Indian Railways renamed train as Netaji Express

NATIONAL NEWS

2nd Edition of India Innovation Index 2020

- Niti Aayog released the 2nd edition of India Innovation Index 2020 on 20th January 2021.
- The index illustrates that India is on the right path and the states are endeavouring to improve their innovative ecosystem.
- In the 2020 ranking, Karnataka retained its first position in the Major States category. Maharashtra moved one position higher and stood at 2nd spot while Tamil Nadu slid to 3rd position.
- In the North East and Hill States category, Himachal Pradesh stands at first position followed by Uttarakhand and Manipur.
- Delhi stands at the first position while Chandigarh retained its second spot in the Union Territories and small States category.

Facts:

- Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog: Rajiv Kumar

Cabinet approves the Investment Proposal of Ratle Hydro Power Plant

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has approved for the investment in 850 MW Ratle Hydro Electric (HE) Project located on river Chenab.
- The project is costed of Rs.5281.94 crore to be developed in in Kishtwar district of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

R&D Portal for Research Projects in Food Processing Sector launched

- First Ever Virtual Expo 2021 for R&D in Processed Food Sector Inaugurated by Minister of State for Food Processing Industry Shri Rameswar Teli.
- He also launched the R&D portal which will be available to all stakeholders.
- Research undertaken by institutions across the country will be available on this portal. About 200 research projects are available on the portal.

Indian Railways renamed train as Netaji Express

- Ministry of Railways has rechristened the name of Train No. 12311/12312 Howrah-Kalka Mail as “Netaji Express”.
- The Howrah-Kalka Mail is running between Howrah (Eastern Railway) and Kalka (Northern Railway) via Delhi.
- It is a very popular and one of the oldest trains of Indian Railways

INTERNTIONAL NEWS

India-EU IPR Dialogue

- The first India-EU IPR dialogue was held on 14th January 2021 virtually between The EU Commission and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.
- The main aim is to strengthen the relation and facilitate enhanced cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.
- The aim was to set forth the National IPR Policy 2016.

Fact about EU:

- Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium
- Founded: 1 November 1993
- Founders: Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg
- Members: 27 countries

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Uzbekistan

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was apprised of signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Uzbekistan for cooperation in the field of Solar Energy.
- The main area of work under is to identify research/demonstration/pilot projects in:
- Solar Photovoltaic
- Storage Technologies
- Transfer of Technology

Facts:

- Geographical location: Central Asia
- Borders: 5 countries – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Turkmenistan.
- Capital: Tashkent
- Currency: Uzbek som

5TH India – Singapore Defence Ministers' Dialogue

- The 5th Defence Ministers' Dialogue (DMD) between India and Singapore was successfully held on 20 January 2021 through a video conference
- Implementing Agreement on Submarine Rescue Support and Cooperation between the two Navies was signed by the Ministers of both countries
- The dialogue was attended by the Union Minister for Defence, Shri Rajnath Singh and Dr Ng Eng Hen, Minister for Defence of the Republic of Singapore.

BUSINESS NEWS

First Consultative meeting held on Asset Monetization

- The first consultative meeting on asset monetization was held ON 20TH January 2021, organized by Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) in partnership with World Bank.
- Asset monetization is a stated objective of the Government and DIPAM is mandated to facilitate monetization of non-core public assets.
- The monetization process is complex and requires close cooperation and collaboration with all stakeholders.