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सत्यमेव जयते



MK Yadav Sir

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BUSINESS STANDARD

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GIFT CITY

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

$200 mn start-up deposits moved to GIFT: MoS IT

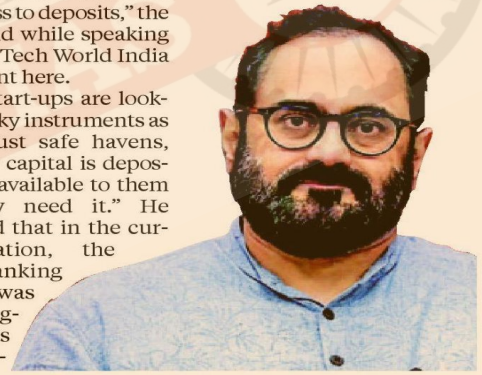
SOURABH LELE
New Delhi, 16 March

Around $200 million worth of deposits of Indian start-ups have been withdrawn from Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), which was taken over by US banking regulators last week after it collapsed, and moved to the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) IFSC, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, minister of state (MoS) for electronics and information technology said on Thursday.

"It turns out that there was over a billion dollars of deposits of Indian start-ups in SVB. The existential, solvency crisis that was there six-seven days ago has become much more manageable, even the short-term liquidity crisis is being addressed as the bank allows access to deposits," the minister said while speaking at Lenovo's Tech World India Edition event here.

"What start-ups are looking for is risky instruments as much as just safe havens, where their capital is deposited and is available to them when they need it." He emphasised that in the current situation, the Indian banking system was being recognised for its fast expansion, growth and prudence, which was important for depositors.

Chandrasekhar recently held a virtual meeting with over 460 representatives of start-ups, venture capitalists, and investors directly affected by SVB's closure. "I understand as of this morning there is about $200 million worth of those deposits that have moved to GIFT City. At the end of the day, there was a tendency historically to look at the American banking system as the gold standard, turns out it's not. The Indian financial sector has stayed resilient and strong and it should be the preferred banking partner for our start-ups," the minister said on Thursday.



Context: Around $200 million worth of deposits of Indian startups have been withdrawn from Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), which was taken over by US banking regulators last week after it collapsed, and moved to the **Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (GIFT City)** IFSC, minister of state (MoS) for electronics and information technology said.

GIFT City

- **About**: Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (GIFT City) is a **business district** currently being constructed in the state of Gujarat.
  - GIFT City is **India's first operational smart city** with the development of world-class infrastructure and sustainable master planning, which will make GIFT at par or above par with renowned centres like London, Shanghai, New York, Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai, etc.
  - **Promoted by the state government of Gujarat** as a greenfield project, it will include commercial and residential complexes.
  - GIFT is a vertical city that will optimise the land area consumption for the development.
- **Location**: GIFT is located on the **banks of Sabarmati river,** connecting business capital (Ahmedabad) and political capital (Gandhinagar) of Gujarat state - The Growth Engine of India.
  - The GIFT City is located 12 km from **Ahmedabad International Airport.**
- **Key Features**: GIFT City has a **dedicated multi-services Special Economic Zone (SEZ)** for International operations for various services sector players.
  - Also, GIFT multi-services SEZ has the status of **India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC)** approved by the Government of India.
  - The establishment of IFSC in India is **expected to increase employment opportunities,** thereby, enhancing economic activity and revenue generation.

PIB MARCH 17

e-NEGOTIABLE WAREHOUSE RECEIPT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

Memorandum of Understanding signed between WDRA and PNB to facilitate finance against e-NWRs

Context: To facilitate farmers and traders in providing low interest rate loans, **Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority(WDRA)** exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Punjab National Bank (PNB).

- The MoU was signed with the intent of promoting awareness about finance against **e-NWRs (electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt)** with features such as, no additional collateral and attractive interest rates.

Negotiable Warehouse Receipt System

- **About**: launched in 2011 **by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.**
  - The **Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e-NWR) System** was launched in 2017.
- **Issuance**: These are documents **issued by warehouses to depositors** against commodities deposited in warehouses for which warehouse is bailee.
- **Key features**: They are **transferred by endorsement and delivery** i.e. either original depositor or holder in due course (transferee) can claim commodities from warehouse.
  - NWRs can be **traded, sold, swapped and used as collateral** to support borrowing or loans from banks.
- **Regulation**: These receipts were made negotiable under **Warehouse (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007** and are regulated by Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA).

Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority

- **About**: It was constituted on 26th October 2010 under the **Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007.**
  - The Act **provides for the establishment of the WDRA to exercise the powers conferred on it** and to perform the functions assigned to it under the Act, Rules and Regulations for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts and promote orderly growth of the warehousing business in the country.
- **Nodal Department:** It is statutory authority under the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.
- **Headquarter**: New Delhi.

DIGI YATRA

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Infrastructure)

No Centralised Storage of Data Under DigiYatra, Govt Clarifies

New Delhi: The civil aviation ministry on Thursday said that under the DigiYatra process, air passengers' data is stored in their own devices and there is no centralised storage of information. DigiYatra is a biometric boarding system using facial recognition technology to provide a seamless and hassle-free experience for passengers at airports.

"Under DigiYatra, passengers' data is stored in their own device and not in centralised storage. In the DigiYatra process, there is no central storage of passengers' Personally Identifiable Information (PII) data. "All the passengers' data is encrypted and stored in the wallet of their smartphone. It is shared only between the passenger and the airport of travel origin, where the passenger's DigiYatra ID needs to be validated," the release said. PTI



Context: The civil aviation ministry said that under the **DigiYatra process,** air passengers' data is stored in their own devices and there is no centralised storage of information.

Digi Yatra

- **About**:It is a **biometric boarding system using Facial Recognition Technology** to provide a seamless and hassle-free experience for passengers at airports.
- **Objectives**: It enhances passenger experience by **eliminating the need for verification of ticket and ID** at multiple touchpoints and provides better throughput through existing infrastructure using a Digital Framework.
- **Implemented across airports in a phased manner**: In the first phase, it was **launched by Minister of Civil Aviation** on 01.12.2022 at Delhi, Bengaluru, and Varanasi Airports.
  - The implementation of Digi Yatra under phase I is also planned at Kolkata, Pune, Vijayawada, and Hyderabad Airports by March 2023.
- **Implementing Agency:** The project is being implemented by the **DigiYatra Foundation** - a joint-venture company whose shareholders are the Airports Authority of India (26% stake) and Bengaluru Airport, Delhi Airport, Hyderabad Airport, Mumbai Airport and Cochin International Airport.
  - These five shareholders equally hold the remaining 74% of the shares.
- **Key Features:** It is a v**oluntary facility.**
  - There is **no central storage** of passengers Personally Identifiable Information data.
  - All the passenger's **data is encrypted and stored in the wallet of the passenger's smartphone** and shared only for a limited time duration with the airport of travel origin where the passenger's Digi Yatra ID needs to be validated.
  - The **data is purged from the system** within 24 hours of the flight.

INDIAN EXPRESS

Page 1

SUSPENSION OF MP FROM PARLIAMENT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Polity & Governance)

BJP moves to get Rahul suspended from House, police send him notice

Party turns to Speaker for special panel over Congress leader's remarks in UK

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, MARCH 16

TURNING UP the heat on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his remarks in the UK on Indian democracy, the ruling BJP has initiated moves to suspend him from Lok Sabha if he does not apologise in the House.

The party has already approached Speaker Om Birla, seeking to form a special committee to explore the possibility of suspending the Wayanad MP from the House. BJP sources said the matter is "not just a privilege issue, it's much beyond that".

The Delhi Police, meanwhile, has issued notice to Rahul Gandhi, seeking information on the sexual assault victims that he

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

CRITIC & CRITICISM

Contest Rahul's despairing speech, but BJP must stop move to get him suspended. It's a self-goal, it's wrong. P14

Rahul counter: Whether am allowed to speak, shut up is test of democracy

TMC not for JPC, hits out at Cong

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 16

IN THE BJP's line of fire over his remarks in the United Kingdom, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who attended the second half of the Budget session for the first time Thursday after returning to the country, said whether he will be allowed to speak on the floor of the House or told to "shut up" would be the "test of Indian democracy".



Rahul Gandhi, Jairam Ramesh on Thursday. *Anil Sharma*

Addressing the press at the Congress headquarters, Rahul Gandhi said he met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla in Parliament House and conveyed his position that as an elected MP he reserves the "right to speak", particularly since "four ministers" have levelled allegations against him over the last few days.

"If the Indian democracy was functioning, I would be able to say my piece in Parliament. So actually what you are seeing is a test of Indian democracy. After four leaders of the BJP have made an allegation about a Member of Parliament, is that Member of Parliament going to be given the same space that those four ministers have been given or is he going to be told to shut up? That's the real question that is in front of this country right now," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Context: Turning up the heat on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his remarks in the UK on Indian democracy, the ruling BJP has **initiated moves to suspend him** from Lok Sabha if he does not apologise in the House.

