

SUMMARY OF THE HINDU

FOR BPSC EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

DATE

21/04/2024

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THE HINDU National

➡ IRDAI removes age bar for buying health insurance

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has removed the age limit for purchasing health insurance policies with effect from April 1. Earlier, there was an age limit of 64 years to buy new health insurance policies.
- The latest IRDAI directive say:
- 1. Health providers must develop specialized policies catering to the senior citizens, and establish dedicated channels for addressing their claims and grievances.
- 2. Companies are encouraged to develop tailored products to meet specific age related requirements.
- The directive adds that the move will enhance the accessibility and affordability of healthcare coverage across all age groups

⇒ EC orders re polling in 11 Manipur booths tomorrow

- The Election Commission has declared void of polling conducted at 11 booths, across five assembly segments in Manipur on Friday.
- The violence was marred by officer reporting mob violence, gunfire and destroyed EVMs at some booths.
- The ECI has announced that a repoll will be conducted ,at these , booths between 7 AM and 5 P.M. on April 22.

▶ India in favor of regulating , not banning single use plastics

- Next week 192 countries will meet in Toronto, Canada to look into elimination efforts of removing plastics.
- There are 17 topics countries will be deliberating upon , one of the topics is "problematic and avoidable plastic products including single use plastics "
- The aim ofnegotiating countries is to implement global and national measures, such as removing these products from the market, reducing production and bringing sustainable alternatives.
- Science and Environment (CSE) a non profit organization said that India had opted for "regulating "rather than banning single use plastics.
- In 2022 India brought laws that had banned 19 categories of "single use plastics'.
- which refers to section of plastics that is largely going
- India is in favor of "regulating" and not eliminating single use plastics pollution.
- It was held in a Public Negotiation position .
- In 2022, India brought a law that banned 19 categories of 'single use plastics'.

SC to consider the uniform norms of Advocates body

The Supreme Court has decided to consider framing uniform guidelines for advocates association across the country. This is in a bid to make their admission regulation uniform and democratic

➡ Indian Navy conducts mega exercise along east coast

• The Indian Navy on Saturday said that it carried out an extensive exercise operation 'poorvi Leher 'on East Coast

FAQ

➡ What are the newGreen Credit Programme rules?

- On April 12, the Environment ministry released issued new guidelines for its Green Credit Programme (GCP).
- The new guidelines says that it will prioritize the restoration of ecosystem over mere planting of trees

➡ What is the Green Credit Programme?

• The Green Credit Programme is a "innovative, market based mechanism" to incentivise, "voluntary action" for environment conservation. The programmes comes under mission Life

The programme has following features:

• Under this individuals, Organisation and companies – Public and Private would be encouraged to invest in sectors ranging from afforestation, water. conservation, stemmig waste management, mangrove conservation and in return be eligible to get 'green credit'.

The green credit will be traded.

- A new Autonomous body under ministry of finance has been created. The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), is in charge of administering the programme. They will define methodology to calculate 'green credit'. They will also manage a trading platform, whereby such credits could be traded.
- In february Ministry had issued guidelines, Ot said that Companies z Organizations will be allowed to pay for afforestation project in degraded forest and wasteland.

Controversy surrounding GCP

- GCP allows companies to "exchange _ credits for complying with "compensatory afforestation". This could lead to diversion of forest land to mining and infrastructure companies.
- Planting trees does not necessarily boost ecosystem. Wrong type of tees can act as an invasive species and harm the ecosystem.

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▶ Progress under the Scheme

- 13 states have offered 387 land parcels of degraded forest land, worth 10, 699 hevrates.
- Those who are successful in fulfilling the criteria will be given an estimated of the cost involved in afforestation

Why are sugary processed food harmful?

The story so far:

- The spotlight has returned on high sugar content in malt based milk powedrs and baby food .
- Govt has warned against branding these items as "healthy".

FSSAI stand on Sugar Content

• FSSAI said that only if total sugar is less than 5 grams per 100 grams in a product it can claim to be a 'low on sugar'. Such type of food items can potentially be 'healthy'. But when the product does not fulfill this criteria and still advertise as "health drinks", then it's problematic.

Controversy over baby food

- Nestle under brand name Cerelac has 24 gram sugar per 100 grams.
- Extra sugar can lead to further problems in babies .It will create unnecessary pressure on babies 'pancreas .
- It can lead to obesity and Diabetes in later stage of their life

WORLD

One killed in blast at Iraqi base housing project Iran group

- One person was killed and eight wounded in an overnight explosion in Iraqi military base housing a coalition of pro Iranian armed groups, officials said on Saturday.
- The full details remain unclear hours after the blast hit the Kalsu military base in Babylon province in South Baghdad, where the Iraqi forces are stationed.
- US in a statement said thats it's forces were not behind the attack. While, Israel refrained to comment.

First major political test for Muizzu is Maldives votes in Parliament polls

- On Sunday, Maldives will hold Parliamentary elections for 93 constituencies across the island nation.
- Over 2 lakh and 84 thousand voters will vote across 602 polling stations.
- This will be the first major political test for Mohammad Muizzue who will determine the control of parliament or Parliament or people's Majlis

AUKUS risks nuclear proliferation in Pacific, says China's Wang Yi in Papua New Guinea

- Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi is on a visit to Papua and New Guinea.
- Here after meeting with his counterpart Mr. Wang accused AUkUS of risking nuclear proliferation in the South Pacific .
- The three way AUKUS runs parallel to a South Pacific treaty banning nuclear weapons in the region .AUKUS also "raises serious Nuclear proliferation risks ", the Chinese Foreign Minister told reporters .
- Under the AUKUS agreement, Australia will be provided with nuclear submarines by US and UK.
- Palau Federated States of Micronesia Naoru- Kiribati Solomon Islands Tuvalu Tokelau French Polynesia Futinda Amerikan Samoa Fiji Nuie Cook Islands New Caledonia Tonga Pitcalm Island
- South Pacific Islands Most of these islands are facing poverty, they are rich in minerals resources though.
- China has made the relation with these island better in recent times .
- Papua New Guinea and Solomon's island are the islands where China is investing.

Erdogan calls for Palestinian unity after his meeting with Hamas Chief

- Turkish President Erdogan urged Palestinians to unite amid Israel" a war in Gaza after an hour long meeting with Hamas Chief Ismail Haniyeh.
- Erdogan is one of the fierce supporters of Hamas

➡ Ukraine and Russia trade strikes as US fears up for key vote

- Ukrainian sources said that Ukriane launched large scale drone attack on eight Russian regions overnight . This was aimed mostly at "energy infrastructure that feeds Russia's military Industrial complex ".
- Russia defense minister said that it intercepted 50 Ukrainian drones .
- This comes amidst the,
- US lawmakers is prepared to vote on a 61 billion dollar aid package to Ukraine . It has been passed by Ukraine .
- Ukraine and Russia both accused each other of deadly strikes on civilians

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70th BPSC PT (Prelims) TEST SERIES SCHEDULE

Test No.	Date	Time	Туре
1	07 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
2	14 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	POLITY
3	21 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
4	28 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	GENERAL SCIENCE
5	05 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
6	12 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	GEOGRAPHY
7	19 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
8	26 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	ECONOMY
9	02 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
10	09 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	ANCIENT HISTORY
11	16 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
12	23 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	MEDIEVAL HISTORY
13	30 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
14	07 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	MODERN HISTORY
15	14 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
16	21 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	BIHAR SPECIAL
17	28 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
18	04 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	CURRENT AFFAIRS
19	11 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
20	18 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
21	25 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
22	01 September 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH

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