



Daily Current Affairs

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Know My India Programme

Why in news?

The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) organized a special workshop for 42 Youth in the age group of 15 to 22 years, who have been victims of communal violence in the past, under the Know My India Programme.

About Know My India Programme:

- Know My India Programme is a unique programme initiated by the NFCH to bring together financially assisted children of the Foundation from different States/Regions of the country to promote oneness, fraternity and national integration.
- The programme is all about familiarization with the environment, family life, social customs, etc. of the people living in different parts of the country; developing understanding of the common historical and cultural heritage of the country.

About National Foundation for Communal Harmony:

- National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) was set up as an autonomous organisation under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, and registered on the 19th February, 1992 with the **main objective** of providing assistance for the physical and psychological rehabilitation of the child victims of communal, caste, ethnic or terrorist violence, with special reference to their care, education and

training besides promoting communal harmony, fraternity and national integration.

- The **Home Minister** is ex-officio **chairman** of the Governing Council of the Foundation. The Governing Council decides broad policies, suggests measures for achieving its objectives and exercises overall supervision over the Foundation.
- The **ex-officio chairman of the Executive Council** of the Foundation is the **Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs**. The management and administration of the Foundation rests with the Executive Council. The Secretary of the Foundation is its principal executive officer.
- The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) principally provides assistance for the rehabilitation of child victims of different kinds of societal violence, promotes communal harmony and national integration either independently or through state governments or NGOs, etc., and confers Awards on Individuals and Organizations for their outstanding contribution towards fosters communal harmony & strengthening national integration.
- Besides these, the Foundation also sponsors and conducts research studies and brings out publications on themes related to communal harmony and national integration.
- The activities of the Foundation are carried out through interest received on its investments made out of its corpus and donations received.
- The Foundation is actively networking & partnering with concerned State Governments, different ministries and departments, educational institutions, NGOs and voluntary organizations etc. to effectively implement its schemes.
- Public Sector Enterprises and other organizations and individuals are generously supporting NFCH to expand its activities in pursuit of noble cause.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To provide financial assistance to the child victims of societal violence for their care, education & training, aimed at their effective rehabilitation.
- To promote communal harmony and national integration by

organizing variety of activities either independently or in association with educational institutions, NGOs & other organizations.

- To confer awards for outstanding contribution to communal harmony and national integration.
 - To involve central/state governments/ UT Administrations, industrial/commercial organizations, NGOs and others in promoting the objectives of the Foundation.
 - To provide information services, publish monographs and books, etc. on the subject.
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Srinagar- Alusteng - Drass- Kargil - Leh Transmission Line

Why in news?

The Prime Minister dedicated the 220 kV Srinagar- Alusteng - Drass- Kargil - Leh Transmission System to the Nation today, a step that would ensure quality power supply to Ladakh round the year.

About Srinagar- Alusteng - Drass- Kargil - Leh Transmission Line:

- Built at a height of around 3000-4000 meters, this approx. 335 km long transmission line has been constructed by POWERGRID.
- In this project, the four new State-of-the-Art 220/66 kV Gas Insulated Sub-stations built at Drass, Kargil, Khaltsi and Leh will help to ensure 24x7 quality power in all weather conditions.
- Funding provisions have been in the ratio of 95:05 (95% Govt. of India share and 5% J&K state share).

Benefits to the region:

- The implementation of this project was also aimed to supply power to the people of Ladakh in harsh winters and evacuation of surplus power of Kargil & Leh Hydel stations of NHPC in summers.
- It is a flagship project of Government of India, under PMRP scheme

which was aimed to improve reliability & quality of power supply in Ladakh region of J&K by connecting with National Grid.

- This will not only help evacuate power in summers, but will also supply power to the region in winters when temperatures dip and hydro electricity generation do not match up.
- The project will meet the power demand of Ladakh region at economical rates.
- With quality electricity available at reasonable rates, hospitality industry in Ladakh will get a boost, as their reliance on diesel sets will reduce. This will also attract tourists looking for affordable stay in all weathers.

