



8 December, 2023

PM-DevINE

Recently, the Union Minister Kishan Reddy has revealed in Rajya Sabha session that PM-DevINE, a Rs 6,600 crore scheme from the 2022-23 Union Budget, got Cabinet approval for North East development till 2025-26.

Genesis of PM-DevINE:

- The Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE) is a scheme that aims to address development gaps in the North Eastern Region (NER).
- The eight states in the North Eastern Region include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.
- The scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2022-23, operates as a Central Sector scheme, receiving 100% funding from the central government.
- It was approved by the Cabinet on October 12, 2022, and specifically managed by the Ministry of Development of North-East Region.

Objectives of PM-DevINE:

- To fund infrastructure convergently, in the spirit of PM GatiShakti
- To support social development projects based on felt needs of the NER
- To enable livelihood activities for youth and women and
- To fill the development gaps in various sectors.

Budget Allocation:

- The Union Budget 2022-23 initially allocated Rs. 1500 crore.
- The 4-year allocation of Rs. 6,600 crore (2022-23 to 2025-26) corresponds with the duration of the 15th Finance Commission.
- The approved projects for FY 2022-23 address the unique requirements of individual states.

Other Initiatives for NER Development:

- North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS)
- North Eastern Council (NEC)
- North East Road Sector Development Scheme
- **Connectivity Projects:** The connectivity projects include the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Project and the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) Corridor.
- **Bharatmala Pariyojana:** The Bharatmala Pariyojana concentrates on enhancing 5,301 kilometers of road stretches in the North Eastern Region (NER).
- **Regional Connectivity Scheme-UDAN:** The Regional Connectivity Scheme-UDAN prioritizes affordable air travel for the North East region.

Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence

Recently, India, a founding member of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) since 2020, prepares to host the Annual GPAI Summit from December 12 to 14, 2023.

What is Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence?

- The Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) is a multi-stakeholder initiative which aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice on AI by supporting cutting-edge research and applied activities on AI-related priorities and was initiated in 2020.

Theme and Objectives

- The Research Symposium, themed "Advancing Responsible AI in Public-Sector Applications," aims to unite global AI experts, academia, and practitioners.
- It's an opportunity to present actionable research fostering responsible AI, aligning with the broader goals of GPAI.

Symposium Tracks and Participation

- Esteemed scholars from renowned global institutions have been invited as expert speakers to provide valuable insights.
- The Conference Shortlist Track includes submissions from 36+ countries, discussing Responsible AI principles, Algorithmic Accountability, and related topics.

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- 15 final submissions, including authors from 11 countries, were selected after rigorous evaluation.

AI and OECD Background:

- AI encompasses machine learning, pattern recognition, neural networks, and more, impacting technologies like Facebook's friend suggestions and self-driving cars.
- OECD, established in 1961, shapes policies for global prosperity, with India participating in PISA 2021 despite not being an OECD member.

G7 Overview:

- G7 comprises industrialized democracies like Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States, emphasizing global economic collaboration.

Indian Citizenship

Recently, the Supreme Court issued a directive to the Union Government, asking for specific data regarding immigrants granted Indian citizenship under Section 6A(2) of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

What is Citizenship?

- Citizenship is a legal status that defines the relationship between a person and a state.
- It gives a person certain legal rights and duties. Citizenship is often used as a synonym for nationality.

Singular Citizenship in India:

- The Indian Constitution provides for single citizenship, making Indian citizenship the sole form of citizenship.
- Unlike other federal states like the USA and Switzerland, India does not permit separate state citizenship.
- This single citizenship system aims to foster unity among Indians and build a cohesive nation.

Constitutional Provisions (Articles 5 to 11):

- Article 5 addresses citizenship at the Constitution's commencement.
- Articles 6 to 8 pertain to specific rights of individuals migrating to or from Pakistan and those of Indian origin residing outside India.
- Articles 9 to 11 outline conditions related to voluntary acquisition of foreign citizenship and Parliament's authority to regulate citizenship through law.
- The original constitution identifies individuals who became citizens at its inception (January 26, 1950).
- However, it lacks provisions regarding post-commencement acquisition or loss of citizenship, empowering Parliament to legislate on these matters.

Citizenship Acquisition:

- The Citizenship Act of 1955 outlines five ways of acquiring citizenship: birth, descent, registration, naturalization, and territory incorporation.
- Criteria for citizenship by birth include specific date-related regulations concerning parental citizenship.
- Registration eligibility extends to individuals of Indian origin and minors of Indian citizens.
- Naturalization conditions involve language proficiency and exceptions for distinguished service.
- Incorporation of territory grants citizenship to individuals as determined by the Government post-territorial annexation.

Citizenship Loss:

- Citizenship can be relinquished through renunciation, termination, or deprivation under the Citizenship Act.
- Renunciation entails a declaration by a competent adult, affecting the citizenship of minor children.
- Termination automatically occurs when an Indian citizen voluntarily acquires another country's citizenship, except during wartime.
- Deprivation is a government-initiated process upon instances of fraud, disloyalty, unlawful trade, imprisonment or prolonged residence abroad.



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NEWS IN BETWEEN THE LINES

Hatti Community



Recently, a Hatti community organization in Himachal Pradesh announced a protest march on December 16.

