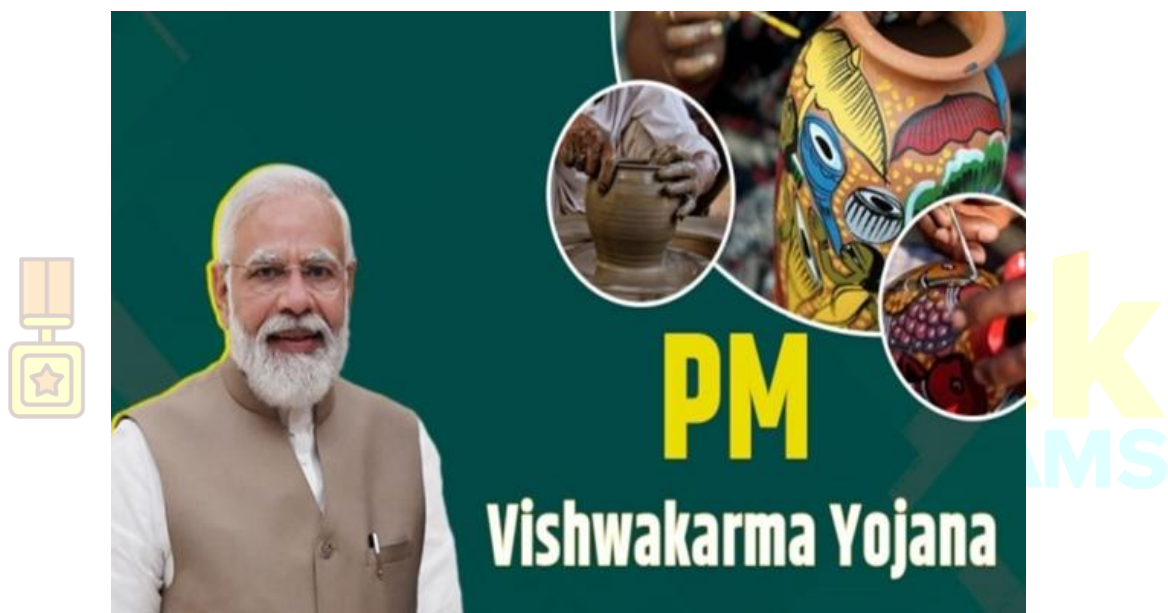


Daily Current Affairs

05 November 2024

PM Vishwakarma Scheme

- Government said that over **25 million applications** have been submitted under the **PM Vishwakarma Scheme** since its launch. Out of these, more **than 2 million applicants** have successfully registered, following a thorough three-step verification process.



- The **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** said that the scheme, which was launched last year in September with the aim of empowering artisans and craftspeople across India, has garnered remarkable interest.
- **Nearly 1 million registered artisans** have benefited from toolkit incentives of up to **15,000 rupees through** these e-vouchers, enabling them to acquire modern tools that enhance their craftsmanship.
- **Ministry said that the PM Vishwakarma Scheme** stands as a testament to the government's dedication to revitalizing traditional crafts and supporting the artisans who embody the nation's cultural diversity and heritage.

Solar Capacity

- **New and Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi** said that India has reached **90 gigawatts of installed solar capacity** in its goal to attain **500 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity** by 2030.
- Mr. Joshi was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the seventh session of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** in New Delhi.



- The minister said that the government has **approved 50 solar parks** with a renewable **capacity of 37.5 gigawatts**.
- He also added that this year the **global solar sector** is set to reach approximately two terawatts of installed **solar photovoltaic capacity**.
- This year, the **ISA is being held under the presidency** of India and the co-presidency of France. At the assembly, the fulcrum of the discussions will be the means and **modes that will be adopted to accelerate** solar deployment across member countries, especially in regions with limited energy access.

International Solar Alliance

- **India and France** have been elected as **President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)** for a two-year term from 2024 to 2026.
- India was the **sole candidate for the presidency**, while **France won the co-presidency in a contest with Grenada**.
- The **Seventh Session of the ISA Assembly** is underway at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from 3 to 6th November, 2024.



INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE

- Ministers and representatives from 29 countries are in attendance to discuss solar energy goals and initiatives.
- Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, who is also the ISA President, emphasized that **India's election reflects its substantial contributions** to global solar energy efforts.
- Under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, India has been advancing solar adoption and boosting investments in essential solar projects worldwide.