Challenges in execution:

- This herculean task executed by POWERGRID in unforeseen weather conditions was made possible by immaculate project monitoring skills, high team spirit and strategic planning and use of modern technologies.
- The line remains snow covered for nearly six months with the minimum temperature going down to as low as -40 degrees at Drass.
- Therefore, specially designed tower foundations were constructed with assistance from Snow & Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE) for spotting the tower foundations, as the work force braved the challenge of working at lesser oxygen levels.
- It shall also provide grid connectivity and reliable quality power supply to the strategically important Ladakh region including defence establishments in the area.

20th Bharat Rang Mahotsav

Why in news?

Recently The Minister of State for Culture inaugurated the 21-day-long nationwide theatre spectacle at Kamani Auditorium.

Highlights:

- The 20th edition of Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM), the international theatre festival of India, is organized by National School of Drama (NSD), one of the prominent training institutions in the world.
- The National School of Drama (NSD) is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. The 20th BRM comes with 111 national and international acts in its basket that includes folk and other traditional theatre forms, invitee plays, and productions by the students of the National School of Drama.

Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM)

- Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM), the annual international theatre festival of India is organized by the National School of Drama (NSD), was established two decades ago to stimulate the growth and development of theatre across India.
- Originally a national festival showcasing the work of the most creative theatre workers in India, BRM has evolved to international scope, hosting theatre groups from around the world, and is now the largest theatre festival of Asia.
- Till date, BRM was celebrated in New Delhi and has travelled to several cities in India, presenting an overwhelming 1787 plays, and riveted thousands of audiences who basked in the glory of heart-winning stories and superior performances.

National Health Mission

Why in news?

Recently Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare as he chaired the 6th meeting of the Mission Steering Group of the National Health Mission (NHM).

Highlights of Meeting:

- NHM is vital to supporting the states in improving their health systems. Government of India's initiative Aspirational Districts acts as boon to NHM as it gets necessary support from Union Government in terms of funds, infrastructure and technology.
- Under NHM-Free Drug Service initiative, funds are being provided to states/UTs for provision of free drugs in public health facilities and setting up of IT-backed systems for drug procurement and quality assurance.
- Currently all 36 states have notified policy to provide essential drugs free of cost in public health facilities. Under NHM Free Diagnostics Service Initiative, substantial funding is provided to States within their resource envelope to provide free essential diagnostic services at public health facilities.
- The program has been rolled out in States/UTs which are providing free diagnostic Services either in-house or in PPP mode.

About National Health Mission:

- The National Health Mission (NHM) envisages achievement of universal access to equitable, affordable & quality health care services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs.
- The National Health Mission seeks to ensure the achievement of the following indicators.
 1. NHM logoReduce Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) to 1/1000 live births
 2. Reduce Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to 25/1000 live births
 3. Reduce Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to 2.1
 4. Prevention and reduction of anemia in women aged 15-49 years
 5. Prevent and reduce mortality & morbidity from communicable, non-communicable; injuries and emerging diseases
 6. Reduce household out-of-pocket expenditure on total health care expenditure
 7. Reduce annual incidence and mortality from Tuberculosis by half
 8. Reduce prevalence of Leprosy to <1/10000 population and

- incidence to zero in all districts
9. Annual Malaria Incidence to be $<1/1000$
 10. Less than 1 per cent microfilaria prevalence in all districts
 11. Kala-azar Elimination by 2015, <1 case per 10000 population in all blocks
 12. Components of National Health Mission
 13. The National Health Mission (NHM) encompasses its two Sub-Missions, the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and the National Urban Health Mission (NUHM).

NHM has six financing components:

1. NRHM-RCH Flexipool
2. NUHM Flexipool
3. Flexible pool for Communicable disease
4. Flexible pool for Non communicable disease including Injury and Trauma
5. Infrastructure Maintenance and
6. Family Welfare Central Sector component

The main programmatic components include

- Health System Strengthening in rural and urban areas
- Reproductive-Maternal- Neonatal-Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A)
- Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases.
- Within the broad national parameters and priorities, ***states would have the flexibility to plan and implement state specific action plans***. The state PIP would spell out the key strategies, activities undertaken, budgetary requirements and key health outputs and outcomes.
- The State PIPs would be an aggregate of the district/city health action plans, and include activities to be carried out at the state level.
- The state PIP will also include all the individual district/city plans. This has several advantages:

1. It will strengthen local planning at the district/city level,
 2. It would ensure approval of adequate resources for high priority district action plans, and
 3. Enable communication of approvals to the districts at the same time as to the state.
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