

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

27TH April 2023

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ **PGCIL wins Global Gold Award for CSR work**

- Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), a Maharatna CPSE (Central Public Sector Enterprises) of the Ministry of Power, Government of India, has been conferred with the Global Gold Award by The Green Organisation.
- The award was given at the Green World Awards 2023 ceremony held in Miami, USA. Dr. V.K. Singh, Director (Personnel), POWERGRID received the award on behalf of the organization.
- The award has been given to POWERGRID for improving agricultural productivity and rural livelihoods through watershed management, community participation and better crop management practices in 10 villages of Jayapatna block of Kalahandi district in Odisha.
- It is a 60-month farmer centric project which started in late October 2019.
- POWERGRID lays emphasis on getting involved in several CSR programs for the community and the environment. With a well-optimized exit policy for its CSR projects, POWERGRID values community participation through effective collaboration, capacity building and sustainability in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

❖ **Mahavir Singh Phogat appointed as President of MMA-1 Federation**

- Renowned wrestler and coach Mahavir Singh Phogat was appointed as the President of MMA-1 Federation.
- Phogat's appointment as the President of the MMA-1 Federation is aimed at developing and promoting MMA in India.

➤ Phogat's role as president will primarily involve identifying and nurturing young talent in the sport of MMA in India.

➤ Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) is a full-contact combat sport involving striking, grappling and ground fighting. It incorporates techniques from various combat sports around the world.

❖ **Neobank Jupiter secures NBFC licence**

➤ Neobanking platform Jupiter has received a non-banking financial company (NBFC) license from the Reserve Bank of India to enter into the lending business.

➤ The startup, Jupiter will be offering the loan under Amica Financial Technologies.

➤ Jitendra Gupta (founder of Jupiter) has informed that there will be an equity infusion of Rs. 100 crore from Jupiter to develop the NBFC product.

➤ The startup will be looking to raise a loan from banks for an additional Rs. 100 crore.

➤ Jupiter is a neobank, a type of digital bank that operates entirely online without any physical branches. It was founded in 2019 by Jitendra Gupta, who previously co-founded Citrus Pay, a payment gateway company that was acquired by PayU in 2016.

❖ **Pankaj Singh elected president of Indian Cycling Federation**

➤ BJP MLA from Noida and son of Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, Pankaj Singh was elected as the President of the Cycling Federation of India (CFI).

➤ The election was held during the Annual General Body meeting in Nainital, and Pankaj Singh was elected unopposed.

➤ Maninder Pal Singh was elected general secretary for the second time in a row. Sudesh Kumar from Kerala was elected as the treasurer.

- Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Kerala and Telangana elected two members each to the Executive Council.
- Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar elected one member each to the Executive Council.
- Cycling Federation of India (CFI) is the national governing body for cycling in India and was established in 1946.

❖ **International Girls in ICT Day 2023: 27th April**

- International Girls in ICT Day is an annual event celebrated on the fourth Thursday of April to encourage and empower girls and young women to explore and pursue careers in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT).
- This day helps to promote gender equality and diversity in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). It raises awareness about the gender gap in the tech industry and inspires women to consider careers in ICT.
- This year, it is being observed on April 27 with the theme “**Digital Skills for Life**”.
- International Girls in ICT Day was declared by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on April 8, 2011, to encourage women to pursue careers in information and communication technologies.

❖ **RBI approves reappointment of N Kamakodi as MD and CEO of City Union Bank**

- The Reserve Bank of India has given its consent for the re-appointment of N Kamakodi as Managing Director and CEO of private sector bank City Union Bank, the Tamil-Nadu-based lender.
- The tenure of his re-appointment would be for a period of three years with effect from May 1, 2023.

- He joined the bank as deputy general manager in 2003 and was elevated to general manager in 2005. In 2006, he was appointed as executive director.
- From May 2011, he was serving the bank as its managing director and chief executive officer.

➤ Early this month, the bank launched a facility for its customers to use Voice Biometric authentication for logging into its mobile banking application.

❖ IIT Bombay secures second place in 'Solar Decathlon' Build Challenge

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay's SHUNYA team has secured second place in Solar Decathlon Build Challenge in the United States.
- They got the second place for their innovative zero-energy house designed to address air quality challenges in Mumbai's hot and humid climate.
- The 1,416 ft² house's primary objective is net positive energy, net zero carbon, and net zero water. The team has designed the house's cooling system using chilled water for temperature control and liquid desiccant for dehumidification.
- SHUNYA refers to Sustainable Housing for Urbanizing Nation by its Young Aspirants.
- It is a student-driven technical team of IIT Bombay working to build a sustainable future.

❖ Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched IFFCO's nano DAP

- Cooperation Minister, Amit Shah has launched IFFCO's nano liquid Di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) fertilizer for commercial sale at Rs. 600 per 500 ml bottle.
- It is aimed for Farmers to use nano urea and DAP extensively to make the country self-reliant and reduce import dependence
- One bottle (500 ml) of nano-liquid DAP is equivalent to one bag (50kg) of conventional granular DAP, which is currently being sold at Rs. 1,350.

- In 2021, IFFCO launched the world's first nano urea fertilizer.
- Amit Shah informed that 6.3 crore bottles of Nano urea have been manufactured till March 2023. As a result, import of urea in the country has decreased by seven lakh metric tonnes in 2021-22.

