



**Daily C.A Dated On 29-May-2018**

**General Studies-2**

**S-400 Surface-to-Air Missile systems**

Why in News?

The U.S. has serious reservations about Russia's S-400 missile system and India moving ahead with the deal could complicate high technology cooperation, Chairman of the U.S. Arms Service Committee Mac Thornberry said on Monday.

These concerns were separate from any sanctions and legislation that the U.S. has imposed on Russia.

**About SAM:**

Earlier this month, India and [Russia](#) concluded commercial negotiations for the purchase of five S-400 Surface-to-Air Missile systems estimated at over ₹39,000 crore.

The deal is expected to be announced later this year.

In 2016, India and Russia had signed an agreement on the 'Triumf' interceptor-based missile system which can destroy incoming hostile aircraft, missiles and even drones at ranges of up to 400 km.

S-400 is known as Russia's most advanced long-range surface-to-air missile defence system.

**IT corridor in China**

India and China are set to add another layer to their growing partnership in Information Technology (IT), riding on the spirit of the Wuhan "informal" summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

**About the Corridor**



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Led by National Association for Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), Indian SMEs, some with an established footprint in the United States, intend to deploy their strengths in software.

National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has launched its second IT corridor in China to cash in on the burgeoning Chinese software market which remained elusive despite the presence of top Indian technology firms.

The newly established Digital Collaborative Opportunities Plaza (SIDCOP) platform at Guiyang in China provides market access to Indian IT firms in the huge Chinese market.

The Guiyang corridor will focus on Big Data. Last December, the NASSCOM established its first SIDCOP platform in the Chinese port city of Dalian, which is India's first IT hub in China. Dalian corridor's focus was on IOT (Internet of Things).

The corridor is aimed at setting up local offices and assisting companies from Guiyang to establish software and IT units in India.

#### **Benefits:**

That would help find practical solutions for their clients—in areas such as banking or automobiles — by processing mountains of data that are available in China.

India is a world leader in the area of Information Technology and IT-enabled services with annual revenue of over \$164 billion and exports of over \$120 billion.

The country has been demanding China to provide market access to Indian IT and pharmaceutical firms for several years to reduce bilateral trade deficit.

- For India, getting access to China's IT market, valued at over \$493 billion in 2013 by the ministry of industry and information technology of China, is important to address the massive trade deficit which has now spiralled to over \$51 billion. The Chinese IT market grew exponentially since then.



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- The two corridors, which were started in collaboration with China's provincial governments, are expected to provide the much-needed big opening for Indian IT firms.

#### **India-IBRD Agreement:**

An Agreement for IBRD Credit of USD 21.7 Million from World Bank for the **Strengthening of Public Financial Management in Rajasthan Project was signed here today in New Delhi.**

The Project size is approximately USD 31 million, of which USD 21.7 million will be financed by the World Bank, and the remaining amount will be funded-out of the State Budget.

The Project duration is 5 years.

#### **Objectives of Project:**

The Project objective is to contribute to improved Budget execution, enhanced accountability and greater efficiency in Revenue Administration in Rajasthan.

The Project involves Strengthening of the Public Financial Management Framework; Strengthening of Expenditure and Revenue Systems; and Project Management and Capacity Building among others.

#### **General Studies-3**

##### **PM Mudra Yojana**

##### **Why in News?**

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today interacted with Mudra Yojana beneficiaries from across the country, through video bridge.

The video conference is the second in the series of video bridge by the Prime Minister, interacting with various beneficiaries of Government schemes.

Expressing happiness at being able to interact with the beneficiaries, the Prime Minister said that the Mudra Yojana has become a job multiplier.



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He further added that the initiative has helped in relieving the entrepreneurs from the vicious cycle of moneylenders and middlemen.

It has opened up new opportunities for youth, women and those who wanted to start or expand their businesses.

#### **About PMMY:**

Under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana, Government has so far given out 12 crore loans worth Rs. 5.75 lakh crore.

Out of which 28% of the loans worth Rs. 3.25 lakh crore were given to first time entrepreneurs.

Of the total loans disbursed, 74% of the total beneficiaries were women and 55% of the loans were given to SC/ST and OBC communities.

By aiding small and micro businesses, the scheme has helped to strengthen people economically, socially and has given people a platform to succeed.

Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) is a scheme launched by Prime Minister on April 8, 2015 for providing loans up to Rs. 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises.

These loans are classified as MUDRA loans under PMMY. These loans are given by Commercial Banks, RRBs, Small Finance Banks, Cooperative Banks, MFIs and NBFCs.

#### **Gaj Yatra:**

#### **Why in News?**

In 2014, villagers in Meghalaya's Garo Hills set aside a part of their community-owned land to create village reserve forests, giving right of passage to elephants.

In acknowledgement of that gesture, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) on Monday rolled out the 'Gaj Yatra' from Tura, the principal town of Garo Hills.

#### **About Gaj Yatra**



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'Gaj Yatra', a "journey celebrating India's national heritage animal", aims at securing 100 elephant corridors across India.

Four of these are in Meghalaya, including the Siju-Rewak corridor that some 1,000 elephants use to travel between the Balpakram and Nokrek National Parks in the State.

The event involves taking an elephant mascot across districts frequented by jumbo herds for generating awareness among the people.

Mini underlined the role of Nokmas, traditional custodians of the land, in supporting the move towards co-existence between man and animal and helping conservationists for the success of the initiative.

Expansion of human settlements have resulted in fragmented elephant habitats in the Garo Hills, leading to conflicts.

### **UNEP-BCCI coolaborates for Green Cricket**

#### **Why in News?**

The main aim of the partnership is to spread greater awareness about key environmental challenges that are facing the country and highlight alternate and more sustainable solutions.

#### **About the Initiative:**

- Through the agreement, the BCCI will endeavor to reduce its environmental impact by greening its operations and engaging cricketers and fans in green initiatives.
- The partnership will help make cricket green and sensitise spectators towards minimising waste generation during matches.
- The partnership will also focus on phasing out single-use plastic across stadiums and cricket events in the country.



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**About UN Environment:**

UN Environment is the leading global voice on the environment. It provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UN Environment works with governments, the private sector, civil society and with other UN entities and international organizations across the world.

**About the Board of Control for Cricket in India:**

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is the national governing body for cricket in India. Today, the BCCI has 30 full-time members. It organizes – among others – the Indian Premiere League.

**About World Environment Day:**

World Environment Day is the single largest celebration of our environment each year. Since it began in 1974, it has grown to become a global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated across the globe.