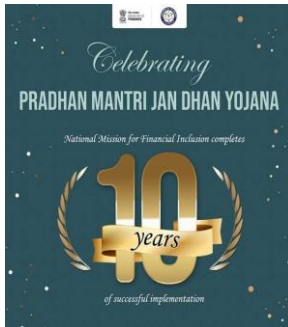


National

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) completes a decade of successful implementation



About News:-

- ❖ Launched on August 28, 2014, by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi, the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is a National Mission for Financial Inclusion that has completed a decade of implementation.
- ❖ The Ministry of Finance's Department of Financial Services (DFS) is in charge of carrying it out (MoF).
- ❖ PMJDY, the world's largest effort of its kind, has empowered neglected communities and improved financial security by integrating millions of people into the formal banking system.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):

- ❖ To guarantee access to financial services, PMJDY is the National Mission for Financial Inclusion (FI). Promoting the Union Government's Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) program is the goal of PMJDY.
- ❖ "Mera Khaata, Bhagya Vidhata" (My account, fortune maker) is PMJDY's catchphrase.

Characteristics:

- ❖ Individuals without any other accounts are eligible to open a Basic Savings Bank Deposit (BSBD) account at any bank branch or Business Correspondent (Bank Mitra) under the plan.
- ❖ Anybody can create a PMJDY account by signing or thumbprinting a self-attested photo.

- ❖ Opening a PMJDY account has no age restrictions, and accounts are started with a zero balance.

Advantages:

- ❖ The PMJDY account has no minimum balance requirements, and there are no fees associated with it.
- ❖ The RuPay Debit card comes with a built-in Rs. 2 lakh accident insurance policy to encourage online shopping.
- ❖ On deposits made into PMJDY accounts, interest is accrued.
- ❖ an overdraft (OD) facility for qualifying account holders up to Rs. 10,000.
- ❖ The Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Bank (MUDRA) scheme, Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), and DBT are all applicable to PMJDY accounts.
- ❖ Kerala emerged as the pioneer state in India to guarantee a minimum of one bank account for each family.

Accomplishments (as of 14 August 2024):

- ❖ Comprehensive Financial Inclusion: As of August 14, 2024, PMJDY had enrolled 53.13 crore people in the formal banking system. Women made up 55.6% (29.56 crore) of Jan-Dhan account holders, and 66.6% (35.37 crore) of accounts were located in rural or semi-urban areas.
- ❖ Deposit Growth: Since 2015, the total amount of deposits in PMJDY accounts has increased by 15 times, to Rs 2,31,236 crore.
- ❖ Enhanced Savings and Utilization: With an average deposit of Rs 4,352 per account, a fourfold rise since 2015, suggesting that account holders are using their accounts more frequently and are saving more money.
- ❖ Distribution of RuPay Cards: PMJDY account holders have received 36.14 crore RuPay cards, giving them access to digital transactions and Rs.2 lakh accident insurance coverage.

State

Himachal Pradesh raises the minimum age of marriage for women from 18 to 21 years



About News:-

- ❖ On Tuesday, the Himachal Pradesh Assembly approved a bill that would increase women's marriageable age from 18 to 21. On the first day of the two-week monsoon session, the House passed the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Himachal Pradesh Amendment Bill 2024) by voice vote.
- ❖ The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, and other relevant state laws are to be amended, according to the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Himachal Pradesh Amendment Bill 2024) proposal.
- ❖ A central measure called the "Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021" that sought to standardize the age at which men and women marry had already expired in the Lok Sabha in June 2024.
- ❖ The Jaya Jaitley Committee's recommendations formed the basis of the 2021 Bill.

Benefits of Increasing Women's Marriageable Age

- ❖ Men must be 21 years old to marry by the secure constitutional obligation for gender equality.
- ❖ Reproductive Health: reduced rates of teenage pregnancies and maternal death lead to better physical and mental health.
- ❖ Women Empowerment: Improved Employment and Education Results
- ❖ Aid in the accomplishment of SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality).

Issues

- ❖ Illegal Marriages: This could force certain people to get into non-institutional unions and negatively affect underprivileged populations where marriage at younger ages is common.

