

29to 31 – 05 – 2022

News: No cases of monkeypox in India so far

- India has not registered any case of monkeypox so far, but the disease that is spreading globally is being tracked closely, officials said recently.

Monkey Pox

- Monkeypox is a viral zoonotic disease that occurs primarily in tropical rainforest areas of Central and West Africa and is occasionally exported to other regions.
- Monkeypox virus infection has been detected in squirrels, Gambian poached rats, dormice, and some species of monkeys.
- Monkeypox is caused by monkeypox virus, a member of the Orthopoxvirus genus in the family Poxviridae.
- Monkey Pox infection was first discovered in 1958 following two outbreaks of a pox-like disease in colonies of monkeys kept for research — which led to the name ‘monkeypox’.
- Monkeypox typically presents clinically with fever, rash and swollen lymph nodes.

- It causes the lymph nodes to swell (lymphadenopathy), which smallpox does not.
- Monkeypox virus is mostly transmitted to people from wild animals such as rodents and primates, but human-to-human transmission also occurs.
- The first human case was recorded in 1970 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) during a period of intensified effort to eliminate smallpox.
- Monkeypox virus is transmitted from one person to another by contact with lesions, body fluids, respiratory droplets and contaminated materials such as bedding.
- The incubation period (time from infection to symptoms) for monkeypox is usually 7-14 days but can range from 5-21 days.
- Typically, up to a tenth of people ill with monkeypox may die, with most deaths occurring in younger age groups.
- The clinical presentation of monkeypox resembles that of smallpox, a related orthopoxvirus infection which was declared eradicated worldwide in 1980.
- Vaccinia vaccine used during the smallpox eradication programme was also protective against monkeypox.
- A new third generation vaccinia vaccine has now been approved for prevention of smallpox and monkeypox. Antiviral agents are also being developed.

News: E-Shram Portal

- According to the latest data, as many as 27.69 crore informal sector workers are registered on the e-shram portal.

E – Shram Portal

- E – Shram Portal is an **online database** on **unorganized workers** launched by **Ministry of Labour and Employment**.
- The portal will be the **national database of nation builders**, the ‘Shram Yogis’, and **help take welfare schemes to their doorstep**.
- As part of the initiative, **the workers will be issued an e-SHRAM card containing a 12 digit unique number**.

News: Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)

- The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has approved the extension of the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for five years till FY26.

Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program

(PMEGP)

- The Government of India approved the introduction of a **credit linked subsidy programme called Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in 2008 for generation of employment opportunities through establishment of micro enterprises in rural as well as urban areas.**
- It is a **central sector scheme being administered by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME).**
- The programme is implemented by **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).**
- The Scheme is implemented through KVIC and State/UT Khadi & V.I. Boards in Rural areas and through District Industries Centres in Urban and Rural areas in ratio of **30:30:40 between KVIC / KVIB / DIC respectively.**

Eligibility

- Any individual, above 18 years of age.
- Only new projects/units are considered for sanction of loans.
- Self-help groups that have not availed benefits under any other public scheme, societies, production co-operative societies, and charitable trusts.

Maximum Cost of Project/Unit Admissible

- Manufacturing Sector: Rs. 25 lakh
- Service Sector: Rs.10 lakh

Government Subsidy

- Rural Areas: 25% for general category and 35% for special category, which includes SC/ST/OBC/Minorities, NER, Hill and Border Areas.
- Urban Areas: 15% for general category and 25% for special category.
- Loans are provided by Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks, Co-operative Banks and Private Scheduled Commercial Banks approved by respective State Task Force Committee.