



NOVEMBER CURRENT AFFAIRS

DAILY DOSE COMPILATION

1. CENSUS OF INDUS RIVER DOLPHIN:

- The **state of Punjab** is set to start the **census** of one of the world's most threatened cetaceans, **Indus River dolphin**.

About:

- Scientifically called as **Platanista gangetica minor**.
- **Fresh water dolphin** - found in river **Beas**.
- **IUCN** status - **Endangered(En)**
- Declared as **state aquatic animal of Punjab**.

2. DAIRY SAHAKAR SCHEME:

- Dairy Sahakar scheme - launched at **Anand, Gujarat**.
- **Objective** - **doubling farmer's income and making a Atmanirbhar Bharat**.
- **Implemented by NCDC** under **Ministry of Cooperation** to realize the vision, "**from cooperation to prosperity**".
- **NCDC** will extend the **financial support to eligible cooperatives** for activities to **export dairy products**.

3. G20 SUMMIT:

- 16th G20 summit was concluded with the adoption of the '**Rome Declaration**' and the **commitment to the Paris Agreement** by the **G20 leaders**.
- **Theme 2021** - **People, Planet, and Prosperity**.

Highlights:

- **Rome Declaration** - strong message under the health section where the leaders agreed that COVID immunisation is a public good.

- **Commitment to Paris Agreement** - committed to the goal of keeping the global average temperature increase well below 2 degree Celsius and pursue the efforts of limiting it to 1.5 degree Celsius above pre industrial levels.
- **Global Economy and Global Health** - emphasis on economic recovery and supply chain diversification.

G20 SUMMIT AND CLIMATE CHANGE:

- To reach carbon neutrality by or around mid-century.
- **G20 Climate Risk Atlas** was released which provides climate scenarios, information, data and future changes in climate across the G20 countries.
- Vision of “**One Earth One Health**”, or the need for a **collaborative approach** in the international domain in the fight against the pandemic.

4. SAGAR NIDHI:

- Indian subcontinent's **pioneer Ocean Research Vessel ship**.
- Commissioned in **2008** for **country's marine research programme**.
- Third research vessel after **Sagar Purvi and Sagar Paschimi**.

Significance:

- **Exploring and harnessing ocean resources** for the **blue economy** and participation in **search and rescue operations**, more specifically for the implementation of the **Deep Ocean Mission**.
- Used for launching **tsunami monitoring system** and for identifying **mines and gas hydrates**.
- Used for conducting **oceanic studies on the fuel**.

5. VISHAKHAPATNAM - STEALTH GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER:

- Indian Navy has received its **first P15B stealth guided missile destroyer** named **Vishakhapatnam** from the **Mazgaon Shipbuilders**.
- **About** - The **163 metres long** ship has a full-load displacement of **7400 tonnes** and a maximum **speed of 30 knots**. The overall **indigenous content** of the project is **approximately 75%**.
- **Significance** - It has the **capability of launching guided anti-aircraft missile from its deck**.

Project 15B:

- **Follow-on** of the **Kolkata class(Project 15A) destroyers** commissioned in the last decade.
- Contract for the **four ships** named - **Mormugao, Vishakhapatnam, Surat, Imphal.**

6. 18th INDIA ASEAN SUMMIT

- **The Year 2022** has been highlighted as **India-ASEAN Friendship** by the leaders.
- **India-ASEAN Summit** is held every year and **provides an opportunity** for India and Asean **to engage at the highest level.**
- India **exchanged views on enhancing India-ASEAN connectivity in broadest terms** including physical, digital and people to people.
- India in **2014 reinvigorated the Look East policy into Act East,** with a more strategic outlook than its previous incarnation, focusing on engagement not just with Southeast Asian countries but also those in the Pacific.

7. INDIA ITALY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP IN ENERGY TRANSITION

- The two nations acknowledged significant progress in bilateral relations since the adoption of the Action Plan for an enhanced Partnership between India and Italy (2020 –2024) in November 2020.
- The **Green Energy Corridor Projects** aim at synchronizing electricity produced from renewable sources, such as solar and wind, with conventional power stations in the grid.
- **2021** is the year of **the 73rd anniversary of diplomatic relations** between **India and Italy.**
- India has recently been **identified by Italy as one of the top five priority** countries for internationalization of business.
- Italy **acknowledges both geopolitical and economic importance** of India and is actively trying to step up its relations to a new high, based on good diplomatic relations and economic exchanges.
- The **economic importance of relations** can be understood from the fact that Italy is the **eighth largest economy in the world and the third largest in the Eurozone.**

8. GANGES RIVER DOLPHIN

- The **Ganges river dolphin** is **the national aquatic animal** of India.
- The global population of the species is estimated at 4,000. It is mostly found in the **Indian subcontinent through out the Ganges Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems** of Nepal, India and Bangladesh.
- The **species Platanista gangetica** is considered **an indicator species** of aquatic systems.
- It is listed as **'endangered'** under the **IUCN Red List, Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act(1972), Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)**.

9. FLIPKART AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

- **Flipkart** signed **MoU** with **Ministry of Rural Development** for Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana(**DAY**) - National Rural Livelihood Mission(**NRLM**).
- **Aim** - to help **empower local businesses** and **SHG's**, especially those that are led by **women** by bringing them into **e-commerce** fold.
- It is part of the **Flipkart Samarth program**.

Significance:

- Great platform for **capacity building**.
- Enhancing **rural livelihood**.
- **Mobilize** and **channelise** the **resources**.
- Crucial for **inclusive** and **robust national development** especially during the current post covid era.

10. SMART ANTI - AIRFIELD WEAPON:

- **SAAW** - Designed and developed by **Research Centre Imarat** in coordination with other **DRDO laboratories** and extensive support from **IAF**.
- Recently, DRDO and IAF - carry out **successfully flight tested indigenously** developed SAAW.
- **Two different configurations** based on **satellite navigation** and **electro optical sensors** have been successfully tested.

- **Electro optical configuration** of the system is equipped with **imaging infra red seeker technology** enhancing the **precision strike capability of the weapon.**
- System is designed for a **maximum range of 100 kms.**

11. START-UP VILLAGE ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME(SVEP):

- **Subscheme** under **DAY-NRLM.**
- **Supports** the **SHG members** and their family members to setup **small enterprises in the non-farm sector.**
- It **develops** an **ecosystem for enterprise development in rural areas** consisting of **Community Enterprise Fund** for enterprise funding, Cadre of **Community Resource Persons - Enterprise Promotion(CRP-EP)** for providing business support services.
- **CRP-EP** - selected from the community where the programme is being implemented as they understand the local context and their familiarity with NRLM ecosystem.

