement Group meeting on Universal Holistic Health** began under **India's G20 chairmanship in Lakshadweep, Bangaram Island**.

An Overview of the News

- The focus of the two-day event is to work towards **better agricultural practices, greater access to nutritious food, healthier eating habits and more opportunities for ecologically conscious and sustainable food products**.
- The meeting will address the **interconnectedness of physical, mental and emotional well-being, recognizing that all aspects of health are equally important**.
- The aim of the event is to develop a **holistic approach to health that focuses on promoting wellness and preventing diseases** rather than merely treating them.
- It is an effort to bring together **scientists, experts and policy makers from different countries** to exchange ideas and knowledge on health related issues.
- The Engagement Group will also explore the role of **technology in promoting health and wellness**, such as the **use of telemedicine and digital health solutions**.
- The event is a significant step towards achieving India's vision of universal health coverage and promoting the **Sustainable Development Goals**.

About Lakshadweep

Formation- **1 November 1956**

Capital- **Kavaratti**

Administrator- **Praful Khoda Patel**

Largest city- **Andrott**

High Court- **Kerala High Court**

Bird- **Brown Noddy**