

SEPTEMBER

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MK Yadav Sir



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SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

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Jammu celebrates last Dogra ruler's birth anniv

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 23

IMPROMPTU CELEBRATIONS broke out around midnight as scores of people assembled at the statue of Maharaja Hari Singh near Tawi Bridge in Jammu to celebrate the birth anniversary of the last Dogra ruler of the erstwhile state that even included areas of Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir and North-Western Province of Pakistan. The celebrations continued through the day on Friday, declared a public holiday in the UT.

Maharaja Hari Singh was born on September 23, 1895.

Waiving Tricolours and bursting crackers, people cut cakes and danced over Dogri songs. Among the prominent faces in the gathering were BJP's J&K president Ravinder Raina, former deputy CM Nirmal Singh, sitting BJP MP Jugal Kishore, besides leaders of Yuva Rajput Sabha, Bajrang Dal and various other organisations.

This is the first time that a public holiday was declared on the birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh. On September 15, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha had an-

nounced the holiday following his meeting with BJP and Yuva Rajput Sabha leaders.

In the past, the erstwhile state observed a holiday on July 13 in memory of the protesters killed in firing by Maharaja's forces in 1931. The protesters had assembled outside Srinagar Central Jail where one Abdul Qadeer, an employee of the a British Army officer deployed in Peshawar, was held and tried on charges of sedition.

The celebrations continued on Friday with various political, social and religious organisations taking out processions towards Tawi Bridge and Maharaja Hari Singh Park. The processions led to traffic jams in different parts of the city.

At Maharaja Hari Singh Park, Raina and Congress's working president Raman Bhalla embraced each other, giving credit to the people. Later, Bhalla said the statue was installed during the Congress governments in J&K. "We will not stop here (public holiday), but struggle until Maharaja Hari Singh's state is restored to J&K and rights of local people to land and jobs are protected," he said.

Meanwhile, Home Minister Amit Shah, too, paid tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh on Twitter.

DOGRA DYNASTY

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Indian History)

Context: Impromptu celebrations broke out around midnight as scores of people assembled at the statue of Maharaja Hari Singh near Tawi Bridge in Jammu to celebrate the birth anniversary of the last Dogra ruler of the erstwhile state.

Dogra dynasty

- The Dogra dynasty of Dogra Rajput from the Shiwalik Himalayas created Jammu and Kashmir when all dynastic kingdoms in India were being absorbed under East India Company.
- Events led the Sikh Empire to recognise Jammu as a vassal state in 1820, and later the British added Kashmir to Jammu by the Treaty of Amritsar in 1846.
- The founder of the dynasty, Gulab Singh, was an influential noble in the court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, while his brother Dhian Singh served as the prime minister of the Sikh empire.
- Appointed by Ranjit Singh as the hereditary Raja of the Jammu principality, Gulab Singh established his supremacy over all the hill states surrounding the Kashmir Valley.
- After the First Anglo-Sikh War in 1846, under the terms of the Treaty of Lahore, 1846, the British Indian government acquired Kashmir from the Sikh Empire and transferred it to Gulab Singh, recognising him as an independent Maharaja.
- The last ruling Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir was Hari Singh, who contributed troops to the British war effort in World War II and served on Churchill's Imperial War Cabinet.
- Following the Partition of India in 1947, Hari Singh faced a rebellion in the western districts of the state and a Pakistan-supported tribal invasion, leading him to accede to the Union of India and receive military assistance.

UP Assembly passes Bill against anticipatory bail to accused in rape, POCSO offences

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 23

THE UTTAR PRADESH Assembly on Friday passed the Code of Criminal Procedure (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2022, that denies granting of anticipatory bail to rape accused and those booked under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

The Bill that was tabled in the House on Thursday proposed an amendment in section 438 of the CrPC, 1973, with regards to the state. The section defined the powers of the high court or a sessions court to give anticipatory bail.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna told the House that denying anticipatory bail in sexual offences against young people and women will reduce the chances of the accused destroying the evidence, he said.

