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## ***December 20, 2019***

### ***Topic: Punjabi Literature***

***News: -A Coffee table book and a religious movie to be released by Ex-PM Manmohan Singh tomorrow.***

- A Coffee table book – " Jewels of Punjab" would be released by Dr Manmohan Singh tomorrow.

#### ***What is a coffee table book?***

- A coffee-table book is a large, expensive book with a lot of pictures, which is designed to be looked at rather than to be read properly and is usually placed where people can see it easily.
- The coffee table book to be released has been produced by the World Punjabi Organization.
- The book – " jewels of Punjab" comprises autobiographies of some prominent Punjabi NRIs from different domains and countries.

- A Short film -" The Mystery master " ( the movie on Guru Nanak Ji), will also be released by the ex-PM.
- The movie has been scripted by Navtej Sarna, directed by Bobby Bedi and produced by Vikramjit Sahney.

(Source:- The Tribune)

## ***Topic: Governance***

**News:- Government takes several decisions associated with various departments.**

- Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is now poised to take over the 2 – acre land of Punjab Kisan Vikas Chamber ( PKVC), at Mohali.
- The department has allegedly said that it has failed to take any substantial steps for the welfare of the farmers.
- Besides, Punjab Educational service rules have been amended.
- Punjab Advocates Welfare Fund Rules, 2019 have been approved.
- Now, the provision of deposit of funds in nationalised banks has been brought.
- The Cabinet of Punjab has leased 4 sites, 5000 square feet each, for the development of a maintenance, repair and overhaul facility in the Patiala Aviation complex.

# ***Topic: Agriculture.***

**News:- Punjab witnesses record cotton crop production.**

- The expected cotton crop production is around 18.20 lakh bales.
- The production in the Last year was 12.23 lakh bales.
- The average production per acre has also crossed the 10 quintals per acre mark, whereas it was below 10 in the last year.
- The increase in the area under cotton cultivation has also been observed, from 6.70 lakh acres to 9.80 lakh acres.
- The production has been hailed as a mark of diversification of Agriculture in Punjab.
- Cotton Corporation of India had intervened this year to provide support to the farmers by purchasing a certain amount of cotton.
- The MSP of 5450 per quintal ( as fixed by the Centre ) has been provided to the farmers.
- Use of drip irrigation, decreased use of pesticides and chemicals and the assistance from Punjab Agricultural University of Ludhiana etc have also been instrumental.

(Source:- The Tribune)

# ***Topic: Pensions.***

**News:- Honorable Punjab and Haryana High court provides relief**

**for retired state government employees.**

- The High court has said that the Punjab government pensioners who retired with effect from January 1, 2006, would be entitled to the benefit of pension from that date and not the earlier specified date of December 1, 2011.
- In line with the recommendations of 5 th Punjab pay commission, the 2011 date was decided.
- The Punjab Finance Pension policy and coordination department had issued this policy.

(Source:- The Tribune)

***Please visit Regular Quiz Section for Current affairs questions.***

***Punjab PCS —> See Last (Regular Quiz)***

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