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Tata Consumer in talks to buy Haldiram's company

150 types of snacks

- A family company, Haldiram's was established in 1937. Haldiram's alone accounts for around 13% of India's \$6.2 billion (Rs 51,460 crore) snack market.
- Haldiram's 150 types of snacks are sold in countries including Singapore and USA
- In this scenario, market analysts predict that Tata Consumer's acquisition of the company will go a long way in expanding its business reach significantly

Debit card is no longer required. Money withdrawal through smartphone UPI

- The country's first UPI-ATM was launched in Mumbai as a White Label ATM by Hitachi Payment Services
- Implemented in association with National Payments Corporation of India, this ATM service will ensure seamless withdrawal of cash by customers without the aid of debit cards.
- Integrating UPI facility in ATMs enables customers to withdraw cash from ATMs without accompanying cards
- People living in remote areas will benefit greatly from this
- A new milestone has been announced in the UPI ATM Banking service

Countries that changed their name

- Burma - Myanmar
- Ceylon - Sri Lanka
- Holland - Netherland
- Siam - Thailand
- Swaziland - Eswatini
- Turkey - Türkiye
- Persia - Iran
- Transjordan - Jordan
- Gold Coast - Ghana
- Republic of Czech - Czechia
- Bechuanaland - Botswana
- East Timor - Timor-Leste
- Zaire - Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Macedonia - North Macedonia

National Ayush Scheme

- Under the Ministry of AYUSH
- Scheme of Central Govt

Goals

- Promotion of Ayush System of Medicine
- Improving availability and accessibility of AYUSH medical services

Components of the scheme

- Ensuring availability of cost-effective AYUSH services
- Strengthening AYUSH education systems and creating quality AYUSH workforce
- Ensuring quality control of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathic medicines
- Improvement of government services
- Ensuring sustainable availability of AYUSH raw materials through good agricultural practices

Ayush - Health and Wellness Centers

- Funded by Central Govt
- Under the National Ayush Scheme

Motto

- Reducing disease burden
- Reducing the cost of treatment.
- Providing alternative treatment

Forest Protection Amendment Act - 2023

Goal

- Achieving Net Zero Emissions for India

Activities

- Creating carbon stocks, increasing forest cover and improving the livelihoods of forest dependent communities

Reduces the definition of forests

Description

- Only the areas mentioned as forest in the government register are considered as forest. Other areas are not included in the list of forests

Impact

- 28% of India's forest cover will be affected

Reason

- Most of the forests in India are also orchards and gardens

Strategic infrastructure development

- Forest clearance is not required for development projects up to 100 km along the Indian national border

Consequence

- Mizoram's forest area will be affected as it falls within 100 km of forest area
- The amendment provides for wildlife sanctuaries, ride parks and eco-tourism arrangements in the forest.

Issue

- No forest permit required

Why North Eastern States are opposing this Act?

- The states of Mizoram and Nagaland oppose the bill
- The Mizoram State Assembly has passed a resolution against the amendment
- The Nagaland Assembly has decided to move a resolution against the amendment
- The states of Tripura and Sikkim oppose the 100 km exemption rule
- Registered Forest Area – classified and unclassified forests
- More than half of Northeast India falls within the registered area
- Effect of amendment - The forested areas in the North-East will be exploited

Recommendations

- Ensuring Gram Sabha approval before converting any forest area
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs should play an important role in recognizing and adjudicating forest rights
- Effective implementation of the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 in the North Eastern States