12. AYUSHMAN BHARAT CAPF HEALTHCARE SCHEME:

- **First-of-its-kind joint initiative** by the **Ministry of Home Affairs** and the **National Health Authority.**
- Healthcare facilities under this scheme will be available in all **CGHS** and **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.**

Aim:

- To provide **cashless** and **paperless medical treatment** at the empanelled hospitals
- Will ensure **access to health services** across the country to **CAPF personnel.**

13. FACIAL RECOGNITION SYSTEM:

- **Facebook shuts down FRS** which automatically identifies the users in the videos and photos.
- It has **led to growing societal concerns.**
- **FRS** - technology that is **capable of matching a human face** from a **digital image or a video frame against a database of faces.**
- It is typically employed to **authenticate users** through **ID verification services.**

14. GREEN GRIDS INITIATIVE:

- PM launched **Green Grids Initiative - One Sun One World One Grid at COP 26 Summit.**
- It is being developed by **India, UK** jointly in **collaboration** with the **World Bank and India's ISA.**

Significance:

- It can aid in developing a **common and strong global grid** through which **clean energy** can be transmitted anywhere, anytime.
- It will help in **reduce storage needs** and also enhancing the **viability of solar projects.**
- And also aid in **reducing carbon footprints** and **energy costs.**

15. COVAXIN VACCINE:

- The **WHO** has given **pre-qualification or Emergency Use Listing** for **Bharat Biotech's Covaxin vaccine.**
- Covaxin - **virion inactivated vaccine** against SARS-CoV-2, developed in partnership with **ICMR** and the **National Institute of Virology, Pune.**
- **EUL** - It is a **risk based procedure** for **assessing and listing unlicensed vaccines, therapeutics and invitro diagnostics** with the ultimate aim of expediting the availability of these products to people affected by a public health emergency.
- It has been granted **EUL for use in persons 18 years and above,** over **two doses spaced four weeks apart.**

16. INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT TRUSTS:

- InvITs are institutions **similar to mutual funds.**
- **Pool investment** from various **categories of investors.**
- **Invest** them into **completed** and **revenue generating infrastructure projects,** thereby creating returns for the investor.
- **Regulated** under the **Sebi(Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014** and the **Indian Trust Act, 1882.**

17. JAI BHIM MUKHYAMANTRI PRATIBHA VIKAS YOJANA:

- Launched by **Delhi government.**
- For various **competitive exams** at **private centres.**

- It covers **children** belonging to **economically poor background** and **marginalized communities** - given **free coaching** for competitive exams.

18. GLOBAL METHANE PLEDGE:

- Launched at the **UN COP 26** climate conference in **Glasgow**.
- Global Methane Pledge agreement between the **US and the EU** - to reduce worldwide methane emissions.
- **Aim** - **to cut down methane emissions up to 30% from 2020 levels by 2030.**

Facts:

- Methane is the **second most abundant greenhouse gas** in the atmosphere **after carbon dioxide**.
- **40%** of methane emitted from **natural sources** and about **60%** from **anthropogenic sources**.

19. Molnupiravir:

- **UK** – become first country to approve anti-viral pill.
- Designed to introduce errors into the genetic code of the corona virus.
- It is an oral anti-viral treatment.

20. Indian Navy- Delivers 100 tonnes of Nano Nitrogen liquid fertilizers to SriLanka:

- **Nano Fertilizers** - Specifically designed to release active ingredients in response to biological demands and environmental stress.
- Can be used as smart delivery system of nutrients.
- **Unique properties of Nano Particles:**
- High Sorption capacity, increased surface to volume ratio and controlled release kinetics to targeted sites.

21. Ram temple – Ayodhya – Temple architecture:

- 3 storey, 5 dome shaped mandapas and 1 shikara.
- Nagara style
- Design based on vastusastra and shilpasashtra.

- 4 temples surround the main structure.

22. Tele – Law Programme:

- **2017 , Department of Justice to address cases at pre-litigation stage.**
- Under this non technology of video conferencing telephone /instant calling facilities available at vast network of common service centre at panchayat level are used to connect the vulnerable communities with the panel lawyer for seeking timely and valuable legal advice.

23. Miya Community:

Present in ASSAM – Descendants of Muslim migrants from east Bengal to Assam.

24. Char – Chaporis:

- Char – Floating Island ;Chaporis – Low lying flood prone river banks.
- They are shifting riverine islands of Brahmaputra.
- Primarily inhabited by the Muslims of Bengali origin.

25. AIR QUALITY INDEX:

- AQI of Delhi worsened and comes under severe category.
- AQI - launched in 2014. Measured on the basis of **8 pollutants(PM 10, PM 2.5, SO2, NO2, O3, CO, Pb, NH3).**
- **Categories** - Severe, Very poor, Poor, Moderately polluted, Satisfactory, Good.
- Developed by **Central Pollution Control Board, IIT Kanpur and an expert group.**

26. SECURITY DIALOGUE:

- **India** - set to **host security dialogue on Afghanistan.**
- Russia, Iran, and all other Central Asian countries - agreed to participate.
- It will be held at the **level National Security Advisor(NSA)** of the participating countries.

27. NETWORK FOR GREENING THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM:

- **NFGS** - announced in 2017 at the **Paris 'one climate summit'**.
- Network of 83 central banks and financial supervisors.
- **Aim** - to accelerate the scaling up of **green finance**.
- Now, RBI broadly supports the NGFS declaration.

28. BESTU VARAS:

- **Gujarati New year** falls on Kartik month.
- Coincides with Govardhan puja - related to **Lord Krishna**.

29. INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF INDIA:

- **52nd edition** in **Goa**.
- Organised by **Directorate of film festivals** of India, **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** in collaboration with **state government of Goa**.
- IFFI - announces the selection of films for the Indian panorama section.
- Primary aim - to select the feature and non feature films for the promotion of film art under different categories.

30. ADI SHANKARACHARYA:

- PM inaugurated the samadhi and unveiled the statue of Adi Shankaracharya.
- **Indian philosopher** and **theologian**.
- Believed in doctrine of **Advaita Vedanta** - school of Hindu philosophy.
- Founded **four monasteries**.

31. INDIA - FRANCE STRATEGIC RELATIONS:

- France - emphasized partnership with India as a **major pillar of Indo Pacific strategy**.
- Agreed to strengthen **bilateral defence** and **security partnership**.
- New initiatives - **Maritime, Space, Cyber domain** - to be pursued.

32. NATIONAL PETROCHEMICAL AWARDS:

- Initiative by **Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals**.

- **Aim** - to felicitate and recognize the innovative efforts of renowned scientists, researchers and industrialists in the broad areas of Polymer Science & Technologies.
- **National Policy on Petrochemicals - 2007.**

33. GOA MARITIME CONCLAVE:

- **3rd edition** - Indian Navy's outreach initiative.
- Multinational platform - to **ensure maritime security.**
- **Theme** - "**Maritime Security and Emerging Non Traditional threats: A case for proactive role for IOR Navies**".

34. NATIONAL THERMAL POWER CORPORATION:

- NTPC celebrates its **Raising day** completing 46 years.
- **Swarn Shakti awards** to NTPC plants and inaugurated **Shram Kaushal portal.**
- **Central Public Sector Undertaking** – under Ministry of **Power.**
- India's largest energy conglomerate – to accelerate power development in India.

35. PUNG CHOLOM:

- Also known as **Mridanga kirtan or Dhumal or Drum dance.**
- Famous **dance style** of **Manipur** - involves dancing and playing drums at the same time.
- It **borrowed** elements from **traditional Manipuri martial arts** like **thang ta and sarit sarak.**

36. cOcoN 2021:

- Annual **cyber security** and **hacking conference.**
- Initiative of **Kerala police** in association with **Information Security Research Organisation.**
- **Theme** - "Improvise, Adapt, and Overcome".

37. WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME:

- A report by the WFP has revealed that **acute hunger** has **increased** across the world.
- WFP - food assistance branch of **UN** and **world's largest humanitarian organisation.** Founded in **1961.**

- **Headquarters - Rome.**

38. FINANCIAL INCLUSION METRICS REPORT:

- Released by **State Bank of India.**
- It states that, financial inclusion policies have a **multiplier effect on economic growth, income inequality, and reducing poverty.**

38. LANDSAT 9:

- **Earth observation satellite.**
- Joint mission of **NASA** and **US Geological Survey.**
- Sent its first images of the earth - this will help in **managing vital natural resources and understanding the impacts of climate change.**

39. DANCE FORMS:

- **Bihu dance - Assam.** Communities performing - Bodo, Rava, Deori, Hang, Lalong, Mising tribes.
- **Kanna Thiobi - Manipur.**
- **Basanta Raasa - Manipur** - related to Krishna, Radha and Gopis.

40. PADMA AWARDS:

- One of the **highest civilian awards** of India.
- Conferred in **3 categories - Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri.**
- Padma Vibhushan - Former External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj**, Hindustani classical singer **Pandit Chhannulal Mishra.**
- Padma Shri - **PV Sindhu**, Women's hockey team captain **Rani Rampal**, Singer **Adnan Sami**, Bollywood actress **Kangana Ranaut** - also awarded.

41. DENGUE FEVER

- Dengue virus is transmitted through the bite of a female Aedes (Ae.) mosquito.
- Aedes is a **day time feeder** and can fly up to a **limited distance of 400 meters.**
- It usually results in mild illness, severe dengue infections can sometimes prove fatal.

- **World Mosquito Program** have used mosquitoes infected with **Wolbachia bacteria to successfully control dengue in Indonesia.**
- Then scientists released them in the city where they bred with local mosquitoes, until nearly all mosquitoes in the area were carrying Wolbachia bacteria. This is called the **Population Replacement Strategy.**

42. UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK

- The inclusion of **Srinagar** in the creative city network for the arts and crafts has paved a way for the city to represent its **handicrafts on the global stage through UNESCO.**
- **The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)** was created in 2004 to promote cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for **sustainable urban development.**
- The **Network** covers **seven creative fields: Crafts and Folk Arts, Media Arts, Film, Design, Gastronomy, Literature and Music.**
- **Five Indian cities in UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**
 - **Jaipur-Crafts and Folk Arts(2015).**
 - **Varanasi-Creative city of Music (2015).**
 - **Chennai-Creative city of Music(2017).**
 - **Mumbai – Film (2019).**
 - **Hyderabad – Gastronomy (2019).**

43. METAVERSE

- The term “Metaverse” refers to a collection of **interconnected 3D virtual worlds enabled by advances in technology such as augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), artificial intelligence (AI), and blockchains.**
- The metaverse would be a **fully open and inclusive arena for self-expression, exploration, and empowerment.**
- Metaverse is claimed to be the **post-Internet world, a decentralised, live, and continuous computing platform.**
- Cloud computing, big data, advanced Artificial Intelligence systems, AR/VR, blockchains, NFTs, and other technologies will be combined in the metaverse.
- **A hypothetical metaverse runs on Web 3.0** which uses technologies such as blockchains and tokens to create a decentralised Internet for online interaction and online payments.

44. GOA MARITIME CONCLAVE

- The **theme** for this year's conclave is "**Maritime security and emerging non-traditional threats: a case for proactive role for IOR Navies**".
- **Third edition GMC – 2021 was hosted by the Indian Navy under the aegis of Naval War College, Goa.**
- The conclave **is a multinational platform** that uses collective wisdom of international maritime security providers.

45. NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT SURVEY:

- Has been **developed by NIC** as a dynamic platform with consultation from **NCERT, CBSE, NITI Aayog, UNICEF, DDG** under the overall **guidance of the Ministry of Education.**
- **Assessment** aimed at **grades 3, 5, 8, 10** with a cycle period of **3 years.**
- Will help in assessing the learning interruptions and new learnings during the COVID pandemic.

46. ARTEMIS 3:

- First **crewed moon landing mission** of the Artemis Program.
- 3rd planned flight of **NASA's Orion Spacecraft.**
- It is now **scheduled** to launch in **2025.**

47. DELHI DECLARATION:

- Outcome of the '**3rd regional security dialogue on Afghanistan**'.
- Participated countries - **India, Iran, Russia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Uzbekistan.**
- **Delhi Declaration on Afghanistan** - for a peaceful, secure and stable Afghanistan - unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity - non-interference in its internal affairs.

48. LEONID METEOR:

- Leonid meteors are known as the **fastest meteors.**
- The Leonids are also referred to as **fireballs or shooting stars** as they burn **due to friction** caused when they enter Earth's atmosphere.

49. BILATERAL INNOVATION AGREEMENT:

- **India and Israel.**
- Aim - to promote **innovation and accelerated Research and Development in startups** and **MSME's** of **both nations** for the development of dual-use technologies.
- Development efforts - **jointly funded** by **DRDO**, India and **DDR&D**, Israel.

50. LEADS 2021 INDEX:

- **3rd edition** - Logistics Ease Across Different States, 2021.
- Index published by **Ministry of Commerce and Industry.**
- **Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab** - Best performing states.

51. MPLAD SCHEME :

Citing economic recovery, the Union Cabinet restored the **Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme**(MPLADS) that was suspended in April 2020 subsuming the funds for the scheme in the consolidated fund of India

The MPs will get **2Cr** instead of the annual approved 5Cr

MPLAD Scheme :

- Formulated in 1993
- To enable MPs to recommend development works in their constituencies with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets based on the locally felt need. In October, 1994, the scheme was transferred to the **Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation** from MoRD
- The MPLAD funds can also be used for implementation of the schemes such as **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan), conservation of water through rain water harvesting and SansadAadarsh Gram Yojana**, etc

52. HEDGEHOG:

Of the 17 species of hedgehog around the world, India is home to three:

- Indian Long-eared or collared hedgehog

- Indian hedgehog
- Bare-bellied or Madras hedgehog

These insectivorous spiny mammals live in barren, arid and semi-arid lands, bushes and dry areas particularly where palm trees grow in large numbers

Unlike the hedgehogs elsewhere, the **Madras hedgehogs don't hibernate but estivate.**

IUCN Status : **LC** (all 3)

53. ONAKE OBAVVA:

From this year, the **Karnataka government** has decided to celebrate '**Onake Obavva Jayanti**' on **November 11** throughout the state

Onake Obavva is a woman warrior who fought the forces of **Hyder Ali** single-handedly with a pestle ('onake' in Kannada) in Chitradurga in the 18th century.

She died protecting the **Chitradurga Fort**, which was ruled by Madakari Nayaka in the 18th century

54. HONORARY RANK OF GENERAL ON NEPAL ARMY CHIEF:

Nepal Army Chief General was conferred the honorary rank of General of the Indian Army by Indian President

It is a customary practice followed by both the countries to confer the rank on each other's Army Chiefs

55. CLIMATE CHANGE PERFORMANCE INDEX:

The **17th edition of the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)** was released recently by German Watch, **New Climate Institute and Climate Action Network**

The CCPI assesses countries' performance in four categories:

- **"GHG Emissions"** (40% of overall score).
- **"Renewable Energy"** (20% of overall score).
- **"Energy Use"** (20% of overall score).
- **"Climate Policy"** (20% of overall score)

Performance of India:

- In the overall rankings, **India is at number 10** with a score of 69.22. It is a high performer except in the renewable energy category, in which it is ranked "medium".
- The report says that India is benefiting from its relatively low per-capita emissions.

