

## Prelim Bits 24-10-2023 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### **Matsya Sampada Jagrukta Abhiyan (MSJA)**

*National Institute of Fisheries Post Harvest Technology and Training (NIFPHATT) organized a workshop on Matsya Sampada Jagrukta Abhiyan recently.*

- **MSJA** - It is an outreach programme that aims to reach fish farmers and 3477 coastal villages and ensures last mile connectivity.
- It disseminates information and knowledge about 9 years of achievements in the fisheries sector.
- **Duration** - 6 months Campaign
- **Organized by** - Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

### **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**

- **PMMSY** - It is a flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of fisheries sector.
- **Aim** - To double the income of fish farmers and fishers in the country and to bring about Blue Revolution.
- **Launched** - 2020.
- The PMMSY is an umbrella scheme with 2 separate Components namely
  - Central Sector Scheme (CS) and
  - Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS).
- PMMSY is implemented in ***all the States and Union Territories*** for a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

# Targets of PMMSY

## Fish Production and Productivity

- Increasing fish production to 22 million metric tons by 2024-25 from 13.75 million metric tons in 2018-19.
- Enhancing aquaculture productivity to 5 tons per hectare from the current national average of 3 tons.
- Augmenting domestic fish consumption from 5 kg to 12 kg per capita.

## Economic Value Addition

- Increasing contribution of fisheries sector to the Agriculture GVA to about 9% by 2024-25 from 7.28% in 2018-19.
- Doubling export earnings to Rs.1,00,000 crores by 2024-25 from Rs.46,589 crores in 2018-19.
- Facilitating private investment and growth of entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.
- Reduction of post-harvest losses from the reported 20-25% to about 10%.

## Enhancing Income and Employment Generation

- Generating 55 lakh direct and indirect employment opportunities along the value chain.
- Doubling the incomes of fishers and fish farmers.

## References

1. [PIB | Matsya Sampada Jagrukta Abhiyan](#)
2. [PMMSY | Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana](#)

## Bedouin Arabs

*A video on social media shows local Israelis expressing their gratitude to a Bedouin commander for putting up an effective defence against Hamas fighters recently.*

- **About** - The Bedouins are a nomadic **Muslim Arab people** who live mainly in the **Negev desert of southern Israel**.
- **Occupation** - They have traditionally been pastoralists with no powerful or exclusive national affiliation.
- Before the formation of Israel, groups of Bedouin were employed by early Jewish settlers to guard clusters of their communities in Palestine.
- During the **Arab-Israeli war of 1948-49**, many Bedouin provided valuable intelligence to the Jewish militias and the newly formed Israel Defence Forces (IDF).
- In the 1950s, Israel recognised a large number of Bedouin as its citizens, and subsequently helped build settlements for them in the Negev.

- Many Bedouin continued to serve in the IDF, primarily in scouting or tracking units.

Click here to know more about [Israel-Palestine Conflict](#)

## Hezbollah

- **Hezbollah (Party of God)** - It is a Shiite Islamic militant organisation from **Lebanon**.

*According to Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Hezbollah's are the world's most heavily armed non-state actor.*

- **Origin** - During the Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990)
- **Cause of origin** - Discontent with presence of armed Palestinian in Lebanon and inspiration from theocratic Islamic government of Iran in 1979.
- **Funding and Training** - Iran and its Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).
- **Aim** - It opposes Israel and Western influence in West Asia.
- **Conflict with Israel** - Israeli forces invaded southern Lebanon in 1978 and again in 1982 to expel Palestinian guerrilla fighters.
- It fought a war with Israel in 2006.

## References

1. [The Indian Express | Bedouin Arabs in the Israeli army](#)
2. [The Indian Express | Hezbollah](#)
3. [Hindustan Times | Hezbollah](#)

## Dogra architecture

*Srinagar Smart City Limited and the Kashmir chapter of INTACH have joined hands to conserve vernacular elements of Kashmiri architecture recently.*

- Dogra architecture is a distinct culture that formed in Jammu, where cultures mixed together.
- **Dynasty** - The Dogra dynasty was a dynasty of Hindu Rajputs who ruled Jammu & Kashmir from 1846 to 1947.
- **Examples** - Some examples of Dogra architecture include:
  - **Mubark mandi** - A hub of Dogra culture until 1947, with a jharokha style of balcony.
  - **Maharaj Gunj** - A market area with a variety of colonial and vernacular architecture.
  - **Rani Charak Mahal** - A mahal with phenomenal architecture and interiors.

