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1 April 2024

West Bengal News



<p><b>Calcutta Reports Two Adenovirus Deaths</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Calcutta witnessed two adenovirus-related deaths among children in the past week.</b></li></ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Adenoviruses are common viruses that typically cause a mild cold- or flu-like illness.</li><li>● Adenoviruses can cause illness in people of all ages at any time of year.</li><li>● Adenoviruses can cause a wide range of illnesses including<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ common cold- or flu-like symptoms</li><li>○ fever</li><li>○ sore throat</li><li>○ pink eye (conjunctivitis)</li><li>○ acute bronchitis (inflammation of the airways of the lungs, sometimes called</li><li>○ a “chest cold”)</li><li>○ pneumonia (infection of the lungs, occasionally severe)</li><li>○ diarrhea</li><li>○ acute gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach or intestines causing</li><li>○ diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, and stomach pain)</li></ul></li><li>● There is no specific treatment or approved antiviral medicine for people</li><li>● with adenovirus infection.</li></ul>
<p><b>State to distribute saplings of 8 mango varieties among farmers</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>The state Food Processing Industries and Horticulture (FPI&amp;H) department will distribute saplings of 8 mango varieties to farmers.</b></li><li>● Over 12 lakh mango saplings will be distributed in June, coinciding with the onset of the monsoon.</li></ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>The distribution aims to encourage farmers to cultivate a wider variety of mangoes, potentially reviving lesser-known varieties.</b></li></ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 400 mango varieties grow in the state, but only around <b>10 types</b> are commonly available in markets, such as in Kolkata.</li> <li>• Major mango-producing districts include <b>Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, Hooghly, North 24-Parganas, and Bankura</b>, which has seen increased production in recent years.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Blindness Prevention Week</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Blindness Prevention Week</b> is observed annually from <b>April 1st to 7th</b>.</li> <li>• It is an <b>initiative by the Indian government</b> to raise awareness about preventable causes of blindness and promote eye care.</li> <li>• <b>Aim:</b> Educate the public about eye health, early detection of eye diseases, and the importance of regular eye checkups.</li> <li>• <b>Significance:</b> India has a high prevalence of blindness, and many cases are preventable. This week aims to address this issue.</li> <li>• <b>Activities:</b> Eye screening camps, awareness programs, and distribution of informative materials are organized during this week.</li> </ul> <p><b>Theme:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Theme for 2024 Blindness Prevention Week is <b>“Taking timely treatments for age-related eye conditions”</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>International Day of Zero Waste</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>International Day of Zero Waste</b> is celebrated annually on <b>30th March</b>.</li> <li>• It highlights the importance of bolstering global waste management and promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns.</li> <li>• It was adopted by the <b>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</b> on <b>2nd March 2022</b>.</li> <li>• <b>The International Day of Zero Waste 2024 theme</b> is <b>“Towards a Circular Future.”</b></li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero-waste initiatives can foster sound waste management and minimize and prevent waste generation.</li> </ul>



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- To eliminate pollution, one must bolster waste management while improving resource recovery and substantially reducing waste generation.
- Prevention, reduction, reuse, repurposing and recycling are critical to this endeavor.

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