December 27, 2023

Haryana government:

(Importance level-3/5)

- → The Haryana government is using drones for diverse application including Land mapping, crime control and enhancing agriculture.
- → The Drone Imaging and Information Systemic of Haryana spearheads these initiatives, exploring new areas of opportunity with drone technology.



Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath:

(Importance level-3/5)

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- → Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath reviews the draft of Green Hydrogen Policy aimed at endorsing clean energy sources to counter global warming and climate change.
- → The initiative encourages firms in the green hydrogen sector by offering incentives, including land availability, tax exemptions and subsidies.



Gujarat:

(Importance level-4/5)

- → Gujarat leads India in rooftop Solar installations providing 31% of the country's total with a capacity of 3,174 MW out of 10,406 MW. It also ranks second in solar power generation at 10,417 MW with a rooftop solar making up 30% of this total.
- ➔ Despite the impressive solar power stats, Gujarat struggles with a sewage treatment gap of over 1,000 MLD utilizing only 72% of its total capacity.



Women's representation:

(Importance level-4/5)

- → Women's representation in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has reached a 10 year high with 59.25% participation in 2023-24.
- → The female participation rate expressed as the percentage of person-days has gradually risen from 54.78% in 2019-20 and 53.19% during Covid-19 outbreak in 2020-21. Confirmation of this trend came from the Periodic Labour Force Survey.



RBI:

(Importance level-3/5)

- → The RBI has unveiled a draft 'Licensing Framework for Authorised Persons' under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.
- → The draft norms aim to streamline the authorizing process for money changers and explore alternate forex service models.
- → This is the part of the RBI's effort to simplify the AP licensing framework to match India's swiftly expanding economy.



Kudankulam nuclear plant:

(Importance level-4/5)

- → During External Affairs Minister S Jaishanka's Russia Visit, India and Russia inked agreements for the construction of the future power-generating units of Kudankulam nuclear plant.
- ➔ Alongside agreements in nuclear power, deals in medicines, pharmaceutical substances and medical devices were also signed. These agreements aim to further enhance their bilateral economic cooperation.



Oil imports:

(Importance level-4/5)

- → India is now paying in rupees for UAE oil imports, promoting global use of its currency to cut transaction costs.
- → This strategy helps diversify supply sources and adhere to obligations like price caps on Russian oil. Payments for Russian oil and a purchase from UAE's ADNOC have been made in rupees, indicating more such deals could follow.



'Pantoea Tagorei':

(Importance level-4/5)

- → A team of researchers from Visva-Bharati University's botany department has made a groundbreaking discovery that has the potential to revolutionize agricultural practices.
- → They have identified a new bacteria strain capable of boosting plant growth and named it 'Pantoea Tagorei' in honor of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore.
- → The lead researcher, Dr. Bomba Dam, an assistant professor at the university's botany department, believes that Pantoea Tagorei has the potential to significantly reduce the need for commercial fertilizers.
- ➔ This could lead to cost savings for farmers and boost crop yields. The Association of Microbiologists of India (AMI) has officially recognized the discovery, and the findings have been published in the Indian Journal of Microbiology.

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Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant

(Importance level-4/5)

- → The operational ban on Tokyo Electric Power's Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant, the world's largest atomic power station has been lifted by Japan's nuclear power regulator.
- → The plant with a capacity of 8,212 megawatts has been offline since 2011 following Fukushima Disaster. The lifting of order came after improvements in safety management and paved the way for the plan's potential restart.



December 27:

(Importance level-4/5)

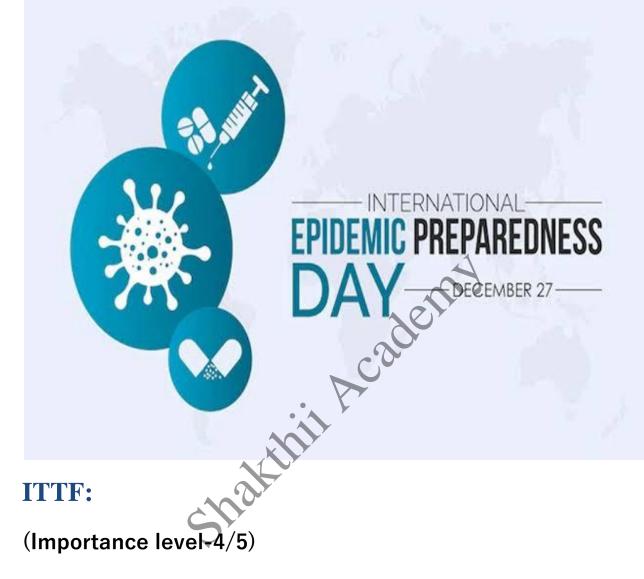
- → December 27 commemorates the 200th birthday of Louis Pasteur. He is renowned for his breakthroughs in the principle of vaccination, microbial fermentation and pasteurization.
- ➔ He invented pasteurization, a process of heating beverages like milk and wine to between 60 to 100 degree celcius to kill most bacteria and molds. His last major work was developing the first vaccine for rabies.



International Day of Epidemic Preparedness:

(Importance level-4/5)

- → Every year on December 27th, the world unites to observe the International Day of Epidemic Preparedness. This yital day serves as a stark reminder of the ever-present threat of infectious diseases and the critical need for proactive measures to combat them.
- → In the wake of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which has exposed the vulnerabilities of our interconnected world, the importance of epidemic preparedness has never been greater.



- → In a groundbreaking achievement, Vita Dani, a prominent sports entrepreneur, has etched her name in history by becoming the first Indian to be appointed as a governing board member of the International Table Tennis Federation's (ITTF) Foundation.
- → The ITTF Foundation, established in 2018, aims to enhance the appeal of table tennis and attract a more diverse audience to the sport.

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