

Daily Current Affairs

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Largest Solar Battery Project

- The Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has commissioned **India's largest solar-battery energy storage system (BESS)** in **Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh**.
- **Capacity: 40 MW / 120 MWh BESS, Solar PV Plant Capacity: 152.325 MW**. This **large-scale integration of solar and battery storage** represents a pioneering leap in renewable energy generation and utilization in India.



- The project addresses **peak energy demand by storing solar energy** during the day and releasing it during evening hours, ensuring grid stability and reliability.
- By utilizing renewable energy sources and adopting **sustainable land-use practices**, the project contributes significantly to reducing carbon emissions and promoting environmental responsibility.
- The project's long-term power purchase agreement with the state electricity distribution company ensures **economic sustainability** and paves the way for future renewable energy endeavors.
- The **project incorporates** bifacial solar modules, generating more electricity compared to traditional models.
- **Seamless integration into the existing power grid** is ensured through a dedicated 132 kV transmission line.

- The project is a testament to successful collaboration, receiving funding from the World Bank, Clean Technology Fund, and domestic lending agencies.



Consumer Expenditure Survey

- **NITI Aayog CEO B V R Subrahmanyam** has said that the latest consumer expenditure survey indicates that **poverty has come down to five percent** in the country and people are becoming prosperous both in rural and urban areas.

Food spending

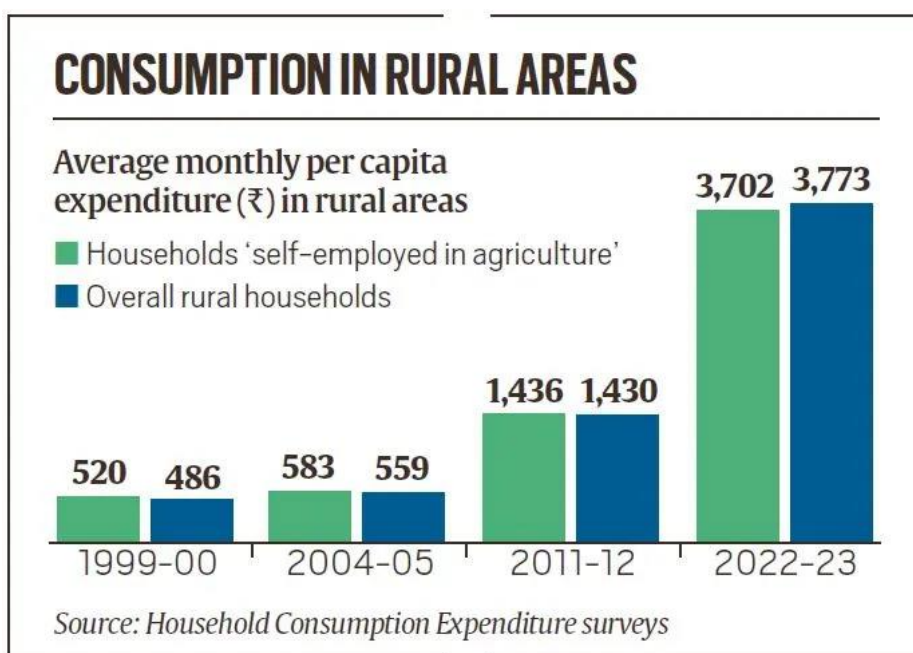
Share of cereals and food in average monthly per capita consumption expenditure decreased in both rural and urban areas



Period	RURAL		URBAN	
	% share of cereals	% share of food	% share of cereals	% share of food
1999-00	22.23	59.4	12.39	48.06
2004-05	17.45	53.11	9.63	40.51
2009-10	13.77	56.98	8.16	44.39
2011-12	10.75	52.9	6.66	42.62
2022-23	4.91	46.38	3.64	39.17

- Mr Subrahmanyam said, the long-awaited survey has brought out many things and with data on **household consumption**, the status of poverty can be assessed in the country and the success of the poverty alleviation measures can be known.

- Citing the survey data, he said, the **increase in consumption both in rural and urban areas** is about 2.5 times.
- The NITI Aayog CEO said, another significant takeaway from the survey findings is that **consumption in rural areas is growing faster than in urban areas**, thereby narrowing the gap.



- The **National Sample Survey Office** under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, released data on household consumption expenditure 2022-23 which shows per capita monthly household expenditure more than doubled in 2022-23 as compared to 2011-12.



