Launching the Broadband Readiness Index for Indian States and Union Territories (2019-2022)

NATIONAL NEWS

National Digital Health Blueprint report in the Public domain

- Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare released the **National Digital Health Blueprint (NDHB) report** in the public domain for inputs from various stakeholders
- Speaking at the event, the Union Health Minister appealed to all the stakeholders to provide their valuable feedback and inputs to make this digital revolution in healthcare more inclusive and collaborative and to help Government in building a stronger nation as a collective endeavour.
- The vision of NDHB is to create a **National Digital Health Eco-system that supportsUniversal Health Coverage** in an efficient, accessible, inclusive, affordable, timely and safe manner, through provision of a wide-range of data, information and infrastructure services, duly leveraging open, interoperable, standards-based digital systems, and ensuring the security, confidentiality and privacy of health-related personal information.

FACTS

Union Health Minister of India- Dr Harsh Vardhan

Govt to increase coal production to one billion tone by 2022-23

- There is a plan to increase the total production of coal in the country to **one billion tone** by **2022-23.**
- The gap between **demand and supply** of coal cannot be bridged completely as there is insufficient domestic availability of coking coal. however, added that all India raw coal production has increased its production from over **462 Metric tonnesin 2013-14** to around **730 metric tonnes in 2018-19.**
- The Minister asked members to bring to his notice any instances of illegal mining or violation of environmental norms by mining companies so that his ministry can act against them in consultation with the respective states.
- further added that 14 dedicated corridors are being developed for the transportation of coal and plans are being made to improve transportation of coal through conveyor belts.

FACTS

Union Coal Ministry of India-Prahlad Joshi

India, Uzbekistan exchange views on combating terror financing

- India and Uzbekistan exchanged views on **current counter-terrorism challenges** including combating terror financing during the **eighth meeting of India-Uzbekistan JointWorking**

Group on Counter-Terrorism.

- The meeting was co-chaired by Mahaveer Singhvi, the Ministry of External AffairsJoint Secretary for Counter-Terrorism and Ambassador Farhod Azriev of Uzbekistan.
- The Joint Working Group reviewed threats posed by terrorist groups worldwide and in their respective regions including cross border terrorism.

- The two sides exchanged views on current counter-terrorism challenges including countering radicalisation, combating the financing of terrorism, preventing the use of the internet for terrorist purposes and return foreign terrorist fighters.
- They also deliberated upon measures to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the sphere of counter-terrorism through information sharing, mutual capacity building and sharing of best practices. Cooperation in multilateral fora including UN, SCO-RATS and EAG was also discussed.
- The next meeting of the Joint Working Group will be held in Uzbekistan on a mutually convenient date.

FACTS

Uzbekistan Capital-Tashkent

Uzbekistan Currency-Uzbekistani Som

Launching the Broadband Readiness Index for Indian States and Union Territories (2019-2022)



- The Department of Telecom (DoT) and the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop a Broadband Readiness Index (BRI) for Indian States and Union Territories (UT).
- The first estimate will be made in 2019 and subsequently every year until 2022.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Sign of deepening military ties as China 'gifts' Sri Lanka a warship

- In what marks a sign of deepening military ties between **Sri Lanka and China, Beijing** has 'gifted' a warship to Colombo. According to an agency report, the frigate — **'P625' arrived in**

Colombo.

- The frigate was commissioned into the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy as Tongling in 1994. the warship was decommissioned in 2015 and has been gifted to Sri Lankan Navy after a refit.

FACTS

SriLanka-Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte

SriLanka Currency- SriLankan Rupee

ECONOMY AND FINANCE

Centre cuts interest on GPF by 10 bps to 7.9 per cent



- The interest rate on the **general provident fund** (GPF) has been cut by **10 basis** points (bps) to **7.9 per cent** from **8 per cent** with effect from July 1.
- Finance Ministry has cut the rate of general provident fund (GPF) by 10 basis points from 8 per cent to 7.9 per cent effective from July 1.
- During the year 2019-2020, accumulations at the credit of subscribers to the GPF and others similar funds shall carry interest at the rate of 7.9 per cent with effect from July 1, 2019 to 30th September 2019. This rate will be in force with effect from July 1, 2019.

