

NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING AGENCY [NADA]

National Anti-Doping Agency will host an Inclusion Conclave to sharpen the focus on anti-doping education and processes for athletes with disabilities.

About:

- NADA was established by the Government of India, with the objective of acting as the independent Anti-Doping Organization for India having a vision of dope-free sports.
- It was set up as a **registered society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860** on November 2005.
- The **primary functions of NADA are as under:**
 - **To implement the Anti-Doping Code** to achieve compliance by all sports organizations in the Country.
 - **To coordinate dope testing program** through all participating stakeholders.
 - **To promote anti-doping research** and education to inculcate the value of dope free sports.
 - **To adopt best practice standards** and quality systems to enable effective implementation and continual improvement of the program.

The World Anti-Doping Agency

- The World Anti-Doping Agency is a foundation initiated by the **International Olympic Committee** to promote, coordinate and monitor the fight against drugs in sports.
 - The agency's key activities include monitoring of the World Anti-Doping Code, whose provisions are enforced by the **UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport**.
 - **Headquarters:** Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
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BAGUETTE

Baguette — the staple French bread — was recently inscribed into the UN's list of intangible cultural heritage (ICH).



About:

- The baguette is a **long and thin loaf made of flour, water, salt and yeast**, and is consumed as a staple in **France**. Some believe that it was invented by August Zang, a baker and an entrepreneur from Vienna in 1839.
- In March 2021, France nominated the baguette as its candidate for consideration within the UNESCO ICH list. It **drew attention to the steady decline in the number of bakeries in the country** as around 20,000 of them have closed down since 1970.

Intangible cultural heritage

- UNESCO defines “**intangible**” as “expressions that have been passed from one generation to another, have evolved in response to their environments and contribute to giving us a sense of identity and continuity...”
- ‘Intangible cultural heritage’ includes “**oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.**”

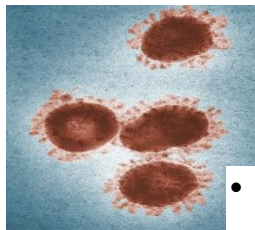
Criteria for the selection

- There are **three criteria** for an intangible cultural heritage to be inscribed in the United Nations list. The entity must
 1. **be recognized by communities, groups** and, in some cases, individuals as part of their cultural heritage
 2. **be transmitted from generation to generation** and **be constantly recreated by communities** and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history and
 3. **provide them with a sense of identity and continuity**, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity,”

India’s intangible cultural symbols on the UNESCO list

- This year, India nominated **Garba**, a traditional dance form that originated in the state of Gujarat, for inscription on UNESCO's ICH list.
- The elements which have been on the representative list of intangible cultural heritage from India in the past decade include **Kolkata's Durga Puja (2021), Kumbh Mela (2017), Navroz (2016), Yoga (2016), traditional brass and copper craft of utensil-making among coppersmiths of Punjab (2014), Sankirtana, a ritual musical performance of Manipur (2013), and the Buddhist chanting of Ladakh (2012).**
- Before 2011, the list included **Chhau dance, Kalbelia folk songs and dance of Rajasthan, and Mudiyetu, a dance drama from Kerala (2010), Ramman, a religious festival and theatre performance of Garhwal in the Himalayas (2009), and Kutiyattam or Sanskrit theatre, and Vedic chanting (2008), Ramlila(2008), a traditional performance of Ramayana.**
- **Sangeet Natak Akademi** is the nodal organisation which looks after this function, and **files nominations of intangible cultural entities from India**, for evaluation by the international body.

ZOMBIE VIRUS



European researchers have recently revived 13 "zombie viruses" from Russia's Siberian permafrost.

