Social Stock Exchange (SSE)

❖ **Context**
  ➢ Recently, SEBI granted its final approval, for introducing **Social Stock Exchange (SSE)** as a separate segment on Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).

Key Highlights
- SSE is a novel idea in India.
- A stock exchange of this kind is **intended to benefit the private and non-profit sectors** by directing more capital to them.
- During her Budget speech for the fiscal year 2019–20, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman first proposed the concept of SSE.
- **The Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956** was then invoked by the government, which subsequently published a gazette notification announcing a new security as "zero coupon zero principal".
- The SSE will function as a distinct division of the current stock exchanges under the new regulations.
- Countries like the **UK, Canada and Brazil have SSEs.**
- **Eligibility for Listing on SSE.**
- Not-for-profit organisations (NPOs) and for-profit social enterprises with social intent and impact as their primary goal will be eligible to participate in the SSE.

- The social enterprises will have to engage in a social activity out of **16 broad activities** listed by the regulator. The eligible activities include-
  o Eradicating hunger poverty, malnutrition and inequality.
  o Promoting healthcare, supporting education, employability and livelihoods.
  o Gender equality empowerment of women and LGBTQIA communities.
  o Supporting incubators of social enterprise.
- According to Sebi's framework, **minimum issue size of ₹1 crore** and a minimum application size for subscription of ₹2 lakh are currently required for SSE.
- **Minimum Requirement**
  o NPO needs to be registered as a charitable trust and should be registered for at least three years.
  o Must have spent at least ₹50 lakh annually in the past financial year.
  o Should have received a funding of at least ₹10 lakh in the past financial year.

Delimitation

❖ **Context**
  ➢ Recently, The **Election Commission of India** said that it has begun the process of delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies in Assam.

Key Highlights
- The process will be **based on Census data from 2001.**
- The last delimitation of constituencies in Assam was done in 1976 on the basis of the 1971 Census.

Delimitation
- Delimitation is the act of **redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and state Assembly seats** to represent changes in population.
- **Objective**
  o To provide equal representation to equal segments of a population.
  o Delimitation of constituencies is periodically carried out to **reflect not only an increase in population but changes in its distribution.**
  o **Example**- in 1971, Assam's population was 1.46 crore. In 2001, it increased to 2.66 crores. Further, the population does not grow uniformly across all areas of a state.

Delimitation Commission
- Delimitation is carried out by an independent Delimitation Commission.
- Under **Article 82**, Parliament is to enact a Delimitation Act after every Census.
- Once the Act is in force, the Union government sets up the Delimitation Commission.
- The Delimitation Commission is **appointed by the President of India** and works in collaboration with the Election Commission of India.

- It is **composed of the following:**
  o A retired Supreme Court judge.
  o The Chief Election Commissioner of India.
  o Respective State Election Commissioners.
- The Constitution mandates that the **Commission's orders are final** and cannot be questioned before any court as it would hold up an election indefinitely.
- **Mechanism**
  o The Commission is supposed to determine the number and boundaries of constituencies in a way that the population of all seats, so far as practicable, is the same.
  o The Commission is also tasked with identifying seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- **Previous Delimitation Exercises**
  - In the history of the Indian republic, Delimitation Commissions have **been set up four times** — 1952, 1963, 1973 and 2002 under the Acts of 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002.
  - There was no delimitation after the 1981, 1991 and 2001 Censuses.
- The 2002 Act did not make any changes in total Lok Sabha seats or their apportionment between various states.

Face to Face Centres

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01

Stay Safe Online' Campaign and 'G20 Digital Innovation Alliance:

❖ **Context**
➤ As part of India's G20 presidency, the Minister for Electronics & Information Technology, Communications and Railways, launched the "**Stay Safe Online" campaign and the "G20 Digital Innovation Alliance" (G20-DIA).**

Key Highlights:
- "Stay Safe Online & Digital Innovation Alliance are among the **first programs to be launched worldwide by G20** by any Ministry".
- The two campaigns launched today have the humanitarian way of thinking said Minister for Electronics & Information Technology.

About "Stay Safe Online" Campaign:
- The objective of the 'Stay Safe Online Campaign' is to **raise awareness** among citizens to stay safe in the online world.
- The **exponential increase in the number of internet** users in India and the rapidly evolving technology landscape has brought unique challenges.
- This campaign will make citizens of all age groups, **especially children, students, women, senior** citizens, etc. aware of the cyber risk and ways to deal with it.
- The campaign will be carried out in **English, Hindi and local languages** to reach a wider audience.
- The campaign involves the **dissemination of multilingual** awareness content in the form of infographics, cartoon stories, puzzles, short videos, etc.
- **Various publicity, promotion** and outreach activities would be carried out throughout the year through print, electronics & social media to reinforce the stay safe online message.

