

Nethanna Bima Scheme

❖ Context

- Recently CM of Telangana launched the Nethanna Bima scheme and extended greetings to the weavers on the occasion of National Handloom Day.

❖ Key Highlights

- It is one-of-its-kind scheme for weavers that has been introduced in the country and nearly 80,000 weavers' families will be benefitted through this insurance plan.
- This scheme will provide ₹5 lakh insurance cover to the weavers' families in case of the unfortunate demise of an eligible beneficiary.
- It will provide economic assurance to handloom and power loom weaver families.

Telangana extended insurance coverage to handloom & power loom weavers under 'Nethanna Bima' scheme

Telangana Government has announced the extension of insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers under 'Nethanna Bima' (Weaver's Insurance) Scheme.

The State Government has extended the insurance coverage of 5 lakh rupees for weavers under the Insurance Scheme on par with Rythu Bima insurance scheme. The insurance coverage would be extended to weavers in the age group of 18 to 59 years.

Over 29 crore rupees have been sanctioned for implementing the scheme during the current year.

Recent Telangana govt schemes/apps/portals:

- 'Urban Forest Park' Mobile App
- Mana Ooru Mana Badi programme



- Under the scheme, the Telangana government has joined hands with Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India for the 'Nethanna Beema' scheme and termed the **state department of handlooms and textiles** as the nodal agency for its implementation.
- The annual premium of the beneficiaries will be paid by the government on their behalf to the LIC.

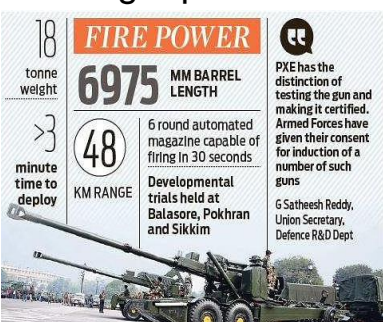
ATAGS (Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System)

❖ Context

- An indigenously developed howitzer gun, ATAG, became part of the 21-gun salute during the Independence Day ceremony at the Red Fort.

❖ Key Highlights

- The ATAGS is an indigenous 155 mm x 52 calibre howitzer gun developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) with its Pune-based facility Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) being the nodal agency.
- Howitzers is an umbrella term for a category of long-range artillery guns.
- The ATAGS is configured with all electric drive to ensure maintenance free and reliable operation over a longer period of time.



- It has advanced features in terms of high mobility, quick deployability, auxiliary power mode, advanced communication system, automatic command & control system with night firing capability in the direct fire mode.

- During its September 2017 test at Pokhran, the maximum ranges of 38.5 km and 48 km, with boat tail and extended range full bore types of projectiles, were achieved.

❖ The 21-gun Salute Tradition

- The tradition of gun salutes originates from the Western navies where guns from the ports and those from incoming ships used to be fired in a particular manner to convey that there was no belligerent intention.
- This tradition was carried forward as a way of paying respects or for according official welcome to the Crown, royals, military commanders and heads of states.
- India inherited the tradition from the British rulers who had gun salutes comprising 101 volleys, 31 volleys and 21 volleys, and so on depending on the hierarchy.
- In India, artillery gun salutes are fired on the **Republic Day, the Independence Day** and also at the time of **oath taking ceremony of the President**, among other occasions.

MOU with Microsoft to Train Civil Servants

❖ Context

- Microsoft and the Indian government will collaborate for a programme to train nearly 2.5 million civil servants in using the company's suite of digital tools.



❖ Key Highlights

- The partnership between the tech giant, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), and the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) aims to help civil servants in helping the underprivileged.
- It will help them in delivering last-mile social welfare services.
- It will enhance their capabilities and allow them to be more effective.
- As part of the collaboration, the company will develop an online learning course on Microsoft Office 365 digital productivity suite offerings for MSDE.

- The program will empower central government employees on key digital skills and amplify the vision of Digital India.
- This initiative will not only drive more productivity but will also enable ease of doing business with more digital solutions.
- **Key Issues:** A major competence gap identified among civil servants was the lack of digital productivity application skills needed while working on Microsoft Office tools like Word, Excel, and PowerPoint presentation.

