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1. International Day of Cooperatives

Syllabus: GS II, Governance; Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors

Prelims: International Day of Cooperatives

Context

100th International Day of Cooperatives

International Day of Cooperatives

- International Co-operative Day is celebrated on the **first Saturday in July** annually since 1923 by the **International Co-operative Alliance**.
- International Cooperative Day is a celebration of the cooperative movement.
- Since 1995 the **United Nations' International Day of Co-operatives** has been jointly celebrated alongside International Co-operative Day.
- 100th International Day of Cooperatives was celebrated on 02 July 2022.
- It is popularly known as **#CoopsDay** and the slogan for 2022 is “Cooperatives Build a Better World”.

Know more about - [International Day of Cooperatives](#)

2. Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar campaign

Syllabus: GS III, Environment; Conservation

Prelims: Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar campaign

Context

Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar campaign would be launched to celebrate International Coastal Cleanup Day.

Background

- India has a coastline of more than 7,500 km
 - India has a rich marine history, with marine activities dating back to the age of Rig Veda.
- Further, the Indian Ocean is the only ocean named after a country.
- However, the plastic litter mainly due to land-based activities, tourism and fishing has been polluting the coasts, seas and ocean, which is posing a serious threat to the marine ecosystem.

Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar campaign

- The Union Government along with various voluntary organizations will run a cleanliness campaign "Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar" along the coastline of the country.
- The campaign will start on 17th September 2022 on account of "International Coastal Clean Up Day" which is celebrated every year on the third Saturday of September.
- This campaign will involve the Ministries of Earth Sciences (MoES) and Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), the Indian Coast Guard, the [National Disaster Management Authority \(NDMA\)](#) and other social organizations and educational institutions.
- It will be the first-of-its-kind and longest-running coastal cleanup campaign in the world with the highest number of people participating in it.
- The coastal cleanup drive will be carried out at 75 beaches across the country as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

3. Operation NARCOS

Syllabus: GS III, Security; Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate

Prelims: Operation NARCOS

Context

The [Railway Protection Force \(RPF\)](#) launched Operation "NARCOS" in the month of June-2022.

Operation "NARCOS"

- RPF has been empowered to conduct search, seizure and arrest under [the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 \(NDPS Act\)](#) since April 2019 and has been actively participating in restricting illegal trade.
- Under this operation, RPF has performed extremely well against the transporters of narcotics products through Indian Railways.
- In the month of June 2022, RPF recovered various narcotics products worth Rs. 7,40,77,126/ and has helped arrest over 160 individuals.

4. National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)

Syllabus: GS III, Economy; Issues relating to growth, development and employment.

Prelims: About National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)

Context

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship announced that National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) will be part of the [Direct Beneficiary Transfer](#) (DBT) scheme.

National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)

- National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) was launched in 2016.
- Objective: to promote apprenticeship training in the country and to provide financial support to establishments undertaking apprenticeships.
- The scheme aims to motivate employers to hire apprentices and help them in discovering the right job profiles while maximising their potential through in-depth skill development.
- Under the scheme, the Government will share 25% of the prescribed stipend subject to a maximum of Rs 1500/month/apprentice with the employers.
- With the launch of the DBT scheme, the government will directly transfer its contribution to the bank accounts of apprentices through National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
 - This move is expected to boost apprenticeship and aims to realise the potential of Skill India.
- State Apprenticeship Advisers (SAAs) and Regional Directorates of Apprenticeship (RDAs) are entrusted as implementing agencies in their respective state/regions.
- This scheme will also play a key role in skilling, reskilling and upskilling young Indians, increasing their per capita economic production and supporting national missions.

5. India-EU Trade and Investment Agreements

Syllabus: GS II, International Relations; Bilateral, regional and global agreements involving India

Mains: India - European Union Relations

Context

India and the European Union concluded the first round of negotiations for the India-EU Trade and Investment Agreements.

Details

- The negotiation included various aspects of Free Trade Agreements (FTA), Investment agreements and agreements on Geographical Indicators (GI).
- The second round of negotiations is expected to take place in September 2022 in Brussels.
- Both the parties are aiming for the trade negotiations to be broad-based, balanced, and comprehensive, based on the principles of fairness and reciprocity.

India-EU Relations

- India-EU bilateral trade stood at USD 116.36 billion in 2021-22.
- Despite the disruptions in the global market due to the pandemic and other supply chain issues, bilateral trade achieved annual growth of 43.5% in 2021-22.
- At present, the EU is India's second-largest trading partner after the US, and the second-largest destination for Indian exports.
- The trade agreement between the two is significant for India in expanding and diversifying its exports of goods and services, including securing the value chains.

Read more about - [India-EU Relations](#)