

1. Sujalam 2.0 – Water Reuse Campaign

Topic: Government Schemes

In News: Union minister for Jal Shakti launched a countrywide campaign 'Sujalam 2.0' - grey water recycling project

More on the Topic:

- The project intends to reuse grey water, or run-offs from kitchens, bathing and laundry.
- Under the campaign, government is planning to mobilize communities, institutions like panchayats, schools, anganwadi to undertake greywater management.
- The campaign **targets PRIs to work with people to ensure that greywater is managed at the most appropriate local level** through construction of household and community soak pits.
- Under Sujlam 2.0 campaign, over 6 lakh villages will see **intense activity on solid and liquid waste management**
- The funds to execute the activities for greywater management can be sourced from **SBM-G Phase II or through 15th Finance Commission tied-grants or MGNREGS** or through convergence of all.
- This campaign will see people undertake **collective situation assessment, plan and implement greywater management activities.**
- IEC efforts for popularizing the significance of greywater management and mobilizing collective community action will be undertaken at State, District and local level.

Significance of Grey Water Management:

- According to official data, a **staggering 31,000 million tonne of grey water a day is discharged by rural India alone** and it goes waste.
- This water is enough to tide over drought if evenly stored across the country.
- Greywater turns into a **major management and infrastructure challenge**, if it is allowed to accumulate and stagnate.

Source: The Hindu



2. India Achieved \$400 billion exports target

Topic: Economy

In News: India achieved its ambitious target of crossing \$400 billion exports.

More on the Topic:

- This is the first time ever that exports have crossed the \$400 billion-mark.
- Closer interaction with states and districts; engagement with exporters; faster resolution of their issues; actively engaging with different export promotion councils, industry associations and other stakeholders have helped in reaching this milestone.
- Exports is one of the key factors driving India's economic growth. Merchandise exports for FY22 are poised to finish well beyond the target set by the Centre.
- The sector was one of the very few to revert quickly to pre-pandemic levels once the government started relaxing Covid-related curbs.



Key drivers:

- The surge in exports during April-February was fuelled by higher shipments of engineering, petroleum and chemical goods.
- The volume of agricultural products exported in FY22 was highest ever and was driven by commodities like rice (other than basmati), marine products, wheat, spices and sugar.

What led to the surge?

- Boost in domestic manufacturing due to **production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes** and implementation of some **interim trade pacts** have also led to surge in exports.
- The Centre implemented a series of steps to promote exports of both goods and services and that includes the introduction of **Refund of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) and Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Schemes**, the launch of **Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin** to facilitate trade and increase FTA utilisation by exporters, **promoting districts as export hubs** by identifying products with export potential in each district and addressing bottlenecks, and **promoting ease of doing business**.
- Special emphasis was laid on new and existing markets and products, lost markets, low hanging fruits where the country has strength, **faster resolution of exporter's issues**.
- Besides, **MSMEs and startups were used as a vehicle for exports**.

Why exports are important?

- Exports are one of the **fundamental drivers of growth for any economy**. It can influence a country's GDP, exchange rate, level of inflation as well as interest rates.
- A robust export data is beneficial as it leads to **increase in job opportunities, enhances foreign currency reserves, boosts manufacturing and also increases government's revenue collection**.
- It is also a good means by which a **country can bring itself out of the recession phase**.
- Exporting to countries with a favourable economic climate helps in increasing the GDP levels as well as **helps in reducing unemployment**.

Source: Business Today

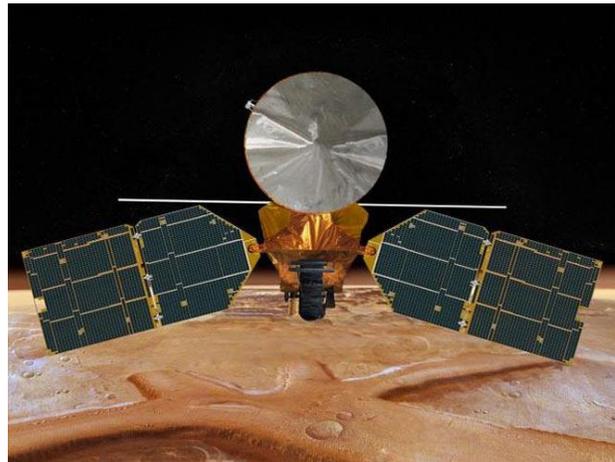
3.The GSAT 7 Satellites

Topic: Science and Technology

In News: The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has given the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for capital acquisition proposals for procurement of GSAT 7B satellite.

More on the Topic:

- GSAT 7 satellites are advanced satellites developed by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** to meet the communication needs of the defence services.
- It is a 2,650 kg satellite which has a footprint of nearly 2,000 nautical miles in the Indian Ocean region. This satellite is mainly used by the Indian Navy for its communication needs.
- The GSAT 7 provides a gamut of services for military communication needs, which includes low bit voice rate to high bit rate data facilities, **including multi-band communications**.
- Named Rukmini, the satellite carries payloads which helps the Navy to have a secure, real time communication link between its land establishments, surface ships, submarines and aircraft.
- **The GSAT 7B will primarily fulfil the communication needs of the Army.**
- Currently, the Army is using 30 per cent of the communication capabilities of the **GSAT 7A** satellite, which has been designed for the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- The GSAT 7B will also help the Army enhance its **surveillance in border areas**.
- What other kinds of military satellites does India have?



