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Saturday, 05 October 2024

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DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR



CABINET DECISION 03-10-2024

NATIONAL MISSION ON EDIBLE OILS – OILSEEDS (NMEO-OILSEEDS)

- Mission will be implemented over a seven-year period, from 2024-25 to 2030-31
- Total financial outlay of ₹ 10,103 crore
- It aims to increase primary oilseed production from 39 million tonnes (2022-23) to 69.7 million tonnes by 2030-31
- It will introduce SATHI Portal enabling States to coordinate with stakeholders for timely availability of quality seeds
- It seeks to expand oilseed cultivation by an additional 40 lakh hectares



Saturday, 05 October 2024

National Mission on Edible Oils and Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds)

- The Government of India has approved the National Mission on Edible Oils and Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds) for the period 2024-25 to 2030-31 with an outlay of ₹10,103 crore. This initiative aims to achieve self-reliance in oilseed production within the next seven years.

Highlights of NMEO-Oilseeds:

- **Objective:** To boost domestic production of key oilseed crops such as rapeseed mustard, groundnut, soybean, sunflower, and sesamum, and reduce dependence on edible oil imports.
- **Production Target:** The mission aims to increase oilseed production from 39 million metric tonnes (2022-23) to 69.7 million metric tonnes by 2030-31.
- **Technological Interventions:** The mission will employ cutting-edge global technologies, including genome editing, to enhance seed quality and extraction efficiency.
- **Impact on Edible Oil Production:** The mission, along with NMEO-OP (Oil Palm), targets to raise domestic edible oil production to 25.45 million metric tonnes by 2030-31, meeting around 72% of India's projected demand.

Q. Which national mission, approved with an outlay of ₹10,103 crore, aims to make India self-reliant in oilseed production by 2030-31? **NMEO-Oilseeds**

PM Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and Krishonnati Yojana (KY)



- Cabinet approves rationalization of all Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) operating under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's into two-umbrella Schemes
- PM-RKVY will promote sustainable agriculture, while KY will address food security & agricultural self-sufficiency
- Total proposed expenditure is Rs.1,01,321.61 crore
- States given flexibility to reallocate funds from one component to another based on their specific requirement



Cabinet Decision: 03rd October, 2024

Saturday, 05 October 2024

PM-RKVY and Krishonnati Yojana for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

- The Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and Krishonnati Yojana with a combined outlay of over ₹1 lakh crore to promote sustainable agriculture and food security.
- **Objective:** The schemes aim to boost sustainable agriculture and achieve food security, while increasing farmers' income and ensuring agricultural self-sufficiency.
- **Rationalization of Schemes:** Various centrally sponsored schemes under the Ministry of Agriculture have been consolidated into these two umbrella programs to avoid duplication, ensure convergence, and provide flexibility to states.
- **State-Level Implementation:** States will have flexibility in developing comprehensive strategic plans to suit their agricultural sector needs.
- **Impact:** These measures are expected to significantly increase farmers' income, ensure food security, and provide strategic support to agriculture.

Budget Allocation:

- PM-RKVY: ₹57,000 crore.
- Krishonnati Yojana: ₹44,246 crore.

Q. Which two umbrella schemes, with a combined outlay of over ₹1 lakh crore, aim to promote sustainable agriculture and food security in India? **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and Krishonnati Yojana.**



Saturday, 05 October 2024

India Joins International Energy Efficiency Hub

- The Union Cabinet has approved India's participation in the International Energy Efficiency Hub, a global platform promoting energy efficiency and collaboration among nations. This decision aligns with India's commitment to achieving its Net Zero goal and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Objective:** India aims to promote energy efficiency, enhance energy security, and transition towards a low-carbon economy by joining the Hub.
- **Global Collaboration:** India will gain access to a 16-nation group, allowing it to collaborate on strategic energy practices and innovative solutions, while contributing to global efforts against climate change.
- **Member Countries:** As of July 2024, notable members include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, the United States, and the United Kingdom.
- **Benefits:** India will share its expertise in energy-efficient technologies and learn from international best practices, furthering its sustainable development initiatives.

International Energy Efficiency Hub

- The International Energy Efficiency Hub (IEE Hub) is a global platform aimed at promoting energy efficiency policies and practices.

Q. Which global platform did India join to promote energy efficiency and work towards its Net Zero goal? **The International Energy Efficiency Hub.**



PM'S INTERNSHIP SCHEME TAKES OFF

Saturday, 05 October 2024

Prime Minister's Internship Scheme launched

- The Government of India has launched the pilot project of the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme, which aims to provide internship opportunities to one crore youth over five years.

