

Week 4 Current Affairs Update

24th - 30th June 2021

EVENTS

NATIONAL

INFRASTRUCTURE

DRONE SURVEY MANDATORY FOR ALL NATIONAL HIGHWAYS PROJECTS



Date: 24th June 2021

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has made use of drones mandatory for video recording of the national highway projects during different stages of development, construction, operation and maintenance.

Key Points:

- These videos will be saved on NHAI's portal "Data Lake" to assess the progress made on the projects.
- Objective of the initiative is to enhance transparency and uniformity.
- The videos can be used during the physical inspection of the projects.
- They can also be used as evidence during the dispute resolution process before Arbitral Tribunals and Courts.
- The mandatory deployment of Network Survey Vehicle (NSV) to carry out road condition surveys on the National Highways will enhance the overall quality of the highways.

WORLD BANK APPROVED LOAN FOR KERALA



Date: 28th June 2021

The World Bank has approved USD 125 million assistance to support Kerala.

Key Points:

- The loan amount will be used to support the state's preparedness against natural disasters, climate change impacts, diseases and pandemics.
- The loan amount is granted to support the financially Resilient Kerala Program.
- The program will perform disaster risk planning, healthcare support, water resource management, agriculture and many other areas.
- In the first phase, the loan amount will be used for disaster risk planning and then in the second phase, it will be used for healthcare support, water resource management and agriculture.
- The World Bank has granted the loan through the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

ENVIRONMENT

4TH TIGER RESERVE IN RAJASTHAN



Date: 25th June 2021

Recently, Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary has received a nod from the National Tiger Conservation Authority's (NTCA) technical committee to become a Tiger reserve.

Key Points:

- It will become the 4th Tiger reserve of Rajasthan and the 52nd Tiger Reserve of India.
- Ramgarh Vishdhari wildlife sanctuary is located in Bundi district of Rajasthan. It was notified as a wildlife sanctuary in 1982.
- The sanctuary falls under the buffer zone of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve (RTR).
- Other Three Tiger Reserves of Rajasthan:
- Ranthambore Tiger Reserve (RTR) in Sawai Madhopur
- Sariska Tiger Reserve (STR) in Alwar
- Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve (MHTR) in Kota.

POLICIES & SCHEMES

GUJARAT CM LAUNCHED 'AGRICULTURAL DIVERSIFICATION SCHEME-2021'



Date: 25th June 2021

The Chief Minister of Gujarat, Vijay Rupani launched the 'Agricultural Diversification Scheme-2021'.

Key Points:

- The scheme aims to make agriculture sustainable and profitable in the tribal areas of the state.
- It will benefit more than 1.26 lakh, vanbandhu farmers, from tribal areas of the state.
- Under the scheme, the state government will distribute fertilizer-seed assistance worth Rs 31 crores to tribal farmers.
- It will comprise 45 kg of urea, 50 kg of NPK and 50 kg of ammonium sulphate.
- Also the seeds of Maize, Karela, Calabash, tomato and millet will be provided to the farmers so that they can cultivate them.

WORLD BANK APPROVED LOAN FOR SALT PROGRAMME IN AP



Date: 29th June 2021

The lending arm of the World Bank, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has approved the loan to implement the SALT (Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation) programme in Andhra Pradesh.

Key Points:

- The loan amount of Rs 1860 crore is approved by the World Bank's IBRD.
- The SALT Programme will transform Andhra Pradesh's government schools into vibrant and competitive platforms by enhancing teaching practices, learning outcomes and school management in basic education.
- The tenure of the programme is 5 years and will be executed from the academic years of 2021-22.
- The funds allotted for implementing the SALT programme will be used to include curriculum reforms, classroom practices enhancement and professional skills development among the teachers and staff.

MOU SIGNED BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MICROSOFT



Date: 29th June 2021

Recently, the Ministry of Agriculture has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Microsoft to run a pilot programme for 100 villages in 6 states.

Key Points:

- The MoU requires Microsoft to create a 'Unified Farmer Service Interface' through its cloud computing services.

