



DAILY PT POINTERS

15th February, 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu: Page 1-Polity and Governance(GSII)

Centre's reply sought on the age limit for surrogacy

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday sought the Centre's response within four weeks on a petition by a couple challenging the law that allows only women aged between 23 and 50 to go for surrogacy.

The couple, both aged around 51, contended that such a restriction is against their right to procreation.

While asking the Centre to file its reply, the court remarked that "no one can sit on judgment" in such cases.

The **Surrogacy (Regulation) Act** defines surrogacy as a practice where a woman gives birth to a child for an intending couple with the intention to hand it over to them after the birth. It is permitted only for altruistic purposes or for couples who suffer proven infertility or disease. Surrogacy is prohibited for commercial purposes including for sale, prostitution or any other forms of exploitation.

Who can avail of surrogacy?

- The couple is deemed 'eligible' if they have been married for five years, the wife is aged between 25-50 years and the husband is between 26-55 years.
- The couple must not have any living child (biological, adopted or surrogate.)

Who can be a surrogate?

A surrogate mother has to be a close relative of the couple, a married woman with a child of her own, aged between 25-35 years, who has been a surrogate only once in her life. She must also possess a certificate of medical and psychological fitness for surrogacy

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Page 14 (Architecture /IR)

PM inaugurates Abu Dhabi's first Hindu stone temple

Press Trust of India

ABU DHABI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated Abu Dhabi's first Hindu stone temple, describing it as a symbol of the shared heritage of humanity and thanking the UAE for scripting a new golden chapter of human history.

Speaking at the inauguration of the temple built by the Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS), the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the inauguration of the BAPS Temple in Abu Dhabi. ANI

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Abu Dhabi's first Hindu stone temple, describing it as a symbol of the shared heritage of humanity and thanking the UAE for scripting a new golden chapter of human history.
- The BAPS temple is built on a 27-acre site in Abu Mreikhah, near Al Rahba off the Dubai-Abu Dhabi Sheikh Zayed Highway, at a cost of around ₹700 crore.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The HINDU:Economy

RBI issues fiat on BPSP card transactions



- RBI has asked card networks such as Visa and Mastercard to stop commercial card transactions under Business Payment Solution Providers (BPSP) business, on concerns regarding legitimacy and inadequacy of merchant KYC and end use of funds.
- BPSP allows small businesses to accept card payments without having the required mechanisms in place. For example, a large business can make payments to its smaller suppliers using this mechanism even though the latter does not have the infrastructure for accepting credit payments. While BPSPs are regulated and licensed by RBI under the PA-PG (Payment Aggregators and Payment Gateways) guidelines, there are concerns on transactions being carried out without proper invoicing or KYC, making it difficult to track the source of money and where it is going.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



Indian Express: Polity and Governance (GSII)

Supreme Court to deliver verdict on validity of electoral bonds scheme today

The scheme was announced in the 2017 Union Budget speech when Late Arun Jaitley was the Finance Minister. Electoral bonds are interest-free bearer instruments that are essentially used to donate money anonymously to political parties.

- The scheme was announced in the 2017 Union Budget speech when Late Arun Jaitley was the Finance Minister.
- Electoral bonds are interest-free bearer instruments that are essentially used to donate money anonymously to political parties.
- The bonds are sold in multiples of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh, and Rs 1 crore, and State Bank of India is the only bank authorised to sell them. Donors can buy and subsequently donate bonds to a political party, which can encash the bonds through its verified account within 15 days.
- There is no limit on the number of bonds an individual or company can purchase.
- Only the Political Parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last General Election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly of the State, shall be eligible to receive the Electoral Bonds.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



Indian Express:S&T(GSIII)

ISRO to launch INSAT-3DS on Feb 17, will improve forecasts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 14

WEATHERMEN AND scientists tracking extreme climate affecting the country will soon be facilitated with improved satellite data and high resolution images of the Earth obtained from the soon-to-be launched INSAT-3DS.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch the INSAT-3DS from Sriharikota on February 17.

This new facility, weighing 2,274kgs and funded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, will enable the development of newer satellite products that can be deployed while tracking cyclones, monsoon systems, thun-

derstorms and other natural disasters. INSAT-3DS shall further the observations of atmosphere, land and oceans.

The INSAT-3DS is a continuation to the Third Generation Meteorological Satellite series from the geostationary orbit. Presently, meteorologists make extensive use of data generated by satellites like the INSAT-3D and INSAT-3DR (launched in September, 2016, still operational)

Since 2003, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has been using INSAT data for its operational meteorology purposes. The advent of satellite-based products brought significant improvements in the forecast accuracy, monitoring of

atmosphere and ocean parameters and overall enhanced the meteorological services leading to reduction in loss to property, life and livelihood.