APPOINTMENT

Former SC Justice AK Sikri Appointed as International Judge of Singapore International Commercial Court



- The former Supreme Court Justice **AK Sikri** has been appointed as an international judge of the prestigious Singapore International Commercial Court.
- Sikri has been appointed to the post from 1 August this year by the President of the Republic of Singapore. The former SC judge's term will expire on 4 January 2021.
- **The SICC, a division of the Singapore High Court and a part of the Supreme Court of the country,** has been designed to deal with transnational commercial disputes. Currently, **the SICC has 16 international judges as part of its panel.**
- Sikri has previously also served as the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, and as the acting Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. He had been appointed as a judge at the Delhi High Court in 1999. He served in the SC for six years after his elevation to the apex court in April 2013.

FACTS

Capital of Singapore-Pulau Ujong,

Currency of Singapore-Singapore Dollar

Anusuiya Uikeyappointed GovernorAndhra Pradesh



- **Rajya Sabha member Anusuiya Uikey** has been appointed as Governor of Chhattisgarh
- President Ram Nath Kovind finalized her name by a formal order issued by Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Newly appointed **governor of Chhattisgarh Anusuiya** Uikey is an elected MP in Rajya Sabha from Madhya Pradesh.
- She has replaced **Anandiben Patel,** who as Governor of Madhya Pradesh was also holding the additional charge of Chhattisgarh due to sudden demise of Chhattisgarh Governor Balram Das Tandon on August 2018.
- She was previously holding the post of Minister of Women and Child Development in the Madhya Pradesh government.
- She became a member of the national commission for women in year 2000.
- At Social Work front she has also done her best efforts for awareness of the rights of tribal women. She was leading a campaign for tribal women's empowerment. Anusuiya Uikey is the **first tribalwomen** to hold the post of Governor of Chhattisgarh since the formation of state in 2000.

FACTS

Madhya Pradesh Capital- Bhopal

National Park-Bandhavgarh National Park,Fossil National Park,Kanha National Park

SPORTS

Vijayveer wins his 3rd gold at Junior Shooting World Cup



- **Vijayveer Sidhu** picked up his third gold medal of the ongoing ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany, combining with **Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu** and **Adarsh Singh** to clinch the men's 25m pistol event.
- For Adarsh, it was his second gold of the competition.
- India maintained its top spot at the medal standings after day three with 7 gold 7 Silver and 2 Bronze in a total of 16 medals won so far. **China is second** with 5 Gold 3 Silver and 5 bronze.
- The day's second medal came in the men's 10m Air Rifle with the trio of Hriday Hazarika, Yash Vardhan and Paarth Makhija winning the team silver with a combined score of 1877.4, which was just 0.4 less than the gold-winning Chinese team's score.
- Junior world champion Hriday, however, endured heartbreak in the 10m Air Rifle individual competition as he slides down to fourth finishing on a score of 207.3.
- **Russian Grigoril Shamakov** won gold with a score of 250.

STAGE SET FOR COMMONWEALTH TABLE TENNIS AT CUTTACK



- The spirits of the organizers of the **21st Commonwealth Table Tennis** Championships, at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in **Cuttack, Odisha.**
- The stage is all set and the organizers ready to welcome participants, officials and delegates from Australia, Bangladesh, Cyprus, England, Ghana, Guyana, Malaysia, Nigeria, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Wales that will descend on at the Bhubaneswar airport.
- The **21st edition that India hosts at Cuttack would mark the 50th anniversary,** after the seeds were sown at a meeting staged in Munich at the 1969 World Championships.

FACTS

Chief Minister of Odisha- Naveen Patnaik

Governor-Ganeshi Lal

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