

SAMKALP - VEDHIK

CURRENT AFFAIRS

JULY 2022



ISSUE NO.9



SAMKALP



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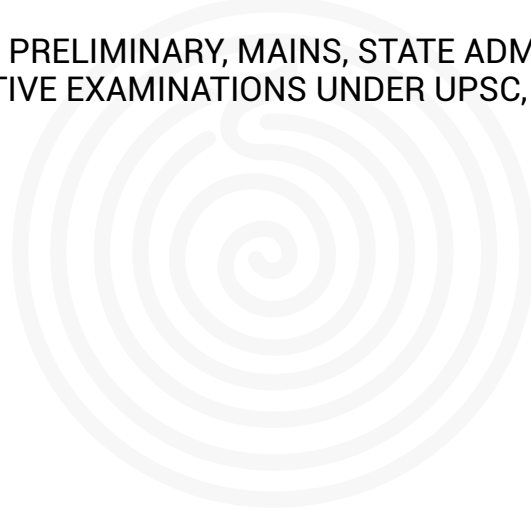
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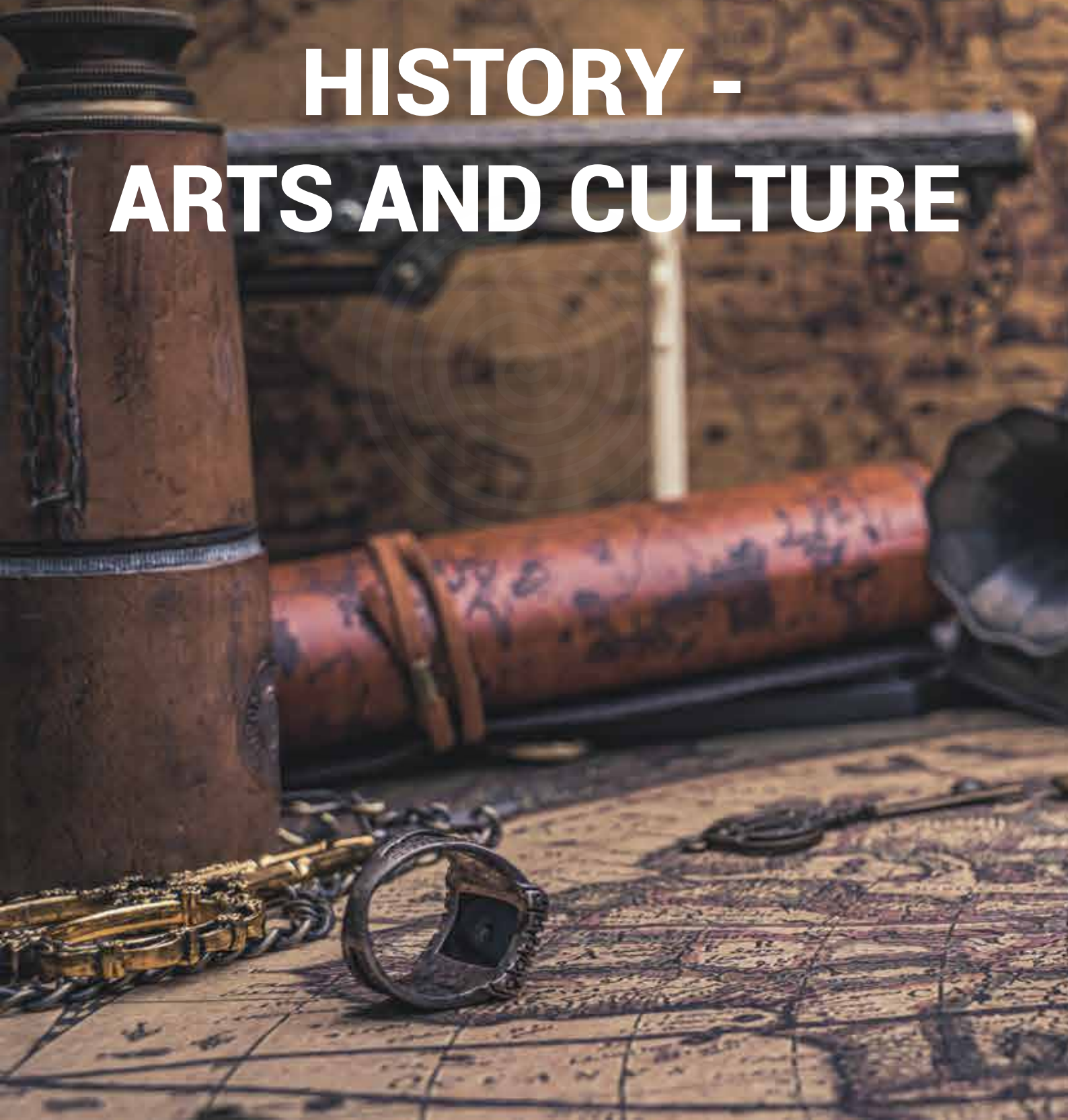
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HISTORY - ARTS AND CULTURE



An hourglass with a brass frame and glass bulbs, containing purple sand. It is positioned on the left side of the page, with a patterned background.

NATIONAL EMBLEM OF INDIA

ZAFAR MAHAL

ALLURI SITARAMA RAJU

MAHARANA PRATAP JAYANTI

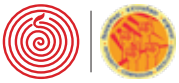
MELA KHEER BHAWANI

KONARK SUN TEMPLE

SHIMLA AGREEMENT, 1972

AVALOKITESHVARA PADMAPANI

SAVITRIBAI AND JYOTIRAO PHULE



NATIONAL EMBLEM OF INDIA

CONTEXT: Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the National Emblem cast on the roof of the new Parliament building.

On 26 January 1950, a representation of the Lion Capital of Ashoka placed above the motto, Satyameva Jayate, was adopted as the State Emblem of India.

FOUR LIONS, standing back-to-back, symbolising power, courage, confidence, and pride, mounted on a circular base mounted on an abacus with a frieze carrying sculptures in high relief of an **ELEPHANT**, a **GALLOPING HORSE**, a **BULL** and a **LION** separated by intervening **WHEELS** over a **PERSOPOLITAN BELL**

Buddhist interpretations claim the animals representing different phases of the Buddha's life, while non-religious interpretations claim them of depicting the reign of emperor Ashoka in the four geographical directions, while the wheels depict his enlightened rule.

LION: Enlightenment

GALLOPING HORSE: Buddha's horse, which he rode at the time of departing from the citadel*. (Loyalty, speed and energy)

BULL: Zodiac sign of Buddha - Taurus* (Hard work)

ELEPHANT: Buddha's outset - the dream of a white elephant entering her womb dreamt by Buddha's mother at the time of Buddha's conception*.





ZAFAR MAHAL

WHY IN NEWS

Zafar Mahal has been in news due to its deteriorated condition and poor maintenance.

ABOUT ZAFAR MAHAL

- ✎ It is named after last Mughal ruler Bahadur Shah Zafar
- ✎ This was the last palace built by the Mughals
- ✎ The Mughal court used to move into the Zafar Mahal during the summers
- ✎ The palace was used during the Phool Walon ki Sair (procession of florists) festival held after every monsoon.
- ✎ Construction of the Mahal began during Mughal ruler Akbar Shah II.
- ✎ It consists of the Mahal (built by Akbar Shah II) & Hathi Gate (built by Bahadur Shah Zafar).
- ✎ The complex contains the white marble Moti Masjid and many royal graves.

ALLURI SITARAMA RAJU

WHY IN NEWS?

The Prime Minister has launched the 125th birth anniversary celebration of freedom fighter Alluri Sitaram Raju in Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh.

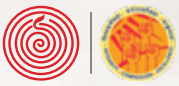
ABOUT ALLURI SITARAMA RAJU

- ✎ Born on July 4, 1897, into a humble middle-class family in a small village near the Coastal city of Visakhapatnam, Rama Raju was strongly influenced by patriotic discourse quite early in his life.
- ✎ The social-economic conditions in the country under the British regime, particularly in the tribal areas, deeply moved him.
- ✎ Rama Raju made up his mind to build a movement against the British.
- ✎ He had led the Rampa rebellion
- ✎ He made Adivasi areas in the Eastern Ghats (the forest area along the Visakhapatnam and Godavari district) his home and decided to work for the Adivasis who lived in 'Manyam' (forest area)
- ✎ He prepared them to fight against the oppressive Madras Forest Act, 1882.
- ✎ Unable to contain the 'Manyam' uprising, the British Government deputed T G Rutherford in April 1924 to quell the movement.
- ✎ After a relentless chase by British forces, Rama Raju was caught and martyred on May 7, 1924.
- ✎ He is referred to as 'Manyam Veerudu' (Hero of the Jungles) by the local people.

Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do.

- NELSON MANDELA





MAHARANA PRATAP JAYANTI

Recently, the Prime Minister and Vice President of India paid tributes to Maharana Pratap on his 480th birth anniversary.

ABOUT MAHARANA PRATAP

- ✎ Rana Pratap Singh also known as Maharana Pratap was born on May 9th 1540 in Kumbhalgarh, Rajasthan.
- ✎ He was the 13th King of Mewar and was the eldest son of Udai Singh II
- ✎ He was one of the few rulers who refused to accept the Mughal sovereignty.

Chavand school of art

- ✎ Maharana Pratap gave patronage to many shelters to many poets, artists, writers and artisans.
- ✎ He also built a new capital, Chavand, near modern Dungarpur.
- ✎ The Chavand school of art developed during the reign of Rana Pratap.

Battle of Haldighati:

- ✎ The Battle of Haldighati was fought in 1576 between Rana Pratap Singh of Mewar and Raja Man Singh of Amber who was the general of the Mughal emperor Akbar.
- ✎ Maharana Pratap fought a brave war, but was defeated by Mughal forces.

MELA KHEER BHAWANI

WHY IN NEWS?

Mela Kheer Bhawani was recently celebrated in Kashmir.

ABOUT THE KHEER BHAWANI MELA

- ✎ It is dedicated to the Hindu goddess Kheer Bhawani constructed over a sacred spring.
- ✎ The devotees of the Goddess Mata Kheer Bhawani fast and gather here on the eighth day of the full moon in the month of May/ June when, according to belief, the Goddess changes the colour of the spring's waters, which are ascribed to different manifestations of the Goddess Mata Kheer Bhawani.
- ✎ Maharaja Pratap Singh of Jammu and Kashmir and Maharaja Hari Singh contributed to building and renovating the temple
- ✎ Situated 30 km from Srinagar city, it is one of the most sacred pilgrimage sites for Kashmiri Hindus.
- ✎ The temple gets its name from kheer, or milk and rice pudding, which pilgrims pour into the spring inside the temple complex as an offering to the goddess.
- ✎ The festival, known as Mela Kheerbhawani, is the largest gathering of Hindus in Kashmir after the annual Amarnath Yatra.

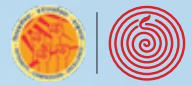
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KONARK SUN TEMPLE

WHY IN NEWS?

The Archaeological Survey of India is undertaking the restoration and maintenance of Konark Temple as is unlikely to complete it soon.

- 🚫 Location: East Odisha near the sacred city of Puri.
- 🚫 Time period: 13th century
- 🚫 Built by: King Narasimhadeva I (AD 1238-1264).

Features

- 🚫 The temple is designed in the shape of a colossal chariot.
- 🚫 It is dedicated to the sun God.
- 🚫 It was declared a UNESCO world heritage site in 1984.
- 🚫 Two rows of 12 wheels on each side of the Konark sun temple.
- 🚫 It is said that the wheels represent the 24 hours in a day or the 12 months.
- 🚫 The seven horses are said to symbolise the seven days of a week.
- 🚫 It is also known as the Black Pagoda
- 🚫 It is a fine example of the Kalinga architecture
- 🚫 The Konark sun temple is depicted on the reverse side of the Rs. 10 denomination note of the Indian Government.

SHIMLA AGREEMENT, 1972

CONTEXT: The Shimla Agreement, 1972 completed 50 years, signed in the aftermath of Liberation of Bangladesh following the Indo-Pakistan War, 1971. The Shimla Agreement is considered a landmark agreement as it laid the blueprint for good neighbourly relations between India and Pakistan.

PRINCIPLES OF SHIMLA AGREEMENT

1. Governance of bilateral relations by the principles and purposes of the UN Charter
2. Cooperative relationship with a special focus on people-to-people contacts.
3. Uphold the inviolability of the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir.
4. Prevent hostile propaganda against each other and resolve issues through peaceful means and bilateral negotiations
5. Refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of each other.
6. Peacefully, respecting each other's sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and not interfering in each other's internal affairs.



Judge your success by what you had to give up
in order to get it.

- DALAI LAMA

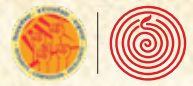


AVALOKITESHVARA PADMAPANI

The idol of Avalokiteshvara Padmapani (Buddha) dated between the 8th and 12th centuries that went missing two decades ago from the Devasthan Kundalpur temple in Bihar was handed over to the Indian consulate in Milan.



Avalokiteshvara meaning "one who can see all" is the most popular among all Bodhisattvas. Representing infinite compassion and mercy, Avalokiteshvara postpones his own transformation into Buddha to help others. A bodhisattva is someone who has compassion within himself or herself and who is able to make another person smile or help someone suffer less.



SAVITRIBAI AND JYOTIRAO PHULE

SAVITRIBAI PHULE

- ✂ Savitribai Phule is widely regarded as one of India's first generation modern feminists for her significant contributions in ensuring equal education opportunities under the British raj.
- ✂ Savitribai Phule played a pivotal role in directing the work of the Satyashodak Samaj, formed by her husband against the caste-based discrimination.
- ✂ She organised a boycott by barbers against the tradition of head tonsuring of widows.
- ✂ In her honour, University of Pune was renamed Savitribai Phule University in 2015.

CONTRIBUTIONS

- ✂ First female teacher in India in 1848.
- ✂ Set up 'Balyata Pratibandak Gruha', a childcare centre for the protection of pregnant widows and rape victims with her husband.
- ✂ Started 'Satya Shodhaka Marriage' where the marrying couple has to take a pledge to promote education and equality.
- ✂ Opened a clinic in 1897 for victims of the bubonic plague that spread across Maharashtra just before the turn of the century.

JYOTIRAO PHULE

Born in 1827 in Satara district of Maharashtra, Phule was given the title of Mahatma on May 11, 1888, by Vithalrao Krishnaji Vandekar, a Maharashtrian social activist.

CONTRIBUTIONS

- ✂ Jyotiba Phule founded the Satyashodak Samaj in 1873 for social upliftment of untouchables making aware of their rights.
- ✂ Jyotiba Phule authored Ghulamgiri and Sarvajanic Satyadharma Pustak questioning the traditional customs and beliefs of society, dominated by the Brahmins.
- ✂ Jyotiba Phule started a school for untouchables and an orphanage for widows.
- ✂ Phule Met the Duke of York as the representative of poverty stricken Indian peasant

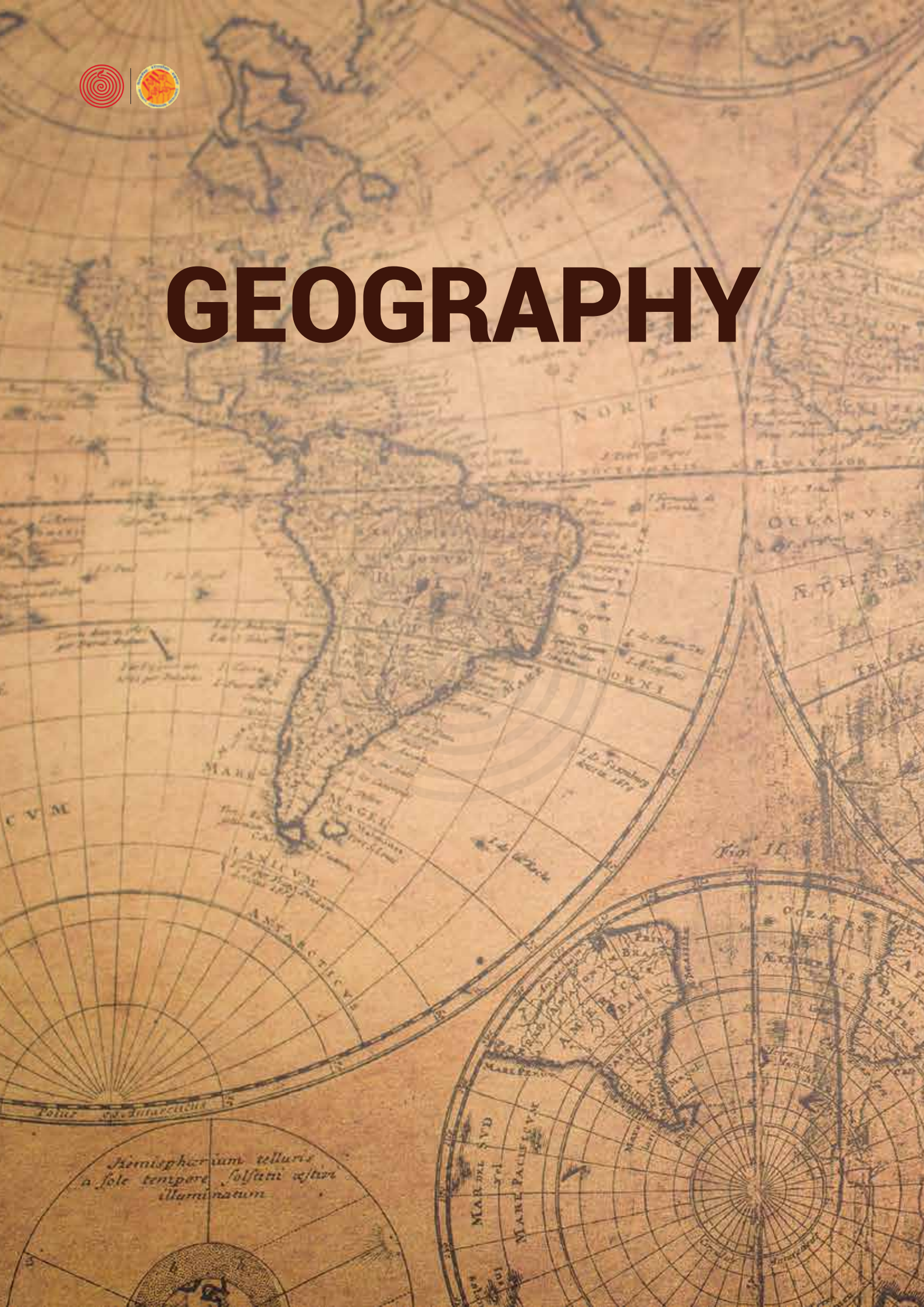


FAMOUS WORKS

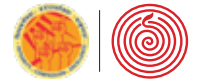
Tritiya Ratna (1855),
Ghulamgiri (1873),
Shetkarayacha Aasud 'Cultivator's Whipcord' (1881),
Satyashodak Samajokt Mangalashthakasa Sarva Puja-vidhi (1887).



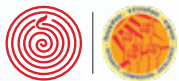
GEOGRAPHY



*Hemisphaerium telluris
a sole tempore solstitii aestivi
illuminatum*



- GREEN PROTECTION TO ARAVALLIS
- DERECHO: STORM SYSTEM
- KARAKORAM ANOMALY
- CLOUDBURST
- FLOODS
- PACIFIC RING OF FIRE
- GREAT BARRIER REEF
- CORAL ATOLLS
- ONSET OF MONSOON
- ONSET OF MONSOON



GREEN PROTECTION TO ARAVALLIS

- ✎ The Supreme Court of India extended Green Protection to forest land in Aravalli ranges.
- ✎ Recently Haryana has seen a rampant and indiscriminate development threatens several forest-patches, including some in the vulnerable Aravalli ranges.
- ✎ The Supreme Court held that all land covered by the special orders issued under Section 4 of the Punjab Land Preservation Act (PLPA) in Haryana will be treated as forests and be entitled to protection under the 1980 Forest Conservation Act
- ✎ Special orders under Section 4 of PLPA are the restrictive provisions issued by the state government to prevent deforestation of a specified area that could lead to soil erosion.

The Aravalli mountain range

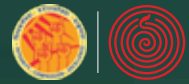
- ✎ The Aravalli mountain range that spans four states – Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi
- ✎ The peaks reach their maximum height in the south-western segment and as it moves north, the range begins to taper
- ✎ It travels beyond Delhi under the ground right up to Haridwar after which it disappears.
- ✎ The extension of the Aravallis from Delhi to Haridwar creates a divide between the drainage of rivers of the Ganga and the Indus
- ✎ They are one of the oldest fold mountains of the world
- ✎ Guru Shikhar (1721m) is the highest point of the range, located at about 15 km from northeast of Mount Abu.
- ✎ The Aravalli acts as the edge, which separates the Thar desert from the plains and plateaus of the eastern Rajasthan.

Threats faced by the Aravallis:

- ✎ mining
- ✎ soil excavations
- ✎ deforestation
- ✎ unscientific water extraction
- ✎ dust storms
- ✎ piling up of waste

Significance of the Aravallis:

- ✎ The Aravallis have an impact upon the climate of northwest India and beyond
- ✎ During monsoons, the mountain range guides the monsoon clouds eastwards towards Shimla and Nainital
- ✎ This gives enough rainwater to the sub Himalayan rivers.
- ✎ The north Indian plain also receives adequate rainfall
- ✎ In the winter months, it protects the fertile alluvial plains in the north from the cold westerly winds from Central Asia.
- ✎ The rocks in the Aravallis form complex groundwater aquifers which hold immense quantities of water becoming a source of ground water
- ✎ The Aravallis also host a number of endemic flora and fauna.
- ✎ There are several national parks and wildlife sanctuaries that fall within the belt of Aravalli Hills like Sariska National Park, Kumbhalgarh Sanctuary, Mount Abu etc.



DERECHO : STORM SYSTEM

CONTEXT: A few States of US were hit by a storm system called a Derecho, turning Sky Green. The name comes from the Spanish word 'la derecha' which means 'straight'.

DERECHO STORM

"Widespread, long-lived wind storm associated with a band of rapidly moving showers or thunderstorms that travel hundreds of miles and cover a vast area across central and eastern parts of the United States during June and July."

