India signs Strategic Partnership Agreement with International Energy Agency

NATIONAL NEWS

PM chairs 35th PRAGATI interaction

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today chaired the meeting of 35th edition of PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation), involving Central and State governments.
- PRAGATI is an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) platform existing in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), that reviews and monitors various Government Projects across the country.
- Nine projects were reviewed which have a cumulative cost of Rs. 54,675 crore concerning the 15 states.
- The Prime Minister also reviewed the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana.
- The primary aims of PRAGATI platform:
    - Project implementation
    - Project monitoring
    - Grievance redressal
- The PRAGATI platform was launched in 2015.

Family Planning 2020: Celebrating Progress, Transforming for the future – Event

- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, on 26th January, digitally addressed a high-level virtual event titled "Family Planning 2020: Celebrating Progress, Transforming for the future", through Video Conference.
- The purpose of this event was to celebrate the FP-2020 partnership, the release of the Annual Progress Report for 2019-2020, and kick off the commitment process for the next phase of the partnership.
- He said that India has witnessed an impressive decline in fertility and maternal mortality in the last few years.
- The overall aim is to plan and implement this refurbished approach with the vision that every child is wanted, every birth is safe, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

MoU between Textiles Committee of India and Nissenken Quality Evaluation Centre, Japan

- A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Textiles Committee under Union Ministry of Textiles of India and M/s. Nissenken Quality Evaluation Centre Japan, through video conferencing on 27th January 2021.
- The main objective of the MoU is to provide required support to textile's trade and industry for ensuring quality as per the requirement of Japanese buyers through Testing, Inspection & Conformity Assessment, Training & Capacity Building, Research & Development (R&D) and Consultancy.
- It is expected that the MoU will strengthen the bilateral trade by enhancing India's export of Textile and Apparels (T&A) to Japan.
- The Textiles Committee was established in the year 1963 by an Act of Parliament and is a statutory body under the Ministry of Textiles with a mandate, inter alia, to ensure quality of all textiles and textile products for domestic and export markets.
- M/s Nissenken Quality Evaluation Centre is one of the leading Testing and Inspection organizations in Japan established in 1948

India signs Strategic Partnership Agreement with International Energy Agency

- The Framework for Strategic Partnership between the International Energy Agency (IEA) members and the Government of India was signed on 27th January, 2021
- The agreement was signed to strengthen mutual trust and cooperation & enhance global energy security, stability and sustainability.
- The IEA Secretariat will be responsible for implementation of the cooperative activities in India and for facilitating discussion between the IEA Members and India to further develop the Strategic Partnership.

Facts on IEA:

- Established on: 1974
- Founders: Members of OECD
- Headquarters: Paris, France

BUSINESS NEWS

Future Investment Initiative Forum

- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare addressed the 4th edition of the Future Investment Initiative Forum, here 27TH January 2021 through Video Conference.

- The Future Investment Initiative (FII) is an annual investment forum held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to discuss trends in the world economy and investment environment.
- The purpose of the forum was to find solutions on how business and government can expand access to healthcare, train healthcare workers, remove regulatory barriers and encourage investment in advanced health technologies.
- The first event held in October 2017.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Customs Day

- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) observed the International Customs Day, on 27th January 2021.
- The theme of International Customs Day 2021 is "Customs bolstering Recovery, Renewal and Resilience for a sustainable supply chain", set by World Customs Organisation.