“Muslim Women Rights Day” organised at National Commission for Minorities office in New Delhi

NATIONAL NEWS

Khadi and Village Industries Commission signs MoU to supply mustard oil to ITBP

- The **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to supply mustard oil to **Indo-Tibetan Boarder Police (ITBP).**
- This is to encourage paramilitary forces in supporting Local Products in strengthening the initiatives towards Making India **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.**
- The ITBP is the connecting agency appointed by MHA for the procurement of provisions on behalf of all paramilitary forces.
- Ministry of Home Affairs has made mandatory to sell only Swadeshi products through the CAPF canteens across India.

Fact: Headquarters of KVIC – **Mumbai**

Union Minister of Home Affairs - **Amit Shah**

15th Finance Commission’s HLEG on Agricultural Exports submits report

- The **High Level Group (HLEG)** on Agricultural Exports set up by the Fifteenth Finance Commission has submitted its report to the Commission.
- The HLEG has been formed mainly for the Agricultural sector to recommend on the exports and imports.
- After intensive research and consultations from stakeholders and the private sector, the HLEG has made its recommendations.
- The key recommendations are:

Focus on 22 crop value chains – demand driven approach.

Solve Value Chain Clusters (VCC) holistically with focus on value addition.

Create State led export plan with participation from stakeholders.

Private Sector should play an anchor role.

Centre should be an enabler.

Robust institutional mechanism to fund and support implementation.

Fact: Union Minister of Agriculture - **Narendra Singh Tomar**

"Muslim Women Rights Day" organised at National Commission for Minorities office in New Delhi

- Union Minister for Minority Affairs Shri **Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi** has organised the **"Muslim Women Rights Day"** at National Commission for Minorities office in New Delhi.
- To commemorate the day, which made Muslim women free from social evil of **Triple Talaq**, August 1st is remembered as "Muslim Women Rights Day".
- The law which makes social evil of Triple Talaq a criminal offence has strengthened "self-reliance, self-respect and self-confidence" of the Muslim women of the country.

Fact: Union Minister for Minority Affairs - **Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi**

M/o Tribal Affairs receives SKOCH Gold Award for its "Empowerment of Tribals through IT enabled Scholarship Schemes"

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs has received SKOCH Gold Award for its **"Empowerment of Tribals through IT enabled Scholarship Schemes"** project of Scholarship Divison of the Ministry.
- SKOCH Award, **instituted in 2003**, is the highest civilian honour in the country conferred by an independent organisation. It is the highest independently instituted civilian honour conferred for the extraordinary achievements of individuals or institutions in contributing to the society.
- The SKOCH Award covers the best of efforts in the area of digital, financial and social inclusion.
- **"INDIA RESPONDS TO COVID THROUGH DIGITAL GOVERNANCE"** - is the title for the 66th SKOCH 2020 Competition.

Fact: Union Minister of tribal Affairs - **Arjun Munda**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Nasa Mars rover 2020: "Perseverance" robot launches to detect life on Red Planet

- The United States 5th Mars Mission "Mars 2020" initiated by NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) has launched the biggest Mars rover named "**Perseverance**" to detect the life on the red planet.
- This was lifted off by **United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V 541 rocket** from **Florida's Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, United States (US).**
- The rover will land on **Jezero Crater of Mars** on Feb. 18, 2021, the Mars Mission 2020 worth is about **$2.7 billion.**
- The project aimed to seek signs of ancient life and collect first Martian rock and soil samples for possible return to Earth for analyzing and will be retrieved during future missions in 2031.
- This US launch is the **third Mars launch this month**, following launches by the **United Arab Emirates and China.**

Fact: Headquarters of NASA - **Washington, D.C., United States**

ECONOMIC NEWS

ADB signs Dollar 200 million financing deal with Reliance for power plant in Bangladesh

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a deal worth **Dollar 200 million** with the **Reliance Bangladesh LNG and Power Limited (RBLPL)** to finance, build and operate a **718-megawatt combined-cycle gas-fired power plant** in Bangladesh.
- The aim of the project is to meet the energy shortages in the country and to drive further private sector investments in the country's power sector.
- The financing deal has two components of dollar 100 million each. While ADB will provide dollar 100 million, it will also administer the other part worth dollar 100 million from **the Leading Asia's Private Infrastructure Fund (LEAP).**
- The plant proposed to be located on land allotted by **Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB),** in Meghnaghat, Narayanganj District near Dhaka.

Fact: Headquarters of ADB - **Mandaluyong, Philippines**

President of ADB - **Masatsugu Asakawa**

Bangladesh Prime Minister - **Sheikh Hasina Wazed**

Bangladesh President - **Abdul Hamid**

Craft Silicon & PayU Partnered to Advance Digital Loan Repayment Solutions

- **Craft Silicon, a global financial software solution provider** has collaborated with **PayU, India's online payment solutions provider** to accelerate the digital loan repayment solutions for small finance banks, micro-lending institutions and Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).
- The collaboration mainly mains on exploring a secured digital payment platform.

Fact: Head Office of Craft Silicon - **Nairobi, Kenya**

Headquarters of PayU – **Netherlands**

APPOINTMENTS

Varun Sridhar appointed as the New CEO of Paytm Money

- Varun Sridhar is appointed as the New Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm Money, the subsidiary of **One97 Communication Ltd.**
- He replaces **Pravin Jadhav** after his resignation.
- He will lead the launch and development of equity development and the mutual funds, NPS and Gold Services.
- Varun earlier served as the CEO of **FinShell India**.

Fact: Headquarters of Paytm Money – **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.