

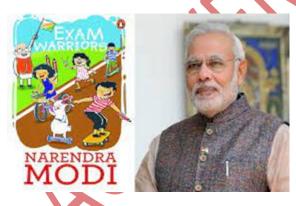
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1. International Ranger Award.



- Minister for Environment, Forests and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar has congratulated Mahinder Giri, range officer of Rajaji Tiger Reserve for being the only ranger from Asia to win the prestigious International Ranger Award for his contribution towards conservation.
- The award has been announced for 10 professionals across the world by the International Union for Conservation of Nature IUCN and World Commission on Protected Areas WCPA.
- Developed through a collaboration between the IUCN WCPA, the International Ranger Federation, Global Wildlife Conservation, and Conservation Allies, these awards, created in 2020, aim to highlight and felicitate the extraordinary work that rangers do in protected and conserved areas worldwide.

2. Exam Warriors.



- The new version of Exam Warriors written by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is now available with many new mantras for students as well as parents. It is available at retail stores as well as online. The Exam Warriors module is also available on the NaMo App.
- In a series of tweets, Mr Modi said, the new edition of the book has been enriched with valuable inputs from students, parents and teachers. Substantive new parts have been added that would especially interest the parents and teachers. He said the book

reaffirms the need to remain stress free before an exam. The Prime Minister added that it has many interactive activities for students and parents.

3. Unique ID for all land parcels by March 2022.



- The Centre plans to issue a 14-digit identification number to every plot of land in the country within a year's time. It will subsequently integrate its land records database with revenue court records and bank records, as well as Aadhaar numbers on a voluntary basis, according to a Parliamentary standing committee report submitted to the Lok Sabha last week.
- The Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) scheme has been launched in ten States this year and will be rolled out across the country by March 2022, the Department of Land Resources told the Standing Committee on Rural Development.
- the Aadhaar for land", a number that would uniquely identify every surveyed parcel of land and prevent land fraud, especially in the hinterlands of rural India, where land records are outdated and often disputed. The identification will be based on the longitude and latitude coordinates of the land parcel, and is dependent on detailed surveys and geo-referenced cadastral maps, according to a presentation the Department made to States in September 2020.
- This is the next step in the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP), which began in 2008 and has been extended several times as its scope grew. It's due to come to an end next week, but the Department has proposed a further extension to 2023-24, to complete its original targets as well as expand its ambit with a slew of new schemes.
- ➤ This Department has taken new initiatives under the programme like NGDRS [or the National Generic Document Registration System], ULPIN, linking of court to land records, integration [of] consent based Aadhaar number with land records etc. which necessitated its further extension beyond 2020-21 till 2023-24," the Department told the parliamentary panel.
- "Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) is proposed to be rolled out in 10 States during FY 2020-21 and by 2021-22 in the entire country," it added.
- ➤ Creating a modern land record room in every district would cost ₹50 lakh per district, while the integration of land records with the Revenue Court Management System would cost ₹270 crore. It also



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added that DILRMP's next phase would include "linkage of land record database with banks".

4. The Sabarmati River Front Development project.



- The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, in its draft budget for 2021-22, has set aside Rs 1,050 crore for the Sabarmati River Front Development phase 2, work on which is to begin soon.
- By channelling the river to a constant width of 263 m along the part that passes Ahmedabad city, 204 hectares have been reclaimed along the 11-km stretch of the Sabarmati Riverfront in the first phase of the project, on both the banks.
- This land is excluding the Central Business District (CBD) area of 126 hectares. The reclaimed land includes roads, both upper and lower promenades, as well as the land to be developed.
- Both the AMC and AUDA (Ahmedabad Urban Development Corporation) will work on creating avenues for new development and redevelopment.
- Sabarmati river?
- > The Sabarmati river is one of the major west-flowing rivers in India
- It originates in the Aravalli Range of the Udaipur District of Rajasthan and meets the Gulf of Khambhat of Arabian Sea after travelling 371 km in a south-westerly direction across Rajasthan and Gujarat.