- ❖ Parental abuse: attempts to restrict a daughter's options, which could lead to female foeticide and meta-son preference. ignores the cultural and societal conventions that uphold patriarchy

Economic

Gujarat replaces UP as the top investment destination in 2023-24

About News:-

- ❖ In the Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24), Gujarat surpassed Uttar Pradesh (UP) in securing bank money for projects in the state, according to a study conducted by economists at the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❖ Funds were provided to Gujarat for 154 projects in total, making up 14.7% (up from 14% in FY23) of all projects funded by banks and Financial Institutions (FIS) in FY24.
- ❖ During the FY24, the total amount of projects approved by banks and financial institutions reached a record high of Rs 3,90,978 crore, or around Rs 4 trillion.

Key Points:-

- ❖ However, UP obtained funding for 69 projects in total, which represented 7.6% (down from 16.2% in FY23) of all monies funded by banks and financial institutions in FY24.
- ❖ Nonetheless, UP remained one of the top 5 states for project financing from FIs and banks.
- ❖ Among the top five states in FY24, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh (AP), and Gujarat received bank funding for projects in their respective states from banks and financial institutions.
- ❖ Approximately 55% of the total cost of projects approved in FY24 was made up of the combined value of projects in these 5 states.
- ❖ The RBI report states that Odisha fell from third place, where it accounted for 11.8% of all project costs in FY23, to sixth place, where it only accounted for roughly 7.6% of all project costs in FY24.

- ❖ According to the report, the government's preference for infrastructure development is evident in the fact that the infrastructure sector received a significant portion of the planned capital investments, with the "Roads & Bridges" and "Power" sectors leading the way.

About the Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

- ❖ Established:- 1 April, 1935
- ❖ Headquarter:- Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ❖ Governor :- Shaktikanta Das

Maharashtra

New Plant Species Discovered in Ambagad Forest

About News:-

- ❖ Taxonomic field research in Ambagad forest, Bhandara district, Maharashtra, has led three botany professors from Nagpur (Maharashtra) to identify 'Cleistanthus Deekshabhoomiana' as a new species of the Cleistanthus Collinus plant.
- ❖ It will be the 135th species worldwide and the 9th species of Cleistanthus Collinus to be found in India. Six of the nine species found in India are native.
- ❖ The study's conclusions were released in the 1875-founded publication "Indian Forester," which has been devoted to forestry research.
- ❖ The study was published by Alka Chaturvedi, the former head of the Department of Botany at Nagpur University, Subhash Somkuwar, the head of the Department of Botany at Dr. Ambedkar College in Nagpur, and Jagannath Gadpayale, an associate professor of botany at SN Mor College of Arts and Commerce and GD Saraf Science College, Tumsar.

Concerning Cleistanthus Deekshabhoomiana:

- ❖ 'Garadi' was the native term for Cleistanthus Deekshabhoomiana. Cleistanthus is a member of the Phyllanthaceae family.
- ❖ This plant species bears the name Deekshabhoomi, after a significant Nagpur historical site.
- ❖ It was found to be growing in Ambagad village's dry, steep deciduous forest. Its

fruiting season spans from March to July, with flowering commencing in February.

- ❖ It differs from the indigenous Garadi species, which has green fruits the size of plums, with distinctive characteristics including scarlet fruits and branches.
- ❖ Because animals and birds avoid its fruits, it functions as a natural biopesticide.
- ❖ The study team is striving to conserve the species and has established a seed bank for it.

About Maharashtra:-

- ❖ Chief Minister (CM) :- Eknath Sambhaji Shinde
- ❖ Governor:- C. P. Radhakrishnan



➤ Three botany teachers discovered the new plant species of Cleistanthus Collinus, known as 'Garadi' in local parlance, during a taxonomic field exploration in the Ambagad forest in the Bhandara district

➤ There are 134 Cleistanthus Collinus plant species in the world and the new one will be the 135th

➤ It has been named Cleistanthus Deekshabhoomiana, after the city's Deekshabhoomi

Banking

Yes Bank ties up with Newtap Finance to Offer Financing Solutions



About News:-

To provide creditworthy people with individualized financing options on the payment platform CRED, India's Private Sector Bank (PSB), Yes Bank Limited (YES Bank), has established a co-lending partnership with Newtap Finance Private Limited (previously known as Parfait Finance and Investments Private Limited), which is registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as a non-depositing taking Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).