56. India's five fold plan – Green Assurance at COP 26:

- India's non-fossil energy capacity will reach **500GW by 2030**.
- 50% of India's electricity requirements with Renewable energy by 2030.
- Reduction of carbon emissions by **a billion tonnes by 2030**.
- India will cut carbon intensity of its economy to less than 45%.
- Country will achieve **Net ZERO by 2070**.
- Next COP - **COP 2022** of UN convention on Climate change to be held at **EGYPT**.

57. RBI introduces 2 innovative and customer-centric schemes:

- **RBI Retail Direct** – Buying and selling of Govt. securities by retail investors on digital platform.
- **Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme – "One Nation One Ombudsman"** – with one portal, one email and one address
- This Ombudsman scheme is a single point for customers to file complaints, documents, track status and provide feedback.

58. TROIKA plus Meet:

- Troika – A Russian vehicle pulled by a team of three horses abreast.
- Here **Troika** – indicates meeting of 3 countries – Russia, China and US – related to Afghan issues.
- Troika plus – includes other countries which are extended invitations for the meet.(Troika plus – Pakistan – includes Pakistan in the meet)
- This meeting would contribute to ongoing efforts of achieving lasting peace and stability in Afghanistan.

59. INSACOG (Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Consortia):

- Launched and Co-ordinated by Department of Bio-Technology, Min.Of Health and Family Welfare, ICMR,CSIR.
- Comprising of 10 labs located all over the country.
- Aim is to monitor genomic variations in the SARS-CoV-2 on a regular basis through the multi-lab network.

60. INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION:

- UNGA established ILC in **1947**.
- **Mandate** - development of international law and its codification.
- **34 members** - elected **every five years** by **UNGA**.
- In news - **India's Bimal Patel** elected to UN's International Law Commission.

61. KASHI CORRIDOR PROJECT:

- Kashi Vishwanath Temple Corridor project **connects temple with ghats of holy Ganga**.
- Most famous **Hindu temple** - located in Vishwanath Gali of **Varanasi**.
- Dedicated to **Lord Shiva**.
- Stands on **western bank of the river Ganga**.

62. RICE BLAST FUNGUS:

- Also known as **Magnaporthe grisea**, **rice rotten neck**, **rice seedling blight** etc.,
- Plant **pathogenic fungus**.
- Caused by fungus **Pyricularia Oryzae**.
- Recently, **Manuvarna rice** in **Kerala** - got affected by this fungal infection.

63. STARLINK:

- **Satellite internet project** of **SpaceX**.
- **Aim** - launching some 12,000 satellites into **low earth orbit** to **provide broadband internet coverage**.
- Provide services in **remote** and **rural areas** which **lacks traditional internet infrastructure**.

64. NORO VIRUS:

- An **animal borne disease**.
- **Transmitted** through **contaminated water and food**.
- It is a **group of viruses** - causing **gastrointestinal illness**.
- It can seriously affect **elderly, young children** and people with other **comorbidities**.

65. EX SHAKTI 2021:

- **Biennial** training exercise - **India and France** - **army** exercise.
- **6th edition** - held at **France**.
- **Focus** - counter terrorism operations.
- Other exercise - **Garuda**(India - France **Airforce**) and **Varuna**(India - France **Navy**)

66. RANI KAMALAPATI:

- PM to dedicate to the nation the **redeveloped Rani Kamalapati railway station in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.
- She was the **last Hindu queen of Bhopal** - belonged to **Gond kingdom**.
- **Gonds** - largest tribal group in India. Largely spread in **Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand**.

67. NATIONWIDE AHDF KCC CAMPAIGN:

- Launched by **Union minister for fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying**.
- **Aim** - to **expand** the **benefits of kisan credit card** to **all eligible** animal husbandry and fishery farmers in the country.

68. DART MISSION:

- **NASA** will launch - **first planetary defense test mission** - **Double Asteroid Redirection Test**.
- **Aim** - to test the newly developed technology that would allow a spacecraft to crash into an asteroid.
- Launched on **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket**.
- **Target** - **Dimorphos**(small moonlet) - orbits **Didymos**(larger asteroid).

69. LANDRACES:

- **Rahibai Popere** - popularly known as **seed mother** - was given **Padmashri** - for her work that has helped save hundred of **landraces** at village level.
- **Landraces** - **naturally occurring variant of commonly cultivated crops**. These are as opposed to commercially grown crops developed by selective breeding or genetic engineering techniques.

70. UP DEFENCE INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR:

- Minister of Defence inaugurated the **first operationalised private sector defence manufacturing facility** in UP defence industrial corridor in Lucknow.
- UP DIC - intends to **reduce foreign dependency** of Indian Aerospace and Defence sector.
- **6 nodes** - **Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Agra, Aligarh, Chitrakoot**.

71. JANJATIYA GAURAV DIVAS:

- Decision taken to celebrate **November 15** as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.
- Declared as a part of celebration of **75 years of India's independence** - to **commemorate the tribal freedom fighters**.
- This day marks the **birth anniversary date of Birsa Munda** - belonged to the **Munda tribe** - played a significant role in India's independence.
- **Bhagwan Birsa Munda Museum** - inaugurated in **Ranchi, Jharkhand**.

72. S-400 TRIUMF:

- India receives S-400 Triumf **air defence system** from **Russia**.
- It will be a major boost to Indian capabilities to **take out enemy fighter aircraft and cruise missiles at long range**.
- It is equipped with **four different missiles**.
- This system procured through **India's Inter Governmental Agreement with Russia**.

73. KAISER-I-HIND:

- It is approved as **state butterfly of Aruchal Pradesh**.
- Kaiser-i-Hind - large and bright coloured, elusive swallowtail butterfly.

- Also found in **Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Southern China.**
- It comes under **Schedule II of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.**

74. SITMEX:

- **3rd edition of India, Singapore and Thailand Trilateral Maritime Exercise in Andaman Sea.**
- It is being conducted **annually** since 2019.
- **Aim** - to enhance mutual inter-operability and imbibing best practices.

75. SAATVIK CERTIFICATE:

- Scheme launched by **IRCTC in collaboration with the Saatvik Council of India.**
- **Aim** - to **promote vegetarian trains.** These trains will be connected especially with **religious places.**
- **Saatvik Council of India** - first vegetarian food safety and regulatory compliance of the world for vegetarian and allied adherents.

76. KARTARPUR CORRIDOR

The corridor – often dubbed as the “**Road to Peace**” will connect **Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Pakistan’s Kartarpur with Dera Baba Nanak shrine in India’s Gurdaspur district.** It is based on the agreement between India and Pakistan that allows pilgrims to travel **visa free** through the corridor.

- Indian **pilgrims of all faiths** and persons of Indian origin can use the corridor.
- Pilgrims need to carry **only a valid passport;**
- **Persons of Indian Origin need to carry OCI card** along with the passport of their country.
- The Corridor is open from **dawn to dusk.** Pilgrims travelling in the morning will have to return on the same day.