Suspension of MPs

- **About**: It is the **role and duty of the Presiding Officer** - Speaker of Lok Sabha and Chairman of Rajya Sabha - to maintain order so that the House can function smoothly.
  - In order to ensure that proceedings are conducted in the proper manner, the Speaker/ Chairman is **empowered to force a Member to withdraw from the House.**
- **Rules under which the Presiding Officer/Chairman acts:**
  - **For Lok Sabha:**
    - **Rule Number 373 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business**
      - It **empowers presiding officers to direct an MP** to withdraw from the House for any disorderly conduct.
      - This rule says that any Member so ordered to withdraw shall remain absent during the remainder of the day's sitting.
    - **Rules 374 and 374A - To deal with more recalcitrant (uncooperative)**
      - Rule 374 **empowers the Presiding officers to name the legislators** if the MP continues disrupting the House even after repeated warnings.
      - After that, the House can **move a motion to suspend the MP** for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session
      - Rule 374A was incorporated in the Rule Book in December 2001. The intention was to circumvent the necessity of adopting a motion for suspension.
        - Under this rule, the **Speaker can name an MP,** who shall then automatically stand suspended for five days or the remaining part of the session, whichever is less.
        - Provided that the House may, at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that such suspension be terminated.
  - **For Rajya Sabha**
    - **Rule 255 of the Rule Book of Rajya Sabha**
      - It empowers the Chairman of Rajya Sabha to **direct any Member to withdraw immediately** from the House for any disorderly conduct.
    - **Rule 256**
      - This rule empowers the Chairman to **name the members who persistently disregards the authority** of the Chair or abuses the rules of the Council.
      - After that, the House may **adopt a motion suspending the Member** for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session.
      - It should be noted that, unlike Lok Sabha (under rule 374A), **Rajya Sabha can not suspend its members without passing a motion for the same.**

TIMES OF INDIA

Page 20

NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Govt. Policies & Interventions)

₹200-500 pension for widows, elderly upsets House panel

Not Acceptable At All, It Says, Calls For Enhanced Amount

Ambika.Pandit
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: A parliamentary panel in its report tabled in Parliament while highlighting the meagre amount of pension ranging from Rs 200 to Rs 500 for elderly, widows and persons with disability under the National Social Assistance Programme says that this is "not acceptable at all."

The panel has recommended to the ministry of rural development to make a fresh proposal to the Cabinet and "utilise their convincing abilities" to urgently push for increasing the pension amount.

There are over three crore beneficiaries from the below poverty line (BPL) category covered by various components of NSAP. While the pensions under this scheme remain unchanged despite repeated demands for an increase, state top-ups too vary widely ranging from anywhere between as little as Rs 50 to Rs 3,200 per month.

Getty Images



There are over three crore beneficiaries from the BPL category covered by various components of National Social Assistance Programme

The 31-member department related standing committee on rural development and panchayati raj in its report on the demands for grants 2023-24 pertaining to the department of rural development observes that "it is beyond comprehension as to how can such low assistance provide any sort of relief to beneficiaries who belong to extremely marginalised and economically distressed section of the society."

The Committee chaired by Kanimozhi Karunanidhi in its report observes that the meagre assistance amount has been a cause of concern to the Committee for a long period of time. "The Committee find this abysmally low amount, when the cost of living has increased substantially, not acceptable at all," it is stated.

National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme. The components of Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme range from a mere Rs 200 to Rs 500 per month for eligible beneficiaries. Besides this NSAP also includes the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) where Rs 20,000 is provided to the survivor head of BPL families on the death of primary breadwinner aged 18-59 years. Under Annapurna scheme 10 kg of food grains are provided per month to BPL senior citizens not receiving old age pension. NFBS and Annapurna are demand-based schemes.

Context: A parliamentary panel in its report tabled in Parliament while highlighting the meagre amount of pension ranging from Rs 200 to Rs 500 for elderly, widows and persons with disability under the **National Social Assistance Programme** says that this is "not acceptable at all. "

- The panel has recommended to the ministry of rural development to **make a fresh proposal to the Cabinet** and "utilise their convincing abilities" to urgently push for increasing the pension amount.

