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NOVEMBER 2018

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GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

MONTHLY CAPSULE

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Prime Minister launches portal for granting loans of upto Rs 1 Cr in 59 minutes

- GST-registered Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) can now avail of loan of up to Rs.1 crore in just 59 minutes. Over 72,000 MSMEs have been sanctioned loans worth over Rs.23,500 crore through the portal till date .
- Further, the mandatory sourcing limit by state-run companies from MSMEs has been increased to 25% from the previous 20% .
- Modi added that companies above a Rs.500 crore will now have to compulsorily be a part of TReDs (Trade Receivables Discounting System), which will also include PSUs.

India laid foundation stone for Kartarpur Corridor Route

- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu laid the foundation stone of the Dera Baba Nanak Kartarpur Sahib corridor for Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan.
- Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib is situated in district Narowal 4 KM away from Indo Pak border in Pakistan.
- Presently Sikh pilgrims have to go through long visa processes and they have to wait for the particular dates of buses to reach Gurudwara via Wagah border only.

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Himachal Pradesh launches single emergency number '112'

- Himachal Pradesh became the first state to launch a pan-India single emergency number '112' where all kinds of immediate help can be sought in urgent matters.
- Under this project, an Emergency Response Centre (ERC) has been established in Shimla along with 12 district command centres (DCCs), covering the entire state.
- The ERC has been integrated with police (100), fire (101), health (108) and women (1090) helpline numbers to provide emergency services through the emergency number '112'.

- The central government has allocated Rs 321.69 crore under Nirbhaya Fund for implementation of ERSS project across the country.

Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital** - Shimla
- **Governor** – Acharya Dev Vrat
- **Cheif Minister** – Jai Ram Thakur

Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Trivandrum among 6 airports to be privatised

- The Union Cabinet gave its approval for leasing out six airports namely Lucknow, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Mangaluru, Trivandrum, and Guwahati - for operating, managing and developing under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.
- This comes 12 years after Delhi and Mumbai airports were privatised in 2006.
- The private player will hold at least 75 per cent stake.

PM Modi inaugurated India's 1st Multi-Modal Terminal on Ganga

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the country's first Multi-Modal Terminal on Ganga River in his parliamentary constituency, Varanasi.
- It was the first of the four multi-modal terminals being constructed on the National Waterway-1 (river Ganga) as part of the World Bank-aided Jal Marg Vikas project of the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI).
- The total estimated cost of the project is Rs.5,369.18 crore, which will be equally shared between the Government of India and the World Bank.

Utttar Pradesh

- **Capital** – Lucknow
- **Governor** – Ram Naik
- **Cheif Minister** – Yogi Adityanath

Odisha govt. provides free smartphones for women self help groups

- Odisha government is to provide free smartphones to all the 6 lakh women self-help groups under its Mission Shakti programme.
- Around 70 lakh women associated with various SHGs will benefit due to the move for groups.

India and Japan signed a loan agreement worth Rs.1,817 crore for Hydel power project in Bengal

- Turga pumped storage hydel power project is to be constructed at Purulia in West Bengal.
- This project will contribute to the industrial development and living standards in the state.
- The deal was signed by the Additional Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), C.S. Mohapatra, and Katsuo Matsumoto, chief representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

India pledges contributions of USD 13.36 mn for UN agencies, development activities

- India announced contributions of \$13.36 million (over Rs.97.2 crore) for various United Nations (UN) agencies and development activities at the 2018 'United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities'.
- Around 19 countries pledged a total of \$425.69 million at the conference.
- India has committed over \$100 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund which was set up last year.

Soura Jalanidhi scheme launched in Odisha

- The main aim is to increase the use of solar energy for helping farmers in irrigation.
- It is a dug well based solar pump irrigation system in convergence mode.
- The total cost of the scheme allocated by the state government is Rs. 27.18 crore in the 2018-19 financial year.
- Under this scheme, 5,000 solar pumps will be provided to farmers at a subsidy of 90 percent to irrigate 2,500 acres of land.

