

Testwale Current Affairs PDF

Current Affairs search results for tag: state-news

1. CM Bhagwant Singh Mann laid the foundation stone of Saragarhi Memorial in Ferozpur, Punjab (Sept. 15, 2023)

Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann laid the foundation stone of Saragarhi Memorial at a formal ceremony in Ferozpur, Punjab.

An Overview of the News

- The Saragarhi Memorial is dedicated in honor of the brave Sikh warriors who sacrificed their lives during the Battle of Saragarhi.
- The memorial is planned to be a state-of-the-art memorial and is expected to be completed within six months.

Historical Battle of Saragarhi:

- The Battle of Saragarhi took place on September 12, 1897, near Samana Ridge (Pakistan), in which 21 soldiers of the 36 Sikh Regiment bravely defended their post against about 10,000 Afghan attackers.
- He chose to fight to the death rather than surrender, making this an important chapter in military history.

Ferozpur as a tourist centre:

- Chief Minister Mann's vision includes transforming Ferozpur district into a major tourist destination in the state.
- The district hosts not only the Saragarhi Memorial but also the Hussainiwala Memorial, where famous freedom fighters Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Shaheed Sukhdev and Shaheed Rajguru were martyred.
- It aims to showcase these historically important sites to attract tourists from across the world, highlighting the rich heritage and sacrifices made by Indian heroes.

2. Social welfare scheme “Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam” to be launched by Tamil Nadu Government (Sept. 12, 2023)

Tamil Nadu government will provide monthly assistance of Rs 1,000 to more than 1 crore female family heads through Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam.

An Overview of the News

- Chief Minister MK Stalin officially announced the scheme, with the **launch date set for September 15.**
- The scheme aims **to provide Rs 1,000 per month to 1.06 crore eligible women who are heads of families.**
- Beneficiaries will receive financial assistance through direct bank transfers and will be provided with ATM cards for easy access.

- The government emphasizes on effective implementation and will use SMS notifications to communicate with beneficiaries.
- Out of 1.63 crore applications received, 1.06 crore have been accepted, highlighting the substantial impact of the scheme.

About Tamil Nadu

- The state was formed on 26 January 1950 but its boundaries were redrawn on 14 January 1969.
- It is located at the mouth of the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, and Indian Ocean.
- Governor - **Ravindra Narayan Ravi**
- Chief Minister - **M.K.Stalin**
- Assembly seats - **235 seats**
- Rajya Sabha seats - **18**
- Lok Sabha seats - **39**

3. Goa Governor launches the Mashaal (torch) for the 37th National Games (Sept. 9, 2023)

Goa Governor **P.S. Sreedharan Pillai** launches the **Mashaal for the 37th National Games.**

An Overview of the News

- The launch took place at the **Durbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Donapaula**, in collaboration with the **Sports Authority of Goa** and the **Department of Sports and Youth Affairs.**
-

Torch relay to ignite enthusiasm and unity

- Dr. Pramod Sawant announced **Goa's readiness to host the National Games.**
- The 'Mashaal' will travel through Goa and other states for four days, especially in rural areas to encourage enthusiasm and participation.
- Sports Minister Govind Goude encouraged all Goans to participate and support the success of the Games.

National sports anthem with Amitabh Bachchan

- Governor Pillai presented the National Games anthem, sung by legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan.

- The anthem featured the traditional Goan instrument, the Ghumat, and featured a collaboration between Goan singers and other talented artists.

Important Points

- Joint CEO of National Sports Organizing Committee - **Dr. Geeta S. Nagvenkar**
- Sports Minister - **Govind Gaude**
- Minister of State for Tourism - **Shripad Naik**
- Chief Minister of Goa - **Dr. Pramod Sawant**

4. Odisha's Koraput Kalajeera rice gets GI tag status (Sept. 9, 2023)

Koraput district of Odisha has successfully achieved the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) status for its famous rice variety 'Koraput Kalajeera Rice', often called the '**Prince of Rice**'.

An Overview of the News

- This aromatic rice variety has been cultivated by tribal farmers of Koraput district for generations and is prized for its nutritional value.
- Koraput Kalajeera rice is distinguished by its **black colour, exceptional aroma, pleasing taste and pleasing texture**. Its appearance is often compared to **coriander seeds**.
- Apart from its culinary appeal, this rice is associated with various health benefits, including **memory enhancement, diabetes control, increasing hemoglobin levels, and improved metabolism, as suggested in ancient texts**.
- This fragrant rice is known for its medicinal properties, which include **antispasmodic, carminative, carminative, antibacterial, astringent, and sedative**.

What is GI tag?

- A geographical indication (GI) is a name or sign given to products coming from a **specific geographical location**.
- GIs certify that products are made using **traditional methods or have specific qualities due to their origin**.
- It is used for **food, handicrafts, and industrial products**.
- The GI tag ensures that **only authorized users can use the product name**.

