

26th October 2024

21st Livestock Census Operation

On 25th October 2024, the Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying launched the 21st Livestock Census Operation in New Delhi.

Key Points

- ❖ **Aim** : The initiative aims to strengthen the animal health infrastructure in India.
- ❖ **Species covered** : Fifteen species of livestock will be covered under the survey.
 - These are **cattle, buffalo, mithuns, yaks, sheep, goats, pigs, cattle, horses, mules, donkeys, dogs, rabbits, and elephants.**
 - A **headcount of poultry birds**- Fowl, Duck, Turkey, Geese, Quail, Guinea Fowl, Ostrich and Emu- will also be taken from each household/ household enterprises/ non-households/institution.
- ❖ **Time Span** : The Census will be conducted till February (October 2024 - February 2025) next year in collaboration with States and Union Territories at a cost of Rs 200 crore.
- ❖ Around one lakh field officials who are mostly veterinarians or para-veterinarians will be involved in the enumeration process.

Launch of

Pandemic Fund Project & 21st Livestock Census

Date: 25th October, 2024

Venue: The Leela Ambience Convention

Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, alias Lalan Singh

Hon'ble Minister, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying,
Govt. of India

Pandemic Fund Project

- ❖ The Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying also launched a USD 25 million '**Pandemic Fund Project**' to strengthen animal health security in India for pandemic preparedness and response.

- ❖ The livestock census is a crucial exercise that has been **conducted every five years since 1919**, serving as the backbone for policy formulation and the implementation of various programmes in the animal husbandry sector.
- ❖ Till date, **20 livestock censuses have been conducted and the last census was held in 2019.**

7th India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations

On 25th October 2024, Prime Minister Narendra of India and German Chancellor co-chair the 7th Intergovernmental Consultations (IGC) in New Delhi.

Key Points

- ❖ The 7th IGC was focused on key elements like sustainability and green transition, migration and mobility, and technology and innovation. Increased collaboration in new and emerging technologies was also there.
- ❖ In addition, focus was also on enhancing defence and security cooperation.

What is IGC?

- ❖ The IGC is a **whole-of-government framework under which Ministers from both sides hold discussions in their respective areas of responsibility and report** on the outcome of their deliberations to the Prime Minister and the Chancellor.
- ❖ The IGC format was launched in 2011 and allows for a comprehensive review of cooperation and identification of new areas of engagement at the Cabinet level.
- ❖ India is among a select group of countries with which Germany has such a mechanism.

Sports Awards 2024

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has invited applications for Sports Awards 2024.

Key Points

- ❖ Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.
- ❖ The **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award** is given for spectacular and outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson.
- ❖ The **Arjuna Award** is given for consistently outstanding performance by a sportsperson.
- ❖ The **Arjuna Award (Lifetime)** has been introduced and will be given for lifetime contribution to sports development.
- ❖ The **Dronacharya Award** goes to coaches for producing medal winners at prestigious international sports events.

Person In News- Appointments

Justice Sanjiv Khanna



He has been appointed as the next **51st Chief Justice of India**.

He was currently the second senior-most judge of the Supreme Court.

Person In News- Sports

Rani Rampal



She is a **former Indian women's hockey captain**. She has announced her retirement from international hockey.

Awards/Prizes

Sakharov Prize



- ❖ On 24th October 2024, the European Parliament awarded the Sakharov Prize.
- ❖ **Venezuelan opposition leaders Maria Corina Machado and Edmundo González Urrutia (exiled presidential candidate) have won the European Union's top human rights honor 'the Sakharov Prize'.**

- ❖ They have won the award for representing all Venezuelans who are “fighting for the restoration of freedom and democracy.”

About the Prize :

- ❖ The **Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought**, commonly known as the **Sakharov Prize**, is an honorary award for individuals or groups who have dedicated their lives to the defence of human rights and freedom of thought.
- ❖ It is named after Russian scientist and dissident Andrei Sakharov.
- ❖ The prize was established in **December 1988** by the European Parliament.
- ❖ It was first awarded to **Nelson Mandela and Anatoli Marchenko**.

Military Exercises

SIMBEX 2024

Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy

- ❖ The 31st edition of the Singapore India **Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)** is being held at the Eastern Naval Command in **Visakhapatnam**.
- ❖ SIMBEX, which began as '**Exercise Lion King**' in **1994**, has since evolved into one of the most significant bilateral maritime collaborations between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).
- ❖ This year's edition aims to further strengthen the strategic partnership between India and Singapore by enhancing interoperability, improving maritime domain awareness, and fostering cooperation to address common maritime challenges.

Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX)

Indian and German Navies

- ❖ Indian Navy's Destroyer INS Delhi, German Navy's Frigate Baden-Württemberg and Tanker Frankfurt Am Main undertook a **Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) in the Indian Ocean**.
- ❖ The **first Maritime Partnership Exercise in the Bay of Bengal** is aimed at further strengthening the maritime connection between the two nations and interoperability between the navies.

Important Days/Dates

October 24

World Polio Day



- ❖ World Polio Day is observed on 24th October every year.
- ❖ The day commemorates the birthday of Jonas Salk, who developed the first polio vaccine in 1955.
- ❖ Theme for 2024 : **“A Global Mission to Reach Every Child.”**
- ❖ Polio, or Poliomyelitis, is a highly contagious disease that mostly affects children under the age of five. The polio virus is spread through contaminated food and water or direct contact with an infected person.

Important News-Other States

Maharashtra

The Maharashtra government has reduced the minimum **passing marks** for SSC **mathematics** and **science** from **35 to 20** out of 100. Students passing with these marks will not be eligible for future courses in Maths or Science. subjects.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ The **17th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition** took place in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ The **63rd Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Raising Day** was observed on October 24, 2024.



UPPSC
WALLAH

