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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

13 March 2024

### Maharashtra State Specific News

#### Project 'Mukhyamantri Saurya Udyog Utthan Prakalp' announced



#### Context:

- Industries in Maharashtra will **receive rooftop solar projects through a public-private partnership**, as announced by the Government.
- This initiative comes after the recent **launch of a 400 MW solarisation project** for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by the state's CM and DY CM
- The project, **known as 'Mukhyamatri Saurya Udyog Utthan Prakalp'**, is being **implemented by the Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Technology Limited (MAHAPREIT)**.
- CM has **emphasized the importance of solar rooftop projects for industries** in the state as a way to cut down on power expenses.
- The initiative is **expected to bring significant benefits to industries in Maharashtra by reducing their reliance on traditional grid-supplied power and lowering their overall electricity costs.**

#### Soumya Swaminathan receives Yashwantrao Chavan National Award



#### Context:

- **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan** was recently honored with the **Yashwantrao Chavan National Award**.
- This prestigious award **recognizes individuals who significantly contribute to India's national integration, constitutional values, and social and economic development.**
- Swaminathan's **extensive work in HIV and tuberculosis research**, along with her **leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic**, made her a deserving recipient of this award.
- The award ceremony was held in Mumbai.

#### Did you know?

- She is a **renowned pediatrician and was a former Chief Scientist of the World Health Organization**



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<p><b>Maharashtra govt to avail Rs 15,000 crore loan from NABARD</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Maharashtra government plans to borrow Rs 15,000 crore from NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) to expedite irrigation projects in the state.</li><li>• This loan will be used to complete 75 irrigation projects and construct canals and distributaries for an additional 155 projects.</li></ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The project aims to improve irrigation capacity and benefit farmers by bringing more land under irrigation.</li><li>• The loan will be availed in phases, with Rs 7,500 crore sanctioned in the first phase for completing 37 irrigation projects.</li><li>• This initiative is expected to create additional irrigation potential for around 28.7 lakh hectares of land.</li></ul>
<p><b>Ashram schools to have mandatory sickle cell test</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Union minister of state for tribal affairs Dr Bharati Pawar said that soon sickle cell tests will be made compulsory in the ashram schools across the Nasik district.</li><li>• It comes in view that Sickle cell anemia is mostly found among tribals and, therefore, the tests are being carried out for free in the district hospital.</li></ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd (Trifed), under the ministry of tribal affairs.</li></ul> <p><b>Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inherited blood disorder affecting red blood cells.</li><li>• Abnormal hemoglobin causes red blood cells to become stiff and sickle-shaped.</li><li>• Sickle cells block blood flow, leading to pain, fatigue, and organ damage.</li><li>• Treatments aim to manage symptoms and prevent complications.</li><li>• Bone marrow transplant is the only cure for SCD as of now.</li></ul>



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### National Good Samaritan Day

#### Context:

- **National Good Samaritan Day** is celebrated on March 13th each year.
- It's a day to **recognize people who help others in need, without expecting anything in return.**
- The day is **named after the parable of the Good Samaritan in the Bible**, which tells the **story of a traveler who helps a wounded stranger.**
- The day was first recognized by the United States White House in 1996 in honour of the **life of sports journalist and humanitarian Chad Powellin.**

#### Key points:

- **Promotes kindness and charity:** It encourages people to be more helpful and compassionate towards others.
- **Honors selfless acts:** Recognizes those who go out of their way to assist strangers.
- **Importance of community:** Highlights the value of helping one another and building a stronger community.

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