

15 June

1) Around 20 states have so far signed memoranda of understanding to implement **Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission** which aims to provide health protection to around 10 crore poor families in the country.

The scheme has the benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year. To ensure that nobody is left out (especially women, children and elderly) there will be no cap on family size and age in the scheme. The benefit cover will also include pre and post-hospitalisation expenses.

2) According to a new **UNICEF analysis**, India is among almost 90 countries in the world without national policies in place that ensure new fathers get adequate paid time off with their newborn babies.

India and Nigeria, which have high infant populations, are among the 92 countries do not have national policies in place that ensure new fathers get adequate paid time off with their newborn babies.

3) **Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Arra**: Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array has uncovered convincing evidence for three young planets orbiting within a protoplanetary disk – or planet-forming disk – around an infant star. The star is called HD 163296. It's 330 light-years from Earth in the direction of the constellation Sagittarius.

The Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) is an international partnership of the European Southern Observatory (ESO), the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS) of Japan, together with NRC (Canada), NSC and ASIAA (Taiwan), and KASI (Republic of Korea), in cooperation with the Republic of Chile.

4) **Swajal Scheme**

- Swajal is a community owned drinking water programme for sustained drinking water supply.
- Under the scheme, 90% of the project cost will be taken care by the Government and the remaining 10% of the project cost will be contributed by the community. The Operations and management of the project will be taken care by the local villagers.

5) **"Water Productivity Mapping of Major Indian Crops"**: The book is based on study of 10 important crops. The ten important crops include rice, wheat, maize, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane, cotton and potato etc. The book suggests to realign cropping pattern keeping in view water scarcity of irrigation, ration irrigation supplies in canal irrigation system, improve micro-irrigation and invest in water harvesting and artificial recharge and encourage participatory irrigation management through water user association and farmer's producer organisation.

6) **Mt Deotibba:**

An all women Naval mountaineering team recently summited Mount Deotibba.

About Mt Deotibba: Mt Deotibba is the second highest peak (6001M) in the Pir-Panjol range in Himachal Pradesh.

7) **Apache helicopters:**

The US has approved a deal to sell six AH-64E Apache helicopters to India for \$930 million as well as Hellfire and Stinger missiles to bolster the country's ability to defend its homeland and deter "regional threats".

About Apache helicopters:

- The AH-64 Apache is a multi-role combat helicopter and is used by the US Army and a number of international defence forces.

- It is equipped with all-weather and night-fighting features apart from an advanced weapons system.
- The Apache has advanced laser, infrared, and target acquisition designation, including other systems, to locate, track and attack targets.
- It also has stealth characteristics, advanced sensors and beyond-visual-range missiles.

8) **Pinaka rocket:**

The indigenous Pinaka rocket system of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is being evolved into a precision-guided missile, with enhanced range and accuracy to hit its targets.

The rocket has been developed by the Armament cluster of the DRDO, with a lead from Pune-based Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE).