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## Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

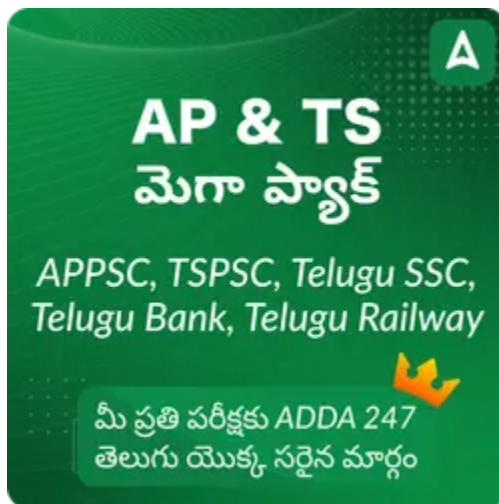
<p><b>Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Yojana</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Yojana</b>, which aims to provide rooftop solar power subsidies for 1 crore residential houses nationwide, is receiving minimal response from the Telugu states of <b>Telangana and Andhra Pradesh</b>.</li> <li>Assam leads with 2.23 lakh applications, followed by Gujarat with 2.14 lakh, Maharashtra with 1.91 lakh, and Uttar Pradesh with 1.89 lakh applications.</li> </ul> <p><b>Impact of Free Power Schemes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Telangana, the <b>Gruha Jyothi scheme</b> offers free power up to 200 units per month, while <b>Andhra Pradesh provides 101 units of free electricity to SC and ST community members</b>.</li> <li>These existing benefits reduce the perceived need for additional solar power solutions.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Free Electricity:</b> The government will provide 300 units of free electricity per month to 1 crore households, aiming to light up their homes.</li> <li><b>Rooftop Solar Promotion:</b> Urban local bodies and Panchayats will be encouraged to promote rooftop solar systems in their areas. This aligns with the free electricity provision, potentially utilising solar power as the source.</li> <li><b>Financial Support:</b> The government guarantees no financial burden on the beneficiaries. This will likely involve subsidies deposited directly into bank accounts and offering affordable loans to help cover any costs associated with the program</li> </ul> <p><b>Financial Incentives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Yojana, subsidies are provided based on the capacity of the solar system: Rs 30,000 for a 1 KW system, Rs 60,000 for a 2 KW system, and Rs 78,000 for a 3 KW system or larger.</li> </ul>
<p><b>International Team Inspects Polavaram Project</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An international team of experts arrived at Rajamahendravaram to commence their inspection of the Polavaram Irrigation Project.</li> <li>This visit, part of a <b>four-day assessment</b>, aims to <b>address issues concerning the diaphragm wall, guide bund, and cofferdams</b>.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Central government invited these experts following a request from the <b>State government for assistance in reconstructing the diaphragm wall.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Project Concerns:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Flood Impact:</b> Floods in 2019 and 2020 caused severe damage (35% of diaphragm wall at four places).</li> <li><b>Cofferdam Stability:</b> Concerns over stability due to observed leakages.</li> <li><b>Preventive Measures:</b> Emphasis on plugging the gap in the upper cofferdam before the flood season.</li> </ul> <p><b>Polavaram Project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Polavaram Project is a multi-purpose irrigation endeavor situated on the <b>Godavari River in Andhra Pradesh.</b></li> <li>Its construction is guided by the recommendations of the <b>Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (1969)</b>, which delivered its final award in 1980.</li> <li>This expansive reservoir extends into the <b>states of Telangana, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh</b>, also encompassing the <b>Papikonda National Park in Andhra Pradesh.</b></li> <li>The project is designed to facilitate the transfer of water between basins, specifically from the Godavari to the <b>Krishna River</b>, through a connecting canal.</li> <li>Funded by the <b>central government</b>, the Polavaram Project aims to provide irrigation, hydropower, and drinking water facilities.</li> <li>According to the <b>Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act of 2014</b>, the Polavaram Project has been designated a <b>National Project.</b></li> <li>As such, the <b>Ministry of Tribal Affairs</b> is responsible for ensuring that all eligible tribal communities receive appropriate compensation for the loss of land and livelihood resulting from the acquisition of forest lands.</li> </ul>
Araku Coffee	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently lauded Araku Coffee during his 'Mann Ki Baat' address, celebrating its exceptional taste and international recognition.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Araku Valley Arabica coffee can be described as coffee from the hilly tracks of Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha region at an elevation of 900-1100 Mt MSL.</li> <li>The coffee produce of Araku, by the tribals, follows an organic approach in which they emphasise management practices involving substantial use of organic manures, green manuring and organic pest management</li> </ul>



	<p>practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India is the only country in the world where the entire coffee cultivation is grown under shade, hand-picked and sun dried.</li> <li>• India produces some of the best coffee in the world, grown by tribal farmers in the Western and Eastern Ghats, which are the two major bio-diversity hotspots in the world. Indian coffee is highly valued in the world market and sold as premium coffee in Europe.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Master Plan for the Amaravati Government Complex</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) has officially released the comprehensive Master Plan for the Amaravati Government Complex.</li> </ul> <p><b>About:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This plan, which covers an extensive area of approximately 1,575 acres, is designed to foster sustainable and organized development within the capital city of Andhra Pradesh.</li> <li>• The Master Plan includes detailed zoning regulations and urban design guidelines, aiming to align the development of the Government Complex with the broader vision for Amaravati.</li> <li>• It emphasizes the creation of green spaces, infrastructure, and public amenities, enhancing the quality of life for both residents and visitors.</li> </ul>



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