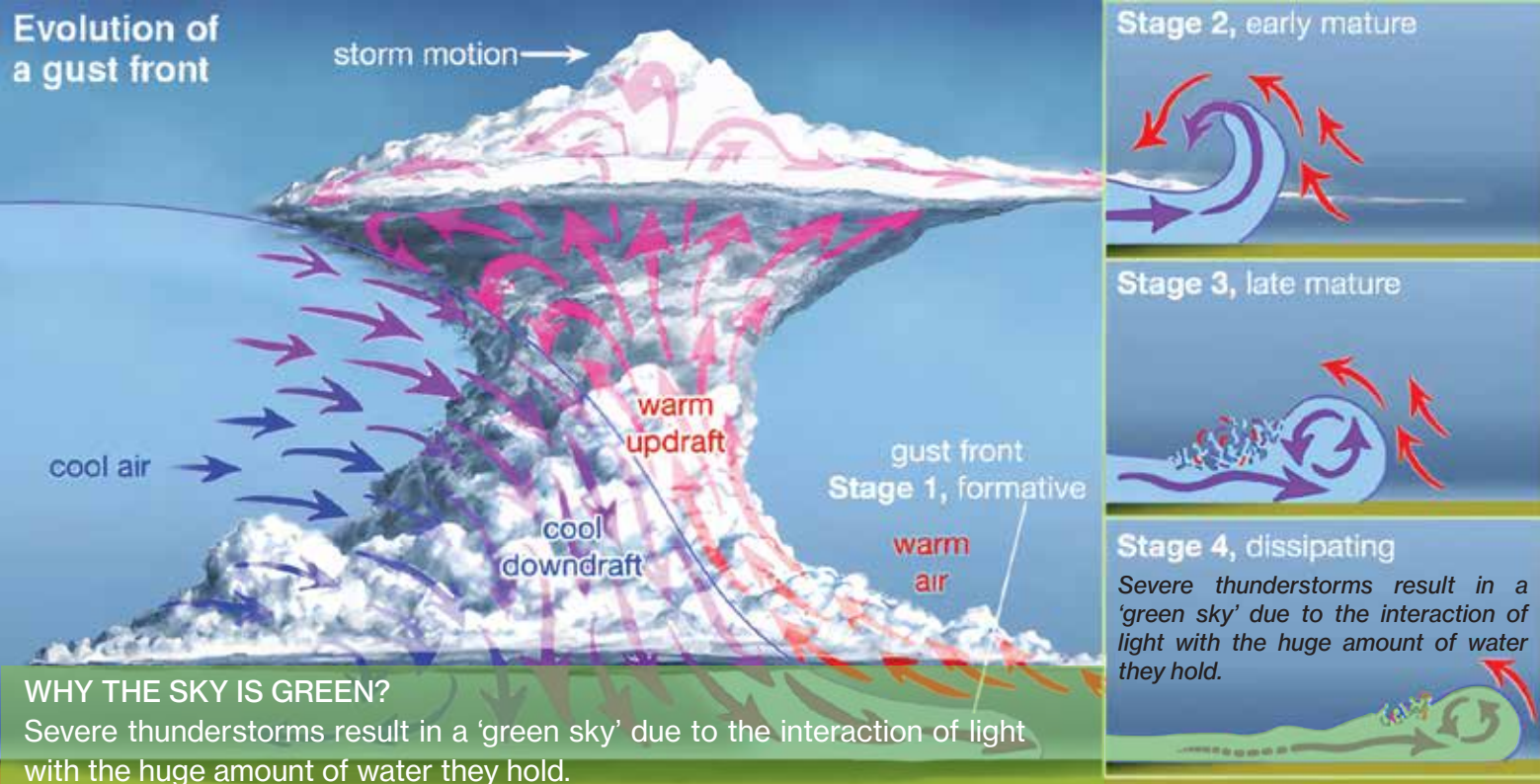
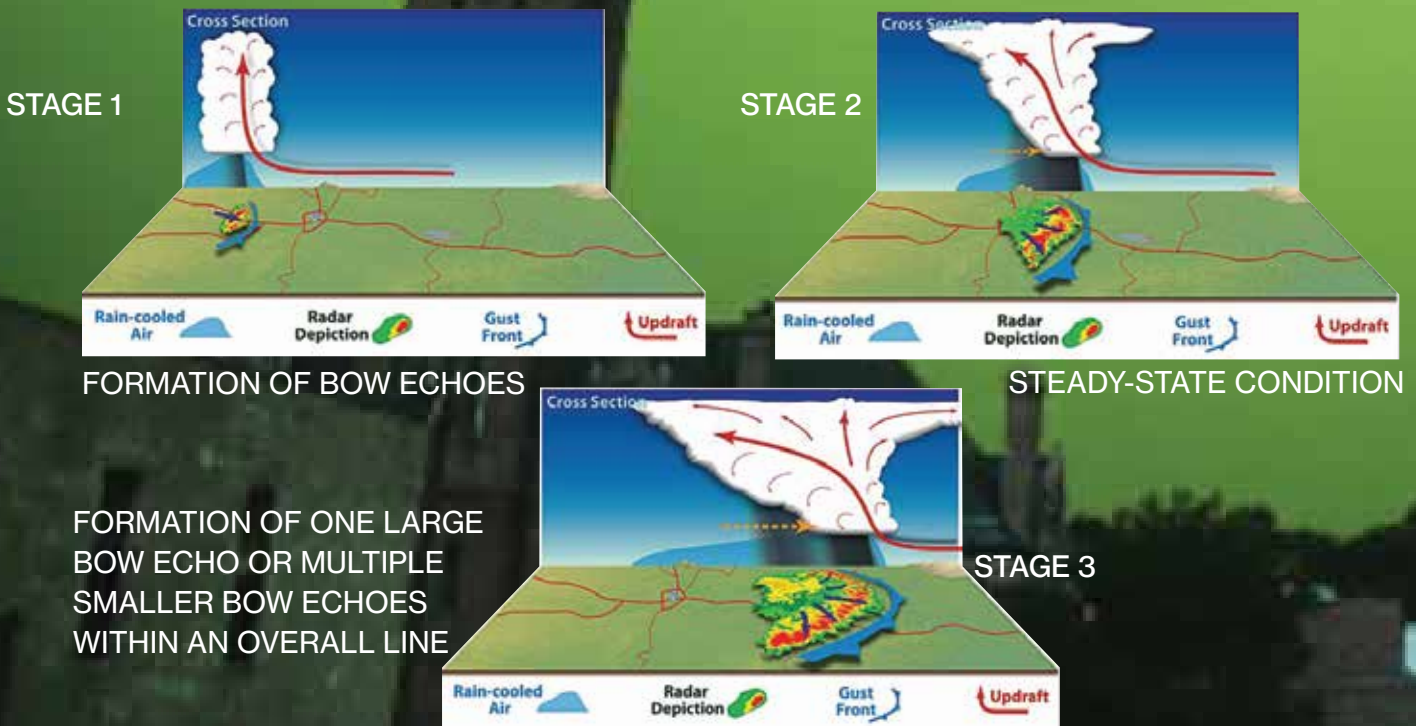
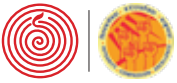


FIGURE: Schematic representation of the Derecho.





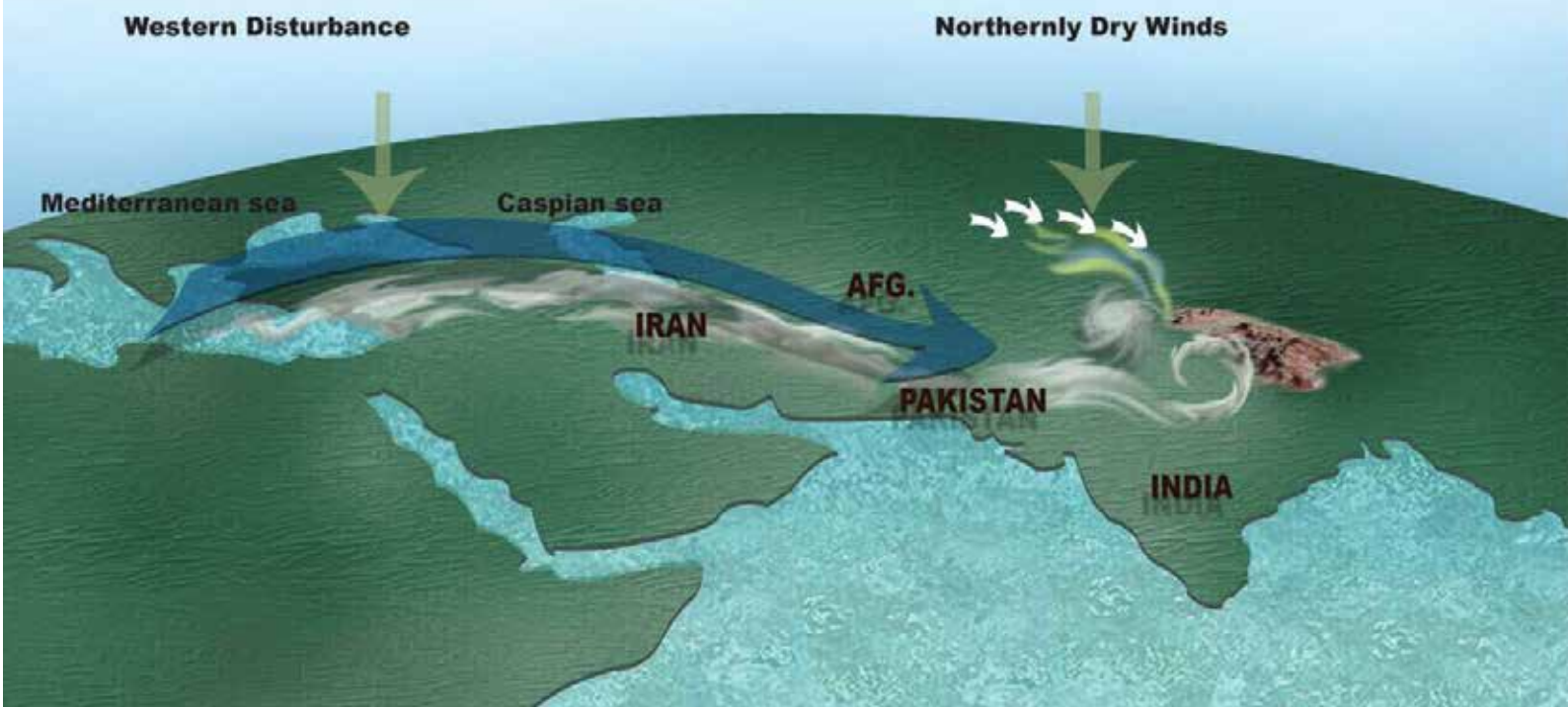
KARAKORAM ANOMALY

WHY IN NEWS?

- ❖ Researchers have taken a significant leap toward solving the mystery of why few pockets of glaciers in the Karakoram Range are resisting glacial melt due to global warming, defying the trend of glaciers losing mass across the globe.
- ❖ They have attributed this phenomenon called 'Karakoram Anomaly' to recent revival of western disturbances (WDs).
- ❖ Western Disturbances are the primary feeder of snowfall for the region during winters.
- ❖ According to their study, the precipitation intensity of WDs impacting Karakoram has increased by around 10% in last two decades helping them to sustain and maintain the glaciers.

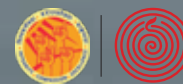
"weather phenomena of the winter months brought in by the westerly flow from the Mediterranean region that usually influence the weather of the north and north-western regions of India."

- Western Cyclonic Disturbances



The Trans-Himalayan ranges

- ❖ It comprises a series of ranges such as the Karakoram, Ladakh, Zaskar and Pir Panjal.
- ❖ It extends north of greater Himalaya and parallel to it is called Zaskar range.
- ❖ North of Zaskar range lies Ladakh range.
- ❖ The Indus River flows between Zaskar and Ladakh range
- ❖ The Karakoram range lie extreme north of the country



CLOUDBURST

CONTEXT: A “highly-localised rains” in Amarnath, Jammu and Kashmir, caused flash flooding and led to the deaths of at least 16 people and injuries to more than 20 others.

“unexpected precipitation exceeding 100mm per hour over a geographical region of approximately 20 km² - 30 km²”

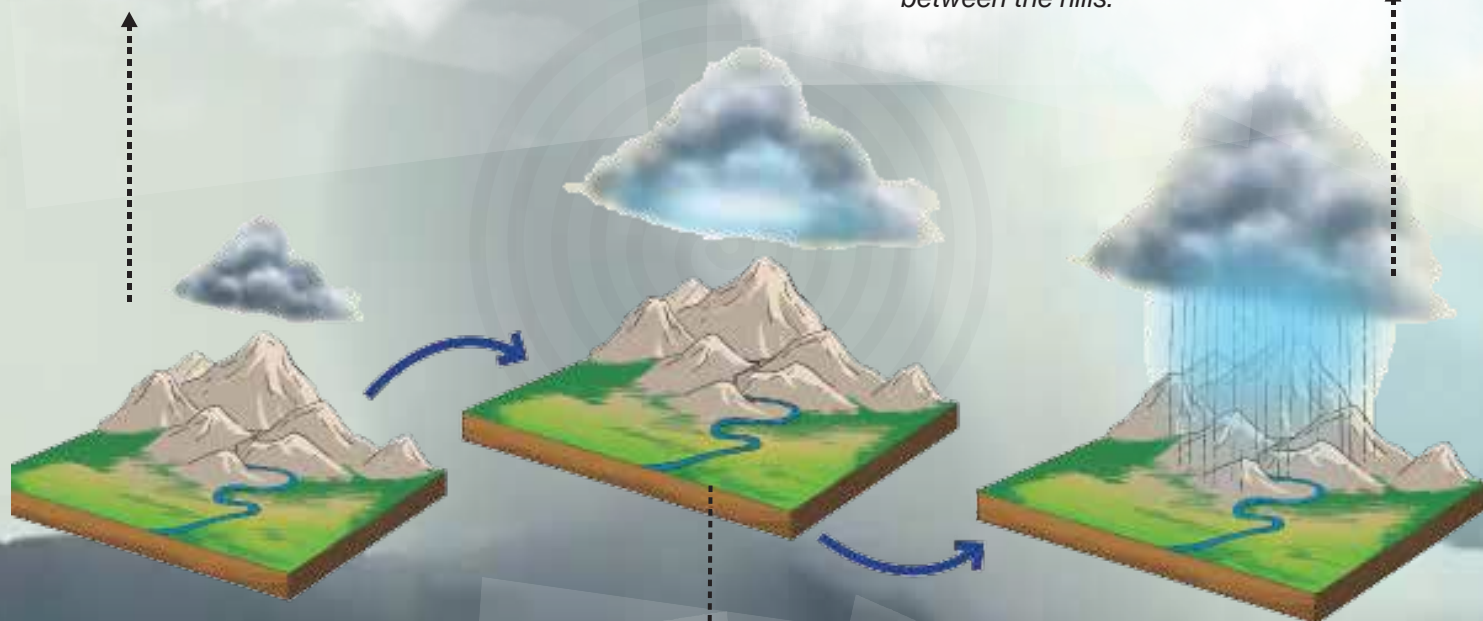
- **INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT (IMD)**

WHERE DO THEY OCCUR?

more likely to occur in mountainous zones mainly because of terrain and elevation - at elevations between 1,000-2,500 metres above sea level.

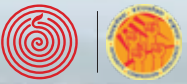
HOW DO THEY OCCUR?

Unstable clouds cause an intense rainstorm, usually accompanied by thunder and lightning over a small area after becoming heavy enough and locked in the ridges and valleys between the hills.



WHEN DO THEY OCCUR?

‘Orographic lift’ causes the moisture-laden air to move up a hilly terrain, forming a ‘cumulonimbus’ clouds - vertical column of clouds.



FLOODS

CONTEXT: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has said the unprecedented flooding of Silchar town was a man-made disaster.

VALLEY are extended depressions developed from erosion of running water. The depressions initially start as rills. Rills gradually develop into gullies. Gullies further widen and deepen to form extended depressions called valleys. Based on the shape of the depressions and nature of erosion, the valley is further classified as V shaped valleys, gorge, canyons etc.

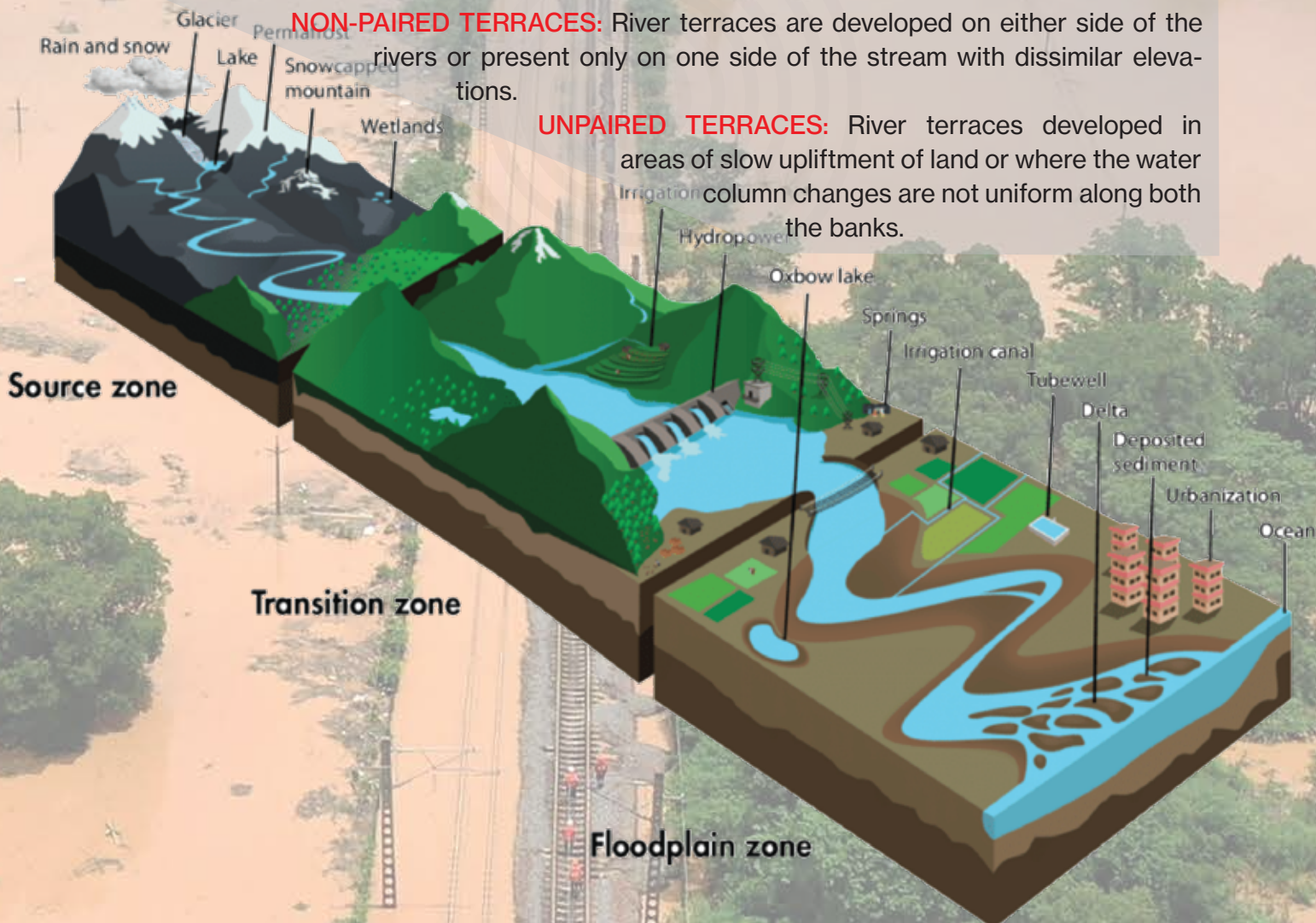
RIVER TERRACES

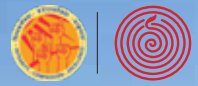
Intense erosional activity of receding water after a peak flow over exposed bedrocks devoid of alluvial cover; change in hydrological regime due to climatic changes; tectonic upliftment of land; sea level changes in case of rivers closer to ocean bodies.

PAIRED TERRACES: River terraces are developed on either side of the rivers with similar elevation

NON-PAIRED TERRACES: River terraces are developed on either side of the rivers or present only on one side of the stream with dissimilar elevations.

UNPAIRED TERRACES: River terraces developed in areas of slow upliftment of land or where the water column changes are not uniform along both the banks.

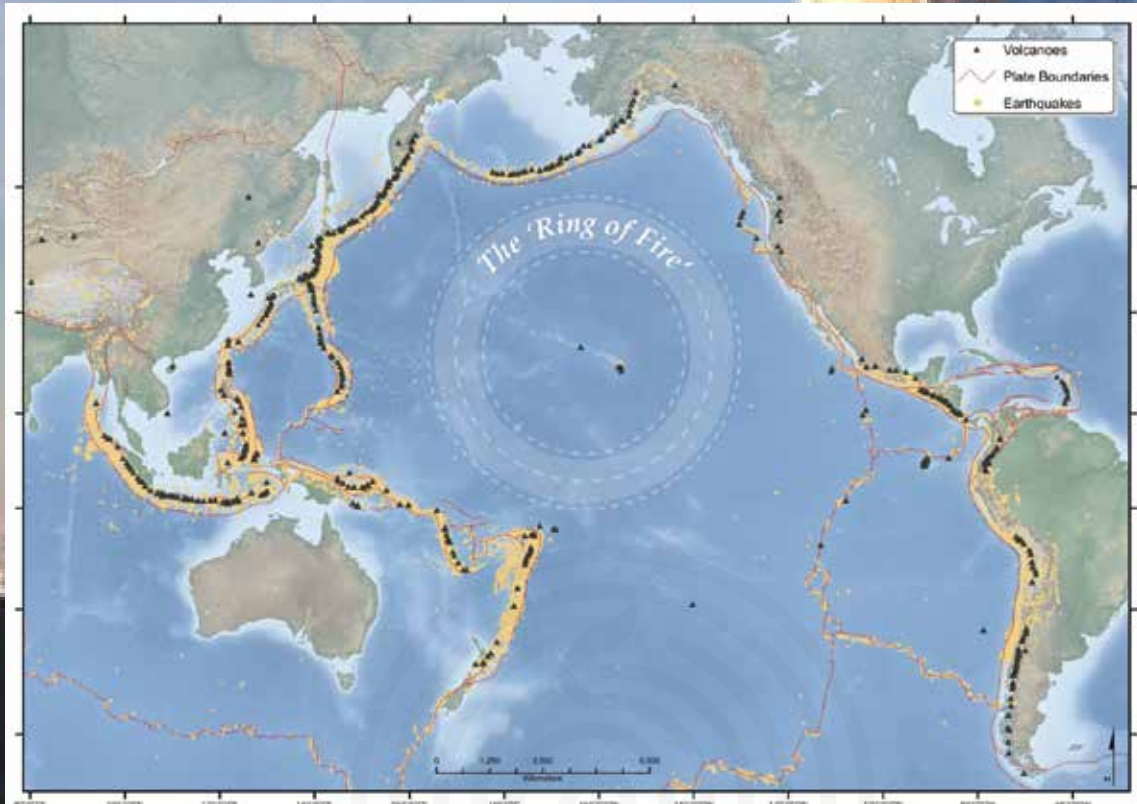




PACIFIC RING OF FIRE

WHY IN NEWS

A volcano on Japan's main southern island of Kyushu erupted

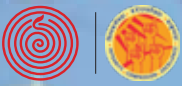


ABOUT THE PACIFIC RING OF FIRE

- ☞ Horseshoe-shaped circum-Pacific basin 40,000 kilometre long, looping from New Zealand to Chile, passing through the coasts of Asia and the Americas.
- ☞ Stretches along the Pacific Ocean coastlines, where the Pacific Plate grinds against other, smaller tectonic plates that form the Earth's crust – such as the Philippine Sea plate and the Cocos and Nazca Plates that line the edge of the Pacific Ocean.
- ☞ The people most at risk from activity in the Ring of Fire are in the US west coast, Chile, Japan and island nations including the Solomon Islands. These areas are most at risk because they lie on so-called subduction zones – which are boundaries that mark the collision between two of the planet's tectonic plates.
- ☞ Around 75 % of the world's active and dormant volcanoes is present in the “Pacific Ring of Fire”.
- ☞ About 90 % of the world's earthquakes and 81 % of the world's largest earthquakes occur along the “Pacific Ring of Fire”.

WHY DOES THE RING OF FIRE TRIGGER VOLCANIC ACTIVITY

- ☞ The Ring of Fire has the world's biggest concentration of subduction zones with world's deepest earthquakes happen in subduction zone areas as tectonic plates scrape against each other.
- ☞ The abundance of volcanoes and earthquakes along the Ring of Fire is caused by the amount of movement of tectonic plates in the area.
- ☞ The abundance of magma so near to Earth's surface gives rise to conditions ripe for volcanic activity.



GREAT BARRIER REEF

The highest levels of coral cover, within the past 36 years, has been recorded in the northern and central parts of Australia's Great Barrier Reef (GBR), according to the annual long-term monitoring report by the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS).