NSSO

stands for

National Sample Survey Office

Film Certification Facilitation Office In Chandigarh

- **Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur** announced the setting up of a regional facilitation office of the **Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) in Chandigarh**.
- At the closing ceremony of the Chitra Bharati Film Festival in Chandigarh, Mr. Thakur said filmmakers of the region would get the **facility of screening of their films and submission** of cuts/modifications, without having to go to either Delhi or Mumbai to get the CBFC certificate for their films.



- Stating that every year, **more than half of the 2,500 films** in the world were being made in India, the Minister said: “from feature films to documentaries and short films to serials, Indian cinema today is capturing every colour of life on its canvas and making local stories global. It therefore does not matter what language a film is being made in, as long as the content is interesting, it will always have takers.”



CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION
केन्द्रीय फिल्म प्रमाणन बोर्ड

- “I have great faith that the films that are made in the Punjab region also have great potential. Therefore, the government has decided to set up a CBFC facilitation office in Chandigarh so that the process of getting certification becomes easier and the process of film completion becomes faster,” he said.

Vantara - Animal Rescue & Care Facility

- **Reliance Industries and Reliance Foundation** announced the **launch of Vantara (Star of the Forest) programme**, an umbrella initiative to focus on **rescue, treatment, care and rehabilitation** of injured, abused and **threatened animals**, both in India and abroad.
- Spread over **3,000 acres within the Green Belt of Reliance’s Jamnagar Refinery Complex** in Gujarat, Vantara aims to be one of the **leading contributors to conservation efforts globally**.



- “What started as a passion for me at a very young age has become a mission now with Vantara and our brilliant and committed team. We are focused at protecting **critically endangered species native to India**. We also want to restore vital habitats and address urgent threats to species and establish Vantara as a leading-edge conservation programme," **Anant said**.
- He said the rescue center houses over 200 elephants, while the zoo has more than 100 species of animals and a dedicated team of 3,000 people to manage it.
- Ambani has displayed a deep passion for animal welfare since his early years. He is actively involved in various initiatives aimed at rescuing, providing healthcare, rehabilitating, and conserving animals.

Nutritional Status Of Adolescent Girls

- **Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of AYUSH** signed an MOU in New Delhi to achieve **improvement in the nutritional status of adolescent girls in five Utkarsh Districts**.
- The event which was chaired by Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani and AYUSH Minister Sarbananda Sonowal was part of a wider collaboration between the ministries to **leverage traditional knowledge**, promotion of wellness through joint yoga protocols, and promote diet diversity through the consumption of locally grown wholesome foods.



- This collaboration **aims to leverage traditional knowledge** and promote wellness through joint yoga protocols, as well as encourage diet diversity by promoting the consumption of locally grown wholesome foods.
- Nutrition plans rooted in traditional wisdom are already a key part of a government programme **called Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0**.
- This programme, run by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, utilises various methods to combat malnutrition, working closely with other government departments and state authorities.
- The **main goal of Poshan 2.0 is to tackle issues** like stunted growth, malnutrition, anaemia, and low birth weight. One key aspect is promoting wellness through AYUSH, which focuses on maternal health, proper feeding for infants and young children, and treating malnourished kids.

Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre

- Prime Minister will visit the **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)** in **Thiruvananthapuram** and will inaugurate three important space infrastructure projects worth about **1800 crore rupees**.



- Mr. Modi's vision to reform the **country's Space sector** to realise its full potential, and his commitment to enhancing technical and R&D capability in the sector will get a boost as three important space infrastructure projects will be inaugurated during his visit to Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram.
- The projects include the **PSLV Integration Facility (PIF)** at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota; the **new 'Semi-cryogenics Integrated Engine and Stage Test facility'** at ISRO Propulsion Complex at Mahendragiri; and **'Trisonic Wind Tunnel'** at VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram.
- These three projects providing world-class technical facilities for the space sector have been developed at a cumulative cost of about Rs. 1800 crore. The Prime Minister will also review the **progress of the Ganganyaan Mission**.

India's 1st Septic Tank Cleaning Robot

- **India's first septic tank/manhole cleaning robot**, offering an end-to-end solution to **eliminate manual scavenging**, is strengthening the **swachhata abhiyan** in different corners of the country.
- The **technology called Homosep Atom** developed by the startup incubated in the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)-Technology Business**

Incubator (TBI) of IIT Madras, solves manual cleaning methods and transforms it to robotic cleaning methods.



