

July - 08

## **NATIONAL**

### **Report on Take-Home Ration**

- ❖ NITI Aayog recently launched a report titled 'Take Home Ration-Good Practices across the State/Union Territories'.
- ❖ The World Food Programme also part of this survey.
- ❖ It presents a set of good and innovative practices adopted in the implementation of the Take Home Ration value chain by the States and UTs.
- ❖ The Government of India provides Take Home Ration under the Supplementary Nutrition component of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) to fulfill the gap in nutrition among children as well as pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

### **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure**



- ❖ Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved the categorization of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as an 'International Organization'.
- ❖ It also approved the signing of the Headquarters Agreement (HQA) with CDRI for granting it the exemptions, immunities and privileges.
- ❖ It was done under the United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947.

- ❖ This will provide CDRI an independent and international legal personality.
- ❖ So that it can efficiently and effectively carry out its functions internationally.
- ❖ CDRI was first proposed by Prime Minister during the 2016 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in New Delhi.

## **SBI Foundation Day**

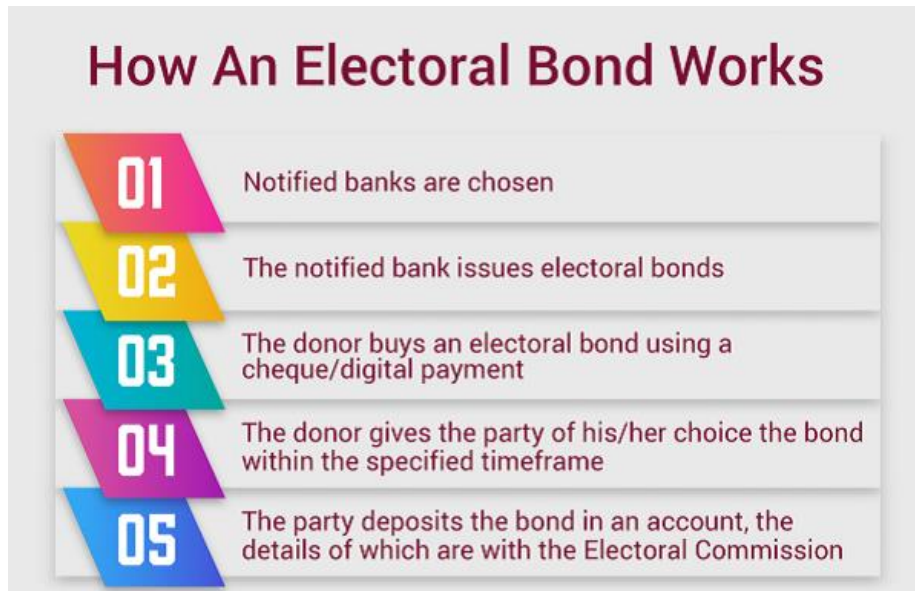


- ❖ The oldest commercial bank in the country, State Bank of India, is celebrating its 67<sup>th</sup> year on 1<sup>st</sup> July.
- ❖ SBI descends from the Bank of Calcutta founded in 1806 through the Imperial Bank of India.
- ❖ The Bank of Madras merged into the bank of Calcutta and the bank of Bombay to form the Imperial Bank of India
- ❖ Later it became the SBI in 1955.
- ❖ The Bank of Madras was established on 2nd June 1806.
- ❖ The Bank of Bombay was incorporated on 15 April 1840.
- ❖ The Bank of Madras was incorporated on 1 July 1843.

## **Issue of Electoral Bonds**

- ❖ The Union Government authorised the SBI for issue of and encashing Electoral Bonds through its 29 Authorised Branches.
- ❖ The Electoral bonds are instruments through which anyone can donate money to political parties.
- ❖ Electoral Bonds are valid for fifteen calendar days from the date of issue.

- ❖ No payment is made to any payee Political Party, if the Electoral Bond is deposited after expiry of the validity period.
- ❖ The expired bonds values are deposited by the SBI into the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.
- ❖ The electoral bonds do not comprise of name of the donor.
- ❖ So, political party may not know about donor's identity.



## INTERNATIONAL

### RIMPAC 2022



- ❖ The RIMPAC-22 exercise was held near the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California in the Pacific.
- ❖ 27 countries are participating in the current edition of the multi-dimensional exercise.
- ❖ It's one of the largest biennial multilateral Naval Exercises led by US.
- ❖ The RIMPAC started in 1971 as an annual exercise by the US, Australia, and Canada.
- ❖ But from 1974, this maritime exercise became a biennial event.
- ❖ India first participated in RIMPAC in 2014.
- ❖ The theme of RIMPAC 2022 is “capable, adaptive, partners”.