5. Millions depend on Teesta waters.



- > The forceful message on the issue was conveyed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi by his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina during bilateral talks at the end of a two-day visit by the Indian PM.
- "Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina reiterated Bangladesh's long-pending request for concluding the interim agreement on the sharing of the waters of the Teesta river. She underscored that to alleviate the sufferings and save the livelihoods of millions of people dependent on the Teesta river basin, it is necessary that Bangladesh receives its fair share of the Teesta waters, the draft agreement of which has already been agreed upon by both Governments in January 2011," declared a Joint Statement issued at the end of bilateral discussions between the two delegations.
- The two leaders also instructed their Ministries of Water Resources to firm up the Framework of Interim Agreement over the six common rivers — Monu, Muhuri, Khowai, Gumti, Dharla and Dudhkumar.
- Sharing of water resources has been a contentious issue between the two neighbours because of the number of stakeholders.
- Teesta is a 414 km long river flowing from India to the Bay of Bengal through Bangladesh. Almost half a dozen districts in West Bengal is dependent on this river. Teesta river provides livelihood to approximately 73% of Bangladesh population as per report furnished by Asia Foundation in 2013. In 1983 a deal was proposed for equitable sharing but the implementation hit a roadblock. Mean annual flow of the river is 60 billion cubic metres. A significant amount of it flows during monsoon season i.e. between June to September. During lean season i.e. from October to May, the flow is only $500\,$ million cubic metres per month. In the month from December to March, Bangladesh wants 50% of the water supply, whereas India has claimed for a share of 55%. In 2011, the agreement did not fructify due to objections from West Bengal Chief Minister. As per the constitution of India, Water is a state subject and approval of all the stakeholders is required for the deal to go ahead. In 2019 External Affairs Minister of India had a meeting with



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his Bangladesh counterparts and they were still unable to reach a consensus on the water-sharing agreement.

6. LIC IPO



- V. Subramanian on Saturday mentioned the proposed preliminary public providing (IPO) by LIC itself might garner ₹1 lakh crore for the federal government.
- The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee has been mandated to keep annual inflation at 4% till March 31, 2021, with an higher tolerance of 6% and decrease restrict of two%. Speaking at a digital convention organised by Jana Small Finance Bank, the CEA mentioned the disinvestment goal of ₹1.75 lakh crore for FY22 is definitely a carry over of the ₹2.10 lakh crore goal set for the present fiscal ending March 31. "Of this, BPCL privatisation and LIC listing itself were important contributors. There are estimates suggesting ₹75,000-₹80,000 crore or even higher can just come from the privatisation of BPCL. LIC IPO could bring in ₹1 lakh crore approximately," he mentioned. With regard to LIC's IPO, the Centre has already had amendments within the LIC Act handed by Finance Bill 2021 in Parliament.
- > These are numbers (disinvestment) which are imminently achievable because the work had begun on many of these and they will be completed in FY22."he mentioned.
- Prime Minister Modi had final month mentioned the federal government has no enterprise to be in enterprise and his administration is dedicated to privatising all PSUs barring the naked minimal in 4 strategic sectors.
- Mr. Subramanian additionally emphasised that India wanted much more banks for assembly its progress potential. He cited the instance of the U.S. which, with one-third the India's inhabitants, has about 25,000-30,000 banks.

During 2022-23, it might average to 6.5-7 per cent and thereafter 7.5-Eight per cent, aided by the reform measures introduced by the federal government lately, he added.