New Consulate General Of India In Brisbane

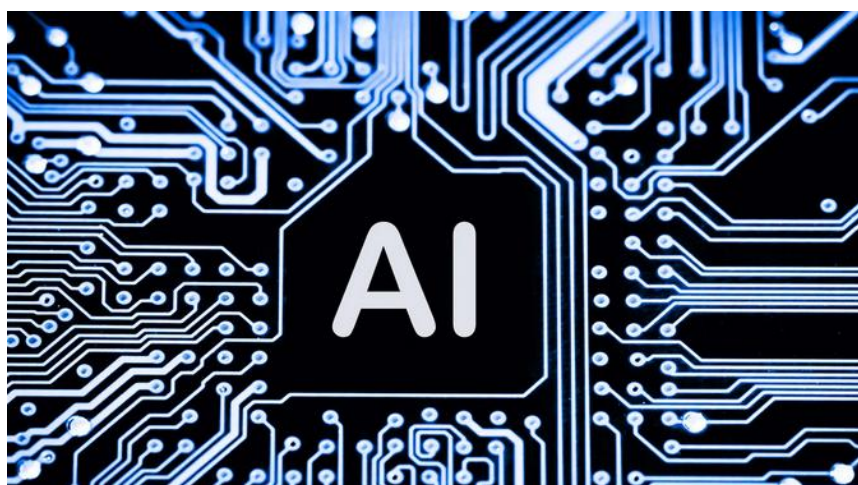
- **Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar** formally inaugurated the new **Consulate General of India in Brisbane**, Australia. On the occasion, Dr. Jaishankar said that the **consulate will contribute to strengthening** India's ties with Queensland, promoting trade, fostering educational linkages, and serving the diaspora.
- He termed the inauguration a landmark milestone in the increasingly **strong bilateral relationship** between India and Australia.



- He further added that the Consulate General is a realization of a promise that Prime Minister Narendra Modi made to the **Indian community in Australia** last year.
- Minister also met the **Governor of Queensland, Dr. Jeannette Young**. During the meeting, both leaders **discussed opportunities and ways to** strengthen economic, trade, and investment cooperation between India and Queensland.
- Dr Jaishankar also visited Australia's Humanitarian Logistics Capability HLC warehouse for **Humanitarian Assistance** and Disaster Relief HADR supplies to the Pacific.
- **He said, disaster relief in Indo – Pacific is an emerging element** of India-Australia bilateral ties.
- The **External Affairs Minister appreciated Australia's support** for the delivery of relief material to Papua New Guinea in June 2024. He said HADR has also been an important element of QUAD endeavours.

AI Preparedness Index

- Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping the global economy. It is **reinventing labor markets, industries, and societal dynamics**. This transformation brings both opportunities and challenges.
- The **global AI market is expected to grow**, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 36.6% from 2024 to 2030. Advanced economies will experience these changes **sooner than emerging markets** due to their focus on cognitive-intensive roles. AI Preparedness Index (API)



- The **AI Preparedness Index (API)** measures a country's readiness to adopt AI technologies. The index **considers four key metrics**:

- Digital infrastructure
- Human capital
- Technological innovation
- Legal frameworks
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** released the AI Preparedness Index for 2023, ranking countries based on these criteria.
- Top Countries Most Prepared for AI
- According to the IMF, the top 10 countries most prepared for AI in 2023 are:
- Singapore – Score: 0.80
- United States
- United Kingdom
- Germany
- France
- Canada
- Australia
- Sweden
- Netherlands
- Finland
- **India ranks 72nd out of 174 countries**, with an AI Preparedness Index rating of 0.49. Despite this lower ranking has the highest percentage of AI users. About 45% of respondents reported using ChatGPT. The country is home to 338 AI startups, indicating a growing interest in AI technologies.

Deepam 2.0 Scheme

- **Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu** launched the **Deepam 2.0 scheme in Edupuram, Srikakulam**. This initiative offers **free gas cylinders to women**, aiming to provide **clean cooking energy and improve living conditions**.
- Naidu personally distributed the cylinders, denoting the importance of the scheme.
- **Deepam 1.0 was the initial phase of the initiative**. It provided women with LPG connections and subsidies.



Deepam 2.0 Scheme Status 2024

- Deepam 2.0 builds on this by offering **three free gas cylinders annually**. This continuation demonstrates the government's commitment to **women's empowerment and health**.
- By providing free gas cylinders, the scheme **reduces financial burdens**. It also promotes cleaner cooking methods, improving health and safety in households.
- The **initiative aims to enhance the quality of life for women and their families**.
- In addition to the **gas cylinders, Naidu promised Rs 1,500 monthly to every woman**.
- This financial support aims to reduce economic disparities. The government also plans to provide **Rs 15,000 annually to school-going students** through the 'Thaliki Vandhanam' scheme.



