

DAILY PT POINTERS

14th February, 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Page 1-Economy (GSIII)

Centre rules out MSP law, offers talks with farmers

Farmers, police clash at Haryana-Punjab boundary; Delhi under tight security net; SKM urges PM to intervene and stop using force against farmers, asks splinter group to join strike on February 16



What is MSP?

- It is the price at which the government offers to procure farmers' produce during the season.
- It was first introduced in the 1965-66 season for wheat. Later the coverage was expanded to coarse cereals.
- It aims to provide a fair return to farmers and to protect the interests of consumers.
- The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs announces the **MSP** at the start of each sowing season, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).
- The key considerations, while recommending the MSP for crops, are demand and supply, production cost, price trends in the domestic and international market and the likely implications of the price on consumers.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu: Page 1 GS-2 (IR)

Clause in draft India-EFTA pact may hit drug industry

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

A clause in a draft free trade agreement text being negotiated between India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) – Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway – could delay access to affordable, generic versions of patented drugs in India by a minimum of six years, according to documents viewed by *The Hindu*.

- The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is the intergovernmental organisation of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
 - It was set up in 1960 for the promotion of free trade and economic integration between its members.
- The India EFTA text is a broad-ranging agreement that is being negotiated between India and the four countries since 2008 to increase investment by these countries in India and reduce tariffs, on a range of exports from these countries.



- The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 recognizes the rights of the forest dwelling tribal communities and other traditional forest dwellers to forest resources, on which these communities were dependent for a variety of needs, including livelihood, habitation and other socio-cultural needs.
- The Act encompasses Rights of Self-cultivation and Habitation which are usually regarded as Individual rights; and Community Rights as Grazing, Fishing and access to Water bodies in forests, Habitat Rights for PVTGs, access to biodiversity, community right to intellectual property and traditional knowledge, recognition of traditional customary rights

Do you know ?

Sanctuaries and national parks are notified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act (WLPA) 1972. People inside sanctuaries continue to enjoy all their rights unless prohibited, but they don't in National Parks. No new rights are permitted once the notice of intent is issued. The Collector is to inquire into the rights of all persons, their nature and extent, in the proposed sanctuary or national park.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu:Economy(GSIII)

Govt. eyes expansion of HSN codes for rice to limit exports



- HSN stands for Harmonised System of Nomenclature code.
- This was introduced in 1988 by the World Customs Organization (WCO). This was introduced for a systematic classification of goods both national and international.
- This is a 6-digit code that classifies various products.
- India has been using HSN **codes** to classify commodities for Customs and Central Excise.
- There are different HSN codes for various commodities. HSN codes remove the need to upload details about the goods which makes filing of GST returns easier.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express:IR(GSII)

What did Trump say about NATO funding and what is Article 5?

Former US President Donald Trump has once again attacked NATO. Why? What is NATO? How is it funded?



- NATO promotes democratic values and enables members to consult and cooperate on defence and security-related issues to solve problems, build trust and, in the long run, prevent conflict.
- NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. If diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military power to undertake crisis-management operations.
- These are carried out under the collective defence clause of NATO's founding treaty – Article 5 of the Washington Treaty or under a United Nations mandate, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organisations.
- NATO currently has 31 members – most of them European nations, plus the United States and Canada.
- The newest member is Finland, which joined last April in reaction to Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine. Sweden applied to join along with Finland but is waiting for Hungary to ratify its application as the final major step before membership.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB: Welfare Schemes(GSII)





- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi announced the launch of rooftop solar scheme for free electricity - PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.
- This project, with an investment of over Rs. 75,000 crores, aims to light up 1 crore households by providing up to 300 units of free electricity every month."

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB: Education

Ministry of Education

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates National Conference on APAAR: One Nation One Student ID Card

25 crore APAAR IDs have already been created - Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

APAAR ID is going to be aspirational and global document for our students - Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

India has 19 out of 53 DPIs - Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

Posted On: 13 FEB 2024 7:56PM by PIB Delhi



- The Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) is a transformative initiative introduced in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 and the National Credit and Qualifications Framework (NCrF). It aims to provide a unified and accessible academic experience for students across India by assigning a unique and permanent 12-digit ID to every student, consolidating their academic achievements in one place. For more information, visit <https://abc.gov.in/>

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB:S&T(GSIII)

Ministry of Science & Technology



A new method for sodium catalyzed synthesis of carbon nanotubes could be useful for rechargeable batteries & flexible electronics

Posted On: 13 FEB 2024 2:44PM by PIB Delhi

- A novel method for directly synthesizing Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) on glass substrates at a temperature of 750 °C could help energy research, biomedical fields, and optoelectronics.
- Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) are pivotal in advancing modern technology by showcasing extraordinary properties.
- They have found applications in diverse fields, including rechargeable batteries, flexible electronics, aerospace, transparent electrodes, touch screens, supercapacitors, and medicine.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB:Health(GSII)



- International Epilepsy Day is an annual awareness-raising initiative organised by the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) and the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE).
- Epilepsy is a chronic noncommunicable disease of the brain that affects around 50 million people worldwide.
- It is characterized by recurrent seizures, which are brief episodes of involuntary movement that may involve a part of the body (partial) or the entire body (generalized) and are sometimes accompanied by loss of consciousness and control of bowel or bladder function.