- The virus **emerged due to the thawing of permafrost** as the global temperature is rising. The new strain is one of 13 viruses outlined in the study, each of which possessed its own genome.
- The oldest, dubbed **Pandoravirus yedoma** after the mythological character Pandora, was 48,500 years old, a record age for a frozen virus returning to a state where it has the potential to infect other organisms.
- Pandoravirus was discovered below the **bottom of a lake in Yukechi Alas** in Yakutia, Russia, others have been found everywhere from mammoth fur to the intestines of a Siberian wolf.

What is a zombie virus?

- **Zombie virus is the term used for those viruses which have been dormant for thousands of years. Zombie viruses have been dormant for many years due to being trapped inside the ice and have come to life after the ice melted.**
- **Scientists discovered that all of the "zombie viruses" have the potential to be infectious and hence pose a "health danger" after researching the live cultures.**

YOUR FACE IS NOW YOUR ID, DOMESTIC BOARDING CARD

In News:

- **The Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), run by GMR, announced the soft launch of the Central Government's **DigiYatra initiative**, rolling out the beta version of its app for Android platforms.**
- **It was proposed that in the first phase, DigiYatra will be rolled out at Varanasi and Bengaluru this month, and at five airports — Pune, Vijayawada, Kolkata, Delhi and Hyderabad — by March, 2023.**
- **The Airport Authority of India (AAI) will identify the airports where DigiYatra will be implemented in a phased manner.**

About DigiYatra:

- **The 'DigiYatra' is an industry-led initiative co-ordinated by the Ministry of Civil Aviation in line with Digital India's vision to transform the nation into a digitally empowered society.**
- **The 'DigiYatra' is a Biometric Enabled Seamless Travel experience (BEST) based on Facial**



Digi Yatra rolls out at three airports today

Domestic passengers at three airports, including Delhi's, will be now able to authenticate their travel through facial recognition from today, as the first phase of the Digi Yatra system rolls out. Here's how it works. By Neha LM Tripathi

What is Digi Yatra?
Digi Yatra is a facility that allows passengers to link their travel identity documents with a facial scan - doing away with the need for them to show their boarding passes or ID cards at the airport.

HOW DOES THE NEW SYSTEM WORK?

SETTING UP THE APP

- Step 1** You download and install Digi Yatra app on your phone and complete your registration
- Step 2** You then have to either feed in your Aadhaar card to the app or link your Digi Locker app
- Step 3** You will be asked to take selfie to record your facial features

WHAT IT PLANS TO ACHIEVE
It is conceived to achieve contactless, seamless processing of passengers, based on facial recognition technology. Officials say it will help drastically cut down queues and waiting times at security check and boarding gates.

Where is it rolling out?
The scheme is originally rolling out for domestic passengers at the airports in three cities - Delhi, Bengaluru and Varanasi - from December 1, 2022. The first phase will also cover another four airports - Hyderabad, Kolkata, Pune, and Bhopal - which will get the scheme by March 2023. Later it will be implemented across various airports in the country.

AT THE AIRPORT... AT THE TERMINAL

- You can visit the respective airline counter to drop off your check-in baggage, where your boarding pass will also be validated with a facial scan
- If you're performing a self-check-in, then you validate your boarding pass after a facial capture and match

ENTRY GATE

- First, you scan your boarding pass at the E-gate
- You will be asked to stand in a marked area. Facing a camera which captures your facial data
- The gate opens as your facial data matches the boarding pass

SECURITY CHECK ANI BOARDING

- You stand in a demarcated area where your face is scanned by the camera
- The E-gate opens once it matches your facial biometric with tickets and boarding pass

Recognition Technology.

- **With this technology, the entry of passengers would be automatically processed based on the facial recognition system at all checkpoints – including entry into the airport, security check areas, aircraft boarding, etc.**

How can people avail this facility?

- To use this facility, passengers will need to first download the **DigiYatra app**.
- Users can register on the app using Aadhaar credentials. Then, the person will have to scan his or her boarding pass with the QR code or Bar code, after which the credentials will be shared with the airport.
- For entry into the airport, passengers will need to scan their boarding passes at the e-gate and look into the facial recognition system camera installed there. A similar method will be applicable for entry into other checkpoints.

