Iran ignores India, starts work on Chabahar-Zahedan railway project

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iran ignores India, starts work on Chabahar-Zahedan railway project

- Iran dropped India from the significant Chabahar rail project citing that India shows irresponsible and **delayed funding** to this ambitious plan of India.
- Iran's Chabahar port is the only deep seaport and India's gateway to central Asia, which was inaugurated in **2017**.
- For this, India needed to develop better connectivity to the port - enter the Chabahar-Zahedan railway line, the 628-km-long track connecting the port to Zahedan.
- The roots for this rift between two countries comes from the US sanctions on Iran, which affected the **IRCON-Iranian Rail Ministry** MoU for the construction of the Chabahar-Zahedan rail project.
- Now china gained this situation against India by finalising a **$400 billion strategic partnership** deal with Iran in favour of it.

Fact: Chabahar-Zahedan railway project is a trilateral agreement between **India-Iran-Afghanistan.**

President of Iran - **Hassan Rouhani**.

UN report says 8.9% of the world's population, went hungry in 2019

- UN's annual report on **"The state of food security and nutrition in the world- Tansforming food systems for affordable healthy diets"** states that 8.9% of the world's population, which is approximately 690 million people, went hungry in 2019.
- Which ultimately reveals that the present count is an **increase of 10 million since 2018 and of nearly 60 million since 2014.**
- The report has been prepared by **five UN agencies**, namely

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

World Food Programme (WFP)

World Health Organization (WHO)

Fact: Headquarters of UN – **New York, USA.**

Pangolin Scale Seizure Jumps to 10 times in 4 years: UNODC report

- The **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime** (UNODC) has released its **"World Wildlife Crime Report"** for the year 2020.
- In which it states that, Pangolins the most trafficked animal in the earth being seized for its scales has jumped to 10 times in between 2014 to 2018.
- Pangolins scales has more **medicinal values**, which are used to treat physical and psychological ailments.
- **Nigeria and china** are the two countries, which accounts for 99% legal trade on their scale.

Fact: UNODC headquarters – **Vienna, Austria**

ECONOMIC NEWS

Mukesh Ambani becomes World's 6th richest man - Bloomberg Billionaires Index

- Bloomberg Billionaires Index has ranked the chairman of **Reliance Industries Ltd(RIL)**, Mukesh Ambani as the World's 6th richest man with a worth USD 72.4 billion.
- With this he surpassed **Elon Musk**, co-founder & CEO of Tesla and Alphabet Inc. co-founders, **Sergey Brin and Larry Page.**
- The **Jeff Bezos (US)**, CEO of Amazon has ranked the 1st position followed by **Bill Gates** (US) and **Bernard Arnault** (France) in the 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

NATIONAL NEWS

NABARD organised a 'digital choupal' to mark its 39th Foundation Day

- **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development** (NABARD) has organised a **"digital choupal"** a video conferencing for getting all the farmers associated with NABARD for the past 7 years in all the development projects.
- This was organised during the celebration of NABARD's **39th foundation day**.
- During which NABARD has announced funding for two schemes they are as follows
- Rs 5,000 crore of **refinance scheme for banks and financial institutions** for supporting the beneficiaries of 2150 **watershed management projects.**
- Rs 5,000 cr for turning **Primary Agricultural Credit services into multi service centres** for providing continuous credit support to their farmers.

Fact: headquarters of NABARD – **Mumbai**

APPOINTMENTS

Hemang Amin Appointed as the Interim CEO of BCCI

- Hemang Amin is appointed as the Interim CEO of BCCI following the **resignation of Rahul Johri.**
- He is currently serving as the **Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Indian Premier League (IPL).**

Fact: BCCI – **Board of Control for Cricket in India**

President of BCCI – **Saurav Ganguly**

Headquarters of BCCI – **Mumbai**, **Maharashtra**