

## PIB Gist : April Month - Part 1

1. Combined Commanders' Conference held in **Bhopal**, Madhya Pradesh: the theme 'Ready, Resurgent, Relevant
2. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi flagged off the Vande Bharat Express train between Bhopal and New Delhi at Rani Kamalapati Railway Station in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
3. The entire team of **HAL** praised for highest-ever revenue generation from operations of around Rs.26,500 Crores (provisional and unaudited) for FY 2022-23 as against Rs.24,620 for the previous FY.
4. The **Sagarmala** Programme is an initiative by the Shipping Ministry to utilise India's 7,500 km of coastline and advantageous location in the Indian Ocean Region. Recently Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) recently released the draft Sagarmala Innovation and Startup Policy for feedback from stakeholders concerned.
5. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal recently launched the App Version of National Logistics Portal (Marine) '**Sagar-Setu**'.
6. Union Cabinet recently approved the National Medical Devices Policy, 2023, which aims to reduce India's heavy import dependence in this sector ( 75-80% currently).
7. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), in collaboration with Airtel, announced the launch of WhatsApp Banking Services for IPPB customers in New Delhi.
8. Indian Railways is rapidly progressing to accomplish **Mission100Percent Electrification** and become the largest green railway network in the world. During 2022-23, IR has upgraded 530 Kms with automatic signaling as compared to 218 Kms during 2021-22, registering an increase of 143.12%. Large number of Digitally Interlocked Stations have been created from old lever frame to computer based operating system. Electronic Interlocking is being adopted on a large scale to derive benefits of digital technologies in train operation and to enhance safety.
9. **Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY)** was launched on 8th April 2015 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi with the aim to facilitate easy collateral-free micro credit of up to ₹10 lakh to non-corporate, non-farm small and micro entrepreneurs for income generating activities. Three products, dubbed "Shishu," "Kishore," and "Tarun," were developed by MUDRA in response to the funding and growth requirements of the recipient micro-units.
  - a. Shishu: Providing coverage for loans up to Rs. 50000
  - b. Kishore: Loans beyond Rs. 50,000 and up to Rs. 5 lakh are covered.
  - c. Tarun: loan above Rs 5 Lakh up to Rs. 10 lakh.Since the PMMY's establishment in April 2015, around 40.82 crore loans totaling a sanctioned sum of Rs. 23.2 lakh crore have been made available.
10. The Union Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, unveiled the digital version of the Employability Skills curriculum for students enrolled in India's Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) at the Future Skills Forum in New Delhi. The Future Skills Forum – is an initiative of the Future Right Skills Network (FRSN) a collaborative effort by QUEST Alliance, Accenture, Cisco, and J.P. Morgan.

## 11. Report of State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2021-22

Five states – Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, and Telangana – are in the Front Runner category, while four states – Assam, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Punjab – are in the Achiever category. Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, and Chandigarh are the top-performing states in their respective state groups. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh showed the most improvement since the last index.

12. **Indiahandmade Portal** is an e-commerce portal launched by the Indian Government with the aim of empowering artisans and weavers by providing them a platform to sell their products directly to customers.

13. The unified portal of Central Bureau of Narcotics launched to instill the efficiency, transparency and accountability in department users with twin objective to cater the need of pharma and chemical industry for synergistic growth of the drugs & pharma sector and boosting economy for “Aatma Nirbhar Bharat”

14. Prime Minister recently approved the **National Quantum Mission (NQM)** at a total cost of Rs.6003.65 crore from 2023-24 to 2030-31.

15. Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar recently launched the **SATHI (Seed Traceability, Authentication and Holistic Inventory) Portal and Mobile App**. It has been developed by the NIC in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on the theme of ‘Uttam Beej – Samriddh Kisan’.

16. Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Ladakh'wood carving.

17. The **ICDRI's** theme is the “Delivering Resilient and Inclusive Infrastructure: Pathways for Risk Informed Systems, Practices and Investments”

The global conference was organized around three pillars-

- The first pillar is Delivering Resilient Infrastructure – Inclusive and Risk Informed Systems.
- The second pillar is Delivering Resilient Infrastructure – Providing Reliable Services through Resilient Infrastructure Assets.
- The third pillar is Delivering Resilient Infrastructure – Realizing Finance and Investments for Infrastructure Resilience

18. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently released the figures of the **5th cycle** of India's Tiger Census revealing that tiger numbers have once again increased in the country. **3167** is the present tiger population.

19. For the first time in India, the government has conducted the first-ever census of water bodies.

The census was launched under the centrally sponsored scheme, “Irrigation Census” in convergence with the 6th Minor Irrigation Census in order to have a comprehensive national database of all water bodies. **24,24,540** water bodies have been enumerated in the country, out of which 97.1% (23,55,055) are in rural areas and only 2.9% (69,485) are in urban areas.

Top 05 States in terms of number of water bodies are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Assam which constitute around 63% of the total water bodies in the country.

20. **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog**, has launched three new resources aimed at fostering innovation and creativity among India's youth. The launch event introduced the ATL Tinkering Curriculum, Equipment Manual, and the Calendar of Activities for 2023-24.

## MCQ for Practice

**Q1. What is the present population of tigers?**

- (a) 2967
- (b) 2167
- (c) 3167
- (d) 3967
- (e) None

**Ans. 3167**

**Q2. What is the theme of ICDRI?**

- (a) Delivering Resilient and Inclusive Infrastructure: Pathways for Risk Informed Systems, Practices and Investments
- (b) Realizing Finance and Investments for Infrastructure Resilience
- (c) Inclusive and Risk Informed Systems.
- (d) Providing Reliable Services through Resilient Infrastructure Assets.
- (e) None

**Ans. (a)**

**Q3. Consider the following statements about report of State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2021-22:**

1. Five states – Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, and Telangana – are in the Front Runner category
2. Four states – Assam, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Punjab – are in the Achiever category
3. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh showed the most improvement since the last index

Which are correct?

- (a) 1,2
- (b) 2
- € 3
- (d) 1,2,3
- € 1,3

**Ans. D**

**Q4. Consider the following statements about Irrigation census:**

1. 24,24,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country,
2. 97.1% (23,55,055) are in urban areas and only 2.9% (69,485) are in rural areas
3. It is second census.

Which of the statements are correct?

- (a) 1
- (b) 2,3
- (c) 1,2,3
- (d) 1,3
- (e) 3 only

**Ans (a)**

**Q5. Which country has the largest green network of railways?**

- (a) USA
- (b) India
- (c) Japan
- (d) Germany
- (e) France

**Ans.(b)**

