

## CURRENT AFFAIRS= 01/02-10-2020

### DECADE OF HEALTHY AGEING (2020-2030)



**Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare launched Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030) in India on International Day for Older Persons.**

#### About:

The Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030) is an opportunity to bring together governments, civil society etc. for ten years of concerted action to improve the lives of older people.

- Healthy Ageing is developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables well-being in older age.
- Following the 146th WHO Executive Board's recommendation made in February 2020, the 73rd World Health Assembly have endorsed the proposal for a Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030).
- By the end of the Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020–2030), the number of people aged 60 years and older will be 34% higher, increasing from 1 billion in 2019 to 1.4 billion. By 2050, the global population of older people will have more than doubled, to 2.1 billion.

### DEFENCE OFFSETS

**THE LEASE OPTION**  
Armed forces now have the option to lease any equipment they require. This would:-  
Bring down upfront costs  
Give the forces access to the latest equipment  
Bring flexibility into operational plans by leasing out equipment for short intervals if needed  
Do away with offsets for non-competitive deals  
Make sure that future government-to-government or single-vendor contracts do not have offsets  
SAVE 8-10% COSTS ON THE CONTRACT

**The Options**  
Systems that could be processed under this model are land attack vehicles and UAVs from the US that could be used in Ladakh and light transport aircraft  
**FUTURE COURSE**  
Multi-vendor competitive acquisitions to still retain offsets clause  
Over time, offsets will narrow down as the most acquisitions to be moved through Make in India route

**The Defence Ministry came up with its latest Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 (DAP 2020), which comes into effect from Thursday, October 1.**

#### About:

Changing a 15-year old policy, the government has decided to remove the clause for offsets if the equipment is being bought either through deals or agreements between two countries, or through an ab

initio single-vendor deal.

- The offset is an obligation by an international player to boost India's domestic defence industry if India is buying defence equipment from it.
- Since defence contracts are costly, the government wants part of that money either to benefit the Indian industry, or to allow the country to gain in terms of technology.
- Offsets is a "mechanism generally established with the triple objectives of: partially compensating for a significant outflow of a buyer country's resources in a large purchase of foreign goods, facilitating induction of technology and adding capacities and capabilities of domestic industry".  
An offset provision in a contract makes it obligatory on the supplier to either "reverse purchase, execute export orders or invest in local industry or in research and development" in the buyer's domestic industry, according to CAG.
- The policy was adopted on the recommendations of the Vijay Kelkar Committee in 2005. The first offset contract was signed in 2007.

## RAISE 2020



**Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and NITI Aayog are organizing a Global Virtual Summit on Artificial Intelligence (AI), RAISE 2020- 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020,' from October 5-9, 2020. The Summit will be inaugurated by PM Modi.**

### About:

- RAISE 2020 is a first of its-kind, global meeting of minds on Artificial Intelligence to drive India's vision for social transformation through responsible AI.
- It is being Organized by Government of India along with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and NITI Aayog.

- The event will witness robust participation from global industry leaders, key opinion makers, Government representatives and academia.
- Industry analysts predict that AI could add up to USD 957 billion to India's economy by 2035.

## PAKUR HONEY



**Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda will launch Pakur Honey on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.**

**About:**

Pakur Honey is 100% natural honey which is Multi Floral and Forest Fresh.

- It is gathered by Santhal Tribals and Vulnerable Pahadhiya tribes from Pakur, Jharkhand.
- Natural Multiflora honey is a good source of anti-oxidants and antiseptic vitamins, nutrients, enzymes and other herbal properties that no other super-food can provide.

## SABAH AL-AHMAD AL-JABER AL-SABAH

**Government of India has decided that there will be one day State Mourning on 4th of October throughout the country as a mark of respect to the departed dignitary, Amir of the State of Kuwait.**

**About:**



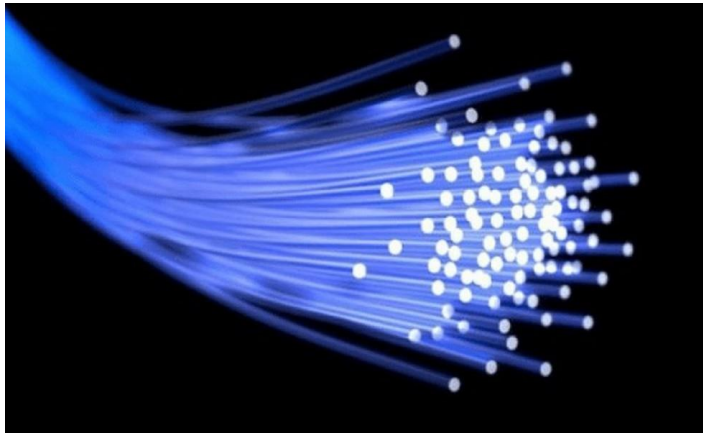
Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah (1929 – 2020) was the Emir of Kuwait and the Commander of the Kuwait Military Forces from 29 January 2006 until his death.

The Emir of the State of Kuwait is the monarch, head of state and head of government of Kuwait, the country's most powerful office. The emirs of Kuwait are members of the Al-Sabah dynasty,

which originate from the Bani Utbah; a federation of clans in the Arabian Peninsula.

- Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah became Emir of Kuwait on 30 September 2020, following Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah who died on 29 September 2020.

## ASCON PHASE IV NETWORK



**In order to meet the long pending demand of the Indian Army, the Cabinet Committee on Security had approved the proposal for establishment of Army Static Switched Communication Network, ASCON Phase IV Network.**

### **About:**

- It will be implemented by M/s ITI, a Public Sector Undertaking, at an estimated cost of over 7796 crore rupees with an implementation schedule of 36 months from the date of signing of the contract.
- The project is a strategic and theatre area communication network which will upgrade the existing Asynchronous Transfer Mode Technology to Internet Protocol, Multi-Protocol Label Switching Technology.
- Optical Fibre Cable, Microwave Radio and Satellite will be used as communication media.
- The project will provide better survivability, responsiveness and high bandwidth in any operational scenario and enhance the communication coverage of network closer to International Border, Line of Control and Line of Actual Control.