Significance of Gurudwara :

- The gurdwara in Kartarpur stands on the **bank of the Ravi,** about 120 km northeast of Lahore.
- It was here that Guru Nanak assembled a Sikh community and lived for **18 years until his death in 1539.**

77. EXTENSION OF TENURE FOR THE DIRECTORS OF CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE THROUGH ORDINANCES

- The change in tenure of the CBI Director was done by amending the **Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946**.
- On the other hand, the changes to the tenure of the ED Director was brought in by amending the **Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003**.
- The **Personnel Ministry** has issued an order to amend the **Fundamental Rules, 1922** adding the two posts to the list whose services can be **extended by up to two years beyond the two-year fixed tenure in "public interest"**.
- The previous list comprised Defence Secretary, Foreign Secretary, Home Secretary, Director, Intelligence Bureau and Secretary, Research and Analysis Wing.

78. HAZARAS

- Hazara is an **ethnic group** from Afghanistan.
- They are **believed to be descendants of the founder of the Mongol empire**, Genghis Khan, and his army that overran the entire region during the 13th century.

79. BOMRR CLAN

- **The Bomrr clan in Nagaland** have traditionally celebrated the annual bat harvest for many years.
- **The National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS-TIFR)**, an aided Centre of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) is carrying out **sero-ecological studies on the human-bat interface among Bomrr clan in Nagaland**.

79. CLIMATE FINANCING AND TERMINOLOGIES

- **GREEN BOND**
 - A green bond is a type of **fixed-income instrument** that is specifically earmarked to raise money for climate and environmental projects.
- **BLUE BOND**
 - Blue bonds are sustainability bonds to finance projects that protect the **ocean and related ecosystems**.

- All blue bonds are green bonds, but not all green bonds are blue bonds.
- **CLIMATE BOND**
 - The term specifically for projects focusing on reducing carbon emissions or alleviating the effects of climate change.

80. FOOD MUSEUM:

- India's **first food museum** launched at **Thanjavur** in Tamil Nadu.
- Established by **Food Corporation of India** in association with **Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, Bengaluru**.
- It has been setup to **digitally exhibit the foodgrain production** scenario in India and across the globe and also to **highlight the challenges with regards to food storage**.

81. BHUMI SAMVAAD:

- **Ministry of Rural Development** organised a National **Workshop** on Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme.
- **Aim** - to give a boost to national land record modernization programme.
- **National Generic Document Registration System** - an in-house advanced software application for doing registration.
- **National Land Management Award 2021** - initiated by Department of Land Resources, in order to appreciate and encourage the good work done by the State Government.
- **Unique Land Parcel Identification Number(ULPIN)** - is like Aadhar Number of land parcels.

82. DIRECT-ASCENT ANTI-SATELLITE TEST:

- DA-ASAT missile was tested by **Russia**.
- It struck a **Russian satellite** called **COSMOS 1408**, as a result, debris field in low earth orbit.
- **ASAT - space weapons**, that have been **designed to incapacitate or destroy satellites for strategic or tactical purposes**.
- **Other countries** demonstrated ASAT - **India, US, Russia and China**.

83. INDIAN OCEAN NAVAL SYMPOSIUM 2021:

- **7th edition of IONS Conclave** of Chiefs is being hosted by **French Navy at Paris.**
- **IONS** was conceived by the **Indian Navy** in **2008.**
- **Aim** - to enhance maritime cooperation among Navies of littoral states of Indian Ocean Region.
- **Inaugural edition** of IONS - **2008 - New Delhi.** The **IONS chair** is presently held with **France.**

84. POCHAMPALLY:

- **Pochampally village in Telangana** selected as one of the **best Tourism villages by United Nations World Tourism Organisation.**
- Often referred to as the "**Silk City of India**" for the exquisite sarees that are woven through a unique style called **Ikat.**
- **Pochampally Ikat** - received a Geographical Indicator(**GI Status**) in **2004.**
- **Best Tourism village** - UNWTO - pilot initiative aims to award those villages which are outstanding examples of rural destinations and showcase good practices in line with its specified nine evaluation areas.

85. ANNUAL STATUS OF EDUCATION REPORT (ASER) (16th edition), 2021:

- The percentage of rural children who weren't enrolled in school doubled during pandemic with government schools seeing an increase in enrollment
- Government school enrollment spiked from 64.3% in 2018 to 70.3% in 2021
- Private school enrollment dropped from 32.5% in 2018 to 24.4% in 2021
- In a survey of over 76000 households with children aged 6-14, ASER found that while 92% had textbooks for their grade, only a third had access to any other learning sources or support
- Yawning gap between States in access to online education

- The shift to government school enrollment could be a result of financial distress, closure of affordable private schools and the movement of migrants to rural areas

86. FIRST 2+2 WITH RUSSIA :

- India to hold first 2+2 formal talks with Russia on December 6.
- A number of agreements on defence, science and technology and trade are expected to be announced.
- India and Russia are expected to sign the **Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Support Agreement** and a Navy to Navy cooperation MoU

87. PRIVILEGE MOTION AGAINST CBI, ED IN WB :

The Trinamool Congress moved a breach of privilege motion in the WB Assembly against CBI and ED

Reason :

The Central Investigative agencies had filed the chargesheet against 3 members of the Assembly . According to the Speaker, CBI and ED have shown disrespect by not taking the consent before filing the chargesheet

What are Privileges?

Privileges are certain rights and immunities enjoyed by members of Parliament/MLAs **individually and collectively**, so that they can "effectively discharge their functions".

Article 105 (Article 194 for State Assemblies) of the Constitution expressly mentions two privileges, that is, freedom of speech in Parliament and right of publication of its proceedings.

88. INVESTOR CHARTER :

SEBI unveils investor charter which aimed at protecting the interest of investors in the securities market

Vision :

- To protect the investors' interests by enabling them to understand the risks involved and invest in a fair, transparent, secure market and to get services in a timely and efficient manner

- To redress investor grievances filed in the SCORES portal in a time-bound manner
- To provide quality services from SEBI-recognised market infrastructure institutions and SEBI-registered intermediaries, regulated entities and asset management companies

89. INDUS RIVER DOLPHIN :

Recently, Punjab's wildlife preservation wing has batted for conservation of Indus river dolphins and also their natural habitat.

- The Indus river dolphin was declared the **State aquatic animal of Punjab in 2019**
 - According to a recent study of South Asian river dolphins, Indus and Ganges River dolphins are not one, but two separate species. Currently, they are classified as **two subspecies under Platanistaganetica**.
 - Like other **freshwater dolphins** (such as Ganges river dolphins) , the Indus river dolphin is an important indicator of the health of a river.
 - Other dolphins found in Indian waters include: **Ganges River Dolphins, Irrawaddy dolphins**.

They can only be found in the lower parts of the **Indus River in Pakistan** and in **River Beas, a tributary of the Indus River** in Punjab, India.

- **Threats:**
 - **Biological Resource Use**
 - **Natural System Modifications**
 - **Pollution**
- **Conservation Status:**
 - **International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN):** Endangered.
 - **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species(CITES):** Appendix I

- **Indian Wildlife (Protection), Act 1972:** Schedule I

90. Rezang La Monument – renovated and inaugurated:

- **Rezang la pass** – located in Chushul plains at an altitude of 15000 ft.
- 1963 – war memorial established.
- **Battle of Rezang la** – against chinese intrusion into Ladakh during 1962 Indo-china war (110 soldiers were martyred).
- **Charlie Company** – the Battalion of Kumaon – fought and saved Ladakh.
- Charlie Company – All-Ahircompany, Soldiers came from the plains of Haryana.

