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## JALLIKATTU



### **Context:**

Festivals of Jallikattu and Pongal have grabbed the attention of political parties as the Assembly polls are round the corner in Tamil Nadu.

### **About Jallikattu:**

- This is a Bull Taming sport and it is popular in the district of Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Theni, Pudukottai and Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu and these are also known as Jallikattu Belt.
- The bull taming sport is celebrated in the second week of January during the Tamil harvested festival Pongal.
- The tradition of this festival is over 2000 years old.
- It is a competitive sport where bull owners are honoured who rear bull for mating.
- The sport is violent in nature where participants try to tame the bull for winning the prize.

### **Significance:**

- Tamilians consider the sport as their custom in which peasant communities preserve their pure breed native bulls.

## Concern:

- On the grounds of animal cruelty Supreme court has banned this sport in 2014 but sport lovers has proposed review petition for it. At present a constitutional bench is listening to the whole matter.

# GAVI GANGADHARESHWARA TEMPLE



## Context:

The temple is situated in Gavipuram district of Karnataka. It is a temple dedicated to lord Shiva. On the day of Makar Sankranti clouds played a spoilsport and therefore for the first time in fifty years Sun Rays do not fall on the shiva linga on the day of Makar Sankranti and Surya Majjana does not take place.

## About The Temple:

- The temple is situated in Bengaluru Karnataka.
- The name of the temple encompasses both topographical features as well as Mythological features.
- The meaning of the word Gavi is cave and Gangadhareshwara means Lord who adorns River Ganga.
- The temple is an example of Rock cut Architecture.
- It was built by Kempe Gowda-1 in the 16th century.

## Features of the Temple:

- The temple is built in Vijaynagar style.
- The temple is known for its unique celestial oriented rock cut architecture.

## Surya Majjana:

- Every year on the day of Makar Sankranti the Sun rays fall on the linga which is located in the Gavi and that rays make it shine for ten minutes and this event is known as Surya Majjana

## Iconography of the Temple-

- The monolithic structures associated with lord Shiva i.e. Trident, Damru and Nandi can be seen here.
- A brass Dhvajasthambha or Flagstaff is also found here.

## About Kempe Gowda-

- He was a feudatory king under Vijayanagar empire.
- He was also the founder of Bengaluru city.

# Petroleum Ministry launches 'SAKSHAM' campaign



Sanrakshan Kshamata Mahotsav 2021

### Context:

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched a month-long mass awareness campaign titled 'SAKSHAM' to spread awareness about green and clean energy.

## Background:

- The campaign has been organised by the Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA), to motivate consumers to switch to cleaner fuels and bring in behavioural change to use fossil fuel intelligently.

- Last year's edition of SAKSHAM saw over 1.48 crore school children participating in PCRA's flagship National Competitions that were organized to disseminate important messages of fuel conservation, energy efficiency and environment protection amongst youngsters.

### **About SAKSHAM:**

- SAKSHAM stands for Sanrakshan Kshamata Mahotsav.
- The campaign will highlight the adverse health and environmental impacts of increasing carbon footprints.
- 'SAKSHAM's idea is to convince consumers to switch to cleaner fuels and bring in behavioral change to use fossil fuel intelligently.
- The pan-India campaign would include various activities such as cyclotron, farmer workshops, seminars, painting competition, CNG vehicle driving contest, etc to spread awareness among masses about the advantages of using clean fuels.
- The key drivers include moving towards:
  - moving towards a gas-based economy
  - increased use of cleaner fuels like Hydrogen
  - greater reliance on domestic sources to drive biofuels
  - increased use of electric vehicles to decarbonize mobility
  - digital innovation across all energy systems.

# **PM Modi launches Rs 1,000-crore** **'Startup India Seed Fund'**

## **Context:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched Rs 1,000-crore 'Startup India Seed Fund' recently. With the objective to help in setting up new startups and promote their growth.
- It would support startups in need of initial capital to start and grow their business and help budding entrepreneurs pursue innovative ideas.

## **Background:**

- India is home to the world's third largest startup ecosystem which has helped several budding entrepreneurs to come up with innovative technologies and become big corporations.
- The government has been implementing the Fund of Fund Scheme to help startups raise equity capital. Going forward, the government will also help startups in raising debt capital.
- The new seed fund for startups comes after the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology had initiated a similar fund to identify startups and give them financial help.
- In August, the ministry had launched a fund to identify 300 startups which would be provided seed funds of up to Rs 25 lakh and other facilities as well.

## **About Startup India Seed Fund Scheme:**

- It is a Rs 1,000-crore seed fund for startups.
- The scheme will help startups with the initial capital for growth and operations.

- The government will provide guarantees to help startups raise debt-capital in order to build a startup ecosystem which functions on the ‘of the youth, by the youth, for the youth’ mantra.
- It is the need of the hour that the technologies of the future come out of the lab of Asia and the entrepreneurs of the future should be prepared from here.

### **Additional Information**

#### **Fund of Fund Scheme:**

- It is a scheme that invests in units of other Mutual Fund (MF) schemes.
- The FoF is an MF scheme but one that does not invest directly in stocks or securities but in other MF schemes.
- It gives the investor an opportunity to invest in different schemes managed by different fund managers.

## **NASA targets final test of ‘world’s most powerful rocket’**



#### **Context:**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is looking to carry out the eighth and final test in its “Green Run” test series.

## About the “Green Run”:

- The 212-foot-tall SLS core stage includes the liquid hydrogen tank and liquid oxygen tank can hold 733,000 gallons of propellant to power the RS-25 engines.
- It is the rocket that NASA projects will be carrying a new generation of astronauts to the moon and handle missions beyond the scope of existing commercial crew vehicles.
- This rocket is a little shorter than the Saturn V rockets but is more powerful.
- This new rocket will be producing 15% greater thrust during liftoff in comparison to Saturn V. When the engines are fired up, 1.6 million pounds of thrust will be generated.
- When the 4 RS-25 engines at the bottom of the SLS are ignited, the period of testing for the rocket will close.
- This core includes oxygen and liquid hydrogen tanks, 4 engines and computers, and avionics of the rocket.
- All these will be turned on as 2.6 million litres of supercooled propellant will be loaded into the rocket and ignited. However, the rocket will remain fixed at the Stennis Space Center of NASA.

## Significance:

- This eighth stage termed “hot fire,” will bring to an end a series of tests which will gradually bring together the core stage of the Space Launch System (SLS) to life for the very first time.
- The core stage of the SLS will form the backbone and will be the “most powerful rocket in the world” and will power its next-generation human Moon Missions.