



PLUTUS ACADEMY

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1. Shri Arjun Munda to Launch Largest Market of Tribal Products 'Tribes India e-Marketplace'

Shri Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs will virtually launch India's largest handicraft and organic products marketplace, Tribes India E-Marketplace (market.tribesindia.com) on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on October 2, 2020. This e-marketplace is in line with the vision of the Prime Minister of making India Atma Nirbhar and self-reliant.

Key Facts

- This is an initiative of The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- It will showcase the produce and handicrafts of tribal enterprises from across the country.
- It will also help them market their produce or products directly on the website.
- On the occasion, Shri Munda will also flag off several other TRIFED initiatives that aims to support the tribal brethren. These include :
 1. Inauguration of Tribes India's 123rd and 124th outlets in Rishikesh and Kolkata respectively, taking forward the message of the Prime Minister- "Be Vocal For Local" .
 2. Inclusion of new tribal products ranges from the states of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.
 3. Partnership of TRIFED/ Tribes India with Amazon in their Seller Flex program which will enable sellers and artisans to sell Tribes India products across India.

4. **Launch of Pakur Honey by Trifed & Tribes India which is 100% natural honey. It is Multi Floral , Forest Fresh and has been gathered by Santhal Tribals of Pakur, Jharkhand.**

Tribes India e-Marketplace

It is an initiative through which TRIFED aims to include 5 lakh tribal producers for sourcing various handicraft, handloom, natural food products across the country. The suppliers under the initiative includes individual tribal artisans, tribal Self Help Groups and Organisations or Agencies or NGOs working with tribals. The platform provides the tribal suppliers an Omni-channel facility which allows them to sell their goods through their own retailers and distributors, through their e-Market place account as well as TRIFED's network of Outlets and eCommerce partners.

Significance

The E-Marketplace will help in bringing a large number of Tribal and Artisans at a place to give them benefits of online trade. It will facilitate B2B trade connecting tribal, who are dependent on Minor Forest Produces and Medicinal plants, to the large buyers or manufacturers. This will ensure livelihoods for the tribal populations.

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED)

It was established in 1987. It is a national-level apex organization that functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. It has its Head Office in New Delhi. Apart from that, it has a network of 13 Regional Offices. The primary objective of TRIFED is socio-economic development of tribal people in the country. TRIFED is a facilitator and service provider for tribes which helps to sell their products such as metal craft, tribal textiles, pottery, tribal paintings and pottery by providing a marketplace.

2. 'Swachhata ke 6 saal, Bemisaal' : MoHUA to celebrate Six Years of Swachh Bharat Mission

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs will celebrate six years of Swachh Bharat Mission on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2. The Swachh Bharat mission was launched from Rajghat on October 2, 2014 in order to achieve the aim of Clean India by October 2, 2019 which was celebrated as 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Key Facts

- This year, the day marks the 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

- The day will mark the launch of:
 1. A GIS portal– The portal will showcase innovative practices to implement Sewage Waste Management
 2. Document on response of Indian cities towards COVID-19 will also be released. It will focus on sanitation.

Swachh Bharat Mission- Achievements

The Swachh Bharat mission was launched in 2014 and in six years following achievements have been attached to it:

- 4,327 Urban Local Bodies have been declared Open Defecation Free under the Urban component of Swachh Bharat Mission.
- 66 lakh individual household toilets were constructed.
- Over 6 lakh community or public toilets were constructed.
- Around 59,900 toilets across 2,900 cities have been listed on Google maps for live tracking.
- Some 97% of wards received door-to-door collection of waste under Sewage Waste Management in the last 6 years.
- 77% of wards are now doing the source segregation of waste.
- With the launch of the mission, now 67% of total waste generated are being processed. In 2014 it used to be just 14%.
- Around 84,000 informal waste pickers have been integrated with the mainstream waste management system.
- 5.5 lakh sanitation workers have been linked to welfare schemes.

City Ratings

- The rating was provided as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- 5-star cities: Indore, Ambikapur, Navi Mumbai, Surat, Rajkot and Mysore have been rated as 5-star cities for their best performance.
- 3-star Cities: Around 86 cities were rated as 3-star cities.
- 1-star cities: 64 cities were rated as 1-star cities.

