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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 21-01-2023

NATIONAL NEWS

Largest Human Red Ribbon Chain

- Odisha State AIDS Control Society organised an awareness program on HIV AIDS in coordination with the Department of Sports and Youth Services and Hockey India under the leadership of National AIDS Control Organization (NACO).
- The event created the 'Largest Human Red Ribbon Chain' at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Sustainable Development Goal 3.3 has been set to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.
- Awareness activities are being strengthened among the general public as well as high-risk groups in Odisha about the services offered under the leadership of the National AIDS Control Programme.

International Science Literature Festival – Vigyanika

- The Science Literature Festival 'Vigyanika' is being organized at the Indian International Science Festival (IISF), Bhopal during the period 22 - 23 January, 2023.
- The 'Science Literature Festival' is being organized as a part of the 8th India International Science Festival (IISF).
- The 8th IISF is being jointly organized by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry of Science and Technology and Vigyan Bharati.
- The theme of the edition of IISF is 'Moving towards Amrit Kaal with Science, Technology and Innovation'.
- Vigyanika is being organized with the objective of promoting science through science poetry, multilingual scientific literature, science drama and folk art and showcasing the rich heritage of India by inculcating scientific temper among the masses.

'Bharat Pravah' Initiative

- Shipping, Waterways and Ports Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has launched the initiative ‘Bharat Pravah-India along its Shores’.
- The objective of this initiative is to highlight the importance of rivers-ports-shipping in the everyday life of the common man through literature, dialogue and communication.
- It will also highlight the challenges, policy issues and future goals related to the maritime sector.
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- India's share in global trade is only 2%. India ranks 44th in the Logistics Performance Index.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India and UAE Sign Agreement

- India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have signed an agreement to collaborate on green hydrogen development and the laying of an undersea cable connecting India to the UAE’
- It was signed under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s ‘One Sun, One World, One Grid’ initiative.
- India has undertaken the goal of becoming net zero by 2070 and is working on its way to fulfilling other commitments underlined under the Paris Climate Agreement.
- India is also moving towards the Mission announced by Prime Minister Modi and the UN Secretary-General in October 2022 called Mission LiFE – Lifestyle for Environment.
- RK Singh will be in charge of the 13th Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

BANKING

Payment Aggregator License to Enkash

- Fintech startup EnKash has got in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a payment aggregator's license.
- The license will enable EnKash to broaden its product offerings to millions of businesses for digital transactions.
- BharatPe and Hitachi Payment Services have also received in-principle authorization to operate as payment aggregators.
- EnKash claims to have assisted 1 lakh businesses to digitize and decentralize their corporate payments.

ECONOMY

India to Become $26 Trillion Economy

- An EY report announced that the Indian economy is likely to reach $26 trillion by the year 2047, which will also be the 100th year of India's independence.
- The report also pointed out that despite maintaining a steady but modest growth rate of 6% per annum, India would still be able to become a $26 trillion economy by 2047–48, with per capita income six times higher than current levels.
- According to the report certain factors have contributed to bring India to a position of high and sustainable growth.
- These include accelerated pace of economic reforms in critical areas such as social inclusion, financial inclusion, fiscal, physical and digital infrastructure.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Lieutenant Governor of Maryland

- Hyderabad-born Aruna Miller has become the first Indian-American politician to be elected as the lieutenant governor of the US state of Maryland.
- Aruna Miller was sworn in as the 10th Lieutenant Governor of the State of Maryland.
- Miller has been a two-term member of the Maryland House of Delegates from 2010 to 2018.

- Aruna Miller got US citizenship in the year 2000.
- Maryland is a state in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States.

Director of National Health Authority

- Praveen Sharma has been appointed as the Director in the National Health Authority (Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Sharma has been appointed to the post under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years.
- Sharma is a 2005 batch Indian Defense Service of Engineers (IDSE) officer.
- The National Health Authority implements India's public health insurance scheme called "Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)".
- NHA was established to implement PM-JAY at the national level.

DEFENCE

‘Vagir’ Inducted into Navy

- The fifth Kalvari class submarine "Vagir" will be commissioned by the Indian Navy on 23 January 2023.
- The 6 Kalvari class submarines are being built in India by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai in collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.
- Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar will attend the event as the chief guest.
- It is capable of attacking underwater or on the surface with torpedoes and tube-launched anti-ship missiles.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

CMPDIL Invents New Dust Control Technology

- Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), Ranchi (a consultancy subsidiary of Coal India Limited) has invented a ‘System and Method for Controlling Generation and Movement of Fugitive Dust’.
- It is to minimize and control the fugitive dust in mining areas.
- The system can be used in mines, thermal power plants, railway sidings, ports, and construction sites wherein coal or other minerals/fugitive materials are stored under the open

sky.

- Apart from reducing dust generation from open sources, it will also provide noise attenuation.
- The invention relates to the synchronized application of windbreak (WB) and vertical greenery system (VGS) for reducing the generation and dispersion of fugitive dust.