Context: The Uttar Pradesh Assembly passed the Code of Criminal Procedure (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2022, that denies granting of anticipatory bail to rape accused.

Anticipatory Bail

- It is basically bail before arrest, a person arrested cannot seek Anticipatory Bail CrPC, he would have to move for regular bail.
- Any person who apprehends arrest under a non-bailable offence in India can apply for Anticipatory Bail under the provisions of section 438 of The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.
- The words anticipatory bail is neither found in section 438 nor in its marginal note. In fact, anticipatory bail is a misnomer.
- When a person has reason to believe that he may be arrested on the accusation of committing a non-bailable offence then he can move to High Court or the Court of Session u/s 438 of CrPC for anticipatory bail.
- There are certain factors which are considered while granting anticipatory bail such as:
 - o Nature and gravity of accusation,
 - o The antecedents of the applicant including the fact as to whether he has previously undergone imprisonment on conviction by a court in respect of any cognizable offence,
 - o The possibility of the applicant to flee from justice,
 - o Where the accusation has been made with the object of injuring or humiliating the applicant by having him so arrested, either reject the application forthwith or issue an interim order for the grant of anticipatory bail.
- The High Court or the Court of Sessions, while granting anticipatory bail may impose conditions as mentioned u/s 438(2). The conditions imposed while granting such bail are:
 - o The applicant has to make himself available for interrogation by a police officer as directed by the court or as required by the police officer.
 - o The applicant should not leave the country without the previous permissions of the court.
 - o The applicant should submit local residential address, native address and contact number to the concerned police station.
 - o The applicant should not make any inducement, threat, promise etc. to any person acquainted with the facts of the case.

CCI won't act against Star India till 26 Sept

Priyanka Gawande

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MUMBAI

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) on Friday told the Kerala high court that it would not take any coercive action against broadcaster Star India and its affiliates in a matter of alleged price discrimination by the broadcaster.

The additional solicitor general (ASG), on behalf of CCI, informed the court that its undertaking submitted on 19 September regarding not taking any coercive action against the broadcasters would continue till 26 September. The bench accepted the undertaking and adjourned the matter for hearing on 26 September.

The matter pertains to the three broadcasting companies

— Asianet Star Communications Pvt. Ltd, Star India Pvt. Ltd and Disney Broadcasting (India) Pvt. Ltd. They approached the Bombay high court against a 28 February order of the CCI that ordered an investigation under section 26(l) of the Competition Act 2002.

Section 26 (l) states that on receipt of a complaint or a reference from the Central government or a state government or statutory authority or on its own knowledge or information, under section 19, if the Commission believes that there is a prima facie case, it can direct the director-general to investigate the matter.

Last week, the Bombay high court refused to intervene in the matter, challenging the antitrust watchdog's investigation on the grounds of territorial jurisdiction.

Context: The Competition Commission of India (CCI) told the Kerala high court that it would not take any coercive action against broadcaster Star India.

Predatory Pricing

- Predatory pricing is the illegal act of setting prices low to attempt to eliminate the competition.
- Predatory pricing is described as 'unfair or discriminatory' pricing, and is forbidden by law under Section 4 of the Competition Act, 2002, which refers to the "Abuse of a Dominant Position".

Competition Commission of India

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is the chief national competition regulator in India.
- It is a statutory body within the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and is responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002 to promote competition and prevent activities that have an appreciable adverse effect on competition in India.
- The CCI looks into cases and investigates them if the same has a negative impact on competition.
- CCI also approves combination under the act so that two merging entities do not overtake the market.
- The commission comprises a chairperson and not less than two and not more than six other members appointed by the Central Government.

Andhra HC provides interim relief to rice exporters

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NEW DELHI

The Andhra Pradesh high court has allowed the export of non-basmati rice from Visakhapatnam port without customs duty but backed by a bank guarantee, in response to a plea filed by the exporters.

