



1. 22nd Law commission



Topic: Economy

In News: The 22nd Law Commission of India has been constituted with Justice (ret'd) Rituraj Awasthi as its head.

More on the Topic

- The Law Ministry describes the Law Commission of India as a non-statutory body that is constituted by a notification of the Government of India, with definite terms of reference to carry out research in the field of law. The Commission makes recommendations to the Government (in the form of Reports) as per its terms of reference.
- The Law Commission was first constituted in 1955, and has so far submitted 277 reports.

About 22nd Law commission

- The Commission would have a tenure of three years from the date of publication of the Order of Constitution in the Official Gazette.
- The Commission shall, among other things,
- “identify laws which are no longer needed or relevant and can be immediately repealed;
- Examine the existing laws in the light of Directive Principles of State Policy and suggest ways of improvement and reform and also suggest such legislations as might be

necessary to implement the Directive Principles and to attain the objectives set out in the Preamble of the Constitution”;

- and “revise the Central Acts of general importance so as to simplify them and remove anomalies, ambiguities and inequities”.

Source: Indian Express

2. Farmer Producer Organisations

Topic: Polity and Governance



In News: Agriculture Ministry will be setting up 100 fodder-centric FPOs in 2022-23.

More on the Topic:

- A group of farmers who are actually involved in agricultural production and have a common interest in pursuing agribusiness activities can form a group in a village or a cluster of villages and apply for a registration of a Farmer Producer Company under the relevant Companies Act.

What Benefits farmers will get by forming FPOs?

- As a cohesive group, farmers as members of the FPO will have better bargaining power which can be leveraged to buy or sell commodities at competitive prices.
- Aggregation of agricultural produce for better marketing opportunities. Trading in bulk saves farmers on associated expenditures like processing, storage, transportation etc.



- FPOs may take up activities for value addition like sorting/grading, packaging, basic processing etc. which fetch a higher price for the farmers' produce.
- FPO formation facilitates utilization of pre and post harvest infrastructure like green houses, mechanized farming, cold storage, agri-processing etc.
- FPO can expand its business activities by opening of input stores, custom centres etc. through which its member farmers can get subsidised inputs and services.

The following three implementing Agencies will form and promote Farmer Producer Organizations

- Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC)
- National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- States may also if so desire, nominate their Implementing Agency in consultation with the Department of Agriculture.

Challenges Faced by FPOs

- Lack of technical skills,
- Inadequate professional management,
- Weak financials,
- Inadequate access to credit,
- Lack of risk mitigation mechanism and
- Inadequate access to market and infrastructure.

Way Ahead

- Country like India needs **more than one lakh FPOs are required. Currently 10,000 FPO's**. This mismatch should be corrected
- To address issues such as working capital, marketing, infrastructure. For that **Banks must be facilitated to come with structured products for lending to FPO's**. Also, banks need to focus on capacity building to improve their professional management.
- FPO's have to be **linked with input companies, technical service providers, marketing/processing companies, retailers etc.** This will enable them to access data on markets and prices and other information and competency in information technology.
- FPOs need to **look for land consolidation of their members where contiguous tracts of land are available**. To some extent, Aggregation can overcome the constraint of small farm size. Women farmers also can be encouraged to group cultivate for getting better returns.

Source: Down to Earth

3. Mission 'Prarambh'



Topic: Science and Technology

In News: In a historic space mission, India's first-ever private sector rocket launch mission 'Prarambh' has been scheduled for later this month.

More on the Topic:

- The company names Skyroot Aerospace is all set to launch its first mission with a privately-developed rocket named Vikram-S.
- Skyroot Aeronautics has dubbed its maiden mission as 'Prarambh', where the Vikram-S launch vehicle will travel to space in a demonstration flight.
- What makes this mission historic is that **space missions in India have only been launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) till now**, making Prarambh the first-ever space launch by a private company in the country. Vikram-S is set to be launched from ISRO's space launchpad at Sriharikota.