5. Tamil Nadu's Salem Sago gets GI tag (Sept. 9, 2023)

Salem Starch and Sago Manufacturers Service Industrial Co-operative Society Limited, also known as SagoServe, recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Salem Sago.

An Overview of the News

- District Collector S Karmegam presented the GI certificate to Sagoserv Administrator Lalithaditya Neelam at an official program.
- Salem district of Tamil Nadu has previously received the **GI tag for raw silk and Malgoa mango**, thereby contributing to the recognition of the region.
- Other notable products from different regions, such as Tirupati Laddu and Palani Panchamirtham have also received the GI tag.
- This recognition of Salem sago with a GI tag is expected to boost business opportunities for sago farmers and traders in the region.
- Tamil Nadu contributes significantly to the national sago production, accounting for 40% of the total production.
- Salem **holds the leading position in sago production in Tamil Nadu.**
- Sagosarva, established in 1981, is a cooperative society with 374 members from various districts including **Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri, Erode, Perambalur, Trichy, Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram.**

What is a GI tag?

- A geographical indication (GI) is a name or sign given to products coming from a specific geographical location.
- GIs certify that products are made using traditional methods or have specific qualities due to their origin.
- It is used for food, handicrafts and industrial products.
- The GI tag ensures that only authorized users can use the product name.

Who awards and regulates geographical indications?

- These are a type of **Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)** recognized and protected under the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property.
- The World Trade Organization (WTO)'s Agreement on **Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)** provides a framework for the **protection of GIs at the international level.**
- In India, registration and protection of GIs is governed by the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999**, which came into **effect in September 2003.**

6. India's first solar city inaugurated in Madhya Pradesh's Sanchi (Sept. 8, 2023)

Madhya Pradesh (MP) Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated Sanchi in Raisen district as India's first solar city.

An Overview of the News

- The initiative is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of developing a solar city in every state by 2070.

About Sanchi Solar City:

- Sanchi Solar City has two solar plants - **a 3 MW solar plant at Nagauri** and a **5 MW solar plant at Gulgaon**, which cater to the city's power and agricultural needs.
- Currently, an 8 MW grid-connected solar plant is under construction within Sanchi city.
- **Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (MPUVNL)** acted as the nodal agency for this solar city project.
- MPUVNL launched an '**Energy Literacy Campaign**' to educate the people of **Sanchi about energy-saving practices**.
- Sanchi Solar City is expected to reduce annual carbon dioxide emissions by about 13,747 tonnes, which is equivalent to the effect of planting more than 2 lakh adult trees.
- The project is expected to save over Rs 7 crore annually in energy-related expenses for both the government and citizens.

Initiatives under the Sanchi Solar City Project:

- Electric vehicle charging stations have been set up across the city to promote the adoption of electric vehicles.
- Public establishments have been fitted with rooftop solar systems to harness solar energy.
- Individual rooftop owners have also installed solar systems on their premises, thereby reducing their dependence on grid electricity.

National Renewable Energy Target:

- India has set a target of generating 40% of its total installed electricity generation capacity from renewable sources by 2030.

About Sanchi:

- Sanchi is famous for its Buddhist Stupa, which is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The Great Stupa of Sanchi was built by Emperor Ashoka in the 3rd century BC.

Important Point:- In October 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared Modhera village in Gujarat as India's first 24x7 solar-powered village.

About Madhya Pradesh

- It is the second largest state of India by area after Rajasthan.

- Forests occupy 25.14 percent of its area.
- Governor - **Mangubhai Patel**
- Chief Minister - **Shivraj Singh Chauhan**
- Capital - **Bhopal**

7. Jharkhand Cabinet approves Pension and OBC status for the Transgender Community (Sept. 8, 2023)

The Jharkhand cabinet led by Chief Minister Hemant Soren approved the inclusion of the transgender community in the state's universal pension scheme.

An Overview of the News

- Transgender persons will now be eligible to receive **monthly financial assistance of Rs 1000 under the 'Chief Minister's State Social Security Pension Scheme'**.
- Eligibility for this scheme is determined on the basis of age, persons of 18 years and above who have voter ID cards are eligible.

Inclusion of Transgender Persons in the Other Backward Classes (OBC) Category:

- Apart from the pension scheme, the **Jharkhand cabinet also approved the inclusion of transgender persons in the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category.**
- The objective of this decision is to ensure that transgender persons can avail the benefits of reservation in government job opportunities.
- Notably, transgender persons who do not fall under any of the existing caste-based reservation categories will be classified as OBCs at position number 46 in the OBC list.

Transgender Population Statistics:

- According to the Women, Child Development and Social Security Department (WCDSS) data, the transgender population in Jharkhand was around 11,900 in the year 2011.
- Currently, the transgender population in Jharkhand is around 14,000.

