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19th July

NATIONAL

1) "National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023"

- Recently, the NITI Aayog released the 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023'. As per the report:
- India has registered a decline in the number of multidimensionally poor from 24.85% in 2015-16 to 14.96% in 2019-2021.
- In absolute terms, ~13.5 crore Indians escaped poverty during the five-year time period.

2) Rudragiri hillock

The Rudragiri hillock in Andhra Pradesh features a unique combination of prehistoric rock paintings from the Mesolithic period and exquisite artwork from the Kakatiya dynasty, dating back to around 1300 AD.

3) Digital time voucher system

- The Election Commission of India has introduced a digital time voucher system.
- It is for political parties to access government-owned electronic media, such as Doordarshan and All India Radio, during elections.
- This move reflects the ECI's commitment to leveraging technology for a smoother electoral process.
- The scheme aims to provide equitable access to electronic media for campaigning, with base time allotted to each national and state party, and additional time based on their poll performance.



















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4) World's latest Steel Road technology

- Recently, India has developed the world's latest Steel Road technology by using steel slag.
- Steel slag is a byproduct of steelmaking, and is produced during the separation of molten steel from impurities in steel-making furnaces.
- The technology, pioneered by CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), allows for the large-scale utilization of waste steel slag from steel plants in road construction.

STATE NEWS

1) Gruha Lakshmi scheme

- Karnataka State Government launched Gruha Lakshmi to provide financial assistance to women head of a household.
- Gruha Lakshmi Scheme is an effective scheme launched to provide the financial assistance of Rs.2000 per month to the women head of a household.

ENVIRONMENT

1) Gambusia fish

- The Andhra Pradesh government released around 10 million Gambusia fish, also known as mosquitofish, to combat mosquito-borne diseases like malaria and dengue.
- The fish is used as a biological agent to control mosquito larvae and has been part of mosquito-control strategies in India since 1928.















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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1) Small Modular Reactors

- India's shift towards Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) as a strategic move in the nuclear energy sector.
- Small Modular Reactors are advanced nuclear reactors with a capacity of up to 300 MW per unit, offering advantages such as simplicity, safety, and cost-effectiveness.
- India has over 22 nuclear reactors in 7 power plants across the country which produce 6780 MW of nuclear power.

2) DPT3 vaccine

- According to the World Health Organization, India's coverage rate for the DPT3 vaccine (diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus) reached an all-time high of 93% in 2022.
- It surpassed the pre-pandemic best of 91% in 2019 and showed a significant increase from the 85% recorded in 2021.
- DTP vaccine can prevent diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis.

3) "Llama 2"

- Meta and Microsoft have announced the expansion of their artificial intelligence partnership by introducing their new large language model called "Llama 2".
- Llama 2 can be found in the Azure AI model catalog, empowering developers using Microsoft Azure to incorporate it into their projects and take advantage of cloudnative tools for content filtering and safety features.















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