## Maharaj Gunj

- It was established by Maharaja Ranbir Singh to provide fillip to Kashmir's trade and commerce.

- The [Maharaj Gunj market] area has a rich mix of vernacular and colonial architecture.
- Most residential buildings constructed in the ***taq or dhajji dewari*** styles.
- The market once housed Khatri businesspeople, who introduced a different lifestyle to the city.
- Maharaj Gunj's strategic location along the banks of the Jhelum river rendered it an attractive destination for traders from diverse locations within Kashmir.

## References

1. [The Hindu | Dogra architecture gets a revival](#)
2. [Abhipedia | Dogra and Jammu architecture](#)

## RBI on Floating Rate Savings Bonds (FRBs)

*Individual investors can now subscribe to FRSBs through Reserve Bank of India's Retail Direct Portal.*

- RBI has expanded the basket of products offered through its Retail Direct Portal by allowing individual investors to subscribe to Floating Rate Savings Bonds (FRBs), 2020 (Taxable).
- Currently, individual (retail) investors can invest in Central Government Securities, Treasury Bills, State Government Securities and Sovereign Gold Bonds through the Retail Direct Portal.

*FRSBs are interest bearing, non-tradeable bonds, issued by the Government of India, which are repayable on the expiration of 7 years from the date of issue.*

- Until recently, these bonds were exclusively accessible at select branches of the State Bank of India, nationalized banks, private sector banks authorized by the RBI.
- The subscription of bonds will be in the form of cash (up to Rs.20,000 only)/drafts/cheques or any electronic mode.

## RBI-Retail Direct Scheme (RDS)

- The scheme was launched on November, 2021.
- Under the Scheme, individual investors are permitted to open Retail Direct Gilt account with RBI through which investments in Government Securities can be made in primary and secondary market.

## References

1. [Livemint | Individual investors can now subscribe to FRSBs](#)
2. [The Hindu Business Line | Floating Rate Savings Bonds](#)
3. [CNBCTV | Floating Rate Savings Bonds via RBI's portal](#)

## Puri Jagannath Temple's Ratna Bhandar

*Demands to open the Ratna Bhandar gained strength after the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) gave a requisition for repair/conservation of the chamber.*

- The Ratna Bhandar is the treasury of the Puri Jagannath Temple in Odisha, India.
- The precious ornaments of sibling deities Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Goddess Subhadra given by devotees and erstwhile kings over centuries, are stored in this 12<sup>th</sup> century shrine.
- It is located within the temple and has two chambers
  - Bhitari Bhandar (inner chamber) and
  - Bahara Bhandar (outer chamber).
- The last inventory of the gems and jewelry in the Ratna Bhandar was made in 1978.
- The outer chamber is opened regularly to fetch ornaments for the deities but the inner chamber has not opened in the *past 38 years*.

## Puri Jagannath Temple

- Jagannath Temple in Puri, Odisha, is a revered temple where Lord Krishna is worshipped as Lord Jagannath.
- Lord Jagannath is present in this temple along with elder brother Lord Balabhadra and younger sister Goddess Subhadra.
- It's a circular temple that was built during the ***Kachchhapaghata Dynasty***. It's the only circular temple in India.
- It's known for its annual Ratha Jatra, or chariot festival. The temple is one of the 4 great 'Char Dham' pilgrimage sites.
- The temple's design is believed to have inspired the Indian Parliament building.
- The temple is called the "White Pagoda". A sign at the Lion's Gate (main entrance) of the Temple states: "Only Hindus are allowed".

## References

1. [The Indian Express | Ratna Bhandar of the Puri Jagannath Temple](#)
2. [Economic Times | Puri temple's Ratna Bhandar](#)
3. [Times now | Jagannath temple ratna bandhar](#)

