Regent Education and Research Foundation Group of Institutions

Daily Current Affairs Synopsis

Date: 16th NOV 2023

(Useful for UPSC/WBPSC/SSC Exams.)

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Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is celebrated on 15th November (since 2021) to recognize the efforts of the tribal freedom fighters.

- India's freedom struggle was strengthened by tribal movements by Santhals, Tamars, Kols, Bhils, Khasis and Mizos etc.
- The date is the birth anniversary of Sri Birsa Munda who is revered Bhagwan by tribal communities across the country.
- About Birsa Munda (1875-1900)
 - Early life: Birsa Munda also known as Dharti Aaba, was born in Munda tribe at Ulihatu, Khunti district of Chotanagpur Plateau region (Jharkhand). Social reforms: He stressed on the importance of prayer, staying awayfrom alcohol, having faith in God and observing a code of conduct.
 - Based on these, he started the faith of Birsait.
 - ⊕ Ulgulan movement : Birsa started a movement called 'Ulgulan', or 'The Great Tumult' against the exploitation and discrimination against tribals.
 - Led to Chotanagpur Tenancy Act being passed in 1908 which restricted the passing on of land from the tribal people to non-tribals.
 - Ethical Values: Perseverance, courage, and resilience.
- On this occasion government launched Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN).

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PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN) launched

About PM JANMAN

- It aims to protect the tribes on the verge of extinction and nurture them.
- **⊕** Earlier in Budget 2023, PM PVTG Mission was announced to improve the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- Projects worth 24000 crore for overall developments of PVTGs.
- Mission based on providing basic amenities like safe housing, clean drinking water, education, health, road and sustainable livelihoodetc.
- Focus on complete coverage of various schemes like Ayushman Bharat yojana, TB elimination, 100% vaccination, PM Surakshit Matritva Yojana, PM Poshan, etc.

About PVTGs

- Most underprivileged and deprived tribal communities in India.
- **⊕** Characterized by "pre-agriculture level of technology, stagnant or declining population, extremely low literacy, and Economic backwardness".

- **⊙** Centre had started identification of PVTGs in 1975 on the findings of the 1961
- **Dhebar Commission.75 PVTGs in 18 States & UTs** living in 220 districts having a **population of around 28 lakhs.**
 - As per 2011 Census, Odisha has the largest population of PVTGs.
- ▶ Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra was also launched which will continue till 26th January, 2024 to ensure saturation of flagship government welfare schemes.

Other Initiatives Empowering Tribal Communities:

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Eklavya Model Residential Schools: Provide free education to ST children from class VI to XII in residential set up.

Pradhan Mantri Vanbandhu Vikas Yojana: A venture capital fund has been set up to promote entrepreneurship/start-up projects by ST youth.

National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission & PM Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana etc.

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) Satellite

ISRO has successfully conducted a 21-day-long thermal vacuum test for the upcoming launch of the NISAR

- satellite in 2024.
 - A thermal vacuum test is tested in a facility that mimics expected flight condit Applications
- **About NISAR**
 - It is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory being jointly developed by NASA a
 - NISAR will map the entire globe in 12 days and provide consistent data for changes in Earth's ecosystems, ice mass, etc.
 - **It 2,800 kilograms satellite consists of both L-band and S-band synthetic ape** instruments, which makes it a dual-frequency imaging radar satellite.
 - L-band radars are used for clear air turbulence studies and S-band radars weather observation.
 - It has a **39-foot gold mesh antenna** reflector that focuses radar signals from the upward-facing instrument.
- Significance of NISAR
 - Large imaging area (>240km) allows full earth imaging in 12 days.
 - High precision and resolution (<1cm) due to dual-band radars.
 - Monitors Indian coasts, Antarctica, and deltaic region
 - bathymetry changes. Observe ecosystem disturbances, ice sheet collapses, and natural hazards.

- **Ecosystem** and Resource Tracking: Measurement of forest cover and land usage, Oil and Gas exploration, water resources, etc.
- **⊕** Disaster **Management:** tracking the source earthquakes, landslides, andoil spills and mapping the aftereffects of the disaster.
- Cryosphere tracking: changes in the permafrost, ice sheets glaciers, etc.

Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) releases Annual Report 2022

- CERT-In is the national nodal agency responding to
- computer security incidents.
- It was established in 2004 and functions under aegis of
 - **Ministry** of Electronics and Information Technology.
 - Under **Information Technology** (Amendment) Act 2008, it is mandated to provide Incident Prevention, Response, and
 - Security Quality Management Services.
 - **●** It operates 24x7.
- **Key Highlights**
 - **⊙** CERT-In handled around 13.9 Lakh cyber security incidents in 2022.
 - There is an increase in phishing attacks, malware attacks,
 - ⊕and vulnerable services.
 - Θ_{Θ} Approx, 20,000 Website Defacements (WD) tracked andmost attacks on '.in' domain websites.
 - WD is a type of cyberattack that alters or compromises the contents of a website.

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- Cyber Swachhta Kendra notifies about botnet/malware to
 - ~94% of subscribers.

• A botnet, blending 'robot' and 'network', uses interconnected compromised computers for cyber activities."

Importance of Cyber Security: includes protection of critical infrastructures, Government initiatives like Digital India, and protection of businesses and individuals from potential cyberthreats.

Challenges in handling Cyber threats:

lack of critical cyber security infrastructure, shortage of cybersecurity professionals. Evolving threat landscape in Cyber security e.g., involvement of non-state actors, organized crime. Increase in proliferation of connected devices, newtechnology Internet of Things (IoT) etc.

IPEF (launched in 2022) is a U.S.-led framework to solidify relationships with partner countries and engage in crucial economic and trade matters that concern the region. It is not a free trade agreement.

14 partner countries of IPEF: Australia, Brunei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the US.

The IPEF partners represent 40% of global GDP and 28% of

global goods and services trade.

IPEF has 4 pillars. India has joined all pillars except the trade one (refer image).

About the agreement:

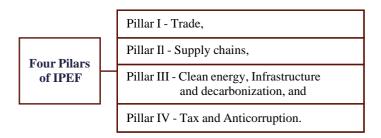
It aims to fortify and strengthen global supply chains; and foster adaptability, stability and

Government initiatives to tackle Cyber Threats

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India, U.S., 12 other members of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework For Prosperity (IPEF) ink supply chain resilience agreement

- The agreement comes into force after implementation by
- any of the five member countries.
 - IPEF Supply Chain Council will monitor and implement theagreement.
- Yey Benefits of the pact for India:
 - To mitigate economic risks and provide alternatives for critical sectors, enabling members to diversify and decrease dependency
 - **⊙** on Chinese supply chains.
 - Mobilization of investments for economic
 - growth. Deeper integration of India into
 - global value chains.
- Creation of a seamless regional trade ecosystem to facilitate
 - the flow of Indian products.



Greenhouse Gas Bulletin released by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)

- ► Greenhouse Gas Bulletin analyses data from the WMO Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) Programme.
 - GAW provides information on atmospheric composition to the public; it consists of a worldwide measuring network of observation stations and scientific infrastructure.
- ► Greenhouse Gas Bulletin compares current global carbon dioxide (CO2), Methane (CH4), and Nitrous oxide (N2O) levels with last years and pre-industrial level (before year 1750)
 - ⊕ It also provides insights on Radiative forcing changes by long-lived GHGs (LLGHGs) like CO2, CH4, and CFCs.

- **▶** About Radiative forcing by long-lived GHGs
 - Radiative forcing represents the amount of energy per unit area that is added or removed from the climatesystem.
 It is the measure of how much these gases affect the Earth's
 - energy balance. These gases trap some of the heat that would otherwise escape to space, causing the planet to warm up.

About WMO

About: specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).

- H/Qs: Geneva, Switzerland.
 - **⊙** Genesis: Established in 1950.
 - Members: 187 Member States (including India) and 6
 - Member Territories.
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Key Highlights

- evels. Methane (CH4) and Nitrous Oxide (N2O) concentrations increased by 264% and 124% respectively from pre-industrial levels in 2022.
- From 1990 to 2022, radiative forcing by LLGHGs increased by 49%, with CO2 accounting for about 78% of this increase.
- **▶** Challenges in addressing GHGs, the drivers of climate change:

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- Feedback Mechanism: Climate change has multiple feedback loops including increased carbon emissions from soils and reduced carbon uptake by oceans and forests.
- Tipping points: Climate may reach Tipping points i.e., thresholds triggering self-accelerating, potentially irreversible changes.
- Natural variability: CO2, CH4, and N2O levels vary due to natural processes like El Niño.