DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 28-12-2021

NATIONAL

State Health Index released

- **Niti Aayog** along with the help of **World Bank a**nd **Ministry of Health and Family Affairs** has released a report titled **"Healthy States, Progressive India"**, ranks states and Union Territories on their year-on-year incremental performance in health outcomes as well as their overall status.
- The State Health Index is annual tool to measure the performance of states and UTs. It is a weighted composite index based on **24 indicators** grouped under the domains of **Health Outcomes, Governance and Information** and **Key Inputs/Processes.**
- To ensure comparison among similar entities, the ranking is categorized as 'Larger States', 'Smaller States' and 'Union Territories'.
- In the Category of Health Outcomes, Kerala has topped the list followed by Tamil Nadu and Telangana.
- In the Category annual incremental performance Uttar Pradesh topped the list followed by Assam and Telangana.
- On overall ranking based on the composite index score in 2019–20, the top-ranking states were Kerala and Tamil Nadu among the 'Larger States', Mizoram and Tripura among the 'Smaller States', and DH&DD and Chandigarh among the UTs.

Sudharshini into Gulf Region

- Sail Training Ship **INS Sudarshini**, was deployed to the Gulf as part of Indian Navy's endeavour to enhance maritime cooperation with the friendly navies in the region.
- During the month-long deployment, the ship made port calls at **Muscat, Dubai and Bandar Abbas** and had professional interactions with **Royal Oman Navy (RNO), UAE Navy and Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) Navy**`.

- The Ship built at Goa Shipyard Ltd, showcased indigenous ship building capabilities and revisited India’s historic maritime linkages with the Gulf.
- The ship, during the deployment, undertook various training exchanges, wherein sail training was imparted to trainees from RNO and IRI Navy and sea sorties conducted.
- The ship was visited by high-le
- vel delegations and Indian diaspora during the port calls. Personnel from INS Sudarshini visited naval establishments and ships to share best practices.

PM inaugurates Hydro-power projects

- Prime Minister has Inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of hydropower projects worth over **Rs 11,000 crore** at various parts of Himachal Pradesh.
- He inaugurated **Luhri Stage-1 Hydro electric Power plant**, which is capable of generating power of **210MW.**
- The total project cost was **Rs 1810.56 Crore** and is constructed on **River Sutlej** at **Shimla and Kullu district**
- He also inaugurated **Dhaualasidh Hydro electric Power plant**, which is capable of generating power of **66MW** constructed on Beas River at Hamirpur district.
- The total project cost stood at **Rs 687.97 Crore** and is constructed on **Beas River** at Hamirpur district.
- Prime Minister has also laid foundation stone for the **Renukaji Dam project** in Himachal Pradesh at Giri River in Sirmaur district, Himachal Pradesh the Project will generate 40MW power and estimated cost for the project is **Rs 6,700 crore**.

CDSO approves vaccines and antiviral drug for emergency use

- **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation** has given approval to Corbevax vaccine, Covovax vaccine and anti-viral drug Molnupiravir for restricted use in emergency situations.
- Corbevax vaccine is India's **first** indigenously developed **RBD protein sub-unit** vaccine against COVID-19, made by Hyderabad-based firm Biological-E and It is the third vaccine developed in India.
- The Nanoparticle Vaccine**, Covovax**, will be manufactured by Pune-based firm Serum Institute of India.
- **Molnupiravir** will now be manufactured in the country by **13 companies** for restricted use under emergency situation for treatment of adult patients with COVID-19 and who have high risk of progression of the disease.

INTERNATIONAL

Japan launches dual payload satellite

- Japan has recently launched its **Mitsubhisi Heavy Industries H-2A rocket** that has carried its dual payload satellite **Inmarsat-6F1**.
- The Satellite was designed and manufactured by **Airbus Defence and Space** on the **Eurostar 3000EOR satellite bus**.
- The satellite will be placed at a geosynchronous orbit and it is the first payload satellite capable of operating at both **L-band and KA-band**
- It is claimed to be **the largest and most sophisticated** commercial telecommunications satellite ever launched.

India to Chair Counterterroism Committee of UNSC

- India is set to head the the **Counter-Terrorism Committee** of UNSC in January 2022 after 10 years.
- The Counter-Terrorism Committee was established by Security Council resolution **1373 adopted u**nanimously on 28 September 2001 in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks in the US.
- The Committee was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution **1373** which requested countries to implement a number of measures aimed at enhancing their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home and around the world.
- This includes taking steps to criminalize the financing of terrorism, freezing any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism, deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups, suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists and share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts.
- Besides, the Committee monitors steps taken to cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in terror acts and criminalizes active and passive assistance for terrorism.

BANKING, FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Indusland joins with NPCL

- The **Indusland Bank** has joined hands with the **National Payments Corporation of India** to offer real time cross border remittances to India using **Unified Payment Interface ID's**, for its money tranfer operator partners.
- By this Indusland becomes the **first** Indian bank to transact cross border payments or NRI remittances using UPI.
- Under this arrangement, the **MTOs** will use the IndusInd Bank channel to connect with the NPCI's UPI payment systems for validation and cross-border payment settlement into beneficiary accounts.
- IndusInd Bank has started with **Thailand** for foreign inward remittance (FIR) through UPI by using DeeMoney.
- DeeMoney is a Thailand-based financial solutions provider offering money transfers and foreign currency exchange services.