About "G20 Digital Innovation Alliance" (G20-DIA)
- The objective of the G20 Digital Innovation Alliance (G20-DIA) is to **identify, recognize, and enable** the adoption of innovative and impactful digital technologies,
- Top startups from **G20 nations as well as the invited non-member nations** will showcase their products.
- It aims to address the needs of humanity in **the critically important sectors** of six themes:
  - Agri-tech,
  - Health-tech,
  - Ed-tech,
  - Fin-tech,
  - Secured Digital Infrastructure,
  - Circular Economy.
- The G20–DIA summit which will be **held in Bangalore** on the sidelines of the Digital Economy Working Group **(DEWG) meeting.**
- The engagement of innovators, entrepreneurs, startups, corporations, investors, mentors, and other ecosystem stakeholders **will lead to the speedy acceptance of the platform that India** plans to offer through the G20 Digital Innovation Alliance (G20-DIA).

About G20:
- The **Group of Twenty (G20)** is the premier forum for international economic cooperation.
- It plays an **important role in shaping and strengthening** global architecture and governance on all major international economic issues.
- The G20 members represent around **85% of the global GDP**, over **75% of the global trade**, and about **two-thirds of the world population.**
- **India holds the Presidency** of the G20 from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023.

News in Between the Lines

Esports

❖ **Context**
➤ Recently, The Government of India officially recognised 'E-Sports' (Electronic Sports) as a part of Multi-sports events.

❖ **Key Highlights**
- Indian Esports Industry has been fighting for Esports not to be clubbed under the umbrella term "Gaming".
- The Industry has maintained that Esports (Electronic sports) **is a competitive sport where esports athletes use their physical and mental abilities** to compete in certain genres of video games in a virtual, electronic environment.
- Esports will be taken care of by the **Department of Sports under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.**
  - 'Online Gaming' will be under **MEITY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology).**
- **Esport**
  - Esports, short for electronic sports, is **a form of competition using video games.**

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02

- Esports often takes the form of organized, multiplayer video game competitions, particularly between professional players, individually or as teams.
- The genre sprung up in the 1990s but gained prominence in the late 2010s.
- ESports today is a multi-billion dollar industry with hundreds of millions of fans worldwide.

National Archives of India (NAI)

❖ **Context**
➢ The National Archives of India (NAI) Director-General said that **NAI does not have records of 1962, 1965, and 1971 wars,** or even of the Green Revolution.
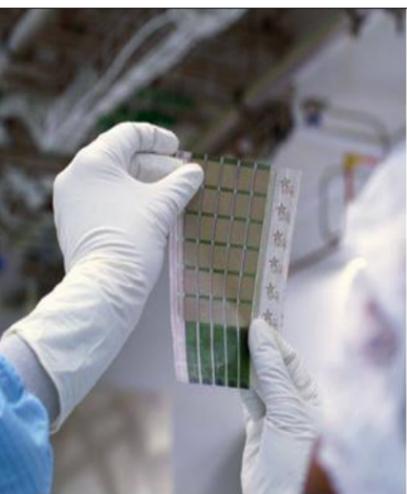
❖ **About NAI**
- **About**
  - It is the **repository of all non-current government records**, holding them for the use of administrators and scholars.
- **Nodal Ministry**
  - NAI functions under the Ministry of Culture.
- **Origin**
  - It was originally established as the Imperial Record Department in 1891 in Calcutta, the capital of British India.
- **Location**
  - The NAI is now located in Delhi.
- **Functions**
  - It keeps and conserves records of the government and its organisations only.
  - It does not receive classified documents.
  - Officials claim the holdings in NAI are in a regular series starting from the year 1748, and the languages of the records include **English, Arabic, Hindi, Persian, Sanskrit and Urdu.**
  - The entire holdings haven't been digitised so far, with 1,27,136 records available for online access.
  - As per the Public Records Act, 1993, various central ministries and departments are supposed to transfer records more than 25 years old to the NAI, unless they pertain to classified information.

Paper-Thin Solar Cells

❖ **Context**
➢ **MIT researchers** have developed an **ultrathin solar cell** that is eighteen times lighter per watt generated compared to conventional silicon photovoltaic solar panels.

❖ **Key Highlights**
- The ultra-light solar cell can be **used to** turn almost any surface into a solar power source.
- The flexible solar cells are **much thinner than human hair** and are glued to a light weight fabric to make it easier to install them on any fixed surface.
- They can be used to deliver solar electricity in places that **are hard to reach.**
- **Being 18 times lighter than silicon PV** modules per Watt generated, our PV modules can be easily delivered and installed in remote.

❖ **Versatility, Durability and Future Research**.
- **Conventional** photovoltaic solar cells are fragile, this puts great limits on where such solar cells can be installed and deployed.
- This is why there has been **renewed interest** in developing such versatile ultra-thin solar cells.
- Durability of the new device was tested, and it was found that the cells retained more **than 90 per cent** of their initial power generation capabilities even after the fabric was rolled and unrolled more **than 500 times.**
- However, they would **still need to be encased** in another material to protect them from the elements.
- It can be used in many areas some of them are:
  - It can be installed on the sails of a boat to **provide power at sea**.
  - It can also be used on tents and tarps used during **disaster recovery operations**.
  - And can be used even on **drones to extend their range**.

