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1. CRPF claims operation 'Octopus' at 'Burha Pahar' naxal bastion as Success (Sept. 7, 2022)

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has been conducting a major Naxal operation named 'Octopus' at the heavily mined 'Burha Pahar' hilly range in Garhwa district bordering Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The CRPF gave this information on 7 September 2022.
- According to the CRPF, the operation has been continuing since September 4 and claimed major successes in establishing control in 'Burha Pahar', an area known as a Naxal corridor.
- The 'Burha Pahar' hilly range lies in Jharkhand's Garhwa district bordering Chhattisgarh.
- CRPF's CoBRA unit, and state police forces like Jharkhand Jaguar are engaged in the operation.
- **CRPF** is the largest Central Armed Police Force under the Union Home Ministry. It was set up in 1939 as Crown Representative Police.

Naxals or Left wing Extremism Left Wing Extremism (LWE) :

- Groups which are influenced by the ideology of Mao are called as Maoist /Naxal or left wing extremists in India. Mao was the leader of the Chinese communist party who set up the Modern People's Republic of China in 1949 after an armed revolution. It is based on communist ideology.
- Similarly people or groups like Communist Party of India (Maoist) want to overthrow the government set up in India after 1950 through an armed insurgency just like Mao did in China and set up a communist government in India.

Red Corridor :

- The area where the left wing extremists are active is also called the Red Corridor.
- It is mainly active in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Specialised Anti Left Wing Extremist (Naxal/Maoist) Forces in the country :

- Special units have been raised in India to combat the threat of the left wing extremist in India.
- Some of the important ones are:

COBRA of CRPF :-

- Central Reserve Police Force has raised a specialised unit COBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action) for jungle warfare.

Greyhound :-

- It is a specialised unit of both the Andhra Pradesh Police and Telangana Police to fight against the Left Wing Extremist active in their respective states.

Black Panther :-

- It is a special unit of the Chhattisgarh Police to fight against the left wing extremist.

Special Operation Group (SOG) :-

- It is the special force set up by the Odisha police to deal with Left wing extremist problems.

Jaguars :-

- It is a special unit of the Jharkhand police force.

2. National Mines Ministers Conference to be held in Hyderabad (Sept. 6, 2022)

The Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Mines will be organizing a two-day National Mines Ministers' conference in Hyderabad on 9th and 10th September, 2022.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The conference will formulate new and effective strategies to further encourage mineral exploration in the country and also to assess the effectiveness of recent policy reforms brought about by the Centre in the mining sector.
- The conference will be attended by the Union Minister of Coal, Mines Prahlad Joshi ,State government mines minister and other dignitaries.
- The conference aims to strengthen the ties between the Ministry of Mines and various state governments

3. Nitin Gadkari to inaugurate “Manthan” on 8thSeptember in Bengaluru (Sept. 6, 2022)

Union Minister for Road, Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate, “Manthan ”, in Bengaluru on September 08, 2022. Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highway and Civil Aviation General (Dr) VK

Singh (Retd.) and Basavaraj Bommai, Chief Minister, Karnataka will also attend the conference.

IMPORTANT FACTS -***Aim of Manthan :***

- Manthan— a three-day by-invitation conference cum public EXPO organised by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways aims to anchor discussions across multiple issues and opportunities in the roads, transport and logistics sector and engage with the States, UTs and other key stakeholders from the industry for sharing of best practices, policy support, and capacity development.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***Theme of Manthan :***

- The theme of Manthan is **“IDEAS TO ACTION: Towards a smart, sustainable, road infra, mobility and logistics ecosystem.”**
- The **Next-Gen M Parivahan Mobile App** will also be launched during the event.
- He will also inaugurate the 41st Meeting of Transport Development Council .

4. Union Government relaxes moong and Urad limit for Madhya Pradesh under the Price support Scheme (Sept. 6, 2022)

The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in a relief to the Madhya Pradesh farmers has relaxed the existing purchase limit of 25 quintals for purchase of Moong and Urad under the Price Support Scheme during summer season 2021-22 .