India's National Large Solar Telescope Project

- **Sun is crucial for life on Earth**, yet we know little about it. Solar storms can disrupt satellites and technology. India is addressing this gap by **establishing the National Large Solar Telescope (NLST) in Ladakh**.
- This project, led by **Professor Annapurni Subramaniam**, aims to enhance our understanding of solar activity.



- The **NLST will be a two-metre class optical and near-infrared** observational facility. It will **investigate solar magnetic fields and their dynamics**. The telescope will achieve a spatial resolution of 0.1-0.3 arc-seconds. This precision is vital for studying the Sun's behaviour.
- **Solar storms, or Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs)**, release vast amounts of plasma and magnetic fields into space. Some of this can impact Earth, causing geomagnetic storms.
- These storms can **disrupt radio communications and GPS signals**. Therefore, predicting solar activity is essential for safeguarding technology-dependent life on Earth.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. India Ranks _____ In AI Preparedness Index n

- A. 70
- B. 71
- C. 72
- D. 82

ANSWER: C

2. India's National Large Solar Telescope Project Situated At

- A. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Ladakh
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: C

3. What Atmospheric Phenomenon Was Recently Observed Above Antarctica's Pine Island Glacier By NASA's Landsat 8 satellite

- A. Fog bank
- B. Sea smoke
- C. Aurora borealis
- D. Dust storm

ANSWER: B

4. Thadou Tribe Primarily Resides In Which State

- A. Manipur
- B. Assam
- C. Odisha
- D. Bihar

ANSWER: A

5. In Which City Will The Climate And Health Africa Conference 2024 Be Held

- A. Harare
- B. Lagos
- C. Cairo
- D. Johannesburg

ANSWER: A

6. What Is The Name Of The Advanced Open-source Hindi Large Language Model Developed By MBZUAI

- A. Chatur
- B. Nanda
- C. Surya
- D. Aryan

ANSWER: B

7. To Which State's Similipal Tiger Reserve A Tigress Named Jamuna Translocated From Maharashtra's Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Odisha
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Chhattisgarh

ANSWER: B

8. How Many New Terms Were Added To The Indian Sign Language Dictionary

- A. 2,500
- B. 1,500
- C. 3,000
- D. 5,000

ANSWER: A

9. In Which City Was The "One District One Product" (ODOP) Wall Inaugurated By Union Minister Piyush Goyal

- A. Dubai
- B. Dammam
- C. Jeddah
- D. Riyadh

ANSWER: D

10. In Which Year Did The National Stock Exchange Begin Its Trading Operations

- A. 1990
- B. 1992
- C. 1994
- D. 1996

ANSWER: C

11. Which State Police Force Honoured By MoHA For Its Outstanding Performance In Anti-Terror & Criminal Operations

- A. Haryana
- B. Assam
- C. Punjab
- D. Odisha

ANSWER: B

12. Which Country Is Expected To Receive MVR 1.6 Billion (Approximately \$104 Million) In Aid From India In 2025

- A. Maldives
- B. Fiji
- C. Armenia
- D. Sri Lanka

ANSWER: A

13. From Which Location Isro's First Analog Space Mission Launched

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Sikkim
- C. Leh
- D. Sriharikota

ANSWER: C

14. Who Has Been Appointed As The New Defence Secretary Of India

- A. Giridhar Aramane
- B. Rajesh Kumar Singh
- C. Anil Kumar Gupta
- D. Vinay Mohan Kwatra

ANSWER: B

15. What Is India's Ranking In The Global Innovation Index Of The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) In 2024

- A. 30th
- B. 39th
- C. 40th
- D. 49th

ANSWER: B

16. In Which State Deepam 2.0 Scheme Launched Free Gas Cylinders To Women

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Telangana
- C. Karnataka
- D. Tamil Nadu

ANSWER: A

17. Which Policy Emphasizes The Role Of Biotechnology In Enhancing The Economy And Creating Jobs In India

- A. National Agri-Food Policy
- B. BioE3 Policy
- C. Agricultural Innovation Policy
- D. Sustainable Development Policy

ANSWER: B

18. Hwasong-19, An Intercontinental Ballistic Missile, Is Developed By

- A. Russia
- B. North Korea
- C. China
- D. Israel

ANSWER: B

19. Which Indian Agency Has Been Included In Steering Committee Of The Asset Recovery Interagency Network- Asia Pacific

- A. Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)
- B. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
- C. Directorate of Enforcement (ED)
- D. National Investigation Agency (NIA)

ANSWER: C

20. Which Ministry Is Responsible For Conducting The Census In India

- A. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- B. Ministry of Tourism
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs

ANSWER: D