DigiYatra Foundation:

- The project is being implemented by the DigiYatra Foundation — a **joint-venture company registered under the Companies Act, 2013**.
- The DigiYatra Foundation will be the custodian of the passenger ID validation process.
- It will also define the criteria for compliance and guidelines for the local airport systems.

Benefits:

- Pax need not show boarding pass or ID at multiple check points.
- Minimum human intervention; Less queuing time.
- It will also ensure enhanced security at the airport as the passenger data is validated with Airlines Departure control System, thereby only designated passengers can enter the terminal.
- Airport operator will have real time information on passenger load and resource planning becomes better.
- Airlines will be benefitted by knowing the passenger position in the airport.
- Airport throughput will be enhanced.

HOW DO PERSONALITY RIGHTS PROTECT CELEBRITIES?

In News:

- The Delhi High Court has issued an interim order to restrict the unlawful use of Bollywood star Amitabh Bachchan's name, image and voice, which could infringe on the actor's personality rights.

The personality rights:

- A large list of unique personal attributes (name, nickname, stage name, picture, likeness, image and any identifiable personal property), which contribute to the making of a celebrity, need to be protected.

About personality rights

- It refers to the right of a person to protect his/her personality **under the right to privacy or property**.
- These rights are important to celebrities as their names, photographs or even voices can easily be misused in various advertisements by different companies to boost their sales.
- Personality rights consist of two types of rights -
 - **The right of publicity**, or the right to keep one's image and likeness from being commercially exploited without permission. It is similar (but not identical) to the use of a trademark.
 - **The right to privacy** or the right to not have one's personality represented publicly without permission.

Legal or constitutional recognition

- In India, the publicity rights are governed by statutes like **the Trademarks Act 1999 and the Copyright Act 1957**.
- With the 2017 judgment (**Justice K. S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India**), the personality rights were elevated to the position of constitutional rights.
 - The ruling formally recognised the right to privacy as a fundamental right derived from the right to life and personal liberty, as provided by **Article 21** of the Indian Constitution.
 - The court ruled that an individual may be permitted to prevent others from using his/her image, name and other aspects of his/her personal life and identity for commercial purposes without his/her consent.

Other SC judgements

- **Shivaji Rao Gaikwad (aka Rajinikanth) v. Varsha Production:** Though there is no definition for the personality right under any statute in India, the Courts in India have recognized the personality right in various judgments.
- **ICC Development (International) Ltd., Vs. Arvee Enterprises:** The right of publicity has evolved from the right of privacy and any effort to take away this right from the individuals would be violative of **Articles 19 and 21** of the Constitution of India.

Personality rights on internet

- In 2011, the Delhi HC (in Arun Jaitley vs Network Solutions Pvt Ltd) stated that the popularity or fame of individuals will be no different on the internet than in reality.
- Name, due to its peculiar nature/distinctive character, coupled with the gained popularity has become a well-known personal mark under the trademark law.

Personal rights vs consumer rights

- While celebrities are protected from commercial misuse of their name and personality, there have also been instances where the consumers are misled owing to false advertisements or endorsements by such personalities.
- Due to such cases, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs has made a notification - **Guidelines on Prevention of Misleading Advertisements and Endorsements for Misleading Advertisements, 2022**, to keep a check on misleading adverts of consumer products by imposing a penalty on the endorser.

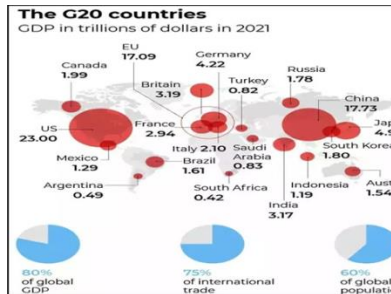
[G20 PRESIDENCY BEGINS: INDIA SAYS IT WILL BE THE VOICE OF GLOBAL SOUTH](#)

In News:

- As India assumed the G20 presidency, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said New Delhi will seek to emerge as the voice of the Global South, and work to depoliticise the global supply of food, fertilisers and medical products.