More about Prarambh Mission:

- The Prarambh mission is aimed at **carrying three payloads into space, including a 2.5-kilogram payload that has been developed by students from several countries.**
- Skyroot's launch vehicles are named 'Vikram' as a tribute to the founder of the Indian space program and renowned scientist Vikram Sarabhai.
- The Prarambh mission and the Vikram-S rocket were developed by the Hyderabad-based startup with **extensive support from ISRO and IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre).**

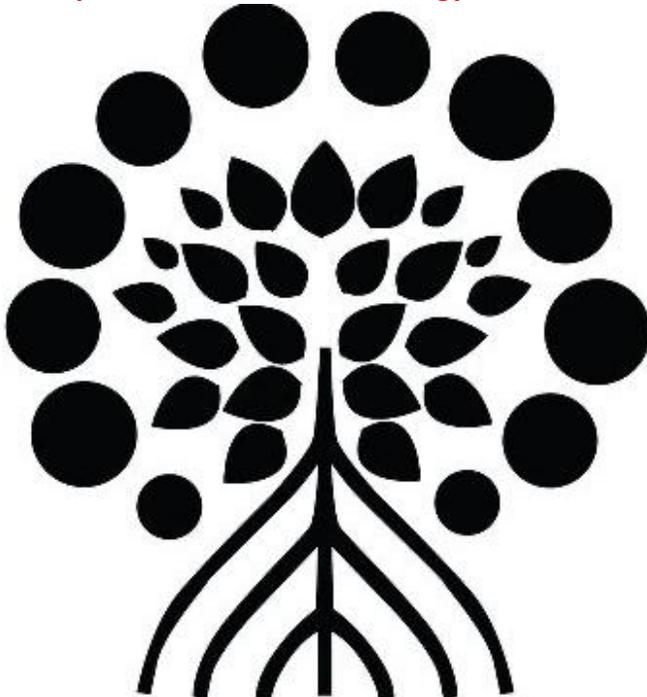
IN-SPACe:

- It is **an autonomous and single window nodal agency in the Department of Space** for the promotion, encouragement and regulation of space activities of both government and private entities.
- It also **facilitates the usage of ISRO facilities by private entities.**
- It comprises **technical experts** for space activities along with safety expert, academic experts and legal and strategic experts from other departments.
- Its **members include members of PMO and MEA of Government of India.**

Source: Hindu

4. The Mangrove Alliance for Climate

Topic: Environment and Ecology





In News: India has joined the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) at the 27th Summit of the Conference of Parties (COP27) at Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt.

More on the Topic:

- Spearheaded by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in partnership with Indonesia, **MAC was launched at the COP27 Summit in Egypt to scale up and accelerate the conservation and restoration of the mangrove forests.**
- The alliance will raise awareness about **the role of mangroves as a "nature-based solution to climate change"**.
- The MAC seeks **to scale up, accelerate conservation, restoration and growing plantation efforts of mangrove ecosystems for the benefit of communities globally, and recognize the importance of these ecosystems for climate change mitigation and adaptation.**
- What are mangrove forests?
- A mangrove is a shrub or a small tree that grows along the coastlines and has roots in salty sediments, often underwater. They also grow in swamps. Mangrove forests can survive extreme weather conditions and require low oxygen levels to survive.
- The mangroves cannot survive freezing temperatures and thus are found mainly in tropical and subtropical latitudes. Sundarbans in West Bengal in India is the largest mangrove forest in the world.
- UNESCO celebrates July 26 as the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem to raise awareness about mangrove ecosystems and to promote their conservation.

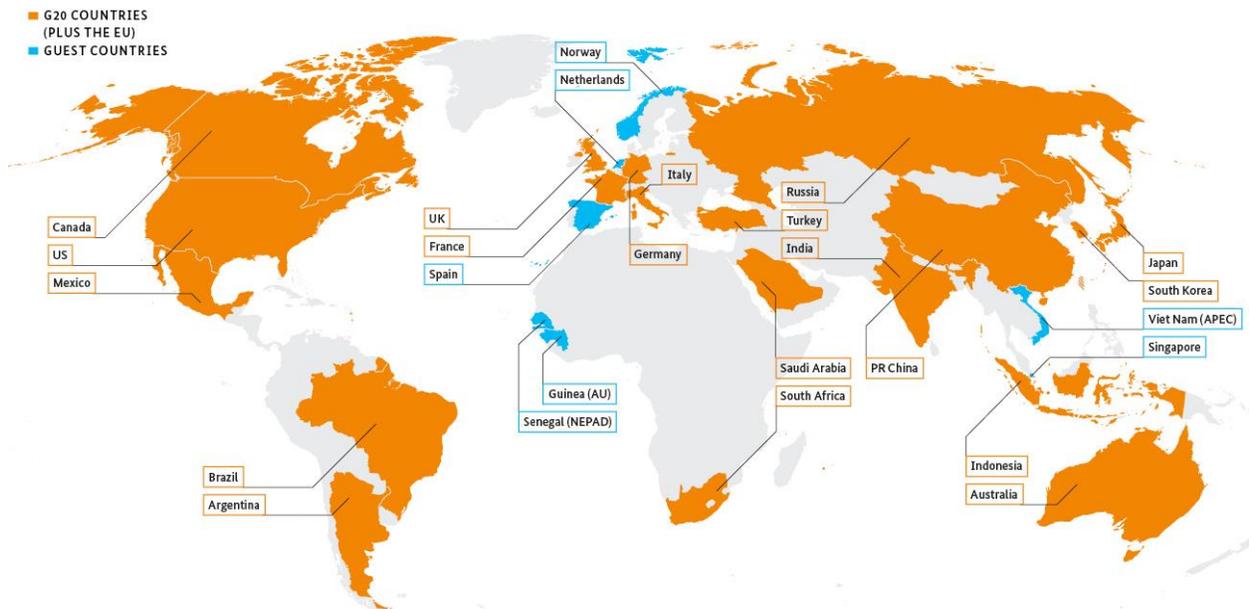
How are the Mangroves beneficial?

