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29 March 2025 **Andhra Pradesh State Regional News**

National Health Mission (NHM)	 Andhra Pradesh Minister for Health and Family Welfare Satya Kumar Yadav has requested the Union Government to allocate an additional ₹259 crore to the State under the National Health Mission (NHM) and other schemes. Key Points: NHM was launched by the government of India in 2013 subsuming the National Rural Health Mission (Launched in 2005) and the National Urban Health Mission (Launched in 2013). The main programmatic components include Health System Strengthening in rural and urban areas for Reproductive-Maternal- Neonatal-Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A), and Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases. The NHM envisages achievement of universal access to equitable, affordable & quality health care services that are
NTR Vaidya Seva scheme	 accountable and responsive to people's needs. Why in news? Hospitals empanelled under the NTR Vaidya Seva scheme have threatened to suspend medical services from April 7 unless the State government clears pending dues of ₹3,500 crore. Key Points: The Dr. Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao Vaidya Seva scheme is a health insurance program in Andhra Pradesh that provides financial assistance to the poor. The scheme provides up to ₹25 lakhs in coverage per family per year. Eligibility BPL families identified by the Civil Supplies Department are eligible. People with a photo and name on a BPL ration card and suffering from certain diseases are also eligible. The scheme offers free medical tests in government hospitals, free follow-up medicines for 138 procedures, and a postoperative sustenance allowance.
Species in news: Water hyacinth	Why in news? ■ The West Godavari district administration has launched a water

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hyacinth composting project, the first of its kind in the state, to address environmental concerns while promoting sustainable agriculture.

• The project, involving women from Self-Help Groups (SHGs), transforms the invasive aquatic weed into nutrient-rich organic fertiliser, creating both ecological and economic benefits.

Key Points:

- It is a perennial, free-floating aquatic plant native to tropical regions of South America, and now present on all continents except Antarctica.
- This plant rapidly increases biomass and forms dense mats in lakes, dams and irrigation channels and chokes them.
- This is not an indigenous species but was introduced to India during the British colonial rule as an ornamental aquatic plant from South America. The plant produces beautiful purple flowers that have high aesthetic value.
 - It is rich in fibrous stems that can be processed into a wide array of handbags, interior decorative material, table mats, baskets and other products.

Significance

- The plant has been used as a biofertilizer in some organic agriculture practices.
- It has been reported that this plant is a good phytoremediation species, suggesting it has the ability to trap and remove toxic metabolites and harmful heavy metals from water.

Compressed Biogas (CBG)

Why in news?

 Anant Ambani, Director of Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL), along with Andhra Pradesh Education Minister Nara Lokesh, will inaugurate the foundation stone for a compressed biogas (CBG) project at Diwakarapuram village in P.C. Palli mandal, Prakasam district.

Key Points:

- Compressed Biogas (CBG) means the mixture of hydrocarbon gasses and vapors consisting mainly of Methane in gaseous form, which has been produced by the decomposition of animal and plant waste, purified and compressed for use as an automotive fuel and industrial application.
- Biogas can be compressed after removal of carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide, the same way as natural gas is compressed to CNG, and used to power motor vehicles.
- Its solid by-products can be used as bio-manure.

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

Why in news?

 Krishna University Vice Chancellor K. Ramji said that the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP-2020) enables students to acquire multiple skills over time.

Key Points:



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- The new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century in India, which replaces the previous National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986.
- The Ministry of Education formed a committee under Dr. K Kasturirangan, which outlined this new policy.
- The National Education Policy 2020 proposes various reforms in school and higher education, including technical education, that are suited to 21st-century needs.
- 5 foundational pillars of NEP 2020: Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability, and Accountability.



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