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February 21, 2020

Topic: Arms and drugs business is going on rampantly in the garb of mining: report

News: -A report has been submitted by the Deputy Commissioner to Punjab chief secretary regarding the cross border smuggling in the border district of Ferozepur.

- Arms and narcotics smuggling has found a new mode of operation now.
- In the garb of mining in the Ferozepur area, the cross border smuggling of arms such as AK – 47 and drugs such as heroin is taking place.
- The details have been shared with a division bench of the Punjab And Haryana High court.
- The petitioner had moved the court against the state on account of illegal mining going on in a village in Ferozepur.
- The mining is taking place in the violation of Punjab minor and major mineral rules,2013.

As per this:-

- The riverbed digging could not be carried on beyond 3 metres of water level (whichever is less).
- Also, nowadays drones (fitted with GPS) are being used for smuggling drugs and other harmful things from across the border.
- So, better surveillance and border management policies are required by the state government to deal with the menace.

(Source:- The Tribune)

Topic: Jail reforms.

News:- The government opts for CCTVs and live wire fencing in jails.

- Jail reforms are often in news as lack of them leads to smuggling of drugs, phones, arms etc in jails.

The measures which have been okayed by the administration are:-

- Installation of Artificial intelligence-enabled CCTV system in 9 central jails.
- Putting up a video conferencing system in all jails.
- Live wire fencing (220 – 440 volts) along the outer walls of the jails would also be done.
- The filling up of 305 posts of warders, besides others, would also be done.
- The legislation to establish Punjab prison Development

- board would also be coming up in the ongoing session.
- The costs of presenting undertrials would also be cut through video conferencing.
 - These reforms are vital as the United Nations Declaration of the human rights asserts the idea of rights of prisoners.
 - The image of India and its flourishing democracy is also affected by issues in prisons.

(Source:- The Tribune)

Topic: Social welfare

News:-The state administration berated over lax attitude in acid attack case.

- The supreme court in Laxmi case had directed that acid attack victims would be paid a compensation of rupees 1 lakh within 15 days of the occurrence or from bringing to the notice of the state government or union territory.
- After that, the government would have to facilitate immediate medical attention and expenses.
- The direction also said that Balance of ₹2 lakh would be paid as quickly as possible within 2 months thereafter to the victim.
- So, the court directed that ₹3 lakh compensation should be awarded to the victim within 4 weeks of the passing of the order.
- State Legal Services Authority would release it.

(Source:- The Tribune)

Please visit Regular Quiz Section for important questions.

Punjab PCS --> See Second (Regular Quiz)

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