- It has reached 16 cities in different parts of India and empowers extensive blade cleanings, solid waste desilting, suction and storage at one device; thereby reducing the cost of owning multiple assets and promotes robotic cleaning in sewers.
- **The startup called Solinas**, which developed this affordable robotic solution integrated Artificial Intelligence (AI) to inspect, clean, and manage confined space for sanitation purposes. It helped clean up manhole blockages and reduced sewer overflows in Madurai. The application of Homosep Atom was also extended to the intricate lanes of Chennai's densely populated areas.



Goodfellow Classic squash

- **Indian Squash player Abhay Singh** clinched the **Goodfellow Classic PSA Challenger Tour Title in Toronto, Canada.**
- In the finals, he defeated Elliott Morris Devred of Wales by 3-0. With this win, the Asian Games Gold medalist has won his eighth PSA World Tour title.
- In a social media post, Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur congratulated Abhay for his achievement and called his performance remarkable, throughout the tournament.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Largest Solar Battery Project Is Inaugurated In

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

ANSWER: B

2. Who Releases Consumer Expenditure Survey

- A. Niti Aayog
- B. NSSO
- C. Ministry Of Labour & Welfare
- D. Ministry Of Rural Development

ANSWER: B

3. Vantara Seen In News Is

- A. Forest Conservation Scheme
- B. ISRO's Satellite
- C. Forest Dwellers Development Scheme
- D. Animal Rescue & Care Facility

ANSWER: D

4. India's 1st Septic Tank Cleaning Robot Is Developed By

- A. IIT Bombay
- B. IIT Guwahati
- C. IIT Madras
- D. IIT Mandi

ANSWER: C

5. Which Of The Following Countries Participated In 'Exercise Dosti'

- A. India, Sri Lanka & Maldives
- B. Myanmar, Sri Lanka & Nepal
- C. India, Bangladesh & Myanmar
- D. Bhutan, Nepal & Myanmar

ANSWER: A

6. NaViGate Bharat Portal Is Launched By Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Communications
- B. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- C. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- D. Ministry of Defence

ANSWER: B

7. Ancient Badami Chalukya Temples Were Discovered In Mudimanikyam Village Along The Banks Of Which River

- A. Godavari River
- B. Kaveri River
- C. Krishna River
- D. Tapi River

ANSWER: C

8. Kuru Hydel Project, is located in which state/UT

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Karnataka
- D. Jammu & Kashmir

ANSWER: D

9. India's 1st 'Gati Shakti Research Chair' Has Been Established At Which Institute

- A. IIM Ahmedabad
- B. IIM Shillong
- C. IIT Kanpur
- D. IIT Bombay

ANSWER: B

10. Gujrai Solar Power Station, Is Located In Which State

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Gujarat

ANSWER: A

11. Kali Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Karnataka
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: C

12. Intelligent Transportation System Endeavor Program Comes Under Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology
- D. Ministry of Communication

ANSWER: C

13. IREDA And Which Bank Signed A MoU To Co-finance Renewable Energy Projects

- A. State Bank of India
- B. Punjab National Bank
- C. Union Bank of India
- D. Axis Bank

ANSWER: B

14. Where Was 11th Bilateral Consular Dialogue Between India And The US Held

- A. New Delhi
- B. California
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Chennai

ANSWER: A

15. Which Countries Are The Hosts Of Asia Cup 2023 Tournament

- A. Sri Lanka and Pakistan
- B. India and Bangladesh
- C. Nepal and Bangladesh
- D. Pakistan and Afghanistan

ANSWER: A

16. Recently, Which Country Removed From Financial Crime Watch List Of FATF

- A. UAE
- B. Pakistan
- C. Iran
- D. Myanmar

ANSWER: A

17. PM Modi Laid Foundation Stone Of Shri Kalki Dham Temple In Which District Of Uttar Pradesh

- A. Ayodhya
- B. Saharanpur
- C. Sambhal
- D. Sitapur

ANSWER: B

18. Primary Focus Of INDUS X Initiative

- A. Protection of historical monuments
- B. Advancing of high-tech cooperation in the defense sector
- C. Advancing of cyber security measures
- D. Developing software solutions for startups

ANSWER: B

19. Archaeologists Discovered A Harappan-era Fortified Settlement Named Morodharo In Which State

- A. Haryana
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Gujarat
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: C

20. Sikkim's INSPIRES Programme Is Assisted By

- A. International Monetary Fund
- B. World Bank
- C. Global Environment Facility
- D. Asian Development Bank

ANSWER: B