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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 15-12-2021

NATIONAL

Defence Minister hands over products to Armed products

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has handed over DRDO developed products to the Armed forces and other security agencies at an event held at DRDO Bhawan, as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations and iconic week of Ministry of Defence.
- Products handed over to the Armed Forces & Ministry of Home Affairs are **Anti-Drone system, Modular Bridge, Smart Anti Airfield Weapon, Chaff Variants and the Light Weight Fire Fighting Suit.**
- **The counter drone systems**, developed by DRDO for detection, deterrence and destruction of incoming drones was handed over to the CISC, He also handed over the Modular Bridge to the Chief of Army Staff General M M Naravane. Modular bridge developed by R&DE (Engineers) is a single span. mechanically launched assault bridge of military load class **MLC-70**, and can be launched in different spans.
- TheDefence Minister has also handed over Smart Anti Airfield Weapon (SAAW), an air launched, long-range, stand-off, air-to-surface Smart Bomb, to the Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal.
- The variants of Advanced Chaff were handed over to the Navy, Structural fire-fighting suit developed by DRDO's Centre for Fire, Explosive and Environment Safety (CFEES), Delhi was handed over to the Special Secretary, MHA.

Centre releases grants for J&K under Jal Jeevan Mission

- The Central Government has released **Rs 604 Crore** to **Jammu and Kashmir** to expedite the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission.
- J&K plans to become **'Har Ghar Jal'** UT by August, 2022. Out of **18.35 lakh** rural households in the UT, 10.39 lakh (57%) households have tap water connections.
- Provision has been made for tap water supply to every rural household in 2 districts of Srinagar and Ganderbal and **1,070 villages**.
- Jal Jeevan Mission is implemented in a decentralized manner following the 'bottom-up' approach, wherein the local village community plays a key role starting from planning to implementation and from management to operation & maintenance.

Aquatic Crop gets GI tag

- **Mithila Makhana**, An Aquatic Crop Fox Nut at Bihar was given the Geographical Indiacation Tag recently.
- The **Sabur Based Bihar Agriculture** University has initiated the application for the GI tag on behalf of the **Mithilanchal Makhana Utpadak Sangh(MMUS**).
- The application was accepted by the geographical Indication Registry under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and renamed the Bihar Makhana as Mithila Makhana.

Additional Fact-

- **Karnataka** is the state which has more number of GI Tags with 47 products and followed by Tamil Nadu with 39 products.

Other GI tags of Bihar-

1. Madhubani Paintings
2. Katarni Rice
3. Magahi Paan
4. Silao Khaja
5. Shahi Litchi
6. Bhagalpuri Zardalu

Pilot Scheme launched in 7 cities for beggars Rehabilitation

- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has initiated pilot project on Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging in seven cities namely **Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Indore, Lucknow, Nagpur and Patna**.
- These are being implemented with the support of State Governments/UTs/Local Urban Bodies and Voluntary Organizations etc., which provide comprehensive measures including survey and identification, mobilization, rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, awareness generation, counseling, education, skill development and sustainable settlement of persons engaged in begging.
- The Ministry has also formulated a scheme **"SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise"**, which includes a sub-scheme - **'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging'.**
- This scheme covers several comprehensive measures including welfare measures for persons who are engaged in the act of begging. The focus of the scheme is extensively on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counseling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages and so on.

INTERNATIONAL

Second Trilateral meeting on Chabahar Port held

- The **second Trilateral Working Group** Meeting between **India, Iran, and Uzbekistan** on the joint use of Chabahar Port was held virtually.
- The participants underlined the important role played by Chabahar Port during humanitarian crises as well as in enhancing regional connectivity.
- hey also took note of the increase in transit traffic between Central Asia and South Asia through the Shahid **Behesti Terminal, Chabahar Port,** and discussed further development of transportation corridor.
- The Indian side agreed to send a high-level delegation to Chabahar next year. It was decided to hold the third session of the trilateral working group meeting in India.

BANKING, FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

SBI launches SBI Card Pulse

- SBI Card, in a bid to target fitness and health enthusiasts, launched a first of a kind credit card **'SBI Card PULSE'** that offers a host of fitness and health related benefits.
- The contactless card comes with annual membership fee of **Rs 1,499** and has been launched on Visa Signature platform. The renewal fee waiver is applicable on achieving annual spend milestone of **Rs 2 lakh** within the card membership year.
- SBI Card PULSE provides the customers **Noise ColorFit Pulse Smartwatch** of worth **Rs 4,999** as a welcome gift on payment of the joining fee, which offers embedded features, including 1.4 Inch full color display, blood oxygen monitoring (SPO2), Sleep Monitoring etc.
- Through the complimentary one-year Fitpass Pro membership, the SBI Card PULSE customers have access to curated network of 4,000 plus gyms and fitness studios across India and can also avail unlimited online fitness sessions of workouts including Yoga, Dance, Cardio, Pilates and more.

SPORTS AND AWARDS

The Sports Journalists Federation of India Awards SJFI medal

- The Sports Journalists Federation of India has conferred its **SJFI medal** to former cricketer **Sunil Gavaskar**.
- Olympic Gold Medal Winner **Neeraj Chopra** was named the **SJFI sportsman of the Year** and Indian Women Weightlifter **Mirabhai Chinu** was awarded with **SJFI sports woman of the Year.**
- **Indian Mens Hockey team**, which won bronze in Tokyo was declared **SJFI Team of the Year.**
- **Sumit Antil** and **Pramod Bhagat** were declared as the Indian Parathletes **of the year in mens** category, and **Avani Lekhra** was named the Indian Parathlete of the Year in womens category.

Billiards and Snooker national Championship

- **Ishpreet Singh Chadha** has bagged the **men's** Snooker title in Billiards and Snooker national Championship.
- **Amee Kamani** has won the **women's** Snooker title in Billiards and Snooker national Championship.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Dec 15th is observed as **International Tea Day**.
- Dec 15th is observed as the death anniversary of **Sardar Vallabhai Patel**.

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