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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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National & International News

National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID)

Why in news?

- The Union Government is expected to roll out a new test, which is designed by the **National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID)**.
- The purpose of the test is to diagnose **Specific Learning Disabilities (SLDs)**.
- The test is intended for use in adults in India.

About NIEPID:

- NIEPID, formerly known as the **National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped**, was established in **1984**.
- It is an **autonomous body** under the administrative control of the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**.
- **NIEPID is the apex body** for training, research, and surveys in the **field of intellectual disability in India**.
- The institute is **headquartered in Secunderabad, Telangana**, and has **regional centres in Kolkata, Navi Mumbai, and Noida**.
- It empowers persons with intellectual disabilities to access **state-of-the-art rehabilitation interventions, educational, therapeutic, vocational, employment, leisure and social activities, sports, cultural programmes and full participation**.



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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)



Why in news?

- The **Defence Secretary** led the Indian delegation at the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' meeting** in **Asthana, Kazakhstan**.
- The **SCO Defence Ministers** agreed to develop the idea of **'One Earth, One Family, One Future'**, which is rooted in the ancient Indian philosophy of **'vasudhaiva kutumbakam'**.

About SCO:

- The **SCO was founded in June 2001** in Shanghai by **China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan**.
- **India and Pakistan joined in 2017**, expanding the organization's membership.
- **The main objectives of the SCO include**
 - Strengthening mutual trust and neighborliness among member countries,
 - Promoting effective cooperation in political, trade, economic, research, cultural, and other fields,
 - Making joint efforts to maintain and ensure peace, security, and stability in the region.

Asian Under-20 Athletics Championships

Why in news?


- **Harshit Kumar** won the **men's hammer throw gold** at the **21st Asian under-20 athletics championships** in **Dubai**.
 - He threw a **distance of 66.70m**.
- His teammate **Prateek** took the **bronze with a throw of 65.97m**.
- **Laxita Vinod Sandilea** won a **silver medal** in the **women's 800m event**.
- The **Indian 4x400m mixed relay team**, comprising **P. Abiram, Kanista Teena, Navpreet Singh and Sandramol Sabu**, **claimed a silver medal** with a time of **3:24.86**.
- **China won the gold** in the **4x400m mixed relay race**.



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| <p>Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) status</p> | <p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Centre has extended Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) status to the gem and jewellery sector.• This information was provided by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), the apex body of the sector. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is part of a broader framework for ease of doing business and has simplified export operations across various sectors.• The programme has resulted in significant time and cost savings for exporters.• The AEO is a programme under the World Customs Organisation (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards to secure and facilitate global trade.• The programme aims to enhance international supply chain security and facilitate the movement of legitimate goods. |
| <p>Advanced Composite Solar Sail System (ACS3)</p>  | <p>Why in news:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NASA has successfully launched its spacecraft.• It is the Advanced Composite Solar Sail System. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ACS3 is a NASA technology demonstration mission launched in 2024.• It is designed to characterize solar sail structures technologies for future small spacecraft to engage in deep space missions requiring long-duration, low-thrust propulsion. |

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