

December - 28

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Cabinet has given its nod to the 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) in Direct-to-Home (DTH) broadcasting services and increased the license period to twenty years.
 - India is the largest DTH market in the world.
- ❖ Vineet Aggarwal becomes new ASSOCHAM President.
 - He has replaced the Co-founder and MD of Hiranandani Group, Niranjan Hiranandani.
- ❖ The Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated eight Khelo India Centres of Excellence across India.
 - The centres are located in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Telangana, Kerala, Nagaland, Odisha and Karnataka.

NATIONAL

FDI in Railways

- ❖ The largest foreign direct investment (FDI) project worth 25000 crores rupees in the Railways has been won by Alstom of France.
- ❖ It has won the contract to supply 800 fully electric locomotives of 12,000 HP for Indian Railways.
- ❖ These locos are capable of hauling approximately 6,000 tonnes at a top speed of 120 kmph.
- ❖ India becomes sixth nation to manufacture high-power electric locos locally.
- ❖ The other countries are Russia, China, Germany and Sweden.
- ❖ In 2018, the first-ever e-loco of 12,000 horsepower engines was flagged off from the Madhepura facility in Bihar.

INTERNATIONAL

Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile (TPiE)

- ❖ The USA Congress passes Tibetan Policy and Support Act.




- ❖ It reaffirms the rights of the Tibetan Buddhists to choose the next incarnation of the Dalai Lama without any interference of China.
- ❖ The Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile (TPiE) has its headquarters in Dharamsala, in the Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh
- ❖ The incumbent and the 14th Dalai Lama has been living in exile in India ever since his 1959 escape from Tibet.

Coastal Radar Network

- ❖ India plans to set up coastal radar stations in the Maldives, Myanmar and Bangladesh.
- ❖ Mauritius, Seychelles and Sri Lanka have already been integrated into the country's coastal radar chain network.
- ❖ Indian Navy's Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC) is the nodal agency for maritime data fusion.
- ❖ Located in Gurugram of Haryana, it was set up after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IIT-Delhi's 'mock eggs'

JUST LIKE THE REAL THING		
MOCK MEAT		PROCESS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Mung beans omelette, developed by an IIT team, wins UNDP Accelerator Lab India's Innovate4SDG contest➤ The team has also developed mock chicken patties and fish➤ Mutton, turkey, pork and beef being developed		<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Identify plants with high-protein content➤ These include mung beans and Indian fruits and vegetables➤ Extraction of proteins from these plants in the laboratory➤ Testing of the extracted protein for toxicity and bio-absorbability➤ Checking the alternative for texture, bite-size, nutrition, aroma and taste
		

- ❖ IIT Delhi has secured first prize at Innovate4SDG contest.
- ❖ It was organized by 'UNDP (United Nation Development Program) Accelerator Lab India'.
- ❖ It was a plant-based mock egg developed by Prof Kavya Dashora of IIT Delhi.

- ❖ The development of the mock egg meets the protein needs of the diet-specific
- ❖ This innovation addresses SDG 2 and 3 (zero hunger and good health and well-being).

Medium Range Surface-To-Air Missile

- ❖ It was recently tested from a defence facility in Odisha.
- ❖ It is a one command control system that tracks missiles, radar and mobile launcher systems.
- ❖ It was manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Ltd.
- ❖ The DRDO has jointly developed this missile in collaboration with Israel.



ENVIRONMENT

Rehabilitation centre for monkeys

- ❖ The first rescue and rehabilitation centre for monkeys in the Telangana State was inaugurated at Gandhi Ramanna Haritavanam recently.
- ❖ It is the second such facility for the primates in the country after the first one is in Himachal Pradesh.



Basel Convention

- ❖ The European Union is to completely ban the exports of unsorted plastic to poor countries.
- ❖ The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was signed in 1989.
- ❖ The convention was signed to reduce the movement of hazardous waste between the nations.
- ❖ India is a party of Basel Convention, but is yet to ratify it.

BASEL CONVENTION

WHEN AND WHERE

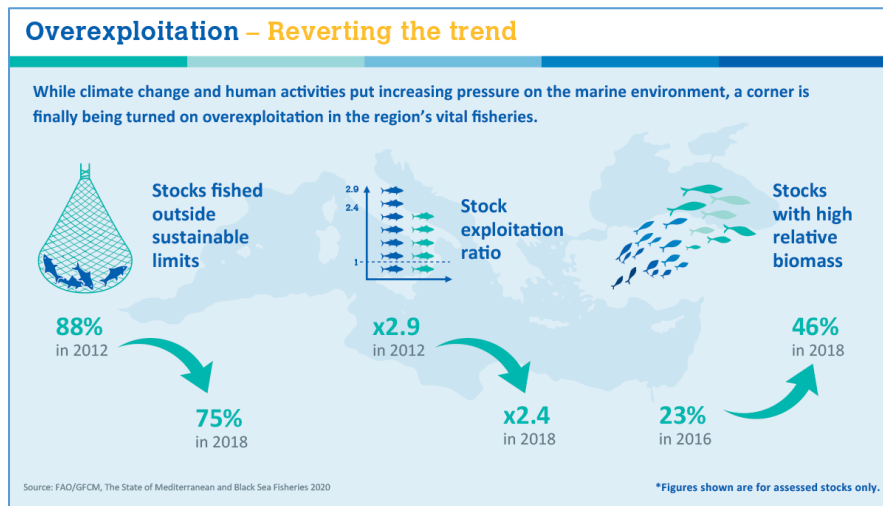
- Year 1989

FEATURES

- Aims on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposals
- Was designed to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations and specifically to prevent transfer of hazardous waste from developed nations to less developed countries
- Does not address the movement of radioactive wastes
- It is a non-binding convention

State of Mediterranean and Black Sea Fisheries 2020

- ❖ The Food and Agriculture Organization recently released this report
- ❖ According to the report, the number of stocks has decreased for the first time in decades in Mediterranean and Black sea marine Eco systems.
- ❖ 75% of fish stocks in the region are subjected to overfishing.
- ❖ The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 aims to conserve and sustainably use oceans, marine resources and seas for sustainable development.



STATES

Bodo Language

- ❖ The Assam Cabinet recently approved the bill to make Bodo an official language of the state.
- ❖ The official language of Assam is Assamese.
- ❖ The additional official languages are Bengali and Bodo.

SPORTS

Cologne Boxing World Cup

- ❖ India finished with second spot in the Cologne World Cup held at Germany.
- ❖ It won 3 gold medals, 2 silver and 4 bronze medals.

- ❖ These gold medals were won by Simranjit Kaur, Manisha and Amit Panghal.
- ❖ Silver were won by Amit Panghal and Satish Kumar.
- ❖ The event featured boxers from the host country Germany, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, France, Moldova, Netherlands, Poland and Ukraine.



Khelo India Youth Games 2021

- ❖ The Sports Ministry recently approved the inclusion of four indigenous sports to the Khelo India Youth Games 2021.
- ❖ They are Gatka of Punjab, Thang-Ta of Manipur, Kalaripayattu of Kerala and Mallakhamba of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ Khelo India Youth Games 2021 is scheduled to take place in Haryana.

