

NEWS TODAY

PROMOTION OF RURAL AND INDIGENOUS/TRIBAL GAMES UNDER KHELO INDIA SCHEME (KIS)

- 'Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games' component of KIS is specifically dedicated to the development and promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games in the country.
- KIS aims at infusing sports culture and achieving sporting excellence in the country thus allowing the populace to harness the power of sports through its cross-cutting influence.
 - It is the flagship **Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports**.
- Following major **Indigenous/traditional games** have been identified:

Mallakhamb, MP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a combination of Yoga, Gymnastics, and Martial Arts. • Many types of Mallakhamb as Pole, Rope, Hanging, Niradhar (without support), on cane, on floating platform, Mallakhamb with weapons etc.
Kalaripayattu, Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a form of Marital Art. • Has different techniques like meipayattu (physical body exercise), vadipayattu (fight using sticks), valpayattu (fight using swords) etc.
Gatka, Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional martial art form, that is historically associated with the Sikh gurus. • Stick fighting between two or more practitioners, with wooden sticks (called Soti) intended to simulate swords.
Thang ta, Manipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional martial art also called HUYEN LALLONG ("method of safe-guarding").
Yogasana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describes a seated posture in yoga typically used for meditation, such as a basic cross-legged position. • Examples: Padmasana (lotus pose), Siddhasana (perfect or accomplished pose), Vajrasana (thunderbolt pose) etc.
Silambam, TN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weapon-based Indian martial art, but also traditionally practised by the Tamil community of Sri Lanka and Malaysia.

OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLES ARRIVE AT ODISHA COAST FOR MASS NESTING

- 2022 **arribada** (mass-nesting phenomenon) is the most delayed mass nesting recorded in Gahirmatha
- **Gahirmatha (Odisha) is the world's largest rookery of olive ridley's followed by Rushikulya.**
- Olive Ridley turtles **dig holes on the beach at night time creating a cavity**. They **lay 40-50 eggs in each hole and cover it again with sand**. Before sunrise, the turtles return to the sea, leaving behind the eggs, which **hatch after 40-60 days**.
- **About Olive Ridley**
 - It gets its name from the **olive green color of its heart-shaped shell**.
 - Found primarily in the warm tropical regions of **the Pacific, Indian, and Atlantic oceans**.
 - **Threats:** **Accidental killing** through entanglement in trawl nets; **extensively poached** for their meat, shell and leather; **warmer sea surface temperatures etc.**
 - **IUCN Status:** Vulnerable.
 - **Protection:** Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, CITES Appendix I.
- **Government Initiatives**
 - **Operation Save Kurma** by Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.
 - Odisha government has made it **mandatory for trawls to use Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs)**.
 - **Operation Oliva exercise** to ensure the safe mid-sea sojourn of breeding Olive Ridley sea



APEDA HOLDS WEBINAR ON REVISED EUROPEAN UNION (EU) REGULATIONS ON ORGANIC PRODUCTS FOR INDIAN EXPORTERS

- EU is the second major destination for Indian organic food products accounting for **around 34% of total organic food products exported from India**.
 - Among different states, **Madhya Pradesh is the largest producer of organic products** followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka.
 - **Oil seeds are the single largest** category followed by Fibre crops, Sugar crops, Cereals and Millets etc.
- **Certification of Organic food products**
 - **Organic certification is a process certification intended for producers of organic food**. It generally involves a **set of production standards for growing, storage, processing, packaging and shipping**.
 - **India has two organics certification schemes in place**
 - **National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) for export** - Launched in 2020, it is a kind of **third party certification**, in which an accredited organic certification agency certifies the farm or the processing of agriculture produce in accordance with national/international standards.
 - Certification is facilitated by **APEDA under Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.
 - **Participatory guarantee scheme for India** - In which producers verify the production practices of each other. It is facilitated through **National centre of organic farming under Ministry of agriculture**.

