

June - 14

NATIONAL

Per Drop More Crop

- ❖ The Government of India has allocated Rs 4,000 crores under Per Drop More Crop component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for the year 2020-21.
- ❖ The Per Drop More Crop of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana focuses on water use efficiency through sprinkler and drip irrigation.
- ❖ It also aims at reducing fertilizer use, labour expenses and input costs.
- ❖ Along with this, the Government of India has also informed about the creation of Micro Irrigation Fund Corpus of Rs 5,000 crores along with NABARD.



Health Insurance to Migrant Workers

- ❖ The Government of India has extended its flagship programme, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (Ayushman Bharat) to the migrant workers.
- ❖ The National Health Authority that is implementing the scheme will issue E-Cards to the eligible migrants identified under the scheme.
- ❖ The main reason is that the workers returning belong to rural India.
- ❖ And at least 80% of the beneficiaries of Ayushman Bharat are from rural India.
- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana is a paperless and cashless scheme that aims to provide health cover up to Rs 5 lakhs per family per year.

Safety Record in 2019-20

- ❖ The Indian Railways recorded its best-ever safety performance during the past year with zero passenger deaths due to rail accidents.
- ❖ The Railways registered the best ever safety record between April 2019 and March 2020.
- ❖ There has been no death of rail passengers in any train accident in the subsequent period also between April 1 and June 8 this year.
- ❖ This has been achieved for the first time in 2019-2020 since the introduction of Railway System in India 166 years ago in 1853.



Link to DBO

- ❖ The construction of the 255-km long Darbuk-Shyokh-Daulat Beg Oldie (DS-DBO) all-weather road is said to be the immediate reason behind the standoff between Indian Army and a Chinese Army.
- ❖ Built by the Border Road Organization (BRO) under the Ministry of Defence, the road runs almost parallel to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and connects Leh to DBO.
- ❖ DBO is the northernmost corner of Indian territory in Ladakh.
- ❖ It has the world's highest airstrip, originally built during the 1962 war.

- ❖ In 2008, the Indian Air Force (IAF) revived it as one of its many Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) along the LAC.



INTERNATIONAL

Ramon Magsaysay Award

- ❖ A Manila, Philippines based foundation that gives out Ramon Magsaysay Award announced that the awards are being cancelled due to COVID-19.
- ❖ The award is considered as the Nobel Prize of Asia.
- ❖ The Award recognizes and honours individuals that have achieved distinction in their field and help others generously.
- ❖ The Award has been given in five categories namely journalism, government service, public service, literature and creative communication.
- ❖ Magsaysay became the president of Philippines in 1953.





ECONOMY

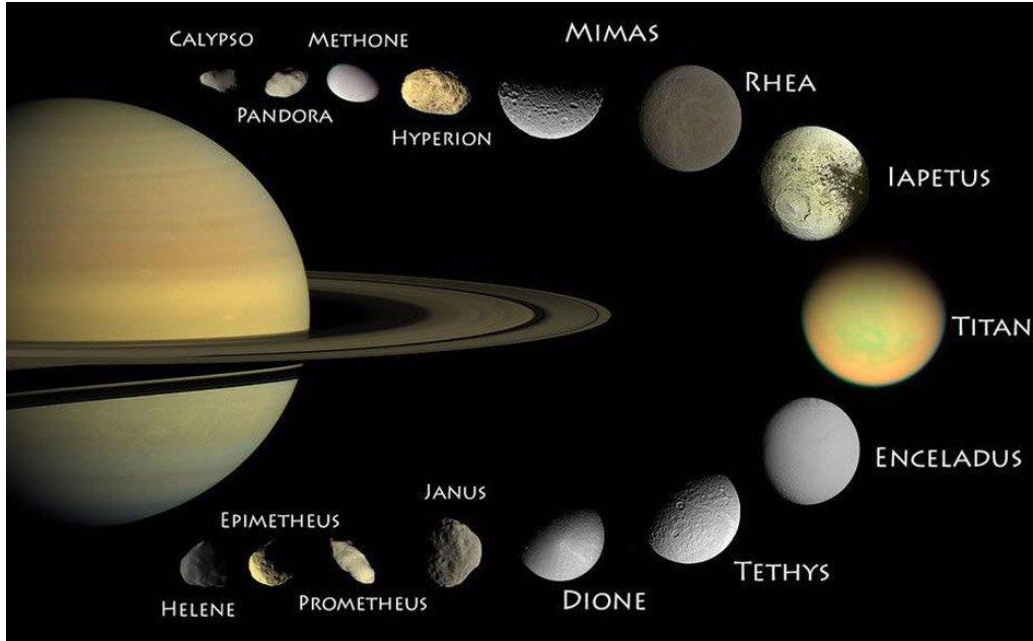
Sale of Loan Exposures

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India recently released a draft framework for “Sale of Loan Exposures” and “Securitization of Standard Assets”.
- ❖ The move is aimed at building a robust secondary market for bank loans that could ensure proper price discovery and can be used as an indicator for impending stress.
- ❖ The guidelines issued are applicable to Scheduled Commercial Banks.
- ❖ This includes All India Financial Institutions such as EXIM Bank, NABARD, Non-Banking Financial Companies.
- ❖ It also includes recommendations of Committee on Development of Housing Finance Securitization Market in India chaired by Dr Harsh Vardhan.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Titan

- ❖ The moon of Saturn, Titan is drifting away faster than before.
- ❖ This has been identified by the researchers in NASA and also scientists in Italian Space Agency.
- ❖ This data was received from the Cassini Spacecraft of NASA.
- ❖ The Cassini Space Craft Mission, or the Cassini-Huygens Mission is a joint space mission of NASA, Italian Space Agency and the European Space Agency.
- ❖ The mission was launched to study saturn, its moons, and rings.
- ❖ There are around 82 moons that are orbiting Saturn.
- ❖ The earth’s own moon drifts 1.5 inches from the Earth every year.



GM seeds

- ❖ In the current kharif season, farmers would undertake mass sowing of GM seeds for maize, soyabean, mustard brinjal and herbicide tolerant (Ht) cotton, although these are not approved.
- ❖ Genetic engineering aims to transcend the genus barrier by introducing an alien gene in the seeds to get the desired effects.
- ❖ The alien gene could be from a plant, an animal or even a soil bacterium.
- ❖ Bt cotton, the only GM crop is allowed in India.
- ❖ In India, the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the apex body that allows for commercial release of GM crops.

STATES

Athirapally project

- ❖ The Kerala government has issued a fresh no-objection certificate (NOC) for the state electricity board to proceed with the implementation of the proposed Athirapally hydro-electric project.
- ❖ Under the project, a dam is proposed to be constructed on the Chalakudy River.
- ❖ The Chalakudy River is a tributary of the Periyar River and originates in the Anamalai region of Tamil Nadu.



Dekho Apna Desh series

- ❖ Ministry of Tourism brings out the “Hidden Treasures of Chhattisgarh” through this webinar series.
 - Karkabhat – Megalithic burial site
 - Dipadih – Temple complex dating back to the 7th Century.
 - Ghotul – An ancient tribal system of education
 - Sonabai – Famous ornamentation works of Chhattisgarh

