DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 10-02-2023

NATIONAL NEWS

Maritime India Vision 2030

- To boost the waterways network, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has planned several initiatives to develop ports in India.
- This project has been made under the Maritime India Vision (MIV) 2030.
- The ministry has planned an investment of Rs 1,00,000 to Rs 1,25,000 crore for capacity enhancement and development of world-class infrastructure at ports.
- Under the Maritime India Vision (MIV) 2030 the government aims to make world-class mega ports, transshipment hubs.
- It is the plan to ensure coordinated and accelerated development of India's maritime sector over the next decade.

India’s First Hydrogen-Powered Truck

- Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries (RIL) and Ashok Leyland unveiled India’s first Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (H2-ICE) powered truck at the India Energy Week.
- RIL and Ashok Leyland, the Indian flagship company of the Hinduja Group and India’s leading commercial vehicle manufacturer, were working on developing this technology over the past year.
- Green hydrogen is the cleanest form of fuel when produced through renewable sources of energy.
- According to June 2022 report by NITI Aayog on Harnessing Green Hydrogen, increasing consumption from steel and heavy-duty trucking sectors will be the long-term driver for hydrogen, with the demand of almost 11 million tonnes per year by 2030 and accounting for almost 52% of total demand by 2050.

UP Government Launches 'Family ID' Portal

- The UP government has launched an online portal, ‘Family ID - One Family One Identity’ to make access to government schemes easier for the families of the state.

- Its objective is to provide free or subsidised ration to those families who do not have ration cards and are not eligible for the National Food Security Scheme.

- Through the portal, families can create their ID and can avail the benefits of the schemes.
- For those who already have an ID, the family ID will be the same as the ration card ID.
- For others, ID will be generated through the portal and all the families will get a unique identity.

- It will create a comprehensive database of households in Uttar Pradesh.

Mission Antyodaya Survey 2022-23

- Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh inaugurated the Mission Antyodaya Survey (MAS) 2022-23 in New Delhi.
- The Rural Development Department is conducting the Mission Antyodaya survey in all the Gram Panchayats of the country from 2017-18.
- Survey will be done in all the 2,69,253 Gram Panchayats whose profiles have been created on e-Gram Swaraj.
- It was initiated in the Union Budget 2017-18.
- It aims to eradicate poverty in various dimensions of rural households.
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj and the Ministry of Rural Development are its nodal agencies.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CAG Signed Two MoUs with the Auditing Authorities

- The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with auditing authorities of Tajikistan and Kazakhstan on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Supreme Audit Institutions (SCO SAI) Leaders' meeting.
- The agreements are aimed at strengthening cooperation and exchange of expertise between the two nations in the field of auditing.
- The agreements are a step forward in promoting closer ties and collaboration among the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the three nations.
- The Comptroller and Auditor General of India is the supreme audit institution of India, established under Article 148 of the Constitution of India.

BANKING

Indians Remitted Nearly USD 2 Bilion Under LRS Scheme

- According to the latest data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Indians remitted close to $2 billion in November 2022 under the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) liberalised remittance scheme (LRS).
- Outward remittances under the scheme jumped 29% to $1.99 billion compared to $1.54 billion in November 2021.
- Sequentially, outward remittances under the scheme were up about 3.5%.
- The scheme was initially introduced on February 4, 2004, with a limit of USD 25,000.
- LRS refers to external remittances by resident individuals for purposes like studies abroad, medical treatment, maintenance of close relatives, and investments and travel.
- The LRS limit has been later revised in stages consistent with prevailing macro and micro economic conditions.

84 DBUs are Operational Across the Country

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to the service of the nation on October 2022.
- As on date, 84 DBUs are operational across the country.
- DBUs have been introduced to further the objective of improving the availability of digital infrastructure while accelerating and widening the reach of digital banking services.
- DBUs are specialised fixed-point business units / hubs set up by commercial banks providing certain digital infrastructure for delivering digital banking products & services.
- DBUs provide digital services in both self-service and assisted mode.
- This enables customers to have 24*7 convenient access and enhanced digital experience in an efficient, paperless, secured and connected environment.

ECONOMY

India's First App to Support Credit Cards on UPI

- MobiKwik becomes the first fintech app to support RuPay Credit Card on UPI.
- With RuPay credit cards now linked directly to UPI IDs, MobiKwik customers can easily make payments at merchants by scanning the UPI QR code and using the UPI PIN for payment authentication.
- This facility will provide an easy and secure payment experience to MobiKwik customers.
- It will also open up new opportunities for merchants to be part of the credit ecosystem, with the acceptance of credit cards using asset-light QR codes without the need for point-of-sale (POS) terminals.
- RuPay credit cards are issued by all major banks (private and public sector) for both commercial and retail use.
- The integration of RuPay Credit Card with UPI is in line with the vision of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and RBI.

RANKS, INDICES & REPORTS

Indore Municipal Corporation, Ranked Top in Cleanliness Survey

- Indore Municipal Corporation, ranked top in cleanliness survey for six consecutive years.
- It has become the country’s second civic body to launch green bonds, seeking to raise Rs 244 crore for a 60 MW solar plant at its water pumping station.
- The public issues of the green bonds will be open for subscription from February 10 to 14 February.
- The issue will be listed on the National Stock Exchange.
- Indore’s green bonds, which have been rated AA+ by India Ratings and AA by Care Ratings, are in the form of four strips.

- The strip format of bond issuances includes separate transferable and redeemable principal parts.
- The proceeds from Indore's bond sale will be used for the installation of a 60 MW solar power plant in Khargone district of Madhya Pradesh.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Executive Director of YES Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed Mr Rajan Pental as the Executive Director of YES Bank for a period of 3 years.
- He will continue to spearhead the YES bank's retail banking portfolio, apart from his appointment as an executive director.
- He has been part of Yes Bank since November 2015.
- Rajan Pental is currently the Global Head of Retail Banking of Yes bank.