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NATIONAL NEWS

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- Vice President Venkaiah Naidu launched the virtual festival – "Parampara Series 2020-National Festival of Music and Dance"
- The art festival was jointly organised by Natya Tarangini and United Nations to coincide with the World Day for Audio – Visual Heritage.

National Conference on Vigilance and Anti-Corruption

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated National Conference on Vigilance and Anti-Corruption in the event of National Vigilance Awareness Week.
- The main theme of the conference is "Vigilant India, Prosperous India".
- The event was organized by the Central Bureau of Investigation focusing on Vigilance issues aimed at raising awareness and reaffirming India's commitment to promotion of integrity and probity in public life through citizen participation.
- CBI is neither a Constitutional body nor a Statutory body. It derives its powers from Delhi Special Police Establishment Act 1946.

Facts:

- Director of CBI: Rishi Kumar Shukla

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India – US 2+2 Dialogue

- The third bilateral two plus two dialogue in the Ministerial level between India and US was held on 28th October 2020.
- The meeting was attended by Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with their US counterparts US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defence Mark Esper.
- In the 2+2 dialogue, the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) was signed.
- The agreement allows India to use global geospatial maps of the United States for accuracy of stand-off weapons like cruise and ballistic missiles.

India – US agreement on Postal Services

- Department of Posts, Government of India (India Post) and United States Postal Service (USPS) have entered into an agreement for Electronic Exchange of Customs data related to postal shipments exchanged between the two countries.
- The agreement will make it possible to transmit and receive electronic data of international postal items prior to their physical arrival at the destination and would enable customs clearance of postal items in advance in line with the evolving global postal framework. This will also improve the performance of postal services in terms of reliability, visibility and security
- The primary objective that will be served by this agreement is to facilitate 'ease of exports' for small and large exporters through postal channels from different parts of the country and will contribute towards making India an Export Hub for the world.

BUSINESS NEWS

International Financial Services Centres Authority Approved Two Regulations

- In the meeting of International Financial Services Centres Authority board, two regulations were passed.
- International Financial Services Centres Authority (Bullion Exchange) Regulations, 2020
    - The Bullion Exchange Regulations envisage to provide an integrated platform for all the market intermediaries including trading members/ clearing members, bullion depositories, vault managers, etc. so as to facilitate transparency and traceability in the bullion market and standardisation of bullion contracts.
- International Financial Services Centres Authority (Global In-House Centres - GIC) Regulations, 2020
    - Government of India, on the recommendation of IFSCA, had notified Global In-House Centres (GIC) as financial service to provide services relating to financial products and financial services.

"Direct Port Entry" facility was Inaugurated by Union Shipping Minister

- Union Minister of State for Shipping (I/C), Shri Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the 'Direct Port Entry (DPE) facility' of V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust
- The state-of-the-art Direct Port Entry (DPE) facility would enable direct movement of containers from factories, without intermediate handling at any CFS, thus facilitating the shippers to Gate-In their factory stuffed exports directly to the Container Terminal on 24x7 basis.
- DPE will help in increasing Ease of Doing Business for the exporters, as the facility will bring efficiency and reduce dwell time, lower tariff cost and improve the competitiveness of shipper in the international trade.

- The facility is created in an area of 18,357 sqm inside the Truck Parking Terminal which was developed under the 'Sagarmala' for issuing customs clearance of export cargo i.e. Factory stuffed/e-sealed containers.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

- On October 27th of each year World Day for Audio Visual Heritage is observed by UNESCO.
- The theme of 2020 is "Your Window to the World".
- The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage (WDAH) provides an occasion to raise general awareness of the need to take urgent measures and to acknowledge the importance of audiovisual documents.

Infantry Day

- The Infantry Day is celebrated to commemorate the contributions of the largest fighting arm of our Indian Army on October 27 every year.
- This is the important day as the Indian army landed in Srinagar to stop the Pakistan supported tribal invasion in Jammu and Kashmir in 1947.