

# The Achievers IAS Academy

**Patliputra colony, Near: Tennis Court; Patna. Contact: 8434931877, 7250667974**

## 1. World Health Day



- April 7 of each year marks the celebration of World Health Day. From its inception at the First Health Assembly in 1948 and since taking effect in 1950, the celebration has aimed to create awareness of a specific health theme to highlight a priority area of concern for the World Health Organization.
- Health is not just about physical well-being but also about the mental and social aspects. A person is said to be healthy if he/she possesses all three. According to the WHO, health is central to human happiness and well-being. It also makes an important contribution to economic progress, as healthy populations live longer and are more productive.
- Millions of people around the world are prey to many terrible diseases. Therefore, to raise awareness about the overall health and well-being of people across the globe every year World Health Day is celebrated.
- World Health Day 2021: Theme
- Each year, the World Health Organisation (WHO) selects a theme highlighting a particular priority area of public health. The theme for this year's global health awareness day is Building a fairer, healthier world.
- The campaign highlights WHO's constitutional principle that "the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition.

## 2. Mahaveer temple's 'Naivedyam' is good in quality, got FSSAI certificate.



- Prasad 'Naivedyam' of Mahavir temple in Patna was presented with a certificate of enjoyment by the Central Government's FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) in the temple premises on Tuesday. It is the first temple in North India and the ninth temple in the country to get the certificate.
- 'Naivedyam' Prasad of Mahavir temple has got the certificate after meeting the standards of specific quality, taste, purity, cleanliness etc.
- Naivedyam Prasad was started at Mahavir Temple from 22 October 1992. Typical artisans of Tirupati prepare 'Naivedyam' in cow ghee using materials like gram dal, cashew, raisins, cardamom etc. Naivedyam was conceived based on the offerings of the Tirupati temple.

## 3. N.V. Ramana as CJI with effect from April 24 2021.



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- President Ram Nath Kovind appointed Justice N.V. Ramana as Chief Justice of India with effect from April 24.
- He was Additional Advocate General for Andhra Pradesh before being called to the State High Court Bench in 2001. Justice Ramana was the Delhi High Court Chief Justice prior to his elevation to the apex court.
- As CJI, Justice Ramana has a tenure of 16 months.
- In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution, the President is pleased to appoint Sri. Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana, judge of the supreme Court, to be the Chief Justice of India with effect from April 24, 2021," the Ministry of Law and Justice notification said.
- With this, both the Supreme Court and the government have followed the seniority norm in the appointment of CJIs.
- As Executive Chairman of National Legal Services Authority, Justice Ramana was responsible for making India's legal aid programme the largest in the world wherein legal aid is not only provided on the basis of 'means test' rather on basis of fixed categories.
- Justice Ramana has said one of his primary objectives, besides providing easy access to justice, would be to improve the judicial infrastructure through a special purpose vehicle called the 'National Judicial Infrastructure Corporation' to act as a nodal agency.

## 4. Russian President Vladimir Putin



- Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the legislation that may be able to keep him in power until 2036, when he will be 83 years old.
- Putin, a former KGB officer who is now 68, completes his ongoing six-year tenure — his fourth as President — in 2024. He has already run the country either as President or as Prime Minister for more than 20 years (see box). This is the longest period a leader has been in power since Joseph Stalin, who was Secretary General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (1922-1953) and the premier of the Soviet Union from 1941-1953.
- Before the new legislation was signed, a President could serve a maximum of two consecutive six-year terms. That term limit remains even in the new legislation. What has changed is that Putin's previous terms will not be counted once the new legislation comes

into effect. These will be "zeroed out", giving him the option of serving two more consecutive terms after the current one ends in 2024.

- At the end of his first two consecutive terms as President In 2008, Putin stepped down to become Prime Minister while the President's chair went to a chosen successor, Dmitry Medvedev.
- Until then, the term of the Russian President was of four years, and Putin has served in the chair from 2000 to 2008. Also in 2008, the President's term was lengthened to six years, which is why Putin's current two successive terms run for 12 years, from 2012 to 2024.
- **How it was changed**
- The legislation Putin has now signed formalises changes to the Russian Constitution that were endorsed by the people through a referendum held last year. The changes he proposed were approved by over 78% of the vote.
- In January 2020, he called for changes to the Constitution, which included the removal of term limits. In a speech to the State Duma (Russia's Lower House of Parliament) in March 2020, Putin cited the example of US President Franklin D Roosevelt, who served four terms — starting 1932, 1936, 1940 and 1944. Roosevelt's four-term presidency paved the way for the 22nd Amendment to the US Constitution, ratified in 1951, that limited the Presidential term to two four-year terms.
- **Criticism**
- Some critics have likened Putin's move to a power grab while others have called them a "constitutional coup".
- Golos, a Russian association that carries out independent election observations, called the July vote a "PR campaign", "...the purpose of which was not to reveal the free will of citizens, but to form the necessary perception of this will by the authorities.