8. Telangana Government and Tabreed sign MoU to develop Asia's largest district cooling system (Sept. 8, 2023)

Telangana Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tabreed, a cooling-as-a-service provider from Abu Dhabi, UAE, to develop Asia's largest District Cooling System (DCS) in Hyderabad.

An Overview of the News

- Tabreed will invest US\$200 million to build cooling infrastructure with a capacity of 125,000 refrigeration tons (RT) for Hyderabad Pharma City (HPC).
- The project has been undertaken as a Public-Private Partnership (PPP).

District Cooling System (DCS):

- DCS is an environment-friendly, energy-efficient, and cost-effective cooling method.
- It involves a central chiller plant to cool water, which is then circulated through a closed-loop pipe network to cool industrial, commercial and residential buildings.

Environmental Goals:

- This partnership is in line with Telangana's commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2047, contributing to a green and healthy environment.

Sustainable Infrastructure Development:

- The collaboration between Tabreed and the Government of Telangana aims to reshape the landscape of sustainable infrastructure development.
- Tabreed's expertise at DCS will set an example for environmental responsibility.

Additional MoU for Cyberabad:

- The Telangana government has also signed an MoU with Tabreed to explore district cooling infrastructure in Cyberabad, Hyderabad, and other mixed-use development areas.
- This initiative could potentially reduce electricity demand by more than 200 megawatts (MW) and result in an annual reduction of 18 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions over 30 years.

Economic and Environmental Benefits:

- The project is expected to deliver multiple benefits including reliability, cost-efficiency, and economies of scale.
- This will result in significant power savings of 6,800 gigawatt hours (GWh) and water savings of 41,600 megaliters.
- Greenhouse gas emissions are estimated to be reduced by 6.2 million tonnes of CO₂.
- This initiative will transform cooling practices in the pharmaceutical industry, contributing to a cleaner and greener environment for bulk drug manufacturing facilities in Hyderabad.

9. Union Health Minister inaugurates Amrita Patel Public Health Center in Gujarat (Sept. 2, 2023)

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the Amrita Patel Public Health Center in Anand, Gujarat.

An Overview of the News

- The Amrita Patel Center for Public Health was established in honor of Dr. Amrita Patel, a pioneer in both the dairy industry and public health.
- Dr. Patel has held key positions in the dairy industry, including as the first woman executive of Amul and chairperson of NDDB.
- She was devoted to improving the health and livelihoods of India's rural poor, especially women.

Amrita Patel Awards and Recognitions:

- Dr. Patel received prestigious awards like 'Padma Bhushan' for his dairy industry contribution and 'Indira Gandhi Environment Award' for his environmental work.
- She has been consistently recognized as a top businesswoman and received the Mahindra Samridhi India Agri Lifetime Achievement Award.

Centre's Approach:

- The center aims to be a hub of learning and capacity building, serving public health professionals from diverse backgrounds. It continues Dr. Patel's legacy of public health reform in India.

About Gujarat

- Formation (by partition) - **1 May 1960**
- Capital - **Gandhinagar**
- Governor - Acharya **Devvrat**
- Chief Minister - **Bhupendrabhai Patel (BJP)**
- District - **33**
- Rajya Sabha - **11 seats**
- Lok Sabha - **26 seats**

10. Civil Aviation Minister Inaugurates Utkela Airport and Direct Flight between Utkela and Bhubaneswar (Aug. 31, 2023)

Minister of Civil Aviation, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia and Minister of State, Ministry of Civil Aviation, General Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd) inaugurated the Utkela Airport and a new flight route connecting Utkela and Bhubaneswar through video conferencing.

An Overview of the News

- Utkela Airport, owned by the Government of Odisha, has been set up as a regional airport under the UDAN scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation with a project cost of Rs 31.07 crore.
- The airport has a 917-metre (2,995 ft) runway and a runway width of 30 metres, which contributes to better regional connectivity.
- This increases the number of airports in Odisha to five, underscoring efforts to boost transport infrastructure.

Increase in connectivity through Utkela-Bhubaneswar flight route

- The newly launched Utkela-Bhubaneswar flight route, operated by IndiaOne, is set to strengthen regional air connectivity and boost economic growth in the region.
- This route will be operated by 9-seater Cessna C-208 aircraft, which is a part of the UDAN scheme initiative.
- The travel time between Utkela and Bhubaneswar, which usually takes about 8 hours by road, will now be reduced to just one hour and twenty minutes by air.

Economic benefits and development for Kalahandi region

- The new Utkela-Bhubaneswar air connection is set to stimulate economic activities and create many employment opportunities in the Kalahandi region.
- Collaboration between the Central Government and the Government of Odisha in advancing civil aviation infrastructure was highlighted as an important step towards development.

About Odisha

- Formation - **April 1, 1936**
- Capital - **Bhubaneswar**
- Districts - **30 (3 divisions)**
- Governor - **Ganeshi Lal**
- Chief Minister - **Naveen Patnaik**