3.Science and Technology Ministry launched CSIR Technologies for Rural Development

The Union Minister of Science and Technology Dr Harsh Vardhan launched the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Technologies for rural development on September 30, 2020.

Key Points

- It is a joint initiative of IIT-Delhi, CSIR, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA).
- The initiative was launched on the occasion of 40th foundation day of CSIR-National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NISTAD)
- On the occasion, the Minister launched the under stated technologies:
 1. Improved Beehive quality and hygiene extraction of honey which was developed by CSIR Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology.
 2. Manufacturing Ginger paste which was developed by the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.
 3. Dehumidified drier for food and agri products and agricultural waste -that includes fruit peels, sugarcane bagasse, wheat bran- based biodegradable plates, cutleries and cups. It was developed by the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), Thiruvananthapuram.

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan programme was launched by the Ministry of Education. It aims to link the higher education institutions with at least five villages in the countries. Thus, villages can contribute to social and economic betterment of the communities in the village. The programme has been launched with an objective to engage students and faculties of higher education institutions to identify problems that rural areas face and to find sustainable solutions for it. The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 1.0 was launched in 2018. Currently, Government of India is implementing Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0. The programme now 45 regional coordinating institutions and 2,614 participating institutions. As per a report, around 13,760 villages have been adopted under the programme till date.

4. World's First Asteroid Mining Robot will be Launched by China

Origin Space, which is a private company, in Beijing, China is all ready to send out the world's first asteroid mining robot into space in November 2020. The robot is named as 'asteroid mining robot' by the space start-up in China. A Chinese Long March series rocket will launch the asteroid mining robot into space. The mission will be a milestone for the space resources industry.

NEO-1

It is a small, around 30 kilograms, satellite that intends to enter a 500-kilometer-altitude sun-synchronous orbit. It will be launched as a secondary payload by a Chinese Long March series rocket. This small spacecraft with limited propulsion may take a long time to reach the moon as compared to India's second lunar mission- Chandrayaan-2. It used a circuitous route to go from geosynchronous transfer orbit to the lunar orbit.

Objective

- The robot will not be engaging in any mining work but It will only be testing the technologies.
- The primary objective of the mission is to assess the capabilities of asteroid mining robots.
- It will also be testing out how well it can identify and extract the valuable resources.
- It also aims to verify and demonstrate multiple functions including stimulated small celestial body capture, spacecraft orbital manoeuvre and intelligent spacecraft identification.

Concerns

Solar experts always warned that the solar system needs to be left alone. They say that the space must be protected from a race of mining efforts. Experts say that such races could leave humanity in a resource catastrophe in centuries. In the similar move, NASA had earlier announced that it will be buying 'moon rocks' from private companies in the future. It is also a cause of concern for space experts.

Other Mission of China

The private space start-up from China has also been working on 'Yuanwang-1', nicknamed as 'Little Hubble'. It will be launched by 2021 or early 2022. The mission will involve a lunar landing but the rest of the course is still under consideration.

5.E-launch of ASIIM- "Ambedkar Social Innovation & Incubation Mission"

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot e-launched the Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission (ASIIM) under Venture Capital Fund for SCs on September 30, 2020. The mission seeks to promote innovation and enterprise among SC students who are studying in higher educational institutions.

Venture Capital Fund for SCs (VCF-SC)

- It was launched in 2014-15 to develop entrepreneurship amongst the SC/Divyang youth and to enable them to become job-givers
- The Primary Objective of this fund is to provide concessional finance to the SC entrepreneurs.
- Presently, 117 companies promoted by SC entrepreneurs have been sanctioned financial assistance in order to set up business ventures, under the fund.
- Under the “Ambedkar Social Innovation Incubation Mission (ASIIM)” initiative, 1,000 SC youth would also be identified with some start-up ideas in 4 years.
- Students would be identified through Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) in higher educational institutions.
- Students would be funded Rs. 30 lakhs in 3 years as equity funding in order for the to convert their start-up ideas into commercial ventures.
- Successful ventures will be qualified for venture funding of up to Rs. 5 Crore from the VCF-SC.

Objectives

Some of the objectives of the fund include:

1. To promote entrepreneurship among the SC Youth where preference would be given to Divyangs.
2. To support innovative ideas with the Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) set up by Department of Science and Technology
3. To support and promote the start-up ideas till they reach commercial stage
4. To incentivize students to take to entrepreneurship with confidence.

