01 December 2023

Maharashtra State Specific News

World AIDS Day	Context:
	● **World AIDS Day** is observed annually on **December 1st.**
	● It is a **global health awareness day** dedicated to **raising awareness** of the **human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)** and **acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS),** as well as honoring those who have lost their lives to the disease.
	● It was initiated in **1988** by WHO
	● **World Health Organization (WHO),** alongside communities and partners, will mark World AIDS Day 2023, under the **theme "Let communities lead".**
	Significance:
	1. **Raising Awareness:**
	2. **Preventing New Infections:**
	3. **Combating Stigma and Discrimination**:
33% spike in sexually transmitted infections in 2022-2023	Context:
	● The state of **Maharashtra** has seen a concerning **33% surge in sexually transmitted infections (STIs)** in **2022-23,** with a total of 1 lakh cases diagnosed.
	● Data shows that **96%** of **new infections** result from **unsafe sex**
	● **Maharashtra State Aids Control Society (MSACS)** warns that **individuals with STIs have a higher risk of acquiring and transmitting HIV.**
	● The **national AIDS program** is also facing shortages of condoms, testing kits, and medicines.
Schools turn to U-DISE Plus	Context:
	● To bring **uniformity in the education policy** of the country, the Union **Ministry of Education collects** all the **school information through the UNIFIED DISTRICT INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR EDUCATION PLUS (UDISE+)' website.**
	● But more than 38 thousand schools in the state have turned their backs to fill information online.
	● SAKAL Exclusive Schools turn to UDISE Plus Including more than 38 thousand schools in state Nashik.
	About UDISE+
	● The Department of School Education and Literacy introduced UDISE+ in **2018-19**, an online data collection system for schools.

	● **Objective:** UDISE+ addresses challenges associated with manual paper-based data entry, a practice in place since 2012-13, streamlining the data collection process. ● **Enhancements:** Significant improvements in data capture, mapping, and verification processes distinguish UDISE+, enhancing overall efficiency. **UDISE+ 2021-22 Highlights:** ● **Digital Library Data:** For the first time, UDISE+ 2021-22 incorporates information on digital libraries. ● **Peer Learning:** The system now includes data on peer learning initiatives in schools. ● **Hard Spot Identification:** Identifying and documenting hard spots is a new feature in the latest UDISE+ version. ● **School Library Books:** Data collection now extends to the number of books available in each school library.
Jalyukta Shivar 2.0 	**Context:** ● The State govt said that J**alyukta Shivar** will be **implemented in mission mode** by making Jalyukta Shivar a **public movemen**t. ● In order to **speed up** the second phase of Jalyukta Shivar in the state, a **MoU** was **signed** by the **state government with the Person Vikas Kendra-Art of Living organization.** **About:** ● **Jalyukta Shivar 2.0** is a comprehensive **water conservation scheme** launched by the Government of Maharashtra in **2020.** ● It is the second phase of the Jalyukta Shivar scheme, which was initiated in 2015. ● The **aim** of the scheme is to make **Maharashtra drought-free** by conserving water and enhancing its availability for agriculture and other purposes.
Skyway to connect Hinjewadi Metro stn to IT hub's doorstep	● The **Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority** (PMRDA) has **proposed a skyway to connect the Hinjewadi Metro station** to v**arious companies in the IT hub for last-mile connectivity.** ● PMRDA said that the authority has tied up with a private company to construct the skyway's **pilot test track of 2.5km**