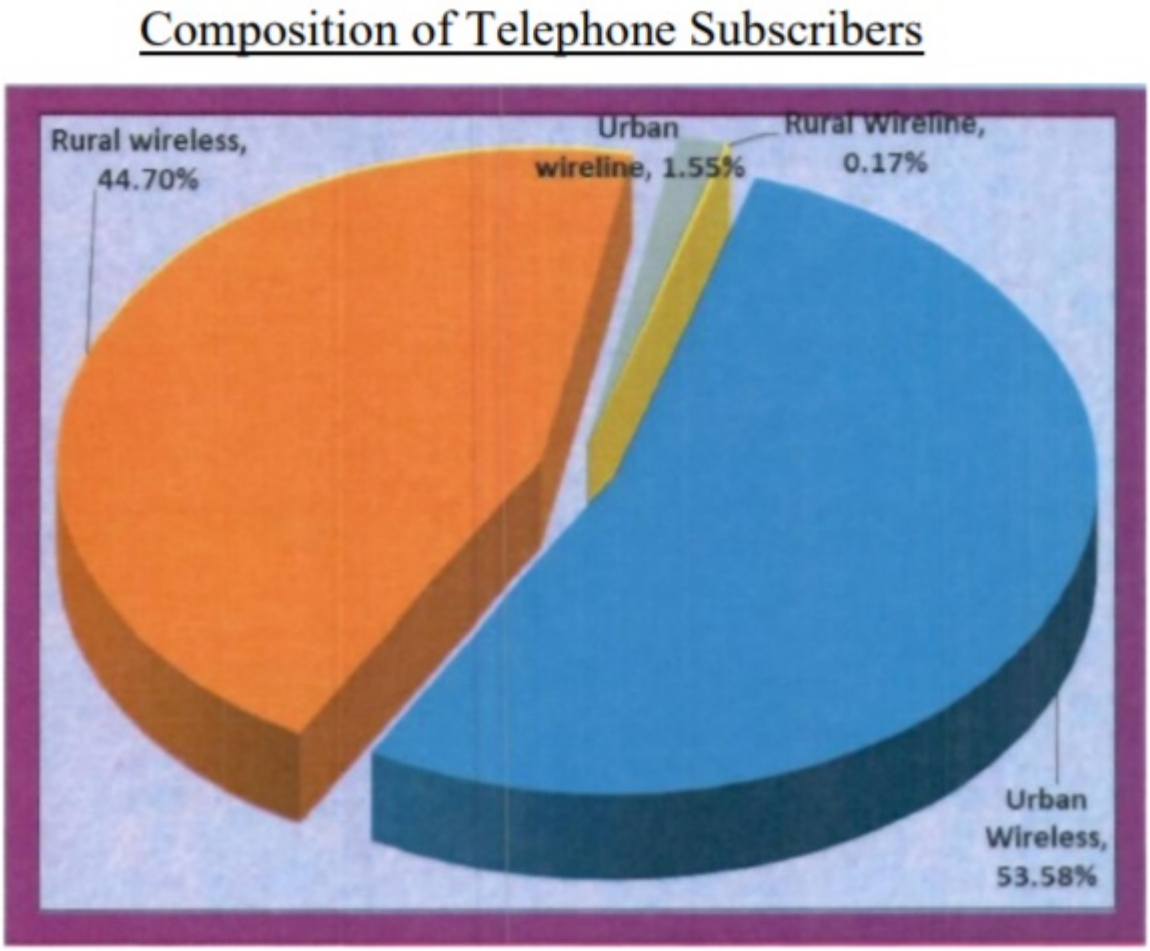
India sends COVID vaccine to Nepal - 'Vaccine Maitri' Initiative

NATIONAL NEWS

Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report



- Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report was released by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the Quarter ending July - September 2020.
- This Report provides a broad perspective of the Telecom Services in India and presents the key parameters and growth trends of the Telecom Services as well as Cable TV, DTH & Radio Broadcasting services in India
- According to the report, the overall Tele-density in India also increased from 85.85% as in QE Jun-20 to 86.22% as in QE Sep-20.
- Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is a statutory authority under Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications.

Indian Army Signs MoU with SIDM on Indigenisation and Innovation Partnership

- An MoU between the Indian Army & Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) was signed on 21 January 2021 to provide stimulus to indigenisation to achieve strategic independence by reducing dependence on foreign origin equipment.
- This MoU was signed on the occasion of 25 Years of Army-Industry Partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- With the signing of MoU with SIDM, Indian Army has reiterated it's firm resolve towards achieving self-reliance by supporting and handholding indigenous defence industry.
- Army Design Bureau (ADB) has been established to act as a direct facilitator with the industry and thereby connect the defence manufacturers directly with the user

