**Current Affairs : 11-15 May 2022**

**MISSION AMRIT SAROVAR**

**Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi inaugurated the country’s first ‘Amrit Sarovar’ at Patwai, Rampur, Uttar Pradesh.**



**About:**

* With a view to conserve water for the future, the Prime Minister has launched a new initiative named Mission Amrit Sarovar on 24th April 2022.
* The Mission is aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
* Modi had namechecked Patwai during his monthly Mann Ki Baat programme in April.

**SHEIKH KHALIFA BIN ZAYED AL-NAHYAN**

**The United Arab Emirates’ President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan died aged 73, after battling illness for several years.**

**About:**

* The President of the oil-rich Gulf state, who was rarely seen in public, is likely to be replaced by his half-brother, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed, who was already seen as the UAE’s de facto ruler.

**(An example of something de facto is a rule that people always follow even though it is not an official procedure, a defacto procedure. An example of something de facto is a person who functions as a parent even though they are not related to the child, a defactor parent.)**

* Sheikh Khalifa took over as the UAE’s second President in November 2004. He has rarely been seen in public since 2014, when he had surgery following a stroke, although he has continued to issue rulings.

**3.2 CR. USED FACILITIES UNDER AYUSHMAN SCHEME: CENTRE**

* Recently, the Union Health Ministry shared information that more than 18 crore health cards have been issued under the **Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)** scheme so far and over 3.2 crore people have availed the hospital facilities.
* Earlier, the National Health Authority (NHA), under its flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM), announced the successful integration of additional 13 digital health solutions in the ABDM Sandbox environment in the last three months.

**About Ayushman Bharat Scheme:**

* Ayushman Bharat, a flagship scheme of Government of India, was launched in **2018**as recommended by the National Health Policy (2017), to achieve the vision of Universal Health Coverage.
* This initiative has been designed to meet **Sustainable Development Goal number 3** and its underlining commitment, which is to "leave no one behind."
* It is an entitlement-based scheme that targets the beneficiaries as identified by latest Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data.
* The funding is shared – 60:40 for all states and UTs with their own legislature, 90:10 in Northeast states and Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal and Uttarakhand and 100% Central funding for UTs without legislature.
* Ayushman Bharat adopts a continuum of care approach, comprising of two inter-related components, which are:

**Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs)**:

* In February 2018, the Government of India announced the creation of 1,50,000 Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) by transforming the existing Sub Centres and Primary Health Centres(PHCs).
* These centres are to deliver Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) bringing healthcare closer to the homes of people.
* They cover both, maternal and child health services and non-communicable diseases, including free essential drugs and diagnostic services.

**Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)**:

* Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY is the largest health assurance scheme in the world.
* It aims to provide a **health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year** for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to over 10.74 crores poor and vulnerable families.
* With approximately 50 crore beneficiaries, it covers the bottom 40% of the Indian population.
* PM-JAY is fully funded by the Government and cost of implementation is shared between the Central and State Governments.
* Implementing Agency: National Health Authority (NHA) has been set up to implement PM-JAY.
	+ NHA is an attached office of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with full functional autonomy.
* To implement the scheme at the State level, State Health Agencies (SHAs) in the form of a society/trust have been set up by respective States.
* So far, 23,000 hospitals have been empanelled under the scheme, 40 per cent of which are from the private sector.

**About Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission:**

* The pilot project of the National Digital Health Mission was announced by the Prime Minister during his Independence Day speech from the Red Fort on August 15, 2020.
* The nationwide rollout of the project coincided with National Health Authority (NHA) celebrating the third anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) in September, 2021.
* Major components of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission include:
	+ A **Health ID** for every citizen that will also work as their health account, to which personal health records can be linked and viewed with the help of a mobile application named Ayushman Bharat health account (**ABHA)**.
	+ A Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR) and Healthcare Facilities Registries (HFR) that will act as a repository of all healthcare providers across both modern and traditional systems of medicine.
	+ The **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission Sandbox**, created as a part of the mission, will act as a framework for technology and product testing that will help organisations, including private players, to be a part of the National Digital Health Ecosystem to become a health information provider.

**ANGLO-INDIAN SEATS IN LS: HC SAYS QUOTA CAN’T GO ON FOREVER, SEEKS CENTRE’S STAND ON PLEA**

* The Delhi High Court has ordered the Central Government to file its response to a petition seeking the restoration of Anglo-Indian representation in Parliament via nomination.
* The court was considering a petition challenging **the Constitutional (104th Amendment) Act, 2019,** which removed the Anglo-Indian community's nomination-based representation in the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies.