The interim relief to rice exporters gains special significance as an estimated 700,000 to 1 million tonnes of rice got stuck at various ports such as Kandla, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), and Visakhapatnam after the government banned exports of broken rice and imposed 20% duty on certain varieties of rice.

The high court refused to pass an immediate order on whether the export duty levy is applicable on consignments on which shipping bills were issued before the duty imposition was notified. The court



The court has allowed non-basmati rice exports from Visakhapatnam port without customs duty.

REUTERS

also said it would next hear the case on 15 November.

"We do not intend to go into the question of whether the petitioners (exporters) are liable to payment of export duty, at this stage," the court said in its order issued on Tuesday.

The court, however, asked the exporters to furnish a bank guarantee for 40% of the export duty within a week. Customs had argued that there should

be some security for the goods exported without paying 20% export duty.

Queries sent to the ministries of commerce and finance on Friday remained unanswered till press time.

The sudden policy change had caught the exporters, shipowners, and the cost of consignments went up sharply overnight. The government

allowed exports of the rice consignment that were in transit till 30 September, but exporters said that they were struggling to pay the duty on a low-margin commodity.

PJS Overseas Ltd, AVI India International LLP, and MFG Overseas Pvt Ltd had challenged in the Andhra Pradesh high court the 20% duty on rice exports that was imposed on 9 September.

The counsel for the exporters argued that the rice to be exported reached Visakhapatnam port much before the date of (duty) notification and the process of loading had also commenced. Shipping bills and letter of export orders were issued much before the date on which the notification came, the counsel said.

The counsel also argued

that, if no interim order is passed, there is every possibility of the ship leaving the port, which will put irreparable loss on the petitioners.

The ministry of consumer affairs, food and public distribution on Friday said that the decision to regulate rice exports was taken to lower prices and keeping in mind the food security of the country. Earlier, India had banned wheat exports after severe heat waves in March.

The government said it has not made any change in the policy relating to par-boiled rice so that farmers continue to get good remunerative prices. Further, dependent and vulnerable countries will have adequate availability of par-boiled rice as India has a significant share in the global rice export, it said.

The court asked the exporters to furnish a bank guarantee for 40% of the export duty within a week

ON THE DECLINE Basmati rice exports in \$ bn



Source: Department of Commerce

CUSTOM DUTIES IN INDIA (Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

Context: The Andhra Pradesh high court has allowed the export of non-basmati rice from Visakhapatnam port without customs duty but backed by a bank guarantee.

Custom Duties in India

- Customs duty refers to the tax imposed on goods when they are transported across international borders.
- It is the tax that is levied on import and export of goods.
- The government uses this duty to raise its revenues, safeguard domestic industries, and regulate movement of goods.
- The rate of Customs duty varies depending on where the goods were made and what they were made of.
- Custom duty in India is defined under the Customs Act, 1962, and all matters related to it fall under the Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC).

Types of custom duty

- **Basic Customs Duty (BDC):** Basic customs duty is applicable on imported items. The levied rates may be standard or preferential as per the country of import.
- **Additional Customs Duty (Countervailing Duty (CVD)):** This duty is levied on imported items. It is equal to the Central Excise Duty that is levied on similar goods produced within India.
- **Protective Duty:** Protective duty may be imposed to shield the domestic industry against imports at a rate recommended by the Tariff Commissioner.
- **Education Cess:** This duty is levied at 2% and higher education cess at another 1% of aggregate of customs duties.
- **Anti-dumping Duty:** Anti-dumping duty may be imposed if the good being imported is at below fair market price, and is limited to the difference between export and normal price (dumping margin).
- **Safeguard Duty:** Safeguard duty is levied if the government feels that a sudden increase in exports can potentially damage the domestic industry.