About the Hatti Community:

- The Hatti community is a **close-knit group of people** who live near the Trans-Giri area of **Himachal Pradesh** and Jaunsar Bawar in **Uttarakhand**.
- The **Tons River**, a tributary of the Yamuna, marks the border between the two states
- The Hattis are named after their traditional occupation of selling **homegrown vegetables, crops and meat**.
- They are divided into two categories: **Bhat** and **Khash**, who have higher status and **Badhois**, who have lower status.
- This community in Himachal Pradesh's Sirmour district was added to the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list in **2022**.
- They have been demanding ST status since **1967**.
- According to the 2011 Census of India, the total tribal population of Himachal Pradesh is **3,92,126**, which is **5.7%** of the total population of the state.

Kesavananda Bharati Case



Recently, the Supreme Court produced a nearly five-minute video in 10 languages which gives the concise history of the Kesavananda Bharati.

About Kesavananda Bharati Case:

- Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala, also known as the **Kesavananda Bharati judgement**.
- The Kesavananda Bharati case (**1973**) was a landmark Supreme Court of India case.
- It **established the doctrine of basic structure of the Indian Constitution**.
- The case is also known as the **Fundamental Rights Case**.
- The case was heard for 68 days, from **October 31, 1972, to March 23, 1973**.
- The case was filed under **Article 26**, which gives citizens the right to manage religiously owned property without government interference.
- The case additionally introduced **Article 13(4)**, **Article 368(2)**, disconnected Article 19(1)(4) from Article 31(2), and **included Article 31(c)**.

National Investigation Agency



Recently, the National Investigation Agency attached properties of two significant Lashkar-e-Taiba operatives linked to the 2015 Udhampur terror attack on a BSF convoy in Jammu and Kashmir.

About the National Investigation Agency:

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is **India's primary law enforcement agency** for combating terrorism.
- It was established after the **2008 Mumbai terror attacks** with the enactment of the National Investigation Agency Act 2008.
- It is responsible for investigating any offenses that threaten India's **sovereignty, security and integrity**.
- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act of 2008 allows both the **Central and State governments** to establish **special courts**.
- This Act also creates special **procedures for trials** that differ from the **ordinary law on criminal procedure**.

Article 99 of the UN Charter



Recently, amid Israel's assaults on the Gaza Strip, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has invoked Article 99 of the UN Charter to call for a ceasefire.

About Article 99 of the UN Charter:

- Article 99 of the UN Charter gives the Secretary-General the power to bring matters to the attention of the Security Council that may **threaten international peace and security**.
- The UN Charter is the founding document of the United Nations.
- The Charter is considered an international **treaty**, meaning **UN Member States are "bound by it"**.

Article 99 of the UN Charter was invoked in various instances:

- In 1960, concerning the situation in the Republic of the Congo.
- In 1961, in response to a complaint by Tunisia.
- In 1989, when the Security Council urged all parties in Lebanon to pursue a ceasefire.

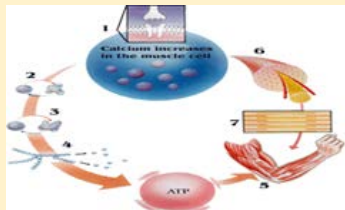
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Pompe Disease



Recently, India's first Pompe disease patient, passed away at the age of 24 years after battling the disease.

About Pompe Disease:

- Pompe disease is a **rare genetic disorder** that causes progressive weakness in the **heart** and **skeletal** muscles.
- It's also known as **acid-maltase disease** and **glycogen storage disease** type II.
- It is caused by a deficiency of the digestive enzyme **acid alpha-glucosidase (GAA)**.
- This enzyme **helps the body use glucose** for energy.
- This disease manifests in **three forms**: classic infantile, arising from a total absence of GAA activity; childhood onset, typically emerging in **youth** and **adult** onset, occurring in adulthood.

Place in News

Italy

Recently, Italy made a significant decision to withdraw from a flagship Chinese initiative known as the Belt and Road project.

Italy (Capital: Rome)

Location: Italy is a boot-shaped peninsula located in southern Europe.

Boundaries:

- Italy shares its land borders with **France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia**, Vatican City and San Marino.
- It is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea, including the **Adriatic Sea, Ionian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea** and **Ligurian Sea**.

Physical Features:

- The highest mountain in the Alps is **Mont Blanc**, which is located on the French-Italian border.
- The **Po River**, Italy's longest, flows from the Alps through this valley before emptying into the Adriatic Sea.
- **Mount Etna**, located in Italy, holds the title of Europe's most active volcano and ranks among the world's largest.



POINTS TO PONDER

- ❖ According to the Supreme Court ruling, in what type of elections is the NOTA option applicable? - **Only for direct elections**
- ❖ Which organization is planning to implement the Miyawaki method in the Chhattisgarh coal belt region? - **South Eastern Coalfields Ltd (SECL)**
- ❖ Which organization manages National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS)? - **Central Fingerprint Bureau**
- ❖ When was the National Archives of India established and where? - **Established in 1891 in Kolkata**
- ❖ Which family does the virus causing fatal hemorrhagic disease in elephants belong to? - **Herpesviridae**

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