

### India's first e-fish market App Fishwaale launched in Assam



- Assam Minister for Fisheries, Environment and Forest and Excise, Parimal Suklabaidya launched an App Fishwaale, India's first e-fish market.
- Table size fish such as bhangon, mrigal and rohu and freshwater and seawater frozen fish (icebox) will be available coupled with dry fish packets, dry fish raw, fish pickles and processed fish products.
- Developed by Aqua Blue Global Aquaculture Solutions Pvt.
  Ltd. in collaboration with the fisheries department at a
  function held at Sri Madhabdev Bhawan auditorium, the
  minister called the app "a one-stop solution for
  aquaculture" that will help both the buyers and sellers. This
  platform will help the fish farming community get a
  reasonable price for their produce and lead to the
  elimination of middlemen.

## Andhra government launched 'Swechha' programme



- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the 'Swechha' program to tackle the stigma attached to menstruation, prioritize female personal hygiene, and encourage a healthy dialogue of information.
- 'Swechha' (meaning freedom) is intended to ensure affordable access to health and menstrual hygiene in adolescent girls and women.
- The state government will provide good quality branded sanitary napkins to female students at government educational institutions free of cost.

- Ten sanitary napkins will be given every month to about 10 lakh adolescent girls studying from 7th-12th grades in all government schools and intermediate colleges across the state at a financial outlay of INR 32 crores.
- A total of 120 napkins per year is allotted to every female student, even during summer vacations, the students will be supplied with their quota before they leave school.



## The Nobel Prize in Literature 2021 announced



- The Nobel Prize in Literature 2021 was awarded to Abdulrazak Gurnah born in Zanzibar and active in England, "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents." The Nobel Prize in literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden.
- The Tanzanian novelist was born in Zanzibar in 1948 and has since lived in the UK and Nigeria.

- He writes in English, and his most famous novel is Paradise, which was shortlisted for the Booker prize in 1994. Gurnah currently lives in the UK and taught English Literature at the University of Kent.
- Until recently, he was Professor of English and Postcolonial Literatures at the University of Kent, Canterbury and has published ten novels and a number of short stories.



#### **Amazon's Astro robot**



- Amazon recently announced a "home robot" named Astro.
- The robot has cartoony-eyes on a tablet-like touchscreen and comes equipped with a periscope camera and microphone.
- It weighs about 20 pounds and is two feet tall, essentially a robot dog on wheels.
- The robot is designed to move around the home and keep a check on pets, and detect something unusual in the absence of the owner.
- It is basically a combination of the Echo Show and sophisticated Ring security camera integrated into one single device.

- The device captures live videos, recognises faces, plays music or videos, and delivers things across the home.
- However, the privacy concern is that the amount of data Amazon gets to fetch with the Astro, gives the company easy access to the household, going one step beyond Alexa.

#### Other such robots-

- Softbank had "suspended" the production of Pepper, one of the first humanoid robots able to "read" emotions.
- Jibo started an Indiegogo project, pitched as "the world's first social robot for the home," but the idea never caught on.



## World food prices hit 10-year peak: UN agency



 Global food prices rose for the second consecutive month in September to reach a 10-year peak, driven by gains for cereals and vegetable oils, the United Nations' food agency said. The Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) food price index averaged 130 points last month, highest since September 2011. Prices were up 32.8% in September on a year-on-year basis.

# What is Mosquirix, the world's first malaria vaccine to get WHO's approval?



- Mosquirix (RTS,S), recommended by WHO for widespread use, is the first vaccine that is around 30% effective against severe cases of the mosquito-borne disease malaria and is given to children aged 6 weeks to 17 months.
- GlaxoSmithKline's four-dose vaccine, which was under development for 30 years, acts against Plasmodium falciparum, the deadliest malaria parasite, which is most prevalent in Africa.

## Turkey ratifies Paris climate agreement; last G20 country to do so



- Turkey's Parliament ratified the 2015 Paris climate agreement on Wednesday, the last G20 country to do so.
- Turkey had held off ratifying it until now while seeking to be reclassified as a developing, rather than a developed country.
- UNFCCC currently lists Turkey in Annex I group, described as an industrialised country.
- However, Turkey wants to remove itself from that list.