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NEWS ANALYSIS  
THE HINDU

25 MAY 2018

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# “Clean Air India Initiative” launched

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- ❖ Context : Prime Minister of Netherlands Mark Rutte, who is in India on a two-day visit, launched the ‘**Clean Air India Initiative**’.
- ❖ The campaign aims to curb air pollution in Indian cities by promoting partnerships between Indian start-ups and Dutch companies and build a network of entrepreneurs working on business solutions for cleaner air.
- ❖ The Clean Air India Initiative is a collaborative project between Get In The Ring, a platform for start-ups, the government of the Netherlands, Start-up India, and INDUS Forum, an online matchmaking platform of Indian and Dutch businesses.

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# Global warming may have ‘devastating’ effects on rice

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- ❖ Context : As carbon dioxide rises due to the burning of fossil fuels, **rice** will lose some of its **protein** and **vitamin** content, putting millions of people at risk of **malnutrition**, scientists warned.
- ❖ The change could be particularly dire in southeast Asia where rice is a major part of the daily diet.
- ❖ Researchers found that **iron, zinc, protein, and vitamins B1, B2, B5, and B9** — which help the body convert food to energy — were all reduced in the rice grown under higher Carbon dioxide conditions.

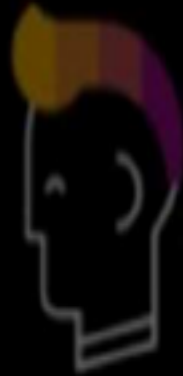
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# Decoding Europe's new data protection law

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- ❖ Context : The European Union's (EU) **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** came into force.
- ❖ The stringent regulations aim to protect all EU citizens from data breaches, provide for hefty penalties of up to €20 million or 4% of a company's global revenue for non-compliance.
- ❖ The regulation, which was approved by the EU Parliament in April 2016 after about four years of preparation and debate, came into effect on May 25, 2018.
- ❖ However, many firms in India are still not ready for compliance with the new law which will cover all entities doing business in the EU.

## Background **What is GDPR anyway?**



Data protection for all individuals within the EU



Any information related to a natural person



Any company doing business in the European Union



Takes effect from 25 May 2018



Penalty up to 4% of worldwide turnover



It's an European law regulation (EU) 2016/679

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# Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)

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- ❖ Aim : The initiative is aimed at building an ecosystem for women across India to realize their entrepreneurial aspirations, scale-up innovative initiatives and chalk-out sustainable, long-term strategies for their businesses. This will be done through an enabling network of industry collaborations, partnerships, mentors and peer-to-peer connect.
- ❖ As an enabling platform, WEP is built on three pillars- **Iccha Shakti, Gyaan Shakti & Karma Shakti** where:
- ❖ Iccha Shakti represents motivating aspiring entrepreneurs to start their business.
- ❖ Gyaan Shakti represents providing knowledge and ecosystem support to women entrepreneurs to help them foster entrepreneurship.
- ❖ Karma Shakti represents providing hands-on support to entrepreneurs in setting-up and scaling up businesses.

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# Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-2018

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- ❖ Context: To celebrate the idea of unity in diversity, the **Ministry of Culture** is organising the the **Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav in Tehri, Uttarakhand**. The paired state for Uttarakhand under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat matrix is Karnataka, and while troupes from all over the country will be performing, special emphasis is being given to Karnataka.
- ❖ Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav was conceived by the Ministry of Culture in the year 2015, when the Ministry decided to organize it with an intent to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the Country in all its rich and varied dimensions, viz Handicrafts, Cuisine, Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Documentation and Performing Arts-Folk, Tribal, Classical and Contemporary- all in one place.
- ❖ The **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme** was launched by the PM on 31st October, 2016 to promote engagement amongst the people of different states/UTs so as to enhance mutual understanding and bonding between people of diverse cultures, thereby securing stronger unity and integrity of India.

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# ‘Samagra Shiksha’ scheme

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- ❖ Context: **Union Human Resource Development Ministry** has launched **Samagra Shiksha scheme** for school education.
- ❖ Samagra Shiksha is a program that unifies learning from the pre-school to class 12 levels and encapsulates elements of the **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamk Shiksha Abhiyan and teacher education**. The scheme will focus on **digital education**.
- ❖ The objectives of the scheme include:
  - Provision of quality education.
  - Enhancing learning outcomes of students.
  - Bridging social and gender gaps in school education and promoting vocationalisation of education.
  - Strengthening teacher education institutions like SCERTs and Diets to improve quality of teachers.
  - Annual grant of Rs 5,000 to Rs 20,000 per school for strengthening of libraries.



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# MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

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**Q.** The European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a very progressive text and closer to Indian Constitutional understanding, yet it should not be blindly followed while framing India's data protection policy. Comment.

## **Answer Structure:**

Intro- Briefly write about European GDPR

Main Body-

1. Write how its provisions are progressive and closer to Indian constitutional understanding
2. Why it should not be followed while framing India's data protection policy

Conclusion- Write what India should do while framing its data protection policy.