- India assumed the G20 presidency on December 1, 2022.
- He was addressing the ‘G20 University Connect – Engaging Young Minds’, an event organised to mark the G20 presidency.

About G20



- G-20, is a group of finance ministers and central bank governors from 19 individual countries and European Union. It was established in 1999.
- G20 was elevated to a forum of Heads of State/Government in 2008 to effectively respond to the global financial crisis of 2008.
- G-20 is a forum, not a legislative body, its agreements and decisions have no legal impact, but they do influence countries' policies and global cooperation.
- G20 members represent around 80% of global GDP, over 75% of global trade, and 60% of the world’s population.
- G20 members contribute 79% of the world carbon emissions and hence this platform assumes significance in shaping the discussion on climate change.

News Summary

- To mark the first day of India’s presidency, a special event titled ‘G20 University Connect — Engaging Young Minds’ was organized.
- The event virtually brought together students from 75 universities across the country and was addressed by the EAM S Jaishankar.

Key Highlights

- **Key points from the speech of EAM**
 - India’s endeavour would be to create consensus through consultation on key global issues.
 - India will look to emerge as the voice of the global south that has had to face the brunt of polarisation and conflict in the developed world.

- Global south comprises Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- India would flag concerns on issues such as energy security, food security, access to healthcare, climate action and climate justice during its G20 presidency.
- He urged students to play a role by acting as ambassadors of the country in showcasing to visiting G20 members the rapid, inclusive progress that India is making now.
- **G20 logo illuminates 100 monuments**
- 100 monuments across the country will be illuminated with the G20 logo and its colours for seven days as India takes over the presidency of the grouping.
- In November 2022, PM Modi unveiled the logo, theme and website of India's G20 presidency.



- The logo — Earth juxtaposed with the lotus
- Theme — “Vasudhaiva Kutumba-kam” or “One Earth One Family One Future”

- The logo reflects India's idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the whole earth is a family).
- The list of monuments drawn up by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to mark the occasion includes:
 - the Shankaracharya Temple in Srinagar,
 - the Nalanda ruins in Bihar,
 - the Purana Qila complex and Humayun's Tomb in Delhi,
 - the Modhera Sun temple and the ancient Dholavira site in Gujarat,
 - the Tipu Sultan Palace in Bengaluru,
 - the Hemis Monastery in Ladakh,
 - the Chola temple of Thanjavur and
 - the Konark Sun temple in Puri.
- The Taj Mahal in Agra, despite being a UNESCO World Heritage Site, will not be illuminated with the G20 logo.
- **Guest countries during India's presidency**
- Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Spain and the UAE will be the guest countries at the event.

- **Troika of G20**
 - During India's Presidency, India, Indonesia and Brazil would form the troika.
 - This would be the first time when the troika would consist of three developing countries and emerging economies.
 - It should be noted that the bloc does not have a permanent secretariat and the presidency is supported by the Troika – previous, current and incoming President.
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EXERCISE AGNI WARRIOR

The 12th Edition of Exercise Agni Warrior recently concluded on 30 November 2022.



About:

- It is a bilateral exercise between the **Singapore & Indian Army**.
 - Exercise Agni Warrior, involved showcasing joint firepower planning, execution and use of New Generation Equipment by the Artillery arm of both armies.
 - Exercise also included participation by both sides in a **joint computer war-game as part of joint planning process**.
 - Both sides utilised niche technology and Artillery Observation Simulators as part of joint training phase.
 - Indigenously manufactured Artillery guns and howitzers also participated during the final phase of the exercise.
 - The exercise achieved its aim of enhancing mutual understanding of drills & procedures and improving interoperability between the two armies.
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