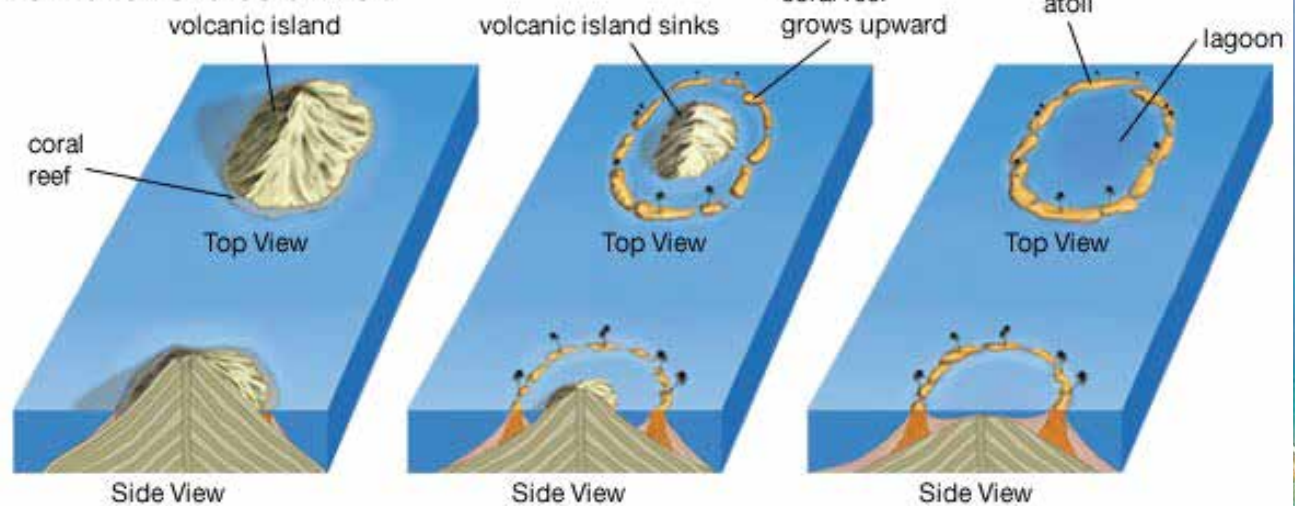
GREAT BARRIER REEF

The Great Barrier Reef is a site of remarkable variety and beauty on the north-east coast of Australia. It contains the world's largest collection of coral reefs, with 400 types of coral, 1,500 species of fish and 4,000 types of mollusc. It also holds great scientific interest as the habitat of species such as the dugong ('sea cow') and the large green turtle, which are threatened with extinction.



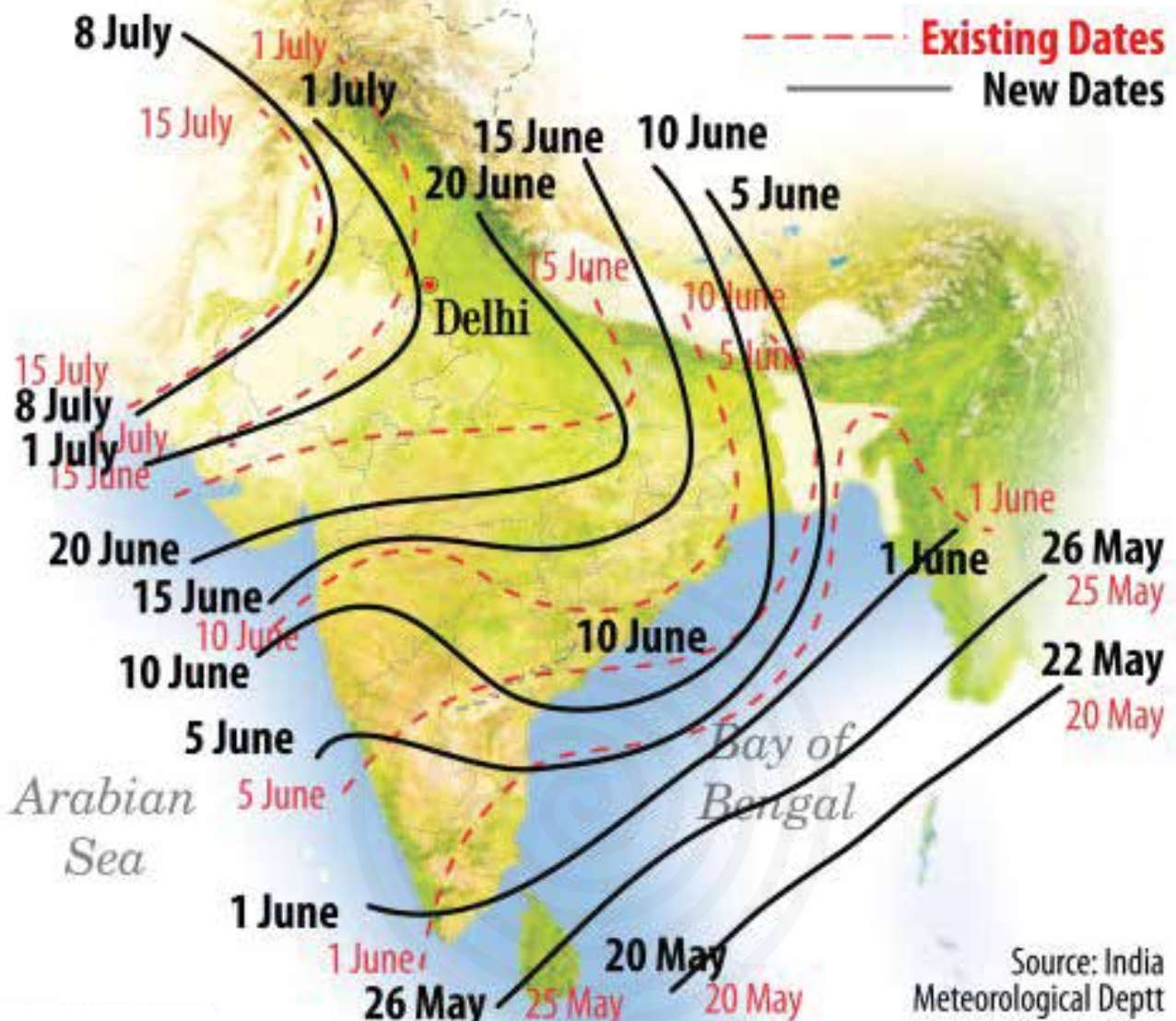
CORAL ATOLLS

Formation of a Coral Atoll



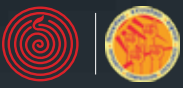
Atolls are low lying islands found in the tropical oceans consisting of coral reefs surrounding a central depression. It may be a part of the sea (lagoon), or sometimes form enclosing a body of fresh, brackish, or highly saline water.

ONSET OF MONSOON



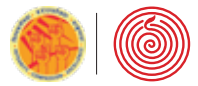
DYNAMIC THEORY OF INDIAN MONSOONS

- ☞ The seasonal shifting of global pressure and temperature belts with Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) migrating towards poles between Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn from its mean position in equator.
- ☞ During the end of summers, the intense pressure trough developed over the Tibetan plateau attracts moisture-laden trade winds.
- ☞ The southeast trade winds approach the Indian peninsular plateau as southwest trade winds upon deflected by Coriolis force upon crossing the equator.
- ☞ The rain-bearing south-western trade winds cause orographic rainfall in the highlands of the Indian Peninsula.
- ☞ The relief and thermal low pressure over the northwest India divide the monsoon winds to two branches, namely the Arabian Sea branch and the Bay of Bengal branch.
- ☞ During the winter season, North-East trade winds prevailing over India blow from land to sea.
- ☞ A part of North-East trade winds blowing over the Bay of Bengal gather moisture which causes rainfall in the Coromandel coast while the rest of the country remains dry.



POLITY AND GOVERNANCE





VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

ANTI-MARITIME PIRACY BILL

INDIAN ANTARCTIC BILL, 2022

DRAFT MEDICAL DEVICES BILL

APPOINTMENT OF SC AND SHC JUDGES

MINORITY STATUS FOR HINDUS IN STATES

SECTION 69A, IT ACT, 2000

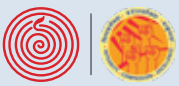
JAL JEEVAN MISSION (JJM)

GENDER BUDGETING ACT

GIVING UP CITIZENSHIP

SCHEDULED TRIBAL AREAS

GLOBAL GENDER GAP INDEX, 2022



VICE-PRESIDENT

CONTEXT: *The Bhartiya Janata Party has fielded Jagadish Dhankar against Margaret Alva of Congress (I) for elections to the office of the Vice-President of India.*

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS REGARDING VICE-PRESIDENT

Chapter I (The Executive) under Part V of the Constitution (The Union) lists out the qualification, election and impeachment of the Vice-President of India.

ARTICLE 63: 'THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA' - There shall be a Vice-President of India.

ARTICLE 64: 'THE VICE-PRESIDENT TO BE EX-OFFICIO CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATES' - The Vice-President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Council of States and shall not hold any other office of profit.

ARTICLE 65: 'THE VICE-PRESIDENT TO ACT AS PRESIDENT OR TO DISCHARGE HIS FUNCTIONS DURING CASUAL VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE, OR DURING THE ABSENCE, OF PRESIDENT' - Discharge duties of the President exercising all the powers and enjoying all immunities and entitlements of the President in the event of a temporary vacancy owing to absence, illness or any other cause, until the President resume duties or by the reason of death, resignation or removal, or such until a duly elected individual assumes the office President of India.

ARTICLE 66: 'ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA' - The Electoral College of the President of India comprises of all members of both Houses of Parliament ARTICLE 66 (1):

1. Elected and nominated members of Rajya Sabha.
2. Elected and nominated members* of Lok Sabha.

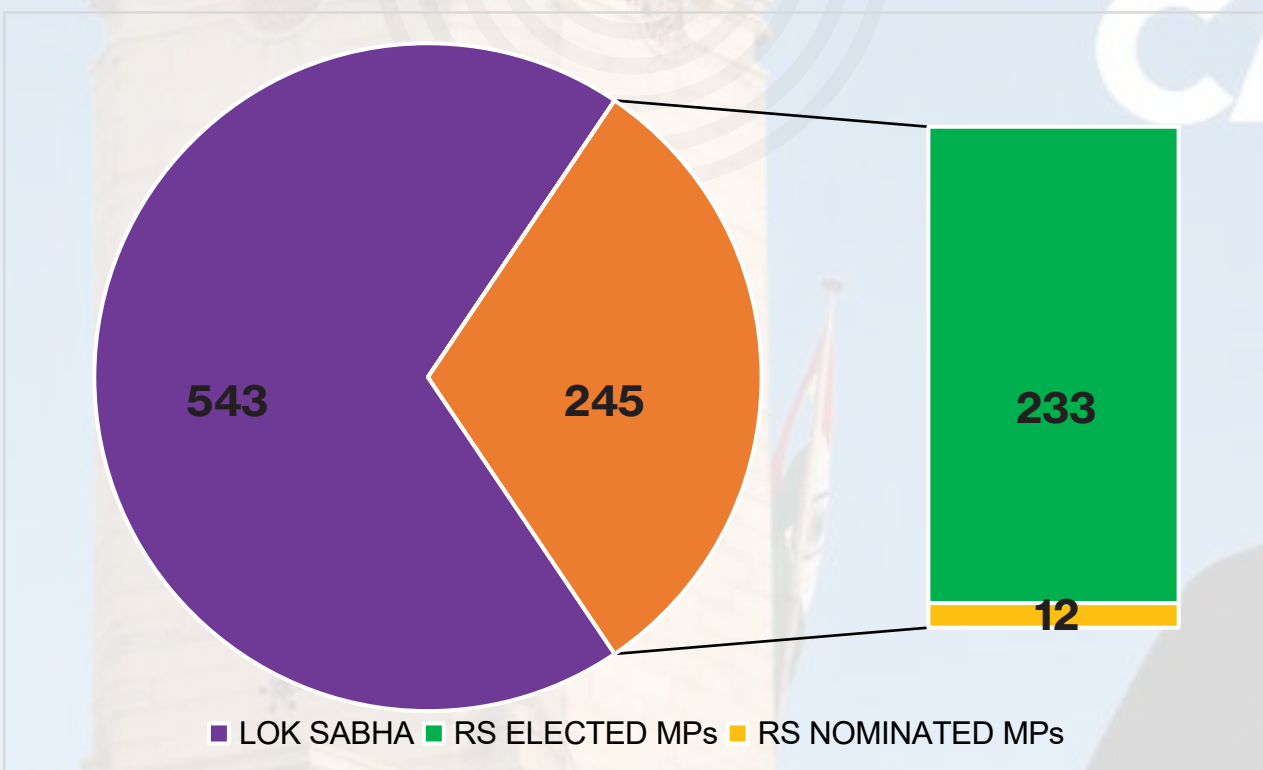
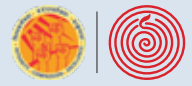


FIGURE: Pie chart representation of number of members of the electoral college of the Vice-President of India.



TIAL ELECTIONS

HOW VOTES ARE CALCULATED?

VALUE OF VOTE OF A LOK SABHA MP = VALUE OF VOTE OF A RAJYA SABHA MP

The Constitution of India prescribe the manner of election of the President of India:

1. Nominations of Presidential Candidates must be subscribed by at least 50 electors as proposers and supported by at least 50 electors as seconders.
2. Follows an electoral principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable voting by a secret ballot system.

ARTICLE 66 (2): 'QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION AS VICE PRESIDENT' - Any Indian Citizen aged above 35 years and qualified to be elected as member of Rajya Sabha currently holding no office of profit under Union, State, Local Governments or any Union or State Authorities are eligible for filing nomination ARTICLE 66 (4).

The Vice-President* (seeking re-election), State Governors*, and Ministers* in Union or State Councils, Member* of House of Parliament and State Legislative Houses are constitutionally NOT obliged to vacate their seat to contest elections

ARTICLE 67: 'TERM OF OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENT' - The Vice President holds the office for a term of 5 years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

1. The Vice-President of India can prematurely resign his / her office, submitting letter of resignation to the President of India.
2. The Vice-President of India can be impeached from office in the manner provided in Article 61 for violation of the constitution.
3. The Vice-President of India can shall continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office, notwithstanding the expiration of term of office

ARTICLE 68: 'TIME OF HOLDING ELECTION TO FILL VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENT AND THE TERM OF OFFICE OF PERSON ELECTED TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY' -

An election to fill a vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of Vice-President shall be completed before the expiration of the term.

An election to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice-President occurring by reason of his death, resignation or removal, or otherwise shall be held as soon as possible after the occurrence of the vacancy, and the person elected to fill the vacancy shall, subject to the provisions of Article 67, be entitled to hold office for the full term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.

ARTICLE 69: 'OATH OR AFFIRMATION BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT' - The President of India administers the oath or affirmation to individuals elected to the office of Vice-President of India, affirming true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law.

ARTICLE 70: 'DISCHARGE OF PRESIDENT'S FUNCTIONS IN OTHER CONTINGENCIES' - The Parliament of India can make appropriate provisions for the discharge of the functions of the President in any contingency not provided for in this Chapter.



ANTI-MARITIME PIRACY BILL

CONTEXT: *The Centre tabled Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019 to bring the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea into domestic law and enable Indian authorities to take action against piracy on the high seas.*

“seaman, or robber who attacks, seizes or destroys any ship on the high seas and sometimes even harbours at the shore.”

- PIRATE

STATUS:

- ✘ India currently does not have legislation on matters of piracy on the high seas.
- ✘ India has not enacted a bill, though India has ratified the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea in 1995.

WHY WE NEED AN ANTI-MARITIME PIRACY BILL?

- ✘ **INVALIDITY OF INDIAN PENAL CODE (IPC) IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS:** The sovereign rights of India extend up to the outer boundary of its territorial waters – 12 nautical miles from the coast. Previously, foreigners prosecuted under the IPC, 1860 for piracy acts performed outside India’s territorial waters have been acquitted due to the lack of jurisdiction.
- ✘ **INCIDENCE OF PIRACY:** A shift in piracy operations from the Gulf of Aden region, off coast Somalia towards the east and south, which increases their proximity to India’s west coast.

SALIENT FEATURES:

- ✘ **DEFINES PIRACY:** Act of violence or detention by the crew or passengers of a private vessel or private aircraft on high seas, directed against another vessel or aircraft and/or people or property on board.
- ✘ **EXTRA-TERRITORIAL JURISDICTIONS:** Extends the territorial scope of jurisdiction to the international waters - sea beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
- ✘ **PUNISHMENT:** Prescribes punishment for acts of piracy
 - ➡ Death / Life imprisonment for acts of piracy, itself causing death or attempts to cause the death of another person.
 - ➡ Imprisonment up to 14 years and a fine, imprisonment for life or death for participating in or assisting acts of piracy.
- ✘ **EXTRADITABLE OFFENCES:** Allow transfer of the accused to any country for prosecution with which India has signed an extradition treaty.
- ✘ **DESIGNATED COURT:** Empowers the Centre, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court to notify any Sessions Courts to be the Designated Courts.
- ✘ **PRESUMPTION OF GUILT:** The presumption of guilt will be on the accused if:
 - ➡ the accused is in possession of arms, explosives and other equipment which were used or intended for use in committing the offence,
 - ➡ there is evidence of use of force against the ship’s crew or passengers, and
 - ➡ there is evidence of the intended use of bombs and arms against the crew, passengers or cargo of a ship.

CONCLUSION:

Though, the efforts are laudable, the ambiguity over the onus of participation and punishments prescribed has to be addressed. The scope of extra-territorial jurisdiction of the Act in international waters over foreigners also has to stand the test of merit.

INDIAN ANTARCTIC BILL, 2022

CONTEXT: The Lok Sabha passed the Indian Antarctica Bill, 2022 under its obligations as a signatory to the Antarctic Treaty.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE BILL:

Establishes a '**Committee on Antarctic Governance and Environmental Protection**' comprising of Chairperson and 12 other members to give permission and ensure compliance and review information provided by parties to the treaty.

APPLICABILITY:

- 🚫 INDIVIDUALS
- 🚫 FOREIGNERS
- 🚫 CORPORATIONS
- 🚫 FIRMS
- 🚫 VESSELS / AIRCRAFTS*

- 🚫 Prohibited private tours and expeditions to Antarctica without permission or written authorisation by a Member country.
- 🚫 Preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment and waste management plan for granting permission of developmental activities.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

- 🚫 Conduct of nuclear explosion
- 🚫 Disposal of radioactive wastes
- 🚫 Introduction of non-sterile soil
- 🚫 Discharge of harmful substances:

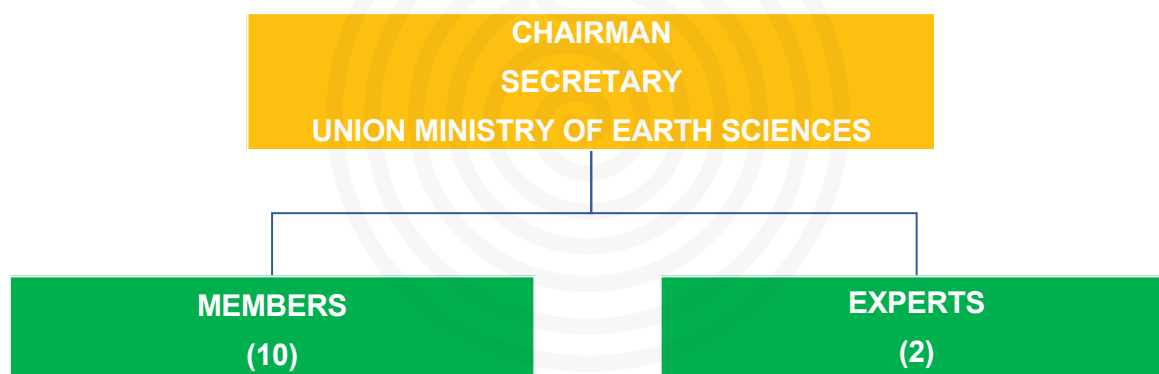


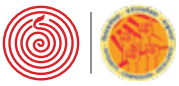
FIGURE: Schematic representation of the composition of the Committee on Antarctic Governance and Environmental Protection.

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES:

- 🚫 **CONDUCT OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSION:** Imprisonment of 20 years which may extend to life imprisonment and a fine of at least Rs 50 Cr.
- 🚫 **EXPLORATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES:** Imprisonment of up to 7 years and a fine between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 50 lakh.
- 🚫 **INTRODUCTION OF NON-NATIVE ANIMALS OR PLANTS:** Imprisonment of up to 7 years and a fine between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 50 lakh.

The CENTRAL GOVERNMENT notify one or more Sessions Courts to be the Designated Court under the Bill and specify its territorial jurisdiction to try offences punishable under the Bill.

ANTARCTIC FUND: Constitution of a fund for the welfare of Antarctic research work and the protection of the Antarctic environment.



DRAFT MEDICAL DEVICES BILL

CONTEXT: The Union Health Ministry released a draft of a proposed Drugs, Medical Devices and Cosmetics Bill, 2022 to replace the existing Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

SALIENT FEATURES:

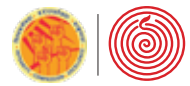
- ❌ **ONLINE PHARMACIES:** Regulate online sale, stocking, exhibition, or distribution, any drug.
- CENTRAL AND STATE TESTING LABORATORIES:** Calls for the setting up of central and state medical device-testing laboratories on the lines of the network of drug-testing laboratories.
- ❌ **CLINICAL TRIALS AND INVESTIGATIONS:** Grant compensation rights, including double compensation amount in event of the default in payment of compensation to participants or their legal heirs for injury or death caused during clinical trials and investigations for drugs and medical devices.
- ❌ **PROHIBITS CLINICAL TRIALS:** Regulate companies to perform clinical trials or clinical investigations of drugs and medical devices without permission from the central licensing authority.
- ❌ **MEDICAL DEVICES:** Categorise diagnostic equipment, their software, implants, devices for assistance with disabilities, life support, instruments used for disinfection, and reagents or kits as MEDICAL DEVICES under the draft Bill.
- ❌ **MEDICAL DEVICES TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD:** Constituted a Medical Devices Technical Advisory Board on the lines of the existing Drugs Technical Advisory Board, comprising of experts and officials from line ministries to regulate medical devices. Other than officials of the Health Ministry, the board will have officials from:
 - ➡ Department of Atomic Energy
 - ➡ Department of Science and Technology
 - ➡ Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 - ➡ Defence Research and Development Organization
 - ➡ Experts from the fields of biomedical technology, biomaterials, and polymer technology
- ❌ **IMPRISONMENT OR FINES FOR ADULTERATED OR SPURIOUS MEDICAL DEVICES:** Prescribe imprisonment or fines for sale and distribution of adulterated* or “spurious**” medical devices.

* rusted, corroded, filthy, putrid, decomposed, packed or stored in unsanitary conditions, contains harmful or toxic substances, or has any component or software removed making it unsafe.

** the label of a fictitious company or is purported to be of a manufacturer that has not manufactured it.

CONCLUSION:

The sector has long been not properly regulated due to ambiguities over definition of medical devices. The draft Medical Devices Bill is expected to better regulate both the drugs and medical devices. Besides, the draft Medical Devices Bill can significantly reduce the Out of Pocket Expenditures that can make the patients vulnerable to income security.



APPOINTMENT OF SC AND SHC JUDGES

CONTEXT: *The President followed the practice of appointing the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court as the Chief Justice of India from 1950 to 1973.*

BACKGROUND

FIRST JUDGES CASE (*S.P. Gupta vs. Union of India (1982)*): The petitioners challenged the unconstitutional prerogative of Chief Justice of India (CJI) to initiate proceedings for appointment of judges to the Supreme Court and State High Courts and transfer of judges of State High Courts.

