





10 February 2024

National and International News

<p>Bharat Ratna Awardees Announced</p>  <p>Bharat Ratna to Honor PV Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and MS Swaminathan</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honor, will be conferred upon three notable figures: M.S. Swaminathan, P.V. Narasimha Rao, and Chaudhary Charan Singh. These individuals join the list of esteemed awardees, which includes L.K. Advani and Karpoori Thakur, making this year's tally the longest ever announced. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This year's announcement marks a record with five Bharat Ratna awardees, surpassing the previous highest count from 1999. Notably, four out of the five awards are being given posthumously.
<p>Legislative Changes in Jammu and Kashmir</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rajya Sabha recently passed bills to include various communities into the Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Castes (SC) lists in Jammu and Kashmir. Among the amendments, the Pahari ethnic group was added to the ST list, addressing the ongoing protests by the Gujjar-Bakarwal community. Additionally, the Bills incorporated the Paddari Tribe, Gadda Brahmin, and Koli communities into the ST list. The Valmiki community, along with its synonyms, was included in the SC list.
<p>Indian Ocean Conference</p> 	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 7th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) 2024, was held on February 9-10, 2024, in Perth, Australia. It was attended by representatives from 40 countries and Foreign Ministers from various regional nations participated in the event. <p>Conference Objectives: The primary focus of the conference was to facilitate discussions on regional cooperation and propose</p>



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solutions concerning:

- **Regional security**
- **Economic development**
- **Environmental protection**
- **Maritime safety within the Indian Ocean region.**

Theme:

- The theme of the conference was "**Towards a Stable and Sustainable Indian Ocean,**" emphasizing the importance of stability and sustainability in the region's geopolitical and environmental landscape.

About:
IOC is an annual event fostering cooperation between countries bordering the Indian Ocean.

Aadi Mahotsav 2024

Context:

- The President inaugurated **Aadi Mahotsav 2024, an annual National Tribal Festival held at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi.**
- Organized by TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, this event showcases the rich diversity of India's tribal heritage.

Objectives:

- **Showcasing Talent:** Aadi Mahotsav serves as a platform to showcase the extraordinary talent and craftsmanship of tribal artisans, displaying a vast array of tribal art, handicrafts, natural produce, and cuisine.
- **Empowerment:** The festival aims to empower tribal communities by providing them with a direct market to sell their products, generate income, and gain recognition for their skills.
- **Celebrating Diversity:** It's a celebration of the vibrant and diverse tribal culture, promoting awareness, understanding, and appreciation for their unique traditions and contributions to India's heritage.

TRIFED:

- **Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India** is a national level cooperative body under the administrative control of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India founded in **1987.**



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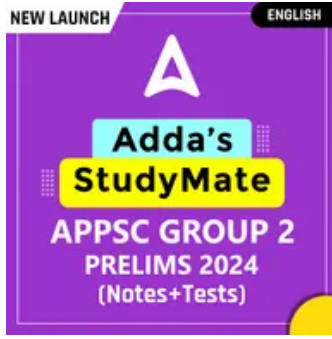
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DigiReady Certification (DRC) Portal

- The DRC portal is a collaborative effort between the **Quality Council of India (QCI)** and the **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**.
- It aims to evaluate and certify the digital preparedness of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (**MSMEs**) for seamless integration as sellers on the ONDC platform.



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