**Anglo-Indian quota and the 104th Constitutional Amendment:**

* **About Anglo-Indians:**
	+ The Anglo-Indian community in India can be traced back to the **British East India Company's policy** of encouraging marriages between its officers and local women.
	+ The term Anglo-Indian first appeared in**the Government of India Act, 1935.**
	+ In the present context, **Article 366(2)** of the Indian Constitution states - An Anglo-Indian is**a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line** is or was of European descent, but who is or was born within the territory of India of parents who are usually resident there and are not there for temporary purposes only.
	+ According to the 2011 Census, the number of people who identified themselves as Anglo-Indian was **296**. This figure, however,**has been called into question.**
* **Reservation in legislature and other provisions:**
	+ The idea of such nominations can be traced back to**Frank Anthony**, who was the president of the All-India Anglo-Indian Association.
	+ **Article 331 of the Indian Constitution:**
		- It provides for nomination of **two**Anglo-Indians to Lok Sabha.
		- It reads - “Regardless of what is stated in Article 81,**the President may** (if he believes that the Anglo-Indian community is underrepresented in the House of People) appoint **not more than two members** of that community to the House of People.”
	+ **Article 333:**
		- It deals with representation of the Anglo-Indian community in **Legislative Assemblies**.
		- It reads - “Regardless of what is stated in Article 170,**the Governor of a State** may appoint **one member** of the Anglo-Indian community to the State Legislative Assembly if he believes that the community is underrepresented in the Assembly.”
	+ **Other provisions:**
		- According to the **10th Schedule** of the Constitution, Anglo-Indian members of Lok Sabha and state Assemblies**can take the membership of any party within six months of their nomination.** But, once they do so, they are bound by their party whip.
		- The Anglo-Indian members enjoy the same powers as others, but **they cannot vote in the Presidential election** because they are nominated by the President.
* **The 104th Constitutional Amendment:**
	+ **It extends by 10 years the deadline** for the abolition of the reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies for members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
		- The reservation of seats for the SCs and STs was set to expire on 26 January 2020 as mandated by the 95th Amendment.
	+ The amendment, however, **does not extend the period of reservation** of the two Lok Sabha seats and seats in State Legislative Assemblies reserved for members of the Anglo-Indian Community.
	+ Thus,**the practice of the President of India**(Governor in the states)**nominating** two members of the Anglo-Indian Community (one in the state) on the recommendation of the Prime Minister of India (CM in states) was effectively **abolished**.

**SPACE DEBRIS**

**On May 12, fragments of suspected debris “fell from space” at three locations in Gujarat — Bhalej, Khambholaj, and Rampura.**

**About:**

* Space debris can include natural space debris such as meteoroids, or man-made ones which can include defunct spacecrafts and satellites, stages of rockets which have launched payloads, dead satellites, satellite explosions and collisions.
* According to NASA, “more than 25,000 objects larger than 10 cm are known to exist” as space debris and the estimated population of particles between 1 and 10 cm in diameter is approximately 500,000.
* According to NASA’s estimates, as of January 2022, the amount of material orbiting the Earth exceeded 9,000 metric tons.

**The difference in impact made by a natural and man-made debris**

* Most pieces of space debris burn up as they enter the Earth’s atmosphere, the process starting from around a height of 100 km from Earth’s surface to 20 km.
* However, sometimes, very heavy pieces may not burn completely, and some part of the object may make it down to the surface, either hitting a landmass or a waterbody.
* In cases of man-made debris, it often disintegrates into fragments, thus hardly ever creating large-scale impact. It is usually natural debris, such as asteroids and meteoroids, that cause relatively large-scale craters, if it ends up hitting a landmass.

**BAN ON WHEAT EXPORTS**

**In a knee-jerk reaction, the Government has banned wheat exports with effect from May 13, with some minor exceptions for those who have irrevocable letters of credit or where the governments of importing countries request the Indian government for food security purposes.**

**About:**

* This comes as a shock because only a month ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said that if WTO allows us to export grains, India will start exporting from tomorrow to feed the world.
* **Possible reasons**
	+ Revised estimates of wheat production are much lower than the estimated 111 mmt (million metric tonnes). Wheat procurement is likely to end up at around 19 to 20 mmt by June-end against the more than 43 mmt last year.
	+ Another factor could be that the April ’22 wheat inflation is at 9.59 per cent (y-o-y) against overall cereal inflation of 5.96 per cent.
* **Criticism:**No matter what the rationale is, it hits the credibility of India as a reliable supplier of anything in global markets. It conveys that we don’t have any credible export policy as it can turn its back at the drop of a hat.

**NATIONAL CYBER FORENSIC LABORATORY (NCFL)**

**Union Home and Co-operation Minister, Amit Shah has formally inaugurated the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory (NCFL) in Hyderabad.**

**About:**

* He inaugurated the laboratory at the premises of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory located at Ramanthapur in the city.
* The Cyber and Information Security Division of the Home Ministry has set up the NCFL at the CFSL under Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Child scheme.
* The NCFL has created 4 specialized Hi-tech units to address issues in the field of digital forensics, which include a Mobile phone embedded system examination unit, a Digital storage Media Examination Unit, an Advanced Digital Forensic Unit, and Crime Scene Unit.

**MANIK SAHA – New Chief Minister of Tripura**

**Tripura BJP President Dr Manik Saha will be sworn-in as Chief Minister of the state, the party’s State unit chief and lone Rajya Sabha member from Tripura.**

**About:**

* The incumbent Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb resigned from his post after meeting Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J.P. Nadda and Union Home Minister Amit Shah during a two-day trip to New Delhi.
* The State is slated to go to Assembly election in 2023.
* Deb is the fifth Chief Minister to be replaced in a BJP-ruled State after B.S. Yediyurappa in Karnataka, Trivendra Singh Rawat and Tirath Singh Rawat in Uttarakhand, and Vijay Rupani in Gujarat. He was appointed Chief Minister after the BJP stormed to power in 2018, ending 25 years of Left Front-rule in the State.

**DEVASAHAYAM PILLAI**

**Devasahayam Pillai, who was born a Hindu in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu and converted to Christianity in the 18th century, became the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by the Vatican.**

**About:**

* Pope Francis canonised Blessed Devasahayam during the Canonisation Mass in St Peter’s Basilica.
* Devasahayam was born on April 23, 1712 in Nattalam village in Kanyakumari district, and went on to serve in the court of Marthanda Varma of Travancore.
* After meeting a Dutch naval commander at the court, Devasahayam was baptised in 1745, and assumed the name ‘Lazarus’, meaning ‘God is my help’.