G4 countries highlight 'urgent need' for reform in UN Security Council

Germany, Brazil, Japan and India reiterate support for each other's bids to become permanent members of the UNSC, and for representation of African countries

Sriram Lakshman
UNITED NATIONS

Reform of the United Nations has been a central theme of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's visit to the United Nations this week, and on Thursday, he met with his counterparts from Germany, Brazil and Japan under The Group of Four (G4) banner following the BRICS meeting. The group is primarily focused on UN Security Council (UNSC) reform, and permanent membership for G4 members. On Thursday, they reiterated their commitment to pushing forward reform and expressed dissatisfaction at the lack of progress.

"Reiterated our joint commitment to work towards text based negotiations that leads to Reformed Multilateralism. Will continue our cooperation towards this goal," Mr. Jaishankar tweeted after the meeting. India is currently a non-permanent member of the Council.



Strong bonds: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with counterparts from Brazil, Germany and Japan during the G4 meeting on Friday. PTI

In addition to reiterating their support for each other's bids to become permanent members of the UNSC, the G4 also reiterated its support for African countries being represented in a permanent and non-permanent capacity. The G4 felt that the UN decision making bodies needed to be urgently reformed as global issues were increasingly complex and interconnected, a joint press

statement from the group said. The "inability" of the UNSC to "effectively" address these problems "vividly demonstrate[s] the urgent need" for UNSC reform, the statement said.

U.S. President Joe Biden emphasized its support for expanding permanent and non-permanent seats on the Council, during his UN-GA address on Wednesday. However, State Department spokesperson Ned

Price had said in 2021 that the U.S. supports expansion of body provided it "does not alter or expand the veto".

On Thursday, the G4 ministers expressed concern that the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly did not make "meaningful progress" in the Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN), which, according to the G4, was constrained by a lack of transparency.

G4 COUNTRIES

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - International relations)

Context: Germany, Brazil, Japan and India reiterate support for each other's bids to become permanent members of the UNSC, and for representation of African countries.

G4 nations

- The G4 nations, comprising Brazil, Germany, India, and Japan, are four countries which support each other's bids for permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council.
- Unlike the G7, where the common denominator is the economy and long-term political motives, the G4's primary aim is the permanent member seats on the Security Council.
- Each of these four countries have figured among the elected non-permanent members of the council since the UN's establishment.
- Their economic and political influence has grown significantly in the last decades, reaching a scope comparable to the permanent members (P5).
- However, the G4's bids are often opposed by the Uniting for Consensus movement, and particularly their economic competitors or political rivals.

G7

- The Group of Seven (G7) is an inter-governmental political forum consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. In addition, the European Union is a 'non-enumerated member'.

P5

- The permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (also known as the Permanent Five, Big Five, or P5) are the five sovereign states to whom the UN Charter of 1945 grants a permanent seat on the UN Security Council: China, France, USSR, the United Kingdom, and the United States.



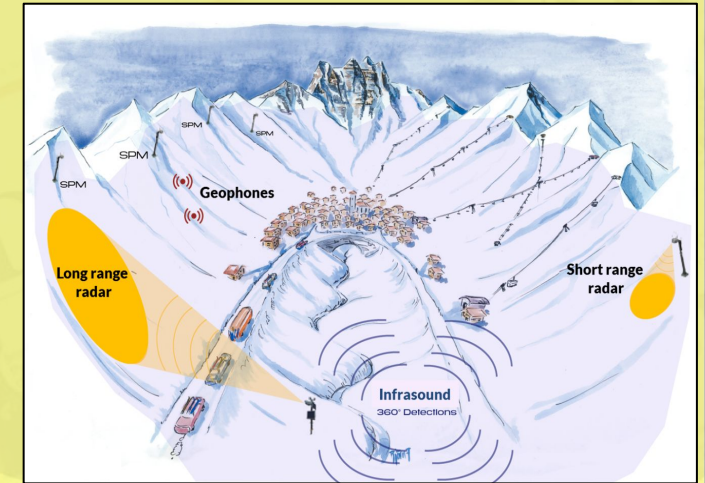
India gets its first avalanche monitoring radar in Sikkim

An avalanche monitoring radar, the first of its kind in India, has been installed in North Sikkim by the Army and Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment. It can detect avalanches within three seconds of its trigger and will assist in saving lives of troops and reducing damage to property. The radar was inaugurated by Lt. Gen. Tarun Kumar Aich, General Officer Commanding of Sukna-based 33 Corps, on September 20 at an altitude of 15,000 feet, one officer said. The radar was made operational by DGRE, a lab under the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO), which is involved in forecasting and mitigation of avalanche hazards faced by the Army in the Himalayan region.