In all, INSAT-3DS comprises four payloads -- an Imager, a Sounder, a Data Relay Transponder and a Satellite aided Search and Rescue Transponder. The multi-spectral imager will generate images of the Earth across six wavelength bands aiding visualisation of colour-dependent atmospheric parameters like water vapour (humidity).

The sounder will contribute in generating vertical profiles of the atmosphere and provide information like temperature and humidity.

- INSAT-3DS Satellite is a follow-on mission of Third Generation Meteorological Satellite from Geostationary Orbit. GSLV-F14/INSAT-3DS mission is fully funded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
- It is designed for enhanced meteorological observations and monitoring of land and ocean surfaces for weather forecasting and disaster warning.
- The satellite will augment the Meteorological services along with the presently operational INSAT-3D and INSAT-3DR satellites.
- Indian Industries have significantly contributed to the making of the Satellite.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: Defence(GSIII)

Navy's MILAN event: Geopolitical scenario, maritime threats will be focus this year, says Vice Admiral Sobti

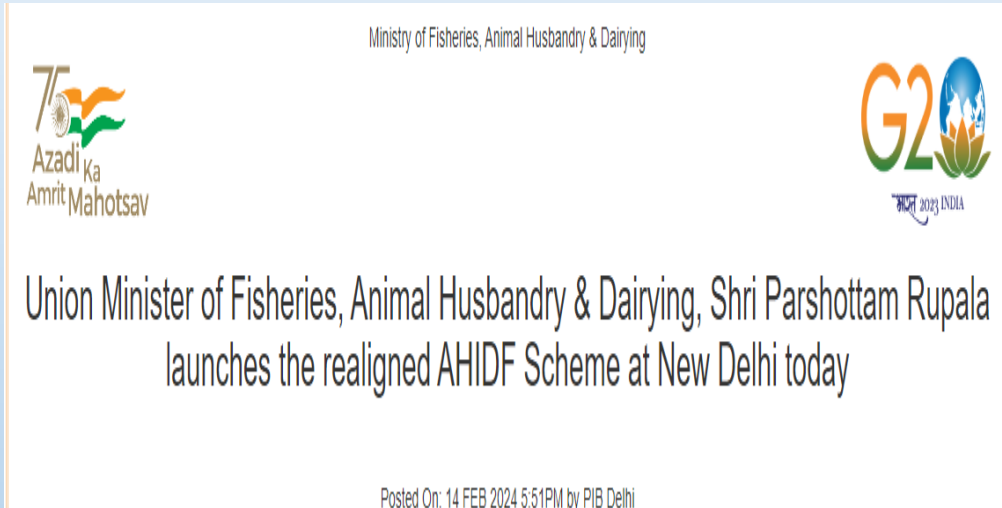
The Navy has also carried out a series of anti-piracy operations in the Arabian Sea in recent weeks. In the 12th edition of MILAN, the 51 participating countries will be sending their operational units and delegations.



- MILAN, a Multilateral Naval Exercise hosted by India, made a modest beginning in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in 1995. The navies of Indonesia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated in this edition.
- This biennial congregation of friendly navies, over the last two and a half decades, has progressively grown in magnitude. The previous edition, MILAN 2022 was held in Visakhapatnam, the City of Destiny under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command. MILAN 2022 observed participation of 39 friendly foreign countries across continents.
- MILAN 2024 is scheduled at Visakhapatnam from 19 - 27 Feb 2024 under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command with invitation extended to 58 countries.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Economy





- Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) scheme was launched on 24th June 2020 by Prime Minister under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan Initiative
- The Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) has been approved for incentivizing investments by individual entrepreneurs, private companies, MSME, Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs)

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Polity and Governance (GSII)

Ministry of Finance

16th Finance Commission holds first meeting under Chairmanship of Dr. Arvind Panagariya in New Delhi

Posted On: 14 FEB 2024 3:03PM by PIB Delhi

The 16th Finance Commission (XVI-FC) held its first meeting under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arvind Panagariya in Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi. The Chairman and Members were welcomed by Secretary, XVI-FC, Shri Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey and other officials of the Finance Commission.

- The Finance Commission normally takes about two years to make their recommendations. As per the clause (1) of article 280 of the Constitution, the Finance Commission is to be constituted every fifth year or earlier
- It is a constitutional body formed by the President of India to give suggestions on centre-state financial relations
- The important tasks of the Finance Commissions are (i) To recommend the proportion of the Union tax revenues to be assigned to States and (ii) To recommend the share of each State in the assigned tax revenue

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air: Places in news(GSI)

North Korea Launches Multiple Cruise Missiles into Sea of Japan, South Korea on High Alert

South Korea Military said that North Korea fired multiple cruise missiles into the Sea of Japan today.



- **Sea of Japan**, marginal sea of the western Pacific Ocean. It is bounded by Japan and Sakhalin Island to the east and by Russia and Korea on the Asian mainland to the west.