7. Uniform Civil Code.



- Chief Justice of India (CJI) S A Bobde lauded Goa's Uniform Civil Code, and encouraged "intellectuals" indulging in "academic talk" to visit the state to learn more about it. Earlier in September 2019, the Supreme Court had described Goa as a "shining example" with a Uniform Civil Code.
 - About:
- A Uniform Civil Code is one that would provide for one law for the entire country, applicable to all religious communities in their personal matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption
- Article 44 of the Constitution lays down that the state shall endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India.
- Directive Principles of State Policy
- > Article 44 is one of the Directive Principles of State Policy.
- These, as defined in Article 37, are not justiciable (not enforceable by any court) but the principles laid down therein are fundamental in governance.
- While Article 44 uses the words "state shall endeavour", other Articles in the 'Directive Principles' chapter use words such as "in particular strive"; "shall in particular direct its policy"; "shall be obligation of the state" etc.
- > Important Info:
- > Does India not already have a uniform code in civil matters?
- Indian laws do follow a uniform code in most civil matters Indian Contract Act, Civil Procedure Code, Sale of Goods Act, Transfer of Property Act, Partnership Act, Evidence Act, etc.
- States, however, have made hundreds of amendments and, therefore, in certain matters, there is diversity even under these secular civil laws. Recently, several states refused to be governed by the uniform Motor Vehicles Act, 2019.



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8. MAHARASHTRA BHUSHAN AWARD.



- Legendary singer Asha Bhosle will be presented the Maharashtra Bhushan award for the year 2020, the State government's highest honour.
- About:
- A committee headed by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray held a meeting earlier today in this regard.
- ➤ The award, instituted in 1996 by the State government to recognise distinguished work and achievements of eminent persons from the State, representing different walks of life, carries a cash prize of ₹10 lakh and a citation.
- Born on September 8, 1933, in Maharashtra's Sangli district, Ms. Bhosle was initiated into music by her father, the renowned Marathi stage actor-singer Dinanath Mangeshkar.
- Bhosle received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2000.
- Important Info :
- The first Maharashtra Bhushan awardee was Marathi writer P.L. Deshpande and the last winner of this award was historian Babasaheb Purandare who got it for the year 2015.
- Her sister Lata Mangeshkar won the award for 1997.

9. INDIAN RHINOCEROS.



- With the BJP frequently invoking Assam's world-famous onehorned rhino to connect with the people of the state, the animal has now become a part of poll rhetoric, with promises to save "the pride of Assam.
- About:
- The projection of rhino as the pride of Assam began during the Assam Movement (1979-85).
- Rhino started emerging as a player in the political narrative of Assam as "its poaching was linked to the control of indigenous people over land, resources and influx of immigrants".
- According to the rhino census of 2018, there are 2,413 rhinos in Kaziranga alone.
- It is common for every party contesting in Bokakhat and Kaliabor, the two constituencies that cover most of Kaziranga (the park spreads over six constituencies), to say that they will protect the rhino.
- Important Info :
- The Indian rhinoceros (Rhinoceros unicornis) is also called the Indian rhino, greater one-horned rhinoceros or great Indian rhinoceros.
- It is a rhinoceros species native to the Indian subcontinent.
- It is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
- Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam has the highest density of Indian rhinos in the world.

10.UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING.



- India delivered on its promise of 2,00,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force (UNPKF) worldwide, sending a shipment bound for Copenhagen.
- UN Peacekeeping:
- ➤ UN peacekeepers provide security and the political and peacebuilding support to help countries make the difficult, early transition from conflict to peace.



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- Principles: UN Peacekeeping is guided by three basic principles:
- Consent of the parties;
- > Impartiality;
- Non-use of force except in self-defence and defence of the mandate.
- Role of Security Council: The United Nations Charter gives the United Nations Security Council the responsibility to maintain international peace. For this reason, the international community usually looks to the Security Council to authorize peacekeeping operations through Chapter VII authorizations.
- Present status: There are currently 12 UN peacekeeping operations deployed.
- For its services, UN Peacekeeping has also received the Nobel Peace Prize.
- UN peacekeepers are often referred to as Blue Berets or Blue Helmets because of their light blue berets or helmets.