

05 June 2021: PIB Summary & Analysis

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. World Environment Day](#)
- [2. MoU for Promotion of Cultivation and Production of Medicinal Plants](#)
- [3. CEO Water Mandate](#)

1. World Environment Day

Context:

5 June is observed as World Environment Day.

To know more about [World Environment Day](#), click on the link.

2. MoU for Promotion of Cultivation and Production of Medicinal Plants

Context:

MoU for Promotion of Cultivation and Production of Medicinal Plants signed between the [National Medicinal Plant Board \(NMPS\)](#) and the National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR-NBRI).

Details:

- The MoU will facilitate the development of Quality Planting Material (QPM) of medicinal plants and herbs identified by the NMPB.
- It will also help in the establishment of their nurseries for QPM, development, promotion, conservation and cultivation of the appropriate medicinal plants in different agro-climatic zones, including the threatened medicinal plant species and plants for the high-altitude regions.

About National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI):

- The CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) is a constituent research institute of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- Originally set up as the National Botanic Gardens (NBG) by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, it was taken over by the CSIR in 1953.
- It was renamed to its current name in 1978.
- **Objectives:**
 - Basic and applied research on plant diversity and prospection, plant-environment interaction and biotechnological approaches for plant improvement.
 - Development of technologies for new plant and microbial sources of commercial importance

- Building up germplasm repository of plants of indigenous and exotic origin, including rare, endangered and threatened species
 - Providing expertise and assistance for identification, supply and exchange of plants and propagules, garden layout and landscaping
 - Dissemination of scientific knowledge and technologies on plants and microbial resources through publications, training, capacity building and extension activities
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3. CEO Water Mandate

Context:

NTPC joined UN's CEO Water mandate.

What is the CEO Water Mandate?

- The CEO Water Mandate is a UN Global Compact initiative to demonstrate commitment and efforts of companies to better their water and sanitation agendas as part of long term Sustainable Development Goals.
- The CEO Water Mandate is designed to assist companies in the development, implementation, and disclosure of comprehensive water strategies and policies.
- It also provides a platform for companies to partner with like-minded businesses, UN agencies, public authorities, civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders.
- The Mandate is a commitment platform for business leaders and learners to advance water stewardship.
- Endorsing companies commit to action across six key elements and report annually on progress.
- In implementing water stewardship, endorsing companies also identify and reduce critical water risks to their businesses, seize water-related opportunities, and contribute to water security and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The six commitment areas are:
 - Direct operations
 - Supply chain and watershed management
 - Collective action
 - Public policy
 - Community engagement
 - Transparency
- The CEO Water Mandate is a special initiative of the UN Secretary-General and the UN Global Compact, implemented in partnership with the Pacific Institute.

Note:- NTPC, Ltd. is India's largest power utility and is under the Union Power Ministry.