



24 February 2025

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p>Right to Information Act, 2005</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Andhra Pradesh government has been urged to ensure the effective implementation of the RTI Act. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right To Information is derived from the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 of the Constitution. The basic object of the Right to Information Act is to empower the citizens, promote transparency and accountability in the working of the Government. The Act and its rules define a format for – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> requisitioning information, a time period within which information must be provided, a method of giving the information, charges for applying and exemptions of information which will not be given. Key Provisions of the RTI Act include – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec. 4 of the Act imposes an obligation on public authorities to maintain its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and form which facilitates the right to information under the Act. Sec. 6 of the Act entitles a person desirous of obtaining any information under the Act, to make a request in writing to the Central or State Public Information Officer specifying the particulars of the information sought by him. Sec. 7 of the Act requires the Public Information Officer to either provide the information or reject the request for any of the reasons specified in Secs. 8 and 9 within 30 days of receipt of the request.
<p>Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu stated that the Centre has agreed to procure chillies under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) if the price falls below ₹11,781 per quintal. Exporters noted that while Andhra Pradesh had previously exported large quantities to China, Colombo, Bangladesh, and Indonesia, exports have recently decreased, resulting in a price drop. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIS is a component of the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA). It is implemented to support farmers when market prices of



	<p>perishable agricultural/horticultural commodities fall below a certain level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme is applicable to crops that do not have a Minimum Support Price (MSP), such as tomato, onion, and potato (TOP crops). • MIS is implemented on the request of State/UT Governments when the market price reduces by at least 10% compared to the previous normal season. • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To protect farmers from distress sales in case of price crashes. ○ To ensure farmers receive a fair price for perishable crops not covered under MSP. ○ To stabilize market prices and ensure sufficient supply of essential commodities. ○ To support farmers through direct benefit transfers or procurement mechanisms. ○ To improve coordination between producing and consuming States for better price realization. <p>Learn more about Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)</p>
UNESCO	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historian MyNaa Swamy from Gorantla urged R. Mallikarjuna, Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs, to form an expert committee and prepare a status report for the permanent inclusion of the Lepakshi Veerabhadra temple complex in the UNESCO heritage list. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About UNESCO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN). It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. ○ Headquarters: Paris ○ It has 193 Members and 11 Associate Members (As of April 2020) and is governed by the General Conference and the Executive Board. • About UNESCO World Heritage Sites: • A World Heritage site is a landmark or area with legal protection by an international convention administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). • World Heritage sites are designated by UNESCO for having cultural, historical, scientific or other forms of significance. • The sites are judged to contain “cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to



	<p>humanity.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Selection Criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cultural Sites (6 criteria): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A masterpiece of human creative genius. ■ Represents cultural interchange or a civilization. ■ Bears unique testimony to a tradition or civilization. ■ Exemplifies architecture, technology, or landscape. ■ Shows traditional settlement, land, or sea use. ■ Links to events or ideas of universal significance. ○ Natural Sites (4 criteria): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Displays superlative natural phenomena or features. ■ Represents Earth's evolutionary history. ■ Exemplifies ecological and biological processes. ■ Hosts critical habitats of biological diversity.
<p>PM Surya Ghar Scheme</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Andhra Pradesh has granted administrative sanction for the PM Surya Ghar scheme, which aligns with the Jagjeevan Jyothi Yojana. ● The scheme aims to provide 20 lakh SC and ST domestic consumers with up to 200 units of solar power free of charge through the installation of rooftop solar systems. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is a government scheme launched on February 15, 2024, that aims to provide free electricity to households in India. ● Under the scheme, households will be provided with a subsidy to install solar panels on their roofs. ● The subsidy will cover up to 40% of the cost of the solar panels. ● Eligibility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The household must be an Indian citizen. ○ The household must own a house with a roof that is suitable for installing solar panels. ○ The household must have a valid electricity connection. ○ The household must not have availed any other subsidy for solar panels.
<p>Natural Farming</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recently, Keith Agoda, CEO of Producers Trust, and Patrick Struebi, a leading agricultural entrepreneur, visited the community-managed natural farming (CNF) fields in Davulurupalem, Kollipara mandal. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is a production system that prohibits the use of synthetically produced agro-inputs (fertilisers and pesticides).

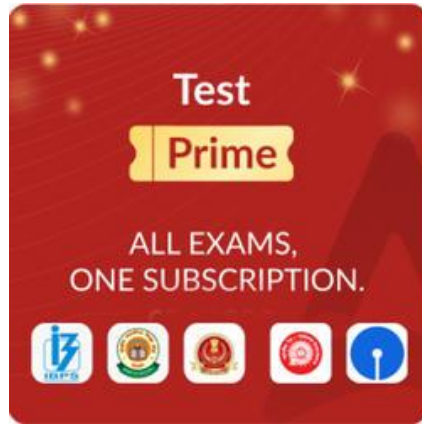


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- Instead, it relies on organic material (such as crop residues, animal residues, legumes, bio-pesticides) for “maintaining soil productivity and fertility.
- The Government of India has been promoting organic farming in the country through two dedicated national schemes:
 - Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and
 - Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Regions (MOVCD-NER) since 2015 through state governments.
- Other schemes include:
 - Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), The Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), and The All-India Network Programme on Organic Farming under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).



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