DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 11-12-2021

NATIONAL

PM inaugurates Saryu Canal National Project

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the much awaited **'Saryu Canal National Project'** in **Balrampur distric**t of **Uttar Pradesh**, The construction of the project initially begun at 1978 with a completion cost of **Rs 9,802 crore.**
- This project will interlink five rivers namely **Ghaghara, Saryu, Rapti, Banganga and Rohin**. Which will benefit nine districts in Eastern Uttar Pradesh - Bahraich, Shravasti, Balrampur, Gonda, Siddharthnagar, Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar, Gorakhpur and Maharajganj.
- This project will provide water for irrigation purposes for over **14 lakh hectares** of land and will benefit about 29 lakh farmers in over **6200 villages.**
- The main canal is **318 km** long and many sub canals with a length of over **66 hundred kilometres** have been linked to it.

Free Wi-Fi at Railway Stations

- The Union Railway Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** has informed that Free WI-FI Services are available at over **6000 railway stations** across India.
- Approximately, The total data usage on these stations is **97 Tera bytes** per month.
- The Wi-Fi will be available to the general public at free of cost for the first half an hour of any day.
- By this the passengers can access to Internet while at the stations, which helps the people to fetch online services and information, thereby contributing towards Digital India initiative of the Government.

Operation Devi Shakti

- Under the Operation **Devi Sakthi** planned by the **Ministry of External Affairs**, **110 person** who were stranded in Afghanistan were brought back to India.
- Among the stranded people, 10 were Indians, and 94 Afghan Hindu- Sikh minority community, which included 9 children and 3 infants were evacuated and brought back by **Kam Air Flight.**
- Three holy **Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji** from historical Gurudwaras in Afghanistan and ancient Hindu religious scriptures including **Ramayan, Mahabharat and Bhagavad**

Gita were also brought to India by the flight.

DRDO tests Pinaka-ER

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation has successfully tested **Pinaka Extended Range (Pinaka-ER), Area Denial Munitions (ADM)** and **indigenously developed fuzes.**
- The system is jointly designed by laboratories of **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) - Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune.**
- The Pinaka - ER is the upgraded version of the earlier version of Pinaka which has been in service with the Indian Army for the last decade. The system has been designed in the light of emerging requirements with advanced technologies enhancing the range.
- A number of **24 rockets** were fired for different ranges and warhead capabilities to meet the objectives of accuracy and consistency. With this, the initial phase of technology absorption of Pinaka-ER by the Industry Partner has successfully been completed making the Industry Partner ready for series production of the rocket system.

Reports on emergency and injury care

- India's Think tank **NITI Aayog** has released two reports on current status on Country level- secondary and tertiary level and district level emergency and injury care in India.
- These reports revealed the diversity and load of emergency cases, it brings out the prevailing gaps in ambulance services, health infrastructure, human resources and equipment in the provision of optimal care.
- These Report highlighted the need to have a nation-wide policy for triage, standardized protocols for care, world-class ambulance services augmented with effective paramedics and expansion of blood banks.

LED bulbs under Gram UJALA scheme

- The Power Ministry has planned to distribute LED bulbs at a highly subsidised rate at **10 Rupees** to villages under **Gram UJALA programme**.
- The LED bulbs will be distributed in **2500 villages** spread across 5 states namely- A**ndhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh** at subsidized prize.
- Under UJALA programme has already achieved **33 lakh LED bulbs** in the states of

Bihar and UP.

Human Made Wetland turns into RAMSAR site

- The Man made **Haiderpur wetland** located in **Bijanor, Uttar Pradesh** is now recognized as the **RAMSAR site**.
- Adding this, now the country has totally **47** RAMSAR wetlands, and rising the number of wetlands in the state of Uttar Pradesh to **9.**
- The wetland is a habitat for numerous animals and plant species. It homes more than **30 species of plants**, over **300** species of birds including **102** waterbirds, more than **40** fish, and more than ten mammal species.
- It is home to more than **15** globally threatened species such as the critically endangered **gharial, endangered hog deer, black-bellied tern, steppe eagle, Indian skimmer, and gold mahseer.**

Additional Fact-

1. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance is an International treaty for conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, signed on 2 Feb 1971.
2. First RAMSAR site of India- **Chilika lake, recognized in 1981**.
3. Ramsar sites added on 2021-**Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary(Haryana), Sultanpur National Park(Haryana), Thol Lake(Gujatrat), Wadhawana wetland(Gujarat)**.

BANKING, FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Demand Declines in Fuel

- Petroleum Planning and analysis cell under Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas has revealed a data showing that the fuel consumption has declined to **11.4%** in the month of November after a 7 month high.
- Fuel consumption has been totaled to **17.73 million tonnes**, which is **4%** decline from the month of October.
- Consumption of Diesel also declined to **1.7%** month on month, was reduced to 14% compared to the Nov 2019.
- Sales of petrol declined to **0.7%** year on year, but was **4.4%** higher than Nov 2019 value.

India's Index of Industrial Production remains low

- As per the data revealed by National Statistical Office, India's industrial Production growth was low for the second month, It expanded by **3.2%** in October because of base effect.
- The major constituent of Index of Industrial Production(IIP) manufacturing sector(77.63%) has noticed a growth of **2%** in October.
- The output of mining sector noticed a rise of **11.4%**, while power generation increased **3.1%.**
- Overall the Index of Industrial production stood at **133.7** points compared with **129.6** points in the previous year.

SPORTS

India lifts gold at Commonwealth

- **Jeremy Lalrinnunga**, from Mizoram lifts **gold** medal in the men's **67kg** category at the Commonwealth Championships, in Tashkent.
- He has also won **gold** in the **2018 youth Olympics.**
- He lifted the total weight of 305kg with 141kg in Snatch and 164kg in Clean and Jerk.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Dec 11th is observed as the birth anniversary of former Indian President **Pranab Mukherjee**.
- Dec 11th is observed as the birth anniversary of Tamil poet and freedom fighter **Mahakavi Subramania Bharati**.
- Dec 11th is observed as the **International Mountain Day**, The theme for this year is given as- 'Sustainable Mountain Tourism'.