




17 March 2025

Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p>Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Aja Sarma, the general secretary of the Forum for Development of North Andhra (FDNA), stated during a seminar that both the New Pension Scheme (NPS) and the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) cannot be considered alternatives to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UPS shall apply to Central Government employees who are covered under the National Pension System (NPS) and who choose this option under the NPS. Key Features of UPS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UPS provides a guaranteed payout to employees upon superannuation. UPS will offer 50% of the average basic pay drawn by a Central government employee during the 12 months prior to retirement, provided they complete 25 years of service. Employees with less than 25 years of service but more than 10 years will receive a pension on a proportionate basis. A minimum payout of Rs 10,000 per month is assured for employees with 10 or more years of qualifying service. In the event of the payout holder's death after superannuation, a family payout at 60% of the payout admissible to the holder will be given to the legally wedded spouse. UPS or assured payout would not be available in case of removal or dismissal from service or resignation of the employee.
<p>Person in news: Sri Potti Sriramulu</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced that a 58-foot tall statue of Potti Sriramulu would be erected in Amaravati within a year, and his house in Padamatipalli village, Nellore district, would be transformed into a museum. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potti Sriramulu was born on March 16, 1901, in Madras Presidency (present-day Nellore, Andhra Pradesh). He became a pivotal figure in the struggle for a separate Telugu-speaking linguistic state. He embarked on a hunger strike in 1952, demanding the creation of Andhra Pradesh, separate from the Madras Presidency. After his death, the Prime Minister announced the formation of Andhra Pradesh on 19 December 1952, while given statehood on November 1, 1956.



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- The **Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore District (SPS Nellore)** was named after him in 2008.

Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)

Why in news?

- The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), leading the national implementation of Mission LiFE, expressed its appreciation and gratitude to the Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu for their support in promoting its energy initiatives.

Key Points:

- It was **established in 2002 under the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001.**
- **Objective:** The primary objective of BEE is to reduce energy intensity in the Indian economy.
- **Function and Duties**
 - It coordinates with designated consumers, designated agencies and other organizations; recognizes, identifies and utilizes the existing resources and infrastructure, in performing the functions assigned to it under the Energy Conservation Act.
 - The EC Act provides for regulatory and promotional functions which are assigned to the organisation.
- **Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Power**

About Mission LiFE:

- Mission LiFE, or Lifestyle for Environment, is an India-led global mass movement to **nudge individual and community action to protect and preserve the environment.**
- It was launched by the Indian Prime Minister at the **26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)** in Glasgow in November 2021.
- It emboldens the spirit of the **P3 model, i.e. Pro Planet People.**
- It will showcase **sustainable goals and climate actions** taken by countries and individuals around the world.

India Meteorological Department (IMD)

Why in news?

- Over five stations in Andhra Pradesh recorded temperatures above 41°C, while the IMD predicted hot and humid weather at isolated locations in North and South Coastal Andhra Pradesh.

Key Points:

- IMD was established in **1875.**
- It is the **National Meteorological Service of the country and the principal government agency in all matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects.**
- The **Director General of Meteorology is the Head of the India Meteorological Department.**
- There are **6 Regional Meteorological Centres, each under a Deputy Director General with headquarters at Mumbai, Chennai, New Delhi, Calcutta, Nagpur and Guwahati.**



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Its headquarter is in New Delhi. • At present IMD is under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
<p>Organic Farming</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zambian farmers are embracing the benefits of chemical-free, climate-resilient farming, thanks to a pilot programme spearheaded by Andhra Pradesh's Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS). • Launched in September 2024, the initiative aims to introduce sustainable farming practices at Valponasca Learning Farm (Luwingu) and Kasisi Agricultural Training Centre (Lusaka). <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). • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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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