- **Electromagnetic Intelligence Gathering Satellite (EMISAT):** Interception of ground-based radar and also carries out electronic surveillance across India.
- **RISAT 2BR1 synthetic aperture radar imaging satellite:** It operates in different modes including very high resolution imaging modes to gather intelligence and surveillance.

Source: Indian Express

4. “Dare2eraD TB” initiative

Topic: Health

In News: “Dare2eraD TB” initiative was launched by the Department of Biotechnology on the occasion of World TB Day.

More on the Topic:

- Dare2eraD TB will be the **umbrella TB program of DBT** comprising of following key initiatives-
- InTGS - Indian Tuberculosis Genomic Surveillance Consortium;
- InTBK Hub- Indian TB Knowledge Hub- Webinar Series;
- Host Directed therapies against TB and developing an evidence-based regimen for treating extra-pulmonary Tuberculosis.



About Tuberculosis:

- TB is caused by a bacterium called **Mycobacterium tuberculosis**.
- Tuberculosis (TB) is a potentially serious infectious disease that mainly affects the lungs.
- The bacteria that causes tuberculosis are **spread from person to person** through tiny droplets released into the air via coughs and sneezes.
- Patients with active symptoms will require a long course of treatment involving multiple antibiotics.
- TB is a treatable and curable disease.
- **BCG vaccine** is primary used as a vaccine against TB. It also protects against respiratory and bacterial infections of the newborns, and other mycobacterial disease like Leprosy.

India’s Efforts to Eliminate Tb:

- **National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Tuberculosis Elimination (2017-2025)**
- **The Nikshay Ecosystem** (National TB information system), **Nikshay Poshan Yojana** (NPY- financial support), TB Harega Desh Jeetega Campaign.

Source: PIB

5. Naga Mircha

Topic: Environment and Ecology

In News: The Government is promoting GI tagged Naga Mircha chilli.

More on the Topic:

- Nagamircha Mircha is also referred as king chili is from Nagaland.
- King Chilli is considered as the world’s hottest based on the Scoville Heat Units (SHUs).
- is constantly on the top five in the list of the world’s hottest chillies based on the SHUs.
- It is also referred to as Bhoot Jolokia and Ghost pepper.
- It got GI certification in 2008.
- It belongs to genus Capsicum of family Solanaceae.



Source: Hindu

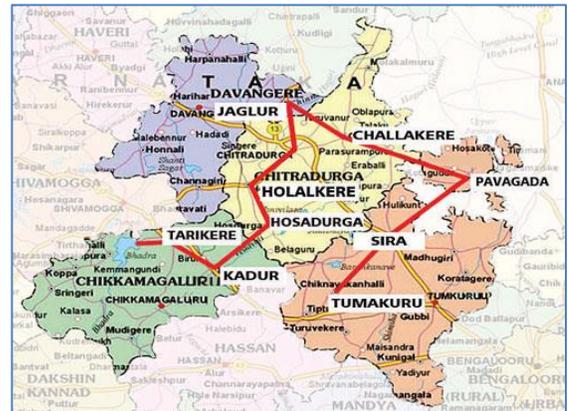
6. Upper Bhadra Project

Topic: Geography

In News: The Central Water Commission has ascertained that the water utilization proposed under Upper Bhadra project by Karnataka is well within the allocations made to the State by Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal - I.

More on the Topic:

- The Upper Bhadra Project is being implemented by **Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd.** It is a major lift irrigation scheme under implementation in Karnataka.
- The status of **national project** was given to **this project** by the high-powered committee of the Central Water Commission.
- This is the first project from state to get this status. This status will speed up the ambitious irrigation project.
- In the first stage, this project would **lift water, from Tunga to Bhadra.**
- While in second stage, it would lift water from **Bhadra reservoir and provide it to a tunnel near Ajjampura.**
- Water will be provided through gravity canal in Tungabhadra sub-basin of Krishna basin.
- This project is intended to provide irrigating by means of micro-irrigation in **drought-prone districts of Chitradurga, Chikkamagaluru, Davangere and Tumakuru.**



- This project was launched with the objective of providing **sustainable irrigation facility in Kharif season**.
- Its other objectives include recharging groundwater table and diluting chemical contaminants of which Fluoride is predominant.

Source: Hindu

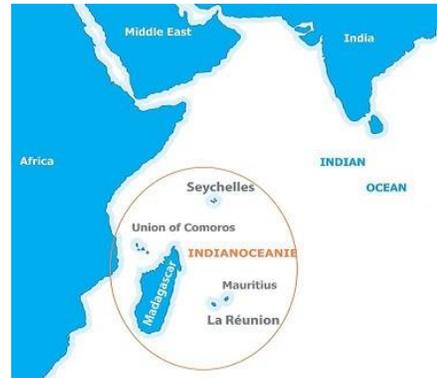
7. Gandhi Green Triangle

Topic: international Affairs

In News: “Green Triangle” named after Mahatma Gandhi was jointly inaugurated in Madagascar’s capital Antananarivo.

More on the Topic:

- It has been done to mark **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- “Gandhi Green Triangle” would create the maximum green space in the capital city of Madagascar, Antananarivo.
- Madagascar has a large diaspora from the Indian state of Gujarat and it is fitting that a green triangle named after Gandhi, who hailed from Porbandar in the state, is being unveiled in the capital of Madagascar (Antananarivo).
- Madagascar voiced appreciation for efforts by the Indian Embassy in greening the area, saying it meets the objective of the Urban Municipality of Antananarivo to create the maximum green space in the capital city of Madagascar.



Source: Hindu
