SAPLING (South Asian Policy Leadership for Improved Nutrition and Growth) Dialogue – 2026

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance| Economy*

Why in News?

Recently, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries inaugurated the SAPLING Dialogue 2026 in Ahmedabad.

- **SAPLING –** It is a ***regional platform*** led by the ***World Bank Group***.
- **Aim –** Strengthen food processing ecosystems, promote value addition, reduce post-harvest losses, generate employment, and build resilient food systems across South Asia.
- It is aligned with the World Bank Group's AgriConnect initiative

Key Themes

- **Think Big, Act Local –** Unlocking South Asia's food processing opportunity.
- **Farm to Factory –** Strengthening agricultural supply chains.
- **Formalizing Informal Processors –** Bringing small processors into regulated value chains.
- **Smart Tech and Innovations –** Cold chain, digital traceability, sustainable packaging.
- **Safe Food, Strong Markets –** Standards for competitive trade.
- **Farm, Firm & Finance –** Mobilizing investment for Food Processing Growth.
- **Shared Food Future –** Regional collaboration and policy action.
- **Shaping a Shared Food Future –** Regional Collaboration and Policy Action in South Asia.

Reference

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