

14<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## MoU for AI in Healthcare

National Health Authority and IIT Kanpur sign MoU for development of digital public goods for AI in Healthcare

### Key Points

- ❖ The National Health Authority (NHA) and IIT Kanpur signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the presence of Union Health Secretary Shri Apurva Chandra.
- ❖ Under this MoU, **a federated learning platform across a variety of machine learning model pipelines**, a quality-preserving database, an open benchmarking platform for comparing & validating AI models, and a consent management system for research under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) would be developed by IIT Kanpur.
- ❖ The platform will subsequently be **operated and governed by NHA**, thereby unlocking the immense potential of AI for improving health outcomes.
- ❖ This very important MoU under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission that will provide an open public benchmarking platform for comparing & validating AI models.

### Importance

- ❖ Use of data for improving health outcomes
- ❖ It will use the data under the ABDM to create a public benchmark for AI models for quantifying and diagnosing diseases.

### Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

- ❖ Digital Health is becoming an important catalyst to drive India's healthcare sector.

- ❖ **Launched:** Launched by Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi on 27th September 2021**, the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) aims to establish a robust digital health ecosystem through active collaboration between public and private sectors.
- ❖ **Aim:** ABDM aims to integrate various healthcare entities, hospitals, clinics, labs, pharmacies, health insurance companies, and more to improve patient care, accessibility, and affordability.
- ❖ AI has the potential to revolutionize India's healthcare ecosystem and when coupled with ABDM's offering of a digitized health ecosystem, it can lead to significant advancements in disease diagnosis, treatment planning, and patient outcomes.

## Line of Actual Control

India, China agree to intensify efforts for complete disengagement along LAC.

### What is the Line of Actual Control?

- ❖ The LAC is the demarcation that separates Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory.
- ❖ India considers the LAC to be **3,488 km long**, while the Chinese consider it to be **only around 2,000 km**.



- ❖ It is **divided into three sectors**: the eastern sector which spans Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, the middle sector in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, and the western sector in Ladakh.

Disengagement means both sides will remove the forward deployment in a phased, coordinated and verified manner.

### Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath paid tributes to Bharat Ratna Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant on the occasion of his 137th birth anniversary.

#### About Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant

- ❖ Govind Ballabh Pant is remembered as one of the country's most prominent freedom fighters and an administrator who played a key role in shaping modern India.
- ❖ Pant was the **first chief minister of Uttar Pradesh** in Independent India and he also served as premier of the state's predecessor, the United Provinces, under the British Raj.
- ❖ A key player in the drafting of the Constitution, he served as India's home minister from 1955 to 1961. It was during his tenure that states were reorganised on linguistic lines.
- ❖ **In 1957, Pant was awarded India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna.**



#### Early life

- ❖ **Pant was born on 10 September 1887 in what is now Uttarakhand, at Almora.**
- ❖ When he was 18 years old, he started serving as a volunteer at sessions of the Indian National Congress, looking up to Gopalkrishna Gokhale and Madan Mohan Malaviya as his idols.
- ❖ In 1907, he decided to study law, and subsequently topped the Bar examination.
- ❖ After receiving his degree, he started to practise law in Almora in 1910 and eventually moved to Kashipur.
- ❖ In Kashipur, he established an organisation **called Prem Sabha** that started working towards several reforms and also saved a school from shutting down due to non-payment of taxes to the British government.

#### Political career

- ❖ It was in **December 1921 that Pant started his career in politics**, after he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, which he later renamed Uttar Pradesh. He was elected as a candidate of the Swaraj Party from Nainital.
- ❖ During his tenure, he raised several important issues like the need to abolish the zamindari system and championed the cause of forest preservation. He also worked to protect farmers from excessive rents levied by the British government.
- ❖ He encouraged many cottage industries in the country and raised his voice against the coolie-beggar law, which forced porters to transport the heavy luggage of British officials without any payment.