- ❏ The Supreme Court Constitutional Bench allowed the President of India to appoint judges to the Supreme Court of India after due “consultations”, interpreted as exchange of views, rather than concurrence with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
- ❏ The SC ruled Governor of the State and Chief Justice of the State High Court(s), besides Chief Justice of India as eligible constitutional functionaries to initiate the proceedings for appointments and transfer of judges of the State High Courts under Article 217. The Constitutional Bench allowed the President to appoint judges to State High Courts and transfer judges of the State High Court with or without concurrence of all, any or none of the above constitutional functionaries after imitiation of proceedings, interpreting the term ‘consultations’ mentioned in Article 217 does not mean concurrence and it only implies exchange of views.

SECOND JUDGES CASE (*SCoRA* vs. Union of India (1993)*): The Supreme Court in *Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association vs. Union of India (1993)* (Second Judges Case) over-ruled its judgement of the *S.P. Gupta vs. Union of India (1982)* (First Judges Case)

- ❏ Devised a procedure, “Collegium” comprising of Chief Justice of India and 2 other senior-most colleagues to recommend appointment of judges to the Supreme Court. The Council of Ministers enjoys suspensory veto only in the first instance over the recommendations of the Collegium, which can be overridden by the Collegium.

* *Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association*

THREE JUDGES CASE: The Supreme Court on a reference, also known as the “Three Judges Case” made by the President under Article 143 of the Constitution (advisory jurisdiction) upheld the verdict of *Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association vs. Union of India (1993)* (Second Judges Case).

- ❏ The Supreme formally constituted a Collegium comprising of the Chief Justice of India and 4 other judges of the Supreme Court to appoint judges to the Supreme Court. The Collegium should include the Chief Justice of State High Courts for the appointment of the judges to the State High Court.



QUALIFICATIONS

QUALIFICATION OF SC JUDGES

- Serving State High Court Judge for a period not less than 5 years.
- Advocate practicing in a Court not inferior to that of State High Court for a period not less than 10 years.
- Distinguished jurist[#] in the opinion of the President of India.

QUALIFICATION OF HC JUDGES

- An Indian citizen holding office of the Judge, not subordinate to a District Court (or District Courts in succession) for a period of 10 years.
- An Indian citizen who served as an Advocate of a State High Court (or High Courts in succession) for a period of 10 years.
- Make no provision for appointment of a distinguished jurist in the opinion of the President of India as a judge of a State High Court.

PROCEDURES FOR APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

- ❧ A Collegium headed by the Chief Justice of India recommends the name to the Union Law Ministry to initiate proceedings to appoint judges to the Supreme Court and State High Courts.
- ❧ The Union Law Ministry either accepts the recommendation or exercise “suspensive veto” returning the recommendation back to the Collegium for the reconsideration. The Union Law Ministry is obliged to accept the recommendations upon returning the recommendations with or without considering the pleas of the Union Law Ministry.
- ❧ The President either approves the names or returns the names for reconsideration of the Supreme Court. The President is obliged to accept the recommendations upon returning the recommendations with or without considering the pleas of the President. The President enjoys suspensory veto only at the first instance. He is bound to act upon the advice of the Collegium.

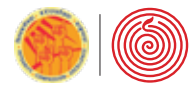
* The Chief Justice of India consults with his 4 senior-most colleagues and make recommendations to the President for appointment of judges in the Supreme Court.

** The Chief Justice of India consults with his 3 senior-most colleagues and Chief Justice of the concerned State High Court make recommendations to the President

REMOVAL OF JUDGES:

The Judges Enquiry Act (1968) regulates the procedure relating to the removal of a judge of the Supreme Court by the process of impeachment.

1. A notice has to be served signed by not less than 100 members (in the case of Lok Sabha) or 50 members (in the case of Rajya Sabha) is submitted before the Speaker / Chairman.
2. The Speaker / Chairman may admit the motion or refuse to admit it. If it is admitted, then the Speaker/Chairman is to constitute a 3-member committee, comprising of the Chief Justice or a Judge of the Supreme Court; Chief Justice of the State High Court and a distinguished jurist to investigate into the charges.
3. The House can take up the matter for discussions, based on the findings of the Committee.
4. After the motion is passed by each House of Parliament by special majority, an address is presented to the President for removal of the judge.
5. Finally, the President passes an order removing the judge.



MINORITY STATUS FOR HINDUS IN STATES

CONTEXT: The Supreme Court of India upheld the minority status right of religious and linguistic communities as “State-dependent on a petition filed in the Supreme Court seeking minority status for Hindus in Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Punjab, Lakshadweep, Ladakh, Kashmir etc.

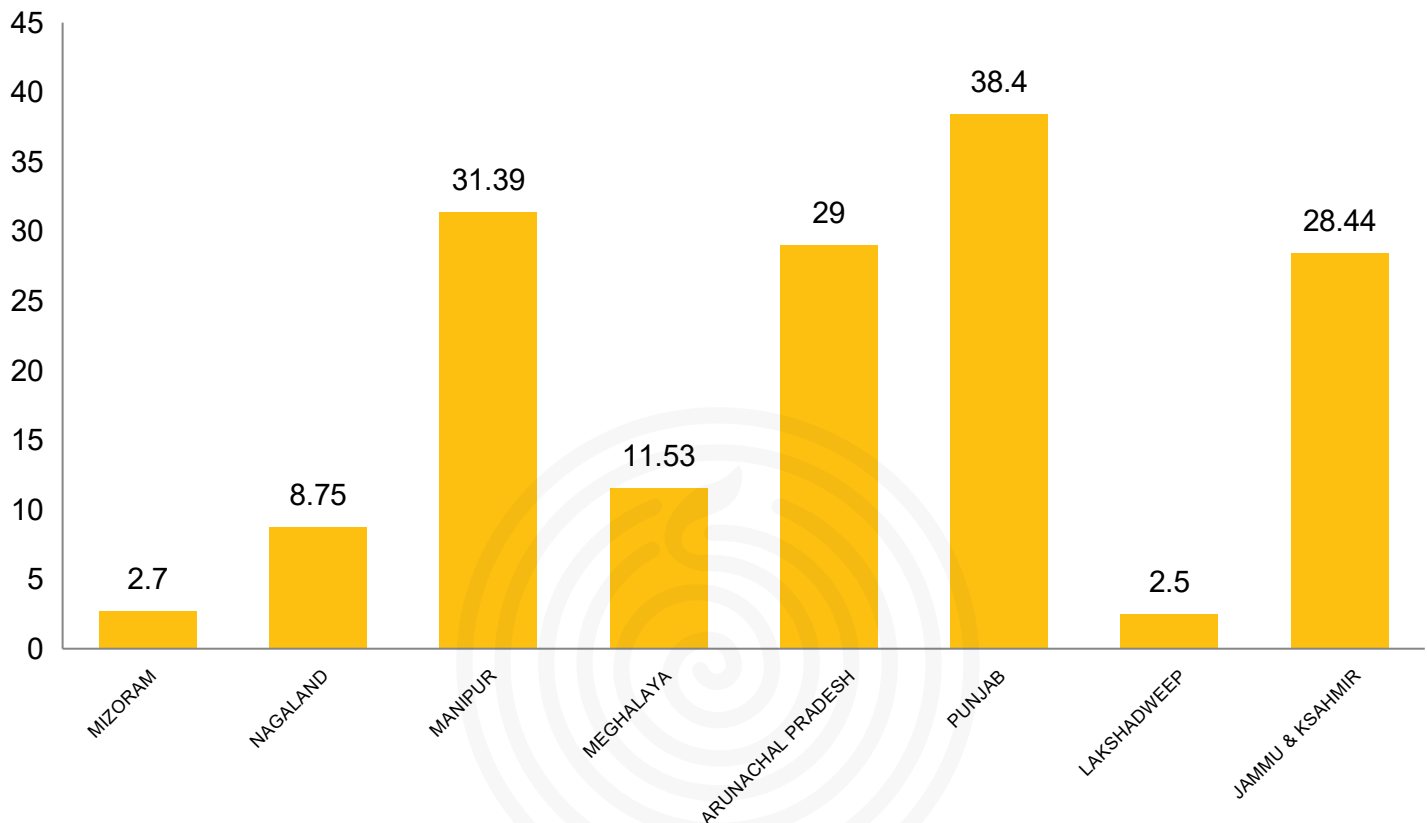


FIGURE: Bar chart representation of per centage of population Hindus in Indian States as per the 2011 Census.

The Supreme Court of India upheld the rights of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions, religious and linguistic minorities have to be considered state-wise for the purposes of Article 30.

- TMA PAI CASE

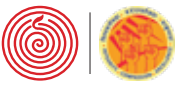
CONFERRING MINORITY STATUS

Section 2(f) of National Commission for Minority Education Institution (NCMEI) Act, 2004 confers power to the Centre to identify and notify minority communities in India.

RESPONSE OF THE CENTRE TO PLEA

States too have the power to declare any religious or linguistic community, including Hindus, as ‘minority’. Matters concerning the establishment and administration of educational institutions of their choice in the said states and those related to their identification as minority within the state may be considered at the state level.

- 🌀 The Government of Maharashtra has notified ‘Jews’ as a minority community within the state.
- 🌀 The Government of Karnataka has notified Urdu, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Marathi, Tulu, Lamani, Hindi, Konkani and Gujarati languages as minority languages within the state of Karnataka.



**CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS
CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS
ARTICLE 29 (PROTECTION OF INTERESTS OF MINORITIES)**

- ☞ Protect and promote the distinctive heritage of citizens belonging to linguistic and cultural minorities.
- ☞ Prohibits discrimination against individuals for admissions to any educational institution, maintained partly or wholly out of state funds on grounds 'only' of religion, race, caste, or language.
- ** The Supreme Court held that the scope of this article is not necessarily restricted to minorities only, as use of the word 'section of citizens' in the Article includes minorities as well as the majority.

ARTICLE 30 (RIGHT OF MINORITIES TO ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS)

- ☞ Protects the rights of all religious and linguistic minorities to establish and manage educational institutions
- ☞ Prohibits discrimination by the State in disbursement of funds to such educational institutions
- ☞ ARTICLE 30 (1)(a) - In case the property is taken over by state, due compensation to be provided to establish institutions elsewhere.

NOTABLE SUPREME COURT VERDICTS

- The Supreme Court in *T.M.A. Pai vs. State of Karnataka* (2002) and *P.A. Inamdar vs. State of Maharashtra* (2005) limited the scope of reservation, differentiating tertiary and primary education.
- The Supreme Court ruling on *Society for Unaided Private Schools of Rajasthan v. Union of India* (2012) gave the first head blow to the Right to Education Act, 2006.
- The Supreme Court in *Pramati Educational and Cultural Trust vs. Union of India* ruled all minority schools, whether aided or unaided, outside the purview of the Right to Education Act.

SECTION 69A, IT ACT, 2000

CONTEXT: *Twitter initiated legal action against directions of the Centre ordering removal of content citing directions, procedurally and substantively deficient under Section 69 (A) of the IT Act, 2000.*

Empowers the Centre to issue blocking orders to social media intermediaries for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognisable offence relating to the above."

- Section 69 (A) IT Act, 2000

REASONABLE RESTRICTIONS

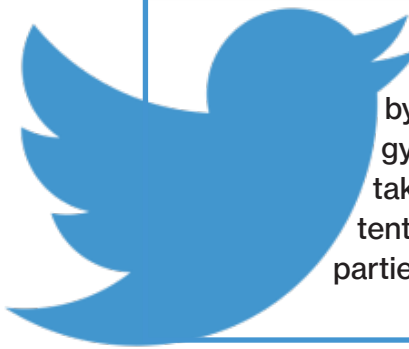
- Sovereignty of India
- Integrity of India
- Defence of India
- Security of the state
- Friendly diplomatic relations
- Public order

PROCEDURE FOR BLOCKING INTERNET WEBSITES:

The Centre can ask** Government agency, or any intermediary**, to block access to the public of any information generated, transmitted, received or stored or hosted on any computer resource.

* Any such request for blocking access must be based on reasons given in writing.

** Telecom service providers, Network service, Internet service and Web Hosting, search engines, online payment and auction sites, online marketplaces and cyber cafes.



CONTENTION OF TWITTER

Not giving prior notice to users before taking down content posted by them. The Union Ministry for Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has failed to demonstrate how some of the content it wants taken down falls under the purview of Section 69 (A). Some of the content flagged by the ministry may pertain to official accounts of political parties, blocking which could be violative of the right to free speech.

CONCLUSION:

The Supreme Court in *Shreya Singhal vs. Union of India* upheld the constitutionality of Section 69A of IT Act, 2000 that empowers the Centre to block, including publication and contents hosted in websites and Uniform Resource Locators (URL's). The SC observed the existence of sufficient internal safeguards and reasonable procedures to block contents hosted in internet, besides upholding the natural rights of the original originator of content and intermediaries hosting such contents to be heard. The Court can directly order the block websites or URL's circumventing the laid-down procedures.

JAL JEEVAN MISSION (JJM)

CONTEXT: *Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) hit 51% completion of the project. From less than 17% of households with a running tap water connection, JJM has enabled reach to more than 34% now in less than 3 years.*

HOW DOES A VILLAGE CERTIFY AS HAR GHAR JAL?

Uploading a video recording of the session - formal resolution by the Gram Panchayat can be counted as a village with Har Ghar Jal.






BEST-PERFORMING STATES

Haryana
Telangana
Goa

EMERGING PERFORMERS

Punjab
Gujarat
Bihar

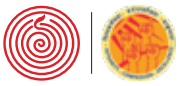
JAL JEEVAN MISSION

-  **LAUNCHED:** 2019.
-  **NODAL MINISTRY:** Union Ministry of Jal Shakti.
-  **OBJECTIVE:** Supply of 55 litres of water per person per day to every rural household through Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) by 2024.
-  **FUNDING STRATEGY:** Demand-driven.
-  **STRATEGY:** Jan bhagidari (community engagement)

An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind.

- MAHATMA GANDHI





FOCUS AREAS:

- Prioritizing provision of Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) in poor water quality affected areas, villages in drought-prone and desert areas, Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) villages, etc.
- Providing Functional Tap Connections (FTCs) to Schools, Anganwadi centres, Gram Panchayat buildings, Health centres, wellness centres and community buildings.
 - Ensuring functionality of existing water supply systems and water connections.
 - Water quality monitoring and testing as well as sustainable agriculture.
 - Coordinated use of surface water and groundwater
 - Augmentation of drinking water source, supply system, grey water treatment and its reuse
 - Technological interventions for removal of contaminants where water quality is an issue.

GENDER BUDGETING ACT

CONTEXT: *The Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) (an attached office of NITI Aayog) called for the Gender Budgeting Act to the mainstream of gender-based budgeting across all ministries.*

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 🔗 Improve social acceptance of transgenders
- 🔗 Formulate gender-based budgetary allocation
- 🔗 Formulate National Policy for Women
- 🔗 Focus on gender-disaggregated data

GENDER BUDGETING

“Also referred to as gender-sensitive budgeting, the practice focus on preparation and analysis of Budgets from a gender perspective for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that benefits of development reach women as much as men.”

TIME LINE OF GENDER BUDGETING IN INIDA

- **1995:** Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action recommended Gender Budgeting.
- **2001-2004:** Commencement of the gender-based analysis in Union and State Budgets. India with a gender budget component since 2005-06 started highlighting schemes with allocations at least 30% for women.
- **2005-2010:** Issued Gender-based Statement and Gender-based Budget Cell. Mandated Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs) in each ministries/Department.
- **2010 – 2012:** Integration of Gender and Outcome Budget shifting its focus from women’s development to women-led development.
- **2012-13:** Issued guidelines for State level Gender Budgeting.
- **2022-23:** Allocated approximately 1.7 lakh Cr. for women-centric schemes under the gender budget 2022-2023

CONCLUSION:

India’s gender budgeting efforts influenced both expenditure and revenue policies - differential rates for men and women in property and Income tax rates to name a few.

GIVING UP CITIZENSHIP

CONTEXT: Over 1.6 lakh Indians renounced their citizenship in 2021, the highest in the past five years, according to information provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). India does not allow dual citizenship.

CITIZENSHIP ACT, 1955

The Citizenship Act, 1955, prescribes three ways of losing citizenship whether acquired under the Act or prior to it under the Constitution, viz, renunciation, termination and deprivation.

- 🚫 **BY RENUNCIATION** Any major Indian citizen of full capacity can make a declaration renouncing his / her Indian citizenship.
- 🚫 **BY TERMINATION:** An Indian citizen voluntarily (consciously, knowingly and without duress, undue influence or compulsion) acquires the citizenship of another country, his Indian citizenship automatically terminates. This provision, however, does not apply during a war in which India is engaged.
- 🚫 **BY DEPRIVATION** It is a compulsory termination of Indian citizenship by the Central government, if:
 - ➡ the citizen has obtained the citizenship by fraud:
 - ➡ the citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India:
 - ➡ the citizen has unlawfully traded or communicated with the enemy during a war;
 - ➡ the citizen has, within five years after registration or naturalisation, been imprisoned in any country for two years; and
 - ➡ othe citizen has been ordinarily resident out of India for seven years continuously.

Upon the registration of that declaration, that person ceases to be a citizen of India. However, if such a declaration is made during a war in which India is engaged, its registration shall be withheld by the Central Government. Further, when a person renounces his Indian citizenship, every minor child of that person also loses Indian citizenship. However, when such a child attains the age of eighteen, he may resume Indian citizenship.

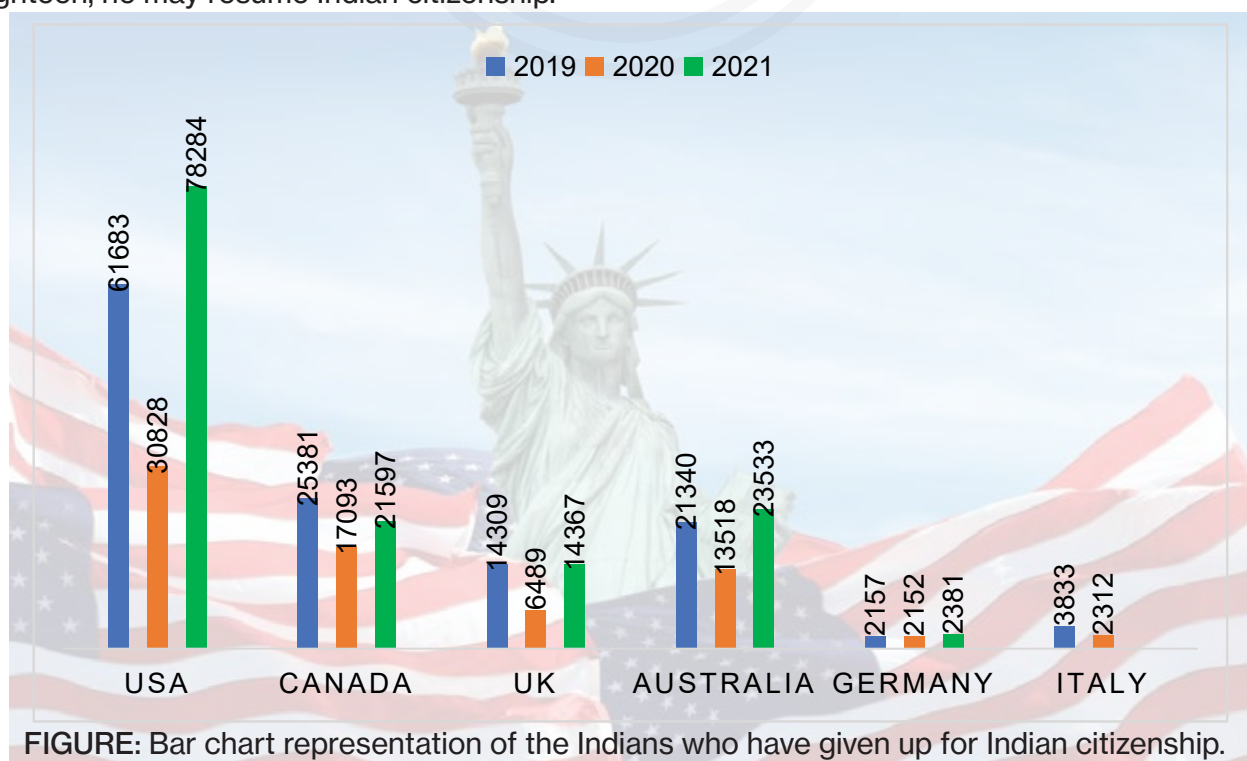
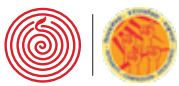


FIGURE: Bar chart representation of the Indians who have given up for Indian citizenship.



SCHEDULED TRIBAL AREAS

CONTEXT: The Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council (KHADC) called for a meeting of traditional heads to revisit the Instrument of Accession that made the Khasi domain a part of the Indian Union more than seven decades ago.

INSTRUMENT OF ACCESSION OF THE KHASI STATE

The Khasi rulers and the Dominion of India signed the Instrument of Accession on December 15, 1947 and Annexed Agreement on March 19, 1948. The Instrument of Accession and Annexed Agreement made the Khasi States subordinate to Dominion of India in respect of any matter

SCHEDULED TRIBAL AREAS

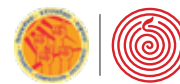
The Schedule VI of the Constitution contains special provisions for the administration of TRIBAL AREAS governed by Autonomous District Councils present in the 4 north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram - inhabited by tribes with a distinctive culture, customs and civilization.

ROLE OF GOVERNORS IN SCHEDULED TRIBAL AREAS: TRIBAL AREAS

- ✎ The State Governor
 - ➡ Organise Autonomous Districts and Regions
 - ➡ Reorganise Autonomous Districts and Regions altering their area, names, boundaries etc.
- ✎ The State Governor constitute Autonomous Districts Councils for a term of 5 years comprising of 30 members
- ✎ The State Governor nominates 4 members, while remaining members are directly elected amongst following the principle of Universal Adult Suffrage.
- ✎ The State Governor can appoint a commission to examine and report on any matter relating to the administration of the autonomous districts or regions. He may dissolve a District or Regional Council on the recommendation of the commission.

ROLE OF AUTONOMOUS DISTRICTS COUNCILS

- ✎ Repeal or amend any particular Act of Parliament or the State Legislature, applicable to a Tribal Area.
- ✎ The Autonomous District Councils with the assent of the Governor of the State enjoys legislative powers over land, forests, canal water, shifting cultivation, village administration, property inheritance, marriage and divorce, social customs and so on.
- ✎ Frame regulations to control with the assent of the Governor.
 - ➡ Business of money lending.
 - ➡ Trading by non-tribals.
- ✎ Constitute Village Councils for trial of suits and cases between the tribes. The State Governor prescribes jurisdiction of State High Courts over these suits and cases.
- ➡ Establish, construct or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets, ferries, fisheries, roads and so on in the district.
- ➡ Assess and collect land revenue and to impose certain specified taxes.



GLOBAL GENDER GAP INDEX, 2022

CONTEXT: India ranks 135 among a total of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index, 2022.

According to the Global Gender Report, 2022 - it will now take 132 years to reach gender parity, with the gap reducing only by 4 years since 2021 and the gender gap closed by 68.1 %.

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS - WEF

Energy Transition Index.
Global Competitiveness Report.
Global IT Report.
Global Gender Gap Report.
Global Risk Report.
Global Travel and Tourism Report.

PERFORMANCE – INDIA

Global Gender Gap Index, 2022 – 135 / 146

POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT -
ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION & OPPORTUNITY -
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT -
HEALTH AND SURVIVAL –

It measures scores on a 0 to 100 scale, which can be interpreted as the distance covered towards parity or the percentage of the gender gap that has been closed.

