

Current Affairs=10-06-2020

Rs. 4000cr allocated to State Governments under Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) component of PMKSY for FY 2020-21

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)-“Per Drop More Crop”



**Centre Allots
Rs 4,000 cr to States**

The

Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW) has allocated Rs. 4000 cr to the state governments for the year 2020-21 for implementing **Per Drop More Crop** component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY- PDMC). For further allotment of funds, State Governments have identified the beneficiaries to be covered under the programme.

About PMKSY- PDMC:

The objective of PMKSY- PDMC is the effective use of water at farm level through Micro Irrigation technologies viz. **Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems**. Drip micro irrigation technique not only helps in water saving but also in reducing fertilizer usage, labour expenses and other input costs.

- For Micro Irrigation Fund a corpus of **5000 crore** has been created with NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development). So far, the states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have been allocated Rs. 616.14 crore and for Rs.478.79 crore, respectively for micro irrigation through NABARD.

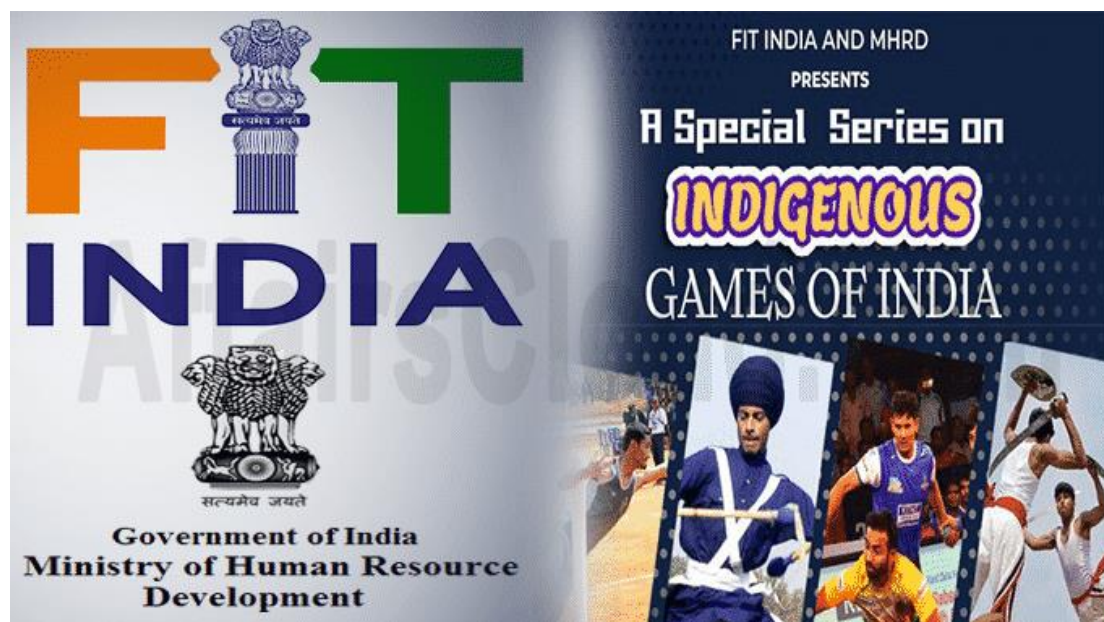
- The area covered under these projects is 1.021 lakh ha. in Andhra Pradesh and 1.76 lakh ha. in Tamil Nadu.
- During the last five years (2015-16 to 2019-20), an area of 46.96 lakh ha. has been covered under Micro Irrigation through PMKSY-PDMC.

About PMKSY:

This scheme was formulated on July 1, 2015 with an outlay of Rs. 50,000 crore in five years for extending the water coverage for irrigation under focusing “**Har Khet ko pani**” and improving water use efficiency aiming at “**More crop per drop**”.

- It has been formed after the amalgamation of **Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)** of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR,RD&GR), **Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)** of Department of Land Resources (DoLR) and the **On Farm Water Management (OFWM)** of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC).

MHRD & Fit India collaborates to produce series of special films to promote 10 indigenous sports of India



On June 10, 2020 The Department of School Education and Literacy under Ministry of Human Resource Development(MHRD) has collaborated with **Fit India**(flagship programme of sports ministry) under the “**Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat**” initiative to produce a series of special films to promote **10 indigenous sports of India**.

Aim of the series– To create awareness about indigenous games & the culture

and heritage of their respective states.

Key Points

i.10 indigenous sports covered in the series– Kho-kho, Gatka, Kalaripayttu(very old sports), Mallakhamb, Thang-Ta, Sqay, Kabaddi, Roll Ball(recent sports which has gained a lot of popularity and is now played in at least 50 countries), Tug of War and Shooting Ball.

ii.The 10 episodes can be watched from June 8 to June 19(Monday to Friday) at 11am, on the Fit India YouTube page and MHRD digital platforms. **Scholarships** will be provided for the athletes of these games.

Purpose of the initiative– This initiative is an effort to reach out to young Indians and showcase the rich heritage of our indigenous games.

India becomes 2nd nation to have contact-free ATM cash withdrawals; Empays Payment Systems partners with Mastercard



In order to eliminate the use a physical card or touch an ATM PIN pad, amid the spread of coronavirus from contaminated surfaces, Empays Payment Systems has joined hands with Mastercard to launch “**Cardless ATM powered by Mastercard**” in India based on the standards of EMV (Europay, Mastercard, and Visa). With this, India will be the **first country outside the United States (US)** where this product will be launched

-Empays, which runs the Information management technology (IMT) Payment System, will upgrade the basic technology behind the IMT Payment System to meet the requirements of Mastercard Cardless ATM.