Key Points:-

- ❖ Under the terms of this strategic partnership agreement, Dreamplug Technologies Private Limited (DTPL), a fintech business based in Bengaluru, Karnataka, and the operator of CRED, will act as YES Bank and Newtap Finance's lending service provider (LSP).
- ❖ The relationship between YES Bank Newtap Finance and CRED is consistent with the bank's aim of cultivating fintech alliances to support high-caliber expansion.
- ❖ The partnership will help CRED members by providing them with low prices and an enhanced, frictionless, digital-first experience.

Zeta and HDFC Bank Partner on Zeta's Credit Line for UPI Offerings

Zeta, a global provider of next-generation banking technology to financial institutions, said on August 26, 2024, that it has partnered with HDFC Bank Limited, the top PSB in India, to power its Credit Line on UPI (CLOU) products.

Important Points:

- ❖ The collaboration with Zeta, which leverages cutting-edge Digital Credit as a Service
- ❖ The HDFC Bank will be able to introduce cutting-edge credit products on the National

Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)'s CLOU scheme thanks to the DCaaS technology.

- ❖ The NPCI launched the Credit Line on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) program in 2023, enabling banks to link pre-approved credit lines to the UPI user base directly.

About Yes Bank Limited:

- ❖ Established:- 2004
- ❖ Headquarters:- Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ❖ MD & CEO :- Prashant Kumar

Appointment

BCCI Secretary Jay Shah becomes youngest-ever ICC chairman

About News:-

- ❖ With effect from December 1, 2024, Jay Shah, Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), has been elected, without opposition, to the position of Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Shah, who is 35 years old, is the ICC's youngest-ever chairman.
- ❖ He will take over as chairman from the outgoing Greg Barclay of New Zealand, who declined to run for a third straight two-year term when his term ended in November 2024.



Key Points:-

- ❖ At the Board's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which is scheduled for either the end of September 2024 or the beginning of October 2024, Shah will resign from his present role as BCCI secretary.
- ❖ He was the third Indian to take on the position of ICC Chair and the fifth Indian to take on a role at the ICC. The remaining four Indians are:
- ❖ Late Jagmohan Dalmiya, ICC President (1997 - 2000);

Sharad Pawar, ICC President (2010-2012);

- ❖ N Srinivasan, ICC Chair (2014-2015); and
- ❖ Shashank Manohar, ICC Chair (2015-2020).

Regarding Jay Shah:

- ❖ 2009 was the beginning of Jay Shah's career in cricket administration at the district and state levels. Jay Shah is the son of Union Minister Amit Shah of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- ❖ He began his career as an executive with the Gujarat Cricket Association (GCA) and the Central Board of Cricket, Ahmedabad (CBCA) in Gujarat. He was appointed Joint Secretary of the GCA in 2013.
- ❖ He was chosen in 2019 to represent the BCCI at ICC Chief Executive Committee (CEC) meetings going forward.
- ❖ Since 2019, he has held the positions of President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) and Secretary of the BCCI.
- ❖ At thirty-one, he had become the youngest-ever secretary of the BCCI.
- ❖ His ACC presidency was unanimously extended by one year in 2024, making him the organization's youngest administrator to hold the position again.
- ❖ He joined the ICC Board of Directors in 2022. He also served as the Finance and Commercial Affairs (F&CA) Committee Chair for the ICC by 2022.

Science & Technology

ISRO and AlphaMERS Join Forces to Combat Marine Pollution Using AI



About News:-

The Space Applications Centre (SAC) of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and AlphaMERS Limited have inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of an artificial intelligence (AI) model to identify and characterize marine pollution in India's coastal

waters, with a focus on macroplastics and oil spills.

Key Points:

- ❖ The alliance seeks to improve remote sensing technology's ability to identify pollutants with greater efficiency and precision.
- ❖ Better management and monitoring of maritime habitats are also made possible by it.
- ❖ It draws attention to a crucial development in the fight against marine pollution and environmental preservation.

About ISRO's Space Applications Centre (SAC):-

- ❖ Established:- 1972
- ❖ Headquarters:- Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- ❖ Director:- Nilesh M. Desai

Award

The 24th International Mother Teresa Award given for significant contributions

About News:-

- ❖ In honor of Mother Teresa's 114th birthday, the 24th International Mother Teresa Awards Ceremony was held in Millennium Plaza Dubai on August 26, 2024.
- ❖ This distinguished event, which was organized by the All-India Minority and Weaker Sections Council, was conducted for the second time outside of India; the previous two international ceremonies were hosted in Dubai.
- ❖ The posthumously created awards honor those in education, research, arts, sports, social work, medicine, business, and politics, among other fields. Mother Teresa passed away in 1997.



