



17 June 2024

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p>Glass Ceiling</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Godavari Sarpanch presents her idea of Women empowerment at UN. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forty years ago American writer Marilyn Loden first used the phrase 'glass ceiling' to describe the invisible barrier that many women face while trying to grow in their careers A Sarpanch of Pekeru village in West Godavari district, 30-year-old Hemakumari (MS in ECE) was one among three women Sarpanches to represent India at the 57th session of the Commission for Population and Development (CPD) held at the United Nations Secretariat in New York, USA. Hemakumari spoke on "Localizing SDGs: Women in Local Governance in India Lead the Way" and stressed on the need for proper health services and education for women to empower them.
<p>Spandana programme</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government renames the Spandana programme as 'Public Grievance Redressal System'. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Grievance Redressal System(PGRS)" is a universal grievance redressal helpline that allows citizens to directly raise their issue to the Chief Minister's Office. <p>Citizens can call 1902 helpline to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register individual or household-level grievances Follow up on the status of a registered grievance Enquire about government services and schemes Website: https://spandana.ap.gov.in/
<p>New IT policy</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Information Technology, Electronics and Communication Nara Lokesh has said an investor-friendly IT policy will soon be unveiled in the State. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The govt is deliberating on the kind of incentives to be extended to the IT and electronics companies so as to attract firms to set up their units in the State



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The govt is also formulating plans to transform Visakhapatnam into an Information Technology hub, and develop Tirupati as an electronics hub.
Cancer	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AP health department has decided to launch a village-level cancer screening programme across the state in August. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andhra Pradesh has become the first state in India to launch village-level cancer screening programme. The programme is being implemented by the health department with the help of its extensive network of community health officers. The screening will focus on oral, cervical, and breast cancers. The health department has also started training community health officers and other healthcare workers on cancer and mental health screening.
Cashew and MSP	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thousands of cashew farmers are forced to sell their produce at low price as there is no minimum support price (MSP) or regulated procurement system. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At present (June 2024), middlemen have been purchasing raw cashew nut bags weighing 80 kg at around 12,000 while the farmers insist on 16,000 MPS for the same quantity (200Rs/kg as MSP) Cashew is being grown in over 1.2 lakh acres in north Andhra region Parts of the north coastal Andhra Pradesh (NCAP) comprising Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Anakapalle and Alluri Sitharama Raju (ASR) districts are known for cashew cultivation. The climatic as well as geographical conditions in north Andhra region are suitable for cashew cultivation. Cashew grown in Uddanam region under Palasa division in Srikakulam district is famous across the country for its rich taste and unique flavour Farmers invest at least 30,000 per acre towards cost of pesticides, pruning, labour and a few others. The maximum yield per acre is 2.5 quintals At least 300 cashew processing units in Palasa and Kasibuga in Srikakulam district are operational, and the units require at least 80,000 to 90,000 tonnes of raw cashew per year to process cashew kernels. All the units together produce over 60,000 kg of cashew kernels per day.



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