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1. Bengaluru Karaga temple festival (April 19, 2022)

The centuries-old Karaga (temple fair) festival was recently held at the Dharmaraya Swamy Temple in Bengaluru.

- It is celebrated annually in the month of Chaitra (March/April) according to the Hindu calendar.
- The festival has its roots in the epic Mahabharata.
- It honours Draupadi as the ideal woman and goddess Shakti.
- The word 'karaga' refers to an earthen pot, which refers to a floral pyramid and an idol of the goddess.
- The karaga is carried over the head of the carrier without touching it.
- The bearer wears a woman's dress with bangles, mangalsutra and vermilion on her forehead.

Significance of Karaga

- The Karaga procession makes a customary stop at the Astana-e-Hazrath Tawakkal Mastan Shah Soharwardi Dargah to pay homage to Tawakkal Mastan.
- The dargah has been looked after for many generations by the Mujavwar family, a symbol of syncretic Sufism.
- According to him, the history of the dargah is at least 300 years old when Tawakkal Mastan, who came to Bengaluru with his horses in search of trade opportunities, was revered as a saint.

2. Rajasthan becomes first State to get L-root server (April 19, 2022)

Rajasthan has become the first State in the country to get the L-root server, which will enable the State government to provide its flagship digital services and enforce e-governance with seamless internet connectivity.

- The new facility will strengthen internet infrastructure and help improve security and resilience of internet-based operations.
- The server, installed at the Bhamashah State Data Centre, has been installed by the government in association with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).
- After its installation, even if there is a problem in internet connectivity due to any technical fault or natural calamity in the whole of Asia or India, it will continue to run without any interruption in Rajasthan.
- Along with this, high speed internet connectivity will also be ensured.

- The state government in the State is delivering digital services to the people through e-
- Mitra, Jan Aadhaar Yojana, Jan Kalyan portal, Jansuchna portal and various mobile phone apps.
- There are at present three J-root servers in New Delhi, Mumbai and Gorakhpur and two L-root servers in Mumbai and Kolkata.
- The L-root server in Rajasthan is the first one deployed at the State level.

3. PM Modi unveiled 108-feet statue of Lord Hanuman at Morbi in Gujarat (April 16, 2022)

On the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti today, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a 108-feet statue of Lord Hanuman in Morbi, Gujarat.

- It has been set up in the west, at the Ashram of Bapu Keshvanand ji in Morbi.
- The statue is the second of the four statues being built in the four directions across the country, as part of the 'Hanumanji Char Dham' project.
- The first statue of the series was set up in north India in Shimla in 2010.
- The work on the third statue, in the south at Rameswaram has started.
- The festival of Hanuman Jayanti is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of the Hindu god Hanuman by the devotees.
- This year the festival has been celebrated on 16 april.

4. ADB Financing to Support Urban Development in Nagaland (April 13, 2022)

The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank 12 April 2022 signed a \$2 million Project Readiness Financing (PRF) Loan for designing climate resilient urban infrastructure, strengthening institutional capacity and improving municipal resource mobilisation in 16 district headquarter towns (DHTs) in Nagaland.

The signatories to the PRF for the proposed Nagaland Urban Infrastructure Development Project were **Shri Rajat Kumar Mishra**, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance who signed for the Government of India, and **Shri Takeo Konishi**, Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission who signed for ADB.

5. Deoghar ropeway accident: IAF completes rescue operation (April 13, 2022)

Indian Air Force in coordination with NDRF, local administration and Army completed the rescue operations of stranded people in ropeway service located in Trikut hills in Deoghar district of Jharkhand on 12 April 2022.

The IAF used two Mi-17V5s, one Mi-17, an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) and a Cheetah helicopter to fly for more than 26 hours in this mission.

- A total of 70 people were trapped when two cable cars collided on Trikut, the highest ropeway in Jharkhand's Deoghar, at around 5 pm on April 10, 2022, bringing operations to a complete halt.
- To save the people trapped in this incident, the rescue work continued from the day of 11 April till the morning of 12 April.
- However, now the rescue operation has been completed and people were evacuated safely. But during this 3 people died, out of which 2 people fell during the rescue operation.
- Drones sent food and water to those trapped in the cable car. The rescue operation had to be called off after dark on Monday.
- Taking suo motu cognizance of the Deoghar ropeway accident, the Jharkhand High Court has ordered an inquiry into the matter and asked the state government to file a detailed inquiry report before April 26.
- NDRF, Indian Army, Air Force and ITBP personnel were involved in this relief and rescue operation which lasted for about 40 hours. Those who safely rescued the people trapped in the cable car.

6. Historic agreement between Assam and Meghalaya to resolve boundary dispute (March 29, 2022)

The Assam and Meghalaya government signed an agreement in New Delhi on 29 March 2022 to resolve the border disputes. The agreement was signed in the presence of Union Minister Amit Shah.

- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Assam Chief Minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma,** and Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad **Kongkal Sangma** to resolve the border dispute between the two states.
- The dispute arose when Meghalaya was created a State in 1972 by dividing Assam. Both the States had different perceptions of their borders and soon both the states started claiming certain portion of area as there's, leading to dispute in 12 locations in the border areas.
- In August 2021, Assam and Meghalaya had formed three committees each to go into the boundary question, following two rounds of talks between Sarma and Sangma during which the states resolved to settle the border dispute in a phased manner.
- The governments of the two states had come up with a draft resolution to resolve their border disputes in six of the 12 "areas of difference" along the 884-kilometre boundary.
- In the six places, there are 36 villages, which cover an area of 36.79 square kilometres. Assam will keep 18.51 square kilometres of land, and will give Meghalaya 18.28 square kilometres of land, according to the proposed recommendations for the 36.79 square kilometres of land.
- The six disputed sectors are Tarabari, Gizang, Hahim, Boklapara, Khanapara-Pillangkata and Ratacherra under the Kamrup, Kamrup (Metro) and Cachar districts of Assam and the West Khasi Hills, Ri-Bhoi and East Jaintia Hills districts of Meghalaya.

