31 May 2024
Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

AP Achieves Significant Milestone in Reducing Maternal Mortality Rate	**Context:** ● Andhra Pradesh has successfully **achieved the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target of reducing the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) to below 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030.** **Key points:** ● The State's MMR now stands at **45 per 100,000** live births, positioning Andhra Pradesh in the fourth place nationally. ● The state has also made substantial progress in lowering the **Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) to 27 per 1,000 live births,** approaching the SDG target of 25. ● The state has strengthened neonatal care by establishing **Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU)** and upgrading infrastructure, leading to a reduction in SNCU mortality rates from 12.3% in 2018-19 to 6.3% in 2023-24.
Chitti initiative to prevent child marriages 	**Context:** ● In the tribal villages of Alluri Sitarama Raju district, child marriages and child labor are significant challenges. **The Chitti Initiative:** ● Led by Paderu Sub Collector P. Dhatri Reddy, the **'Chitti' initiative aims to prevent child marriages and safeguard child rights.** ● Reddy emphasizes the need to break the cycle of child marriages rather than just intervening at the last moment. ● The initiative has seen **authorities motivating young girls to pursue alternatives to marriage, such as vocational training.** ● Tracking school dropouts is another crucial aspect of the 'Chitti' initiative. **Future Plans:** ● The upcoming **'Go Girls Campaign'** will conduct school-wide workshops, educating girls about various career options after Class X and Intermediate. ● Additionally, plans to establish **Bal Panchayats within schools will encourage children to participate in governance and decision-making.**

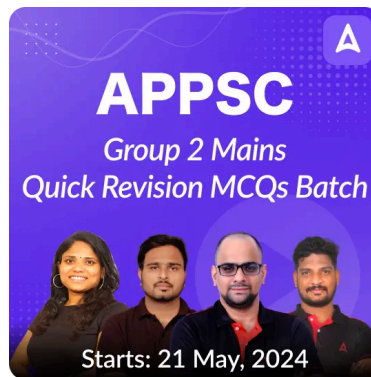|	
e-Mulakat Launched in Rajamahendravaram Central Prison	**Context:** • In a significant development, officials at Rajahmundry Central Prison have introduced an innovative online **platform called e-Mulakat.** • Launched for the **first time in the state at Rajamahendravaram**, this initiative aims to provide a stress-free approach for inmates to connect with their families through video calls. **Features of e-Mulakat:** • The e-Mulakat platform facilitates virtual meetings between prisoners and their family members, eliminating the need for physical visits. • According to **Central Jail Superintendent S. Rahul, the initiative is particularly beneficial for families residing far from the prison.** • It employs video conferencing technology, allowing relatives to see and speak with inmates from a distance.
10th Century Telugu Inscription Unearthed in Palnadu District 	**Context:** • A significant **archaeological discovery was made near Yerragondapalem (Y Palem) village in Prakasam district, where a Telugu stone inscription dating back to the 10th century CE was found**. • The inscription, engraved on a slab, was unearthed by local historian. **Key points:** • The discovery was confirmed by K Muniratnam Reddy, Director (Epigraphy) of the Archaeological Society of India (ASI) in Mysore, who verified the period of the inscription. • The inscription **records the gifting of 6 Aghala of land to a brahmana named Nidumbara of the Kasyapa gotra by a ruler named Machayya, who governed from Lumagorala.** • This find sheds light on the historical practices and **societal structure of the 10th century CE, highlighting the importance of land grants and the role of brahmanas in the community.**
Vijayawada Railway Division Commissions ABS System for Safety	**Context:** • The **Vijayawada Division of South Central Railway** has commissioned an advanced **Automatic Block Signalling (ABS) system for a 21.21 km stretch between Gannavaram, Pedda Avutapalli, Telaprolu, and Nuzvid stations.**

	Key points: ● The Gati Shakti Team of Vijayawada Division invested Rs 31.81 crore in this project. ● The ABS system d**ivides a railway line into successive track sections or blocks, controlling train movements between these blocks using automatic signals.** ● This system enhances safety, increases sectional capacity, accommodates more trains, and ensures swift rail traffic movement compared to traditional signalling systems.

APPSC
Group 2 Mains
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Starts: 21 May, 2024