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NATIONAL

Start-up ranking 2021



- ❖ The department for promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT) has announced the start-up rankings 2021.
- ❖ This study that included 24 states and 7 UTs in total, and ranked them in the categories of
 - Best performers
 - Top performers
 - Leaders
 - Aspiring leaders and
 - Developing start-ups
- ❖ Gujarat was recognised as having the best performance for the third time in a row.
- ❖ The top performing states included Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Telangana.
- ❖ The leader's category includes Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, and Goa.

- ❖ Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, Puducherry, and Nagaland are among the states and UTs that fall under the category of aspiring leaders.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Mizoram, and Ladakh are among the states in the category of developing start-up ecosystems.

National Air Quality Resource Framework (NARFI)



- ❖ The Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India has inaugurated the National Mission on National Air Quality Resource Framework of India.
- ❖ It has been developed by the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru.
- ❖ It will enable knowledge creation, developing infrastructure and industrial structures and studying its effects on human health in the country.
- ❖ The NARFI will evolve around the following five modules:
 - Theme-1: Emission Inventory, Air Shed, and Mitigation
 - Theme-2: Impacts on Human Health and Agriculture
 - Theme-3: Integrated Monitoring, Forecasting and Advisory Framework
 - Theme-4: Outreach, Social Dimension, Transition Strategy and Policy
 - Theme-5: Solutions, Public-Industry Partnership, Stubble Burning & New Technologies.

Operation “NARCOS”

- ❖ The Railway Protection Force was launched an operation under code name of “NARCOS” in the month of June, 2022.
- ❖ It is a month-long pan India drive against smuggling of narcotics through rail.



- ❖ The RPF intensified its checks in trains and in identified black spots across the country.



RPF

Railway Protection Force

Digital India Bhashini



- ❖ The Ministry of Electronics and IT conducted a brainstorming session with Researchers and Start-ups aimed to shape strategy for Digital India BHASHINI.
- ❖ BHASHINI stands for BHASHa INterface for India.
- ❖ It is India's Artificial Intelligence (AI) led language translation platform.

- ❖ Bhashini Platform is a part of the National Language Translation Mission
- ❖ The mission aims to ensure that as more Indians connect to the internet, they are able to access global content in their own languages.

INTERNATIONAL

Lisbon Declaration



- ❖ The 2nd UN Ocean Conference ended with Lisbon Declaration.
- ❖ This Declaration titled as ‘Our Ocean, Our Future: call for action’.
- ❖ It was co-hosted by Kenya and Portugal in Lisbon.

Components

- ❖ Protecting at least 30% of national maritime zones by 2030.
- ❖ Achieving carbon neutrality by 2040.
- ❖ Allocating funds to research on ocean acidification, climate resilience and surveillance.
- ❖ Scale-up Science-based and innovative actions to address ocean emergency.
- ❖ Support implementation of SDG14 (life below water) by empowering women and girls- recognising their participation is crucial to building a sustainable ocean-based economy.

- ❖ Protect biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, which lie outside the 200-mile (322-kilometre) exclusive economic zones of countries.

ECONOMY

Payment from abroad relatives



- ❖ The Union Home Ministry has amended certain rules related to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) of 2010.
- ❖ It is allowing Indians to receive up to ₹10 lakh in a year from relatives staying abroad without informing the authorities.
- ❖ The earlier limit was ₹1 lakh.
- ❖ If the amount exceeds, the individuals will now have 90 days to inform the government, instead of 30 days earlier.
- ❖ The amended rules have given individuals and organizations or NGOs 45 days to inform the home ministry about the bank accounts that are to be used for the utilization of such funds.


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Regulating Nitrate absorption in Plants

- ❖ Researchers discovered a new pathway that regulates nitrate absorption in plants.
- ❖ They investigated a miR444 target gene called MADS27, a transcription factor that has previously received little attention.

- ❖ The micro-RNA, miR444, activates the Gene MADS27.
- ❖ That regulates nitrate absorption, root development, and stress tolerance.
- ❖ Thus provides a way to control these plant properties.
- ❖ The gene MADS27 appears to be an excellent candidate for modification in order to improve nitrogen use efficiency.

Controlling nitrate absorption in plants
A novel pathway has been found, which can use gene editing to achieve this objective



- There is a need to regulate and optimise nitrogen intake in plants, so that the excess is not dumped in soil and water
- The hormone auxin is responsible for well-developed roots across all plants, influencing nitrate absorption
- Tinkering with MADS27 may help regulate nitrate absorption and engineer abiotic stress tolerance

Approach: The researchers used rice and tobacco plants to study the mechanism. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

■ Plants mainly absorb nitrogen from the soil in the form of nitrates and ammonium

■ An important macronutrient, nitrogen is a part of chlorophyll, amino acids and nucleic acids

ALTERNATE PATHWAY

- A target gene of miR444 called MADS27, has a three-pronged effect: regulating nitrate absorption and root development, and stress tolerance
- The regulatory micro-RNA switch - miR444 - is known to turn off at least five genes

STATES

GI tag for 'Ant chutney'



- ❖ In Odisha, scientists are fine-tuning their analysis for making presentation for GI tag of Kai Chutney.
- ❖ This Dish is fabricated from weaver ants offer a treatment to many sicknesses for Odisha tribes.

- ❖ The Kai Chutney is wealthy in treasured proteins, zinc, calcium, iron, diet B-12, potassium, magnesium, copper, sodium, fiber and 18 amino acids.
- ❖ It is considered healthy for boosting the immune device and stay sicknesses at bay.
- ❖ Weaver ants are scientifically called as *Oecophylla smaragdina*.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Youngest Speaker in the country



- ❖ Mumbai lawyer and first-time legislator, Rahul Narwekar has been elected as the youngest Speaker of Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.
- ❖ He belongs to the BJP.
- ❖ Thus, he becomes the youngest ever in India to hold this Constitutional post.
- ❖ He creates a history to become the youngest legislator to be elected as the 16th Speaker (since 1960).

SPORTS

U-15 Asian Wrestling Championship

- ❖ India has won the title of Asian Wrestling Championship
- ❖ Indian male wrestlers won seven medals including 4 gold in the Under-15 Asian Wrestling Championship being held in Bahrain.
- ❖ These include four gold medals, two silver and one bronze.

- ❖ Earlier, Indian women wrestlers had won 6 gold and three silver.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Sports Journalist Day - July 02

- ❖ It aims to celebrate the services of sports journalists for the promotion of sports.
- ❖ Sports journalism is a form of reporting that focuses on matters pertaining to any subject or topic related to sports.
- ❖ Sports journalists work on various media platforms including print, broadcast, and the internet.
- ❖ The International Sports Press Association (AIPS) established the World Sports Journalist Day in 1994.



MISCELLANEOUS

8th Edition - Digital India Week 2022

- ❖ Prime Minister has inaugurated the Digital India Week 2022 under the Digital India Programme at Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat.

- ❖ The theme of this Digital India Week is ‘Catalyzing New India’s Techade’ to transform the nation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Living.

