

5th May 2017

GS : 3 - GEOGRAPHY (CROPPING PATTERN)

Banganapalle mango gets GI tag

(The Hindu)

- The succulent Banganapalle mango has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag, making **Andhra Pradesh** the proprietor of the variety known for its sweetness.

Key points:

- Banganapalle mangoes have been grown for over 100 years in Andhra Pradesh.
- It is also known as Beneshan, Baneshan, Benishan, Chappatai and Safeda.
- The fruits can retain their quality under cold storage even up to three months.
- The prominent characteristic of Banganapalle mangoes is that their skin has very light spots, stone is oblong in shape and has very thin seed with sparse and soft fibre all over.

GI tag:

- A GI tag indicates that the product comes from a specific region.
- GI is covered under the Intellectual Property Rights and the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.
- A GI tag certifies the origin of a product or produce from a region as the quality or other features of the product is attributable only to the place of its origin.
- The tag helps farmers or manufacturers to get a better price in the market.

GS

eVIN Project of Health Ministry becomes global best practise in immunisation

(Business Standard)

- Members of a five-country international delegation interacted with the Health Secretary to learn more about the global best practice of eVIN (electronic vaccine intelligence network) project of the Health Ministry and to understand how it is being implemented in the country and the ways in which it be replicated in their own countries.
- Philippines, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Nepal and Thailand are mulling to replicate India's immunisation project.

Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) Project:

- eVIN is an indigenously developed technology system in India that **digitizes vaccine stocks** and **monitors the temperature of the cold chain through** a smartphone application.
- The eVIN is presently being implemented across twelve states in India.
- eVIN aims to support India's '**Universal Immunisation Programme**' by providing real-time information on vaccine stocks and flows, and storage temperatures across all cold chain points in states.
- The project is being implemented by **the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- eVIN project focus on three things – technology, governance and human resources.

GS : 3 - ECONOMY

Union Cabinet clears Ordinance to tackle Bad Loans

(The Hindu)

- The Union Cabinet has cleared an ordinance that seeks to amend the Banking Regulation Act to give more powers to Reserve Bank of India to deal with non-performing assets (NPAs) in the banking sector.
- Amendments will empower RBI to act against loan defaulters and defaulting companies under the bankruptcy code.
- Amendments will enable RBI to set up multiple oversight committees to deal with NPAs.
- Amendments will be made to make sure that bankers opting for resolution of bad debts are ring-fenced from any regulatory backlash.
- The NPAs would be resolved faster as the bankruptcy code provides for a time-bound winding up of companies and recovery of secured loans.

MISCELLANEOUS

Agni-II Ballistic Missile

- Agni-II missile is a **nuclear-capable, surface-to-surface** missile which forms a part of India's strategic forces arsenal for nuclear deterrence with a range of **over 2000 km**. It can carry a payload of 1000kg.
- It is equipped with an advanced high accuracy navigation system and guided by a novel state-of-the-art command and control system.
- It is powered by a **solid rocket propellant system** and already been inducted into the army.



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