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- It has been increased to 40 quintals per farmer per day.
- This order was issued on 6 September 2022.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***Price Support Scheme :***

- It has been launched by the government of India .
- Under this scheme when the prices of commodities fall below the Minimum Support price (MSP) , state and central notified procurement nodal agencies like NAFED(National

- Agricultural Marketing Federation of India), purchase commodities directly from the farmers at MSP under specified Fair Average Quality,
- This helps and protects the farmers against the economic loss in farming.

Madhya Pradesh as a leading Agricultural state :

- Madhya Pradesh is also known as Soyabean state.
- It ranks 1st in the country in the production of Soyabean, Urad, Tur, Massor and Linseed.
- It ranks 2nd in the production of Maize, Sesame, Ramtil, Moong.
- It ranks 3rd in the production of Wheat, Sorghum and Barley.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmer Welfare : **Narendra Singh Tomar**

5. Smt. Anupriya Patel lays foundation stone of 'Chunar Logistics Park' in Mirzapur, UP (Sept. 6, 2022)

After Agra, Moradabad and Kanpur, now UP's fourth and Purvanchal's first logistics park is going to be established in Chunar, Mirzapur.

IMPORTANT FACTS -***Who laid the foundation stone ?***

- Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel laid the foundation stone of the logistic park on 5 September 2022. The Union Minister for Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw virtually attended the event as a Chief Guest.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***Who is constructing it ?***

- The Logistics Park will be constructed by **Container Corporation of India Limited**.
- In the first phase, the park will be developed at a cost of Rs 30 crore. Other facilities will be developed in the second phase at a cost of Rs 70 crore.

Beneficial to the Business in the area :

- Speaking on the occasion Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel said that with the start of Logistic Park in Chunar, there will be a revolutionary change in the business of Purvanchal including Mirzapur.
- Carpets, pottery and brass industries, handicrafts, grains and food items manufactured in these districts will get easy access to the international market.
- With the creation of the Logistics Park, goods manufactured in Mirzapur and surrounding areas will be facilitated to be sent abroad through major ports of the country in a short time.

6. NTPC acquires Jhabua Power Ltd through Insolvency and Bankruptcy resolution route (Sept. 6, 2022)

India's largest power generating company NTPC Ltd. has acquired the 600 MW Jhabua Power limited company of the bankrupt Gautam Thapar owned Avantha Group through Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process initiated by National Company Law Tribunal, Kolkata, (NCLT).

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Jhabua Power Limited (JPL) has an operational thermal power capacity of 1 x 600 MW located in **Seoni, Madhya Pradesh**.
- It is the first asset that NTPC is taking over through the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) route. The estimated deal size is Rs 1,830 crore.
- A consortium of secured lenders led by Axis Bank approached the NCLT after JPL failed to repay the loan it had taken.
- Under the deal which was worked out between the lenders, NTPC and JPL, NTPC will hold 50 percent equity shares of the JPL and will also have all the management rights and control over the company.
- NTPC will pay Rs 1830 crore to the lenders of JPL and also will offer 50 % share in the JPL to the lenders.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***NTPC :***

- The NTPC which was earlier known as National Thermal Power Corporation of India is owned by the Government of India. It was set up in **1975**.
- The Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station in the Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh, with an installed capacity of 4,760MW, is currently the biggest thermal power plant in India. It is a coal-based power plant owned and operated by NTPC.
- The total installed commercial capacity of the company was 69454 MW before the JPL deal.

Headquarters: **New Delhi**

Chairman and Managing Director: **Gurdeep Singh**

7. Kerala's Nilambur and Thrissur join UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (Sept. 6, 2022)

The Indian cities of Nilambur and Thrissur in the state of Kerala have joined the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The global cities group also includes some of the most developed cities - **Beijing, Shanghai, Hamburg, Athens, Incheon, Bristol and Dublin.**
- The cities in the list will benefit immensely from the exchange of ideas and solutions for development with other cities.
- As per the announcement, a total of **78 cities from 44 countries** have joined this list of UNESCO.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

About Nilambur :

- Nilambur is a major eco-tourism destination of Kerala.
- It is mainly characterized by different socio-economic patterns and a mix of urban and rural populations.
- It aims to promote sustainable development, gender equality, inclusivity and democracy through community ownership.
- The city aims to ensure employment opportunities and UN Sustainable Development Goal-2 of 'Zero Hunger'.