Notable Recipients:

- ❖ João Bernardo Vieira II (Posthumously, Guinea-Bissau)
- ❖ Sidharth Srivastava and Namit Bajoria (Industry)
- ❖ Mohammed Mahtabur Rahman (Chairman, NRB Bank Limited)
- ❖ Irka Bochenko (Arts)
- ❖ MP Rozario (Education)
- ❖ Murli Panjabi and Sureandar Singh Khandari (Social Work, UAE)
- ❖ Ahmed al Hashemi (Young Musician and Child Prodigy)

Activities During the Event:

- ❖ Mother Teresa's birth anniversary was celebrated during the ceremony with a cake-cutting ceremony.
- ❖ Her life story was the subject of a documentary, which was followed by cultural events that reflected her altruistic character.
- ❖ The first international ceremony was held in Dubai, where the organizers expressed their happiness to be back.

The Legacy of Mother Teresa:

- ❖ Mother Teresa committed her life to helping the poorest of the poor. She was born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu on August 26, 1910, in Skopje, Macedonia, which was then a part of the Ottoman Empire.
- ❖ In 1950, she established the Missionaries of Charity, an international organization that specializes in humanitarian relief.
- ❖ She received multiple honors for her work, including the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize, the Padma Shri, and the Ramon Magsaysay Peace Prize.
- ❖ She was named "Blessed Teresa of Kolkata" by Pope John Paul II in 2003, and in 2016 Pope Francis declared her to be a saint.
- ❖ Through charitable endeavors and cultural events, the Mother Teresa National Awards Committee carries on her legacy.

Obituary

Former Lebanese PM Salim Ahmad al-Huss Passed Away



About News:-

- ❖ Salim Ahmad al-Huss, a former prime minister of Lebanon, died yesterday in Beirut, Lebanon, at the age of 94. He was born in Beirut on December 20, 1929.
- ❖ He was PM from 1976 to 1990 for four terms. The last year of his tenure was 1998–2000.

Salim Ahmad al-Huss's biography:-

- ❖ He served as a Member of Parliament (MP) and a former government minister.
- ❖ He held the positions of minister of foreign affairs, industry, labor, education, information, and economy during his tenure in politics.
- ❖ He was a well-known economist who set the standard for knowledge, skill, and ethics.
- ❖ In a nation divided by political and religious differences, he was hailed as a technocrat and held in high regard as a unique leader.

About Lebanon:

- ❖ Prime Minister (PM) :- Najib Mikati
- ❖ Capital:- Beirut
- ❖ Currency :- Lebanese Pound

Important Day

National Sports Day - 29 August



About News:-

National Sports Day is celebrated on August 29, every year. It celebrates the spirit of sportsmanship, honors our athletes, and remembers the legends who have brought glory to India. Every year on August 29, marks the birth anniversary of Major Dhyana Chand.

The National Sports Day 2024 theme is 'Sport for the Promotion of Peaceful and Inclusive Societies.'

History :-

- ❖ National Sports Day was first celebrated in 2012 to honor Major Dhyan Chand's contributions to Indian hockey. He is credited with leading India to three consecutive Olympic gold medals in 1928, 1932, and 1936. His extraordinary skill on the hockey field earned him the nickname "The Wizard."
- ❖ To celebrate his achievement and promote sports culture in the country, the government decided to announce his birth anniversary on August 29 as the National Sports Day in 2012. The day is dedicated to promoting sports and recognizing the talents of athletes across the country.

Significance:-

National Sports Day is celebrated on August 29th across the country to promote sports and honor the achievements of athletes. It serves as a reminder of the importance of physical fitness, sportsmanship, and the role of sports in building a stronger, healthier nation.

Here is why National Sports Day 2024 is significant:

- ❖ Promotes the importance of sports to enhance health and well-being.
- ❖ Honors the legacy of Major Dhyan Chand and other sports legends.
- ❖ Encourages youth participation in sports-related activities.
- ❖ Recognizes the hard work and achievements of Indian athletes.
- ❖ Highlights the government's commitment to developing sports infrastructure and talent.