PERFORMANCE -

INDIA'S NEIGHBOURS

- Bangladesh (71)
- Nepal (96)
- Sri Lanka (110)
- Maldives (117)
- Bhutan (126)
- Iran (143)
- Pakistan (145)
- Afghanistan (146)

METRICS UNDER SUB-INDICES

POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT

Percentage of women in Parliament
Percentage of women in ministerial positions etc

ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND OPPORTUNITY

Percentage of women who are part of the labour force
Wage equality for similar work
Earned income etc.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Literacy rate and the enrolment rates in primary
Secondary and tertiary education.

HEALTH AND SURVIVAL

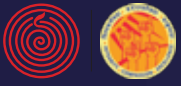
Sex ratio at birth (in %)
Healthy life expectancy (in years).

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

A winner is a dreamer, who never give up

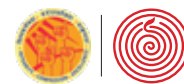
- NELSON MANDELA





INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS





SDG REPORT, 2022

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ)

GENOCIDE CONVENTION

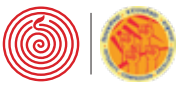
UN OCEAN CONFERENCE (UNOC): LISBON DECLARATION

IRAN-U.S. NUCLEAR TALKS

TWIPLOMACY

IRAN, AND BELARUS INDUCTED TO SCO

**INTERNATIONAL NORTH-SOUTH TRANSPORT CORRIDOR
(INSTC)**



SDG REPORT 2022

CONTEXT: A recent UN SDG index acknowledged the threat posed by the climate crisis, COVID-19 pandemic, an increase in the number of conflicts across the world to all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

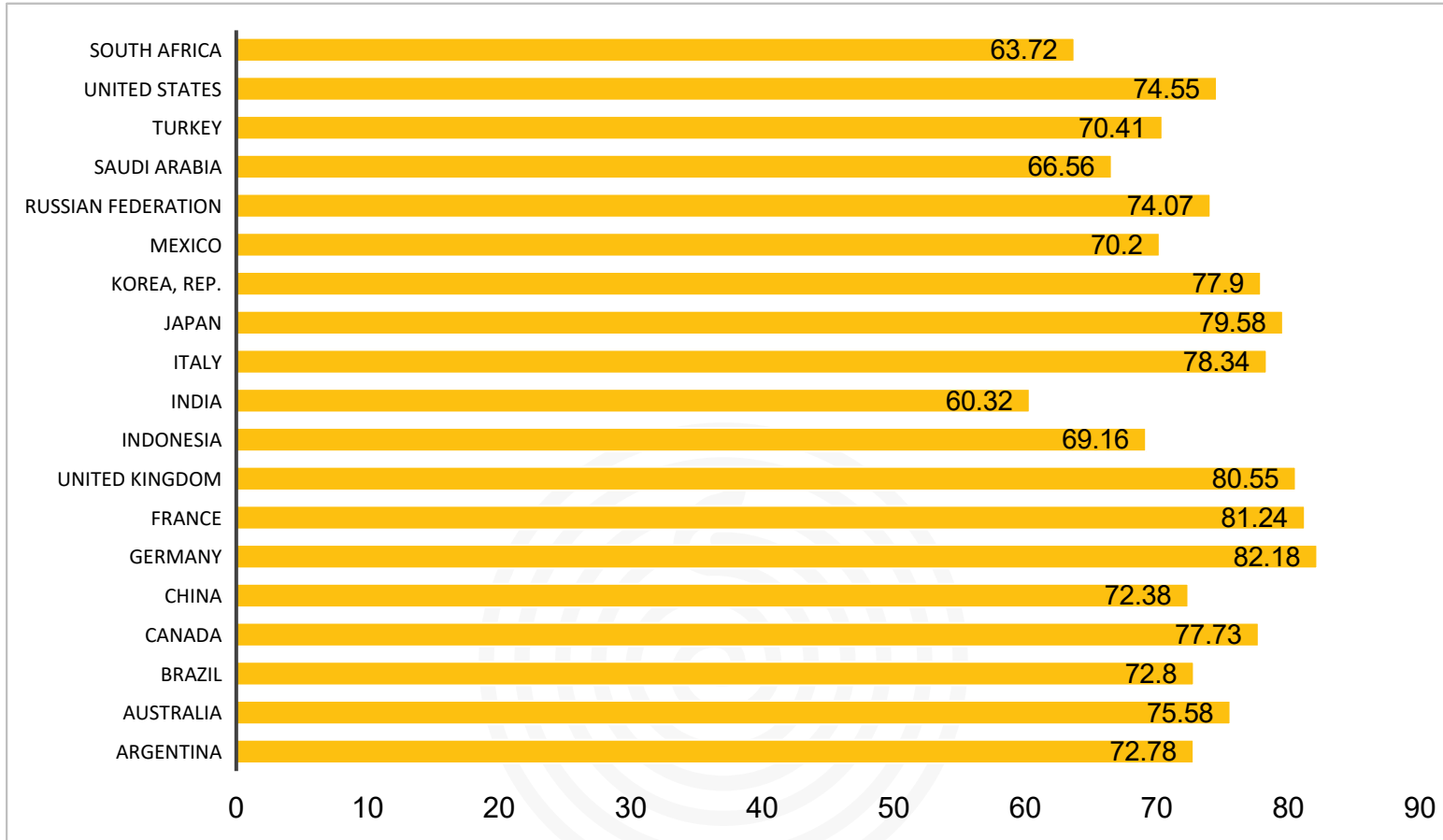
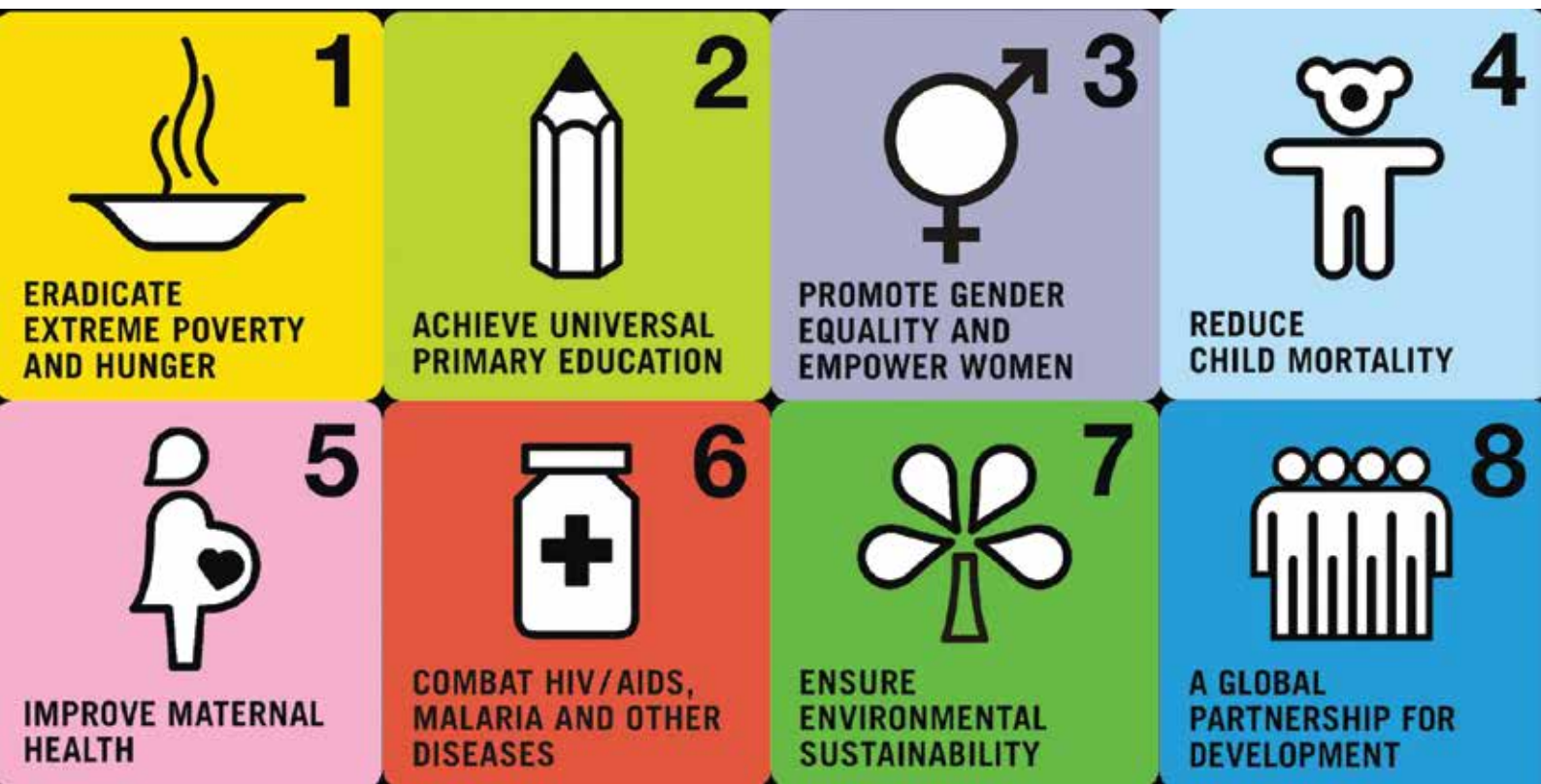


FIGURE: Bar chart representation of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Report, 2022

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL



INDIA

East and South Asia

OVERALL PERFORMANCE

COUNTRY RANKING

INDIA

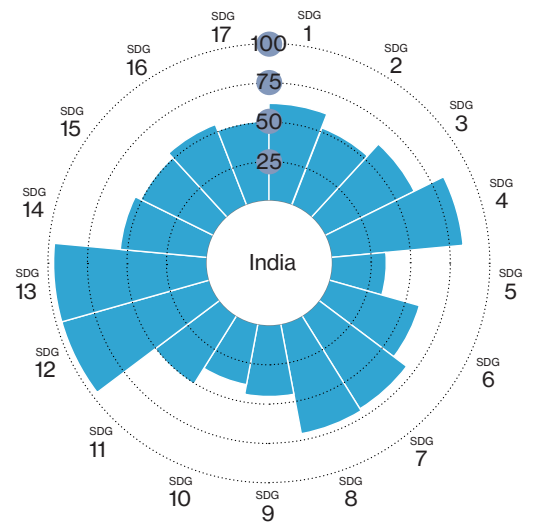
121/₁₆₃

COUNTRY SCORE



REGIONAL AVERAGE: 65.9

AVERAGE PERFORMANCE BY SDG



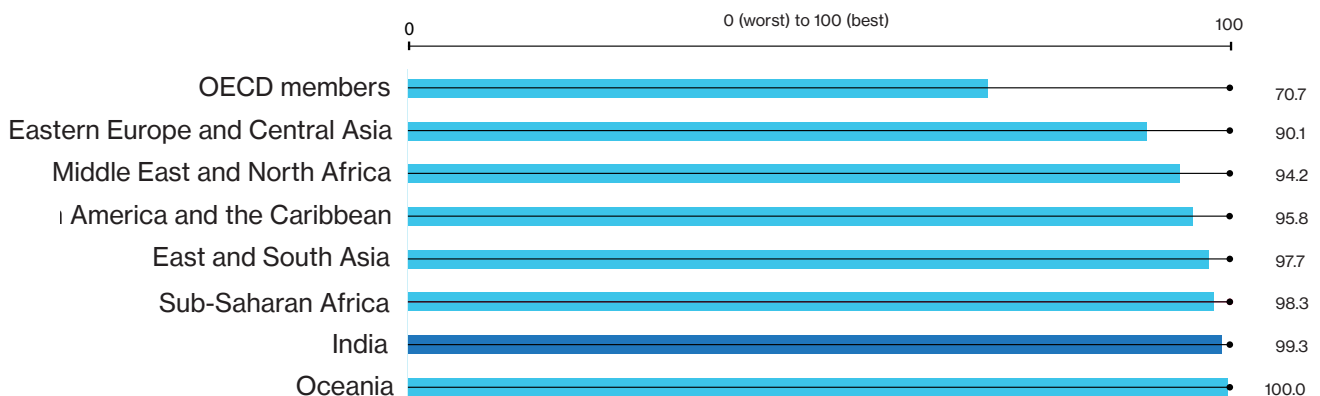
SDG DASHBOARDS AND TRENDS



■ Major challenges
 ■ Significant challenges
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable
↘ Decreasing
 → Stagnating
 ↗ Moderately improving
 ↕ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
 ● Information unavailable

Note: The full title of each SDG is available here: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

INTERNATIONAL SPILLOVER INDEX





INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ)

CONTEXT: Myanmar's military launched what it called a clearance campaign in Rakhine state in 2017 in the aftermath of an attack by a Rohingya insurgent group. More than 700,000 Rohingya fled into neighboring Bangladesh and Myanmar security forces have been accused of mass rapes, killings and torching of thousands of Rohingya homes. Amid international outrage at the treatment of the Rohingya, Gambia filed the case with the world court in November 2019, alleging that Myanmar is breaching the genocide convention. So far, only three cases of genocide worldwide have been recognised since World War II: Cambodia (the late 1970s), Rwanda (1994), and Srebrenica, Bosnia (1995).

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ)

- 🚩 **FOUNDED:** 1945
- 🚩 **TYPE:** Principal organ of United Nations Organisation
- 🚩 **CONSTITUTING TREATY:** United Nations Charter
- 🚩 **HEADQUARTERS:** Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands)
- 🚩 **MANDATE:** Exercise jurisdiction to settle legal disputes.
- 🚩 **APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES:** The UNGA appoint 15 judges to the ICJ, the Hague. Any candidate securing at least 97 votes at the UN GA and at least 8 votes in the Security Council is elected for a tenure of 3 years.
- 🚩 **EFFECT:** The judgment is final, binding on the parties to a case and without appeal (at the most it may be subject to interpretation or, upon the discovery of a new fact, revision).

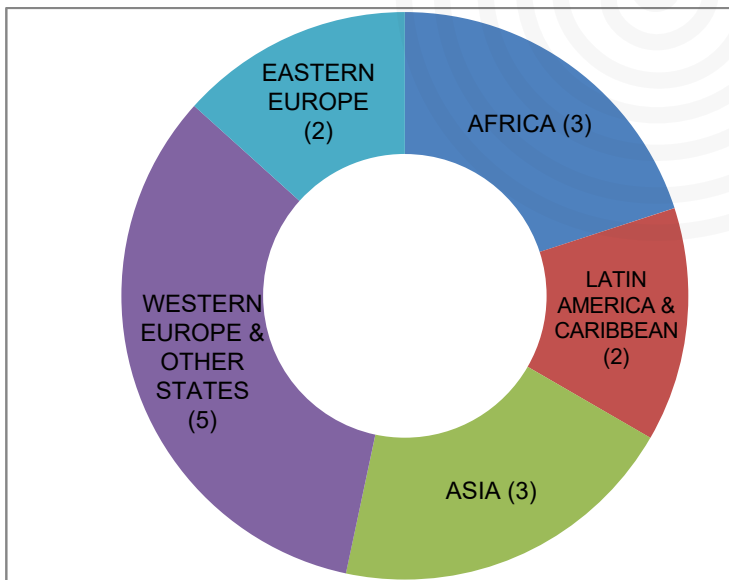


FIGURE: Pie chart representation of regional composition of judges in the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Africa (3); Latin America & Caribbean (2); Asia (3); Western Europe & Other States (5); Eastern Europe (2).

THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION:

- 🚩 **OFFICIAL NAME:** Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.
- 🚩 **SIGNIFICANCE:** First human rights treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 09, 1948.



JURISDICTION:

- **JURISDICTION IN CONTENTIOUS CASES:** Disputant States submit legal disputes before ICJ to be decided in accordance with international law.
- **VOLUNTARY JURISDICTION:** Disputant States accepts jurisdiction of ICJ via special agreement for a particular case or class of cases.
- **COMPULSORY JURISDICTION:** Disputant States accepts jurisdiction of ICJ via treaty or a pre-existing agreement.
- **ADVISORY JURISDICTION:** Provides advisory opinions on legal questions referred to ICJ by United Nations organs and specialized agencies (advisory proceedings).

GENOCIDE CONVENTION

DEPOSITARY: Secretary-General, United Nations Organisation.

DATE OF ADOPTION: December 09, 1948.

STATE PARTIES: 159.

SIGNIFICANCE: First human rights treaty that codified the crime of genocide, adopted at both national and international levels, including in the 1998 Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Article 2 of the Convention defines genocide as

... any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, as such:

- (a) Killing members of the group;
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

– Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, Article 2

Article 3 defines the crimes that can be punished under the convention:

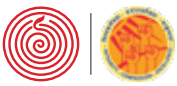
- (a) Genocide;
- (b) Conspiracy to commit genocide;
- (c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide;
- (d) Attempt to commit genocide;
- (e) Complicity in genocide.

– Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, Article 3

LEGALLY BINDING: Establish legal obligations upon the State Parties to take measures to prevent and punish the crime of genocide and enact relevant laws to punish perpetrators, including constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals.

The Rome Statute established four 'core international crimes': Genocide, Crimes against humanity, War crimes, and the Crime of aggression.

* Crimes not subject to any statute of limitations.



UN OCEAN CONFERENCE (UNOC): LISBON DECLARATION

CONTEXT: Kenya and Portugal co-hosted the second UN Ocean Conference (UNOC) in Lisbon. The second UN Ocean Conference (UNOC) adopted Lisbon Declaration titled 'Our Ocean, Our Future: call for action'. The first UN Ocean Conference (UNOC) was hosted in UN HQ (New York) in 2017.

LISBON DECLARATION

- 🚫 Protect at least 30% of national maritime zones by 2030.
- 🚫 Achieving carbon neutrality by 2040
- 🚫 Allocating funds to research on ocean acidification, climate resilience and surveillance
- 🚫 Scale-up Science-based and innovative actions to address ocean emergency
- 🚫 Support implementation of SDG14 (life below water) by empowering women and girls- recognising their participation is crucial to building a sustainable ocean-based economy
- 🚫 Protect biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, which lie outside the 200-mile (322-kilometre) exclusive economic zones of countries.
- 🚫 India:
 - 🚫 Will take up the Coastal clean sea campaign ('Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar').
 - 🚫 Ban on single-use plastics.

CONTROLLING MARINE POLLUTION

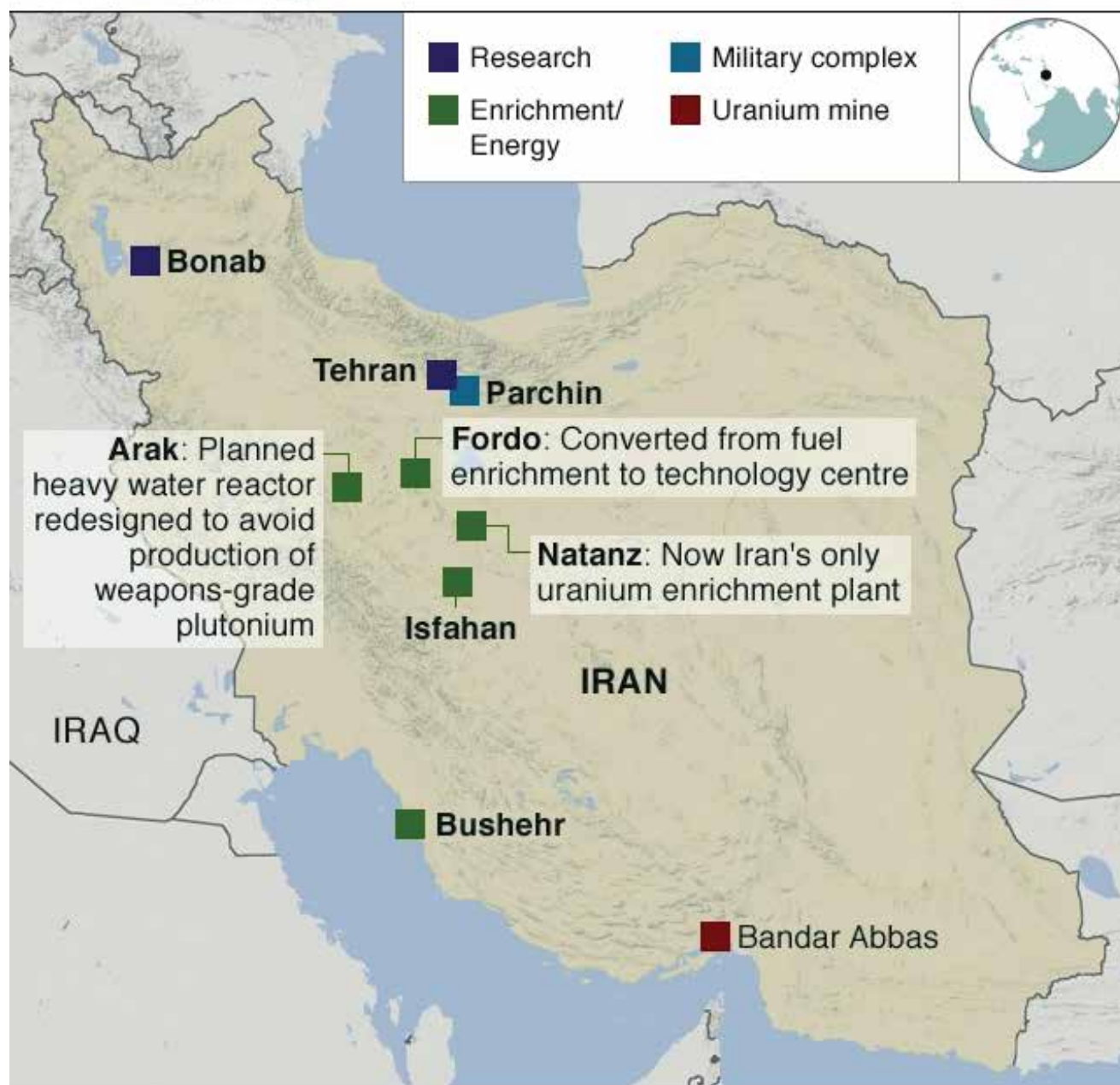
- Nutrient pollution
- Untreated wastewater
- Solid waste discharges
- Hazardous substance
- Emissions from the maritime sector, including shipping, shipwrecks



IRAN-U.S. NUCLEAR TALKS

CONTEXT: The Iranian Foreign Minister hinted at reviving resumption of Iran's indirect talks with the U.S. on reviving the 2015 nuclear pact or Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Changes agreed under Iran deal to limit nuclear programme



STORY SO FAR:

- 🌀 2015: Iran concluded the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA with P5 +1 countries. The deal
- 🌀 promises Iran economic incentives in exchange for limits on its nuclear program.
- 🌀 2018: The U.S. unilaterally pulled out of the deal, but Britain, France, Germany, China and Russia have
- 🌀 tried to preserve the accord.



✂ 2021: Iran has produced more than 120 kilograms (265 pounds) of 20% enriched uranium.

GENEVA AGREEMENT:

COMMITMENTS OF IRAN UNDER THE GENEVA AGREEMENT

- ✂ Halt weapons-grade Uranium Enrichment Programme.
- ✂ Freeze its stockpile of 3.5 % enriched Uranium, limit enrichment of Uranium above 5 % and stop further enrichment beyond 20 %.
- ✂ Cut its stockpile of enriched uranium from 8 tonnes to 300 kg.
- ✂ Close down Fordow nuclear enrichment facility and Arak Heavy-water Reactor.
- ✂ Retain the 'Right to Civilian Nuclear efforts' at Natanz facility
- ✂ Cut down 19,000 installed centrifuges by 75 % to 5,000.
- ✂ Permit IAEA to inspect activities.

