

May – 09

NATIONAL

Continuation of PMSSY

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) beyond 12th Five Year Plan to 2019-20.
- ❖ The PMSSY is a central sector scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)

- ❖ Its objectives are correcting regional imbalances in the availability of affordable/reliable tertiary healthcare services and augment facilities for quality medical education in the country.
- ❖ PMSSY was announced in 2003 and It establishes AIIMS in various regions of India apart from different government colleges.
- ❖ It is funded from different centrally sponsored schemes relating to creating infrastructure on public health.

Law for speedy disposal of commercial disputes

- ❖ The government has approved an ordinance to amend a law for the speedy disposal of commercial disputes to improve India's ranking in the Ease of Doing Business Index.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the ordinance to amend the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act.
- ❖ The amendment also provides for the establishment of commercial courts at district judge level for the territories over which the high courts of Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Himachal Pradesh have ordinary original civil jurisdiction.

Restructuring of Indian Bureau of Mines

- ❖ The government approved the restructuring of Indian Bureau of Mines to reform the mineral sector regulation.
- ❖ The mines ministry had formed a panel for comprehensive 'Review and Restructuring of the Functions and Role of IBM' in the light of the 'National Mineral Policy' in 2008.



- ❖ The restructuring would enable the adoption of IT and space technology by the bureau to improve its effectiveness in mineral regulation and development.
- ❖ The restructuring of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) by upgradation, creation, and abolition of certain posts of Joint Secretary-level and above. It also includes the creation of one post of Chief Controller of Mines and three posts of Controller of Mines in Level 14.

Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

- ❖ A task force was set up by the Home Ministry to provide suggestions on disaster risk reduction recently.
- ❖ Now this task force has presented its report on disaster risk reduction to Home Minister Rajnath Singh.
- ❖ The report on Establishing a Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) provides a step-by-step implementation plan and analysis in order to build and operationalize a coalition on disaster risk reduction.
- ❖ The task force was headed by Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs.

Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

- ❖ The Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) recently held in New Delhi.
- ❖ This conference has outlined a 10-point agenda for disaster risk reduction.
- ❖ Under the first agenda, the prime minister had said that India will work with other partner countries and key stakeholders to build a Disaster Risk Reduction coalition or centre for promoting disaster resilient infrastructure in the region.

Gandikota Fort adoption

- ❖ The Dalmia Bharat Group has entered into an understanding with the Union ministry of Tourism and Culture and the Archaeological Survey of India to adopt Gandikota Fort in Kadappa, Andhra Pradesh which is sometimes called the Grand Canyon of the South.
- ❖ "Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan" is a collaborative effort to develop synergy among all partners to effectively promote 'responsible tourism'.



29th International Maritime Boundary Line meeting

- ❖ The 29th International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) meeting between Sri Lanka and India was held onboard Indian Naval Ship 'Sumithra' at the Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Line off Kankasanthurai, Jaffna District, Northern Province, Sri Lanka.



- ❖ The annual IMBL meeting is held with the aim of strengthening relations and operational readiness between the Navies and Coast Guards of the two countries.
- ❖ The previous (28th) IMBL meeting was conducted onboard Sri Lanka Navy Ship 'Sayura' on May (19), last year (2017).

INTERNATIONAL

51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- ❖ The Government of the Philippines hosted the Asian Development Bank ADB's 51st annual gathering in Manila.
- ❖ The ADB was founded in 1966 and was mandated to lift people out of poverty and fund projects which will benefit society at large.



- ❖ Since its inception, ADB has been led conventionally by a Japanese governor, with the larger quantum of funding coming from Japan and United States.
- ❖ The ADB has 67 member countries, including — 48 from the Asian region.
- ❖ India is a founding member of the ADB and is currently the fourth-largest shareholder and the largest borrower of ADB sovereign lending since 2010.

ECONOMY

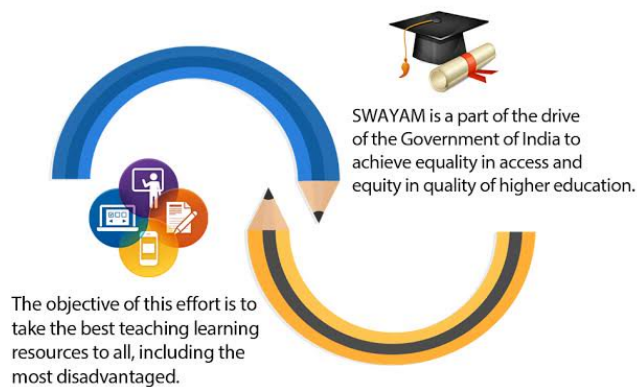
Investment limit for PMVVY

- ❖ The Union Cabinet Committee, chaired by Prime Minister approved extending the investment limit from Rs 7.5 lakh to Rs 15 lakh under the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY).
- ❖ The PMVVY is being implemented through Life Insurance Corp (LIC) to provide social security during old age and protect the elderly aged 60 years and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions.
- ❖ The scheme provides an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8 percent per annum for 10 years.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SWAYAM

- ❖ Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) launched an initiative of online professional development of 1.5 million higher education faculty using Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform SWAYAM.
- ❖ Under its first phase of implementation, 75 discipline-specific National Resource Centres (NRCs) have been identified.



- ❖ A varied set of institutions such as, Centres under the Ministry's Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNMTT) located in Central Universities, IISc, IUCAA, IITs, IISERs, NITs, State Universities; UGC's Human Resource Development Centres(HRDCs), National Institutes for Technical Teachers Training (NITTTRs), IIITs, Open Universities have been notified as NRCs.
- ❖ SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active –Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) is an indigenous developed IT platform that facilitates hosting of all the courses, taught in classrooms from 9th grade till post-graduation.

STATES

Digitally-Signed Documents

- ❖ Maharashtra became the first state to provide digitally-signed land record receipts (also known as 7/12 receipts).
- ❖ The 7/12 receipt is the most important document which establishes the ownership of the land and is primarily used by farmers while applying for loans.

Airport in Sindhudurg

- ❖ The work for the new airport in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra is expected to be completed in June this year.
- ❖ The airport is to come up at Parule Chipi in Sindhudurg district.
- ❖ At present, Maharashtra has three international and 13 domestic airports.

SPORTS

Justin Langer

- ❖ Cricket Australia has named former Test opener Justin Langer as the new coach of the national men's team in all three forms of the game.
- ❖ Cricket Australia is Australia's national cricket body. he appointed for the period of four years.



- ❖ During his period Australian cricket team is going to play in two Ashes series, 2019 World Cup in England and the 2020 World Twenty 20 in Australia.

WBC Asia's Female Champion of the Year

- ❖ Singapore's Professional boxer Nurshahidah Roslie was named WBC Asia's Female Champion of the Year.



- ❖ WBC Asia - formally known as the Asian Boxing Council - is an affiliate of the World Boxing Council (WBC), one of the world's four major boxing sanctioning bodies.
 - ❖ The other major boxing sanctioning bodies are World Boxing Organisation (WBO), International Boxing Federation (IBF) and World Boxing Association (WBA).
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