National Social Assistance Programme

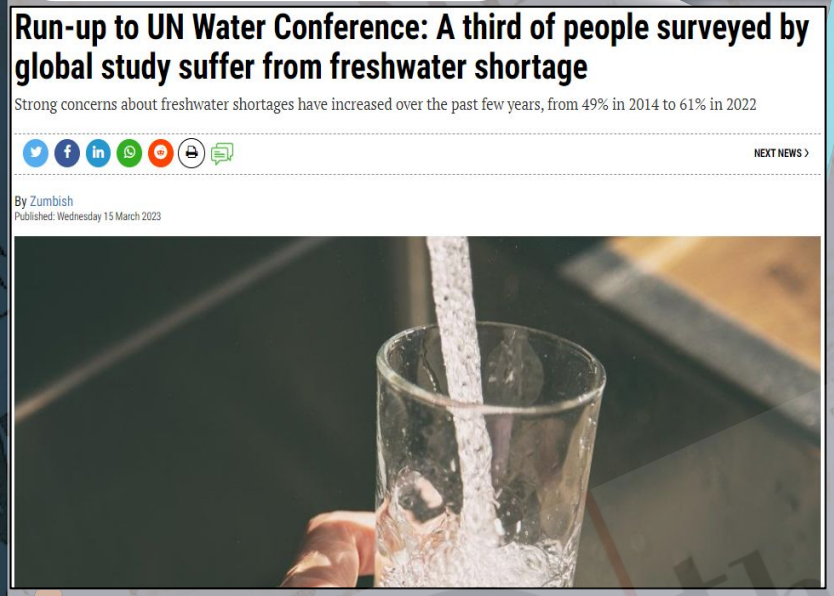
- **About**: It was launched on 15th August 1995. It is under the **Ministry of Rural Development.**
  - It represents a significant step toward the fulfilment of the **Directive Principles in Articles 41 and 42 of the Constitution** recognizing the concurrent responsibility of the Central and State Governments in the matter.
  - In particular, **Article 41 of the Constitution of India** directs the State to provide public assistance to its citizens in case of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement and in other cases of undeserved want within the limit of its economic capacity and development.
- **Presently NSAP comprises five schemes, namely:**
  - **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS):** For individuals aged 60 years and above living Below the Poverty Line. They shall get Rs. 200 per month for beneficiaries aged 60-79 and Rs. 500 per month for those 80 years and above.
  - **Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS):** Widows aged 40 years and above living Below the Poverty Line. They shall get Rs. 300 per month and Rs. 500 for those 80 years and above.
  - **Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)**: Individuals aged 18 years and above with more than 80% disability and living below the poverty line. They shall get Rs. 300 per month and Rs. 500 for those 80 years and above.
  - **National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)**: In the event of the death of a breadwinner, the family will receive a lump sum assistance of Rs. 20000. The breadwinner should have been between 18-60 years of age. The assistance would be provided in every case of the death of a breadwinner in a household.
  - **Annapurna Scheme**: This scheme aims to provide food security to meet the requirement of those senior citizens who, though eligible, have remained uncovered under the IGNOAPS. Under the Annapurna Scheme, 10 kg of free rice is provided every month to each beneficiary.

DTE

MARCH 17

UN WATER CONFERENCE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)



Run-up to UN Water Conference: A third of people surveyed by global study suffer from freshwater shortage

Strong concerns about freshwater shortages have increased over the past few years, from 49% in 2014 to 61% in 2022

NEXT NEWS >

By Zumbish

Published: Wednesday 15 March 2023

Context: A global study published days before the **UN 2023 Water Conference** showed that 58 percent of people from 31 countries are seriously concerned about freshwater shortages, whereas 30 per cent claim to be greatly impacted by it.

- The first UN Water Conference in almost five decades is taking place in New York on 22-24 March, **co-hosted by the Netherlands and Tajikistan.**

Key Points

- The report coincides with sustainability consultancy **GlobeScan's latest webinar**.
- The research was carried out by GlobeScan and released by Circle of Blue, a non-profit newsroom and the conservation organisation **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)** on March 15.
- The **participating countries** include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, the UK, the USA and Vietnam.

