



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 30, 2020

STATES

- The Andhra Pradesh government - has formally agreed to give a 27-km stretch of the coastline at Nakkapalli in Visakhapatnam district for setting up an Alternative Operating Base (AOB) of the Indian Navy.
- ✓ Earlier, the Indian Navy had requested notification for a 97 km area as the limits of the proposed Rambilli port to facilitate the establishment of the AOB on the 27-km stretch.
- ✓ The Visakhapatnam-based Eastern Naval Command (ENC) had requested the State government to notify the Rambilli port limits way back in 2016
- ✓ The AOB will host a fleet of eight to 12 nuclear-powered ballistic missile vessels and submarines to be built for the Navy.
- ✓ The Navy also plans to set up “submarine pens” - bunkers that help in hiding the submarines from spy satellites and protecting them from air attacks - in the AOB.

NATIONAL

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi – addressed the nation in his monthly radio broadcast ‘Mann ki Baat’ on November 29



- ✓ During his address, the PM strongly defended the new farm laws and said the changes met the long-pending demands of the agriculture sector and also started delivering results
 - ✓ The PM's address came at the end of a week marked by protests by farmers in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi against the three farm Bills passed by Parliament in September.
 - ✓ His remarks indicated that the Centre could look at ways and means to address concerns of farm organisations, but it is not likely to roll back the new laws.
 - ✓ The PM also offered greetings on Guru Nanak Jayanti, the 551st Prakash Parva of Guru Nanak, which falls on November 30, 2020
- **The Government - recently launched Mission COVID Suraksha to speed up the vaccine development in the country.**
- ✓ It aims to ensure that the vaccines under development are brought closer to the market.
 - ✓ The mission was introduced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on November 12 as a part of twelve announcements made under AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan 3.0.
 - ✓ The Finance Minister had allocated a budget of Rs 2.65 lakh crores under the fourth economic package announced by the government.
 - ✓ Of this, Rs 900 crores has been set aside for the Department of Biotechnology to accelerate development of Covid-19 vaccine under the Mission COVID Suraksha
 - ✓ This fund is to be used under Phase I of Mission COVID Suraksha which is to run for the next 12 months.
 - ✓ The funds allocated will support the development of vaccines and licensure of vaccines that are in clinical stage or ready to enter clinical stage.
 - ✓ The Department is currently supporting development of ten vaccines in the country.
 - ✓ The mission COVID Suraksha will cover pre-clinical stage of the Covid-19 vaccine alongwith the manufacturing and regulatory facilitation stages.
 - ✓ Further, it will assist in the establishment of clinical trial sites, support of data management systems, trainings, regulatory submissions, accreditations and external quality management protocols
 - ✓ The mission will be supported by India Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (Ind-CEPI) and National Bio Pharma Mission
 - ✓ The Ind-CEPI mission was launched in March 2019 at a budget of Rs 312 crores.
 - ✓ It was launched to strengthen the infrastructure development of vaccines for epidemics in India.
 - ✓ It will also strengthen surveillance, development framework and logistics for the use of new vaccines.
 - ✓ CEPI is Coalition for Epidemic preparedness Innovations.
 - ✓ It is a foundation that was established in 2017 by World Economic forum, India, Norway, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation at Davos, Switzerland.

- ✓ The headquarters of CEPI is located in Oslo, Norway.
 - ✓ In India, the National Biopharma Mission is being implemented by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
 - ✓ This industry-academia joint mission accelerates biopharmaceutical development in the country.
 - ✓ The mission was launched in 2017 at a budget of Rs. 1500 crore, out of which World Bank has funded 50% of the budgeted cost.
 - ✓ The Innovate in India, I3 programme was launched under the mission to promote indigenous manufacturing in Bio Pharma sector.
 - ✓ The four verticals under the mission includes - the development of product leads for vaccine, upgradation of shared infrastructure facilities, development of human capital and developing technology transfer.
- **The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare - recently launched a new initiative 'Sahakar Pragya' to train the primary cooperative societies in the country.**
- ✓ Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar unveiled the initiative recently



- ✓ The initiative has 45 new training modules of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for farmers, which are to be delivered at LINAC.
- ✓ It is expected to further enhance the training capacity of NCDC through a network of eighteen regional training centres.
- ✓ LINAC is Laxmanrao Inamdar National Academy for Cooperative Research and Development operating under NCDC.
- ✓ These 45 training modules are to be supported by the various NCDC Schemes which includes Agri Infra Fund Scheme, PM-FME Scheme, Dairy Infra Dev Fund Scheme, Fisheries Infra Dev Fund Scheme, PM Matsya Sampada Yojana and other Schemes of Ministry of Rural Development
- ✓ The NCDC was created to ensure the processing, production, marketing, storage, import and export of agricultural produce.

