

Prelim Bits 09-04-2023 & 10-04-2023 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

Guardian Ring Program

Yoga Mahotsav 2023 is an event to commemorate 100 days countdown to the 9th edition of International Day of Yoga 2023.

- The International Yoga Day is being observed today on **21 June** across the world.
- ‘The Guardian Ring’ is a unique and innovative programme envisaged for **International Yoga Day, 2022**.
- **Theme for 2022** - Yoga for humanity
- **Implementation** - The programme involved collaboration with Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of External Affairs.
- **Participants** - The programme is a collaborative exercise between 79 countries and United Nations organisations along with Indian Missions abroad.
- The programme celebrates the movement of the Sun, underlining the concept of ‘**One Sun, One Earth**’.
- **Program** - From East to West, people from all countries welcomed the Sun with Yoga with **Surya Namaskar** or sun-salutation.
- Starting from Fiji in the east it moves westward and end in San Francisco.
- People performing yoga in 16 different time zones along with the rise of the sun was exclusively live-streamed on DD-India.



References

1. [Live Mint - International Yoga Day 2022: What is Guardian Ring](#)
2. [Hindustan Times - Ring is forming around Earth](#)

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhi Kendra

The Prime Minister inaugurated 600 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras (PMKSK).

- The Pradhan Mantri Samridhi Kendra (PMKSK) will serve as a one-stop shop for Indian farmers buying quality agri-inputs such as fertilisers, seeds, or pesticides.
- PMKSK is also known as the Model Fertilizer Retail Shop.
- Under the scheme, the retail fertiliser shops in the country will also be converted into PMKSK in a phased manner.
- **Ministry** - Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers.
- **Objective** - PMKSKs are designed to create awareness among farmers about the balanced use of fertilisers (including organic fertilisers and micronutrients).
- **Services** - The Pradhan Mantri Samridhi Kendra will cater to the needs of the farmers in the country.
- It will provide agri-inputs including testing facilities for soil, seeds and fertilisers.
- Apart from this, they will also create awareness among the farmers and provide information regarding various government schemes.
- The extended services like crop advisories or good farming practices, will be provided by Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) or agriculture universities.

References

1. [Live Mint - PM inaugurates 600 PM Kisan Samruddhi Kendras](#)
2. [news 9 Live - Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samruddhi Kendras](#)

Support for Irrigation Modernization Program (SIMP)

- 'Support for Irrigation Modernization Program' (SIMP) is a new initiative to modernize Major / Medium Irrigation (MMI) projects in the country.
- The **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) is providing technical assistance for SIMP
- **Objective** - To improve Water Use Efficiency, increase crop water productivity and ultimately increase farmer's income
- **Implementation** - Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti in the command area of the project.
- **Managing Agency** - Central Irrigation Modernization office (CIMO) under Central Water Commission (CWC) has been setup for overall implementation and management of the programme.
- SIMP is proposed to be taken up in 4 phases.
- SIMP Phase-1 concluded on 31.12.2021 and SIMP Phase-2 has been initiated.

References

1. [PIB - Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation](#)

National Hydrology Project (NHP)

- The National Hydrology Project (NHP) is a pan-India scheme to bring transformation in the water resources sector improve water management through informed decision making.

- **Fund** - Central Sector scheme sponsored by Ministry of Jal Shakti with 50% of budget as financial aid from the World Bank.
- **Timeline** - 8 years from 2016-17 to 2023-24.
- **Lead Agency** - Ministry of Jal Shakti
- **Implementing Agencies** - 49 agencies including 10 from Central Government and 39 from States.
- **Objective** - To improve the extent, quality and accessibility of water resources information and to strengthen the capacity of targeted water resources management institutions in India.
- **Beneficiaries** - The project has 2 groups of direct beneficiaries:
 1. Central and state implementing agencies (IAs) responsible for surface and/or groundwater planning and management
 2. Other stakeholders including general public and farmers.
- Under the NHP, **National Water informatics Centre** (NWIC), a nationwide repository of water resources data has been established.

References

1. [Bhuvan - National Hydrology Project](#)
2. [PIB - Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation](#)

National Water Mission

- National Water Mission is one of the 8 missions under [National Action Plan on Climate Change](#) (NAPCC)
- The Mission was launched in 2008 along with other 8 missions.
- **Aim** - Conserving water, minimizing wastage and ensuring more equitable distribution through integrated water resource management.
- The National Water Mission will develop a framework to increase the water use efficiency by 20%.
- It calls for strategies to tackle variability in rainfall and river flows such as rainwater harvesting and more efficient irrigation systems like sprinklers or drip irrigation.

References

1. [National Water Mission](#)
2. [Vikaspedia - National Action Plan on Climate Change](#)