Prelim Bits 02-03-2019

Minor Forest Produce (MFP)

- Indian Forest Act 1927 defines "forest-produce" which connotes to those products whether found in, or brought from a forest.
- Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is a subset of forest produce.
- It got a definition in 2007 when the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, was enacted.
- It is defined as all non-timber forest produce of plant origin.
- It includes bamboo, brushwood, stumps, canes, Tusser, cocoon, honey, waxes, Lac, tendu/kendu leaves, medicinal plants and herbs, roots, tuber and the like.
- It provides both subsistence and cash income for people who live in or near forests.
- They form a major portion of their food, fruits, medicines and other consumption items and also provide cash income through sale.

FAME India Phase II

- Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) in India Phase II for promotion of Electric Mobility in the country was approved by the cabinet.
- It is the expanded version of the present scheme titled 'FAME India 1 which was launched on 2015.
- It is to encourage Faster adoption of Electric and hybrid vehicle by way of offering upfront Incentive on purchase of Electric vehicles
- It also motivates to establish the necessary charging Infrastructure for electric vehicles.
- It will help in addressing the issue of environmental pollution and fuel security.

Sovereign Patent Fund

- The National Electronics Policy (NEP) 2019 aims to create a Sovereign Patent Fund (SPF).
- It is a State-led investment fund that will acquire Intellectual Property (IP) assets important to national economic objectives.
- It can develop a domestic innovation ecosystem, acquire critical IP and

reduce the knowledge gap.
- It will help in generating new businesses based on the IP assets owned by Indian corporate.
- It will support the MSME players largely by making cutting edge technologies available at a low cost.
- In the global scenario, SPFs were first launched in South Korea, followed by France and Japan.
- Click here to know about National Electronics Policy 2019.

Param Shivay

- It is a supercomputer of 833 teraflop capacity.
- It was built at the cost of Rs 32.5 crore under the National Super Computing Mission at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Banaras Hindu University (BHU).
- It will include 1 peta byte secondary storage and appropriate open source system.
- This supercomputer centre will help deal with social issues faced by common people.
- India's first supercomputer called PARAM 8000 was launched in 1991.
- The other super computers in the country are as follows,

1. Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology – **Pratyush**
2. National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting- **Mihir**
3. IISc - **SERC-Cray**

Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation

- It was established in 2002 with a primary aim to stabilize displaced animals and release them back into the wild.
- It is situated in Kaziranga National Park, Assam.
- It was founded by the Assam Forest Department and Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) with support from WTI's partner, the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW).
- It is recognised by the Centre Zoo Authority (CZA).
- It is a systematic and scientific initiative to deal with wild animals in distress where immediate human intervention is required for their survival.
- The CWRC has five different types of animal enclosures for primates, carnivores, ungulates, birds and turtles & tortoises.

Inclusive Internet Index (3i)

- It is prepared by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) for Facebook.
- India ranked 47th in the overall "Inclusive Internet Index 2019" score.

- Sweden topped the chart, followed by Singapore and the US.
- The 'Inclusive Internet' score was based on the scores of availability, affordability, relevance and readiness categories.
- It was noted that men still have more Internet access than women globally.
- However low and lower middle income countries narrowed the gender gap in 2018.
- Comprehensive female e-inclusion policies, digital skills programs and targets for women and girls to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are having demonstrable benefits.
- There are still about 3.8 billion people around the world without fast and reliable Internet access.
- The percentage of households connected to the Internet globally increased, on average from 53.1 % to 54.8 %.

Source: PIB, The Hindu, Business Standard

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