Context: An avalanche monitoring radar, the first of its kind in India, has been installed in North Sikkim by the Army and Defence Geoinformatics and Research Establishment.

Avalanche Radar

- The avalanche radar is an effective technology for reliable automatic avalanche detection.
- It offers crucial advantages over conventional, local sensor that are installed in a known flow path.
- Radar works in any weather and at any time of day, has a range of up to 5 km and covers large avalanche slopes with a single device.
- **Benefits and features**
 - up to 5 km range and a coverage of up to 10 km²
 - automatically triggers alerts in case of an avalanche
 - separates different flow paths and shows them on an interactive map
 - all-weather suitability (works in rain, fog, snowfall)
 - works day and night
 - quick installation (few hours)
 - cost-effective compared to construction measures
 - easy data control through the Geopraevent online data portal
 - integration with smartphone and tablet
 - easy to combine with other technologies and alarm-functions
 - combination of multiple radars for larger coverage possible



India's under-5 mortality rate down by 3 points

At 5 Points, Highest Decline Observed In UP And Karnataka

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New Delhi: India's Under-Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) has declined by three points, from 35 deaths per 1000 live births in 2019 to 32 deaths per 1000 live births in 2020.

The highest decline has been observed in the state of Uttar Pradesh (5 points) and Karnataka (5 points), according to the Sample Registration System (SRS) data 2020 released on Friday. U5MR refers to the number of children dying before reaching five years of age.

The SRS data shows 11 states/UT have attained the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) target of U5MR (25 deaths or less per 1,000 live births by 2030). This includes Kerala (8), Tamil Nadu (13), Delhi (14), Maharashtra (18), J&K (17), Karnataka (21), Punjab (22), West Bengal (22), Telangana (23), Gujarat (24), and Himachal Pradesh (24).

Six states/ UT have attained Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target of Neonatal Mortality Rate or NMR (12 or less deaths per 1,000 live births by 2030). This includes Kerala (4), Delhi (9), Tamil Nadu (9), Maharashtra (11), Jammu & Kashmir (12) and Punjab (12). Nationally, the NMR has declined by two points from 22 per 1000 live births in 2019 to 20 per 1000 live births in 2020.

Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), which refers to the number of children dying under one year of age, has also registered a two-point decline to 28 per 1000 live births in 2020 from 30 per 1000 live births in 2019, the SRS data shows. The maximum IMR has been observed in Madhya Pradesh (43)



11 states/UT have attained Sustainable Development Goals target of Under-Five Mortality Rate, shows data

and the minimum in Kerala (6).

Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the reduction in child mortality rates has been made possible due to the relentless efforts of the health workers, caregivers and community members. "India is poised to meet 2030 SDG targets of child mortality under leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with focused interventions, strong Centre-State partnership and dedication of all health workers," he added.

IMR for the country has come down to 28 in 2020 from 37 in 2015, a decline of nine points over the last five years and an annual average decline of about 1.8 points. "The corresponding decline in rural IMR has been to the tune of 10 points (41 in 2015 to 31 in 2020) against a decline of six points in urban IMR (25 in 2015 to 19 in 2020)," the SRS report says, adding that despite this decline, one in every 32 infants in rural areas and one in every 52 infants in urban areas still die within one year of life

UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY RATE (U5MR)

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Social Justice)

Context: India's Under-Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) has declined by three points, from 35 deaths per 1000 live births in 2019 to 32 deaths per 1000 live births in 2020.