- It involves creating 'AgriStack' on which everything else will be built.
- AgriStack is a collection of technologies and digital databases that focuses on farmers and the agricultural sector.
- AgriStack will create a unified platform for farmers to provide them end to end services across the agriculture food value chain.
- Each farmer will have a unique digital identification (farmers' ID) that contains personal details,
- Each ID will be linked to the individual's digital national ID Aadhaar.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

DIGITAL SKILL CHAMPIONS PROGRAMME – NSDC AND WHATSAPP



Date: 25th June 2021

The Digital Skill Champions Programme was launched by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and WhatsApp.

Key Points:

- Under this programme, both NSDC and WhatsApp will provide training to the Indian youth about digital skills and make them capable of employment opportunities.
- Both the entities have identified collaboration in the areas like: WhatsApp Digital Skills Academy, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) and WhatsApp Business App Training session.
- Under the programme, school & university students will be granted training sessions for digital and online skills and further, they will be certified by WhatsApp and NSDC as 'Digital Skill Champions'.
- The programme will train the students with technology-based learning on campuses across tier III and IV towns and cities.
- The programme will be executed through WhatsApp's project implementation partner, InfiSpark.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

ENFORCING CONTRACTS PORTAL



Date: 30th June 2021

The ‘Enforcing Contracts Portal’ was launched by the Department of Justice.

Key Points:

- The portal aims to offer ease of doing business and enhance the ‘Contract Enforcement Regime’ in India.
- The portal will grant easy access to the latest information on commercial cases in courts of Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Kolkata.
- Access to a repository of commercial laws will be granted by the portal.
- It will be the complete information source about legislative and policy reforms which are undertaken on the Enforcing Contracts parameters.
- The portal will offer instructive based videos and manuals related to e-filing.

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

GUJARAT INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ARBITRATION CENTRE (GIMAC)



Date: 25th June 2021

Recently, a MoU was signed between the Gujarat Maritime University and International Financial Services Centres Authority in GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) City.

Key Points:

- This will be the first centre of its kind in the country that will manage arbitration and mediation proceedings with disputes related to the maritime and shipping sector.
- The GIMAC will be part of a maritime cluster that the Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) is setting up in GIFT City at Gandhinagar.
- The initiative will facilitate faster dispute resolution; Enhance the attractiveness of GIFT Special Economic Zone (SEZ) among the International Maritime Community; Increase the ease of doing business; and Reduce burden on courts.

INDIA SMART CITIES AWARDS 2020



Date: 28th June 2021

The Union ministry of housing and urban affairs has released the list of India smart cities awards (ISCA) 2020.

Key Points:

- The awards were announced to commemorate six years of the central government's three initiatives to spur urban development:
- Smart Cities Mission (SCM).
- Atal Mission for Urban Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AM-RUT).
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U).
- Performance of various States and cities:
- Uttar Pradesh emerged on the top among all states, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Surat (Gujarat) won the award jointly for their overall development.
- Ahmedabad bagged the 'Smart Cities Leadership Award' and Chandigarh, the award for union territories, while Indore won the "Innovative Idea Award".

NEW DOPPLER RADARS IN MAHARASHTRA: IMD



Date: 16th June 2021

Recently, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) announced that it will install seven new doppler radars in Maharashtra, including Mumbai in 2021.

Key Points:

- In January 2021, Ministry of Earth Sciences commissioned two of the ten indigenously built X-Band Doppler Weather Radars (DWR) to closely monitor the weather changes over the Himalayas.
- Doppler Radar is a specialized radar that uses the Doppler effect to produce velocity data about objects at a distance.
- The radar is designed to improve precision in long-range weather forecasting and surveillance using a parabolic dish antenna and a foam sandwich spherical radome.
- DWR has the equipment to measure rainfall intensity, wind shear and velocity and locate a storm centre and the direction of a tornado or gust front.

WORLD'S FIRST GENETICALLY MODIFIED RUBBER: ASSAM



Date: 27th June 2021

Recently, the world's first Genetically Modified (GM) rubber plant developed by Rubber Research Institute was planted in Assam.

