

CURRENT AFFAIRS= 12-01-2021

KHADI PRAKRITIK PAINT

Union Minister for MSME will be launching an innovative new paint developed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission on 12th January.



About:

The eco-friendly, non-toxic paint, called “Khadi Prakritik Paint” is a first-of-its-kind product, with anti-fungal, anti-bacterial properties.

The paint has been certified by Bureau of Indian Standards. Khadi Prakritik Emulsion paint meets BIS 15489:2013 standards; whereas Khadi Prakritik Distemper paint meets BIS 428:2013 standards.

- Khadi Prakritik Paint is available in two forms – distemper paint and plastic emulsion paint.
- The project was conceptualized by Chairman KVIC in March 2020, and later developed by Kumarappa National Handmade Paper Institute, Jaipur (a KVIC unit).

Benefits:

Based on cow dung as its main ingredient, the paint is cost-effective and odorless. The paint is free from heavy metals like lead, mercury, chromium, arsenic, cadmium and others.

It will be a boost to local manufacturing and will create sustainable local employment through technology transfer.

This technology will increase consumption of cow dung as a raw material for eco-friendly products and will generate additional revenue to farmers and gaushalas. This is estimated to generate additional income of Rs 30,000 (approx.) per annum per animal to farmers/ gaushalas.

Utilization of cow dung will also clean the environment and prevent clogging of drains.

PARLER

Apple, Amazon and Google have suspended the social network called Parler, saying that the platform has not taken enough measures to make sure that content inciting violence remains in check.



About:

Parler is an American alt-tech microblogging and social networking service.

Launched in August 2018, Parler markets itself as a free speech and unbiased alternative to mainstream social networks

such as Twitter and Facebook.

- Parler has a significant user base of Donald Trump supporters, conservatives, conspiracy theorists, and right-wing extremists.

Why was it suspended?

The move has come following the events of January 6 when an armed mob of Trump supporters stormed Capitol Hill and clashed with the police as Congress convened to validate Joe Biden's presidential win.

The platform is favoured by right-leaning users and as per media reports was actively used by supporters of US President Donald Trump, including several of those who participated in the Capitol Hill siege.

NORTH EAST VENTURE FUND (NEVF)

The North East Venture Fund (NEVF) is gaining popularity among Start-Ups and young entrepreneurs.



About:

It was introduced by the NDA government. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) had joined with North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd (NEDFi) to set up the North East Venture Fund.

It is the first and the only Venture Fund for

Northeast with an initial corpus of Rs. 100 crores.



- The fund targets to invest in Start-Ups and unique business opportunities to provide resources for new entrepreneurships.
- The main focus of NEVF is for mostly the enterprises involved in Food Processing, Healthcare, Tourism, segregation of services, IT, etc.
- The investment size with the Venture Fund Scheme ranges between Rs.25 lakhs and Rs. 10 crores with a long term horizon of five to ten years.

SEA VIGIL 21

The second edition of the biennial pan-India coastal defence exercise ‘Sea Vigil-21’ will be conducted on 12-13 January 2021.



About:

The exercise, inaugural edition of which was conducted in January 2019; will be undertaken along the entire 7516 km coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone of India.

- It will involve all the 13 coastal States and Union Territories along with other maritime stakeholders, including the fishing and coastal communities.
- The exercise is being coordinated by the Indian Navy.
- The exercise is a build up towards the major Theatre level exercise TROPEX [Theatre-level Readiness Operational Exercise] which Indian Navy conducts every two years.
- SEA VIGIL and TROPEX together will cover the entire spectrum of maritime security challenges, including transition from peace to conflict.