❖ **Cabinet approves National Medical Devices Policy, 2023**

- The National Medical Devices Policy, 2023 is expected to facilitate growth of the medical devices sector to meet the public health objectives of access, affordability, quality and innovation.
- The Union Cabinet approved the National Medical Devices Policy, 2023, which aims to reduce India's heavy import dependence in this sector (75-80% currently).
- The Cabinet also approved 157 nursing colleges which were announced in this year's Union Budget.
- According to the government data, the market for medical devices in India was estimated to be \$11 billion (approximately, ₹ 90,000 crore) in 2020, accounting for 1.5% of the global market.
- The government's target is to take it to around 12% in the next 25 years.

❖ **NITI Aayog released report titled Promoting Millets in Diets**

- NITI Aayog released a report titled Promoting Millets in Diets: Best Practices across States/UTs of India. The report was released by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Suman K. Bery in the presence of Member (Health) Dr. V.K. Paul, Member (Agriculture) Dr. Ramesh Chand and CEO B. V. R. Subrahmanyam.
- The report presents a set of good and innovative practices adopted by states governments and organizations in various aspects of millet value- chain especially production, processing and consumption.
- The report in three themes i.e. (a) State Missions and initiatives to promote millets; (b) Inclusion of millets in ICDS; (c) Research and development and use of

technology for innovative practices. The report will serve as a guiding repository to revive and mainstream millets in our diets.

➤ Member NITI Aayog Dr. V.K. Paul said, “Millets are nutritionally wholesome crops. Having a document of this nature is vital as it will give confidence to people and those engaged in millets who look at data, evidences and practices to mainstream millets in our diets and systems”.

❖ **Dalai Lama received 1959 Ramon Magsaysay Award in person after 64 years**

➤ After a 64-year wait, members of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation personally presented the 1959 Ramon Magsaysay Award to the Dalai Lama at his residence.

➤ The award was the first international recognition given to the spiritual leader for his exceptional leadership of the Tibetan community’s courageous fight in safeguarding their sacred religion, which serves as the foundation of their culture and way of life.

➤ The award was given by the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation in the Philippines in August 1959.

➤ Susanna B Afan, the President of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation, along with Foundation Trustee Emily A Abrera, had the honor of meeting with the Dalai Lama, a Nobel Peace Prize recipient, in person to present the 1959 Ramon Magsaysay Award, 64 years after it was awarded to him.

➤ The office of the Tibetan spiritual leader has reported that his elder brother, Gyalo Thonden, had accepted the Magsaysay Award on behalf of the Dalai Lama in Manila, Philippines, in August 1959. Following his exile from Tibet in 1959, the Dalai Lama has resided in India.

❖ **Reliance General to accept CBDC e-Rupee through Yes Bank**

- Reliance General Insurance said it has become a forerunner general insurance company in the country to accept the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Central Bank Digital Currency e-Rupee for premium payments.
- The company has tied up with Yes Bank to facilitate the collection of premiums in the digital mode using the bank's eRupee platform.
- Customers who have an active e-wallet with any bank can scan Reliance General Insurance's eRupee QR code to make immediate payment.
- With this pioneering launch, the company is presenting its customers with an easy, safe, instant and green payment solution, and taking its promise of providing excellent customer experience to the next level.
- eRupee is a digital token that is equivalent to a banknote i.e. legal tender, and is a sovereign currency backed by the RBI. Being digital, eRupee removes all the issues of handling physical cash and offers the same anonymity as a banknote.
- Reliance General Insurance is enabling its customers to hedge such risks by providing eRupee as a form of digital currency transaction option thereby promoting safe financial transactions.

❖ **Veteran Malayalam actor Mamukkoya passes away**

- Veteran Malayalam actor-comedian Mamukkoya passed away at 77 due to cardiac arrest.
- He started his acting career by doing theatre in 1979, then he went on to become an actor by doing comic roles and was popular for playing characters that spoke Malabar accent.
- He acted in around 500 films, including comedies like Sandesam, Nadodikkattu, Innathe Chintha Vishayam, and Varavelpu.
- He won several awards and honours for his various roles during his extensive career.

❖ 1st woman Rafale pilot in IAF team for multi-nation drill being held in France

- Shivangi Singh, the first woman pilot of the Indian Air Force to fly the Rafale fighter jet, is part of the Indian Air Force (IAF) team that will take part in the multinational exercise 'Orion' in France.
- She is the first woman fighter pilot of the Rafale squadron, and is all set to create history by flying the multi-role air dominance aircraft.
- The Orion exercise is one of the largest-ever wargames hosted by France, and also involves land and sea drills with thousands of Nato troops at a time when tensions continue to run high in Europe due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.
- Shivangi, who hails from Varanasi, earlier flew MiG-21 Bisons before she converted to the 4.5-generation Rafales. After studying in the Banaras Hindu University, she was among the second batch of women fighter pilots who were commissioned in 2017. Shivangi is part of the IAF's Golden Arrows squadron based out of Ambala in Punjab.

❖ RINL wins Ispat Rajbhasha Samman for 2021-22

- Rashtriya Ispat Nigam (RINL) has bagged Steel Ministry's "Ispat Rajbhasha Samman" for the year 2021-22.
- The award was presented by the MoS for Steel and Rural Development Faggan Singh Kulaste to CMD, RINL Atul Bhatt, in the meeting of Hindi Salahkar Samiti held at Srinagar.
- The minister also released RINL's March issue of Hindi In-house Magazine "Rashtriya Ispat Sugandh".
- The members of Hindi Salahkar Samiti appreciated various activities being undertaken by RINL.