- Mangrove forests **can store ten times more carbon per hectare than terrestrial forests.** Also, they can store carbon up to 400 per cent faster than land-based tropical rainforests.
- When the mangroves are cut, **the carbon stored in these plants gets released into the air. So, preserving them to keep the carbon emissions levels low is necessary.**
- Once the plants die, they take the stored carbon into the soil. This is called **"Blue Carbon"**.
- **Mangrove forests act as natural barriers against rising tides and storms.**
- Each year, they prevent property damages of over \$65 billion.

Source: PIB

5. G 20

Topic: International Relations



In News: India will assume presidency of the grouping of the world’s 20 largest economies on December 1, following the G20 Summit hosted by Indonesia in Bali.

More on the Topic:

- India has unveiled India’s logo, theme and website for its presidency of the G20, which reflects the country’s message and overarching priorities to the world.
- The G20 logo, created with the four colours of India's national flag, comprises of earth sitting atop a lotus. The seven petals in the logo signify the seven seas and the coming together of seven continents at G20 India 2023.
- The earth reflects India's pro-planet approach to life and from this, it derives the theme of G20 India 2023 – Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: One Earth, One Family, One Future.

About G20:

- The G20 or Group of Twenty is an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union (EU).
- It works to address major issues related to the global economy, such as international financial stability, climate change mitigation, and sustainable development.
- **The G20 is composed of most of the world's largest economies, including both industrialized and developing nations;**
- it accounts for around 80% of gross world product (GWP), 59–77% of international trade, two-thirds of the global population, and 60% of the world's land area.
- **The G20 was founded in 1999 in response to several world economic crises.**

Source: Business Standard

6. Lab-grown blood

Topic: Science and Technology



In News: Blood that has been grown in a laboratory has been put into people in a world-first clinical trial in UK.

More on the Topic:

- The process of growing blood in lab start with a normal donation of a pint of blood (around 470ml)
- **Magnetic beads are used to fish out flexible stem cells** that are capable of becoming a red blood cell
- These stem cells are encouraged to grow in large numbers in the labs
- **And are then guided to become red blood cells**
- The process takes about three weeks and an initial pool of around half a million stem cells results in 50 billion red blood cells.

- These are filtered down to get around 15 billion red blood cells that are at the right stage of development to transplant.

Significance:

- Red blood cells normally last for around 120 days before they need to be replaced. A typical blood donation contains a mix of young and old red blood cells, whereas the lab-grown blood is all freshly made so should last the full 120 days.
- The researchers suspect this could allow both smaller and less frequent donations in the future.

Source: Business Standard

7. Guru Nanak Jayanti



Topic: Culture

In News: On the occasion of Gurupurab, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) facilitated the visit of 2,420 Indian Sikh pilgrims to Nankana Sahib in Pakistan.

More on the Topic:



- Guru Nanak Dev Ji Gurburab also known as Guru Nanak's Prakash Utsav, celebrates the birth of the first Sikh guru, Guru Nanak. One of the most celebrated and important Sikh gurus and the founder of Sikhism.
- Guru Nanak Dev is highly revered by the Sikh community.
- This is one of the most sacred festivals in Sikhism.

Conditions For the Growth of Saffron:

- First of the 10 Sikh Gurus and the **founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak** was born in a village, Talwandi, near Lahore (it was renamed later as Nankana Sahib).
- He rejected sacrifices, rituals, image worship, austerities and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslim.
- He advocated the '**Nirguna**' (devotion to and worship of formless divine) form of bhakti.
- **Guru Nanak's hymns known as "Gurbani" were included in the Adi Granth compiled by Guru Arjan (1563-1606),**

Source: Business Standard