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03

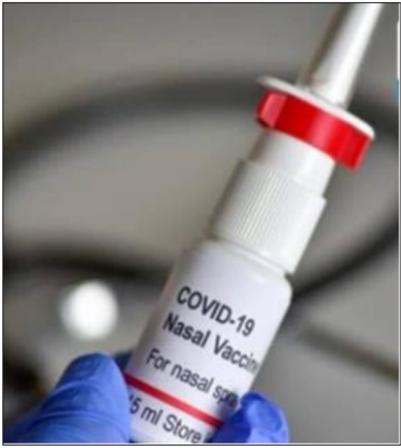|	
Key Initiatives Launched By MoHUA 	❖ **Context** ➤ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs **launches 2 key initiatives** to take India's Urban Rejuvenation journey to next level. ❖ **Key Highlights** • 'City Finance Rankings' launched to evaluate, recognize and reward ULBs on basis of their strength across key financial parameters. • **'City Beauty Competition'** aims to encourage and recognize the transformational efforts made by cities and wards in India to create beautiful, innovative and inclusive public spaces. ❖ **City Finance Rankings:** • The rankings aim to motivate city/state officials and decision makers, to implement municipal finance reforms. • The participating ULBs will be evaluated on 15 indicators across three key municipal finance **assessment parameters**, namely: **(i) Resource Mobilization, (ii) Expenditure Performance and (iii) Fiscal Governance.** ❖ **City Beauty Competition:** • Wards and public places of cities would be judged against the **five broad pillars (i) Accessibility (ii) Amenities (iii) Activities (iv) Aesthetics and (v) Ecology.** • The City Beauty Competition would felicitate most beautiful wards and beautiful public places at the city level. • While selected wards would be felicitated at the city and state levels.
PRASHAD Project In Bhadrachalam And Rudreshwar Temple 	❖ **Context** ➤ President of India lays foundation stone for **PRASHAD project** in Bhadrachalam and UNESCO World Heritage Site at **Rudreshwar Temple (Ramappa)**, Mulugu in Telangana. ➤ The President, virtually inaugurated two Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) in Komaram Bheem Asifabad and Mahabubabad districts of Telangana. ❖ **The Temple at Bhadrachalam:** • Sri Seetha Ramchandra Swamyvari Devasthanam is said to be more than 350 years old and is **closely associated with epic of Ramayana**. • It is believed that Lord Rama with his wife Goddess Sita and brother Lakshmana spent **some part of their 14 years of exile** at a village called Parnasala, a part of **Dandakaranya forest**. ❖ **Ramappa Temple:** • The Ramappa temple of **Lord Shiva**, a perfect example of architectural brilliance, was built in 1213 AD by the **Kakatiya rulers**. • It is the said to be **the only temple in the country** which is known by the name of its sculptor, whose name was Ramappa. • It has been inscribed on **UNESCO's World Heritage list**. • This heritage temple attracts **over 10 Lakh visitors every year** and has a high visibility amongst the tourist circuit. • The President **inaugurated the project** 'Development of Pilgrimage and Heritage Infrastructure of UNESCO World Heritage Site at **Rudreshwar Temple**. • **It aims to make** Ramappa Temple, a world class pilgrimage and tourist destination, by providing state-of-the-art facilities for visitors while maintaining essence of heritage and tranquility of the site.
Intranasal Vaccines	❖ **Context** ➤ Bharat Biotech's COVID-19 **Recombinant Nasal Vaccine** has been approved by the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation** for primary immunisation of those aged 18 years and above in emergency situations. ❖ **What is a Nasal Vaccine?** • Vaccines are **usually given through** being injectable shots delivered into the muscles or the tissue just between the skin and the muscles. • **In the intranasal route,** the vaccine is sprayed into the nostrils and inhaled.

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04

- Many viruses, including the coronavirus, **enter the body through mucosa wet**, squishy tissues that line the nose, **mouth, lungs and digestive tract**, triggering a unique immune response from cells and molecules there.
- Intranasal vaccine can act **against the virus from the time it tries to break the body's barrier.**
- Intramuscular vaccines generally **fail at eliciting this mucosal response**, as they rely on immune cells mobilised from elsewhere in the body flocking to the site of infection.

❖ **How will a Nasal Vaccine Work?**
- **In both delivery routes**, vaccines trigger a response in the blood. B cells, for example, would churn out antibodies, including a particularly potent disease-fighter called IgG to roam the body in search of the virus.
- Other cells, called T cells, **would either help B cells produce antibodies** or seek out and destroy the infected cells.
- But vaccines **that are injected through the nose or mouth** also tap into another set of immune cells that hang around mucosal tissues.
- The B cells that reside there **can make another type of antibody**, called IgA that plays a key role in destroying the airway pathogen.
- **In addition**, the T cells that are residing nearby will be able to memorise the pathogens that it encountered and will lifelong scout the areas where these were first encountered

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05