

Daily Current Affairs

25 January 2024

Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman Campaign

- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar launched the **Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman** campaign of the **Ministry of Law and Justice**, in New Delhi to commemorate the 75th Year of India as Republic.
- He said, the Nation is remembering the Heros those who were forgotten. He said, the **countrymen have rediscovered Bharat**.
- The Vice President said, the Nation has become fifth largest economy and it will be third largest economy soon. He said, entire world looks upto Bharat.
- During the Event, **Nyaya Setu was launched** which is a significant and transformative step that aims to extend and expand the reach of legal services till the last mile.



- Some of the themes to be covered during the Campaign include, **Sabko Nyay - Har Ghar Nyaya, Nav Bharat Nav Sankalp and Vidhi Jagriti Abhiyan**.
- In his address, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal said, the **aim of the initiatives launched** is access to Justice for all citizens specially for those who have been left out.
- The event also brought together representatives from **Bhashini and IGNOU** to formalize their collaboration with Department of Justice.

- The partnership with Bhashini would break the barriers of language in accessibility to justice.
- The partnership with IGNOU will open the opportunity for Paralegals to acquire certifications in diverse field of laws, enhance their educational opportunities and increase their skills and employability across different sectors of legal assistance and support.

Doomsday Clock

- The **Doomsday Clock**, established by the **Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists**, is a metaphorical representation of the **proximity of humanity to global catastrophes**, primarily caused by man-made technologies and environmental challenges.
- Recently, this symbolic clock has drawn significant attention due to its alarming setting close to midnight.



- The **Doomsday Clock was created in 1947**, two years after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The concept was developed by scientists who worked on the Manhattan Project and were deeply concerned about the nuclear arms race following **World War II**.
- Artist Martyl Langsdorf, a member of the Bulletin, designed **the original clock**. Initially, the **clock was a symbol of nuclear threat**. It has since evolved to encompass a broader range of dangers, including climate change, emerging technologies, and biological hazards.

- As of 2024, the Doomsday Clock is set at **90 seconds to midnight**. This setting is based on a comprehensive assessment of current global threats and is the closest the clock has ever been to midnight.



ONGC's Green Energy Unit

- The **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas** has granted approval for the formation of a **subsidiary company by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC)**, dedicated to the **green energy and gas sector**.
- Reflecting the **company's commitment to diversify** its portfolio and contribute to sustainable energy solutions. In addition to the formation of ONGC Green Limited, the board also granted in-principle approval for the establishment of a **Joint Venture Company (JVC)** with NTPC Green Energy Limited.



- This strategic partnership aims to delve into the burgeoning Offshore Wind Energy sector and other Renewable Energy opportunities.
- The collaboration with NTPC Green Energy Limited aligns with ONGC's broader vision to diversify its energy portfolio and contribute to India's ambitious renewable energy goals.
- This move is significant in the context of the country's commitment to the "Panchamrit" pledge made at COP26 in 2021.

Gruha Jyothi Scheme

- The **Chief Minister of Telangana**, Revanth Reddy, has taken significant strides to expedite the implementation of various welfare schemes, including the much-anticipated **Gruha Jyothi Scheme**.
- The state government aims to roll out this scheme from the first week of February, bringing relief to numerous households.



- The announcement of the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, which promises **200 units of free electricity**, sparked confusion among citizens.
- In response, a considerable number of people refrained from paying their electricity bills for the past two months, anticipating the scheme's implementation.
- To address this, the Telangana government clarified that only individuals who have settled their electricity bills for December 2023 and January 2024 are eligible for the scheme.
- **No arrears in electricity bills** during this period are a prerequisite for availing the benefits. Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy announced that the Gruha Jyothi Scheme's free electricity component will be set in motion from the beginning of February.
- As a part of this scheme, every household possessing a **Below Poverty Line (BPL) card will receive 200 units of electricity free of charge** starting February. For households with electricity consumption within the 200-unit threshold, there will be no electricity charges.

Sweden Set To Become NATO Member

- **Turkey's parliament ratifies Sweden's NATO membership** bid, clearing the biggest remaining hurdle to expanding the Western military alliance after 20 months of delay.
- **Turkey's general assembly**, where President Tayyip Erdogan's ruling alliance holds a majority, voted 287-55 to approve the application that Sweden first made in 2022. All NATO members need to approve applications from countries seeking to join the alliance.



