

1. Millimeter' Spectrum

Why in News?

- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) plans to auction the 24.75 – 27.25 gigahertz (GHz) spectrum in the 5G band in the next calendar year, and is likely to seek Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (TRAI) views on the same, officials in the know of the developments said.

Millimeter Wave Band:

- The millimeter-wave band or extremely high-frequency frequency spectrum is mainly designed for usage in airport security scanners, closed-circuit television, scientific research, machine-to-machine communication, and military fire control.
- As your wavelength becomes smaller, the cell size becomes less, which is the footprint of the relay station. This will be used more by the industry. And where you already have fiber connection and you want to reach houses, this will be through millimeter bands
- This new spectrum under the 5G band called the 'millimeter-wave bands' is separate from the 8,300 megahertz (MHz), which the government plans to auction between March and April. The DoT is likely to approach TRAI in January for seeking its views on the sale of these additional bands, DoT officials said.

2. Krishi Karman Awards

Why in News?

- The Prime Minister will distribute Krishi Karman Awards and Commendation Awards to states at a public meeting in Tumkur, Karnataka.
- The event will also witness the release of the 3rd instalment of PM Kisan (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi) of Rs 2000 for the period December 2019-March 2020.

Krishi Karman Awards:

- The Krishi Karman Awards are given to the best performing states in food grain production.
- There are a total number of 7 rewards including 3 for the States with highest food grain production in three identified categories –large, medium and small producers; and 4 rewards one each for the highest production under rice, wheat, pulses and coarse cereals crops.
- However, for rice and wheat, no grouping of states is carried out.

- The reward amount for the highest food grain producing State will be Rs 2 crores and for the individual crop categories, it is Rs 1 crore. The first Krishi Karman Awards were first given in 2011. The states are divided into the following 3 groups based on the highest production levels of food grains achieved by the States in the previous five years.
- **Group 1:**
 - ✓ Highest Production (in '000 tons) >10000
 - ✓ States: UP, Punjab, AP, WB, Haryana, MP, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bihar.
- **Group 2:**
 - ✓ Highest Production (in '000 tons) 1000 – 10000
 - ✓ States: Odisha, TN, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, HP, J&K.
- **Group 3:**
 - ✓ Highest Production (in '000 tons) < 1000
 - ✓ States: Rest of the states

3. Juanga, Pudi Bhuyan- Tribes

Why in News?

- The poor implementation of government welfare programmes in the tribal areas of Odisha is affecting the tribes like Juanga, Pudi Bhuyan.

About Juanga Tribe

- They are one of the 13 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) out of the total 62 tribes found in Odisha.
- They speak **Juanga**, a dialect of **Munda** language.
- They usually observe their festivals and marriage ceremony with **Changu** dance.
- Early marriage is a common practice among Juangas, leading to complications among children born out of young parents.

About Pudi Bhuyan Tribe:

- They are major section of the historically famous Bhuinya tribe.
- They are Majorly Found in Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal and Assam.
- It is one of the 13 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) in Odisha.
- They speak local Odia language which is pronounced differently.

4. Bhima Koregaon Battle

Why in News?

- On the occasion of the 202nd anniversary of the Bhima Koregaon Battle, at least 8 lakh people paid tribute at the 'Jaystambh' (Victory pillar) in Perne village in Pune district of Maharashtra.

About:

- The Battle of Koregaon was fought on 1 January 1818 between the British East India Company and the Peshwa faction of the Maratha Confederacy, at Koregaon Bhima.
- The 28,000-strong Marathas, led by Peshwa Bajji Rao II intended to attack Pune. On their way, they were met by an 800-strong Company force that was on its way to reinforce the British troops in Pune.
- The Peshwa dispatched around 2,000 soldiers to attack the Company force stationed in Koregaon.
- Led by Captain Francis Staunton, the Company troops defended their position for nearly 12 hours. The Marathas ultimately withdrew, fearing the arrival of a larger British force led by General Joseph Smith.
- The Company troops of Indian origin included predominantly Mahar Dalit soldiers belonging to the Bombay Native Infantry, and therefore Dalit activists regard the battle as a heroic episode in Dalit history.
- The **Koregaon pillar inscription** or the **Jaystambh (Victory pillar)** features the names of the 49 Company soldiers killed in the battle.
- It was built by the British as a symbol of their own power, today it serves as a memorial of the Mahars.

5. IRDAI

Why in News?

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has imposed a penalty on MIBL and HIBIL for not complying with the Motor Insurance Service Provider (MISP) guidelines.

About IRDAI:

- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India or the IRDAI is the apex body responsible for regulating and developing the insurance industry in India.

- It is an **Autonomous** body. It was established by an act of Parliament known as the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999**.
- IRDAI is headquartered in Hyderabad in Telangana.
- Its primary purpose is to protect the rights of the policyholders in India. It gives the registration certificate to insurance companies in the country.
- It also engages in the renewal, modification, cancellation, etc. of this registration.
- It also creates regulations to protect policyholders' interests in India.

