



**03 Oct 2024**

**National and International News**

<p><b>Jal Hi AMRIT Programme</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs</b> announced that the government has launched the <b>Jal Hi AMRIT scheme</b> within its first 100 days in office.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Jal Hi AMRIT Programme:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Launched under:</b> AMRUT 2.0 scheme</li> <li>• <b>Purpose:</b> Incentivize <b>efficient management of used water treatment plants (UWTPs/STPs)</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Goal:</b> <b>Ensure recyclable, good quality treated water</b> meeting environmental standards.</li> <li>• <b>Approach:</b> Build competition among cities, develop capacities, and reward best practices.</li> <li>• <b>Focus:</b> Capacity building and improving treated discharge effluent quality.</li> <li>• <b>Assessment:</b> Mid-course assessment, water quality testing, and final assessment.</li> <li>• <b>Award:</b> <b>Clean Water Credits</b> in terms of a <b>Star-rating (3-5 stars) certificate</b> valid for six months.</li> </ul>
<p><b>BharatGen initiative</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>BharatGen initiative</b> was launched by the <b>Union Ministry of Science &amp; Technology</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About BharatGen initiative:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Goal:</b> To create <b>generative AI systems for high-quality text and multimodal content in Indian languages</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation:</b> By <b>IIT Bombay</b> under <b>National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS)</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Key Features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multilingual and multimodal foundation models.</li> <li>○ Training on Bhartiya datasets.</li> <li>○ Open-source platform for generative AI research.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Timeline:</b> Expected completion in two years.</li> <li>• <b>Benefits:</b> To serve government, private, educational, and research institutions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Anna DARPAN Project</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has selected <b>Coforge Limited</b> as the <b>System Integrator (SI)</b> for its digital transformation project, <b>Anna DARPAN</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Anna DARPAN Project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Project Goals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve <b>efficiency</b> and <b>productivity</b> in FCI's supply chain.</li> <li>Enable <b>data-driven decision-making</b>.</li> <li>Ensure <b>accessibility</b> through a <b>mobile-first approach</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Coforge's Role:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>End-to-end design, development, implementation, and maintenance</b>.</li> <li><b>Leverage the latest technology</b> and cloud-based platform.</li> <li><b>Gain deep understanding of FCI's operations</b> during requirement gathering.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Key Features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Interactive UI</b> for ease of use.</li> <li><b>Data analytics</b> for <b>informed decision-making</b>.</li> <li><b>Mobile accessibility</b> for anytime, anywhere access.</li> <li><b>Cloud-based platform</b> for <b>scalability and flexibility</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>National Mission for Edible Oils - Oil Palm</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>National Level Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Workshop on Sustainable Oil Palm Cultivation</b> under the <b>National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)</b> was held recently.</li> </ul> <p><b>About NMEO-OP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Launched by:</b> the <b>Government of India</b> in <b>August 2021</b>, NMEO-OP targets a <b>substantial increase in oil palm cultivation and crude palm oil production</b>.</li> <li>It is a <b>Centrally Sponsored Scheme</b> with a <b>special focus on the Northeast region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands</b>, with a focus on <b>increasing the area and productivity of oilseeds and Oil Palm</b>.</li> <li>The State Department of Agriculture, State Department of Horticulture, Central University, ICAR-Institutions, CDDs, SAUs, KVKs, Central Agencies/Cooperatives, Oil palm processors/ Associations, DD Kisan, AIR, DD, TV channels</li> </ul>



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	will be the implementing stakeholders of the NMEO-Oil palm.
<p><b>Five-Hundred Spherical Aperture Telescope (FAST)</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Biologist</b> Johannes Fritz and the Waldrappteam have <b>successfully increased the Central European northern bald ibis population from zero to nearly 300 since 2002.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>About FAST:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Location:</b> Guizhou Province, <b>China</b></li> <li>● <b>Size:</b> 500 meters in diameter (equivalent to 30 football fields)</li> <li>● <b>World's largest and most sensitive radio telescope</b></li> <li>● <b>Scientific Goals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Detect neutral hydrogen</b> at the edge of the universe</li> <li>○ <b>Reconstruct images of the early universe</b></li> <li>○ <b>Discover pulsars</b> and <b>establish a pulsar timing array</b></li> <li>○ <b>Participate in pulsar navigation</b> and <b>gravitational wave detection</b></li> <li>○ Join the <b>International Very-Long-Baseline Interferometry Network</b></li> <li>○ Perform <b>high-resolution radio spectral survey</b></li> <li>○ <b>Detect weak space signals</b></li> <li>○ Participate in the <b>search for extraterrestrial intelligence</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Data Management:</b> Uses a data system developed by <b>ICRAR (Australia)</b> and <b>ESO (Europe)</b> to handle the massive amount of data generated.</li> </ul>

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