

22nd August 2024

Green Tug Transition Programme

The Centre has launched Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP) to convert traditional fuel engine harbour tugs to greener alternatives, with a ₹1,000 crore investment.

Key Points:

- ❖ **Goal:** The goal of the Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP) is to **convert at least 50% of all tugs into Green Tugs by 2030** and to have Green Tugs operating at all major ports.
- ❖ **Ports involved:** Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, Deendayal Port Authority, Paradip Port Authority, and VO Chidambaranar Port Authority will purchase two brand-new green tugs (battery-electric powered) from Cochin Shipyard by **2027 as part of the first phase.**
- ❖ By implementing measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, domestic/short sea shipping ferries, port vessels (tugs/crafts/dredgers), and OSVs/PSVs aim to achieve a remarkable reduction of 50% by 2030 to 70% by 2047.

Paradrop of Portable Hospital

The Indian Air Force and the Indian Army successfully paradropped a homegrown portable hospital from 15,000 feet.

Key Points

- ❖ **Cubes:** Known as the Aarogya Maitri Health Cube, these homegrown trauma care "cubes" – "the world's first portable hospital" – are used to set up trauma care facilities on the field, thus saving lives in even the most remote areas.
- ❖ **Developed:** The "cubes" were developed under Project BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri).
- ❖ The operation was conducted in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of providing critical supplies to affected areas as part of humanitarian aid and disaster relief, the MoD said.

- ❖ The IAF used its US-origin advanced tactical transport aircraft C-130J Super Hercules to airlift and drop the "cube" at a designated location accurately.

UP AGREES

The UP government is set to launch the Uttar Pradesh Agriculture Growth and Rural Enterprises Ecosystem Strengthening (UP AGREES) project.



Purpose

The project aims to boost farmers' income, agricultural productivity and agri-based industries across the state.

Key Points

- ❖ **District involved:** It will be rolled out in 21 east Uttar Pradesh districts and seven Bundelkhand districts.
- ❖ **Components:** It will be structured into four key components:
 - Enhancing agricultural productivity,
 - Establishing agro clusters
 - Strengthening digital and financial ecosystems and
 - Focusing on project management, knowledge, and learning.
- ❖ **Cultivable land:** Out of the 15,000 lakh hectares of cultivable land globally, India accounted for 1,590.70 lakh hectares. Notably, Uttar Pradesh leads the nation with 165.70 lakh hectares of its 243.2 lakh hectares of total land being cultivable—amounting to 76 percent under cultivation.
- ❖ **Agricultural Output:** Western Uttar Pradesh currently contributes 50 percent to the state's agricultural output. East Uttar Pradesh accounts for just 28 per cent, and Bundelkhand a mere 5.5 percent.
- ❖ **Assistance:** It will be developed with World Bank assistance.
- ❖ **Benefits:** UP AGREES project would benefit farmers, farmer organizations, fish farmers and agriculture-related MSME units.

Person In News- Obituary

General Sundararajan Padmanabhan	He was a former Chief of Army Staff. He passed away in Chennai	
General Girish Sahni	He was a former CSIR Director. He passed away at 68 due to a heart attack.	

Sports

Paris Paralympics 2024

The 2024 Paris Paralympics are set to commence in the French capital on 28 August and will run until 8 September.

Key Points

- ❖ This will be the first time France has hosted a Summer Paralympics, having previously staged the Winter Paralympics in Tignes and Albertville in 1992.
- ❖ A total of 22 sporting events will be featured, with 4,400 athletes from around the world participating. India will be sending 84 athletes to Paris, marking the largest contingent the country has ever sent to a Paralympic Games.
- ❖ The Paralympic Committee of India has named Tokyo Paralympics gold medallist para-athletes Sumit Antil and Shot Putter Bhagyashri Jadhav as the Indian flag bearers for the opening ceremony of the 2024.
- ❖ Satya Prakash Sangwan has been appointed as Chef de Mission for India's Paris 2024 Paralympic contingent.
- ❖ For the first time in Paralympic history, the opening ceremony will take place outside a stadium, following a similar approach to the Olympic opening ceremony. During the parade, athletes will traverse some of Paris's most iconic landmarks, from the Champs-Élysées to the Place de la Concorde.

- ❖ Paris Paralympics 2024 will feature a total of 22 sports. They are: Blind football, Para-archery, Para-athletics, Boccia, Goalball, Para-badminton, Para-canoe, Para-cycling, Para-equestrian, Para-judo, Para-powerlifting, Para-rowing, Para-taekwondo, Para-triathlon, Para-table tennis, sitting volleyball, Wheelchair basketball, Wheelchair fencing, Wheelchair rugby, Wheelchair tennis, Para-swimming, Shooting Para-sport

Important Facts

- ❖ Murlikant Petkar was the first Indian to win a Paralympic medal (Swimming) when he won gold at the Heidelberg 1972 Games.
- ❖ Devendra Jhajharia (Men's javelin throw) is the only Indian to win multiple gold medals.
- ❖ Jhajharia and Joginder Singh Bedi (Men's javelin throw) are the only Indians to win three Paralympic medals. While Jhajharia has won two gold and a silver, Bedi won one silver and two bronze medals.
- ❖ The first Paralympic Games took place in Rome, Italy, in 1960, though its origins trace back further. Sir Ludwig Guttmann, a British neurologist, was instrumental in developing the concept.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) became the 1st airport in India to achieve the status of "Net Zero Carbon Emission" (NZCE) (Level 5 certification) under the Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) program of the Airport Council International (ACI).
- ❖ The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has introduced a new feature called 'UPI Circle' on its Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform. This feature allows primary UPI account holders to securely delegate payment responsibilities to trusted secondary users.

- ❖ At Mumbai Port, an OMC has launched the first biofuel blend High Flash High Speed Diesel (HFHSD) bunker by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).

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