-Notably, IMT Payment System powers the largest ATM network for cardless cash withdrawals in the world and is available across 40,000 ATMs in India. It uses **SMS (short message service)** technology to enable cash withdrawals.

-Both companies are working to launch pilots with consenting banks in coming months.

TCS partners with NSDC to provide its training partners access to the TCS iON Digital Glass Room



NSDC to Accelerate Skill Development with TCS iON

Consultancy Services(TCS) iON, unit of TCS, partnered with the National Skill Development Corporation(NSDC) to provide its training partners access to the **TCS iON Digital Glass Room**, a web-based digital education platform.

ii. To enable online vocational skills training for millions of students across the country.

iii. The partnership will strengthen NSDC's online content aggregation platform – eSkill India, thereby enabling e-learning among skill seekers and will contribute towards strengthening the Skill India mission.

About TCS:

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Chief Executive Officer(CEO) and Managing Director(MD)– Rajesh Gopinathan

Chairman of the Board of Tata Sons– Natarajan(N). Chandrasekaran

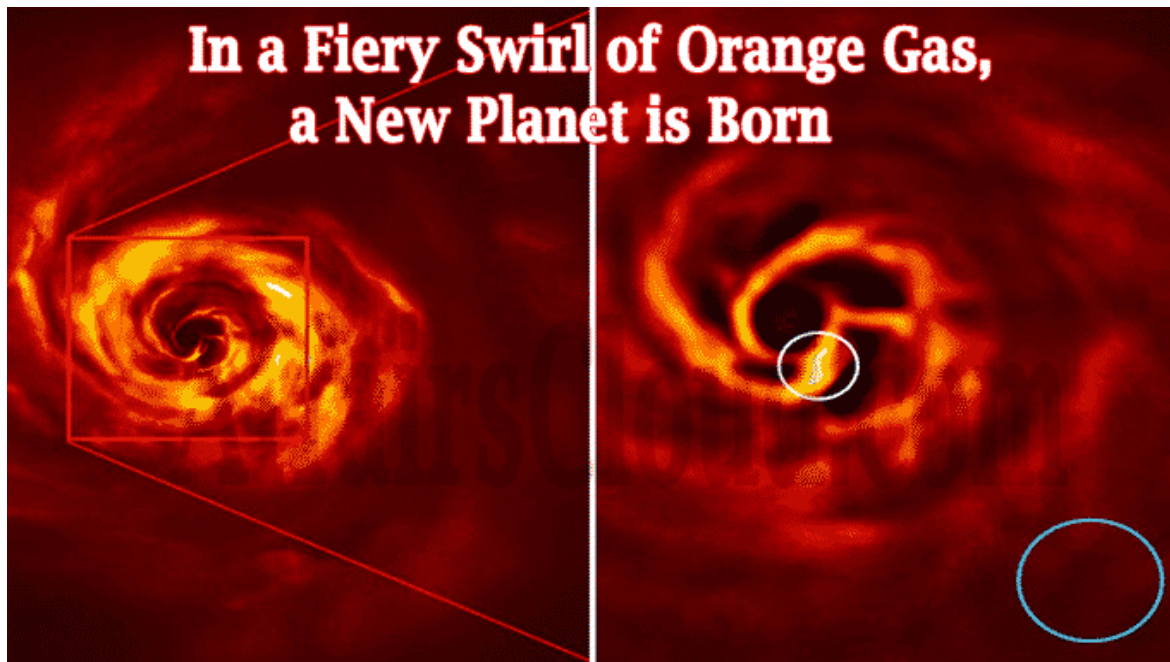
About NSDC:

Headquarters– New Delhi, India

MD & CEO– Manish Kumar

Chairman– A M Naik

For the first time in human history, French astronomers witness signs of planet birth



On May 22, 2020, A team of Scientists from the Observatoire de Paris, **PSL (Paris Sciences et Lettres) University in France**, have witnessed a birth of a **new planet** for the first time in human history by using photographs of the SPHERE (Spectro-Polarimetric High-contrast Exoplanet Research) instrument on the Very Large Telescope (VLT) of the European Southern Observatory (ESO) in Chile.

- The new observations have been published in Astronomy & Astrophysics journal & lead author of the study was Anthony Boccaletti, an astronomer at the PSL University.

Evidence of the existence of a planet:

- From the pictures, astronomers have discovered the first direct evidence of a new planet born around a distant star called ‘**AB Aurigae**’, about 520 light years from Earth in the constellation Auriga or the Charioteer.
- A dense disc of dust and orange mass of gas has been seen around the star, where some clear spiral-shaped signs are visible near this disc, in which the curves are visible which occur at the time of creation of the new planet.

Former European high jump champion Alexander Shustov of Russia banned for 4 years for doping



- i. The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), informed that Former European high jump champion (2010) **Alexander Shustov** (35-year-old) of Russia banned for **4 years** for the use or attempted use of a banned substance or method (**doping**) & did not provide any further details.
- ii. The Russian Athletics Federation stated that his ban was dated from June 5, and his results had been disqualified for a period from 2013 to 2017.