

14 Mar 2021: PIB Summary & Analysis

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1. Linking of OTPRMS certificates with DigiLocker

Context:

Union Education Minister announces linking of OTPRMS certificates with DigiLocker with a complete waiver of registration fees.

Details:

- The Ministry of Education has decided to link the Online Teacher Pupil Registration Management System (OTPRMS) Certificates with DigiLocker to ensure hassle-free access.
- The issued certificates will automatically be transferred to DigiLocker and the same may be traced at the website of the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE).
- The registration fee of Rs. 200/- payable for obtaining OTPRMS Certificates, issued by NCTE has been waived off.
- This will enable all stakeholders across India to be digitally empowered facilitating ease of doing business.

Read more about [DigiLocker](#) in the link.

2. New scheme announced for tourist vehicle operators

Context:

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has announced a new scheme, under which any tourist vehicle operator may apply for an “All India Tourist Authorization/Permit” through online mode.

Details of the scheme:

- The permit will be issued, after relevant documents are submitted and fees deposited, within 30 days of submission of such applications.
- The new rules are known as ‘All India Tourist Vehicles Authorization and Permit Rules, 2021’ and they will be applicable from April 2021.
- **Significance:**
 - The new rules for permits are expected to go a long way in promoting tourism across the states in our country, while simultaneously, growing the revenue of state governments.

- The scheme allows flexibility in the form of authorization/permit being granted, for a period of three months or its multiples thereof, not exceeding three years at a time.
 - This provision has been incorporated keeping in mind those areas of our country where there is a limited season of tourism and also for those operators who have limited financial capacity.
- The scheme will also consolidate a central database and fees of all such authorization/permits, which might give a sense of tourist movements, scope for improvement and promotion of tourism.

3. Prelims Facts

1. Geopolymers

- Geopolymers are inorganic polymers with 3D framework structures having superior mechanical and physical properties.
- This new generation of cementitious materials has potential applications in fire-resistant fibre composites, concretes for infrastructure applications, sealants and ceramics.
- They are environmentally friendly substitutes for Portland cement.
- Geopolymers in many applications not only reduce [greenhouse gas](#) emissions but also consume large volumes of industrial wastes such as fly ash, mine tailings and metallurgical slag.
- Commercially produced geopolymers may be used for fire- and heat-resistant coatings and adhesives, medicinal applications, high-temperature ceramics, new binders for fire-resistant fibre composites, toxic and radioactive waste encapsulation and new types of cement for concrete.

2. CSIR-AMPRI

- Advanced Materials and Processes Research Institute (AMPRI), Bhopal was instituted in May 1981 as “Regional Research Laboratory” (RRL).
 - It is the premier research and development institute in India for advanced materials and processes and is a [CSIR](#)
 - The current activities of AMPRI are broadly categorised under:
 - Lightweight Materials
 - Nanostructured Materials
 - Smart and Functional materials
 - Waste to Wealth
 - CSIR-800
 - The overall objective of AMPRI is to achieve world-class status in the area of engineering materials, component and process development.
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