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Argasia Education PVT. Ltd. (GST NO-09AAPCA1478E1ZH)
Address: Basement C59 Noida, opposite to Priyagold Building
gate, Sector 2, Pocket I, Noida, Uttar Pradesh
201301, CONTACT NO- 8448440231

Current Affairs

[9th January 2021]

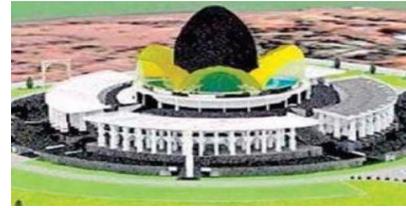
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1. Anubhava Mantapa
2. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
3. India's Covid-19 vaccination drive
4. School Bag Policy
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Topic-1: Anubhava Mantapa

Context -

- Recently the foundation stone of New Anubhav Mantapa has been led by the Government of Karnataka in Basavakalyan.



Basavakalyan -

- It is the place where poet and philosopher Basaveshwara lived most of his life.

About the Project -

- This will be a six floor structure, constructed in 7.5 acre of land.
- The structure will portray the principles and the philosophies of Basaveshwara
- This will exhibit the 12th century Anubhav Mantapa which was established in Basavakalyan by Basaveshwara.

- Anubhava Mantapa of 12th century is recognised as the first Parliament of World

Anubhava Mantapa of 12th century -

- It was an academy of mystics, saints and philosophers who belonged to Lingayat Faith.
- It was located in Basavakalyan which is the present Bidar district of Karnataka.
- It is often called the first Religious Parliament which means “ Experience Pavillion.”
- It is said that there is no discrimination was in the Anubhava Mantapa on the basis of Gender, caste, creed and culture.



Basaveswara -

- He was a social reformer, philosopher and poet of the Kalchuri dynasty in the 12th century
- His social awareness poetry is termed as Vachanas
- Throughout his life, he worked in the upliftment of women and underprivileged sections of society.
- He propagated that there is only one supreme being that is Shiva and rest all animate and inanimate are equal before him.
- His two important socio- economic principles are Kayak and Dasoha.

Kayak - Work should be divine

Dasoha - Equal distribution

Topic-2: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

Context:

- A High Level Committee, headed by the Prime Minister, has been constituted to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in a befitting manner.



Contributions in Indian Freedom Struggle:

- He founded **Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj)** to overthrow British Empire from India.
- He was **elected President of the Haripura Congress Session in 1938**. During his term as Congress President, he talked of planning in concrete terms, and set up a National planning Committee in October that year.

- In 1928 the Motilal Nehru Committee appointed by the Congress declared in favour of Dominion Status, but Subhas Chandra Bose along with Jawaharlal Nehru opposed it, and both asserted that they would be satisfied with nothing short of complete independence for India. Subhas also announced the formation of the Independence League.
- Subhas Chandra Bose was **jailed during the Civil Disobedience movement in 1930**. He was released in 1931 after the Gandhi-Irwin pact was signed.
- He **protested against the Gandhi-Irwin pact** and opposed the suspension of Civil Disobedience movement especially when Bhagat Singh and his associates were hanged.
- Subash Chandra Bose was soon arrested again under the infamous Bengal Regulation.
- In England he appeared for the Indian Civil Service competitive examination in 1920, and came out fourth in order of merit. However, Subhas Chandra Bose was deeply disturbed by the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, and left his Civil Services apprenticeship midway to return to India in 1921.
- At the end of his first term, the presidential election to the Tripuri Congress session took place early 1939. Subhas Chandra Bose was re-elected, defeating Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya who had been backed by Mahatma Gandhi and the Congress Working Committee.

Topic-3: India's Covid-19 vaccination drive

Context:

- Recently, the government of India has notified that it is going to conduct India's first Covid-19 vaccination drive.

Priority sequence of the vaccination drive:

1. Public and Private healthcare workers

- According to the recommendation by the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19, India's healthcare workers - doctors, nurses, medical officers, paramedics and other support staff, including medical students - will first get the vaccination.



2. Frontline and Municipal Workers

- Central and state police department, the armed forces, home guard, municipal workers and revenue service personnel engaged in COVID-19 containment activities are next in line, alongside state government and ministries of defense, home, housing and urban affairs personnel.

3. Population above 50 years of age and those with comorbidities -

- This category is further divided into those above 60 and those between 50 and 60 years.

4. Remaining Population -

- After the priority vaccination is over, the remaining population will be inoculated in a staggered manner.

How can one register for the vaccines?

- The latest electoral roll for the Lok Sabha Assembly elections will be used to identify senior citizens.
- For the rest of the population, self registration on CoWIN will be made available in later phases.

- It will include uploading a government photo identity or Aadhar for registration and identification.
- A date, time and venue will be allocated for the subsequent inoculation. No on the spot registration will be allowed.

The Vaccination Process:

- Registered participants will assemble at the prescribed venue on the appointed day. After the vaccine is administered, they will be kept in the observation room for 30 minutes to check for any adverse reactions.
- A five member vaccination team will overlook the process.
- Two doses of the vaccine, 28 days apart, need to be taken by an individual to complete the vaccination schedule.
- Protective levels of antibodies are supposed to develop a fortnight after the second dose.

When and where will one get vaccinated?

- On Tuesday, January 5, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced that they are ready to roll out the vaccination drive in the next 10 days.
- There will be fixed venues at hospitals and medical centres for different priority groups, besides outreach sites in schools and community halls.
- Special mobile teams for remote areas will also be planned by respective district administrations.

Topic-4: School Bag Policy

Context -

- Recently the Directorate of Education has issued a circular asking the schools to follow the new “School Bag Policy-2020”.

Concerned body -

- The policy is released by the National Council of Education, Research and Training.

National Council of Education, Research and Training

- It was setup in 1961
- It is a autonomous organisation
- It was made by Ministry of Education
- It ensures quality education by bringing innovative ideas, experiments and practices
- It prepares model text books and supplementary models
- It is a nodal agency and its goal is universalisation of Elementary Education.



Target Section -

- It has laid down the guidelines on the homework and weight of the school bags for the students studying in class 1 to class 12.

Important provisions -

- As per the new guidelines now the school bag should not be more than 10% of the total body weight of the students.
- There should not be any bag with the pre primary students
- NCERT has recommended that there should not be any Homework upto class 2, it can be 2hrs a week for class 3 to 5, one hour daily for class 6 to 8 and 2 hrs a day for class 9th and above.

- It will require schools to introduce infrastructural changes so that students are not required to carry books daily with them.
- Schools need to provide lockers right from preschool.

Topic-5: Recent Guidelines for Manual Scavenging

Context:

- Recently the National Human Rights Commission has given recommendation to **eradicate Manual Scavenging**.

About NHRC:

- The National Human Rights Commission of India is a Statutory body.
- It was constituted on 12 October 1993.
- It was given a statutory basis by the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- Its headquarters are in 'New Delhi'.



Major Functions:

- The purpose of NHRC is suo motu or through the petition to enquire about the violation of human rights.
- It is mainly the protector, advisor, monitor and educator of human rights.
- The commission may also research about human rights and create awareness about it.

Composition:

- Chairperson is the retired judge of the supreme court (the Chairperson Is Appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee)
- There are certain ex officio members as well.
- The term of the NHRC members is 3 years or till the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

What is Manual Scavenging?

- Manual scavenging is a term used mainly in India for "manually cleaning, carrying, disposing of, or otherwise handling, human excreta in an insanitary latrine or in an open drain or pit".
- Manual scavengers usually use hand tools such as buckets, brooms and shovels.