COMMITMENTS OF US and West UNDER THE GENEVA AGREEMENT

- ✂ Relax existing secondary unilateral US sanctions on Iranian oil exports.
- ✂ Blanket US waivers for commerce in Iranian oil.
- ✂ Withhold "primary sanctions" prohibiting US citizens and companies to engage with Iranian entities.
- ✂ De-freeze overseas Iranian assets worth \$6 billion.
- ✂ Ease international restrictions on flow of capital, technology transfer and commerce in conventional arms.

CONCLUSION

To secure India's vast and vital interests in the Middle East and to prevent the fires there enveloping the subcontinent, Delhi needs to liberate its policy from narrow domestic political considerations, look beyond oil and diaspora, and embark on a substantive strategic engagement with the region. The announcement of a strategic partnership between India and the United Arab Emirates is being seen as a significant elevation of ties as well as a sign of India's shift in the region. Any efforts towards integrating the Iran the global economic and political landscape has to be encouraged by India. India would get any opportunity to engage with Iran freely and comprehensively.

TWIPLOMACY

CONTEXT: *It has been observed recently that many world leaders use Twitter as a means to communicate and put out their views to the public.*

Twitter diplomacy, also called "Twiplomacy" or "hashtag diplomacy" is the use of the social media website Twitter by Heads of State, Leaders of Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs), and their diplomats to conduct diplomatic outreach and public diplomacy.

In April 2014, tensions between the US State Department and the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs over the 2014 Crimean crisis devolved into tweets, with both ministries using the hashtag #UnitedforUkraine to convey opposite points of view.

IRAN, AND BELARUS INDUCTED TO SCO

CONTEXT: *Iran and Belarus are likely to be the two newest additions to the China and Russia-backed Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). India will host the SCO summit next year, and Varanasi has been selected as the SCO region's first "Tourism and Cultural Capital".*

SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (SCO)

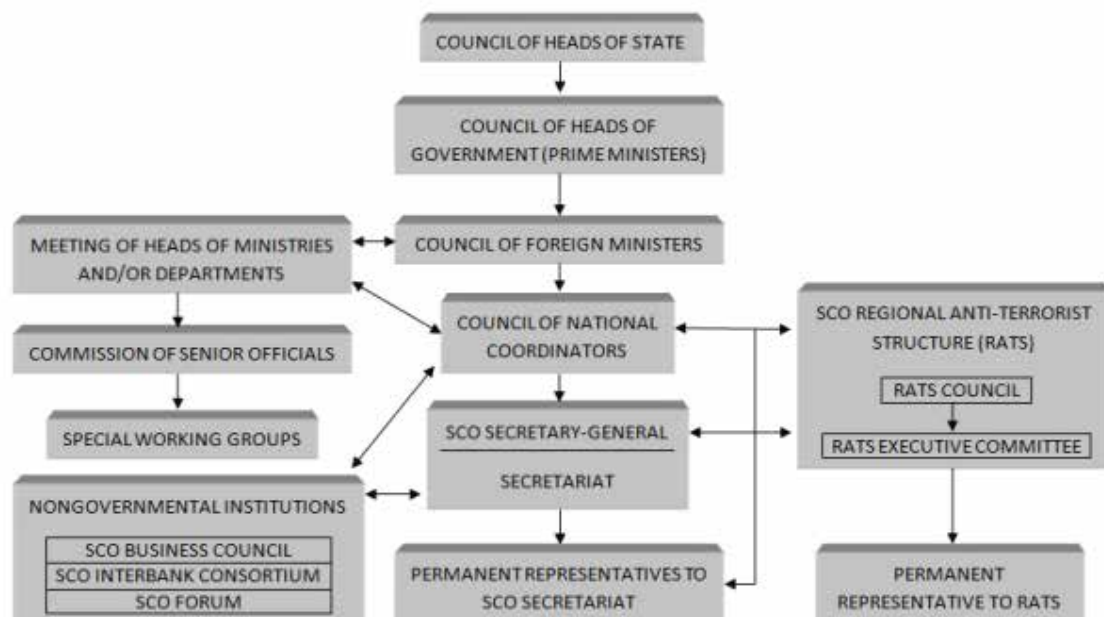
- 🚩 **CATEGORY:** Eurasian political, economic and military organisation
- 🚩 **FOUNDED:** 2001
- 🚩 **CONSTITUTING STATUTE:** Declaration of Shanghai Co-operation Organization.
- 🚩 **MEMBER STATES:** Russia, China, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, India, Pakistan, Iran and Belarus.
- 🚩 **OBSERVER STATES:** Afghanistan and Mongolia.
- 🚩 **DIALOGUE STATES:** Sri Lanka, Turkey and Nepal#.

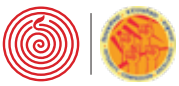


The "Declaration of Shanghai Co-operation Organization" at St. Petersburg, 2002 founded the Shanghai Co-operation Organization in 2001 from Shanghai Five, (Russia, China, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan) founded in 1996 through "Treaty on Deepening Military Trust in Border Regions".

FIGURE: Map representing the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

THE STRUCTURE OF THE SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION





NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

- 🌀 **TYPE:** Inter-Governmental military alliance.
- 🌀 **CONSTITUTING TREATY:** Washington treaty. (signed on 4 Apr il 1949)
- 🌀 **HEADQUARTERS:** Brussels, Belgium.
- 🌀 **HEADQUARTERS (ALLIED COMMAND OPERATIONS):** Mons, Belgium.
- 🌀 **SIGNIFICANCE:** Collective defence system, whereby its independent member states agree to mutual defence in response to an attack by any external party.
- 🌀 **MEMBER STATES:** NATO membership is open to “any other European state in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area.”
- 🌀 **FOUNDING MEMBERS:** Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- 🌀 **NON-FOUNDING MEMBERS:** Greece, Turkey, West Germany, Spain, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Poland, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Albania, Croatia, North Macedonia and Monte negro

OBJECTIVES:

- 🌀 **POLITICAL** – Promote democratic values and enables members to consult and cooperate on defence and security-related issues to solve problems, build trust and, in the long run, prevent conflict.
- 🌀 **MILITARY** – Committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes.

FIRST EXPANSION AFTER 2017: This is the first expansion of the SCO after India and Pakistan were admitted to the grouping in 2017.

COUNTER TO WEST: China and Russia are looking to frame the grouping as a counter to the West – particularly after Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

SCO’S RISING INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE: The significance of this round of expansion is that it shows SCO’s rising international influence and that the principles of the SCO charter are widely accepted, Secretary General SCO Zhang Ming said.

SCO IS DIFFERENT FROM NATO: The expansion of NATO is totally different as the SCO is a cooperative organization based on non-alignment and not targeting a third party, while NATO is based on Cold War thinking

SECURITY AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHER COUNTRIES: The SCO believes one should not build its security at the expense of other countries while NATO is creating new enemies to sustain its own existence.

INTERNATIONAL ORDER FAIRER AND MORE REASONABLE: The SCO member states are thinking of how to adapt to the profound changes that the international situation is undergoing so as to make the international order fairer and more reasonable.

Agreements on connectivity and high-efficiency transport corridors: Samarkand summit is expected to have agreements on connectivity and high-efficiency transport corridors and a roadmap for local currency settlement among member states.



**Work hard in silence, let
your success be your noise.**

INTERNATIONAL NORTH-SOUTH TRANSPORT CORRIDOR (INSTC)

CONTEXT: The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) continues to be hampered by logistics issues and US sanctions on Iran, a Russian train with 39 containers of cargo bound for India entered Iran.

INTERNATIONAL NORTH-SOUTH TRANSPORT CORRIDOR:

“a 7200 Km long multi-modal transport corridor – a network of roads, ships, and railways connecting India and Russia through Iran and Azerbaijan.”



FIGURE: Map representing the International North South Transport Corridor

ASHGABAT AGREEMENT

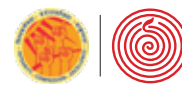
- 🚩 **FOUNDED:** 2011.
 - 🚩 **FOUNDING MEMBERS:** Oman*, Iran*, Turkmenistan*, Uzbekistan*, Kazakhstan (2015), India (2016) and Pakistan (2016).
 - 🚩 **SIGNIFICANCE:** Reorient the freight traffic from the traditional sea routes to transcontinental land routes facilitating deeper trade and commerce between Central Asia and the Persian Gulf countries.
- * Founding members

CONCLUSION:

Ashgabat Agreement establishes an international transport and transit corridor between Central Asia and the Persian Gulf countries. India accession to Ashgabat Agreement will enable India to utilise the existing transport and transit corridor to facilitate trade and commercial interaction and ties with Central Asia and Eurasian region; synchronise efforts of India to implement the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) for enhanced connectivity and provide an opportunity for reorientation of the freight traffic from the traditional sea route to land transcontinental routes.



INTERNAL SECURITY



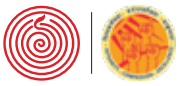
INTEGRATED THEATRE COMMANDS

WAIVER TO INDIA FOR PURCHASE OF S-400

MISSILE SYSTEM

PROJECT 17A FRIGATE

KILO CLASS SUBMARINE



INTEGRATED THE

An Integrated (Joint) Theatre Command envisages a UNIFIED COMMAND of the THREE SERVICES, under a SINGLE COMMANDER, for geographical theatres (areas) that are of strategic and security concern.

- INTEGRATED THEATRE COMMANDS

WESTERN THEATRE COMMAND (WTC)*

The WESTERN THEATRE COMMAND (WTC) would be oriented towards India-Pakistan border, pooling all the relevant assets of three branches of the Indian Armed Forces - Army, Navy and Air Force with a specialised focus upon plain and desert warfare.

AIR DEFENCE COMMAND (ADC) *

The AIR DEFENCE COMMAND (ADC) headed by a three-star officer from the Indian Air Force will look after the air defence operations of the Indian military. The AIR DEFENCE COMMAND (ADC) * will integrate all the relevant assets of three branches of the Indian Armed Forces - Army, Navy and Air Force under a single command authority.

LOGISTICS COMMAND

The LOGISTICS COMMAND would be pool logistics resources from all 3 services - Army, Navy and Air Force to cater to supply and transportation troops, armoured vehicles for all 3 operational commands.

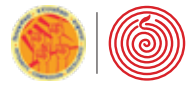
TRAINING COMMAND

The TRAINING COMMAND would serve as a nodal institution, with all the training institutions were placed under the jurisdiction of the Training Command to facilitate the training for all personnel of the Armed Forces of India.

DOCTRINE COMMAND

The DOCTRINE COMMAND would be charged with overseeing training of Army forces and the development of operational doctrine.

* Operational Commands



ATRE COMMANDS



EASTERN THEATRE COMMAND (ETC) *

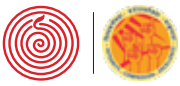
The EASTERN THEATRE COMMAND (ETC) would be oriented towards India-Sino border, pooling all the relevant assets of three branches of the Indian Armed Forces - Army, Navy and Air Force with a specialised focus upon mountain warfare.

MARITIME THEATRE COMMAND (MTC) *

The MARITIME THEATRE COMMAND (MTC) would be oriented towards command and control of the entire Indian naval fleet and coastal defence operations would be headed by a 3-star officer from Indian Navy will report to the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee headed by the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) would pool assets from all the branches of the Indian military.

THEATRE COMMANDER

-  Mobilise all resources at his disposal – from the Army, the Indian Air Force, and the Navy – with seamless efficacy.
-  Independent to act without prior permission of individual Service Chiefs.



WAIVER TO INDIA FOR PURCHASE OF S-400 MISSILE SYSTEM

CONTEXT: *The US House of Representatives has passed a legislative amendment that approves a waiver to India against the punitive CAATSA sanctions for its purchase of the S-400 missile defence system from Russia to help deter aggressors like China.*

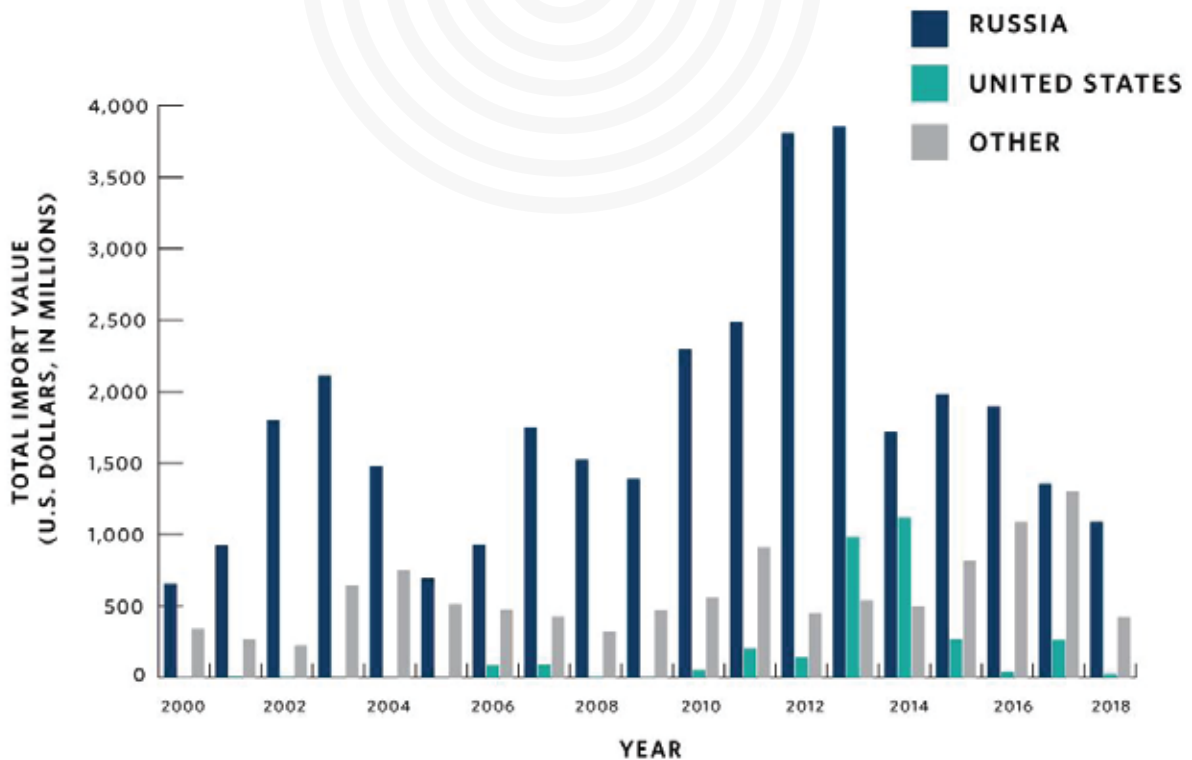
COUNTERING AMERICA'S ADVERSARIES THROUGH SANCTIONS ACT

- 🚫 **CORE OBJECTIVE:** Counter Iran, Russia and North Korea through punitive measures.
- 🚫 **ENACTED:** 2017.
- 🚫 **TARGET PARTIES:** Countries that engage in significant transactions with Russia's defence and intelligence sectors.

SANCTIONS

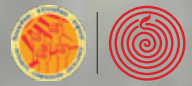
- 🚫 Prohibition on loans to the sanctioned person.
- 🚫 Prohibition of Export-Import bank assistance for exports to sanctioned persons.
- 🚫 Prohibition on procurement by United States Government to procure goods or services from the sanctioned person.
- 🚫 Denial of visas to persons closely associated with the sanctioned person.

FIGURE 1
India's Arms Imports



SOURCE: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) Arms Transfers Database.

NOTE: These figures reflect the estimated manufacturing costs of the arms in question.



PROJECT 17A FRIGATE

CONTEXT: Defence Minister recently launched Dunagiri (latest ship of 17A frigate)- Nilgiri Class, the fourth and latest ship in this class.

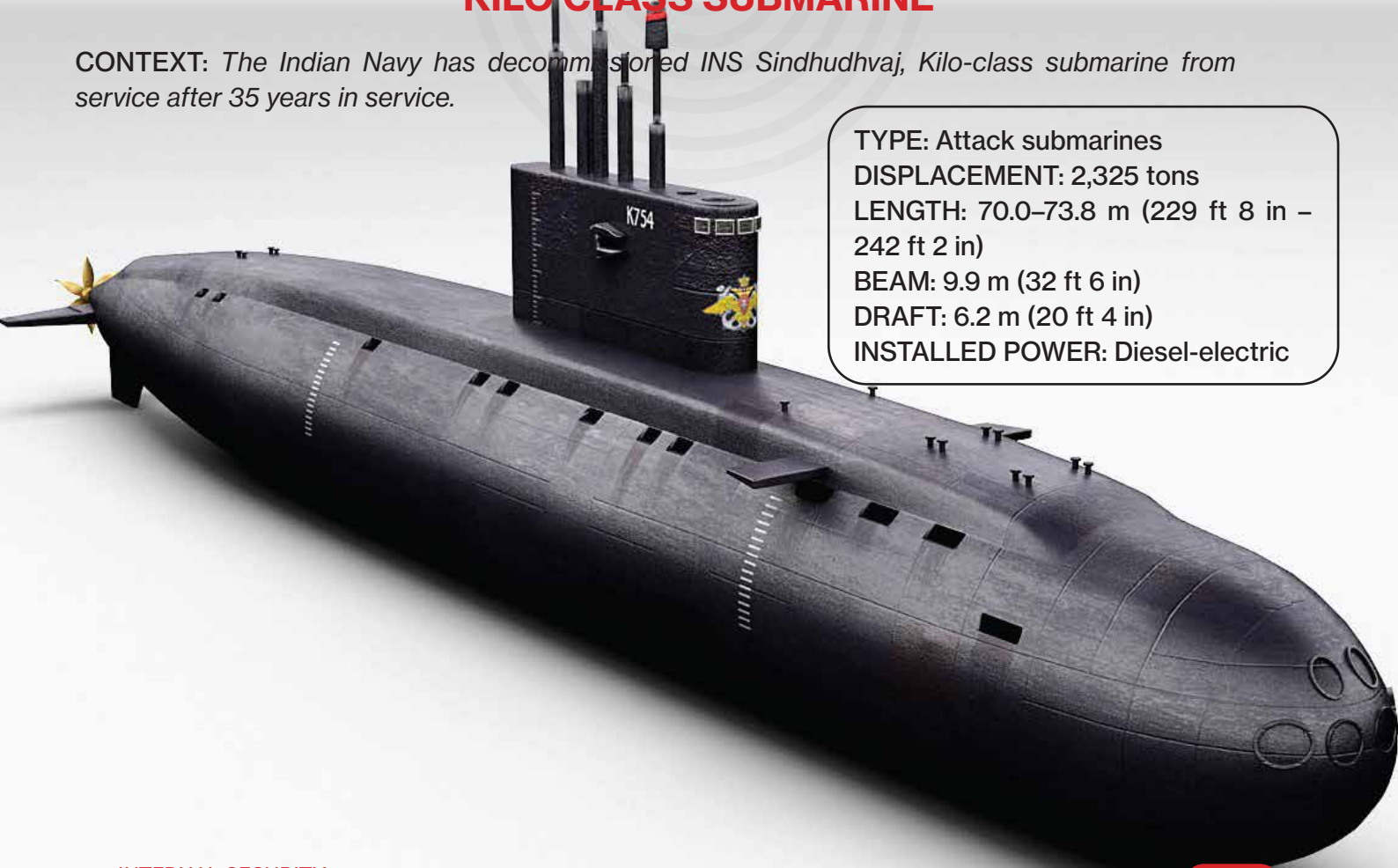
Designed in-house by the Indian Navy's Directorate of Naval Design (DND), P17A Frigates (Nilgiri Class) are follow-on class of the P17 (Shivalik Class) Frigates with improved stealth features.



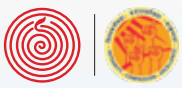
"a modern warship smaller than a destroyer, but larger than a corvette"

KILO CLASS SUBMARINE

CONTEXT: The Indian Navy has decommissioned INS Sindhudhvaj, Kilo-class submarine from service after 35 years in service.

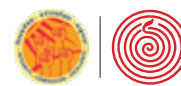


TYPE: Attack submarines
DISPLACEMENT: 2,325 tons
LENGTH: 70.0–73.8 m (229 ft 8 in – 242 ft 2 in)
BEAM: 9.9 m (32 ft 6 in)
DRAFT: 6.2 m (20 ft 4 in)
INSTALLED POWER: Diesel-electric



ECONOMICS





BANK NATIONALISATION

FINANCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS BUREAU (FSIB)

BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA

LANDLORD PORT MODEL

THE MARKETS IN CRYPTO-ASSETS (MiCA)

CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCY

RBI RECOMMENDS BAN ON CRYPTOCURRENCIES

RBI'S DIGITAL PAYMENTS INDEX (RBI-DPI)

RBI FINANCIAL STABILITY REPORT

BOND YIELD CURVE

DEVELOPMENT OF ENTERPRISE AND SERVICE HUBS

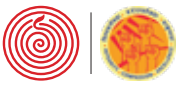
(DESH)

RBI ALLOWS GLOBAL TRADE SETTLEMENTS IN

RUPEES

RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAIN

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM INDEX 2022



BANK NATIONALISATION

CONTEXT: The Government is expected to make amendments in the current session of Parliament to enable it to privatise Public Sector Banks (PSBs).

“the process in which government of a country or a state takes control of a specific company or industry.”

-NATIONALISATION

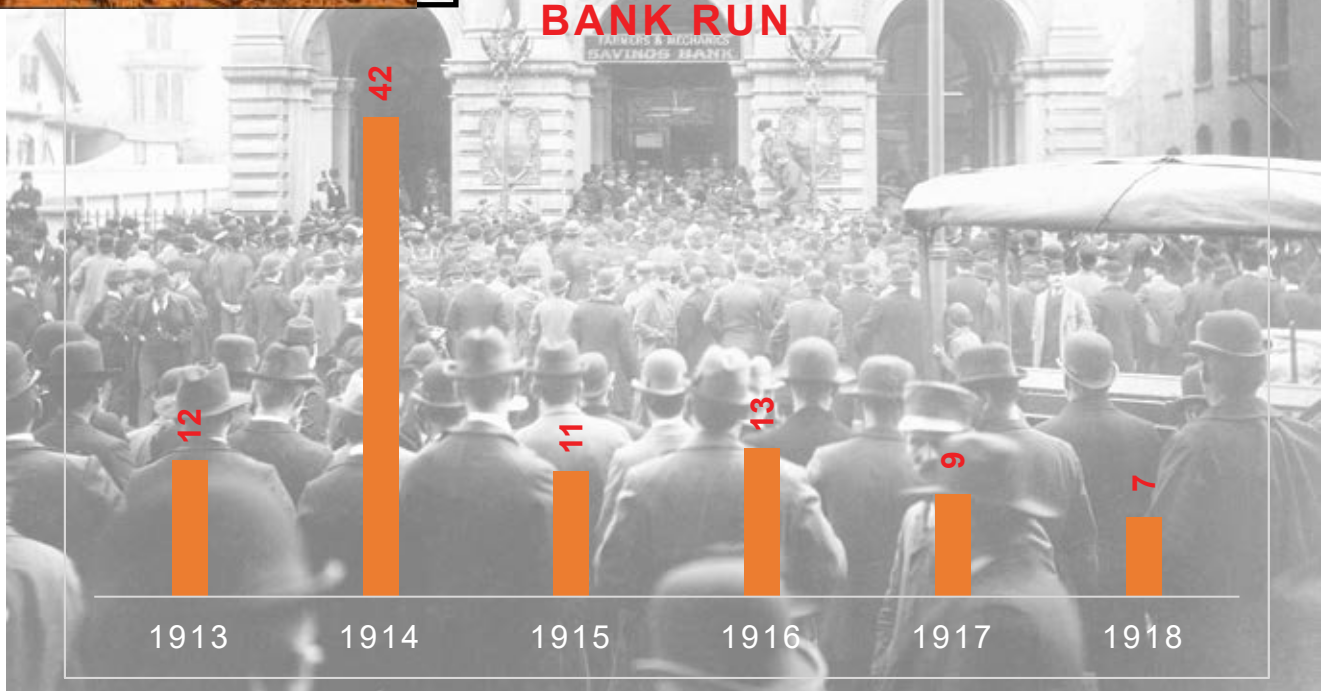
CONTEXT:

- Need for controlling private monopolies and wealth redistribution
- Need for mobilisation of savings to develop agriculture and small-scale industries
- Reducing regional imbalance to curb urban-rural divide
- Fiscal pressure upon public finance with fall in aggregate demand and economic slow-down from India-Sino War, 1962, India-Pakistan War, 1965 and successive years of drought.



