

GENERAL AWARENESS

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan aims to find solutions to accelerate sustainable growth in rural India. It is an initiative of the Ministry of HRD.

Common Service Centre's(CSC) e-Governance Services India Limited, a special purpose vehicle under the Ministry of Electronics & IT, said it has tied up with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur to upscale 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'.

Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, IIT-Kanpur has brought together 15 leading higher education institutions from Uttar Pradesh.

Movie on Bangabandhu

India and Bangladesh are going to produce movie on life, works of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Both Nations co-produce the documentary on Bangladesh Liberation War also.

The movie will be directed by acclaimed filmmaker Shyam Benegal and writer of the movie is Atul Tiwari.

India played an important role in the war of liberation of Bangladesh, under the leadership of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman and the people admire him as the Father of the Bangladesh.

Healthy Oceans Action Plan

Asian Development Bank launched the Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies for the Asia and Pacific region at the 52nd annual meeting of ADB's Board of Governors in Fiji on 2nd May 2019.

The action plan will support the efforts of ADB's developing member countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 14 Life below Water.

The Action Plan will expand financing and technical assistance for ocean health and marine economy projects to \$5 billion from 2019 to 2024 including cofinancing from partners.

It will focus on 4 areas: Creating inclusive livelihoods and business opportunities in sustainable tourism and fisheries; Protecting and restoring coastal and marine ecosystems and key rivers; Reducing land-based sources of marine pollution, including plastics, wastewater, and agricultural runoff; and Improving sustainability in port and coastal infrastructure development.

Year of Next of Kin

Indian Army observes 2019 as 'Year of Next of Kin' to help families of martyrs.

The Army chief said that it is his top priority to ensure that families of fallen heroes deserve every bit of support they require and deserve. Indian Army had marked 2018 as the 'Year of Disabled in the Line of Duty'

National Technology Day

The nation greeted the scientific community on National Technology Day, marking the anniversary of the Pokhran nuclear Tests on 11th May 1998.

India re-elected

India was re-elected as an observer to intergovernmental forum Arctic Council on 7th May 2019 at the 11th Arctic Council ministerial meeting at Rovaniemi in Finland.

The Arctic Council promotes cooperation, coordination and interaction among Arctic states, the region's indigenous communities and other inhabitants on common issues, particularly on sustainable development and environmental protection.

India's National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, an institute under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, has set up a research station, 'Himadri', in Svalbard in Norway that works on the mass balance of glaciers and the effect of the warming on the marine system etc.

Jagjit Pavadia re-elected

Jagjit Pavadia was re-elected to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) for another term. She has been a member of the INCB since 2015 and her current term is set to expire in 2020.

INCB endeavours in cooperation with Governments, to ensure that adequate supplies of drugs are available for medical and scientific uses and that the diversion of drugs from illicit sources to illicit channels does not occur. The INCB also monitors Government's control over chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and assists them in preventing the diversion of those chemicals into the illicit traffic. Established in 1968, the International Narcotics Control Board is the independent and quasi-judicial monitoring body for the implementation of the United Nations International Drug Control conventions.

World Red Cross Day

World Red Cross (WRC) Day is observed on 8th May. It is also known as Red Crescent Day and this day is celebrated to honour volunteers who have contributed to help people in duress or need.

World Red Cross Day marks the birthday of Henri Dunant. He generated the International Committee of the Red Cross in 1863 in Switzerland, Geneva.

The theme for World Red Cross Day 2019 is "#Love". This year theme focuses on broadening people's understanding of the society by highlighting diversity and universality of work and approach of Red Cross.

India and Nepal Contract

Konkan Railways Corporation Ltd signed a contract agreement with Nepal's Department of Railways to supply two 1600 HP DEMU train sets. These trains will be used to operationalise railway link between Jayanagar in India and Kurtha in Nepal.

The train sets will be manufactured by the Integrated Coach Factory, Chennai. The 34 kms Jayanagar-Kurtha Railway Link has been built by IRCON with Government of India financial grant under India-Nepal Development Partnership programme.

Vela launched

Vela, the fourth Scorpene class submarine constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) for the Indian Navy launched.

Vela was built in India with French collaboration boosts Indian capability to defend and secure the strategic sea lanes. The Scorpene class of submarines can undertake multifarious tasks typically undertaken by any modern submarine which include anti-surface as well as anti-submarine warfare.

MODEL QUESTIONS

1. World Thalassaemia Day is celebrated on ..
1) 12th May 2) 7th May 3) 8th May 4) 10th May
5) 17th May
2. To discuss about climate crisis, the G7 Environment Ministers Meeting was held at..
1) Washington, USA 2) Rome, Italy 3) Ottawa, Canada 4) Tokyo, Japan
5) Metz, France

