

## My Notes....

### NATIONAL

#### BIETC INAUGURATED

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated **aircraft manufacturing giant Boeing's largest investment facility** outside the USA in **Bengaluru**.
- The name of this facility is **Boeing India Engineering and Technology Center (BIETC)**, built with an investment of **Rs 1,600 crore**, have a **43-acre campus**. **BIETC is Boeing's new campus in India**.

#### NEW ROOFTOP SOLAR POWER SCHEME

- **Prime Minister** announced the '**Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana**', a government scheme under which **one crore households** will get **rooftop solar power systems**.
- **In 2014**, the government launched **the Rooftop Solar Programme** that aimed to achieve a **cumulative installed capacity of 40,000 megawatts (MW)** or **40 gigawatts (GW)** by **2022**. However, **this target couldn't be achieved**.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana** seems to be a new attempt **to help reach the target of 40 GW rooftop solar capacities**.

#### SAPINDA MARRIAGES

- **Delhi High Court** rejected a **challenge to the constitutionality of Section 5(v)** of the **Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 (HMA)**, which **prohibits marriage between two Hindus** if they are "**sapindas**" of each other.
- **Under the provisions of the HMA**, on the **mother's side**, a **Hindu individual cannot marry anyone** who is **within three generations of them** in the "line of ascent".
- **On the father's side**, this prohibition applies to anyone **within five generations of the individual**.

#### THE NAGARA STYLE

- The **Ram temple in Ayodhya** has inaugurated on 22 January 2024.
- **Chandrakant Sompura, 81**, and **his son Ashish, 51**, have **designed the complex** in the **Nagara style of temple architecture**.
- The **Nagara style of temple architecture** emerged **sometime in the fifth century CE**, during the **late Gupta period**, in **northern India**.
- It is seen in **juxtaposition with the Dravida style** of southern India, which **too emerged in the same period**.

#### BOEING SUKANYA PROGRAM

- The program **provides opportunities for girls and women** to learn **critical skills** in **STEM fields** and **train for jobs in the aviation sector**.

- For **young girls**, the program **will create STEM Labs at 150 planned locations** to help spark an interest in STEM careers.
- The program will also **provide scholarships to women** training to be pilots.

## ASI HANDS OVER GYANVAPI MOSQUE REPORT

- The **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** in its **scientific survey report** on the **Gyanvapi mosque complex** has concluded that **"there existed a Hindu temple prior to the construction of the existing structure"** at the site.
- The report added that names of deities **like Janardhana** (another name of Vishnu), **Rudra (another name of Shiva)**, and **"Umesvara"** were found in the inscriptions.

## INTERNATIONAL

### FREE MOVEMENT REGIME (FMR)

- **Union Home Minister Amit Shah** announced that the Centre has decided **to fence the entire length of the India-Myanmar border** to stop the **free movement of people**.
- The **two countries** share a largely **unfenced 1,643 km border**, which goes through the states of **Manipur, Mizoram, Assam, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh**.
- The **FMR is a mutually agreed arrangement** between the **two countries** that allows **tribes living along the border on either side** to travel **up to 16 km inside** the other country **without a visa**.

### UNRWA

- **UN officials urged countries** to reconsider their decision to suspend the funding for **the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA)**.
- **UNRWA** stands for **UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East**. It was **founded in 1949** to provide aid to about 700,000 Palestinians who were forced to leave their homes.

### IRAN'S CHABAHAR PORT

- During this visit to Iran, **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** held discussions with Iran on establishing a **long-term cooperation framework** for the **Chabahar port** in the **south of the country**.
- **Chabahar**, which sits at the **mouth of the Gulf of Oman**, is **Iran's first deepwater port** that puts the country on the **global oceanic trade route map**.
- **Chabahar is of strategic importance** to both **Iran and India**.

### IRAN ATTACKS ON PAKISTAN

- **Iranian missiles and drones** hit targets in **Pakistan's Balochistan Jaysh al-Dhulm (Jaish al-Adl) terrorist group**.
- **Jaish al-Adl**, literally the **"Army of Justice"**, are a **Sunni Salafist militant group** with bases in **Pakistan's Balochistan province**, who are active in the **mountainous border regions of Pakistan and Iran**.

## MARG BAR SARMACHAR

- **Pakistan** carried out "**highly coordinated and specifically precision military strikes**" against terrorist's hideouts in Iran, a day after Tehran launched deadly missile and drone attacks in Balochistan.
- It has codenamed the operation as "**Marg Bar Sarmachar**".

## 19TH NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM)

- The **19th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit** was held in **Kampala, Uganda** amid global challenges including **terrorism** and **climate change**.
- The summit is the **largest grouping of states worldwide after the UN**, with 120 member states, 18 observer nations, and 10 organizations.
- **NAM** does not have a **permanent secretariat or a formal founding charter**, act, or treaty. The summit usually takes place **every three years**.

## ECONOMY

### FIRST TRILLIONAIRE WITHIN A DECADE

- The **scourge of global poverty** is estimated to **take more than 200 years to eradicate**, but the **rich may reach new heights** in just a fraction of that time, with the world on track to see its **first-ever trillionaire within a decade**, anti-poverty organization **Oxfam** said in a **new report on inequality**.
- The **rise of billionaires**, which **first emerged in 1916**, has already **raised concerns** about systemic exploitation lurking behind the widening wealth gap; some have argued that there is no such thing as **good billionaires**.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### NASA REGAINS CONTACT WITH MARS HELICOPTER

- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** regained contact with its **Mars helicopter Ingenuity**, after **it was unable to communicate with** it towards the end of its **72nd flight on the red planet earlier**.
- The **small robotic chopper** is the **first aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight** on another planet.
- The **chopper made its first flight on Mars** on 19 April 2021. **It rose to a height of 10 feet, hovered for 30 seconds**, and then descended back to the ground.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### DRAGON BABIES

- **In 2022, China recorded a decline in its population** compared with the **previous year for the first time** since the 1960s.

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- The **fall was repeated in 2023**, when it saw around **11 million deaths** and **9 million births**. Amid this trend, the term '**dragon babies**' has been floating.
- '**Dragon babies**' refers to **babies born in the year of the dragon**. The **animal-based classification of years** is based on the **Chinese zodiac**. It **begins in February 2024**.

## HAVISURE

- Biopharma major **Indian Immunologicals Ltd** has developed **India's first indigenous Hepatitis-A vaccine — Havisure** — to protect against the **highly contagious liver infection** that is transmitted through the **ingestion of contaminated food or water**.
- The two-dose **inactivated virus vaccine** for pediatric, adolescent and adult use, that took eight years to develop as the company lost a few years **due to Covid-19**, was rolled out.