Key Points:

- Genetic modification (GM) technology allows the transfer of genes for specific traits between species using laboratory techniques.
- The GM rubber has additional copies of the gene MnSOD, or manganese-containing superoxide dismutase, inserted in the plant, which is expected to tide over the severe cold conditions during winter in the northeast.
- Natural rubber is a native of warm humid Amazon forests and is not naturally suited for the colder conditions in the Northeast, which is one of the largest producers of rubber in India.

DEFENCE

DRDO CONDUCTED FLIGHT TEST OF 'AGNI P'



Date: 29th June 2021

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted a flight test of a new generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile called 'Agni P (Prime)'.

Key Points:

- The test operation was conducted from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha, Balasore.
- The Agni-Prime is a new generation advanced variant of the Agni class of missiles.
- It is basically an advanced version of Agni-1 and is made up of composite material.
- The testing of the flight was observed by various telemetry and radar stations that were positioned along the eastern coast.
- The Agni P has a range of 1,000 and 2,000 km and can hit the target up to a range of 2000 km.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

G20 EDUCATION MINISTERS MEETING



Date: 24th June 2021

The G20 Education Ministers' Meeting was held recently.

Key Points:

- The meeting was held to ensure continuity of quality education during the pandemic state of COVID-19.
- The meeting was hosted by Italy.
- The dignitaries assured to eliminate inequalities in education and work-space.
- At the meeting, India's contribution to uplift education in various areas were mentioned.
- The dignitaries assured to share and cooperate in developing innovative resources and ideas to ensure continuity in education in any vulnerable stages.

BRICS GREEN HYDROGEN SUMMIT 2021



Date: 25th June 2021

India hosted BRICS Green Hydrogen Summit 2021 in a virtual manner.

Key Points:

- The motto of the summit was to discuss and address issues faced in the Green Hydrogen sector in areas like technology, finance and efficiency.
- At the meet, India mentioned the need to have a common international standard for green hydrogen. The standards will help to have safe transportation and storage of new-age emission-free fuel.
- At the summit, the representatives from each BRICS nation shared their initiatives taken by their respective nations for the usage of hydrogen and their future plans in this particular area. They discussed the technologies adopted by them for hydrogen.
- They also discussed integrating hydrogen in the energy policy framework by different nations.

MINISTERIAL LEVEL THEMATIC FORUM FOR UN HIGH LEVEL DIALOGUE ON ENERGY



Date: 27th June 2021

The Ministerial Thematic Forum for UN High-level Dialogue on Energy (HLDE) was held in a virtual manner.

Key Points:

- It is an initiative of UN-Energy.
- It was held to promote implementation of the energy-related goals and targets of the 2030 agenda to attain sustainable development.
- The dignitaries discussed Energy Access, Energy Transition, Enabling SDGs through innovative inclusions, innovation, technology and data, finance and investment in the energy sector.
- The Ministerial Thematic Forum was held to frame high-level dialogue on energy during the 76th session of the UN General Assembly which will be held in Sep 2021 in the USA.
- India, Brazil, Colombia, Denmark, Chile, Germany, Nigeria, Poland, Spain and UK were designated as Global Champions for the theme of 'Energy Transition'.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ANTARCTIC TREATY



Date: 25th June 2021

Recently, the 60th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty was celebrated.

Key Points:

- The Antarctic treaty remains the only example of a single treaty that governs a whole continent.
- The treaty was signed between 12 countries in Washington on 1st December 1959 for making the Antarctic Continent a demilitarized zone to be preserved for scientific research only.
- The twelve original signatories: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the UK and the US.
- India became a member of this treaty in 1983.

DENMARK SIGNED FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON ISA WITH INDIA



Date: 26th June 2021

Recently, the Kingdom of Denmark signed the framework agreement on the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and Instrument of Ratification with India.

Key Points:

- By doing so, Denmark has become the 1st nation to ratify the ISA framework agreement.
- ISA is an alliance of over 120 nations which is initiated by India. It was launched by PM Narendra Modi and then France President Francois Hollande ahead of the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, France.
- The ISA aims to have efficient usage and consumption of solar energy in order to reduce dependency on fossil fuels. It also aims to contribute to implementing the Paris Climate Agreement by deploying solar energy.