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11 More Wetlands

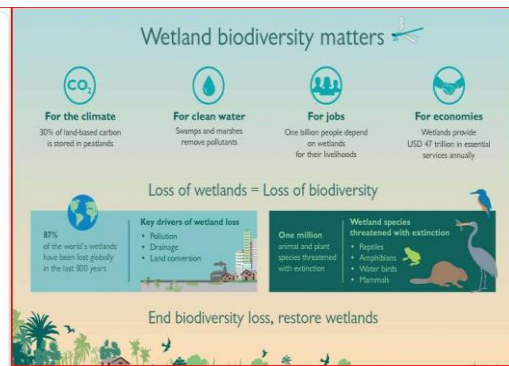
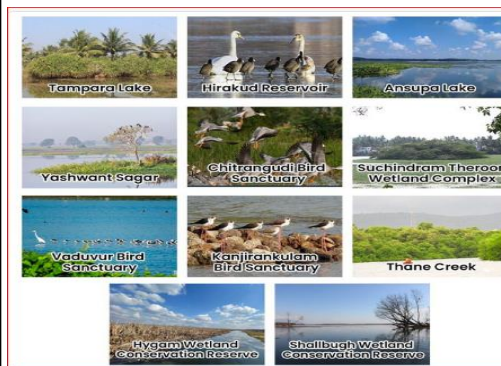
❖ Context

- India has added 11 more wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites to make total 75 Ramsar sites covering an area of 13 lakh 26 thousand 677 Hectare in the country.

❖ Key Highlights

- Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change said, the 11 new sites include, four in Tamil Nadu, three in Odisha, two in Jammu and Kashmir and one each in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The 11 Wetlands are:-
 - Tampara Lake in Odisha; Hiraikud Reservoir in Odisha; and Ansupa Lake in Odisha;
 - Yashwant Sagar in Madhya Pradesh;
 - Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu;
 - Suchindram Theroor Wetland Complex in Tamil Nadu; and Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu;
 - Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu;
 - Thane Creek in Maharashtra;
 - Hygam Wetland Conservation Reserve in Jammu and Kashmir; & Shallbugh Wetland Conservation Reserve in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Designation of these sites would help in conservation & management of wetlands & wise use of their resources.

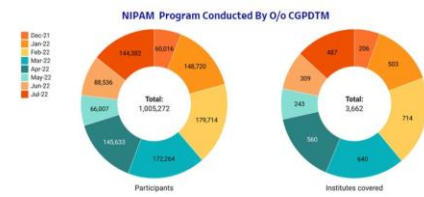
- India is one of the Contracting Parties to Ramsar Convention, signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971.
- India signed it on **1st February 1982**. During 1982 to 2013, a total of 26 sites were added to the list of Ramsar sites, however, during 2014 to 2022, the country has added 49 new wetlands to the list of Ramsar sites.
- Tamil Nadu has maximum number of Ramsar sites which is 14, followed by Uttar Pradesh which has 10 numbers of Ramsar sites.



National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission

❖ Context

- Recently National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM) has achieved target of imparting Intellectual Property (IP) awareness and basic training to 1 million students.



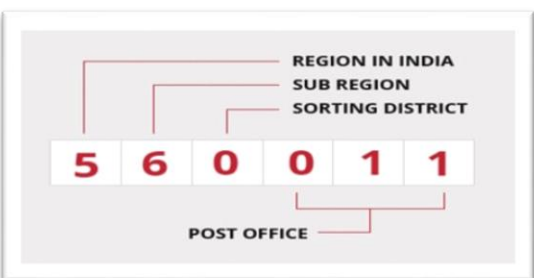
❖ Key Highlights

- It aims to inculcate the spirit of creativity and innovation to students of higher education (classes 8 to 12) and ignite and inspire the students of college/Universities to innovate and protect their creations.
- Targets achieved during the period 08 December 2021 to 31st July 2022: No. of participants (students/faculty) trained on IP = 10, 05, 272
 - Educational institutes covered = 3662
 - Geographical coverage = 28 states and 7 UT's

- **Implementing Agency:** The program is being implemented by Intellectual Property Office, the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM), Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- **Intellectual Property Rights:** These are the rights given to persons over the creation of their minds Inventions, literary and artistic works, and symbols, names and images used in commerce.
- They usually give the creator an exclusive right over the use of his/her creation for a certain period of time.

