Lalandar "Shatoot" Dam in Afghanistan

NATIONAL NEWS

51ST Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu – Cabinet Approved

- The union cabinet has approved the status of Tiger reserve for the two wildlife sanctuaries in Tamil Nadu.
- The Meghamalai Wildlife Sanctuary is spread across the districts of Madurai and Theni, and the Srivilliputhur Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary lies along the Kerala's Periyar Tiger Reserve.
- This is the 5th Tiger Reserve of the State.
- The field research says that, the population of the tigers in this region could be around 14.

MoU between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)

- An MoU was signed between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, to create awareness for energy efficient pumpsets and operational practices so as to adopt energy and resource efficient approaches.
- The advantages of this MoU are:
    - Awareness on energy efficiency and conservation in agricultural practices
    - Improving fuel efficiency and water resource use efficiency

Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs) – A New Scheme Launched

- The union government has launched a new scheme "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)"
- Government has allocated ₹ 6865 crore for this scheme for the formation and promotion of FPOs through implementing agencies named "Cluster- Based Business Organizations (CBBOs)".
- FPOs will be provided financial assistance upto Rs 18 lakh per FPO for a period of three years.
- This will enhance cost-effective production and productivity and higher net incomes to the members of the FPO.

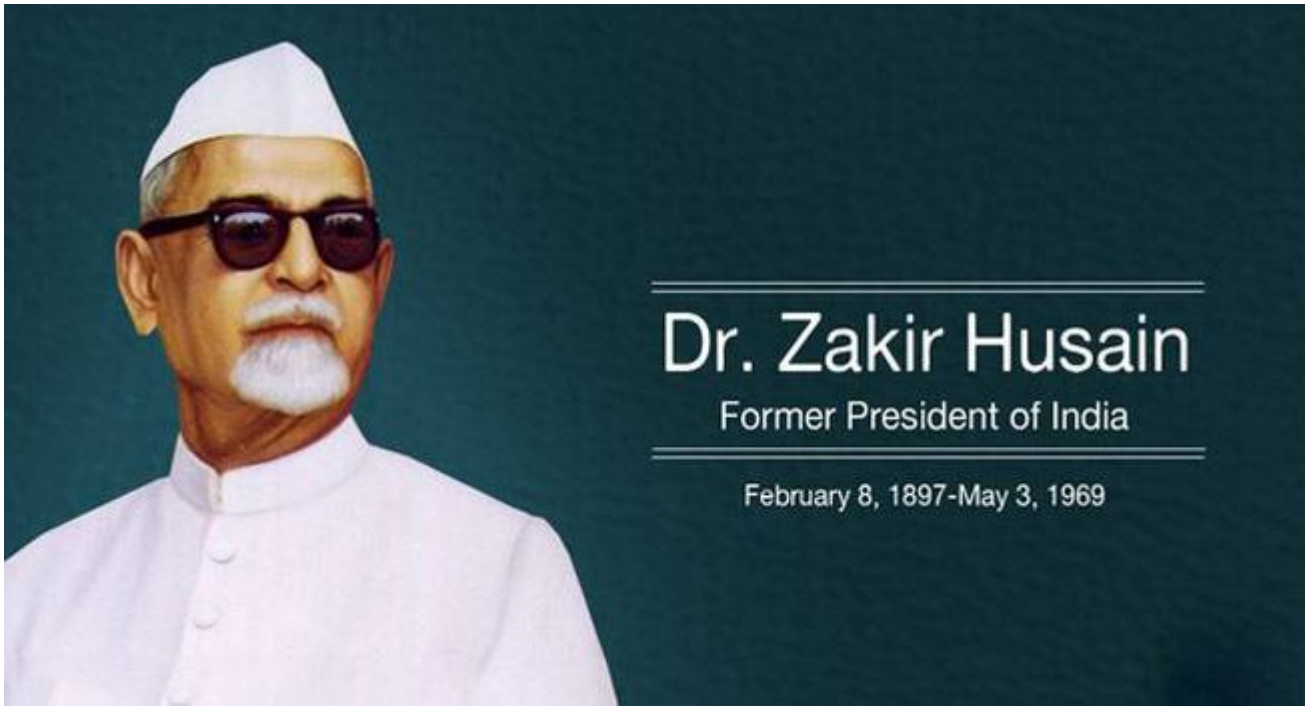
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Lalandar "Shatoot" Dam in Afghanistan

- India and Afghanistan have signed an MoU on 9th Febraury, 2021, for the construction of Lalandar (Shatoot) Dam in Afghanistan.
- The project is a part of the New Development Partnership between India and Afghanistan.
- The Lalander [Shatoot] Dam would meet the safe drinking water needs of Kabul City, facilitate irrigation and drainage network, aid in flood protection and management efforts and electricity to the region.
- This is the second major dam being built by India in Afghanistan, after the India- Afghanistan Friendship Dam (Salma Dam).
- Salma Dam was inaugurated in June 2016.

ANNIVERSARY

Dr. Zakir Hussain



- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, paid homage to Dr Zakir Hussain, former President of India, on the occasion of his birth anniversary at Rashtrapati Bhavan on February 8, 2021.
- Zakir Husain Khan was an Indian economist and politician who served as the third President of India, from 13 May 1967 until his death on 3 May 1969.

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