UN Water Conference

- **About**: Since the **first UN Water Conference was held in Argentina in 1977**, the Earth's population has doubled to 8 billion people and demand for water is skyrocketing.
  - The **UN 2023 Water Conference** is the most important water event in a generation.
  - It also marks the halfway point through the International Decade for Action **"Water for Sustainable Development",** adopted by the UN General Assembly on World Water Day – 22 March 2018 – to help put a greater focus on water.
- **Objectives**: Officially titled the **"The United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action 'Water for Sustainable Development', (2018-2028),"** the Conference aims to raise awareness of the global water crisis and decide on action to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals.
- **Five Themes:**
  - **Water for Health**: Access to 'WASH' (Global Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene) including the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation
  - **Water for Sustainable Development:** Valuing water, the water-energy-food nexus and sustainable economic and urban development.
  - **Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment:** Source to sea, biodiversity, climate, resilience and disaster risk reduction.
  - **Water for Cooperation**: Transboundary and international water cooperation, cross sectoral cooperation and water across the 2030 Agenda.
  - **Water Action Decade:** Accelerating the implementation of the objectives of the Decade for Action, including through the UN Secretary-General's Action Plan.

DTE

MARCH 17

ASIATIC LION

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

Second home for Gujarat lions: 40 big cats to be moved to Barda from overflowing Gir

Translocation under Project Lion; previous papers suggest Barda may be too geographically close, may not be able to hold so many Asiatic lions



Context: The Gujarat government has planned to translocate 40 adult and sub-adult lions to the **Barda Wildlife Sanctuary** in the state, according to a new report by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) under the Union Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change.

- Asiatic lions are **currently found in nine districts of Gujarat,** including Junagadh, Gir-Somnath, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Botad, Porbandar, Jamnagar and Surendranagar, falling under the Saurashtra region.

Key Points

- **Barda sanctuary**, about 100 kilometres away from **Gir National Park,** has been identified as a potential site to accommodate the Asiatic Lions.
- Carnivore populations **restricted to single sites face various extinction threats** from genetic and stochastic environmental factors.
- Experts have **demanded translocation of lions** in India for the past two decades as the big cats have been geographically isolated in Gir.
- A second home would protect the lion population from extinction in case of diseases like the Canine Distemper Virus leads to their deaths.

Asiatic Lion

- **About**: The **Asiatic Lion (also known as the Persian Lion or Indian Lion)** is a member of the Panthera Leo Leo subspecies that is restricted to India.
  - The Asiatic Lion is **one of the five pantherine cats** native to India. The others being: the Bengal Tiger, the Indian Leopard, Snow Leopard and the Clouded Leopard.
- **Habitat**: Its previous habitats consisted of West Asia and the Middle East before it became extinct in these regions.
  - Today their **range is restricted to the Gir National Park in Gujarat.**
- **Protection Status:**
  - **IUCN Red List:** Endangered
  - **CITES**: Appendix I
  - **Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972:** Schedule I
- **Conservation Efforts:** The **"Asiatic Lion Conservation Project"** has been launched by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
  - It envisages scientific management with the involvement of communities in coordination with multi-sectoral agencies for disease control and veterinary care for overall conservation of Asiatic lions.

THE HINDU Page 12

DEFENCE ACQUISITION PROCEDURE 2020

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Defence Sector)

Defence acquisition proposals valued at ₹70,500 cr. cleared

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Accordance of AoN is a significant step as India is venturing into development of marine diesel engine

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, on Thursday accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for capital acquisition proposals estimated at ₹70,500 crore. Some of the projects are long-gestation projects involving indigenous design and development including the development of marine diesel engine.

The AoN has been accorded for capital acquisitions under 'Buy Indian-IDDM' (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured), the Defence Ministry said. "Out of the total proposals, Indian Navy proposals constitute more than ₹56,000 crore, which largely includes indigenous BrahMos cruise missiles, Shakti Electronic Warfare (EW) systems, Utility Helicopters-Maritime among others," it said in a statement. An AoN is the beginning of the long winding procurement process.

Other proposals include a Long Range Stand-Off Weapon (LRSOW) for the Indian Air Force (IAF) to be designed and developed indigenously and integrated on SU-30 MKI fighters and the indigenous 155mm/52-Calibre Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) along with High Mobility Vehicles (HMVs) and Gun Towing Vehicles (GTVs) for the Army.

Accordance of AoN for medium-speed marine diesel engine is a significant step as, for the first time, India is venturing into the development and manufacturing of such engines indigenously to achieve self-reliance, the Ministry said.

Context: The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** chaired by Defence Minister accorded **Acceptance of Necessity (AoN)** for capital acquisition proposals worth ₹70,500 crore.

- The AoN has been accorded for capital acquisitions under '**Buy Indian-IDDM' (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured).**
- The Defence Acquisition Council is the highest decision-making body in the Defence Ministry for deciding on new policies and capital acquisitions for the three services (Army, Navy and Air Force) and the Indian Coast Guard.

Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020

- **About**: In 2020, Defence Minister unveiled the **Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020.**
  - The DAP 2020 will eventually replace the existing **Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2016.**
  - DAP comprises processes that should be **followed by the Government entities** while procuring defence items.
- **Reserved categories**: Under the procedure, the following categories are to be exclusively reserved for Indian vendors:
  - **Buy (Indian-IDDM)**
  - **Make in India I and II**
  - **Production Agency in Design and Development**
  - **Ordnance Factory Board and Defence Public Sector Unit.**
- **No offset clause**: From now on there will be **no offset clause in government-to-government**, single vendor and IGAs.
  - Under the offset clause, **foreign companies are required to invest** part of their deal value in the country and meant to improve domestic defence manufacturing.
- **Support to Make in India initiative**: **Indigenous Content of various categories** has been increased by 10%.
- **New Category**: **Buy (Global - Manufacture in India)** has been introduced.
  - The items under this category will **hold a minimum of 50% indigenous content** on the cost basis of the total contract value.
  - A new category introduced to **enable operating of assets without owning** thereby, substitute huge initial capital outlays.

PIB MARCH 17

INS DRONACHARYA

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Defence Sector)

PRESIDENT OF INDIA PRESENTS PRESIDENT'S COLOUR TO INS DRONACHARYA

Context: The President of India presented the President's Colour to **INS Dronacharya** in Kochi.

- Speaking about her visit to **INS Vikrant,** the President said that the indigenously built modern aircraft carrier INS Vikrant is a shining example of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

INS Dronacharya

- **About**: INS Dronacharya is the **gunnery school** of the Indian Navy.
- **Location**: It is located in **Kochi, Kerala.**
- **Functions**: It is responsible for **training 820 officers and 2100 ratings per year** in small-arms, naval missiles, artillery, radar and defensive countermeasures.

INS Vikrant

- **About**: The name 'INS Vikrant' originally belonged to **India's first aircraft carrier** which was acquired from the UK, and played a vital role in the 1971 War with Pakistan before it was decommissioned in 1997.
- **Design & Development:** By the **Indian Navy's in-house Warship Design Bureau (WDB)** and built by Cochin Shipyard Limited, a Public Sector Shipyard under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.
  - It has been built with **state-of-the-art automation features** and is the largest ship ever built-in maritime history of India.
- **Operational capability**: The ship is **capable of operating an air wing** consisting of 30 aircraft comprising MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31, MH-60R multi-role helicopters, in addition to indigenously manufactured Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) and Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) (Navy).
  - The ship can accommodate an assortment of **fixed-wing and rotary aircraft.**
  - The warship will also offer an "incomparable military instrument with its **ability to project Air Power over long distances**, including offensive, Air Interdiction, Anti-Surface Warfare, defensive Counter-Air, Airborne Anti-Submarine Warfare and Airborne Early Warning.

DST

MARCH 17

STARBERRY-SENSE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

Astronomers develop a low-cost alternative for satellites to orient themselves in space

Context: A new low-cost star sensor developed by astronomers from off-the-shelf components can help small **CubeSat class satellite missions** find their orientation in space.

- This instrument, **'Starberry-Sense**,' is ready for launch on the PS4-Orbital Platform by ISRO and can be used for CubeSats and other small satellite missions in the future.

Key Points

- Any satellite needs to know where it is pointed in space, and the instrument used for this purpose is called a **star sensor.**
- The **position of stars** in the sky is fixed relative to each other and can be used as a stable reference frame to calculate the orientation of a satellite in orbit.
- This is **done by correctly identifying the stars** in the sky towards which the star sensor is pointed.
- The star sensor is essentially a **celestial compass.**
- In recent years, **CubeSats and small satellite missions** have gained huge popularity.
- These missions **utilize commercially available components** for their design and development, but the typical cost of a commercially available star sensor often exceeds the total budget for a CubeSat.

CubeSat class satellite

- **About**: CubeSats are a c**lass of nanosatellites** that use a standard size and form factor.
- **Size**: The standard CubeSat size uses **a "one unit" or "1U"** measuring 10x10x10 cms and is extendable to larger sizes; 1.5, 2, 3, 6, and even 12U.
- **Significance**: CubeSats now **provide a cost effective platform for science investigations**, new technology demonstrations and advanced mission concepts using constellations, swarms disaggregated systems.

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