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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

Scheme of Special Assistance	 Why in news? Recently, the Government of India has decided that loans provided for the State's Capital City development will not be factored into its borrowing ceiling. These funds will support development of critical infrastructure, including the State Assembly, Secretariat, and Raj Bhavan within the Amaravati Government Complex. The Centre has also decided to provide counterpart funding of not more than 10% of the total current project cost (i.e. maximum Rs 1,500 crore) as Special Assistance (Grant). Key Points: The Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure was launched in FY 2020-21. The scheme has been expanded and continued as 'Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24' with allocation of Rs 1.3-lakh crore. Objectives of the Scheme: The scheme is expected to have a higher multiplier effect on the economy by stimulating demand and creating jobs. The scheme also aims to enhance the pace of projects in key sectors such as Jal Jeevan Mission and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana by providing funds for meeting the state share. The scheme also seeks to encourage states to undertake reforms in urban planning and urban finance to improve the quality of life and governance in cities.
	What is Capital Expenditure (Capex)? • It refers to the funds allocated by the government for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of physical assets such as infrastructure, buildings, machinery, and equipment.
Geographical Indications (GI tag)	Why in news? • Narayanapuram handloom sarees popularly known as 'Bobbili Sarees' are likely to get the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for their unique craftsmanship made up of 100 count yarn.
	 Key Points: Geographical Indications (GI tags) are signs used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess distinctive qualities, reputation, or characteristics attributable to that place of origin. GI tags serve as intellectual property rights that identify a

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	 product's unique geographical source, providing legal protection and preventing unauthorized use. In India, the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, of 1999 governs the registration and protection of Gls. These tags play a crucial role in promoting and safeguarding the unique products and traditional knowledge of various regions, contributing to rural development, preserving cultural heritage, and enhancing the marketability of Indian products in the global market.
Heat waves	Why in news? The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) has issued a heatwave alert for several districts in the State, warning that three mandals are likely to experience severe heatwave conditions on Monday, while 11 mandals may witness heatwave conditions. According to APSDMA, Vararamachandrapuram, Kunavaram, and Chintoor mandals in Alluri Sitarama Raju (ASR) district are expected to experience severe heatwaves. Six mandals in Parvathipuram-Manyam, three in ASR, and two in Eluru district are likely to experience heatwave conditions. Key Points: Heat waves are prolonged periods of excessively hot weather that can cause adverse impacts on human health, the environment, and the economy. In India IMD defines heatwave based on the following criteria. Physiography of regions Plain— The maximum temperature recorded at a station is 40 degrees Celsius or more. Coast- The maximum temperature recorded at a station is 37 degrees Celsius or more. Hills- The maximum temperature recorded at a station is 30 degrees Celsius or more. Hills- The maximum temperature recorded at a station is 30 degrees Celsius or more. Based on Departure from Normal Temperature Heat Wave- Departure from normal is 4.5°C to 6.4°C Severe Heat Wave- Departure from normal is >6.4°C
National Quantum Mission.	Why in news? ■ Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has stated that the State government will set up a task force and also plans to create a 'Quantum Valley', a world-class quantum computing hub, in Andhra Pradesh that is in line with the National Quantum Mission. Key Points:

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	 aims to harness quantum physics for next-generation communication and sensing systems. While classical physics has driven technological advances like telecommunications, AI, and weather forecasting, it is approaching its performance limits. Quantum physics, offering capabilities beyond classical systems, promises revolutionary devices with enhanced abilities. Approved by the Union Cabinet in April 2023 with a budget of Rs 6,000 crore, the NQM will run from 2023 to 2031. A key initiative under the mission is the development of a quantum satellite, scheduled for launch within 2-3 years, to pioneer quantum communications.
Glaucoma	 Why in news? Glaucoma awareness posters were unveiled to promote awareness about the condition in Chitoor district.
	 Key Points: Glaucoma is a group of eye conditions that damage the optic nerve, the health of which is vital for good vision. This damage is often caused by abnormally high pressure in the eye and can lead to blindness if not treated. Glaucoma can be detected through comprehensive eye exams that include measuring eye pressure, inspecting the drainage angle of the eye, assessing the optic nerve for damage, and testing the peripheral vision. Treatment options for glaucoma include medications (eye drops), laser treatment, and surgery, aimed at lowering eye pressure to prevent further damage to the optic nerve.





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