Orissa

- **Capital** - Bhubaneswar
- **Governor** – Ganeshi Lal
- **Cheif Minister** – Naveen Patnaik

Union Agriculture Minister launched NCDs new scheme to promote young entrepreneurs in cooperatives

- This scheme will be implemented by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) by linking it to Rs 1000 crore 'Cooperative Start-up and Innovation Fund (CSIF)'.
- More incentives will be provided for cooperatives of North Eastern region, Aspirational Districts and cooperatives with women or SC or ST or PwD members.

Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Policy launched in Odisha

- The policy is aimed to carry forward process of industrialization through promotion of aerospace and defence manufacturing enterprises, generate employment opportunities and promote value addition.
- It proposes to extend subsidy upto 50% of cost of land, building, plant and machinery to special purpose vehicle

(SPV) for setting up first state-of-the-art Aerospace and Defence Park in the state.

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Union HRD Minister launches 'Institution's Innovation Council (IIC)' Program of MHRD's Innovation Cell through video conferencing

- Union HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar through video conferencing launched the 'Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) program under Innovation cell of MHRD in New Delhi today.
- Ministry of Human Resource Development has established an "Innovation cell" at AICTE with a purpose to systematically foster the culture of Innovation in all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the country.
- Shri R. Subrahmanyam, Secretary (HE), MHRD, Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE, Dr. N. Saravana Kumar, Joint Secretary (TE), Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan, Vice-Chairman, UGC, Dr. Abhay Jere, CIO, MIC and dignitaries from the Central Govt agencies and more than 800 representatives from Higher Educational Institutions and Universities across the country were present on the occasion.

Bhasha Sangam launched by HRD ministry

- The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has launched an initiative called 'Bhasha Sangam'.

- 'Bhasha Sangam' is a programme for schools and educational institutions to provide multilingual exposure to students in Indian languages.
- The initiative was launched under 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' on 22 November 2018 and will continue till the 21 December 2018.

Government of India launched 'IDSP' initiative

- On 26 November 2018, the government of India has launched the initiative called 'Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme' (IDSP) of 'Integrated Health Information Platform'.
- The initiative has been launched in Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Odisha, Telangana, & Uttar Pradesh.
- The initiative will provide near-real-time data to policymakers for monitoring public health.

'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti' launched

- Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has formally launched 'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti' on 27 November 2018.
- The aim of the mission is to promote self-reliance in Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in defence.
- Under the mission, 10,000 personnel of Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSU) and Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) will be trained on IPR.

No homework for students of classes I & II

- According to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) order, there will be no homework for students of classes I and II.
- The order also said that there will be prescribed weight limit of school bags for each class.
- The weight of school bags for students of classes I and II should not exceed 1.5 kg, while the school bag of students of class III to V should weigh between 2 kg to 3 kg.

'Tourist Police' launched in Nagaland

- Nagaland's Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio launched 'Nagaland Tourist Police' on 26 November 2018.
- It will work for the safety and security of the tourists and report any crime against them to the nearest police station.
- Nagaland is the second state in the North East to introduce tourist police.
- Arunachal Pradesh is the first state in the North East to introduce tourist police.

Public bicycle sharing project & app launched

- Odisha's Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a public bicycle sharing project and a mobile app on 26 November 2018.
- The bicycle sharing project and the mobile app is named 'Mo Cycle'.
- The project will provide mobile app-based services to users to locate and use a bicycle.

- The 'Mo Cycle' system will help in reducing traffic congestion, enhance space efficiency, and improve air quality.

Govt hikes outlay for FAME India scheme

- The Ministry of Finance has enhanced the total outlay on the first phase of the 'Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) and Electric Vehicles' (FAME India) scheme from Rs 795 crore to Rs 895 crore.
- The aim of the scheme is to incentivise the production and promotion of eco-friendly vehicles.
- The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises.

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