Under-5 mortality

- The under-five mortality rate (U5MR) represents children who die before reaching the age of 5 per 1000 live births.
- U5MR for the India has shown significant decline of 3 points (Annual Decline Rate: 8.6%) from 2019 (32 per 1000 live births in 2020 against 35 per 1000 live births in 2019). It varies from 36 in rural areas to 21 in urban areas.
- U5MR for Female is higher (33) than male (31). There has been a decline of 4 points in male U5MR and 3 points in female U5MR during the corresponding period.
- Highest decline of U5MR is observed in the State of Uttar Pradesh (5 points) and Karnataka (5 points)
- **The SDG Goal 3 is to end preventable deaths of new-borns and under-5 children by 2030. There are two targets:**
 - o Reduce new-born mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1 000 live births in every country (SDG 3.2); and
 - o Reduce under-five mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births in every country (SDG 3.2).
- Eleven (11) States/UT have already attained SDGs target of U5MR (<=25 by 2030): Kerala (8), Tamil Nadu (13), Delhi (14), Maharashtra (18), J&K (17), Karnataka (21), Punjab (22), West Bengal (22), Telangana (23), Gujarat (24), and Himachal Pradesh (24).

Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)

- Infant mortality is the death of young children under the age of 1. This death toll is measured by the infant mortality rate (IMR), which is the probability of deaths of children under one year of age per 1000 live births
- Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has also registered 2-point decline to 28 per 1000 live births in 2020 from 30 per 1000 live births in 2019 (Annual Decline Rate: 6.7%).
- The Rural-Urban difference has narrowed to 12 points (Urban 19, Rural-31).
- No gender differential has observed in 2020 (Male -28, Female - 28).

Africa needs at least 9 times more climate finance to meet 2030 goals

Africa requires \$277 billion annually to implement its Nationally Determined Contributions towards mitigating greenhouse gas emissions



NEXT NEWS >

By Madhumita Paul
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Climate Finance

- To facilitate the provision of climate finance, the Convention established a financial mechanism to provide financial resources to developing country Parties.
- The financial mechanism also serves the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.
- The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has served as an operating entity of the financial mechanism since the Convention's entry into force in 1994.
- At COP 16, in 2010, Parties established the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and in 2011 also designated it as an operating entity of the financial mechanism.
- In addition to providing guidance to the GEF and the GCF, Parties have established two special funds—the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) and the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), both managed by the GEF—and the Adaptation Fund (AF) established under the Kyoto Protocol in 2001.

Context: African countries need at least nine times more climate finance to meet their Nationally Determined Contributions towards mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, according to a new report.

Key points

- The continent requires \$277 billion annually to implement its 2030 climate goals, stated the Landscape of Climate Finance in Africa report.
- Total annual climate finance flows in Africa - domestic and international - were only \$29.5 billion.
- Ten countries - Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa, Mozambique, Cote d'Ivoire, Tunisia and Ghana - absorb more than half of the total investment.
- Climate mitigation accounted for 49 per cent of the financial flows, representing \$14.6 billion. At the same time, adaptation accounted for \$11.4 billion.

Nationally determined contributions (NDCs)

- Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of these long-term goals.
- NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- The Paris Agreement (Article 4, paragraph 2) requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve.
- Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.
- The Paris Agreement recognizes that the long-term goals specified in its Articles 2 and 4.1 will be achieved through time and, therefore, builds on a ratcheting up of aggregate and individual ambition over time.
- NDCs are submitted every five years to the UNFCCC secretariat.
- In order to enhance the ambition over time the Paris Agreement provide that successive NDCs will represent a progression compared to the previous NDC and reflect its highest possible ambition.
- Parties are requested to submit the next round of NDCs (new NDCs or updated NDCs) by 2020 and every five years thereafter (e.g. by 2020, 2025, 2030), regardless of their respective implementation time frames.

