

6 February, 2022 Current Affairs

1. PM Modi inaugurates 50th Anniversary Celebrations of Hyderabad-based ICRISAT



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 50th Anniversary celebrations of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in Patancheru, Hyderabad.
- During the occasion, PM also inaugurated two research facilities of ICRISAT, which were Climate Change Research Facility on Plant Protection and Rapid Generation Advancement Facility.

2. West Bengal launch open-air classroom programme 'Paray Shikshalaya



- West Bengal government has launched an open-air classroom programme Paray Shikshalaya (Neighbourhood Schools) for primary and pre-primary students.
- Under the 'Paray Shikshalaya' project, primary and pre-primary students of government schools will be taught in open spaces.

3. **Gol approved the renaming of three places in Madhya Pradesh**



- The government of India (Gol) has approved the renaming of 3 places in Madhya Pradesh, Hoshangabad Nagar as “Narmadapuram”, Shivpuri as “Kundeshwar Dham” and Babai as “Makhan Nagar”.
- In 2021, the government of MP led by Shivraj Singh Chouhan has proposed the renaming of the 3 places in Madhya Pradesh. The approval for the renaming was granted by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

4. Professor Dinesh Prasad Saklani named as new NCERT director



- Professor Dinesh Prasad Saklani has been appointed as the new Director of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). He has replaced Hrushikesh Senapaty, who finished his term a year ago.
- The new director has been appointed for a period of five years with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or till he attains the age of 65 years, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- Professor Saklani has been awarded with Distinguished Academy Award by Punjab Kala and Sahitya Academy, Jalandhar for Historical writing in 2005.

5. Kotak General Ins. partners CARS24 to offer Motor Insurance for used cars



- Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company has signed an agreement with Cars24 Financial Services Private Limited (CARS24 Financial Services) to provide motor insurance services to used car buyers.
- Under the partnership, used car buyers from Cars24 will be directly provided with Kotak General Insurance's comprehensive motor insurance plans.

6. LIC tie-up with Policybazaar for digital distribution of life insurance



- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has tied up with Policybazaar to digitally offer a wide range of Life Insurance and investment products to its customers across India.
- This is LIC's first association with a private insurance aggregator, which has mainly relied on its 1.33 million agents for distributing products. To facilitate seamless digital distribution of life insurance products and boost financial inclusion across India.

7. ADB lends record USD 4.6 bn loans to India in 2021



- As per the data official released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), it provided a record USD 4.6 billion in sovereign lending to India in 2021. This included USD 1.8 billion towards coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic response.
- The ADB's regular funding programme to India is made to support transport, urban development, finance, agriculture, and skills building. The ADB's project portfolio in 2021 reflected the Indian government's focus on transforming cities into economically vibrant and sustainable communities.

8. Govt of India has done a Switch Operation of Rs. 1,19,701 crores



- The Government of India has done a conversion switch transaction of its securities with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for an amount of 1,19,701 crores (face value).
- The transaction involved buying back securities that are being matured in FY 2022-23, FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 from the RBI and also issuing fresh securities for equivalent market value, to make the transaction cash neutral.

9. CII presents DX 2021 award to Karnataka Bank



- Karnataka Bank has been awarded the digital transformation award, 'DX 2021 Awards', in recognition of the "innovative" best practice 'KBL VIKAAS', by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for Best Practice in Digital Transformation.
- KBL VIKAAS was launched by the Karnataka Bank in 2017. It has enabled the bank to implement digital capabilities. The bank recently launched 'KBL NxT' as part of 2.0 of 'KBL VIKAAS'. DX Award is given to organizations that have made valuable contributions in the digital field.

10. Swarajability: India's first AI-based job platform for persons with disabilities



- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-Hyderabad) has launched the beta version of 'Swarajability', a job portal powered by artificial intelligence that helps people with disabilities acquire relevant skills and find jobs.
- The platform will analyse the profiles of the job seekers and suggest the skills they would require to become eligible. A platform that addressed this challenge would help this vulnerable section of the population.

11. U19 World Cup 2022: India beat England in final to win 5th title



- India defeated England by four wickets to clinch a record-extending fifth title at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Antigua. India added the fifth title to their collection, having previously won the trophy in 2000, 2008,

- 2012, 2018. Yash Dhull becomes the fifth Indian captain to win the title after Mohammad Kaif, Virat Kohli, Unmukt Chand and Prithvi Shaw.
- Earlier, England opted to bat after winning the toss but they were shot out by India for 189 in 44.5 overs. India chases down the target of 190 with 2.2 overs to spare.

12. IOC approves proposal to include new sports at 2028 Olympics



- International Olympic Committee (IOC) has approved a proposal to include Surfing, Skateboarding and Sport Climbing for the 2028 Summer Olympics Games that will be organized in Los Angeles, United States.
- The 2028 Summer Olympics are officially known as the Games of the XXXIV Olympiad, or Los Angeles 2028 is a forthcoming event scheduled to take place from July 21 – August 6, 2028, in Los Angeles, California, US.