- After Parliament's verdict, **Turkiye President Erdoğan** is expected to sign the bill into law in the coming days. The Swedish Prime Minister, Ulf Kristersson, reacted quickly to the news, saying his country is one step closer to becoming a full member of NATO.
- Nato's secretary-general, Jens Stoltenberg, welcomed the vote, saying he expected Hungary to ratify Sweden as soon as possible. Sweden's membership would make the **entire Baltic coastline NATO territory** - with the exception of the Russian coast and that of its enclave Kaliningrad.
- This would, for example, make the Baltic States easier to defend in the event of a Russian attack. Troops and equipment could be transported much more easily by ship via Sweden to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

India Aids Afghanistan

- **Indian government** has stepped forward to aid the Afghan people in confronting the **locust menace**.
- The generous support comes in the form of **40,000 litres of Malathion**, an environmentally friendly pesticide known for its efficacy in arid regions and minimal water usage.



- The supplies **were sent through Iran's Chabahar port**, showcasing a collaborative effort to address a pressing agricultural concern.
- Malathion has proven to be a crucial tool in locust control, making it an ideal choice for **combating the infestation in Afghanistan**. Its **effectiveness in arid regions aligns with the country's climate**, and its **minimal water usage** addresses environmental concerns.
- The timely provision of this pesticide not only **protects Afghan crops** but also plays a pivotal role in **ensuring food security in the region**.



- This strategic move **emphasizes regional cooperation in tackling** shared challenges, fostering stability and resilience in the agricultural sector.
- Mawlawi Ataullah Omari, the Taliban’s Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation & Livestock, expressed sincere appreciation “We are grateful to the Government of the Republic of India and its people for supplying 40,000 litres of chemical material (Malathion) in the agriculture sector to prevent the locust menace.”

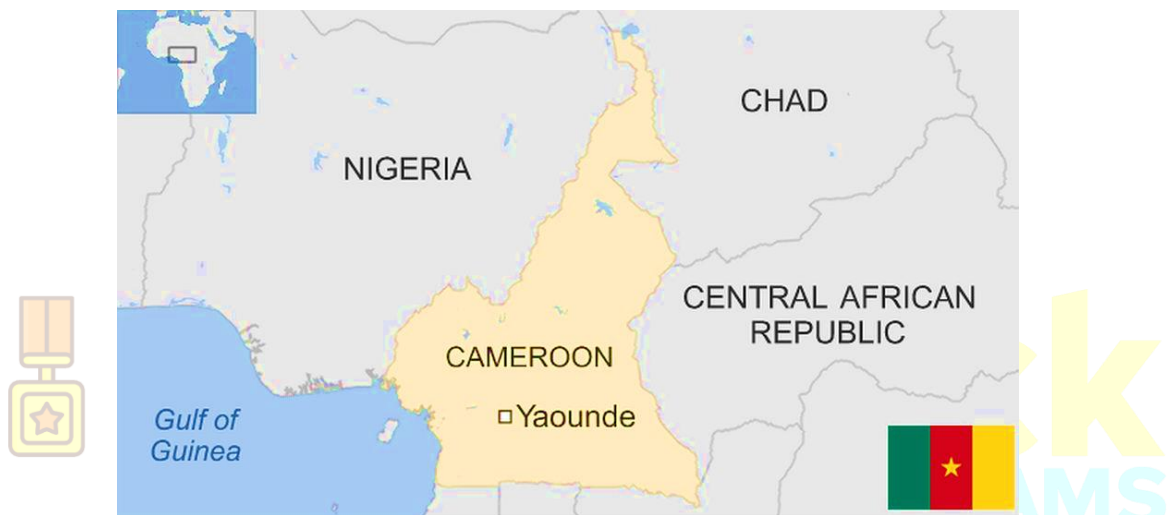


- Despite **not officially recognizing the Taliban regime in Kabul**, India continues to demonstrate its commitment to providing humanitarian support through its technical office in the country. **This is not the first instance** of India extending a helping hand to Afghanistan. Despite political differences, New Delhi has previously assisted the country with **much-needed wheat supplies** and

collaborated on efforts to **combat drug-related issues**. The recent provision of Malathion adds to the list of collaborative endeavors aimed at addressing critical challenges faced by the Afghan people.

World's First Malaria Vaccine Program

- **Cameroon is set to kick off a landmark malaria vaccine program covering 2.5 lakh children** over two years.
- Africa accounts for **95% of global malaria mortality**, so curbing infections here is pivotal. Officials described the campaign as a major milestone in fighting the life-threatening disease after decades of efforts.



- **Sub-Saharan Africa witnesses 250 million malaria cases annually**, including a heartbreaking **600,000 child deaths**.
- Vaccination will relieve this enormous burden on the continent's health systems and economies while saving families' lives. Cameroon aims to demonstrate the vaccine's benefits as proof of concept.



