



29 July 2024

National and International News

<p>E-Upahaar Portal</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected gift items presented to the President and former Presidents on various occasions will be auctioned by Rashtrapati Bhavan through an online portal called E-Upahaar. <p>About E-Upahaar Portal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auction Portal: An initiative of the President's Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan, for auctioning gift items presented to the Hon'ble President and former Presidents of India. Launch Date: The portal was launched by the President of India on July 25, 2024. Development: Conceptualized, designed, developed, and hosted by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase citizen engagement. Support noble causes. Donate all proceeds from the auction to help children in need.
<p>Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last year, the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme reported a total of 1,862 disease outbreaks, with Kerala having the highest number, as informed to the Lok Sabha recently. <p>About Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme Overview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decentralized, state-based surveillance programme in India. Launched in November 2004 with World Bank assistance by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen and maintain a decentralized laboratory-based IT-enabled disease surveillance system for epidemic-prone diseases. Monitor disease trends and detect/respond to outbreaks early through trained Rapid Response Teams (RRTs). Human Resource Development: Training of State Surveillance Officers, District Surveillance Officers,



	<p>RRTs, and other medical/paramedical staff on disease surveillance principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Information Communication Technology (ICT): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of ICT for data collection, collation, compilation, analysis, and dissemination. ○ Strengthening of public health laboratories. ○ Intersectoral coordination for zoonotic diseases.
<p>Cultural Property Agreement</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Government of India and the Government of the United States of America recently signed the first-ever 'Cultural Property Agreement' on the sidelines of the 46th World Heritage Committee meeting at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. <p>About Cultural Property Agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective: To prevent and curb the illicit trafficking of antiquities from India to the USA. ● Alignment: Aligned with the 1970 UNESCO Convention on prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export, and transfer of ownership of cultural property. ● Import Restrictions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restricts importation into the USA of certain archaeological material (1.7 million years ago to 1770 CE). ○ Restricts importation of certain ethnological material, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Civic, religious, and royal architectural material. ■ Religious material and ceremonial items. ■ Manuscripts (2nd century BCE to 1947 CE). ● Return of Objects: The USA shall offer to return any object or material on the Designate List forfeited to the US Government to India. ● Significance: The Agreement will aid in the quick seizure of Indian antiquities at US Customs and their repatriation back to India.
<p>Climate Finance Action Fund</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Azerbaijan, the host of the 29th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, has announced the establishment of the 'Climate Finance Action Fund'. <p>About Climate Finance Action Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Capitalisation and Contributors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fund will be capitalised by fossil



	<p>fuel-producing countries and companies from oil, gas, and coal sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Azerbaijan is a founding contributor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purpose and Operation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A catalytic public-private partnership fund. ○ Mobilises private sector investment and de-risks investment. ○ Contains special facilities with concessional and grant-based support for natural disasters in developing countries. ● Fundraising and Operationalisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Becomes operational after the initial fundraising round of \$1 billion. ○ Requires 10 contributing countries committed as shareholders. ● Capital Allocation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 50% directed towards climate projects in developing countries (mitigation, adaptation, and R&D). ○ 50% allocated to help members meet their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to maintain the 1.5°C temperature target. ● Headquarters: Secretariat located in Baku, Azerbaijan.
Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● India has assumed the Chair of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) for 2024-25. <p>About Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is an autonomous international organization established in 1986. ● It is for cooperation in and implementation of disaster risk reduction and building climate resilience in Asia and the Pacific region. ● Member countries: India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand are the founding members. ● ADPC's international Charter was signed by nine founding member countries and it was put into effect in 2018 through the ratification by all the founding members. ● As of January 2020, ADPC is operating as an autonomous international organization governed by the Board of Trustees. ● Headquarter: Bangkok, Thailand and sub-centers in the country of operations are the operational parts of ADPC.



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