

Bihar Special

Kurfi Chipsona-1

Why in the news?

The Bihar government will encourage farmers to plant one of the **most demanding varieties of potato Kurfi Chipsona-1** in seven districts.

- ❖ **Objective:** To push local food processing industries.
 - Kufri Chisona is the most sought variety of potatoes for making chips and french fries.
- ❖ To begin with, the Bihar Rajya Beej Nigam Limited (BRBNL) has started the distribution of seeds to the farmers of Gaya, where farmers have decided to try the commercial variety of potatoes on around 30 hectares land.
- ❖ Other districts the department has targeted to grow Kurfi Chipsona-1 variety are Aurangabad Patna, Nalanda, Saran, Samasti Pur and Vaishali.

Environment And Geography

Cairn Oil & Gas

Why in the news?

Cairn Oil & Gas has become **India's first oil and gas producer** to join the United Nations Environment Programme's OMGP 2.0.

- ❖ The memorandum of understanding was signed in Abu Dhabi, UAE.
 - Under the MoU, Cairn will implement a five-year methane reduction target and report its progress to OGMP, establishing transparent data that supports emissions management.
- ❖ The partnership aligns with Cairn's goal to decarbonise operations, advancing toward Net Zero Carbon by 2030.

UNEP's OMGP 2.0

- ❖ OMGP stands for Oil & Gas Methane Partnership.
- ❖ It is the flagship methane reporting and mitigation program of UNEP and currently covers over 40 percent of global oil and gas production.
 - It provides measurement, reporting, and verification protocols for methane emissions management.
- ❖ The OGMP 2.0 framework supports the goals of the Paris Agreement and Global Methane Pledge, which targets a 30% global methane reduction by 2030.

Science And Technology

India's First Analog Space Mission

Why in the news?

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has started India's first analog space mission at Leh in Ladakh.

- ❖ Ladakh has been chosen for such a mission as the geographical features of the area – dry and cold climate, barren land, high-altitude terrain and extreme isolation – are considered to closely resemble Martian and lunar landscapes.

What is an Analog Space Mission?

- ❖ Analog space missions are field tests in locations on Earth that have physical similarities to extreme space environments and play a significant role in problem-solving for spaceflight research.
- ❖ The mission includes a compact, inflatable habitat named Hab-1, which is equipped with essentials like a hydroponics farm, kitchen, and sanitation facilities.
 - It provides a self-sustaining environment, offering valuable data as India is planning long-duration space missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.



Defence And Security

VINBAX 2024

Why in the news?

The 5th Edition of the Vietnam-India bilateral army exercise "VINBAX 2024" commenced at Ambala, Haryana.

- ❖ It will be conducted till 23 November 2024 at Ambala and Chandimandir.
- ❖ It is an annual training event conducted alternatively in India and Vietnam.
- ❖ **Aim of the exercise:**
 - To enhance joint military capability of both sides in employment and deployment of Engineer Companies and Medical Teams.
 - To undertake engineering tasks as part of the United Nations Contingent in Peace Keeping Operations under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

❖ **History of the exercise:**

- Exercise VINBAX was instituted in 2018 and the first edition was conducted at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.



Schemes In News

Namo Drone Didi

Why in the news?

It is a central sector scheme that aims to empower women-led Self-Help Groups (SHGs) by equipping them with drone technology to provide agricultural services.

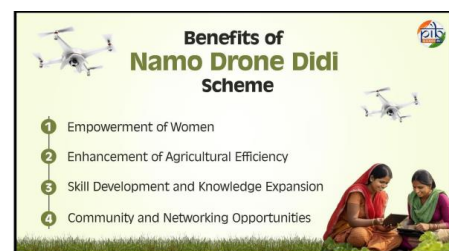
- ❖ It aims to provide drones to 15000 selected Women SHGs during the period from 2024-25 to 2025-2026
- For providing rental services to farmers for agriculture purposes (application of liquid fertilizers and pesticides for the present).

Key Features Of The Scheme



❖ **Significance:**

- It is expected to generate an additional income of at least Rs. 1 lakh per year for each SHG, contributing to economic empowerment and sustainable livelihood generation.



Important Days/ Dates

World Tsunami Awareness Day

Why in the news?

World Tsunami Awareness Day is celebrated every year on November 5.

- ❖ **Objective:** To raise awareness about the dangers of tsunamis and encourage people to be prepared in advance in case a natural disaster strikes.
- ❖ **History of this day:**
 - It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2015.
 - November 5 was chosen as Tsunami Awareness Day as it holds deep historical significance, inspired by the Japanese story of the "Inamura-no-hi", or the "burning of the rice sheaves" incident.
- ❖ **Theme 2024:** 'Fighting Inequality for a Resilient Future'



**WORLD TSUNAMI
AWARENESS DAY**
5 NOVEMBER

News in Short

- ❖ Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated a new Indian Consulate General in Brisbane, Australia.

- ❖ India and France have been elected as President and co-president of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) for a two-year term, extending to 2026.
 - Ashish Khanna from India has been elected as the third Director General of the International Solar Alliance.
 - ✓ He will succeed the current DG, Ajay Mathur, whose term concludes in March 2025.
- ❖ Film and Television Institute of India, FTII's student film 'Sunflowers Were The First Ones To Know' has qualified for the 2025 Oscars in the Live Action Short Film Category.
 - This Kannada language short film directed by FTII student Chidananda S Naik is inspired by Indian folk stories and traditions.
- ❖ In Soft Tennis, India's Tanushree Pandey has clinched the Silver Medal at the World Soft Tennis Championship at Jingshan in China.



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