91. Global Innovation Summit:

- **First summit of Pharmaceutical sector.**
- Aim – to bring Indian and International stakeholders to discuss and strategise priorities to foster innovation in pharma industry of India.
- India – “Pharmacy of the world”
- Organised by IPA-Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance.

92. Aspirational Districts Program:

- Recently PM announced to provide 4G connectivity by 2023 to most under developed villages located in 44 aspirational districts of Jharkand,Odisha,Maharashtra,Andhra Pradesh and Chattisgarh).
- **Aspirational Districts Program** – initiated in 2018.
- Aims to quickly and effectively transform **112** most under developed districts across country.
- Convergence,collaboration and competition among districts.
- Monthly delta ranking based on **5 themes** – Education,Health and Nutrition, Agriculture and water resource, Financial Inclusion and skill development , Infrastructure.

93. POCSO AND IPC – with respect to sexual assault:

- **POCSO Act** – Explicitly define sexual assault as touching various private parts.
- Higher punishment – if the victim is a child.
- **IPC** – Generic and no specific definition about sexual assault.

- **IPC**-punishment for the offence is irrespective of the age of the victim.
- **Un Convention on the rights of children** – ratified by India in 1992.

94. PM announced repealing of 3 controversial Farm laws – How laws can be repealed?

- A law can be repealed in 2 ways.
- To bring a bill to repeal.
- To promulgate an ordinance and that will have to be consequently replace by an act within 6 weeks.
- Article 245 – empowers parliament to enact as well as repeal any law.

95. Glasgow Declaration on Forests and Land Use:

- 127 countries signed
- Pledged to **“Halt and revers forest loss and land degradation by 2030”**
- Legally **non-binding**, Outside the UNFCCC.
- India – among 10 most forest-rich countries – **NOT signed**.

96. MAIN SEQUENCE RADIO PULSE EMITTERS:

- **Rare class of radio stars** which are hotter than the sun. They have unusually **strong magnetic field and stellar winds**. These stars emit bright radio pulses like a lighthouse.
- MRPs were discovered using **Giant Metre wave Radio Telescope located in Pune**.
- Discovered by Astronomers from Pune based **National centre for Radio Astrophysics**.
- **First** MRP was discovered in **2000**.

97. DHOKRA ARTFORM:

- Recently, Department of Design of IIT-Hyderabad held design workshop for safeguarding '**Dhokra crafts of Ojha Gond community**' in **Telangana**.
- It is **non-ferrous metal** casting using the **lost wax casting technique**.

- It has been used in India over **4000 years** and is still used.
- The **oldest specimen** using this technique - **dancing girl of Mohenjo-Daro**.

98. SWACHH SURVEKSHAN 2021:

- Become the **world's largest cleanliness survey** by surveying around 4320 cities.
- Under **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**.
- **Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge** - an initiative to promote mechanised cleaning of septic tanks and sewers.

2021 winners:

- **Indore** - cleanest city.
- **Chattisgarh** - cleanest state.
- **Varanasi** - cleanest Ganga state.

99. SAMHATI PROJECT:

- Launched in the **state of Odisha**.
- Implemented by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute and the Academy of Tribal Language and Culture, Bhubaneswar.
- **Aim** - for imparting state's various **tribal languages** - will help **save endangered tribal languages**.
- Of Odisha's 21 tribal languages, **Santhali** - the only language - included in eighth schedule of Constitution.

100. ECONOMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL - PM:

- EAC-PM is an **independent, non-constitutional, non-statutory body**.
- It was constituted under leadership of **Dr. Bibek Debroy** for a period of **2 years**.
- Set up to **advise PM on economic issues** such as micro finance, inflation and industrial output.
- **NITI Aayog** serves as the **nodal agency** for EAC-PM.
- It publishes **Annual Economic Outlook** and **Review of the Economy reports periodically**.

101. GAOFEN-11 03:

- **China** launched a new satellite called "Gaofen-11 03" from the **Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre**. It **entered the planned orbit successfully**.
- Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre is located in the **northern province of Shanxi**.
- Satellite was launched by a **Long March-4B rocket**.
- **Gaofen** - series of high resolution earth imaging satellite of China.

102. CRYPTOCARYA MUTHUVARIANA:

- Group of scientists has identified a **new plant species** from the forest area in **Idukki**, where **Muthuvar tribal community** resides.
- **Muthuvan tribe** - loyal subjects of **Madurai dynasty**. They are **ancient tribes of this land**.

103. GANGA EXPRESSWAY:

- Ambitious project of Uttar Pradesh government, connecting **Meerut to Prayagraj district**.
- Got **environmental clearance**.
- The expressway will start at **Bijauli** in Meerut district and conclude near the **Joodapur Dandu** village in Prayagraj district.

104. EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING:

- **Ministry of Tribal Affairs and CBSE** - launched an **online certificate** course on Experiential Learning for 21st century.
- For **Eklavya model residential school and CBSE teachers**.
- **Aim** - capacity building of educators to achieve the aims of NEP.

105. FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA:

- **FCI** under **Department of Food and Public Distribution** has developed India's **first state of art laboratory** for **house testing of food grain samples in Gurugram**.
- **FCI** - set up in **1965**. **Statutory corporation** created and run by the Government of India by **Food Corporation Act, 1964**.
- Comes under the jurisdiction of **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**.

106. NEIAFMR:

- **North Eastern Institute of Ayurveda and Folk medicine Research.**
- Located at **Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh.**
- **Autonomous** - under **AYUSH ministry.**
- Apex research centre for all aspect of folk medicine. Conduct systematic research, documentation and validation of traditional health practices of folk medicine.

107. INS VISHAKAPATNAM:

- First of the **four Vishakapatnam class destroyers** of **Project 15B.**
- **Indigenously** built, state-of-the-art **stealth guided missile destroyer.**
- **Largest destroyers** constructed so far.

108. BEST MARINE DISTRICT AWARD 2021:

- By **Ministry of Fisheries, Animal husbandry and Dairying.**
- **Best district** - Balasore, Bhubaneswar.
- **November 21 - World Fisheries Day.**
- Odisha, the largest fish producing state.

109. PRERAK DAUR SAMAN:

- New category of awards **under Swachh Sarvekshan.**
- For segregation of wastes into wet, dry, hazardous etc.,
- **5 sub-categories** - **Divya**(Platinum), **Anupam**(Gold), **Ujjwal**(Silver), **Udit**(Bronze), **Aarohi**(Aspiring).

110. All-India Survey on Domestic Workers

- By **Labour Bureau**
- The survey would also include details of the **number of households with "live-in and live-out" domestic workers and the average number of workers engaged by various kinds of households.**

111. Indian States with Multiple Capitals

- **Three capitals for Andhra Pradesh now repealed in news**
 - **Amaravati**– legislative capital.
 - **Visakhapatnam**– executive capital.

- **Kurnool**– judicial capital.