DEFENCE

IAF AND IN PARTICIPATED IN PASSAGE EXERCISE WITH THE US



Date: 26th June 2021

The Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Navy (IN) participated in the Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the United States Navy during its asset transit through Indian Ocean Region.

Key Points:

- The exercise was held south of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on the western seaboard.
- The Indian side was represented by INS Kochi, INS Teg, P8I and MiG 29K Aircraft.
- The exercise was held to boost bilateral relationship between both nations, coordinate in the maritime sector and exchange best practices for maritime air power.
- The participating members conducted advanced air defence exercises, cross deck helicopter operations and anti-submarine exercises.

EXERCISE SEA BREEZE



Date: 30th June 2021

Ukraine and USA launched joint naval Exercise 'Sea Breeze' in the Black Sea to show Western cooperation with Ukraine as it faces off with Russia.

Key Points:

- The exercise Sea Breeze has been held since 1997, involving NATO states and their allies.
- This edition (2021) will be the largest In Exercise's history that will involve some 5,000 military personnel from more than 30 countries.
- The aim of the exercise is improving naval and land operations; improving cooperation among participating counties; and sending a powerful message to maintain stability and peace in the region.
- The unique geography of the Black Sea region provides several geopolitical advantages to Russia. Russia has always wanted to control the region.
- It is an important crossroads and strategic intersection for the entire region.

HEALTHCARE

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING 2021

JUNE 26
INTERNATIONAL DAY
AGAINST DRUG ABUSE
AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING



Date: 29th June 2021

The day June 26 was chosen by the UN General Assembly, on December 7, 1987, as International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Key Points:

- Its objective is to create awareness about issues related to drugs and seek international cooperation to combat its effects on health, society, and governance.
- This year, the theme is 'Share Facts On Drugs, Save Lives'.
- According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the motive is to combat misinformation by sharing real facts on drugs — from health risks and solutions for the world drug problem to evidence-based prevention, treatment, and care.



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Nurturing Ambitions

PEOPLE

NATIONAL

APPOINTMENTS

KARNAM MALLESWARI



Date: 25th June 2021

Why in news: Appointed as first Vice-Chancellor of Delhi Sports University.

Key Points:

- The Delhi government appointed former Olympic medalist weightlifter Karnam Malleswari as the first Vice Chancellor of Sports University.
- She is the first Indian woman weightlifter to bring home an Olympic medal.
- She created history at the Sydney Olympics in 2000 by lifting 110 kilograms and 130 kilograms in the 'snatch' and 'clean and jerk' categories.
- She has also been awarded the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award and Padma Shri.

SD SHIBU LAL



Date: 25th June 2021

Why in news: Appointed as the chairperson of a three-member task force constituted by GoI under “Mission Karmayogi”.

Key Points:

- Recently, a three-member task force has been formed to help the government in bringing major bureaucratic reforms through its ambitious “Mission Karmayogi”.
- Former Infosys CEO SD Shibu Lal has been appointed chairperson of a three-member task force.
- The Centre had recently approved the ‘National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building – Mission Karmayogi’ to effect a transformational shift from rule based training to role-based capacity development of all civil services in the country.
- The task force has been constituted to draw a clear road map for the guidance and operationalisation of the ‘Karmayogi Bharat’ and the constitution of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).

INTERNATIONAL

AWARDS & HONOURS

LAUREL HUBBARD



Date: 27 June 2021

Why in news: Become the first transgender athlete to compete at the Olympics Games.

Key Points:

- The New Zealand weightlifter Laurel Hubbard is poised to make history and headlines, as well as significant controversy, after being confirmed as the first transgender athlete to compete at an Olympic Games.
- The 43-year-old, who will be the fourth oldest weightlifter at an Olympics, is regarded as a genuine medal contender in the women’s super heavy-weight 87kg-plus category in Tokyo.

- But while her inclusion has been welcomed by trans groups, it has also been questioned by those who believe she has unfair advantages in strength and power, having gone through male puberty before transitioning in 2012.