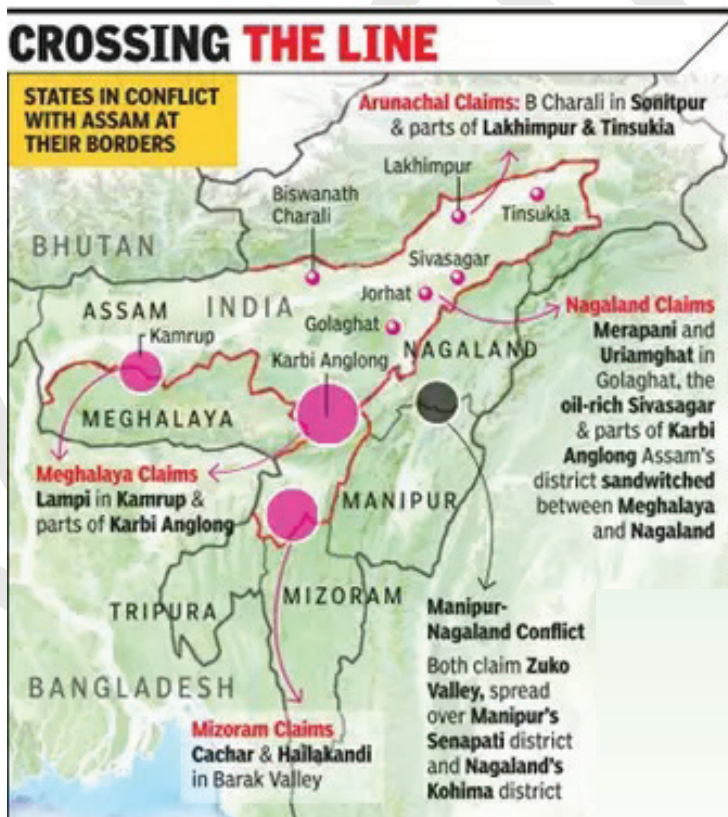
○ Schemes for promotion of organic farming in India:

- **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)**.
- **Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER)**.

ASSAM, MEGHALAYA INK PACT TO END BORDER ROW

- **Assam and Meghalaya signed an agreement to resolve part of their five-decade-old inter-state border dispute**.
 - It **brought closure in 6 out of 12 disputed sectors**, which comprised nearly 70% of their total 885-km boundary.
 - Further for delineation and demarcation, a **survey will be conducted by the Survey of India** with both states' involvement, and **put up in Parliament for approval**.

- In 2021, both States had adopted a "give-and-take" policy to start the process of resolving the boundary dispute by constituting three regional committees based on five mutually agreed principles: historical perspective, ethnicity of local population, contiguity with boundary, peoples' will and administrative convenience.



- **Assam-Meghalaya border dispute is attributed to different readings of the demarcation of the boundaries** from the agreement inked at the time of creation of Meghalaya as a separate state from Assam in 1972.
 - Beside Meghalaya, there are **border disputes in other states largely carved out of Assam- Nagaland (1963), Arunachal Pradesh (1987) and Mizoram (1987)**.
 - Tripura and Manipur, erstwhile princely states not annexed to the Assam Province by the British, don't have border issues with it.

MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT REVISES MGNREGA WAGES

- The wage rates for the **financial year 2022-23 for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (under section 6), will be effective from April 1**.

- The MGNREGA wage rates **reflect changes in the CPI-AL (Consumer Price Index - Agriculture Labour)**, which reflects an increase in rural inflation.

• Key highlights

- In absolute terms, the MGNREGS wages were **increased by Rs 4 to Rs 21 per hour across 31 states and UTs in 2022-23**.
- There is **no change** in the wage rates of three states - Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

• About MGNREGA

- It guarantees **100 (which may extend upto 150 days in drought/natural calamity notified rural areas) of wage employment** in a financial year, to a **rural household** whose **adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work**.






• Significance of MGNREGA




- **Provide livelihood security for the poor through** creation of durable assets, improved water security, soil conservation and higher land productivity.
- **Positive impact on standard of living of households** through increase in household income.
- **Powerful instrument for inclusive growth in rural India** through its impact on social protection, livelihood security and democratic empowerment.

ENERGY TRANSITION HOLDS KEY TO TACKLE GLOBAL ENERGY AND CLIMATE CRISIS: IRENA

- **World Energy transition Outlook 2022** was launched by the **International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)** at the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue.
 - It sets out **priority areas and actions** based on available technologies that must be realised by 2030 to **achieve net zero emissions** by mid-century.
- **Energy Transition** is a pathway toward **transformation of the global energy sector from fossil-based to zero-carbon** by the second half of this century.
 - At its heart is the need to **reduce energy-related CO₂ emissions to limit climate change**.
- **Steps taken by India:**
 - **Intra-State Transmission System – Green Energy Corridor.**
 - **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM)** Scheme to de-dieselise the farm sector.
 - **Offshore Wind Energy policy (2015)** to harness the potential of offshore wind energy.
 - Approved an investment of Rs 1,500 crores in the **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)**, which provides project financing to the Renewable Energy (RE) sector.
 - Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid & Electric Vehicles in India (**FAME INDIA**) scheme.
 - **National Solar Mission**, National Biofuels policy, **UJALA scheme** for affordable LEDs, etc.