- ✓ Further, it also focuses on livestock, foodstuffs, industrial goods and services like healthcare, hospitals and education.
 - ✓ The NCDC also provides monetary assistance to Cooperatives at all three tiers - primary, district and multi-state.
 - ✓ It had earlier launched the 'Sahakar Coop Tube' to involve youth in the Cooperative movement.
 - ✓ The schemes implemented by NCDC includes
 - ✓ Ayushman Sahakar - to provide financial assistance to the cooperatives in the field of education, healthcare and hospitals.
 - ✓ Sahakar Mitra Scheme - to provide short term internship to young professionals in the areas of functioning of NCDC.
 - ✓ Yuva Sahakar - to encourage newly formed cooperative societies to come up with new innovative ideas
 - ✓ There are more than 8.5 lakh cooperative societies in India supporting 290 million members, with 90% of them being farmers, in the country.
- **The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope observatory located in Pune - has been granted the prestigious IEEE milestone status.**



- ✓ The observatory was conferred the honour as an acknowledgement of its significant technical achievement, services, its excellence as unique product, patent and seminal papers that aim to benefit humanity.
- ✓ This is the third IEEE milestone recognition being offered to India according to the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics.
- ✓ The previous two IEEE milestone recognitions were awarded to JC Bose in 1895 and CV Raman in 1928.
- ✓ JC Bose is regarded as the Father of Wireless Communication.
- ✓ The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope is an array of thirty fully steerable parabolic radio telescopes.
- ✓ Each radio telescope is of 45 metre diameter and is operated by National Centre for Radio Astrophysics.
- ✓ It is a part of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research located in Mumbai.

- ✓ The telescope was built under the direction of lead professor Govind Swarup between 1984 and 1996
- ✓ In February 2020 the telescope helped in observing the biggest explosion in the history of Universe called the Ophiuchus Supercluster Explosion.

INTERNATIONAL

- The Hayabusa2 spacecraft of Japan - is nearing the earth after a yearlong journey from asteroid Ryugu.

JAPAN'S HAYABUSA-2 PROBE HEADS FOR EARTH

High gain antennas
Star trackers
Re-entry capsule
Carries sample ore back to Earth

5.2m

Hayabusa-2, the probe, on Wednesday departed from the distant asteroid Ryugu, starting its year-long journey home after completing its mission to bring back soil samples that could shed light on the origins of the solar system

Hayabusa-2 launched on **Dec 3, 2014**

Earth to Ryugu **300** million kilometres

Probe mission price **\$278** million

SAMPLES TO BE BROUGHT BACK
'Carbon and organic matter' that will provide data as to how the matter is scattered around the Solar System, why it exists on Ryugu and how it is related to Earth. It is expected to drop samples off in the South Australian desert.

SHORTER RETURN JOURNEY
The took the probe 3-and-a-half years to get to Ryugu but the return journey should be significantly shorter because Earth and Ryugu will be much closer due to their current positions

DUST SAMPLES IN 2010
The earlier probe, Hayabusa, had returned with dust samples from a potato-shaped asteroid in 2010 despite various setbacks during its 7-year odyssey.

LIKE EARLIER CAPSULE
Replica of Hayabusa's sample-return capsule used for re-entry. Hayabusa2's capsule is of the same size, measuring 40 cm in diameter and will deploy a parachute.

40cm

RYUGU
The name means 'Dragon Palace' in Japanese
Discovered on May 10, 1999
Size **900** m

Eiffel Tower Paris France 324 m	Burj Khalifa Dubai UAE 830 m	Sky Tree Tokyo Japan 634 m
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Venus
Mercury
Sun
Earth
Ryugu
Mars

AUSTRALIA
Woomera Test Range
South Australia

Landing: **December 2020**

JAXA
As to the dropping of samples, JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) is negotiating with the Australian government about how to arrange it

SOURCES: AFP, GRAPHIC NEWS, WIKIPEDIA
GRAPHIC: BISWENDU CHOWDHURY

- ✓ The asteroid is currently located at a distance of about 300 million kilometres from the Earth.
- ✓ The spacecraft is to reach the earth in Southern Australia on December 6, 2020 carrying precious samples from the asteroid Ryugu.
- ✓ The entire operation is being scheduled by JAXA, Japanese Aerospace exploration agency.
- ✓ In February 2019, the spacecraft collected surface dust samples from the asteroid Ryugu.
- ✓ Later in July 2019, the spacecraft collected underground samples from the asteroid for the very first time and left to the earth in November 2019
- ✓ The Hayabusa 2 mission follows Hayabusa mission that returned asteroid samples in 2010.
- ✓ The mission was launched in 2014.
- ✓ Hayabusa2 carried four small Rovers, which were deployed at different dates.
 - ✓ The first two Rovers were called HIBOU and OWL, while the third Rover was called MASCOT.
 - ✓ The fourth Rover called MINERVA failed before it was released from the Orbiter.