- ❖ Following Gandhi's footsteps, Pant also organised a massive salt movement in the United Provinces. In May 1930, he was arrested and held at Dehradun jail.

### Summits/Initiatives

#### Rangeen Machhli



- ❖ Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, launched the "Rangeen Machhli" mobile app at ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar.
- ❖ It has been developed by ICAR-CIFA with support from the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- ❖ The app is designed to meet the growing needs of the ornamental fisheries sector, providing crucial knowledge resources for hobbyists, aquarium shop owners, and fish farmers.
- ❖ One of its key features is the "Find Aquarium Shops" tool, which allows users to locate nearby aquarium shops through a dynamic directory updated by shop owners, promoting local businesses and connecting users with reliable sources for ornamental fish and aquarium-related products.

### Reports/ Indexes

#### Best Countries Ranking 2024 by US News & World Report

- ❖ The Best Countries Ranking 2024 by US News & World Report project has been going on for nine years. It seeks to look at the value of nations beyond just wealth. A total of 16,960 individuals from 36 countries were surveyed in order to create this ranking.
- ❖ The survey ranks 89 countries on the basis of their global perception using 10 differentially weighted sub-rankings such as adventure, agility, heritage, entrepreneurship, quality of life, cultural purpose and more. These sub-rankings are made up of 73 different attributes that a country is tested on.
- ❖ Best rankers: Switzerland has been ranked as the number one country. This is the seventh time the Central European nation of Switzerland has ranked first in the survey, with European countries making up the majority of the top 25. In the latest ranking, Switzerland is followed by Japan, the United States of America, Canada and Australia.
- ❖ India's rank: India ranked at number 33 on the list this year, dropping three spots from its place on the list in 2023. India's highest ranking was in the field of 'movers' (number 7) and heritage (number 10). 'Movers', the sub-ranking with the heaviest weightage, measures the resilience and adaptiveness of a country. India's worst performance was in the categories of social purpose and adventure.

## Military Exercises

### Exercise AL NAJAH

#### Joint Military India and Oman

- ❖ This is the 5th edition of India-Oman Joint Military.
- ❖ It is scheduled to be conducted from 13th to 26th September 2024 at Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman.
- ❖ It has been held biennially since 2015, alternating between India and Oman.
- ❖ Last edition of the same exercise was conducted at Mahajan in Rajasthan.
- ❖ Aim of the Joint Exercise is to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake counter terrorism operations under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The exercise will focus on operations in the Desert environment.

## Person In News- Obituary

### Sitaram Yechury



- ❖ He was a CPI(M) general secretary and former Rajya Sabha. He passed away following prolonged illness.
- ❖ Born in Chennai in 1952, Sitaram Yechury was the topmost CPI (M) leader.
- ❖ He was thrice elected as President of the JNU Students Union.
- ❖ Mr. Yechury joined the CPI(M) in 1975 and was arrested during the emergency for his political activities. He was elected as the General Secretary of the CPI (M) in 2015.

- ❖ Mr. Yechury was elected to the Rajya Sabha for two terms from 2005 to 2017 from West Bengal.

## Important News- Other States

### Odisha

The Odisha government has decided to provide 10 percent reservation and a three-year age relaxation, along with exemption from the physical test for ex-Agniveers in uniformed services.

## Important News- Worldwide

### Mexico

Mexico becomes the first country to approve the popular election of judges.

## Miscellaneous

- ❖ India will be an exclusive partner with the **European Hydrogen Week**, scheduled in November 2024.
- ❖ On 12th September 2024, Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy successfully conducted the flight test of the **Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha**. The flight test was carried out from a land-based vertical launcher, targeting a high-speed aerial target flying at a low altitude. The missile system successfully tracked and engaged the target.



- ❖ **Prashanti Ram**, an Indian-origin lecturer at **Nanyang Technological University (University in Singapore)**, won the Singapore Literary Award for English Fiction for her short story - '**Nine Yard Saree**' and it was her first work which was published in the year 2023.

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