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## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 16-06-2023**

### **NATIONAL NEWS**

#### **Tiger Safari in Ramgarh Reserve**

- The Forest Department is making preparations to launch a wildlife safari within the buffer zone of the recently established Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve (RVTR) in Rajasthan's Bundi district.
- By setting up wildlife safaris within the buffer zone of the tiger reserve, the forest department aims to promote eco-tourism and raise awareness about wildlife conservation.
- It will provide visitors a chance to see tigers and other wildlife in their natural habitat.
- This will ensure the protection of wildlife and reduce the distress caused to the animals.
- Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary was designated as a tiger reserve on 05 July 2021, after receiving in-principle approval from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

#### **Women 20 Summit Begins at Mahabalipuram**

- The third and final working group of the summit on W-20 began at Mahabalipuram near Chennai.
- The conference also emphasised the importance of women's health and gender empowerment, and the role of families in supporting the rights of children.
- Emphasis was placed on the private sector to actively participate and contribute positively in gender-specific planning.
- The first session focused on the convergence of women's health, gender equality, and social and economic development in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### **Aviation Fuel Plant in Haryana**

- Indian Oil Corp (IOC) partnered with LanzaJet to set up an aviation fuel plant in Haryana.
- The aim of the collaboration is to produce sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).
- The investment for the aviation fuel plant is around 23 billion rupees (\$280.1 million).

- The collaboration promotes sustainable aviation solutions in India.
- It contributes to addressing the environmental impact of the aviation industry.
- Sustainable aviation fuel reduces greenhouse gas emissions and mitigates climate change.

## **Kerala Government Launched a Reward System**

- The Government of Kerala (local self-government (LSG) department) has launched a new scheme to reward for reporting illegal waste dumping on roads.
- It is to make the state garbage-free by 2024.
- This scheme is a part of the 'Malinya Muktham Nava Keralam' campaign.
- The person who informs authorities of such violations will be given Rs 2,500 (maximum) or 25% of the fine imposed on those resorting to illegitimate disposal of garbage.
- Under this scheme, citizens would report about the littering/dumping (solid and liquid waste) in public spaces, private property and water bodies.
- The report must be backed with evidence, including credible photographs or video clips, along with details such as the place and time of the wrongdoing.

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **U.S. Will Rejoin UNESCO**

- The United States will rejoin UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organization, in July 2023.
- The move ends Washington's more than ten-year dispute with the UN cultural agency after the US left UNESCO in 2018.
- US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Verma submitted a letter to UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay last week to formalize plans to rejoin.
- In addition, the US will also pay an outstanding balance of over \$600 million.
- By rejoining, the US is seeking to regain its role in shaping and influencing UNESCO's policies.

# **BANKING**

## **World Bank Launches Its First Road Safety Project**

- The World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.
- The project seeks to improve road safety and reduce fatalities and injuries from road crashes in selected cities, high-risk highways, and district roads.
- The project will focus on two national highways in Bangladesh: Gazipur-Elenga (N4) and Natore-Nawabganj (N6).
- These highways will serve as the primary sites for implementing various road safety measures.
- The aim is to achieve a substantial reduction of over 30 percent in road traffic deaths on these two highways.
- These improvements will encompass the installation of road signs, dividers, footpaths, zebra crossings, speed breakers, and bus bays.

# **AWARDS & PRIZES**

## **International Green Apple Awards**

- Five buildings and structures from Telangana have been selected to receive the 'International Green Apple Awards for Beautiful Buildings' in the Urban and Real Estate Sector category.
- These awards are presented by 'The Green Organisation,' an independent non-profit organization based in London.
- This is the first time any building or structure in India has received these prestigious awards and all five nominated structures from Telangana have been recognised.
- Selected buildings and constructions from Telangana:
  - Mozzam-Jahi Market (Heritage category)
  - Durgam Cheruvu Cable Bridge (Bridge category)
  - B R Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat Building (Aesthetically designed office and workspace building category)
  - Integrated Command Control Centre of Telangana Police (Unique office category)

- Yadadri Temple (Excellent religious structures category)
- The Green Organization, founded in 1994 in London, is an independent non-profit organization that focuses on acknowledging, rewarding, and promoting environmental best practices globally.
- Since 2016, they have been organizing the annual 'Green Apple Awards' in London, UK.
- These awards aim to recognize and appreciate businesses, local authorities, and communities that demonstrate outstanding efforts in environmental sustainability.

## **'Governor of the Year' at Central Banking Awards**

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das was named 'Governor of the Year' at the Central Banking Awards in London.
- The award is presented by Central Banking, a leading organisation that covers matters related to central banks and financial regulators globally.
- The Central Banking Awards 2023 announced the winners at the end of March, the National Bank of Ukraine received the title of Central Bank of the Year.
- Shaktikanta Das, representing the Reserve Bank of India, was honoured with the Governor of the Year award at the event.

## **Award For Atal Pension Yojana Enrollment**

- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has bagged the national award for significant enrolment under Atal Pension Yojana (APY) from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), New Delhi.
- Shreekant M Bhandiwad, Chairman of KVGB, received the award from Vivek Joshi, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Government of India, and Deepak Mohanty, Chairman of PFRDA, in New Delhi.
- Bhandiwad took charge as the Chairman in April 2023.
- Bhandiwad said APY is a safety net for workers in the informal sector for getting pre-defined pension after 60 years.
- The bank has enrolled 3,42,852 (cumulative) accounts under APY.
- During 2022-23, the bank enrolled 76,569 accounts against the target of 50,320 and achieved the target well before the time frame.

# IMPORTANT DAYS

## World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is observed annually on 15 June.
- The day aims to raise awareness about the abuse, discrimination and neglect experienced by older persons.
- It serves as a platform to emphasise the importance of upholding the rights of older adults and promoting their dignity.
- The theme for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2023 is 'Closing the Circle: Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Older Age Policy, Law and Evidence-Based Responses.'
- The theme focuses on highlighting the issue of gender-based violence among older persons.
- The United Nations officially established World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in 2011.



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