News in Between the Lines

History of the Postal Identification Number (PIN) code



❖ Context

- The 75th Independence Day coincided with another milestone in the country's history it was on August 15, 1972, that the PIN was introduced in India.

❖ How does the PIN code work?

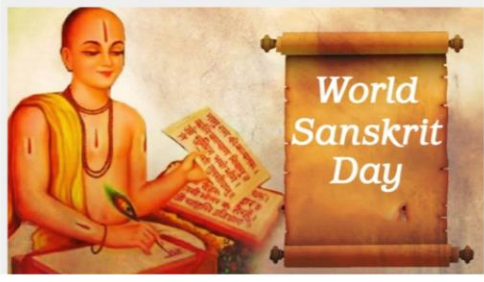
- The PIN is made up of six digits.
- The first number indicates the postal region - Northern, Eastern, Western, Southern; and number 9, which signifies the Army Postal Service.
- The 2nd number denotes a sub-region, and the 3rd represents the sorting district.
- The remaining numbers narrow the geography further to the specific post office making the delivery.
- The person behind the initiative was **Shriram Bhikaji Velankar**.

World Sanskrit Day

❖ Context

- Prime Minister extended his wishes on the occasion of World Sanskrit Day and shared his greetings with the people in Sanskrit.

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❖ Key Highlights

- It is celebrated on Shraavanapoornima, that is the Purnima day of the Shraavana month in the Hindu calendar. In the year 2022, this day was celebrated on August 12th. The major **objective** of this day is to encourage the mother of all languages.
- By arousing the language and learning it might result in reinventing the language for the next generation. As it consists of the largest vocabulary, it shows the rich culture of the ancient Indian language.

IMD, Japan and UNDP Join to Expedite Climate Action



❖ Context

- India Meteorological Department (IMD), the government of Japan, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have announced a new initiative to accelerate climate action in 10 States and Union Territories across the country.

❖ Key Highlights

- The project will be rolled out in Bihar, Delhi-NCR, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh during 2022-23.
- At the COP26 summit in Glasgow in November 2021, India had pledged to :
 - cut the country's total projected carbon emission by 1 billion tons by 2030;
 - install 500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity by 2030;
 - reduce the carbon intensity by less than 45% by the end of the decade,
 - and achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.

❖ Joint IMD-UNDP Initiative:

- It will be rolled out in partnership with the IMD at the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- UNDP will work with IMD to promote climate resilience and the MNRE to promote climate mitigation. Clean energy infrastructure and low-emission technologies will be deployed in key sectors including transport, health, MSMEs and agriculture.
- This includes solarising 150 healthcare facilities, 20 micro-enterprises, and installing 85 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and 30 solar cold storage systems across the 10 States.

❖ Resilient Climate Planning

- Resilient climate planning will be demonstrated at the grassroots through climate information flow systems for **30 Gram Panchayats**. The initiative also envisages the creation of green jobs and green entrepreneurship in sectors like renewable energy by providing skilling and training to 2,000+ people.
- The project is expected to benefit not only the fight against climate change but also impact various actors to lead to sustainable development in India.

World's Highest Single Arch Railway Bridge



❖ Context

- In Jammu and Kashmir, the world's highest rail bridge over the Chenab river in the Kouri area of Reasi district achieved another milestone recently when the overarch deck of the bridge was completed with a golden joint.

❖ Key Highlights

- The golden joint shall now pave the way for engineers to lay tracks on the bridge.
- With tracks over it, Kashmir will be linked with the rest of India via rail network for the first time since Independence. This is the highest railway arch in the world.
- The bridge is 35 meters higher than Eiffel Tower.