## ECONOMY

### Future Unicorn Index 2022

Top 10 Gazelles in India			
Startup	Funding received (in \$ mn)	Year founded	Sector
Shiprocket	355	2017	Logistics Tech
Zepto	360	2021	Quick Commerce
Turtlemint	200	2015	E-Commerce
Ather Energy	290	2013	Electric Vehicle
Vivriti Capital	190	2017	Fintech
Ninjacart	370	2015	AgriTech
Dunzo	700	2015	Quick Commerce
Rapido	310	2015	Shared Economy
Clear Tax	140	2011	Fintech
Twin Health	200	2018	HealthTech

Source - ASK Private Wealth Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2022

- ❖ The Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2022 was released by Hurun Research Institute
- ❖ As per index, India will have 122 new unicorns in next two to four years.
- ❖ Gazelles are the companies, which are likely to become unicorns in following two years.
- ❖ Gazelles are expected to be worth between USD 500 million and USD 1 billion.
- ❖ Cheetahs are the start-ups that could turn into unicorn in next four years.
- ❖ A unicorn is a privately held start-up company, with value of more than USD 1 billion.

- ❖ This term was first published in 2013.
- ❖ It was coined by venture capitalist Aileen Lee.

### **Gold import duty**

- ❖ The government has hiked gold import duty to 15 per cent from 10.75 per cent.
- ❖ It aims to check the current account deficit (CAD) and rising import of the yellow metal.
- ❖ Earlier, the basic customs duty on gold was 7.5 per cent, now it will be 12.5 per cent.
- ❖ Along with the agriculture infrastructure development cess (AIDC) of 2.5 per cent, the effective gold customs duty will be 15 per cent.

### **Financial Stability Report**



- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India released its bi-annual Financial Stability Report (FSR).
- ❖ The asset quality of the banking system has improved with the gross non-performing assets (GNPA).
- ❖ Its ratio is declining from 7.4 per cent in March 2021 to a six-year low of 5.9 per cent in March 2022.
- ❖ Provisioning coverage ratio (PCR) improved to 70.9 per cent in March 2022 from 67.6 per cent a year ago.
- ❖ PCR is the percentage of funds that a bank sets aside for losses due to bad debts.

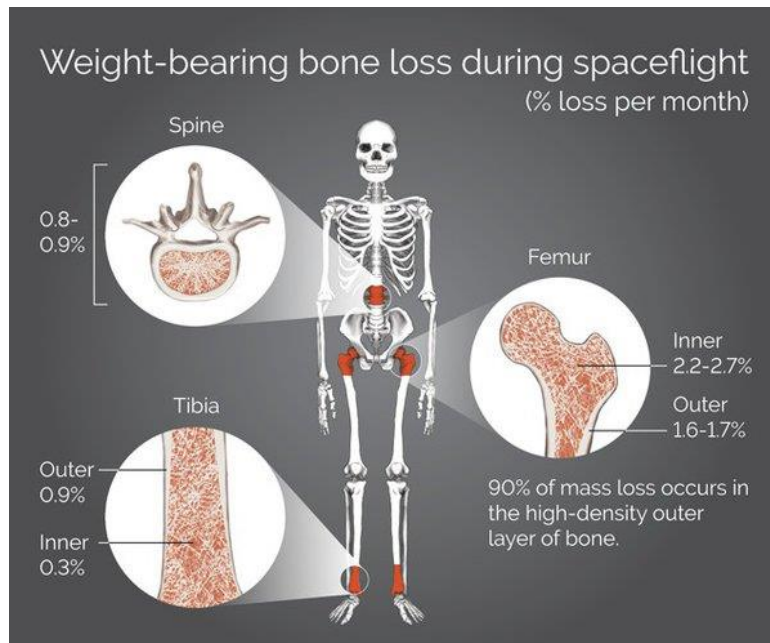
## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Loss of bone mass in space**

- ❖ Researchers have found that astronauts lose a huge amount of bone mass when travelling in space.



- ❖ It takes more than a year for them to recover it after coming back from their missions.
- ❖ Wrists and ankles of astronauts during and after a stay at the International Space Station and found that they lost around 1 to 2 per cent of bone density every month.
- ❖ That is basically the same amount of bone density that people lose in almost decades.



## Salmonella Contamination



- ❖ Salmonella bacteria were found in the world's largest chocolate production unit, managed by Barry Callebaut.
- ❖ Barry Callebaut's Wieze factory in Belgium has ceased its manufacturing due to this.
- ❖ Also, Salmonella was found in 31% of the samples of ground chicken that tested in US.
- ❖ Salmonella is a group of bacteria that can cause food-borne illnesses known as salmonellosis.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### World Drug Report 2022



- ❖ The World Drugs Report 2022 was recently released by UN Office on Drugs and Crimes.
- ❖ As per this report, legalization of Cannabis has increased its daily use and the related health impacts.
- ❖ In Africa and Latin America, majority of the people aged under 35 are being treated for drug use disorders.
- ❖ 2 million people globally were injecting drugs.
- ❖ About half of this number suffered with hepatitis C, 1.4 million with HIV, and 1.2 million with HIV & hepatitis C.
- ❖ Cocaine manufacturing has increased from 11 percent in 2019 to 1,982 tons in 2020.
- ❖ Opium production have increased by seven per cent worldwide, during 2020-2021.



❖ This predominantly due to rise in production in Afghanistan.

