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Prelim Bits 27-06-2018

Udyam Sangam-2018

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- President of India has recently launched Udyam Sangam to mark UN SME (Small and Medium sized Enterprises) Day.
- In April 2017, the United Nations General Assembly declared June 27 would be World SME day.
- The inaugural event was celebrated last year, including in Melbourne.
- The day was designed to highlight and celebrate the significant contribution SMEs make to the global economy and to the **UN's global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

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Sampark Portal

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- The portal was recently unveiled by the President of India.
- It is under the Ministry of MSME.
- The portal will act as a bridge between the talent pool and those enterprises seeking trained man power.

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Solar Charakha Mission

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- The mission was recently launched by the President of India.
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- The mission is under the Ministry of MSME.
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- It is technology revolution scheme in the cotton industry, under which Charkas (Spinning wheel for making Khadi) are operated using solar energy.
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- Charkhas spun by hand have a limit on production.
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- Thus developing wheels with more spindles that can run on solar power will increase the production.
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- It will cover 50 clusters and every cluster will employ 400 to 2000 artisans.
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- Government of India will disburse subsidy of Rs. 550 crore to the artisans.
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- The aim is to grow khadi sales from Rs. 26,000 crores to 1 lakh crores.
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India and Seychelles

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- India has recently gifted a **Dornier maritime patrol aircraft** to Seychelles.
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- It will enhance the surveillance capabilities of the island nation.
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- The aircraft was built by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
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- It can be used for multiple purposes like EEZ monitoring, maritime surveillance, pollution monitoring and control, search and rescue and commuter services.
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- It is equipped with a 360 degree surveillance radar, satellite communication, traffic collision and avoidance system, enhanced ground proximity warning system and other sensor as requested by the operator.
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- India has also announced a **\$100 million line of credit** under which Seychelles can purchase military hardware from India.
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- However, there was no clarity on the nature of the cooperation over the development of Assumption island.
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Global Solar Bank

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- International Solar Alliance (ISA) plans to setup global solar bank to finance \$150 billion of power projects.
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- ISA will approach multilateral development banks (MDBs) to create a special purpose vehicle (SPV).
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- This SPV would become a Global Solar Bank.
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- 8 MDB's will be rolled in with which ISA has signed joint declarations.
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- They are World Bank, African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, AIIB, New Development Bank, European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
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Oxytocin Ban

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- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has **restricted the manufacture** of Oxytocin formulations for domestic use to public sector only from 1st July 2018.
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- It has also **banned the import** of Oxytocin and its formulations.
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- From 1st July 2018, no private manufacturer will be allowed to manufacture the drug for domestic use.
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- Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd (KAPL) is the only public sector company, authorised for manufacturing this drug for domestic use.
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- Oxytocin in any form or name will not be allowed to be sold through retail Chemist.
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- **Oxytocin** - It is a hormone secreted by the pituitary gland in human.
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- It is also called as Love Hormone.

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- It plays a role in reproduction, child birth and lactation, apart from social interaction in humans.

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- It also has physical and psychological effects, including influencing social behavior and emotion.

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- Oxytocin is used both for humans and animals, to accelerate normal labour.

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- It is being misused in the livestock industry to stimulate the mammary gland and induce milk production in farm animals.

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- The drug's abuse in animals shortens their lives and makes them barren sooner.

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Source: The Hindu, PIB

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