

November - 16

## NATIONAL

### **Kamikaze Drones**

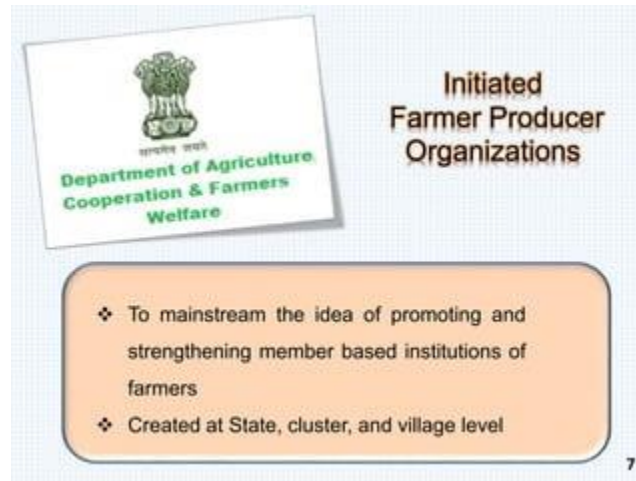
- ❖ Indian Army has started the process of acquiring 120 loitering munitions and 10 aerial targeting systems.
- ❖ Indian Army is set to buy Kamikaze drones.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen its military power along with the border with China.
- ❖ The aerial targeting systems must meet the specified requirements, which call for a 100 km range.
- ❖ Kamikaze drones are the same drones that were used in the Russia-Ukraine war.
- ❖ Loiter munitions can be launched in a manner similar to a drone.
- ❖ They can also stay in the air for a longer time, surveying a designated area and seeking targets.
- ❖ Once a target is identified and locked on, they act as a missile to destroy the target aimed.
- ❖ Notably, loiter munitions are smaller in size, cheaper and less complex systems than combat or armed drones.
- ❖ Indian Army also aims to purchase a variety of additional systems, including 100 K9 Vajra howtizers and UAV's.



### **Fodder-Centric Farmer Producer Organizations**

- ❖ Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying proposed the setting up of fodder-centric Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in 2020.

- ❖ It requested the Union Agriculture Ministry to permit the establishment of fodder-centric FPOs under the central scheme “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 new FPOs”.
- ❖ It aims to address the fodder deficit situation in India.
- ❖ National Dairy Development Board has been designated as the implementing agency for this scheme.
- ❖ It is setting a target of 100 such FPOs in 2022-23.
- ❖ Currently, fodder deficit in India is 12 to 15 per cent for green fodder, 25-26 percent for dry fodder and 36 per cent for concentrated fodder.



## ENVIRONMENT

### Inclusion of Loss and Damage Funding

- ❖ Loss and damage funding became part of the official agenda for the COP27.
- ❖ COP27 is being held at Sharm-El-Sheikh in Egypt.
- ❖ Other key additions to the agenda include “matters related to the least developed countries” and “long-term finance”.
- ❖ Loss and damage finance is a proposed mechanism that provides financial aid to areas and communities that are already severely affected by the climate change.
- ❖ This mechanism has been demanded for a long time by developing and vulnerable communities, including India.
- ❖ However, developed countries have opposed it due to the fear of being pushed into providing majority of the funding.

- ❖ Recently, the developed countries agreed to include the mechanism in the agenda if it does not include ‘compensation and liability’ targeting so that they are not accountable for the historic emissions.
- ❖ If this mechanism becomes a reality, it will positively impact the low-lying vulnerable coastal areas including the Sundarbans.
- ❖ Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE), which was proposed by Indian Prime Minister, also a part of the agenda.



### **Mangrove Alliance for Climate**



- ❖ At the COP27, the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) was launched with India as a partner.

- ❖ It is an intergovernmental alliance that seeks to expand and hasten the progress towards conservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems.
- ❖ The five countries which have joined MAC are India, Australia, Japan, Spain, and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ It will raise global awareness about the role of mangroves as a nature-based climate change solution and will ensure the rehabilitation of mangrove forests a global level.
- ❖ Mangroves are distributed in the tropical and sub-tropical region of the world and are found in 123 countries.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### WMO Report - State of the Global Climate in 2022



- ❖ The report titled 'WMO Provisional State of the Global Climate 2022' released at the 27th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC.
- ❖ It stated that the rate of sea level rise has doubled since 1993.



- ❖ It has risen by nearly 10 mm since January 2020 to a new record high this year.
- ❖ The past two-and-a-half years account for 10% of the overall rise in sea level.
- ❖ The global mean temperature in 2022 is estimated to be 1.15 degree Celsius above the pre-industrial (1850-1900) average.
- ❖ It is making the eight years from 2015 the warmest on record.
- ❖ The figures used in the provisional 2022 report are till the end of September this year.
- ❖ The final version will be issued next April.
- ❖ La Nina conditions are keeping the global temperature low for the second consecutive year.
- ❖ But 2022 is still most likely to be the fifth or sixth warmest year on record.
- ❖ The 10-year average for the period 2013-2022 is estimated to be 1.14 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial baseline.
- ❖ This compares with 1.09 degrees Celsius from 2011 to 2020.
- ❖ Around 700 people died due to floods and landslides, and another 900 from lightning.
- ❖ Floods also triggered 6,63 000 displacements in Assam,

### **Forbes Asia's Power Businesswomen 2022 list**



- ❖ Forbes Asia unveiled its annual 'Asia's Power Businesswomen' list which features 20 women from the Asia-Pacific region.

- ❖ Soma Mondal, Ghazal Alagh and Namita Thapar are the three women who have featured in the list from India.
- ❖ Ghazal Alagh is the co-founder, Honasa Consumer and other personal care brands.
- ❖ Soma Mondal is the first woman to chair state-run Steel Authority of India Ltd.
- ❖ Namita Thapar is the executive director, India business of Emcure Pharma.
- ❖ Other women who feature on the list includes
  - Choi Soo-yeon-CEO of, South Korea's largest internet company- Naver
  - Japan's twin sisters Anna Nakajima and Mizuki Nakajima - co-founders of smartphone gaming app Coly
  - Wallaya Chirathivat - President director and CEO of Thailand's Central Pattana.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Kuldip Nayar Patrakarita Samman Award**



- ❖ The Gandhi Peace Foundation announced the award of its prestigious Kuldip Nayar Patrakarita Samman for 2022.
- ❖ It is awarded to journalists working in Indian languages contributing to democratic values and independent media.
- ❖ This year award is bestowed to The Wire's senior editor Arfa Khanum Sherwani.
- ❖ The award honours the legacy of journalist, author and human rights activist Kuldip Nayar.

- ❖ The awardee for 2021 was the independent journalist and YouTuber - Ajit Anjum.

### **Lt Governor of Maryland**

- ❖ Aruna Miller made a history by becoming the first Indian-American politician to win the race of Lieutenant Governor in the state of Maryland, USA.
- ❖ The Lieutenant Governor is the state's highest official following the Governor.
- ❖ The Lieutenant Governor also becomes the Governor should the Governor die, resign or be removed from office.



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