Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav (GS Paper 2, Governance)

Why in news?

Recently, the Union Minister of Women and Child Development discussed Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav campaign in the Lok Sabha.



What is 'Kanya Shiksha Prayesh Utsay campaign'?

- A special campaign namely 'Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav' was launched on 7th March, 2022 to re-enroll out of school adolescent girls (OoS AG) in the age group of 11-14 years.
- The main components of the scheme are Social mobilization & Awareness and Incentivization of AWWs for Counselling and Referrals.

Stakeholders:

- The campaign is coordinated efforts taken by Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of **Education** to ensure enrolment of Adolescent girls in schools.
- Under this campaign District Administrations organize Social Mobilisation campaign for raising awareness at grassroots level to sensitize communities, families to re-enroll adolescent girls to formal Schooling. Rs. 2 lakh per district has been earmarked for social Mobilisation campaign at district level.

Incentives:

- Under Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav campaign, AWWs are incentivised for counselling and referring OoS-AG in catchment areas of AWCs.
- An Incentive of Rs. 1000/- is provided to AWWs where the number of OoSGs are more than 4 in number and Rs. 500/- where the number of OoSGs are less than or equal to 4 in number.

Ukraine, Russia sign deal to allow grain exports across Black Sea

(GS Paper 2, International Relation)

Why in news?

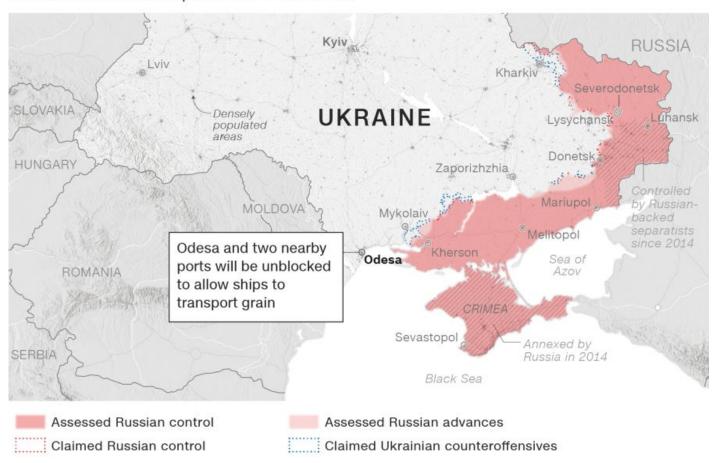
- Russia and Ukraine signed separate agreements with Turkey and the United Nations clearing the way for the export of Ukrainian grain as well as some Russian grain and fertilizer across the Black Sea.
- The long-sought deal ends a wartime standoff that has threatened food security around the globe.

Black Sea Initiative:

- The plan, known as the **Black Sea Initiative**, opens a path for significant commercial food exports from **three key Ukrainian ports: Odesa, Chernomorsk and Yuzhny**.
- The agreement says an UN-led joint coordination center will be set up in Istanbul staffed by officials from Ukraine, Russia, Turkey to run the plan, including scheduling cargo ships' arrivals and departures.
- Inspectors representing all parties at the Bosporus in Turkey will search vessels entering and leaving Ukrainian ports to ensure no weapons or soldiers are on board.
- Under the deal, 'all activities in Ukrainian territorial waters will be under authority and responsibility of Ukraine,' and the parties agree not to attack vessels and port facilities involved in the initiative. If demining is required to make the shipping lanes safe, a minesweeper from another country could clear the approaches to Ukrainian ports.
- The sides will monitor the movement of ships remotely and no military ships, aircraft or drones will be allowed to approach "the maritime humanitarian corridor" closer than a distance the center sets.
- The agreement will remain in effect for 120 days and can be extended automatically.

A route out of war for Ukrainian grain

A deal has been struck between Ukraine and Russia to allow the export of grain and oilseeds via Ukrainian ports in the Black Sea.



Exports of Ukraine:

- Ukraine is one of the **world's largest exporters of wheat, corn and sunflower oil**, but Russia's invasion of the country and naval blockade of its ports have halted shipments.
- Some Ukrainian grain is transported through Europe by rail, road and river, but the prices of vital commodities such as wheat and barley have soared during the war.
- Although international sanctions against Russia did not target food exports, the war has disrupted shipments of Russian products because shipping and insurance companies did not want to deal with Russia.

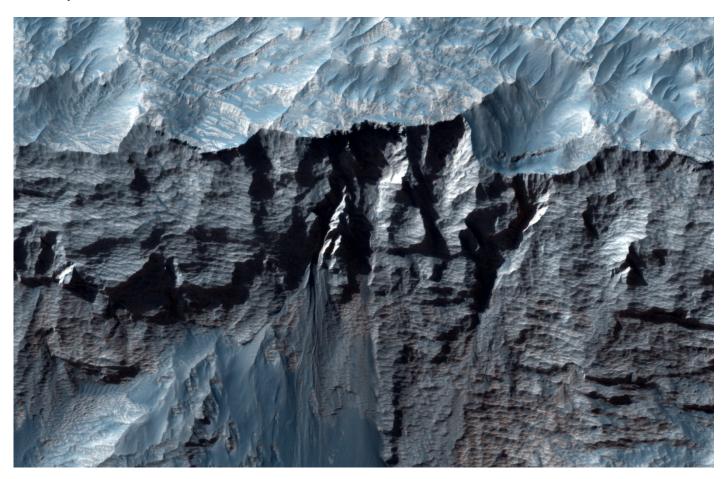
Way Forward:

- The UN plan will enable Ukraine to export 22 million tons of grain and other agricultural goods that have been stuck in Black Sea ports due to Russia's invasion.
- Over the past six months, prices for food have risen 187 per cent in Sudan, 86 per cent in Syria and 60 per cent in Yemen, just to name a few countries.