ALSO IN NEWS

 <p>Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)-Gramin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister inaugurated 5.21 lakh houses of beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)-Gramin. • About PMAY-G (launched in 2016): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Objective: To provide assistance to eligible rural households with an overall target to construct 2.95 crore pucca houses with basic amenities. ➤ Beneficiary selection is done by using Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011 which is to be verified by the Gram Sabhas. ➤ Cost is shared between Central and State Government in the ratio 60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North Eastern and the Himalayan States.
 <p>Mullaperiyar Dam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamil Nadu and Kerala sought more time to discuss the Supreme Court's proposal to expand the constitution, power and functions of the Mullaperiyar dam supervisory committee. • Located in Kerala, the 126-year-old dam is owned, operated, and maintained by Tamil Nadu to meet the drinking water and irrigation requirements of at least five districts in the state. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is located in the upper reaches of the river Periyar, which flows into Kerala after originating in Tamil Nadu. ➤ The reservoir is within the Periyar Tiger Reserve.
 <p>Catch the rain campaign</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President of India launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign 2022 in New Delhi. • About Catch the Rain campaign: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Objective: To nudge the states and stake-holders to create appropriate Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS) suitable to the climatic conditions and sub-soil strata before monsoon. • Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Drives to make water harvesting pits, rooftop RWHS etc; ➤ Removal of encroachments and de-silting of tanks to increase their storage capacity; ➤ Removal of obstructions in the channels which bring water to them from the catchment areas etc.
 <p>Lakshya Zero Dumpsite</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under Lakshya Zero Dumpsite, Government of India approves ₹178.6 crore Legacy Waste Remediation Proposal of Telangana. • About Lakshya Zero Dumpsite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One of the aims under Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban 2.0. ➤ Seeks to remediate approx 16 crores metric tonnes (MT) of legacy waste has covered around 15000 acres of prime land across the nation ➤ Will help in furthering the vision of resource recovery and principles of the circular economy.
 <p>President's Colour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is bestowed upon a military unit in recognition of exceptional service rendered to the Nation, both in peace and in war. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Indian Navy was the first Indian Armed Force, to be awarded the President Colour by Dr Rajendra Prasad on 27 May 1951. ➤ It has recently been awarded to INS Valsura.

 <p>Indian Naval Air Squadron 316</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is Indian Navy's second P-8I aircraft squadron and has been commissioned into the Indian Navy at INS Hansa, Goa. ➤ It has been christened 'Condors' which are one of the largest flying land birds with a massive wingspan. ➤ It will operate the Boeing P-8I aircraft, a multi-role Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance Anti-Submarine Warfare (LRMR ASW) aircraft.
 <p>UNESCO's City of Literature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, Kozhikode was proposed by the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) to be branded as a UNESCO's City of Literature, which is part of a wider UNESCO's Creative Cities Network (UCCN). • UCCN was created in 2004 to promote cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development. ➤ It covers seven creative fields: Crafts & Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Music, and Media Arts. • 6 Indian cities are included on the list- Hyderabad (gastronomy), Mumbai (film), Varanasi (music), Chennai (music), Jaipur (crafts and folk art) and the latest addition, Srinagar (crafts and folk art).
 <p>GI Tag Shahi Lichi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shahi Lichi got GI certification from Bihar in 2018. ➤ Muzzafarpur, Vaishali, Samastipur, Champaran, Begusarai districts and adjoining areas of Bihar have favourable climate for growing Shahi Litchi. • About Lichi ➤ The translucent, flavoured aril or edible flesh of the litchi is popular as a table fruit in India, while in China and Japan it is preferred in dried or canned form. ➤ India is the second largest producer of litchi (Litchi chin) in the world, after China.



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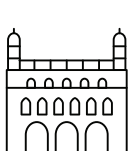
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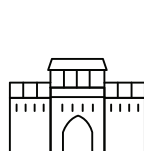
LUCKNOW



JAIPUR



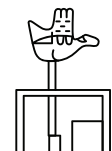
HYDERABAD



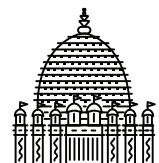
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