- Apart from Meghalaya, Assam has boundary disputes with Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland. All these States, two as Union Territories initially, were carved out of Assam between 1963 and 1972.
- The two Chief Ministers have expressed hope that the remaining six points on border issues will be resolved soon.

7. Punjab Government launches Ghar Ghar Ration Yojana (March 29, 2022)

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has announced on 28 March 2022 that the Punjab Government will start the door step delivery of rations under the **Ghar Ghar Ration Yojana** with immediate effect.

- The Ration Yojana will cater to the beneficiaries of the Atta-Dal Scheme of the state government, which was renamed Smart Ration Card Scheme by the erstwhile Captain Amarinder Singh-led Congress government.
- Mann said that the scheme will be optional for the eligible beneficiaries and if the ration depot is close to a beneficiary's home, they may fetch the ration from there.
- Similar Scheme was announced in Delhi by the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal but it was objected to by the Central Government and the matter is in the Delhi High Court.

National Food Security Act (NFSA)

The Public distribution system in India is covered under the National Food Security Act 2013. **It was implemented on 10 September 2013.**

- It covers all the State and Union Territories in India .
- The scheme is administered by the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution .
- The Act provides for coverage of up to 75% of the rural population and up to 50% of the urban population for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-thirds of the population.
- Food Grains are provided to beneficiaries in two categories ,Antodaya Anna Yojana(AAY) and Priority Household (PHH).
- The Antodaya Anna Yojana beneficiaries get 35 kg of foodgrains per month and the Priority Household gets 5kg per person per month .
- The beneficiary gets rice/wheat or coarse cereals at a highly subsidized price.

8. Horticulture Production increased by 4.4 in 2020-21 : Government of india (March 29, 2022)

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare released the Final Estimates of 2020-21 and First Advance Estimates of 2021-22 of Area and Production of various Horticultural Crops.

The Estimates are based on the information received from States/ UTs and other Governmental source agencies.

Total Horticulture	-		2021-22(First Advance Estimates)
Area (In Million Hectares)	26.48	27.48	27.56
Production (In Million tonnes)	320.47	334.60	333.25

Highlights of 2020-21 (Final Estimates) in comparison to 2019-20 (Final Estimates)

- Total Horticulture production in 2020-21 is estimated to a record 334.60 Million Tonne, which is an increase of about 14.13 Million Tonne (4.4%) over that achieved in 2019-20.
- Production of Fruits has increased by 0.4 Million Tonne.
- There is a 6.5% increase in the production of Vegetables compared to last year.
- Production of Onion is reported to have increased by 0.55 Million tonne.
- Production of Potato showed a record increase by 7.61 Million Tonne.
- Production of Tomato is reported to have increased by 0.63 Million Tonne.
- Aromatic & Medicinal crops have registered an increase of 12.4%
- Production of Plantation Crops has increased by 0.51 Million Tonne.
- Production of Spices has increased by 9.7%.

The first advance estimates of 2021-22 shows a 0.4% decrease in total horticultural production over 2020-21(Final Estimates). An increase in the production of Fruits while a decrease in the production of Vegetables, Spices, Flowers Aromatics & Medicinal Plants and Plantation Crops over the previous year, is envisaged

9. Lok Sabha passes a bill to include Darlong Tribe in the Tripura Scheduled Tribe List (March 29, 2022)

The Lok Sabha has passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

- The bill seeks to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 for the inclusion of certain communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes in relation to the State of Tripura.
- The Bill proposes to add the "Darlong" community as a sub-tribe of "Kuki" to the list of Scheduled Tribes.
- The bill was moved in the Lok Sabha by, Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda

Important for Exam-

Article 342 in The Constitution Of India 1949

- (1) The President may, with respect to any State or Union territory, specify certain tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities as Scheduled Tribes in relation to that State or Union territory, only after consultation with the Governor of the state.
- (2) Parliament may by law include in or exclude, any tribe or tribal community or part of or group within any tribe or tribal community, from the list of Scheduled Tribes.

Important Schedules-

- Fifth Schedule(Article 244) It contains provisions in relation to the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes
- Sixth Schedule (Article 244 and 275) It contains provisions in relation to the administration of tribal areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram

10. Pramod Sawant Sworn in as Goa Chief Minister for the second time (March 28, 2022)

Bharatiya Janata Party(BJP) leader Pramod Sawant was sworn in for the second time as the Chief Minister of Goa on 28 March 2022.

He and 8 other ministers were administered the oath of office and secrecy by the Goa Governor **Mr. PS Sreedharan Pillai** at the Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Stadium, Panaji.

The event was attended by Prime Minister Modi and other top BJP leaders and Ministers.

Highlights

- Pramod Swant became the chief Minister of Goa in 2019 after the death of the incumbent Chief Minister Manhoar Parrikar.
- He won his Sanquelim Assembly seat by defeating Dharmesh Saglani of the Congress party in the recently held Goa Legislative Assembly election in 2022.
- The election to constitute the **8th Goa Legislative Assembly was held on 14 February 2022.**
- BJP won 20 seats in the 40 member Goa Assembly .
- The party enjoys the support of three Independents and two Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP) legislators. This is the third consecutive government of the BJP in the coastal state.
- Pramod Sawant is the 13 Person to become the Chief Minister of Goa.
- He is an Ayurvedic medical practitioner by profession.