

- Tribal Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (TRIFED) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched “Sankalp se Siddhi” - Village & Digital Connect Drive.

About

- Aim → To **activate the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras** (VDVKs) in the 100 villages in each region.
- Starting **from April 1, 2021**, this **100 day drive** will **entail 150 teams** in which 10 teams in each region from TRIFED and State Implementation Agencies/ Mentoring Agencies/ Partners will be visiting 10 villages each.
- **1500 villages** in the country will be **covered in the next 100 days**.
- The visiting teams will **identify locations** and **shortlist potential VDVks** for **clustering** as TRIFOOD, and SFURTI units as larger enterprises.
- [TRIFOOD aims to **enhance the income of tribes** through **better utilization of and value addition** to the Minor Forest Produce collected by the tribal forest gatherers.]
- They will **identify suppliers from the tribal artisans** and **other groups to provide access them** to **larger markets** through the Tribes India network - both physical outlets and **TribesIndia.com**.

6. ProrIISe Software

Why in News?

- Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, (IISc) and Prorigo Software Pvt. Ltd. jointly develop ProrIISe Software.

About

- Purpose → ProrIISe Software aims to **automate the legal and bureaucratic part of the patent process**.
- It will be helpful for **registering intellectual property** developed by Indian academicians.
- Benefits → This software is **available at a lesser cost** when compared to the software available outside India. Earlier the only choice available was outside software products.
- **Version 2.0** of the software is aimed for **release in 2021**. This version will **automate the financial part also**.
- Similarly, **Version 3.0** may release in **2022**. It will bring out **artificial intelligence approaches** to processes required to evaluate a patent.

📌 Intellectual Property Rights

- What is it? → Intellectual property rights (IPR) are the **rights given to persons over the creations of their minds**: inventions, literary and artistic works, and symbols, names, and images used in commerce.
- Conventions → The importance of intellectual property was **first recognized** in the **Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property**(1883). Later it was also recognized in the **Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works**(1886). The World Intellectual Property Organization (**WIPO**) **administers both treaties**.

What is a Patent?

- Patents are **exclusive rights granted** by the Government to a company /individual for an invention.
- Duration → Patents are **time-bound**. For example: In India patents are granted for a **period of 20 years** from the date of filing of the patent application.

7. China's Digital Currency