

CURRENT AFFAIRS

10th Sep. 2022

E-FAST- India's first National Electric Freight Platform Launched by NITI Aayog, WRI

NITI Aayog and World Resources Institute (WRI), launched India's first National Electric Freight Platform- E-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport-India). The National Electric Freight Platform brings different stakeholders together with the support of the World Economic Forum, CALSTART, and RMI India.



NEERAJ CHOPRA BECOMES FIRST INDIAN TO WIN 2022 ZURICH DIAMOND LEAGUE

- Gold medallist javelin thrower, Neeraj Chopra has become the first Indian to win the prestigious Zurich Diamond League Final 2022 in Switzerland with best throw of 88.44m.
- While, Olympic silver medallist, Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic has finished second with a best throw of 86.94m.
- Julian Weber of Germany was third with a best of 83.73metre.
- He was also awarded a USD 30,000 prize money and a wild card for the 2023 World Athletics Championships in Hungary.



PRESIDENT DROUPADI MURMU TO LAUNCH PRADHAN MANTRI TB MUKT BHARAT ABHIYAAN

- President Droupadi Murmu has said that Jan Bhagidari is the key to eliminate tuberculosis from the country. The President was speaking after virtually launching the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukti Bharat Abhiyaan to reinvigorate the mission of TB elimination from the country by 2025.
- During the event, President Murmu also launched the Ni-kshay 2.0 initiative, a portal to provide a platform for donors to provide various forms of support to those undergoing TB treatment.
- She said that under the world's biggest Aushman Yojana, the wellness centres have been especially geared to work towards the elimination of Tuberculosis.



- Emphasising on the commitment of New India to fighting against TB, President Murmu said that India's response to COVID-19 is a testimony to India's seriousness on the matter. She emphasised on the importance of role of public representatives in the success of the cause.
- Recalling the adage of prevention is better than cure, the President said that the TB prevention programme will be initiated soon. She asked people to not feel any sort of inhibition and come forward to help in early detection and elimination of tuberculosis.
- The President said that the new portal Nikshay 2.0 has been upgraded to make the information easily available to people.

PROGRESS ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG): THE GENDER SNAPSHOT 2022 REPORT

- The report **was launched by UN Women**, which works for gender equality and UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).
- Key highlights of report It will take 286 years to achieve full gender equality at current rate of progress. By end of 2022, around 383 million women and girls will live in extreme poverty (on less than \$1.90 a day) compared to 368 million men and boys.
- Over 1.2 billion women and girls of reproductive age (15-49) live in countries and areas with some restrictions on access to safe abortion.
- Women hold only 2 in every 10 science, engineering and information and communication technology jobs globally.
- Global challenges like COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath, violent conflict and climate change, are further exacerbating gender disparities.
- Recommendations Cooperation, partnerships, and investments in gender equality agenda are essential to correct the course and place gender equality back on track.
- To eradicate child marriage by 2030, progress must be 17 times faster than progress of the last decade. Long-term structural barriers to gender equality, laws and practices need to be addressed and dismantled.

RAJASTHAN TO ROLL OUT URBAN EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE (UEG) SCHEME

- UEG scheme will provide 100 days of employment to families living in urban areas on lines of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).
- Under the scheme, employment will be provided in segments of environment and water conservation, cleanliness and sanitation, stopping defacement of property, service-related works, convergence work and heritage conservation.
- Key highlights of UEG scheme People from age groups of 18 to 60 are eligible for the scheme. Payments will be made in bank accounts of beneficiary within 15 days.
- Need for UEG scheme As per Periodic Labour Force Survey 2019-20, higher unemployment rate (7%) in urban areas as compared to rural areas (4%). Growing distress among the urban poor.
- Prevalence of low-wage, poor quality, informal work in Indian towns and cities.
- Rising urban population. Challenges associated with UEG scheme Lack of National level Legal Work Guarantee Scheme for urban areas like MGNREGA.

- Limited role of Urban Local Bodies due to lack of financial and human capacity. Lack of social security due to dominance of informal employment.

103rd CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ACT

- The Supreme Court finalised three cardinal issues for examining the constitutional validity of the 103rd Amendment Act.
- The Act provides 10% quota to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) of the society in government jobs and educational institutions.
- The court would examine whether the amendment breaches the Basic Structure by: permitting the state to make special provisions, including reservation, based on economic criteria; allowing the state to make special provisions in relation to admissions to private unaided institutions, excluding SEBC/OBC/SC/ST communities from the scope of the EWS quota.