India, Denmark sign MoU on Intellectual Property cooperation

NATIONAL NEWS

Centre releases first instalment of over Rs. 19,000 Crore for Paddy procurement in three states under MSP Scheme

- National Cooperative Development Corporation, NCDC has sanctioned the first installment funds of Rs. 19, 444 crore to three states (Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Telangana) for Kharif paddy procurement under Minimum Support Price operations.
- Chhattisgarh gets the highest amount to the tune of Rs. 9,000 Crore.
- Telangana has been sanctioned Rs. 5,500 Crores and Haryana Rs. 5,444 Crore.
- This proactive step by NCDC during the COVID pandemic will give the much-needed financial support to farmers of these three state who account for nearly 75% of production of paddy in the country.
- It will provide the much-needed support to farmers to sell their produce at the government notified minimum support price.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates the "Destination North East-2020" Festival

- Union Home Minister and the chairman of the North-East council Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the "Destination North East -2020" through video conferencing on 27 SEP 2020.
- The 'Destination North East-2020', which runs till 30 September, aims to introduce various cultures of the country to each other along with the tourist destinations of the North East.
- Destination North East is a calendar event of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region conceptualized with the objective of taking the North East Region to other parts of the country and bringing them closer together in order to strengthen national integration.
- For Destination North East 2020, the theme is "The Emerging Delightful Destinations".

Javadekar represents India at Ministerial Roundtable Dialogue on Biodiversity Beyond

- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar represented India at the virtual Ministerial Roundtable Dialogue on Biodiversity Beyond 2020: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth.
- The ministerial was hosted by China, one week ahead of the upcoming United Nation Summit on Biodiversity, to exchange views on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.
- Around 15 ministerial representatives from countries with adequate regional representation, as well as the heads from relevant international organizations participated in the event.

India, Denmark sign MoU on Intellectual Property cooperation

- India entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Denmark in the field of Intellectual Property (IP) Cooperation.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) signed the MoU with the Danish Patent and Trademark Office.
- This MoU will go a long way in fostering the cooperation between India and Denmark, and provide opportunities to both countries to learn from the experience of each other, especially in terms of best practices followed in the other country.
- It will be a landmark step forward in India's journey towards becoming a major player in global innovation and further the objectives of National IPR Policy, 2016.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

World Bank approves 200 million dollar loan for safe water & sanitation in Bangladesh

- The World Bank (WB) has approved a 200 million dollar loan for Bangladesh to improve access to safe water and sanitation services in the rural areas of the country.
- The Bangladesh Rural Water, Sanitation and Hygiene project will help 6 lakh people to have access to clean water through piped water schemes in rural areas.
- The project will also provide sanitation services to over 3.6 million rural people in Bangladesh.
- The project will help prevent diseases and protect from pandemics like COVID 19 by providing better access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities at homes and in public places.
- The project will also help in setting up more than 2500 handwashing stations in public places with overhead tanks for running water and sanitation facilities.
- The 30-year concessional credit has a five-year grace period, which comes from the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) and Bangladesh currently has the largest ongoing IDA program totaling over USD 13.5 billion.

Fact: World Bank Headquarters - Washington, D.C., United States

President of World Bank - David Malpass

ADB approves USD 570 mn loans for urban projects in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Friday said it has approved two loans totalling USD 570 million for urban sector projects in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.
- In which about USD 300 million loan has been approved to finance inclusive water supply and sanitation infrastructure and services in secondary towns of Rajasthan.
- The project is expected to build citywide access for improved water supply services for around 5,70,000 people and enhanced sanitation services for about 7,20,000 people in at least 14 secondary towns.
- In addition, has approved a USD 270 million loan for construction of water supply and integrated storm water and sewage management infrastructure in Madhya Pradesh.

BANKING NEWS

Axis Bank partners with Bayer's BLF initiative in India

- Life sciences firm Bayer has collaborated with private sector lender Axis Bank for its better life farming (BLF) initiative in India.
- The collaboration to provide enhanced and holistic financial solutions to smallholder farmers and rural farming communities.
- Through the partnership, Axis Bank will offer end-to-end financial solutions and services such as affordably priced loans, deposits, withdrawals and payments, Bayer.
- Digital financial solutions and doorstep delivery of these services will be part of the bank's offering to ensure convenient and hassle-free transactions.

Fact: Axis Bank headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra

Chairman of Axis Bank - Rakesh Makhija

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Tourism Day - 27 September

- Ministry of Tourism celebrated World Tourism Day through virtual platform.
- The United Nations World Tourism Organization has celebrated World Tourism Day as international observances on September 27 since 1980.
- Its purpose is to foster awareness among the international community of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic value.
- This year United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) has designated 2020 as the Year of Tourism and Rural Development.