Largest canyon in Solar System (GS Paper 3, Science and Tech)

Why in news?

- The European Space Agency has examined the largest canyon in the solar system as its spacecraft hovers above Mars beaming back new details about the 4000-kilometer-long structure.
- The latest images from Mars reveal over two ruptures in the Martian crust that form part of the mega-canyon system.



Valles Marineris:

- The **Valles Marineris** is the largest grand canyon found in the entire solar system.
- It spans over 7000 kilometers in length, is upto 200 kilometers wide, and upto seven kilometers deep.

Kev details:

- ESA's Mars Express captured two trenches (or chasma) that form part of the western Valles Marineris.
- The left part of the image contains the 840 km-long Ius Chasma, and on the right is the 805 km-long Tithonium
- The European Space Agency, along with the image, also released an elevation map of the massive structure to show the depth of the canyon.
- Nearly seven kilometers deep, the Alps' tallest mountain, Mont Blanc, would be dwarfed if it was put inside Tithonium Chasma.

• The entire canyon itself will span the distance from the northern tip of Norway to the southern tip of Sicily.

Formation:

- While the Grand Canyon that cuts across the United States was formed as the Colorado River eroded away rock, the canyon on Mars is a result of drifting apart of tectonic plates.
- Their surfaces have been strongly eroded by Mars' strong winds, indicating that they are made of a weaker material than the surrounding rock.
- The top of Tithonium Chasma, a patch of dark sand brings colour contrast to the image and that this sand may have come from the nearby Tharsis volcanic region.

Mars Express:

- The images were captured by the Mars Express, which has been mapping the length and breadth of the Red Planet since 2003.
- The spacecraft has been imaging Mars' surface, mapping its minerals, identifying the composition and circulation of its tenuous atmosphere, probing beneath its crust, and exploring how various phenomena interact in the Martian environment.

68th National Film Award winners

(Miscellaneous)

Why in news?

• Recently, the 68th National Film Award winners were announced. Considering the Covid-related delays, it, honoured films from several categories from the year 2020.



About National Film Award:

- Established in 1954, the prestigious awards are administered by the Government of India's Directorate of Film Festivals
- This year, over 300 feature films and 150 non-feature films from 50 categories, with over 30 languages were competing for the prizes.

Key Highlights:

- Madhya Pradesh wins Most Film Friendly State award while Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh get Special Mention.
- ➤ 'The Longest Kiss' by Kishwar Desai wins Best Book on Cinema for the year while Malayalam book 'MT Anunahvangalude Pusthakam' and Odia book 'Kali Paine Kalira Cinema' win special mention.
- Author Kishwar Desai's "The Longest Kiss" is based on 10 years of research and 400 letters written by cinema icon Devika Rani.
- ➤ Best Actor award for 2020 is shared between Suriya for 'Soorarai Pottru' and Ajay Devgn for the Hindi movie 'Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior'.
- Manoj Muntashir has won the award for Best Lyrics for the Hindi movie 'Saina'.

Here is the list of winners of the 68th National Film Awards:

- Best Feature Film: Soorarai Pottru
- Best Director: Sachy, Ayyappanum Koshiyum
- Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment: Tanhaji
- Best Actor: Suriya for Soorarai Pottru and Ajay Devgn for Tanhaji
- Best Actress: Aparna Balamurali, Soorarai Pottru
- Best Supporting Actor: Biju Menon, Ayyappanum Koshiyam
- Best Supporting Actress: Lakshmi Priya Chandramouli, Sivaranjaniyum Innam Sila Pengallum
- Best Screenplay: Soorarai Pottru, Shalini Usha Nair and Sudha Kongara
- Best Screenplay (Dialogue Writer): Madonne Ashwin, Mandela
- Best Music Direction (Songs): Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo, Thaman S
- Best Music Direction (Background Music): Soorarai Pottru, GV Prakash
- Best Male Playback Singer: Rahul Deshpande for Mi Vasantrao
- Best Female Playback Singer: Nanchamma, Ayyappanum Koshiyam
- Best Lyrics: Saina, Manoj Muntashi
- Best Hindi Film: Toolsidas Junior
- Best Kannada Film: Dollu
- Best Malayalam Film: Thinkalazhcha Nishchayam
- Best Tamil Film: Sivaranjiniyum Innum Sila Pengalum
- Best Telugu Film: Colour Photo
- Best Harvanvi Film: Dada Lakhmi
- Best Dimasa Film: Samkhor
- Best Tulu Film: Jeetige
- Best Marathi Film: Goshta Eka Paithanichi
- Best Bengali Film: Avijatrik
- Best Assamese Film: The Bridge
- Best Child Artist: Anish Mangesh Gosavi for Tak-Tak
- Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director: Mandela
- Best Children's Film: Sumi
- Best Cinematography: Shabdikkunna Kalappa, Nikhil S Praveen