Highlights:

- **Objective:** The scheme will offer internships to youth in top 500 companies to enhance their skills and employability.
- **Internship Target:** In the Financial Year 2024-25, the scheme aims to provide 1.25 lakh internships.
- **Budget Allocation:** The pilot project, with a budget of ₹800 crore, will be rolled out in seven districts of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, and Telangana.
- **Eligibility:** Youth aged 21 to 24 years, who are not employed full-time or engaged in full-time education, are eligible to apply.
- **Duration:** The internship duration will be 12 months, and applications can be submitted through the portal pminternship.mca.gov.in from the 12th to the 25th of the month.
- **Corporate Participation:** Participation by companies is voluntary, and top companies have been identified based on their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure.
- This initiative is expected to provide valuable training and skill development opportu

Q. What is the eligibility age range for applicants of the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme? **21 to 24 years.**



Saturday, 05 October 2024

Kho Kho World Cup to Debut in India in 2025

- The Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) and the International Kho Kho Federation have announced that India will host the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup in 2025.
- Ahead of the tournament, the KKFI plans to promote Kho Kho in 200 schools across 10 cities and aims to register at least 50 lakh players through a membership drive.
- **Participation:** The World Cup will feature 24 countries from 6 continents, comprising 16 men's teams and 16 women's teams.
- **Tournament Structure:** The event will consist of a week-long series of matches showcasing top-tier athletes from around the globe.
- **Cultural Significance:** The Kho Kho World Cup aims to elevate this indigenous Indian sport on the international stage, highlighting its rich cultural heritage and competitive spirit.
- **Global Presence:** Kho Kho is played in 54 countries, reflecting its growing popularity beyond India.

Recent activities related to Kho Kho sports include:

- **Incorporation of Sports Science:** On October 1, 2024, the KKFI revealed the use of sports science, including advanced biomechanics, nutrition plans, and psychological evaluations, to enhance athlete performance.

Q. In which year will India host the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup featuring teams from 24 countries? **2025**



Saturday, 05 October 2024

Expansion of Classical Languages List

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has officially conferred Classical Language status to five additional languages: Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, and Bengali.
- **Cultural Significance:** The designation of these languages as classical serves to preserve India's ancient cultural heritage and reflects the historical and cultural milestones of various communities.
- **Current Recognition:** With the addition of these five languages, the total number of languages recognized as classical in India has increased to eleven, including previously recognized languages: Tamil, Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, and Odia.
- **Historical Context:** The Indian government established the category of "Classical Languages" on October 12, 2004, with Tamil being the first language to receive this status.
- **Criteria for Recognition:** The Linguistic Experts Committee (LEC), constituted by the Ministry of Culture under the Sahitya Akademi, set the following criteria for a language to be classified as classical:
 - **High Antiquity:** The language must have early texts and recorded history spanning over 1,500 to 2,000 years.
 - **Ancient Literature:** There must be a significant body of ancient literature or texts valued as cultural heritage by generations of speakers.

Q. Which five languages were recently conferred the status of Classical Language by the Union Cabinet of India? **Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, and Bengali.**



Saturday, 05 October 2024

GRSE Signs Contract for Commercial Vessel

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd. has signed a contract with Carsten Rehder Schiffsmakler and Reederei GmbH & Co. KG of Germany to construct and deliver a specialized multi-purpose cargo vessel with a Deadweight Tonnage (DWT) of 7,500.

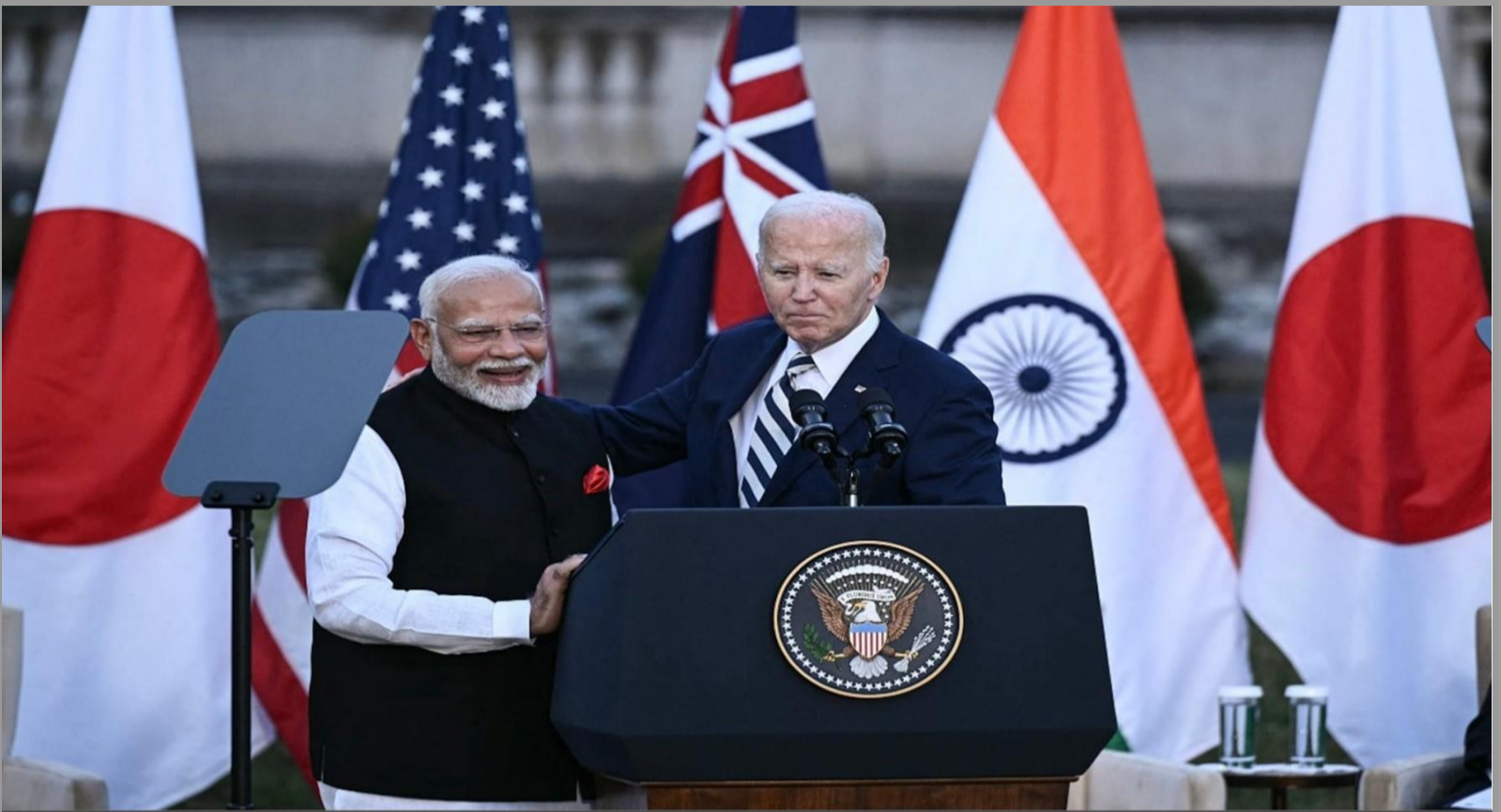
Contractual History:

- In June 2024, the German company entered into an agreement with GRSE for the construction of four such vessels, with an option to order four additional vessels.
- On September 18, 2024, the option was exercised to order four more vessels, leading to the signing of the contract for the fifth vessel on Thursday.

Financial Implications:

- The total order value for the eight vessels is approximately US\$ 108 million, equivalent to over ₹ 904 crore.

Q. Which company did GRSE sign a contract with for the construction of a multi-purpose cargo vessel? **Carsten Rehder Schiffsmakler und Reederei GmbH & Co. KG**



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India, US ink pact to cooperate on critical battery mineral supply chains

- Indian Trade Minister Piyush Goyal and US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen cooperation on supply chains for critical minerals.
- **Critical Minerals:** The agreement focuses on minerals such as lithium and cobalt, essential for electric vehicles and clean energy applications.
- **Objective:** The MOU aims to enhance resilience in the supply chains of both India and the US.
- **Inclusion of Third Countries:** The partnership aims to engage mineral-rich countries in Africa and South America.

Key Areas of Focus:

- Identification of best practices, policies, and equipment.
- Development of critical minerals through exploration, extraction, processing, refining, recycling, and recovery.
- Multi-dimensional Partnership: Goyal described the MOU as promoting open supply chains, technology development, and investment flows to foster green energy initiatives.

Q. Which two critical minerals are specifically mentioned in the India-US agreement for electric vehicles? **Lithium and cobalt.**



Saturday, 05 October 2024

Tripartite Agreement for Cross-Border Electricity Trade

- Nepal, India, and Bangladesh signed a tripartite agreement for cross-border electricity trade.

Export Details:

- Duration: Nepal will export surplus electricity from June 15 to November 15 annually.
- Initial Phase: The initial export will be 40 MW of hydroelectricity to Bangladesh.
- Electricity Rate: The agreed rate for electricity is 6.4 cents per unit.

Financial Implications:

- Nepal is expected to earn around \$9.2 million annually from this electricity export.
- Signatories: The MoU was signed in Kathmandu by:
 - Kulman Ghising (Executive Director, Nepal Electricity Authority - NEA)
 - Deino Naran (CEO, NTPC Vidyut Byapar Nigam)
 - Mohamad Rizwan Karim (Chairman, Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Q. What countries recently signed a tripartite agreement for cross-border electricity trade? **Nepal, India, and Bangladesh.**



Saturday, 05 October 2024

Indian Oil Corporation Signs B2B Framework Agreement with Nepal Oil Corporation

- Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Nepal Oil Corporation (NOC) have signed a Business-to-Business (B2B) Framework Agreement.
- Objective: The agreement aims to develop critical petroleum infrastructure projects in Nepal.
- Background: This B2B agreement follows the Government-to-Government (G2G) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on May 31, 2023, between India's Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) and Nepal's Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Supplies (MoICS).

Key Projects Covered:

- Extension of the Motihari-Amlekhgunj Petroleum Pipeline (MAPL) to Chitwan, Nepal.
- Construction of oil storage terminals at Chitwan.
- Establishment of a new transnational pipeline from IndianOil's facility in Siliguri to Jhapa, including an oil storage terminal at Jhapa.

Q. Which two organizations signed the B2B Framework Agreement to develop petroleum infrastructure in Nepal? **Indian Oil Corporation and Nepal Oil Corporation.**



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