MEHAR BABA COMPETITION -II

Posted On: 23 SEP 2022 4:13PM by PIB Delhi

To provide a boost to the growing indigenous drone industry, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri had launched the "MEHAR BABA COMPETITION-II" on 06 April 2022 at Air Headquarters (Vayu Bhawan). The competition is aimed at developing technology for a "Swarm Drone Based System to Detect Foreign Objects on Aircraft Operating Surfaces". The competition is named after the legendary Air Commodore Mehar Singh, MVC, DSO - affectionately also known as Mehar Baba. The first edition of the competition was launched in October 2018 and had culminated in October 2021.

Key points

- The competition is named after the legendary Air Commodore Mehar Singh, MVC, DSO - affectionately also known as Mehar Baba.
- The first edition of the competition was launched in October 2018 and had culminated in October 2021.
- Registration for this competition is open to Indian citizens and Indian registered entities only.

Swarm drone system

- As per the conditions, the swarm drone system should be able to scan and detect sub-centimetre size foreign objects on aircraft operating surfaces.
- The specifications of the surfaces have been defined.
- The system should be able to carry a range of payloads and sensors, have image correction ability, provide alerts and provide accurate location and discernable image of foreign objects.
- The system should also be able to operate in GPS denied environment, complete operating cycle within 30 minutes and operate day and night and in reduced visibility as well as light windy conditions.



MEHAR BABA COMPETITION-II



Initiative of IAF

Are you a drone innovator?

Participate and Solve Real-Life Problems



Apply now !



Winners' Prize - ₹ 60 Lakhs

Development Funds - ₹ 13 Crores

Win Chance to Participate in ₹ 300 Crores Capital Procurement

Community seed bank initiative traces & restores heritage rice varieties in Tamil Nadu

Around 20 heritage rice varieties of Tamil Nadu are being traced, collected, redeemed, and restored atleast through 10 community seed banks benefiting more than 500 farmers in the state.

Key points about the Initiative

- These community seed banks have been promoted by identification of willing farmers based on location with assistance from local NGOs in 24 districts.
- A lead farmer cultivates one to many traditional varieties in his farm, a part of which when harvested is shared and distributed to other interested farmers in the neighboring localities and districts with or without payment.
- This is an informal structure with voluntary participation.
- A seed bank capital of Rs. 2000 was distributed to each beneficiary farmer to strengthen the heritage rice community seed banks.
- The initiative by SASTRA Deemed to be University, with support from the Science and Heritage Research Initiative (SHRI) programme of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), is reviving, conserving, and characterizing the traditional rice varieties.
- The operational principles of these banks include memory banking of ethno-ecological knowledge, promotion of medicinal knowledge, and special agronomic qualities through associated cultural belief as well as their conservation.
- Regional festivals also help to promote exchange of seeds. For example, paddy seed exchange festival –‘Nel Thiruvizha’ organized along with CREATE- a Tiruvarur-based NGO, helped distribute heritage rice seed varieties such as Karuppu kouni, Thuyya malli, Mapillai samba, Karunkuruvai and so on.
- During Paddy Seed Festivals, lead farmers may volunteer to distribute the seeds of these traditional varieties free of cost to hundreds of farmers at the rate of 1-2 kgs/farmer.
- Additionally interested farmers across the state are allowed to visit the on farm standing crops of these varieties.
- They communicate about the availability and quality of these varieties through apps and online media.
- Field gene banks have been set up to propagate the heirloom varieties through seed exchange programmes and organic seed multiplication.
- The initiative to collect & conserve the traditional landraces of rice varieties can help share and exchange knowledge about the varieties with inherent capacities to withstand climate uncertainties, drought and flood resistance, medicinal and nutritional properties.
- ‘Seeds of Past’ conserved to reserve ‘Seeds for future’ can be promoted for upscaling in coming years.

THANK YOU!



t.me/theiashub



[/mkyadav](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmkyadav)



www.theiashub.com/daily-quiz



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