R K SABHARWAL



Date: 27th June 2021

Why in news: Honoured with the highest civilian award of Mongolia “The Order of Polar Star”.

Key Points:

- RK Sabharwal, C&MD, Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) has been honoured with the highest civilian award of Mongolia “The Order of Polar Star” by His Excellency, the President of Mongolia to recognize the outstanding contribution made by him towards the establishment of the first ever oil Refinery in Mongolia.
- The Royal Order of the Polar Star is a Swedish order of chivalry created by King Frederick I on 23 February 1748, together with the Order of the Sword and the Order of the Seraphim.
- The Order of Polar Star is the most desirable and prestigious state award bestowed by the President of Mongolia which is highly valuable and distinguished and recognizes individuals who have made invaluable contribution with their outstanding hard work, intelligence and sincerity to the prosperity of Mongolia and its friendship with other nations, as well for outstanding contributions in the fields of arts, culture, science and humanity.

P. SAINATH



Date: 30th June 2021

Why in news: Awarded the Fukuoka Grand Prize for 2021.

Key Points:

- Journalist Palagummi Sainath Has been awarded the Fukuoka Grand Prize for 2021.
- The award, established by Japan's Fukuoka city and the Fukuoka City International Foundation, is given to individuals and organisations for their work in preserving Asian culture.
- Sainath was awarded the European Commission's Lorenzo Natali Prize for journalism in 1995 and the Amnesty International Global Human Rights Journalism Prize in 2000.
- He received the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization's Boerma Prize in 2001 and the Ramon Magsaysay Award for outstanding contribution to Asian journalism in 2007.



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ISSUES

NATIONAL

AGRICULTURE

SALE OF ILLEGAL HTBT COTTON SEEDS DOUBLES



Date: 24th June 2021

Key Highlights:

- The illegal cultivation of herbicide tolerant (HT) Bt cotton has seen a huge jump this year. Sale of illegal seed packets has more than doubled from 30 lakh last year to 75 lakh this year.
- BT Cotton is a genetically modified crop that produces an insecticide to combat the Cotton bollworm, a common pest.
- GM crops have a gene artificially inserted from another species to provide some desired properties like pest resistance herbicide tolerance drought resistance.
- However, concerns are raised over its negative impact on Environment human health and crop diversity.
- Currently BT Cotton is the only GM crop allowed for commercial cultivation in India but herbicide tolerant BT Cotton has not been approved by regulators. They are available in the black market along with BT brinjal and HT Soya seeds.

HEALTH CARE

DELTA PLUS VARIANT



Date: 25th June 2021

Key Highlights:

- The Health Ministry has categorised Delta Plus variant of coronavirus as a ‘variant of concern’. It has been detected in many states.
- Like Delta it has mutation in the spike protein region of the RNA virus making it more Transmissible.
- WHO classifies a variant as one of concern when it is associated with:
- an increase in transmissibility;
- increase in virulence or change in clinical disease presentation; and
- decrease in the effectiveness of Public Health and social measures or there is decrease in availability of Diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutics.
- ‘Variants of concern’ include B.1.1.7 or Alpha first identified in the UK, B.1.351 or Beta first identified in South Africa, and B.1.427 or Epsilon first identified in the US.

INTERNATIONAL

ENVIRONMENT

GREAT BARRIER REEF RECOMMENDED TO BE ADDED TO A LIST OF “IN DANGER” WORLD HERITAGE SITES



Date: 26th June 2021

Key Highlights:

- Recently, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee has recommended that the Australia's Great Barrier Reef should be added to a list of "in danger" World Heritage Sites.
- It was recommended to add to the list because of the impact of climate change.
- Despite Reef 2050, the coral reef ecosystem has suffered three major bleaching events since 2015 due to severe marine heatwaves.
- The Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan is the Australian and Queensland Government's framework for protecting and managing the Great Barrier Reef by 2050.
- Great Barrier Reef is the world's most extensive and spectacular coral reef ecosystem composed of over 2,900 individual reefs and 900 islands.
- The reef is located in the Coral Sea (North-East Coast), off the coast of Queensland, Australia.