About Thrissur :

- It is known as the cultural capital of Kerala state.
- It is also a major destination for some of the renowned educational and research institutions.
- It is famous for the jewellery industry.
- The main objective of Thrissur is to provide solutions and ideas on issues related to equitable access to education.

The UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities :

- It is an international policy network that paves the way for the development and progress of other cities by sharing ideas and innovations on a global platform.
- **Warangal also joins UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities**
 - **Warangal**, the second largest city of Telangana, has joined the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.
 - The Rudreshwar Temple (also known as Ramappa Temple) located at Palampet in Mulugu district, near Warangal, was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage Site list in July 2021.

8. New Delhi's historic Rajpath and Central Vista lawns to be renamed as 'Kartavya Path' (Sept. 5, 2022)

The Government of India has decided to rename New Delhi's Rajpath and Central Vista Lawns as '**Kartavya Path**'.

A special meeting of New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) will be convened on 7 September 2022, to consider the proposal to rename Rajpath as Kartavya Path.

According to initial reports, the stretch of road between Netaji Statue and the Rashtrapati Bhavan will be named as Kartavya Path.

Rajpath was initially named as '**Kingsway**' in honour of the Emperor of India and British monarch **George V**.

He visited India in 1911 when the Capital of British India was shifted from Calcutta (now Kolkata) to Delhi by the British.

After Independence the name was changed to Rajpath which is a translation of Kingsway.

9. PETA India confirms physical abuse of Assam elephant Joymala (Sept. 5, 2022)

People for the **Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India** has submitted a veterinary inspection report to forest department officials in Tamil Nadu and Assam to confirm the continued abuse of **Joymala**, a captive female elephant at a temple.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- A four-member team from Assam is currently in Tamil Nadu to inspect the condition of the elephant.
- **Joymala**, which was renamed as **Jayamalyatha**, was reportedly given to Tamil Nadu from Assam on a six-month lease in 2008.
- The elephant was kept in illegal custody of the **Srivilliputhur Nachiyar Thirukovil temple** for over a decade before being shifted to the nearby Krishnan Kovil temple.
- According to reports, the elephant was thrashed so brutally that it can be heard screaming in pain in a viral video filmed at the **Krishnan Kovil temple**.
- There have been several incidents in Tamil Nadu and elsewhere in India in which frustrated captive elephants have attacked and killed their mahouts.

About PETA India :

- **PETA** (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) India, based in Mumbai, was launched in **January 2000**.
- It works under the principle that animals are not meant to be used, eaten, worn, used for entertainment or abused in any other way.
- PETA India primarily focuses on the sectors where animals suffer the most, such as the laboratory, food industry, leather industry and entertainment business.

10. India's Longest Railway Tunnel of 14.57 Km to be built in Uttarakhand (Sept. 5, 2022)

The Indian Railways is going to construct the longest railway tunnel in India. It will be **14 kilometres** long between **Devprayag and Janasu** in Uttarakhand, and will be part of the ambitious 125km Rishikesh-Karnaprayag broad gauge line.

It will be the longest railway tunnel surpassing the under construction Tunnel **T-49 which is 12.758 km long** and is being built on the Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Link Project in Jammu and Kashmir.

A 125.20 km railway line connecting Rishikesh and Karnaprayag will stretch across five districts of the state: Dehradun, Tehri Garhwal, Pauri Garhwal, Rudraprayag and Chamoli.

Government of India owned Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL) is executing this 125 km long railway line

The total cost of the project is Rs 23,000 crore and it is expected to be completed by December 2024.

Longest Railway Tunnel :

At present, the **11.2 km long Pir Panjal Tunnel** on the Banihal-Qazigund section in Jammu and Kashmir is the longest functioning railway tunnel in India.