## 5. India emerging a leader in supercomputing.



- India is fast emerging a leader in high power computing with the National Super Computing Mission (NSM) boosting it to meet the increasing computational demands of academia, researchers,

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MSMEs, and startups in areas like oil exploration, flood prediction as well as genomics and drug discovery.

- Computing infrastructure has already been installed in four premier institutions and installation work is in rapid progress in 9 more.
- Completion in of Phase II of NSM in September 2021 will take the country's computing power to 16 Petaflops (PF). MoUs have been signed with a total of 14 premier institutions of India for establishing Supercomputing Infrastructure with Assembly and Manufacturing in India. These include IITs, NITs, National Labs, and IISERs.
- Infrastructure planned in NSM Phase I has already been installed and much of Phase II will be getting in place soon. Phase III, initiated this year, will take the computing speed to around 45 Petaflops. This will include three systems of 3 PF each and one system of 20PF as a national facility.
- The National Supercomputing Mission was launched to enhance the research capacities and capabilities in the country by connecting them to form a Supercomputing grid, with National Knowledge Network (NKN) as the backbone. The NSM is setting up a grid of supercomputing facilities in academic and research institutions across the country. Part of this is being imported from abroad and part built indigenously. The Mission is being jointly steered by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and implemented by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, and the
- PARAM Shivay, the first supercomputer assembled indigenously, was installed in IIT (BHU), followed by PARAM Shakti, PARAM Brahma, PARAM Yukti, PARAM Sanganak at IIT-Kharagpur IISER, Pune, JNCASR, Bengaluru and IIT Kanpur respectively.
- The mission has also created the next generation of supercomputer experts by training more than 4500 HPC aware manpower and faculties till date. To expand the activities of the HPC training, four NSM Nodal Centres for training in HPC and AI have been established at IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras, IIT Goa and IIT Palakkad. These centres have conducted online training programs in HPC and in AI.
- Powered by the NSM, India's network of research institutions, in collaboration with the industry, is scaling up the technology and manufacturing capability to make more and more parts in India. While in Phase I, 30 percent value addition is done in India that has been scaled up to 40 percent in Phase II. India has developed an Indigenous server (Rudra), which can meet the HPC requirements of all governments and PSUs.
- The three phases will provide access to High-Performance Computing (HPC) Facilities to around 75 institutions and more than thousands of active researchers, academicians working through Nation Knowledge Network (NKN) - the backbone for supercomputing systems.

## 6. Craft Instructor Training Scheme (CITS)



## Directorate General of Training

- The Directorate General of Training (DGT), under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), today announced results of the All India Trade Test (AITT) for CITS Academic session 2019-2020. For session 2019-20, a total of 7,535 trainees across 34 trades and 45 Institutes appeared in the examination,
- DGT offers Crafts Instructor Training programmes under Crafts Instructor Training Scheme (CITS) to ITI trainees who aspire to pursue a career in skill training. Comprehensive training both in skills and training methodology is imparted to the instructor trainees to make them conversant with techniques of transferring hands-on skills, to train skilled manpower. At the end of year-long CITS training, an All India Trade Test (AITT) for each of the 34 trades is conducted online by DGT.
- "In view of the PM's vision of making India the skill capital of the world, CITS plays a pivotal role by way of generating expert skill trainers, who empowered with the knowledge of hands-on-skills and pedagogy, would in turn impart skill training at the grass root level. Also, it is noteworthy to observe that women have fared really well in this examination, which further reflects our focus on women empowerment.

## 7. Central Warehouse Corporation



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- Union Minister of Food & Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs, Railways and Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal today reviewed the modernization plan of Central Warehouse Corporation.
- While reviewing, the Minister Shri Goyal said that CWC should double its warehouse storage capacity by end of year 2023 and achieve a turnover of Rs 10000 crore by the Financial Year 2024-25. At present, CWC warehouse storage capacity is 125 LMT.
- CWC should build modern silos for wheat and rice storage all over the country, so that maximum grains could be stored in the country for longer periods.
- CWC should build more cold chain facilities for storage Onion, Potato and Tomato in coordination with NAFED.
- The Minister suggested that CWC should prepare a masterplan for upgradation of its all 423 warehouses. CWC should do the warehouse / storage gap analysis for agricultural produce and accordingly prepare plans with the help of Architects and experts.
- CWC should work in mission mode for taking care of all stakeholders i.e. staff, clients, workers, truck drivers.
- He said all CWC warehouses must have modern and convenience facilities, like toilets for Male, Female workers, customers, drivers and divyangs, proper waiting rooms/restroom, worker-shed, drinking water facilities and other basic amenities with neat & clean ambience.