HEALTHCARE

WHO DECLARES EBOLA OUTBREAK IN GUINEA OVER



Date: 24th June 2021

Key Highlights:

- Recently, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared that the Ebola outbreak that started in February 2021 in Guinea, is over now.
- Ebola, also known as Ebola virus disease (EVD) or Ebola hemorrhagic fever (EHF), is a viral hemorrhagic fever of humans and other primates caused by ebolaviruses.
- It is transmitted to people from wild animals and spreads in the human population through human to human transmission.
- Ebola virus was first discovered in 1976 near the Ebola River (the present Democratic Republic of Congo)
- Fruit bats of the Pteropodidae family are natural Ebola virus hosts.



IDIEAS

NATIONAL

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

‘CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON START-UPS AND RISK FINANCING’ (CREST)



Date: 24th June 2021

Key Features:

- The IIT Madras has launched ‘Centre for Research on Start-Ups and Risk Financing’ (CREST).
- The CREST will offer academic and thought leadership in areas like innovation, entrepreneurship and risk capital.
- The centre will help to create a data repository on Indian start-ups and ventures. It will solve the issues and remove drawbacks in order to have high-quality research activities.
- The data repository will be developed on innovation, venturing and risk capital which will create infrastructure to carry high-quality research.
- The centre will be a source of information for researchers & policymakers that can result in top-tier publications.

ENERGY

WORLD’S 1ST GREEN RATING SYSTEM FOR HSR



Date: 24th June 2021

Key Features:

- The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) has collaborated with the National High-Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) to form the world's first exclusive Green Rating System for High-Speed Rail (HSR).
- The MAHSR (Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail) Corridor will be inducted for the Green Rating System for High-Speed Rail (HSR).
- The Green HSR Ratings will be framed by IGBC. The ratings will help railway stations to offer environmental sustainability features to improve the commuter experience.
- A rating system is a tool that will enable new High-Speed Rail (HSR) stations to apply energy-efficient concepts during design and construction.

ENVIRONMENT

LIDAR BASED SURVEY OF FOREST AREAS



Date: 27th June 2021

Key Features:

- Recently, the Detailed Project Reports of LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) based survey of forest areas in ten states was released by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change.
- The 10 mapped states are: Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, and Tripura.
- The project was awarded to WAPCOS in July 2020 at a cost of over Rs. 18 crore for implementation in 26 states.
- It is a first of its kind study using LiDAR technology.
- It will help augment water and fodder in jungle areas thereby reducing human-animal conflict.

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

RANKED CHOICE VOTING



Date: 24th June 2021

Key Features:

- Recently, New York city used ranked-choice voting for Mayoral Polls.
- The method allows voters to rank candidates by preference rather than selecting just their top choice. New York City is having voters rank their top five — though voters are not required to choose five.
- Benefits/rationale behind this process is that ranking candidates is far more complicated, but advocates believe it is fairer and more accurately reflects the collective will of the majority.
- If someone gets 50% plus one after all the first-choice votes are counted, then the election is over and that candidate wins.
- But if no one gets 50% plus one, it's on to Round 2. The person with the lowest number of first-place votes is eliminated, and that candidate's voters' second choices get redistributed as votes for other candidates. This reallocation of votes goes on until someone reaches 50% plus one.

TAX INSPECTORS WITHOUT BORDERS (TIWB) PROGRAMME

Date: 25th June 2021

Key Features:

- Bhutan's Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) programme launched in partnership with India.
- This programme is expected to be of about 24 months' duration.
- The focus of the programme will be in the area of International Taxation and Transfer Pricing.

- Through this India in collaboration with the UNDP and the TIWB Secretariat aims to aid Bhutan in strengthening its tax administration by transferring technical know-how and skills to its tax auditors, and through sharing of best audit practices.
- TIWB Programme is a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- The objective of the TIWB Initiative is to enable sharing of tax audit knowledge and skills with tax administrations in developing countries through a targeted, real time “learning by doing” approach.



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