7th Edition of MASCRADE 2021 organized by FICCI

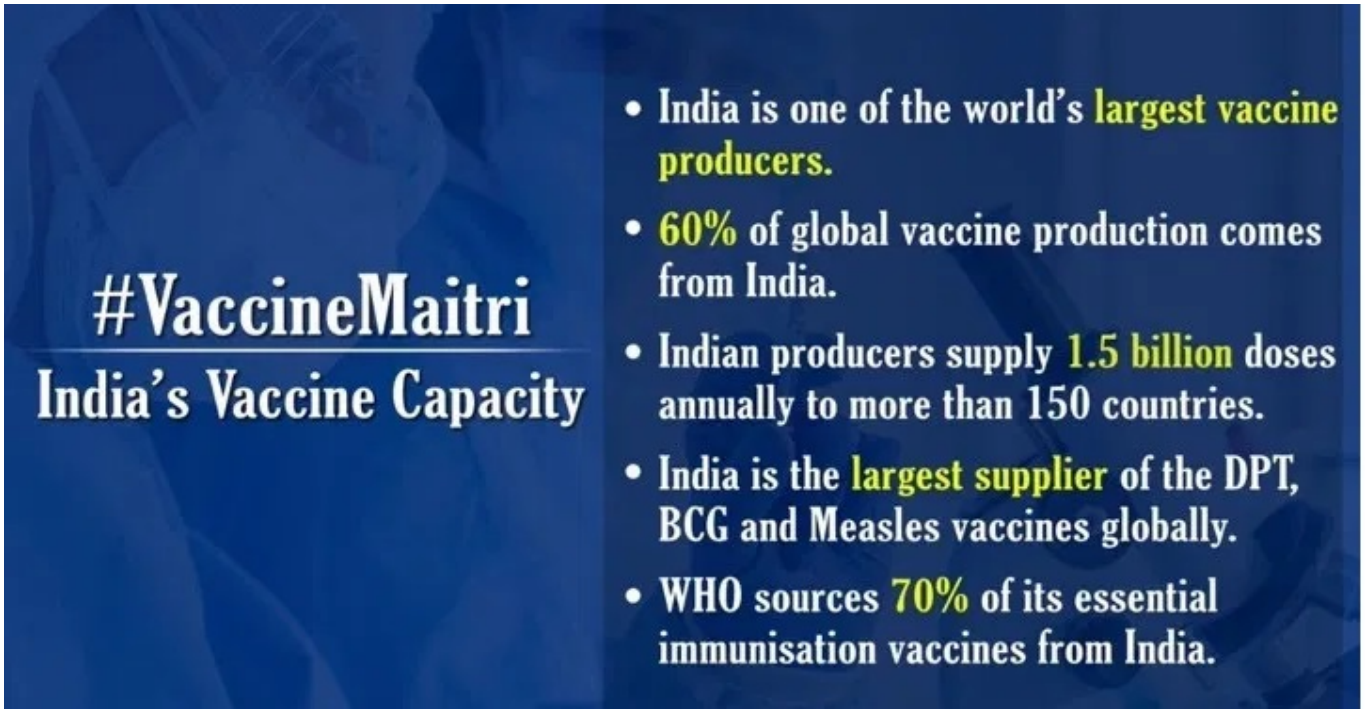
- Union Minister of Health and Family welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the 7th Edition of MASCRADE 2021 (Movement against Smuggled & Counterfeit Trade) organized by FICCI on 21st January 2021.
- MASCRADE is an event to deliberate and discuss actionable, innovative policy solutions that can reverse the rising tide of counterfeit, smuggled and spurious products.
- FICCI MASCRADE is also held for recognizing the work of the law enforcement agencies and felicitating the best performing officers each year for their outstanding achievement in the prevention of counterfeiting and smuggling, and enforcement of anti-smuggling and anti-counterfeiting laws.

Training for Joint Operation in Andaman Sea: Exercise Kavach

- A large scale Joint Military exercise 'Exercise Kavach' involving Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and Indian Coast Guard is going to be conducted in the next week.
- The exercise will be conducted under the aegis of the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), the only Joint Forces Command of the country.
- The exercise involves synergised application of maritime surveillance assets, coordinated air and maritime strikes, air defence, submarine and landing operations.
- The tri-services exercise aims to fine tune joint war-fighting capabilities and SOPs towards enhancing operational synergy.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India sends COVID vaccine to Nepal - 'Vaccine Maitri' Initiative



- India has sent 1 million doses of a COVID vaccine to Nepal as a gift under the 'Vaccine Maitri' Initiative.
- India will supply Made-in-India Covid-19 vaccines to its neighboring and key partner countries Under its Neighborhood First policy.
- Bhutan and Maldives will be the first to get the vaccines followed by Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar and Seychelles.

BUSINESS NEWS

Acquisition of Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited by Flipkart Investments Private Limited

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves acquisition of a minority stake in Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (ABFRL) by Flipkart Investments Private Limited (FIPL).
- FIPL is a newly incorporated company and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Flipkart Private Limited (FPL). FPL belongs to the Walmart Group.
- ABFRL is a public limited company incorporated in India and is part of the Aditya Birla conglomerate.
- The proposed combination relates to acquisition by FIPL of a minority shareholding of 7.8%, on a fully diluted basis in ABFRL, by way of subscription equity shares.

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