Other such states:

- **Maharashtra** has two capitals– **Mumbai** and **Nagpur** (which holds the winter session of the state assembly).
- **Himachal Pradesh** has capitals at **Shimla** and **Dharamshala (winter)**.

112. Suez Canal

- The **Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway running north to south across the Isthmus of Suez** in Egypt, to connect the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea.
- The canal **separates the African continent from Asia**.
- It provides the **shortest maritime route between Europe and the lands lying** around the Indian and western Pacific oceans.
- It is one of the **world's most heavily used shipping lanes**, carrying over 12% of world trade by volume.

113. Pygmy hogs

- They are the **world's rarest and smallest** wild pigs.
- The pygmy hog is native to dense alluvial grasslands in the southern foothills of the Himalayas.
- **Endemic to India**, they are restricted to very few locations around **Manas National Park in north-western Assam**.
- With just around 250 animals in the wild, the pygmy hog is one of the world's most threatened mammals.
- Currently listed as '**Critically Endangered**' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
- The pygmy hog is **designated as a Schedule I species in India under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**.

114. Tantya Mama Railway Station

Patalpani Railway station in Indore will be renamed as Tantya Mama railway station.

Tantya Bhil

- Tantya Bhil was one of the greatest revolutionaries, who emerged as a great hero of the masses due to his indomitable courage and passion to uproot the British rule.

- His arrest had caught international attention and was published in the New York Times -November 10, 1889 issue. He was described as the "**Robin Hood of India**" in the news.
- He used to **loot British government treasuries and distribute the wealth among the poor and** needy.
- Tantya Bhil was like a messiah to those in need of any kind of financial support. He was popularly called as **Mama by locals**.

115. India's first net-zero emissions airport

- The Noida International Airport will be India's first net-zero emissions airport.
- The airport will have dedicated land that will be developed as a forest park using trees from the project site. The airport will also preserve all native species and be nature positive throughout its development.

116. TRADE EMERGE:

- **ICICI** Bank launched the **first-of-its-kind online platform** for **Indian exporters and importers**.
- It will offer **comprehensive digital banking** and **value-added services** to the companies engaged in export and import in India.

117. INDIRA GANDHI PEACE PRIZE:

- It is an **annual prestigious award**. It recognizes creative efforts by **individuals or organizations**.
- **2021** - Prize for **peace, disarmament and development** was awarded to **Pratham NGO**.
- Pratham NGO is an **innovative learning organisation**, which was created to improve education quality in India.

118. BHARAT GAURAV SCHEME:

- **Indian Railways** has launched.
- Under this scheme, **private tour operators** can take trains on lease from railways and run these trains on any circuit of their choice.
- **Private operators** would also get the **freedom to decide routes, fares and quality of services on the trains**.

119. CRYPTOCURRENCY:

- It is the collection of binary data, that works as a medium of exchange. It does **not exist in physical form**. It is **not issued by a central authority** and use **decentralised** control.
- **Cryptocurrency and Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2021** - seeks to prohibit all private cryptocurrencies in India, with some exceptions.

120. SDG's URBAN INDEX:

- SDG's Urban Index and Dashboard **2021-22** - launched by **NITI Aayog**.
- **Shimla topped the list, Coimbatore and Chandigarh occupied 2nd and 3rd position.**
- This index and dashboard will help in **strengthening SDG localization** as we as institute robust **SDG monitoring at the city level**.

121. SAGAR SHAKTI EXERCISE:

- Conducted in **Kutch Peninsula**.
- Four day **mega military exercise**.
- **Participants** - Indian Army, Indian Airforce, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, Gujarat Police, Border Security Force, and the Marine Police.

122. SWOT MISSION:

- **The Surface Water and Ocean Topography** - will be launched in November 2022.
- It is a collaboration between **NASA** and **Space Agency of France National Centre for Space Studies(CNES)**.
- It will accumulate the data on the height of the planet's salt and fresh water.

123. ACROSS SCHEME:

- **The Atmosphere and Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems and Services** scheme - **2018**.
- Ministry of **Earth Sciences**.
- **Aim** - addressing different aspects of weather and climate services.

124. ASIA - EUROPE MEETING SUMMIT:

- **13th edition** of the summit will be held in **virtual** mode.
- **ASEM** is an Asian - European **political dialogue forum**, that works to enhance relations and several forms of cooperation between its partners.
- It was **established** on **1996** at **first ASEM summit** in **Bangkok, Thailand**.
- ASEM summit is a **biennial** event, that is alternatively held between Asia and European countries.

125. O-SMART:

- Cabinet **approved the continuation** of umbrella scheme called **Ocean Services, Modelling, Application, Resources and Technology** for the period of **2021-26**.
- **Launched** on **2018**.
- **Aim** - promoting ocean research and setting early warning weather systems.

126. DOSTI:

- **Trilateral Coast Guard exercise - 15th edition** held in **Maldives**.
- **Participants** - **India, Maldives and Sri Lanka**.
- **Aim** - to build **cooperation** between Coast Guard's of three countries and to enhance **mutual operational capability** and **exercise interoperability**.

127. PRAWN NEBULA:

- **Hubble telescope** has observed Prawn Nebula - a **massive stellar nursery**.
- Also called as **IC 4628**. It is an **emission nebula** located in **Sagittarius arm of the Milky Way**.
- **Emission nebula** - formed of ionised gases which emit light of various wavelengths.

128. Key highlights of National Family Health Survey - 5:

- Improvements in - Sex ratio, Maternal and Child Health, Population control.
- Total Fertility rate - 2.0% (2.2% during NFHS-4).

- Increased institutional births.
- Marginal gains in childhood nutrition.
- Looming of threat from lifestyle diseases (Blood sugar and Hypertension).

129. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA):

- Stockholm based **intergovernmental thinktank..**
- **India** – one of the founding members.
- Releases Global State of Democracy Index.
- To promote sustainable democracy and improve electoral processes worldwide.

130. River Cities Alliance:

- **National Institute For Urban affairs** and **National Mission for Clean Ganga** – collaborate launched.
- **Jalshakti ministry** and **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** – also partnered.
- Platform for discussion and exchange information for sustainable management of **Urban rivers.**
- Platform for river cities in India, 30 participating cities.

131. KUPOL:

- **Unveiled in 2019 by Russia.**
- Early warning satellites.
- Designed to detect launches of ballistic missiles and track them to their landing sites.

132. INS VELA: (Vela- name of Indian fish)

- 4th **scorpene class** conventional submarine.
- With indigenized battery cells to power permanently magnetized propulsion motor.
- Under project 75 – 6 scorpene class submarines – under technical transfer from France.

6 scorpene submarines – 1st – INS Kalvari; 2- INS Khanderi; 3- Ins Karan; 4- INS Vela; 5- INS Vagir; 6-INS Vagsheer.

133. WISER PROGRAMME:

- **Women's Involvement in Science and Engineering Research.**
- First of its kind - Launched by **Indo-German Science and Technology Centre.**

- **Aim** - to encourage women researchers in R & D projects.
- It will enable **gender equality** as well as **participation of women** in science and technology through IGSTC's program.

134.OMICRON:

- **WHO** has named **new COVID-19 variant** as Omicron(B.1.1.529).
- First detected in **South Africa**.
- **Variant of concern** - its nature of spreading more quickly than other forms of Covid strains.
- large no. of mutations compared to other prevalent variants.
- 32 mutations in the spike protein.
- **Spike gene dropout or spike gene target failure** : some of the mutations in the spike protein cause primers used in RT-PCR kits to **not function**.

