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14th December 2020

Topic: Culture and Heritage

What is the news?

- Project Chambyal, for display and sale of traditional Chamba products.

Purpose:

- To recognize traditional products of Chamba district at national and international level.

About Promotion:

- The products will be displayed at Rang Mahal of Chamba and Dalhousie hill town at tourist places to promote sale and awareness.

People involved:

- Women's from local panchayats and volunteers will run

the centre, and this will help them in economic gain.

(Source: Tribune HP)

TOPIC: HP Agriculture and Economy

What is the news?

- Himachal govt. has decided to protect traditional Red Rice.

What is the Plan?

- Govt. to bring more than 3000 hectares of land under its cultivation.
- At present, it is cultivated on 1,100-hectare land, and total yearly production is 9926 quintals.
- Himachal govt. is trying to get GI Tag for Red Rice.
- The Red Rice as per the govt. is one of the most ancient crop domesticated around 10,000 years ago.

Where to cultivate?

- Chirgaon, Rohru and Rampur and high hills of Shimla, Sirmour and Chamba districts, and some areas of Kangra.

Note: *In 2013, the Red Rice became the first crop of the state to be registered under the Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Act 2001.*

(Source: Tribune HP)

TOPIC: HP Wildlife

What is the news?

- Serow, a Himalayan goat antelope seen in Hurling village of Spiti.

About Serow:

- Included under Wildlife Protection Act 1972 and its hunting is prohibited
- IUCN also listed it in endangered species.

Habitat:

- Serow is a near-threatened species and found in the cold desert.
- Earlier it was spotted in Great Himalayan National Park, Kullu and Chamba district also.

(Source: Tribune HP)

TOPIC: HP Agriculture

What is the news?

- Black wheat cultivation in Himachal

What is Black wheat?

- Black wheat is helpful in prevention from cancer, diabetes and heart diseases.

- Black wheat has more content of Anthocyanin than others.
- Anthocyanin is an anti-oxidant with more Zinc content.
- Anthocyanin is the pigments that give red, purple, and blue plants their rich colouring.

Location of cultivation:

- It was tested successfully in Una plains, now next trial will be at higher elevations at Gohar in Mandi district.

Which Institutes involved?

- National Institute of Agro-Food Biotechnology Institute Chandigarh is researching Himachal with Ayurvedic Institute Jogindernagar.

(Source: Amarujala HP)

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