



11 June 2024

**National and International News**

<p><b>Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new Union Cabinet took its first decision — to <b>provide assistance for the construction of three crore more rural and urban houses</b> under the <b>Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About PMAY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Launch Date:</b> June 25, 2015</li> <li><b>Ministry:</b> Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs</li> <li><b>Objective:</b> To provide <b>affordable housing to the urban and rural poor</b>.</li> <li><b>Components:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>PMAY-Urban (PMAY-U): Targets urban areas.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS):</b> Provides interest subsidy on housing loans for economically weaker sections (EWS), low-income groups (LIG), and middle-income groups (MIG).</li> <li><b>In-situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR):</b> Utilizes land as a resource to provide houses to slum dwellers.</li> <li><b>Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP):</b> Involves private sector participation to create affordable housing.</li> <li><b>Beneficiary-led Individual House Construction/Enhancement (BLC):</b> Assistance provided to eligible families for constructing or enhancing their houses.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>PMAY-Rural (PMAY-G): Targets rural areas.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Gramin (PMAY-G):</b> Aims to provide pucca houses with basic amenities to all houseless households and those living in kutcha and dilapidated houses.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement</b></p>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>India</b> and the <b>US</b> have informed the <b>World Trade Organization (WTO)</b> about a <b>mutually agreed solution</b> on an outstanding issue.</li> <li>The <b>dispute was regarding poultry imports</b> from</li> </ul>



Washington.

- With this resolution, **all seven disputes between the two nations at the WTO have been resolved.**

#### About (SPS) Agreement:

- A treaty of the **World Trade Organization (WTO)**.
- Came into force with the establishment of the WTO on January 1, **1995**.
- Sets out **basic rules for food safety and animal and plant health standards.**
- **Key Provisions:**
  - **Scientific Basis:**
    - SPS measures must be based on scientific principles and sufficient evidence.
    - Allows for provisional measures in cases where evidence is insufficient.
  - **Harmonization:**
    - Encourages **alignment** of SPS measures with **international standards**.
    - International standards set by bodies like **Codex Alimentarius, OIE, and IPPC**.
  - **Equivalence:**
    - **SPS measures of other countries** should be **accepted as equivalent**.
    - Requires that these **measures achieve the same level of protection**.
  - **Risk Assessment:**
    - Countries must conduct risk assessments to **determine appropriate protection levels**.
    - Consider the **impacts of pests or diseases**.
  - **Regionalization:**
    - **Recognition of pest- or disease-free areas** and areas of low prevalence.
    - Applies even within a **single country or group of countries**.
  - **Transparency:**
    - Countries must **notify changes in SPS measures**.
    - Regulatory information must be provided through the **WTO's SPS notification system**.
  - **Dispute Resolution:**
    - Disputes can be taken to the **WTO's Dispute**



	Settlement Body (DSB) if consultations fail.
Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS)	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of a tiger population has been found in the <b>Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS)</b>.</li> <li>Based on this evidence, a <b>decision has been made to establish a new tiger reserve in Uttar Pradesh</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Location:</b> Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in the <b>Balrampur, Shravasti, and Gonda districts of Uttar Pradesh</b>.</li> <li><b>Establishment:</b> It was established in <b>1988</b>.</li> <li><b>Area:</b> The sanctuary covers an area of approximately 452 square kilometers.</li> <li>The sanctuary is <b>connected with the forest of Mahadevpuri in Nepal</b>.</li> <li>The sanctuary is located in the <b>Bhabar-Terai Ecosystem area</b>, known for its rich biodiversity.</li> <li>The <b>Tharu tribe</b>, characterized by mongoloid features, has been residing in this area for a long time.</li> <li>The sanctuary's vegetation is defined by a mix of <b>deciduous and semi-evergreen woodlands</b>.</li> </ul>
Greening Education Partnership	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>UNESCO</b> launches <b>new initiatives for "greening education"</b> in classrooms under the <b>Greening Education Partnership</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Greening Education Partnership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Launch Year:</b> 2023</li> <li><b>Objective:</b> To <b>integrate environmental sustainability into education systems</b> and on <b>climate crisis education</b> globally.</li> <li><b>Target Audience:</b> Students, educators, policymakers, and educational institutions.</li> </ul>
Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) programme	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under the <b>Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) programme</b>, a new initiative has been launched.</li> <li>This initiative is under <b>Mode 2A of the programme</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p>



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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

- The **Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)** is leading this initiative.
- SECI has issued a **Request for Selection (RfS)** as part of this initiative.
- The RfS aims to **select Green Ammonia Producers**.
- The goal is to **enhance the production of Green Ammonia in India**.

### About SIGHT programme:

- This scheme is a **part of the National Green Hydrogen Mission**, which falls under the **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)**.
- The mission's objective is to **strengthen domestic electrolyser manufacturing and green hydrogen production**.
- It includes **dual incentive mechanisms**, with a **specific incentive for Electrolyser Manufacturing**.



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