

07 Jan 2023: PIB Summary for UPSC

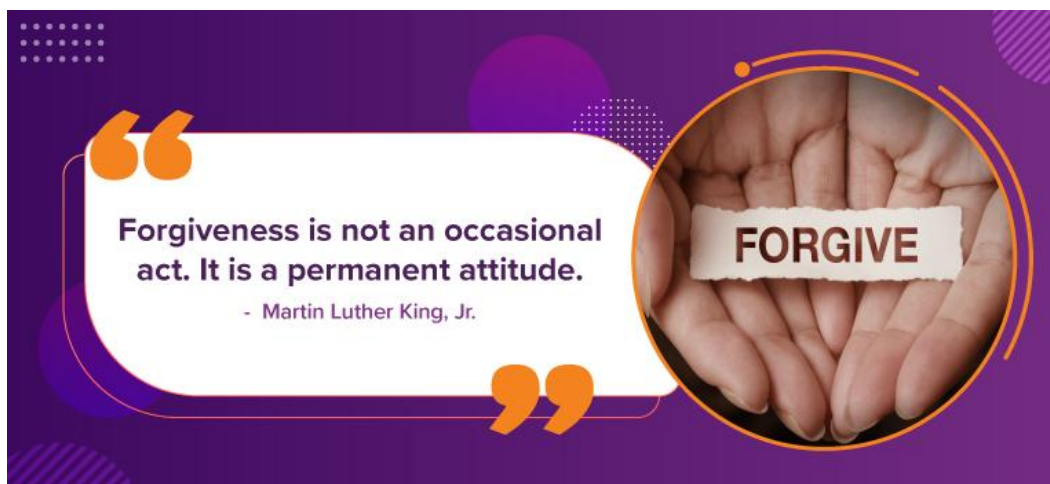


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1. Seventh Edition of Digital India Awards

Syllabus: GS 3, Science and Technology.

Mains: Science and Technology developments and applications in everyday life.

Prelims: Digital India Awards, e-NAM.

Context: Seventh Edition of Digital India Awards.

Details:

- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu presented the seventh edition of the Digital India Awards on January 7, 2023, in New Delhi.
- The President during her speech highlighted that the Digital India Awards acknowledge, inspire, and motivate both Government entities and startups to attain the vision of a digital India.
- They are steps in direction of transforming India into a digitally empowered society where citizens' potential is unleashed through the effective use of [digital governance](#).

- It was further said that social justice should be the major objective of digital innovations. And India would become a knowledge economy only when the issue of the digital divide is adequately addressed.
- e-NAM, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, won the Platinum Award (First Prize) in the Digital Empowerment of Citizens Category.

e-NAM:

- e-NAM is a digital platform that integrates nearly 1260 [APMC](#) mandis across 22 States and 3 Union Territories.
- It provides online trading of approximately 203 agriculture and horticulture commodities thus enabling farmers to realize better remunerative prices for their produce.
- It provides multiple benefits and facilities like:
 - Providing access to current commodity prices on a mobile app
 - GPS-based features capturing e-NAM mandis and mandi prices within ~100 kms radius along with route map
 - Advance registration
 - SMS alert on the final bid price of the lot and payment receipt
 - Real-time competitive price bidding through e-NAM and the progress of the bidding process
 - Direct trade between farmer and trader, etc

Digital India Awards:

- Digital India Awards (DIA) has been instituted by MeitY, under the ambit of the National Portal of India.
 - It has been initiated to honour and encourage innovative digital solutions by various government entities in the realm of Digital Governance.
 - DIA 2022 was given for seven different categories namely:
 - Digital Empowerment of Citizens
 - Public Digital Platforms
 - Digital Initiatives in Collaboration with Start-ups
 - Digital Initiative for ease of doing business
 - Data sharing and use for socioeconomic development
 - Digital Initiatives at the Grassroots level
 - Best Web & Mobile initiatives
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2. Exercise Veer Guardian 2023

Syllabus: GS 3, Security.

Mains: Security challenges and their management.

Prelims: Exercise Veer Guardian.

Context: Exercise Veer Guardian will be held in Japan from 12 January to 26 January 2023.

Details:

- Indian Air Force and Japan Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) will hold the joint Air Exercise, 'Veer Guardian-2023' at Hyakuri Air Base, Japan from 12 January 2023 to 26 January 2023.
- The exercise aims to promote Air Defence cooperation between both countries.
- The Indian contingent will comprise four Su-30 MKI, two C-17, and one IL-78 aircraft. Whereas the JASDF contingent will include four F-2 & four F-15 aircraft.
- This exercise is a step in deepening strategic ties and closer defence cooperation between Japan and India.
- Exercise 'Veer Guardian' will strengthen the long-standing bond of friendship and enhance the avenues of defence cooperation between the two Air Forces.
- The exercise will include various aerial combat drills, multi-domain air combat missions in a complex environment, and an exchange of best practices. Experts from both countries will also hold discussions and share their knowledge on varied operational aspects.