135. INDIA'S MULTI-DIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX:

- **First ever** India's MPI released by **NITI Aayog**.
- **Bihar** has highest proportion of people - **multidimensionally poor, followed by Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh**.
- It uses the globally accepted methodology developed by **UNDP** and **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative**.
- **Dimensions** - Health, Education and Standard of living.

136. INDIA INTERNATIONAL TOURISM MART:

- **9th** International Tourism Mart - organised by **Union Ministry of Tourism** in **Nagaland**.
- **Aim** - to highlight the tourism potential of the NorthEast region of India in both domestic and international markets.
- **International Tourism Marts** - **organised** in India's **NE states** on a **rotation basis**.

137. SWADESH:

- **Department of Biotechnology** - **National Brain Research Centre** - developed project.
- **Unique brain initiative** - **first large scale multimodal neuroimaging database** designed specifically for Indian population with big data architecture and analytics for various diseases under one platform.
- **National Brain Research Centre** - only institute in India dedicated to Neuroscience Research and Education.

138. EWS CRITERIA RETHINK :

The government decided to revisit the criteria after the SC questioned it on how it arrived at the income figure

The court has been intrigued by the income limit being fixed at ₹8 Lakh/year, as it is the same figure for excluding the creamy layer from OBC reservation benefits

EWS Reservation:

The 10% reservation was introduced through the **103rdCAA**. Enforced in Jan 2019

It added

Clause (6) to A15 that allows reservation in educational institutions – public and private excluding those run by minority institutions.

Clause (6) to A16 to facilitate reservation in employment.

Criteria for eligibility:

- Income limit of up to ₹8 Lakh
- Five/more acres of agricultural land
- A residential flat of 1000 Sq.ft and above
- A residential plot of 100 sq yards and above in notified municipalities
- A residential plot of 200 sq yards and above in other areas

139. LEGAL GUARANTEE OF MSP :

In a letter to PM, the SamyuktKisanMorcha said MSP based on a **C2+50% formula** should be made a legal entitlement for all agricultural produce.

How many crops does MSP cover?

- The Central government sets a MSP for **23 crops** every year, based on a formula of **one and a half times production costs**
- The above formula takes into account both **paid-out costs (A2)** and imputed value of **unpaid family labor (FL)**

There is currently **no statutory backing nor any law** mandating the enforcement of these prices

140. AZADI KA DIGITAL MAHOTSAV :

MeitY to celebrate "AzadiKa Digital Mahotsav" from 29th November to 5th December, 2021

Week long events/activities to showcase best of India's achievements in the Digital space and also lay down the roadmap for future

The broader mandate of MeitY is to work towards the transformation of India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy and generate self-reliance for the country in the field of technology and communication.

The key themes of events scheduled during the week are

Digital India,

Making India AatmaNirbhar in Electronics System Design and Manufacturing,
Empowering CSCs,

Making India AatmaNirbhar in Swadeshi Compute Designs,

Citizen Engagement by MyGov and Digital Payments Utsav.

141. MEAT EATING BEE :

Bee species mostly feed on pollen and nectar.

Some newly discovered ones have completely switched to eating meat. They forego visiting flowers.

The microbiomes of these bees showed the presence of bacteria found in the vulture, hyenas and such carrion feeders.

142. DIPLOMAT'S DAY AT AADI MAHOTSAV:

In line with the Prime Minister's vision for Vocal for Local and building a self-reliant India, and to introduce the rich tribal heritage to international audiences, a **Tribes India Conclave** was organized in association with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India at Tribes India AadiMahotsav on Saturday, 27th November 2021.

The event was attended by around 100 diplomats from more than 20 foreign missions in India besides senior officials from the Ministry of External Affairs and other ministries.

143. 1st certified organic fruit - KIWI:

- 1st state to get organic certification for KIWI – **Arunachal Pradesh.**
- From ziro valley farms (Ziro valley – included in tentative list for UNESCO's World Heritage Sites for its **APATANI cultural landscape**)
- Launched at mega National Tribal Festival called "**AADI Mahotsav**".
- Certified under MOVCD-NER (Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North Eastern Region).

144. African Cheetah Relocation:

- 13 cheetahs to be translocated to **KUNO National Park Madhya Pradesh in 2022.**
- **10 from South Africa and 3 from Namibia.**
- Described as largest **intercontinental** animal translocation In the world.
- IUCN Status of Cheetah - **Vulnerable.**

145. Ganga Connect Exhibition:

- **Inaugurated at Glasgow, Switzerland.**
- 10 key strategic initiatives.
- The exhibition showcases multiple facets of river basin and connect with interested parties.
- Major effort of National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG),High Commission on India and C-Ganga (Center for Ganga River basin management and studies).

146. AADI Mahotsav:

- **Annual** tribal festival by **TRIFED.**
- To empower tribal business in India and exhibit their products .
- **Tribal India Conclave** organized as a part of this (by TRIFED and Ministry of External Affairs).

147. STREET Project (Govt. Of Kerala)

- **STREET – Sustainable, Tangible, Responsible, Experiential, Ethnic, Tourist hubs.**
- Present unique identity of the state to travellers, PPP mode .

148. HERAN DRONE

- By Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)

- Heron TP is a multi-role, advanced, long range Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) for strategic missions.
- It is equipped with automatic taxi-take-off and landing systems (ATOL), satellite communication (SATCOM) for extended range, fully redundant avionics and more.
- The Heron performs a **variety of strategic missions, including intelligence gathering, surveillance, target acquisition and reconnaissance, using various payloads,** with a high level of reliability.

149. TIWA TRIBES

- This festival is celebrated by Tiwa tribesmen to mark their good harvest. It comes with songs, dances, a bunch of rituals and people clad in their native attires.
- The people of Tiwa tribe associate the bountiful harvest with the higher power from nature. This takes the form of pigs' skulls and bones which act as deities and are preserved through many generations.
- Tiwa also known as **Lalung** is indigenous community inhabiting the states of Assam and **Meghalaya** and are also found in some parts of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur.

150. WORLD DRUG REPORT 2021

- By **United Nations office on Drugs and crime**
- Rise in the use of cannabis during the pandemic has been reported by most countries.
- Non-medical use of pharmaceutical drugs has also been observed in the same period.
- Over 11 million people globally are estimated to inject drugs – half of them have **Hepatitis C.**

- **Opioids** continue to account for the largest burden of disease-linked to drug abuse.

151. PERSEVERANCE ROVER

- **NASA's Perseverance Mars Rover** has made a video of the 13th flight of the Ingenuity Mars Helicopter sent by the agency.
- It carried a unique instrument, **MOXIE or Mars Oxygen ISRU Experiment**: which for the first time manufactured molecular oxygen on Mars using carbon dioxide from the carbon-dioxide-rich atmosphere (ISRU means In Situ Resource Utilization: or the use of local resources to meet human needs or requirements of the spacecraft).
- It carried **Ingenuity**, the first ever **helicopter** to fly on Mars.
- It is the planned first step to bring back rock samples from Mars for analysis in sophisticated laboratories on Earth: with the goal of looking for bio signatures: or **signatures of present or past life**.