## 8. Atal Innovation Mission



- The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and Centre for Innovations in Public Systems (CIPS) today announced collaboration to reinforce the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in India by developing a database of innovations in public systems for improving public services, amongst other things
- A Statement of Intent (SoI) was signed between AIM & CIPS. The purpose of SoI is to jointly work to promote innovation and entrepreneurship especially in the area of public systems by leveraging the knowledge and experience of AIM as well as the reach of CIPS.
- Collaboration between AIM and CIPS will help startups to access and promote their innovations to grassroot levels by synergizing with the local administration. The challenges faced by the local administration in delivering the services to the citizens can be addressed through

the start-ups by drafting a plan of action with the support of CIPS mentors.

- As per the SoI, AIM and CIPS will jointly organize round tables involving the district and local level administration officials to create awareness about innovative products and solutions and help them understand standard processes and policies around procurement so that procurement and implementation of relevant innovative solutions can be expedited.
- Organizing and hosting series of e-exhibitions of AIM supported innovative and relevant start-ups to showcase their innovations shall be the next step towards transforming the public administration and service delivery mechanisms.
- The need of the hour is to ensure capacity building of teachers/mentors at grassroot levels to promote innovative learning among the students. This can be achieved by jointly creating an Innovation Learning Management System (iLMS).
- The partnership will also help promote the programs launched by AIM at state and district level and liaison with the states. It will strengthen the AIM Mentor of Change program through larger participation of government officers at district level.
- The beneficiaries would be able to leverage CIPS' facilities for training programmes of AIM initiative and harness CIPS' research capacity for white papers on rural innovation.
- Director, CIPS, C. Achalender Reddy while sharing his thoughts said the purpose of AIM NITI Aayog and CIPS-ASCI collaboration is to enhance public innovation by building an innovative ecosystem, as such supporting various initiatives of AIM programs and AIM beneficiaries.
- its absorption and implementation in the public delivery systems. Such initiatives and partnerships like the one with CIPS are much needed, and will be beneficial for the Government and the society at large at district and village levels."

## 9. Hindi Version of Odisha Itihaas



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- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will release the Hindi translation of the book 'Odisha Itihaas' written by 'Utkal Keshari' Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab on 9th April 2021 from Ambedkar International Center, Janpath, New Delhi.
- The book, available in Odia and English so far, has been translated into Hindi by Shri. Shankarlal Purohit. Union Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab MP(LS), Cuttack will also be present on the occasion. The event marking the release of the Hindi version has been organised by Harekrushna Mahtab Foundation.
- About the Author
- Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab was a notable figure in the Indian Independence Movement. He also served as Chief Minister of Odisha from 1946 to 1950 and from 1956 to 1961. He wrote the book 'Odisha Itihaas' in Ahmednagar Fort Jail, where he was imprisoned for more than two years during 1942-1945.

## 10. Sania Mirza Selected For TOPS In 56th Mission Olympic Cell Meeting.



- Indian tennis player Sania Mirza was on Wednesday selected for Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) during the 56th Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) meeting.
- Sania is making her comeback in the TOPS as she was earlier selected for TOPS during the fourth meeting of the TOPS Elite Athletes Identification Committee that was held in 2017 at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) headquarters. But soon after the selection, she had withdrawn from TOPS.
- She is currently ranked 157th in the world but has a protected ranking of nine (doubles ranking) based on which she is likely to go to the Tokyo Olympics, slated to begin in July this year.
- According to WTA, special ranking is a ranking freeze assigned to a player who is out of competition for a minimum period of six months due to a medical condition. When a player is out of competition for more than 52 weeks, they get a ranking freeze for 3 years based on their last tournament played. Within this 3-year period, the player can enter 12 tournaments using their protected ranking (1 Grand Slam/Olympics & 1 WTA 1000 Mandatory Event).

- Sania was out of competition for more than 52 weeks that is from October 2017 and returned to competition last year in January 2020 when she made a comeback by winning her first doubles tournament in nearly 2 years.