DigiYatra

❖ Context

- The **Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL)**, recently announced the soft launch of the Centre's DigiYatra initiative, rolling out the beta version of its app for Android platforms.

❖ What is DigiYatra and How will it Work?

- DigiYatra envisages that travellers pass through various checkpoints at the airport through paperless and contactless processing, using facial features to establish their identity, which would be linked to the boarding pass.

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- With this technology, the entry of passengers would be automatically processed based on the facial recognition system at all checkpoints – including entry into the airport, security check areas, aircraft boarding, etc.
- The project is being implemented by the DigiYatra Foundation - a joint-venture company whose shareholders are the Airports Authority of India (26% stake) and Bengaluru Airport, Delhi Airport, Hyderabad Airport, Mumbai Airport and Cochin International Airport.
- These five shareholders equally hold the remaining 74% of the shares. The DigiYatra Foundation will be the custodian of the passenger ID validation process.

India Unveils First Saline Water Lantern



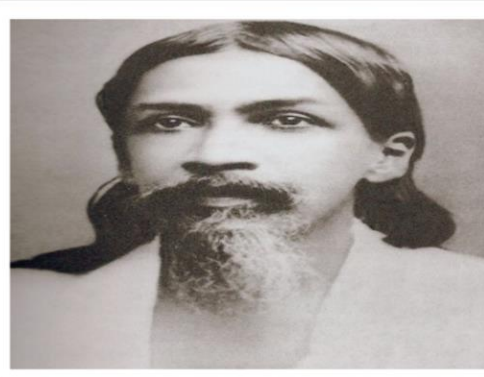
❖ Context

- Union Minister of State for Science and Technology recently unveiled India's first Saline Water Lantern which uses the sea water to power the specially designed LED lamps.

❖ Key Highlights

- It uses seawater as the electrolyte between specially designed electrodes to power the LED lamps.
- The saline Water Lantern will bring “**Ease of Living**” to the fishing community living along the 7500 Kilometres long coastal line of India. Saline water-powered Roshini LED lamps will also boost and supplement PM-UJALA scheme.
- **Significance:** The technology can be used in hinterlands, where sea water is not available, as **any saline water** or normal water mixed with the common salt can be used to power the Roshni lantern, which makes it cost-effective and feasible to operate.

Maharshi Aurobindo



❖ Context

- Birth anniversary of Maharshi Aurobindo was celebrated in 75 prisons across nation.

❖ Key Highlights

- To commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Shri Aurobindo Ghosh, central government helded spiritual programmes from August 12 to August 15, 2022.
- The purpose of these programmes is to ‘transform’ the lives of prison inmates through inculcation of the philosophy of Aurobindo Ghosh and by the practice of Yoga and Meditation.

❖ About Maharshi Aurobindo:

- He was an Indian philosopher, yoga guru, maharishi, poet, & Indian nationalist.
- He was also a journalist, editing newspapers such as **Vande Mataram**.
- He joined the Indian movement for independence from British colonial rule, until 1910 was one of its influential leaders, and then became a spiritual reformer, introducing his visions on human progress and spiritual evolution.
- In Puducherry, Sri Aurobindo Ashram was established in 1926.

‘Chinese’ Manjha



Daily Current Affairs

❖ Context

- Every year, as Independence Day inches closer, **Delhi's streets become witness to deaths and injuries because of the ‘Chinese’ manjha.**

❖ Key Highlights

- The Chinese manjha is a **glass-coated synthetic string used to fly kites**. It is made of **monofilament fishing lines**.
- Monofilament strings are deadly because they are very hard to break.
- They are made by **melting & mixing polymers** & after the strings are formed, they are then **coated with glass**. Stretched tight, monofilament strings have the **ability to injure humans & animals alike**.
- The **name of the string is misleading** because it is **not imported from China, but is rather produced domestically**. In 2017, after the Supreme Court asked petitioners to move the NGT, it **ordered a complete ban on manjha made of nylon or any synthetic material**.

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