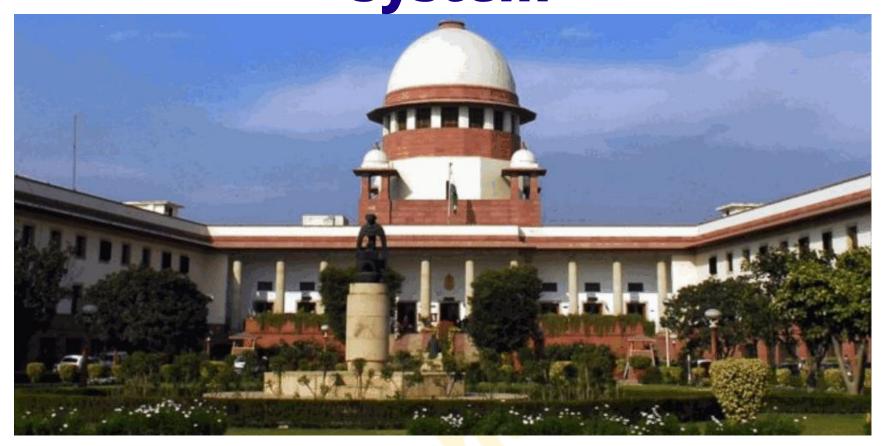


## Supreme Court introduces FASTER system



- Supreme Court of India has approved an electronic system named FASTER (Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records).
- The FASTER system will be used for transferring eauthenticated copies from courts to prisons. A three-judge bench of Chief Justice N.V. Ramana, Justice Nageswara Rao and Justice Surya Kant has instructed state governments, Union territories, prison departments and other authorities concerned to make arrangements at prisons to accept eauthenticated copies.

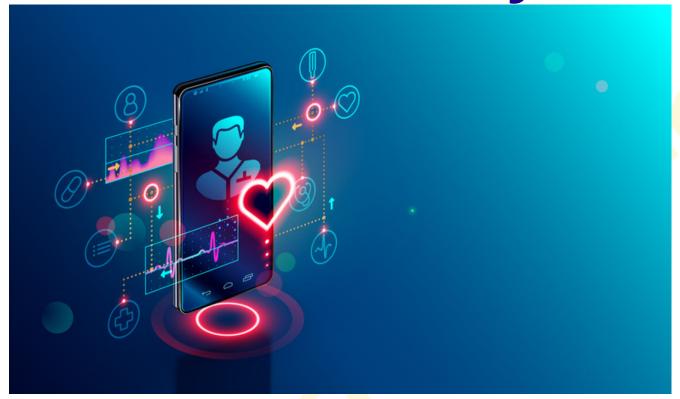
- Under the FASTER system, courts can send e-authenticated copies of bail orders, stay orders, interim orders and proceedings through secured electronic communication to duty officers at prisons.
- The apex court was hearing a suo motu case which it took up in July this year after a news report indicated that inmates at a prison in Agra continued to be lodged in jail three days after they had been granted bail.

## Cavers enter 367-ft-deep sinkhole known as 'Well of Hell' for 1st time in Yemen



- A team of Omani cavers has made what is believed to be the first descent to the bottom of Yemen's fabled 'Well of Hell', a sinkhole that is 100-foot-wide and 367-foot-deep.
- Locals avoided it as many of them believed it to be a 'prison for genies'.
- The cavers found snakes, dead animals and cave pearls at the bottom.

## What are the features of the nationwide digital health mission launched today?



- Under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, a unique 14-digit health ID will be issued to citizens.
- It'll contain details of every test, every disease and doctors visited. It'll enable exchange of longitudinal health records of citizens with their consent.
- Other components include Healthcare Professionals Registry and Healthcare Facilities Registries that will act as repository of healthcare providers.

## **Cyclone 'Gulab'**



- Every Hindi and Urdu speaker would understand that the word 'Gulab' (pronounced as Gul-Aab) means Rose.
- And Pakistan, not India, proposed this name! Similarly, the previous cyclone that hit the east coast of India, Cyclone Yaas, was named as per the proposal from Oman.
- Countries surrounding a particular basin name the storms originating in that basin, usually years before they even form! And therefore, all the 13 countries sharing the Indian Ocean basin have already provided a long list of 169 names, with each country proposing 13 names.
- The names are chosen one after the other from this list, approved by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

- RSMC, New Delhi is responsible for naming cyclones over the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea based on the suggested names from all these countries.
- Out of several criteria for naming cyclones, some very important ones are: names should be politically and culturally neutral, should not be rude and cruel and should be short, easy to pronounce.
- The maximum permissible length of the cyclone names is eight letters.
- As per the WMO guidelines, a list of 64 names was drawn in 2004 using the suggested names from eight countries in the region.
- In May 2020, Cyclone Amphan became the last cyclone to get its name from this old list.
- In 2020, a new list of cyclone names (listed above) was issued by IMD, following WMO guidelines.
- After Amphan, the naming started with the first list— Nisarga, Gati and so on. After 13 cyclones, when List 1 is fully used, the naming resumes from List 2 and so on.
- Cyclone Gulab is the seventh name to be used from the new list.
- Gulab is the third cyclone of 2021 and is expected to be relatively mild compared to the previous two.

- However, it is likely to bring torrential downpour over 200 mm across isolated places of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana.
- As per the WMO guidelines, if a cyclone is particularly deadly or costly, the name is retired and never used again for any other hurricane.
- As per the WMO records, infamous storm names such as Mangkhut (the Philippines, 2018), Irma and Maria (the Caribbean, 2017), Haiyan (the Philippines, 2013), Sandy (the USA, 2012), Katrina (the USA, 2005), Mitch (Honduras, 1998) and Tracy (Darwin, 1974) are some of the names of hurricanes that are retired now.