ASIIM initiative

The ASIIM initiative would be implemented by the Venture Capital Fund for SCs which was set up in 2016. Under this initiative VCF-SC will target SC students / young entrepreneurs working in Technology Business Incubators (TBIs). The budget of ASIIM initiative has been set at Rs 19320lakhs for four years.

6.NCRB report 2020 – Crimes against SCs and STs saw a rise of 7 % and 26% in 2019

The National Crime Record Bureau have recently released a report titled “Crime in India”, 2019. As per the report, crimes against members of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and the Scheduled Tribes (STs) reported an increase of over 7% and 26% in 2019 respectively as compared with the 2018 figure.\

Key Facts

- 1. Against SCs- As per the report, 45,935 cases were registered for committing crimes against the SCs.**
 - **In 2018, the registered cases were 42,793 in total.**
 - **Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of crimes against the SCs in 2019 with the number of cases at 11,829. It is followed by Rajasthan with 6,794 cases and Bihar stood at number three with 6,544 cases.**
 - **Rape cases– Rajasthan topped the list with 554 rape cases, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 537 cases and Madhya Pradesh with 510 cases.**
- 2. Against STs– 8,257 cases were registered for crimes against the STs.**
 - **In 2018, cases stood at 6,528.**
 - **Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of cases against the STs with figure at 1922, followed by Rajasthan that registered 1797 cases and Odisha where the number of cases are 576.**
 - **Rape Cases- highest number rape of tribal women was registered in Madhya Pradesh with total of 358 cases.**

Other Key Findings of the report

- **Uttar Pradesh has reported the highest number of crime cases against women, around 14.7% as well as SCs.**
- **Uttar Pradesh is followed by Rajasthan and Maharashtra.**
- **Uttar Pradesh also reported the highest number of crimes against girl children under POCSO act followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh.**
- **Uttar Pradesh also recorded the highest number of dowry cases followed by Bihar.**
- **Uttar Pradesh also has the highest number of acid attacks followed by West Bengal.**
- **Assam has the highest rate of crimes against women.**
- **Rajasthan reported the highest rate of crimes against SCs.**
- **The crime rate (number of crimes registered per lakh women) against women has increased to 62.4% in 2019 as compared to 58.8% in 2018.**

National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB)

NCRB was set up in 1986 which functions as a repository of information in crimes. It was set up on the recommendations of the National Police commission in 1977 and the Task Force in 1985. “Empowering Indian Police with Information Technology” is the motto of NCRB.

7. Indian Coast Guard Vessel ICGS “Kanaklata Barua” commissioned in Kolkata

The Indian Coast guard Vessel Kanaklata Barua was commissioned at Kolkata on September 30, 2020 through video conferencing.

Key Facts

- The ICGS Kanaklata Barua is one among the five Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs)
- It has been built by Kolkata based Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- The vessel was delivered in June, 2020.
- This is the 105th vessel delivered by the defence PSU shipyard.
- These ships can achieve speeds exceeding 34 knots with an endurance of 1,500 nautical miles or more.
- These are also fitted with 40/60 guns as the main armament.
- The vessel is 49-metre-long and is designed to carry one high-speed rigid inflatable boat (RIB) and one Gemini boat that will help in swift boarding, search and rescue operations.

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE)

The GRSE is a Defence Public Sector Undertaking (PSU).

Indian Coast Guard

Indian Coast Guard is a Maritime Law Enforcement Agency, armed force, search and rescue agency that protects maritime interests of the country. It was established by coast Guard Act, 1978 in 1978. Ministry of Defence is the parent ministry of the Indian coast guard. The important missions of Indian Coast Guard includes,

1. Protection of artificial Islands.
2. Protection of marine ecology and environment.
3. Protection of fishermen and mariners.
4. Offshore security coordination, Coastal Security and national maritime search and rescue.

Coast Guard Stations in India

Currently, there are 42 Coast Guard Stations in India divided under five broad regional Headquarters. The Indian Coast Guard operates five Coast Guard Air Stations and ten Coast Guard Air Enclaves. The five regional headquarters include,

1. North East Region, Kolkata
1. Eastern Region, Chennai
2. Western Region, Mumbai

- 3. North West Region, Gandhinagar**
- 4. Andaman and Nicobar Region, Port Blair**