- **Cameroon will utilize Mosquirix** – the first ever vaccine approved for malaria in late 2021. Developed by British pharma giant GlaxoSmithKline, it trains the immune system to attack the deadly Plasmodium parasite spread by infected mosquitoes. However, protection starts waning after months.



- **A limitation is Mosquirix's modest 30% efficacy**, lower than standard vaccines. It also requires four doses for full immunization. So while the vaccine cuts severe disease and death risk substantially, supplementary tools like nets and sprays are still essential to curb transmission.
- Given Mosquirix supply constraints, **WHO also approved Oxford University's more scalable malaria vaccine** last October. With easier production, no cold chain necessities, and Serum Institute of India's pledged capacity to manufacture 200 million doses annually, this vaccine could accelerate anti-malaria drives.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman Campaign Launched By

- A. Ministry Of Law & Justice
- B. Ministry Of Corporate Affairs
- C. Ministry Of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry Of Defence

ANSWER: A

2. Malathion Seen In News Is

- A. Malaria Vaccine
- B. Insecticide
- C. TB Vaccine
- D. Herbicide

ANSWER: B

3. World's First Malaria Vaccine Program For Children Is Launched By

- A. Nigeria
- B. Egypt
- C. Cameroon
- D. Somalia

ANSWER: C

4. Gruha Jyothi Scheme Launched In

- A. Telangana
- B. Kerala
- C. Gujarat
- D. Tamil Nadu

ANSWER: A

5. Which National Highway Witnessed Inauguration Of First Steel Slag Road

- A. NH-44 Delhi-Jaipur
- B. NH-66 Mumbai-Goa
- C. NH-30 Kolkata-Patna
- D. NH-22 Chandigarh-Manali

ANSWER: B

6. Under Sadbhavana Scheme, Which Village In Poonch District Has Been Adopted By The Army As A Model Village

- A. Balakote
- B. Pir Panjal
- C. Datotopa
- D. Topa Pir

ANSWER: D

7. Who Has Been Elected As President In Taiwan's Historic Election

- A. Hou Yu ih
- B. William Lai Ching te
- C. Han Kuo- yu
- D. Ko Wen-je

ANSWER: B

8. Name Of Biosimilar Antidiabetic Drug Recently Launched By Glenmark In The Indian Market

- A. Insugen
- B. Lirafit
- C. Glyciphage
- D. Januglify

ANSWER: B

9. Laokhowa And Burhachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries Are Protected Areas Of Which State

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Assam
- C. Manipur
- D. Mizoram

ANSWER: B

10. Uiam Lake Seen In The News, Is Located In Which State

- A. West Bengal
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Meghalaya

ANSWER: D

11. Significance Of January 10th In Relation To The Hindi Language

- A. Adoption Of Hindi As India's Official Language
- B. Birth Anniversary Of Famous Hindi Poet Maithili Sharan Gupt
- C. Hindi First Spoken In The United Nations General Assembly
- D. Adoption Of Articles Related To Hindi In Constitution Of India

ANSWER: C

12. What Is HD 63433d That Was Seen In The News Recently

- A. A Massive blackhole
- B. A supernova remnant
- C. An Earth Like Exoplanet
- D. A spiral galaxy

ANSWER: C

13. Recently, Who Received Best FIFA Men's Player Award

- A. Cristiano Ronaldo
- B. Lionel Messi
- C. Neymar
- D. Robert Lewandowsk

ANSWER: B

14. PM Narendra Modi Inaugurated The 'NACIN', A National Level Institute, In Which State

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Kerala
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: B

15. Which Country Launched EcoMark Green Accreditation Framework For MSME's At WEF In Davos

- A. Russia
- B. India
- C. China
- D. UAE

ANSWER: D

16. Which Bank Collaborated With Veefin Solutions To Launch SmartFin

- A. YES Bank
- B. UCO Bank
- C. SBI
- D. HDFC Bank

ANSWER: A

17. Pench Tiger Reserve, Marked India's 1st Dark Sky Park & 5th In Asia Located in

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Gujarat
- C. Karnataka
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: A

18. In Which City Was 25T Bollard Pull Tug Named Bishm Launched

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kochi
- C. Kolkata
- D. Visakhapatnam

ANSWER: C

19. Which Country To Become World's Largest Producer Of Lentils During The 2023-24 Crop Years

- A. Australia
- B. Russia
- C. Canada
- D. India

ANSWER: D

20. Which Among Following Places Have Given Earliest Evidence Of Agriculture In Indian Subcontinent

- A. Pratapgarh
- B. Mehrgarh
- C. Quetta
- D. Kalat

ANSWER: B