

27 MAY 2019

2nd SCO MASS MEDIA FORUM

In news

The Second Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Mass Media Forum is being held at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan from 23-26 May, 2019.

In brief

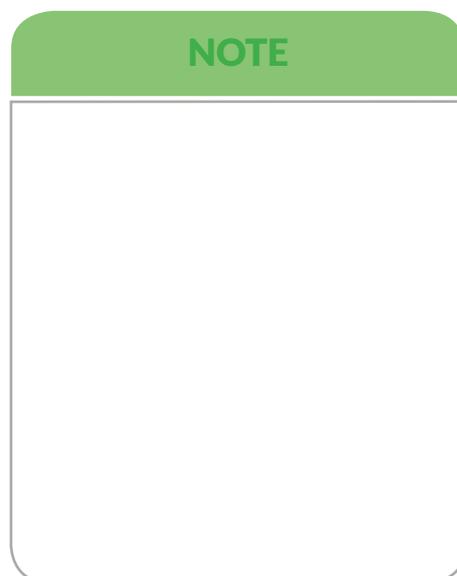
- The Forum aims to strengthen the exchange and cooperation in the field of mass media amongst SCO countries.
- It offers a unique platform for active work through mass media to create an objective vision of the organization and strengthen its positive image in the global information space.
- The representative of state bodies supervising mass media of the SCO countries (Member States, Observer Countries, Dialogue Partners); representatives of leading mass media of the SCO countries and representatives of the SCO Secretariat are participating in the Forum.
- The SCO Member States also adopted the Resolution of Media Forum which calls for establishing successful collaborations of Mass Media Organizations of the SCO member Countries.

Background

- The first SCO Media Summit was held in Beijing on 1 June 2018.
- This event was held under the motto “Development of the “Shanghai Spirit” and opening of a new era in the mass media cooperation”.

Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation, the creation of which was announced on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai (China) by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People’s Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan. It was preceded by the Shanghai Five mechanism.
- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Charter was signed during the St.Petersburg SCO Heads of State meeting in June 2002, and entered into force on 19 September 2003.



MEASLES OUTBREAK IN NEW YORK

In news:

New York City declares a public health emergency amid Brooklyn measles outbreak.

Steps taken:

- Unvaccinated people living in select areas will be required to receive the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, known as MMR, to curtail the outbreak and protect others.
- Under the mandatory vaccinations, members of the city's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will check the vaccination records of any individual who may have been in contact with infected patients.
- Those who have not received the MMR vaccine or do not have evidence of immunity may be given a violation and could be fined \$1,000 and \$2,000 if they fail to show up in court.



About Measles

- Measles is a childhood infection caused by Measles virus.
- It is a highly contagious, vaccine-preventable respiratory illness characterized by a rash of flat red spots.
- It is an airborne disease which spreads easily through the coughs and sneezes of infected people.
- Symptoms may include fever, cough, runny nose and watery eyes.
- Measles can also lead to death when complications become too severe
- Measles affects about 20 million people a year, primarily in the developing areas of Africa and Asia.
- About 1 child out of every 1,000 who get measles will develop encephalitis (swelling of the brain). As many as 1 out of every 20 children with measles will get pneumonia
- Measles is not known to occur in other animals.

PRELIMS BITS

SQUARE KILOMETER ARRAY PROJECT

- The Square Kilometer Array (SKA) Project is an international effort to build the world's largest radio telescope.
- The collecting area of the telescope will cover over a square kilometer (one million square metres).
- The SKA will use thousands of dishes and up to a million low-frequency antennas that will enable astronomers to monitor the sky in unprecedented detail.
- The telescope will be hosted in both South Africa's Karoo region and Western Australia's Murchison Shire.
- The functioning of this telescope is expected to start in 2020.
- Organisations from 12 countries are members of the SKA organisation - Australia, Canada, China, France, India, Italy, New Zealand, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

NOTE