- 1969: Nationalisation of the 14 Commercial Banks
- 1972: Nationalisation of the insurance companies
- 1973: Nationalisation of the coal industry
- 1973: Nationalisation of wholesale wheat trade
- 1973: Nationalisation of 'sick' companies

BANK RUN



OBJECTIVE: Limit the control from a few private players and expand the banking coverage to rural India so that sectors such as agriculture and small industries could get better credit facilities, thus creating a new class of entrepreneurs.

NATIONALISATION OF BANKS:

BANKS NATIONALISED - 1969	BANKS NATIONALISED - 1980
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allahabad Bank • Bank of Baroda • Bank of India • Bank of Maharashtra • Central Bank of India • <u>Canara Bank</u> • Dena Bank • Indian Bank • Indian Overseas Bank • Punjab National Bank • Syndicate Bank • UCO Bank • Union Bank of India 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punjab and <u>Sind Bank</u> • <u>Vijaya Bank</u> • Oriental Bank of Commerce • Corporation Bank • <u>Andhra Bank</u> • New Bank of India

BANK BRANCHES

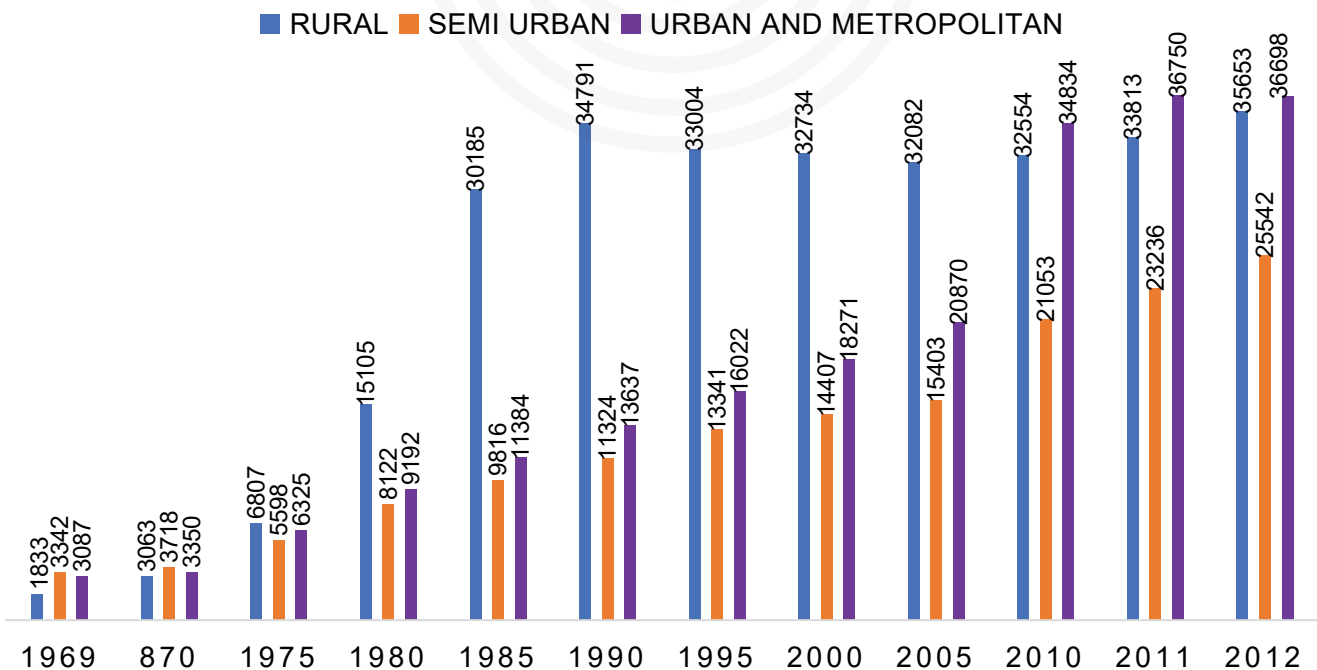


FIGURE: Bar chart representation of number of bank branches in India.



FINANCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS BUREAU (FSIB)

CONTEXT: The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) asked the Department of Financial Services (DFS) to amend the Nationalized Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme of 1970/1980 to establish Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) as a single entity.

FINANCIAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS BUREAU

OBJECTIVES:

Make recommendations for appointments of Full-Time Directors as well as the Non-Executive Chairman of Banks and other Financial Institutions.

Issue guidelines to select General Managers and Directors of Public Sector General Insurance Companies (GICs).

NEED FOR REVAMPING

DELHI HC ORDER: The High Court of Delhi observed the incompetence of the Banks Board Bureau (BBB) to recommend appointments at PSU General Insurers, and held that circulars enabling Banks Board Bureau to select General Managers and Directors of PSU insurers as not legally valid.

SLOW RECRUITMENT PROCESS: The recruitment process of the Banks Board Bureau (BBB) to a higher level has been slow, often leading to large number of vacancies in key posts of Banks.

BANKS BOARD BUREAU (BBB)

The RBI-appointed Nayak Committee recommended constitution of a Banks Boards Bureau as part of the Indradhanush Plan.

ESTABLISHED: February 2016

TYPE: Autonomous body

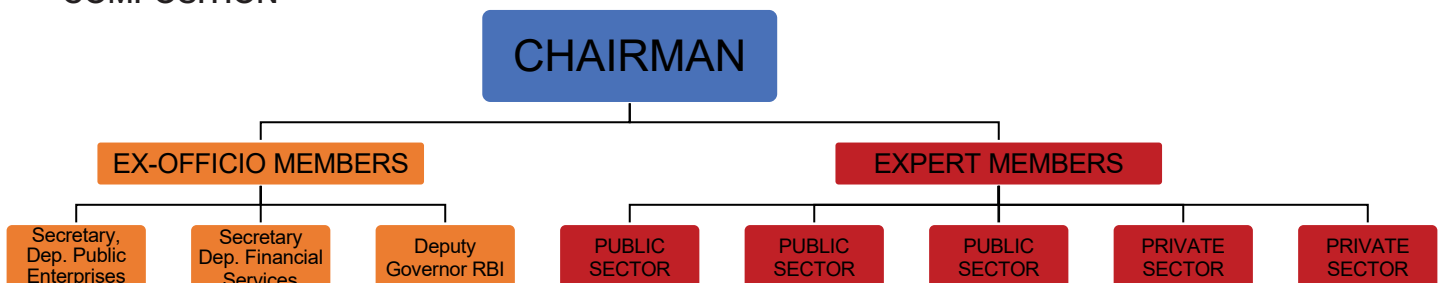
MANDATE: Make non-binding recommendations to the Union Ministry of Finance* for the appointment of:

Full time Directors

Non-Executive Chairpersons of Public Sector Banks (PSBs)

Non-Executive Chairpersons of State-owned Financial Institutions.

COMPOSITION



* The Union Ministry of Finance takes the final decision on the appointments in consultation with the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).



BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA

NATIONAL CORRIDORS OF INDIA (NC)

SIX high volume corridors, including 4 in Golden Quadrilateral and 2 in North–South and East–West Corridors, including Mumbai - Kolkata Highway (NH6), known as East Coast - West Coast Corridor, that carry 35% of India's freight.

SALIENT FEATURES - BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA

ECONOMIC (INDUSTRIAL) CORRIDORS: Develop 44 corridors - 26,200 km, of which 9,000 km would be taken up in PHASE-I.

INTER-CORRIDORS AND FEEDER NETWORKS: Build a network of 8046.2 km of inter-corridors (IC) and 7563.97 km feeder routes (FR) to improve the efficiency of network.

NATIONAL CORRIDORS EFFICIENCY PROGRAM (NCEP): Decongest the existing National Corridors of India at 185 choke via 34 lane expansions, 45 bypasses and 30 ring roads of 6 National Corridors via construction of road network of 5,000 km.

BORDER & INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY ROADS: Construction of an additional 3,300 km of border roads and 2,000 km of international highways to connect 6 National Corridors to international trade routes.

COASTAL & PORT CONNECTIVITY ROADS: Construction of 2000km of roads to enhance connectivity to areas dotted along the shorelines and important ports.

GREENFIELD EXPRESSWAYS: Construction of Green-field Expressways along the busiest stretches of National Corridors to reduce traffic congestion along the existing National Corridors.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (NHDP): NHDP project covers 48,793 km, including 28,915 km completed, 10,574 km under construction and 9,304 km left for award (as of May 2017). The uncompleted projects under NHDP will also be subsumed in Bharatmala.

KEY FEATURES OF THE SCHEME

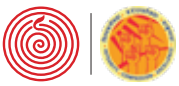
- ✂ IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF ROADS
- ✂ TOTAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION
- ✂ INTEGRATED SCHEME
- ✂ TOTAL TENURE OF THE PROGRAM
- ✂ SEGMENTATION IN PHASES
- ✂ CONSTRUCTION ON A DAILY BASIS
- ✂ DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION
- ✂ MULTI-SOURCE OF FINDING

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LANDLORD PORT MODEL

CONTEXT: *Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNP) has become the first major 100% landlord port in India, having all berths being operated on the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.*

Currently, India has 12 major ports– Deendayal (erstwhile Kandla), Mumbai, JNPT, Mormugao, New Mangalore, Cochin, Chennai, Kamarajar (earlier Ennore), VO Chidambaranar, Visakhapatnam, Paradip and Kolkata (including Haldia).

LANDLORD MODEL

Publicly governed port authority (owner) acts as a regulatory body and as a landlord while private companies carry out all other port operations. In return, the landlord gets a share of the revenue from the private entity.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PORT AUTHORITY

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT:

Manage vessel traffic
Manage inbound and outbound inland traffic
Facilitate evacuation of containers

AREA MANAGEMENT:

Develop transport infrastructure
Provide space for port-related activities
Rationalise land use

CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT:

Attract new customers
Retaining existing customers
Find new added value activities

STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT:

Influence regulation
Relation with public agencies

ABOUT JNP

Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNP) located at Mumbai is one of the leading container ports in the country. As per Lloyds List Top 100 Ports 2021 Report, Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNP) is ranked 26th among the top 100 global ports. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPCT) presently handles 9000 TEUs capacity vessels and with the up-gradation, it can handle 12200 TEUs capacity vessels. Previously, the government proposed to set up a major port at Vadhavan (India's 13th major port) near Dahanu in Maharashtra based on the landlord model.

SERVICE MODEL:

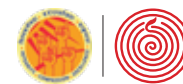
The publicly governed port authority (owner) owns all the land and available assets and carry out the operations themselves.

CORPORATISED MODEL:

Port is entirely privatised, except the ownership that remains with the public.



SAGAR MALA



THE MARKETS IN CRYPTO-ASSETS (MiCA)

CONTEXT: Recently, the EU Parliament enacted Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) to regulate cryptocurrencies prompted by the crash of Luna token, a stable coin issued by Terraform Labs.

“address concerns like money-laundering, protection of consumers and investors, accountability of crypto firms, stable coins and the environmental footprint of crypto mining.”

- EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

SALIENT FEATURES:

- ❌ **MINIMUM LIQUIDITY:** Mandate issuers of crypto-assets – stable-coin to maintain a minimum liquidity to provide a buffer against fluctuations in value from sudden large withdrawals by users, and from insolvency.
- ❌ **SUPERVISION:** Empowered the European Banking Authority (EBA) to supervise stable-coins and issuers of stable-coin to provide claims to investors free of charge.
- ❌ **CAPPING:** Capped transactions per day of large coins used as a means of payment at €200 million.
- ❌ **PUBLIC REGISTER:** Makes the European Banking Authority (EBA) to maintain a public register of non-compliant crypto asset service providers (CASPs).
- ❌ **ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT:** Makes it mandatory for the crypto companies to declare their environmental and climate footprint.

CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCY

CONTEXT: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is in the process of implementing the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in a phased manner for wholesale and retail segments.

Sovereign-backed digital form of a country's fiat currency issued by a Central Bank in form of electronic tokens whose token value is backed by the full faith and credit of the government.

- CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCY (CBDC)

Central bank digital currency is . . .

Traditional money, **BUT** in digital form;

Issued and governed by a country's Central Bank;

Appreciates and depreciates based on country's monetary policies, trade surpluses, and central bank; and

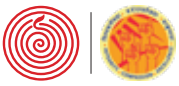
Based on a digital ledger, **BUT** may or may not leverage blockchain or Distributed Ledger Technology.

Central bank digital currency is not . . .

Cryptocurrency (like Bitcoin) governed by distributed autonomous communities instead of a centralized body;

Value-dependent and determined entirely by the market;

Equivalent to electronic cash (e.g., balance in a digital wallet or a prepaid card) with claim against an intermediary such as a commercial bank.



TIMELINE:

- 2013: RBI issued circular cautioning investments in virtual currencies.
- 2018: RBI issued circular prohibiting Financial Institutions to deal in crypto-currencies.
- 2019: Union Finance Ministry Committee on virtual Currencies recommended for banning crypto-currencies in India.
- 2020: The Supreme Court of India struck down the RBI circular prohibiting Financial Institutions to deal in crypto-currencies.
- 2021: Crypto Currency and Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2021.
- 2022: Announcement of introduction of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in the Union Budget 2022-23 amending the RBI Act, 1934 through the Finance Bill 2022.

SC GARG COMMITTEE (2019):

- Prohibits mining, holding, transacting or dealing with cryptocurrencies in any form.
- Prescribes a jail term of 1 - 10 years for exchange or trading in digital currency. Proposed a monetary penalty of up to three times the loss caused to the exchequer or gains made by the cryptocurrency user whichever is higher.

BENEFITS OF ADOPTING CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCIES:

- CURRENCY MANAGEMENT COSTS:** Substantially reduce currency management costs - cost of printing, transporting and storing paper currency. Besides, adoption of CBDCs can significantly reduce the circulation of physical currency.
- INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT:** Universal access attributes of a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), including offline payment functionality and real-time payments without any inter-bank settlement and instant lending to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) help bridge the digital divide between rural and urban India.
- SOCIAL BENEFITS:** CBDCs facilitate faster cross-border remittance payments and targeted payments in a country.

RBI RECOMMENDS BAN ON CRYPTOCURRENCIES

CONTEXT: *The Union Finance Minister called for prohibition of cryptocurrencies during her speech at Lok Sabha.*

CONTENTION OF FINANCE MINISTER

- LACK LEGAL TENDER STATUS:** Cryptocurrencies NEITHER issued by the Central Bank NOR its value anchored by monetary policy rests solely on speculations.
- NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW:** Crypto require global collaboration to prevent regulatory arbitrage on cryptocurrencies.
- REGULATIONS IN PLACE:** Know Your Customer (KYC), Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Combating of Financing of Terrorism (CFT), obligations under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) (for overseas remittances).





CHALLENGES:

- Potential cybersecurity threat
- Poor digital literacy
- Regulation
- Tracking investment and purchase
- Taxing individuals.
- Threat to Privacy

RBI'S DIGITAL PAYMENTS INDEX (RBI-DPI)

CONTEXT: Recent data (March 2021-22) from the Index demonstrated significant growth, indicating rapid adoption and deepening of digital payments across the country.

RBI DIGITAL PAYMENTS INDEX (RBI-DPI)

-  **LAUNCHED:** January 2021.
-  **PUBLISHER:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
-  **MANDATE:** Captures the extent of digitisation of payments across the country (with 2018 as a base year- score set as 100)
-  **FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION:** Semi-annual.

RBI PUBLICATIONS

- Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS – Quarterly)
- Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH – Quarterly)
- Financial Stability Report (Half-Yearly)
- Monetary Policy Report (Half-Yearly)
- Report on Foreign Exchange Reserves (Half-Yearly)

PAYMENT ENABLERS	PAYMENT INFRASTRUCTURE -DEMAND SIDE	PAYMENT INFRASTRUCTURE - SUPPLY SIDE	PAYMENT PERFORMANCE	CONSUMER CENTRICITY
Internet Mobile Aadhar Bank Accounts Participants Merchants	Debit Cards Credit Cards PPIs FASTags Mobile Banking	Bank Branches Business Correspondent ATMs Pos Terminals QR Codes Intermediaries	Digital Payment Systems Unique systems Paper currency Currency circulation Cash withdrawals	Awareness and Education Declines Complaints Frauds System Downtime

RECENT INITIATIVES: RBI launched the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) to encourage acquirers to deploy Points of Sale (PoS) infrastructure – both physical and digital modes – in Tier III to Tier VI centres and north-eastern states.

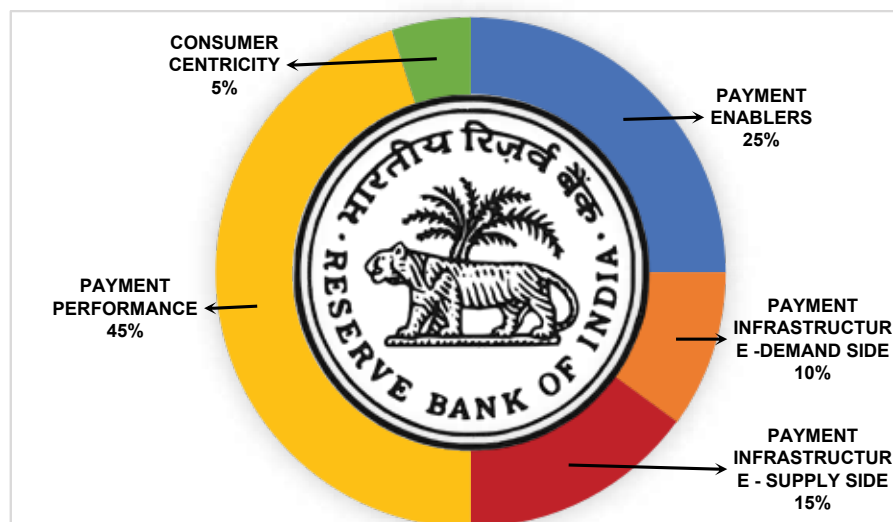
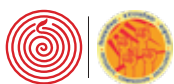


FIGURE: Pie chart representation of weightage of parameters of calculating the RBI'S Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI).



RBI FINANCIAL STABILITY REPORT

CONTEXT: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its bi-annual Financial Stability Report (FSR).

REPORT:

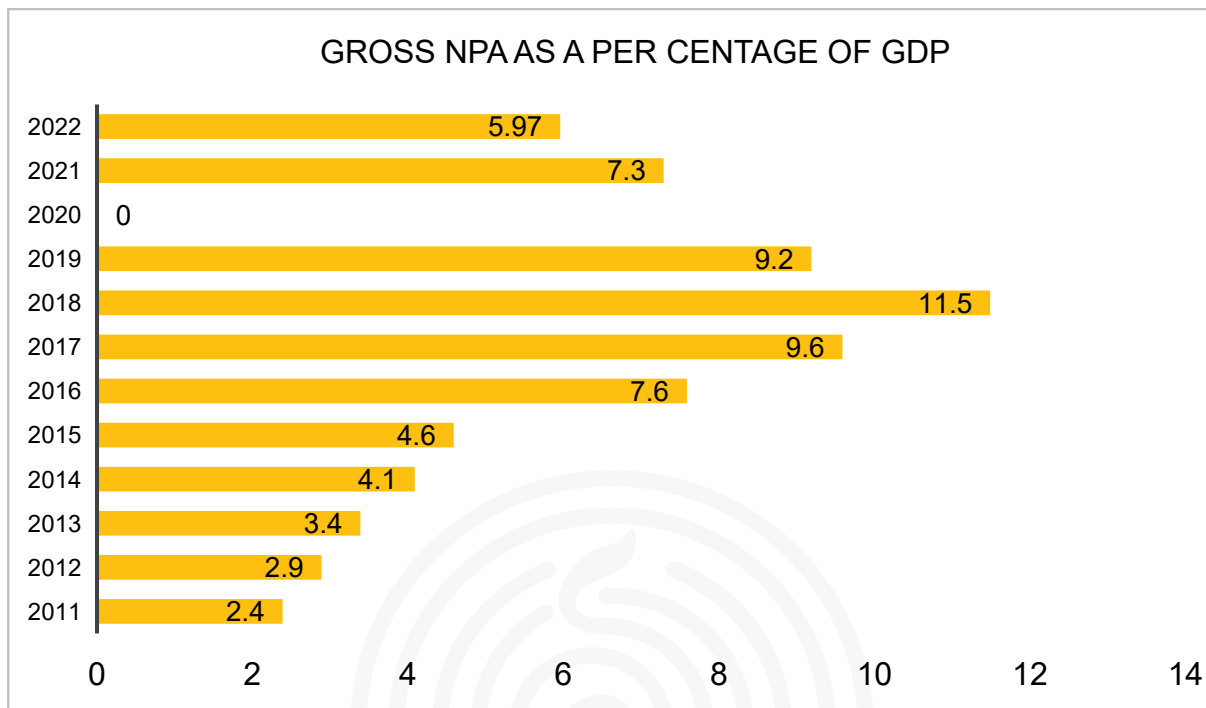


FIGURE: Bar chart representation of Gross NPA as a per centage of GDP.

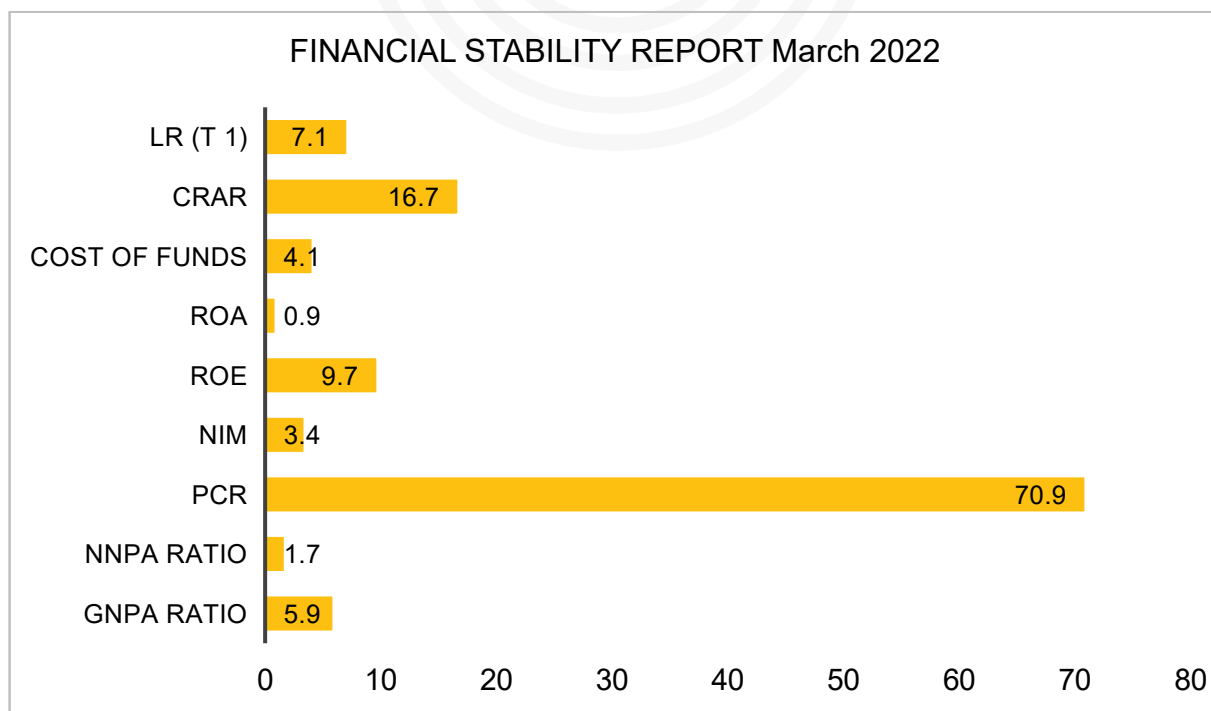
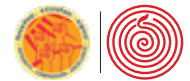


FIGURE: Bar chart representation of domestic macroeconomic parameters.



- **LEVERAGE RATIO (LR (T 1)):** Share of Tier-I capital as a percentage of the bank's exposures - on- and off-balance sheet exposures.
- **CAPITAL-TO-RISK WEIGHTED ASSETS RATIO (CRAR):** Capital available with the Bank, expressed as a percentage of a bank's risk-weighted credit exposures to protect depositors and promote the stability and efficiency of global financial system.
- **RETURN ON ASSETS (RoA):** Profitability of a company in relation to its total assets that measure the efficiency of utilisation of assets.
- **NET INTEREST MARGIN (NIM):** Difference between the interest income earned and the interest paid by a bank or financial institution relative to its interest-earning assets like cash.
- **PROVISIONING COVERAGE RATIO (PCR):** Percentage of funds set aside by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) to buffer themselves against for losses due to bad debts.
- **GROSS NON-PERFORMING ASSETS RATIO:** Sum of any unpaid debt, classified as non-performing loans expressed as a percentage of GDP.
- **NET NON-PERFORMING ASSETS RATIO:** Sum of any unpaid debt, classified as non-performing loans deducting the provision for unpaid loans from unpaid obligations expressed as a percentage of GDP.

FINANCIAL STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (FSDC)

The Centre constituted the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) in 2010 based on the recommendations of the Raghuram Rajan Committee on Financial Sector Reforms (2008). The Financial Data Management Centre collect and collate data from all financial sector regulators in a single database on issues relating to financial stability to provide analytical support to the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC).

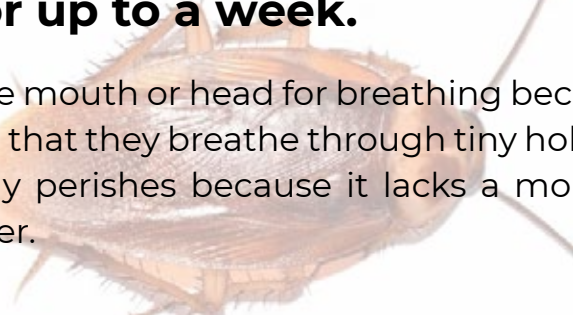
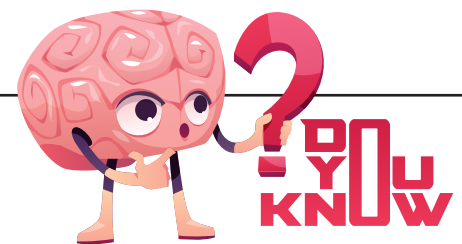
The Reserve Bank of India collectively assess the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to the financial stability of the country and resilience of the financial system. It publishes bi-annual Fiscal Stability Report. The report discusses issues relating to the development and regulation of the financial sector.

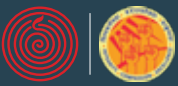
CORE FUNCTIONS

- Strengthen and institutionalize mechanism for maintaining domestic financial stability.
- Enhance inter-regulatory coordination to promote orderly development of domestic financial sector.
- Promote financial literacy and financial inclusion.
- Assess the functioning of the large financial conglomerates.

A cockroach can survive without its head for up to a week.

They do not rely on the mouth or head for breathing because of their open circulatory system and the fact that they breathe through tiny holes in each of their body segments. The roach only perishes because it lacks a mouth and cannot quench its thirst by drinking water.





BOND YIELD CURVE

CONTEXT: The inflation rate in United States touched 9.1% in June, the highest in 40 years.

INVERTED BOND YIELD CURVE

“an anomalous economic scenario where yields or returns from short-term bonds are higher than those from long-term bonds”



FIGURE: Scatter diagram of bond-yields in basis points.

WHY BOND YIELD MATTERS?

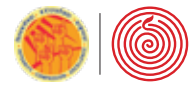
The Governments and Corporations raise ‘debt capital’ issuing Sovereign Bonds and Corporate Bonds respectively. Usually, yield rates of Sovereign Bonds are a good way to understand the risk-free interest rate in that economy.

RECOVERY AND BOOM PHASE: An investor, OPTIMISTIC of the state of economy SELL their LONG-TERM BONDS and invest in SHORT-TERM RISKIER EQUITY instruments to maximise their returns. The selling pressure cause the price of long-term bonds to fall, with a subsequent RISE in their YIELD (effective interest rate). The economy would have an UPWARD SLOPING YIELD CURVE.

BUST AND RECESSION: An investor, PESSIMISTIC of state of economy BUY LONG-TERM BONDS and sell SHORT-TERM RISKIER EQUITY INSTRUMENTS to protect their investments. The buying pressure cause the price of long-term bonds to rise, with a subsequent FALL in their YIELD (effective interest rate). The economy would have a DOWNWARD SLOPING YIELD CURVE.

CONCLUSION:

Over the years, inversion of the bond yield curve has become a strong predictor of recessions. In the current instance, the US Federal Reserves has been raising short-term interest rates, which further bumps up the short-end of the yield curve while dampening economic activity.



DEVELOPMENT OF ENTERPRISE AND SERVICE HUBS (DESH)

CONTEXT: The Government plans to replace the current Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Act, 2005 with the Development of Enterprise and Service Hubs (DESH) Bill to overhaul the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) legislation.

WHY REPLACE THE EXISTING SEZ ACT?

The WTO Dispute Settlement Panel cited directly linked tax benefits to exports from Special Economic Zones as distortionary and inconsistent with WTO rules.

WHY SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES (SEZs) LOST ITS SHEEN?

SEZ units enjoyed 100 % income tax exemption on export income for the first 5 years, 50% for the next 5 years, and 50% of the ploughed back export profit for another 5 years. SEZ started losing its allure after the introduction of an amendment to the Income Tax (IT) Act, 1961 which introduced Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) to prevent tax evasions through manipulations on balance sheets shifting their profits into paying dividends and subsidiary activities. The companies have to pay minimum 18.5 % + surcharge (if applicable) +3 % cess of MAT on their profits

DEVELOPMENT OF ENTERPRISE AND SERVICE HUBS (DESH)

- ❗ **BOOST DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING:** Remodel existing Special Economic Zones as 'Development Hubs' to boost domestic manufacturing and job creation. The 'Development Hubs' need NOT satisfy as a 'NET FOREIGN EXCHANGE POSITIVE' region cumulatively in 5 years (i.e, export more than they import) as mandated in the SEZ regime. The 'Development Hubs' are allowed to sell in the domestic area paying duties on the imported inputs and raw materials instead of the final product make them WTO-compliant.
- ❗ **SINGLE WINDOW PORTAL:** Allow online single-window portal for the grant of time-bound approvals for establishing and operating the hubs.
- ❗ **EQUALIZATION LEVY:** The Government may impose an equalization levy on goods or services supplied to the domestic market to bring taxes at par with those provided by units outside

COOPERATIVE FEDERAL MODEL

In the current SEZ regime, the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industries serve as nodal agency, with States enjoying a minor role only. With the present DESH regime, States are able to participate and even directly send recommendations for Development Hubs to a Central Board for approval. State Boards set up to oversee the functioning of the hubs would have the powers to approve imports or procurement of goods and monitor the utilization of goods or services, warehousing, and trading in the development hub.

"Be not afraid of greatness. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them."

- WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



TIMELINE OF SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

1965: The Government of India (GoI) established Kandla Export Processing Zone (EPZ), the first ever Export Processing Zone (EPZ) in Asia.

Will it be easier to sell in the domestic market?

Yes.. Besides, there is no mandatory payment requirement in forex, unlike in the case of SEZs.

BENEFITS ENJOYED BY SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

- ☞ Income Tax exemptions on export incomes for first 5 years, 50% for next 5 years thereafter and 50% of the ploughed back export profit for next 5 years. [Section 10AA IT Act, 1961].
- ☞ Exemptions from MAT.
- ☞ Customs Duty exemptions on procurement of raw materials;
- ☞ Excise Duty exemptions on procurement of raw materials by SEZs from Domestic Tariff Area; Exemptions of CST, SST and service taxes.
- ☞ ECBs by SEZ units upto US \$ 500 million in a year without any maturity restriction through recognized banking channels.
- ☞ Single window clearance for Central and State level approvals.

RBI ALLOWS GLOBAL TRADE SETTLEMENTS IN RUPEES

CONTEXT: *The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) allowed domestic traders to settle global trade in Indian rupees for to facilitate trade with Russia hit by sanctions of the United States of America and European Union. The India-Russia bilateral trade stood at \$13.1 billion in 2021-22.*

PRESENT SCENARIO

Under the existing provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, final settlements must be in free foreign exchange except for Nepal and Bhutan. The approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) would allow the final settlement to all countries can be in the Indian rupee.

BENEFITS:

BOOST BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL TRADE: Settlement of bilateral and multilateral trade in domestic currencies with countries including Iran, Sri Lanka and countries in Africa and Latin America facing forex shortages would help India to promote its exports with these countries.

SAVE FOREIGN CURRENCY: Settlement of bilateral and multilateral trade in domestic currencies reduce dependence upon hard currency-based commerce and save forex reserves.

STABILIZE THE RUPEE: Promoting settlement of bilateral and multilateral trade in Indian Rupees would increase acceptability of Indian Rupee in global markets.

MASALA BONDS

Masala bonds are rupee-denominated financial instruments issued by Indian corporates to raise funds from overseas capital markets. Masala Bonds helps Indian corporates diversify their source of funding and develop offshore rupee markets to improve acceptance of the Indian currency in trade settlements. The RBI currently classifies Masala Bonds as External Commercial Borrowings to increase corporate bond investment limit for foreign investors. The RBI earlier classified Masala Bonds under Combined Corporate Debt Limit (CCDL) for FPI (Foreign Portfolio Investments) and External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) constituted a panel under the former Deputy Governor Usha Thorat to examine issues related to offshore rupee markets and recommend policy measures to ensure the stability of the external value of the domestic currency.

RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAIN

CONTEXT: India, the US, EU and other countries finalised a four-point roadmap for building collective, long-term Resilient Supply Chains (RSC) to counter risks arising from supply dependencies and vulnerabilities.

Capability to resist or even avoid the impact of a supply chain disruption – and the ability to quickly recover from a disruption.

- **RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAIN**

THREATS TO SUPPLY CHAIN:

Geopolitics – Emergence of China in global markets

Wars – Disruptions in crude oil supply

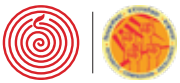
Pandemic, Extreme climate events and Natural Disasters.

INITIATIVES: Supply chain resilience initiative (SCRI) (by India, Japan and Australia) to counter China's dominance in Indo-pacific.

SIX STRATEGIES

- ❖ **MULTI-SOURCING:** Outsourcing approach awarding business to additional suppliers or working with an existing single - or sole-source supplier that is able to produce out of several locations.
- ❖ **NEAR SHORING:** Moving back manufacturing operations to a nearby country reducing geographic dependence in their global networks and shorten cycle times for finished products.
- ❖ **PLATFORM, PRODUCT OR PLANT HARMONISATION:** A more regionalized network and the more harmonized plant technology allow inter-operability of components products simplifying sourcing policies and creates opportunities to place higher volumes among multiple suppliers, which in turn enhances resiliency.
- ❖ **ECO SYSTEM PARTNERSHIPS:** Collaboration with strategic raw material suppliers and external service partners is also vital to ensure better preparedness and resilience for the future.
- ❖ **INVENTORY AND CAPACITY PARTNERSHIPS:** Buffer capacity, in the form of underutilized production facilities or inventory in excess of safety stock requirements is the most straightforward way to enhance resilience.
- ❖ **MANUFACTURING AND NETWORK DIVERSIFICATION:** Many companies have begun to diversify their sourcing or manufacturing bases. For some, this has meant switching to new suppliers outside China, or asking existing partners to supply them from elsewhere in Asia or in countries such as Mexico.

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WORLD PRESS FREEDOM INDEX 2022

CONTEXT: The global ranking of India declined from 142 to 150 among 180 countries on Reporters Without Borders (RSF).

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM INDEX 2022

PUBLISHER: Reporters Without Borders (RSF)

FREQUENCY: Annual

METHODOLOGY: Rank countries / regions based on the level of freedom available to journalists

SCORING CRITERIA: Assign a score ranging from 0 to 100 to each country or territory, with 100 being the best possible score and 0 the worst.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Evaluate countries / regions using 5 contextual indicators: political context, legal framework, economic context, sociocultural context and safety.

PARAMETERS

- POLITICAL CONTEXT
- LEGAL FRAMEWORK
- ECONOMIC CONTEXT
- SOCIOCULTURAL CONTEXT
- SAFETY

TOP PERFORMERS

1. Norway
2. Denmark
3. Sweden
4. Estonia
5. Finland

India has fallen eight places from 142nd to 150th in the 2022 among the 180 countries. The reasons behind fall in ranking is the increased “violence against journalists” and a “politically partisan media”.

WORST PERFORMERS

146. Sri Lanka
155. Russia
157. Pakistan
162. Bangladesh
175. China
180. North Korea

REASONS BEHIND THE FALL IN RANKING OF INDIA:

- 🚫 **PRESSURE FROM GOVERNMENT:** Domestic media, among nations reputed to be more democratic, faces pressure from “increasingly authoritarian and nationalist governments”.
- 🚫 **FAULTS IN POLICY FRAMEWORK:** The policy framework protective in theory, resort to defamation, sedition, contempt of court, and charge of endangering national security branding journalists critical of the government “anti-national.”
- 🚫 **INSECURITY FOR MEDIA PERSONS:** Journalists are exposed to all kinds of physical violence including police violence, ambushes by political activists, and deadly reprisals by criminal groups or corrupt local officials.
- 🚫 **ON KASHMIR ISSUE:** The situation in Kashmir remains “worrisome” with reporters often harassed by police and paramilitaries.

CONCLUSION

The Government doesn't agree with the findings of the report. The Government has cited “very low sample size, little or no weightage to fundamentals of democracy, adoption of a methodology which is questionable and non-transparent”.



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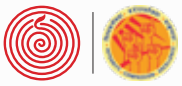
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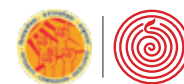
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ECONOMICS



ECOLOGY





COALITION FOR DISASTER RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

(CDRI)

INDIA FORUM FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

GLASGOW BREAKTHROUGHS

“HARIYALIMAHOTSAV”

OZONE HOLE

FOREST CONSERVATION RULES, 2022

CHENKURINJI

JUST STOP OIL

WORLD’S GREATEST PLACES OF 2022

EOSCANSOR COBRENSIS

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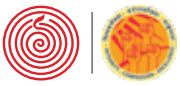
MAJOR ECONOMIES FORUM ON CLIMATE AND ENERGY

AZOOXANTHELLATE CORALS

BONN GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY CONCLAVE 2022

GREAT INDIAN BUSTARDS

NITI AAYOG REPORT



COALITION FOR DISASTER RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE (CDRI)

Context: Cabinet approves Categorization of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as an 'International Organization'.

ABOUT

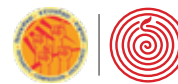
- ✎ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has approved the categorization of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as an 'International Organization'.
- ✎ The Union Cabinet also decided in signing of the Headquarters Agreement (HQA) with CDRI for granting it the exemptions, immunities and privileges as contemplated under the United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947.
- ✎ Categorization of CDRI as an 'International Organisation' and signing of HQA with CDRI for grant of exemptions, immunities and privileges as contemplated under Section-3 of the United Nations (Privileges & Immunities) Act, 1947.
- ✎ This will provide it an independent and international legal persona so that it can efficiently and effectively carry out its functions internationally.

THIS WILL HELP THE CDRI IN:

- ✎ Deputing experts to other countries, that are particularly vulnerable to disaster risk and / or require support for post disaster recovery and also bringing in experts from member countries to India, for similar purposes;
- ✎ Deploying funds globally and receive contributions from member countries, for CDRI activities;
- ✎ Making available technical expertise to assist countries to develop resilient infrastructure in accordance with their disaster and climate risks and resources;
- ✎ Imparting assistance to countries in adopting appropriate risk governance arrangements and strategies for resilient infrastructure;
- ✎ Rendering all possible support to member countries in upgrading their systems to ensure disaster and climate resilience of existing and future infrastructure, while aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Climate Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;
- ✎ Leveraging international engagement to foster disaster resilient infrastructure at home; and,
- ✎ Providing Indian scientific and technical institution as well as infrastructure developers an opportunity to interact with global experts. This will help build our own capacities and mechanisms – both in public and private sectors – to support disaster resilient infrastructure development.

Success is not a luck;
is hard work





INDIA FORUM FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Context: NIUA's C-Cube And WRI India Launch The India Forum For Nature-Based Solutions

About

- ✎ Launched by: The National Institute of Urban Affairs' (NIUA) Climate Centre for Cities (NIUA C-Cube), World Resources Institute India (WRI India) and their partners.
- ✎ Supporting partners: Caterpillar Foundation, Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Govt. of United Kingdom and Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI).
- ✎ Significance: Ecosystem-based services and Nature-Based Solutions are fast emerging as cost-effective and sustainable ways to address climate change induced challenges such as heat, urban flooding, air and water pollution and storm surges.
- ✎ Along with mitigating the impact of climate change, NbS also helps in providing multiple ecosystem benefits along with addressing various societal challenges including building resilience of the underserved and vulnerable urban communities who are most affected by climate change induced catastrophes.

The India Forum for Nature-based Solutions aims to create a collective of NbS entrepreneurs, government entities and like-minded organisations, to help scale urban nature-based solutions by

- ✎ Defining a shared language and by communicating benefits that inform actions at the local level including scaling up of existing NbS interventions.
- ✎ Driving investment and strengthening delivery mechanisms through multi-stakeholder coordination.
- ✎ Mainstreaming urban ecosystem-based services and nature-based solutions in India through informing policy, plans and project interventions

CLIMATE CENTRE FOR CITIES (C-CUBE)

- ✎ Supported by: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- ✎ Objective: One stop shop to support capacity building and knowledge retention for mainstreaming climate change action in Indian cities.

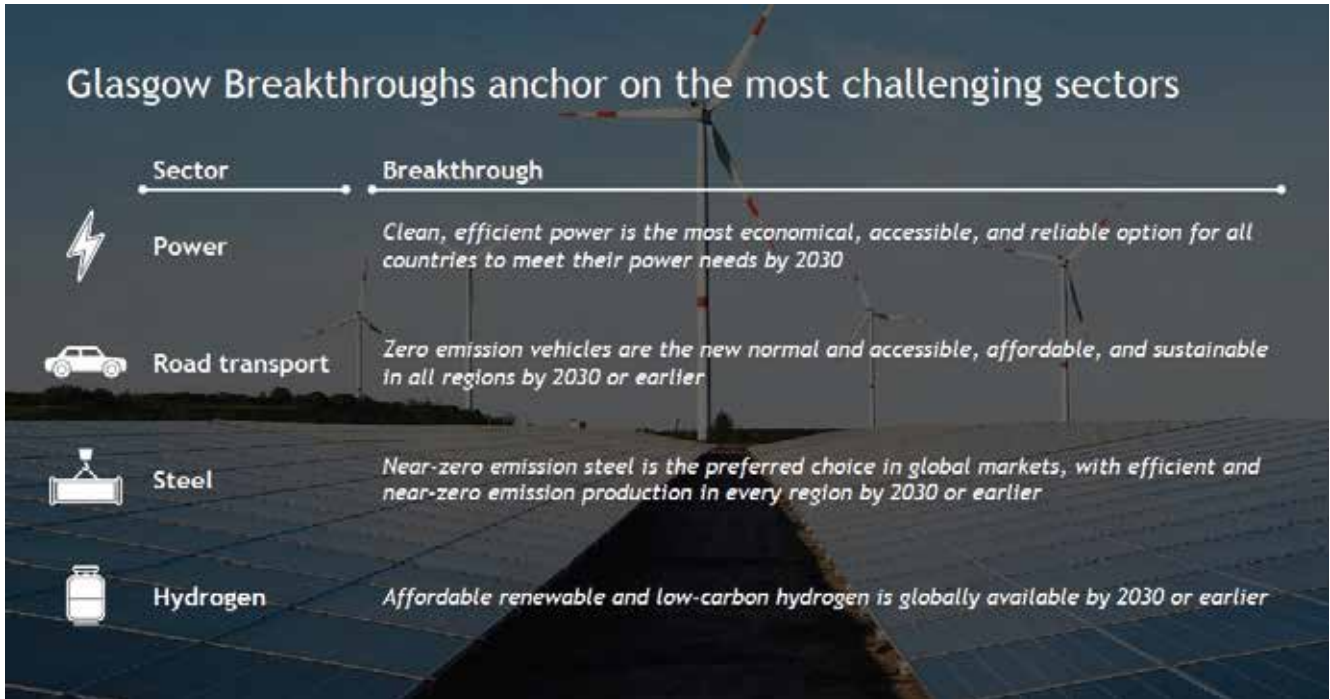
SOME INITIATIVES

- ✎ The Climate Smart Cities (CSC) Project is an initiative under the Urban Development-Smart Cities vertical of the Sustainable Urban Development Cluster of GIZ in India.
- ✎ The CapaCITIES project endeavours to understand the climate change implications, strengthening capacities of the city authorities, formulating the climate action plans and strategies across priority sectors to lower greenhouse gas emissions, and build resilience in selected four partner cities (Coimbatore, Rajkot, Siliguri and Udaipur).
- ✎ The Urban Resilience Unit (URU) at the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is promoting and supporting the development of resilient cities across India.



GLASGOW BREAKTHROUGHS

CONTEXT: Glasgow Breakthroughs was launched at the COP26 climate summit is a series of actions across five key economic sectors that together represent more than 50% of global emissions.



NITI Aayog launched two significant initiatives –

- ❏ E-AMRIT (Accelerated e-Mobility Revolution for India's Transportation) mobile application to raise awareness of electric mobility
- ❏ Report on Advanced Chemistry Cell Battery Reuse and Recycling Market in India (supported by UK's green growth fund technical cooperation)

“HARIYALIMAHOTSAV”

Context: Hariyali Mahotsav begins at Kadalundi

About

- ❏ Organized by: Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- ❏ Objective: Create awareness about the importance of trees in sustaining not only the life of the present generations but also to secure the future of forthcoming generations.
- ❏ Mahotsav is perceived as an effective tool to instill enthusiasm among masses for forest conservation and planting trees.
- ❏ Ceremonial Plantation drives are being organized with participation of 75 Nagar Vans throughout the country, 75 Police Stations and 75 Schools in Delhi/NCR and 75 degraded plantation sites in the different states as part of this Mahotsav.

OZONE HOLE

Context: *Scientists have discovered a large hole in ozone gas layer*

About News

- ✂ Discovered by: Scientists in University of Waterloo, Canada.
- ✂ Significance of finding: For the last 30 years, the newly discovered all-season hole in the ozone layer has been located in the lower stratosphere above the tropics.

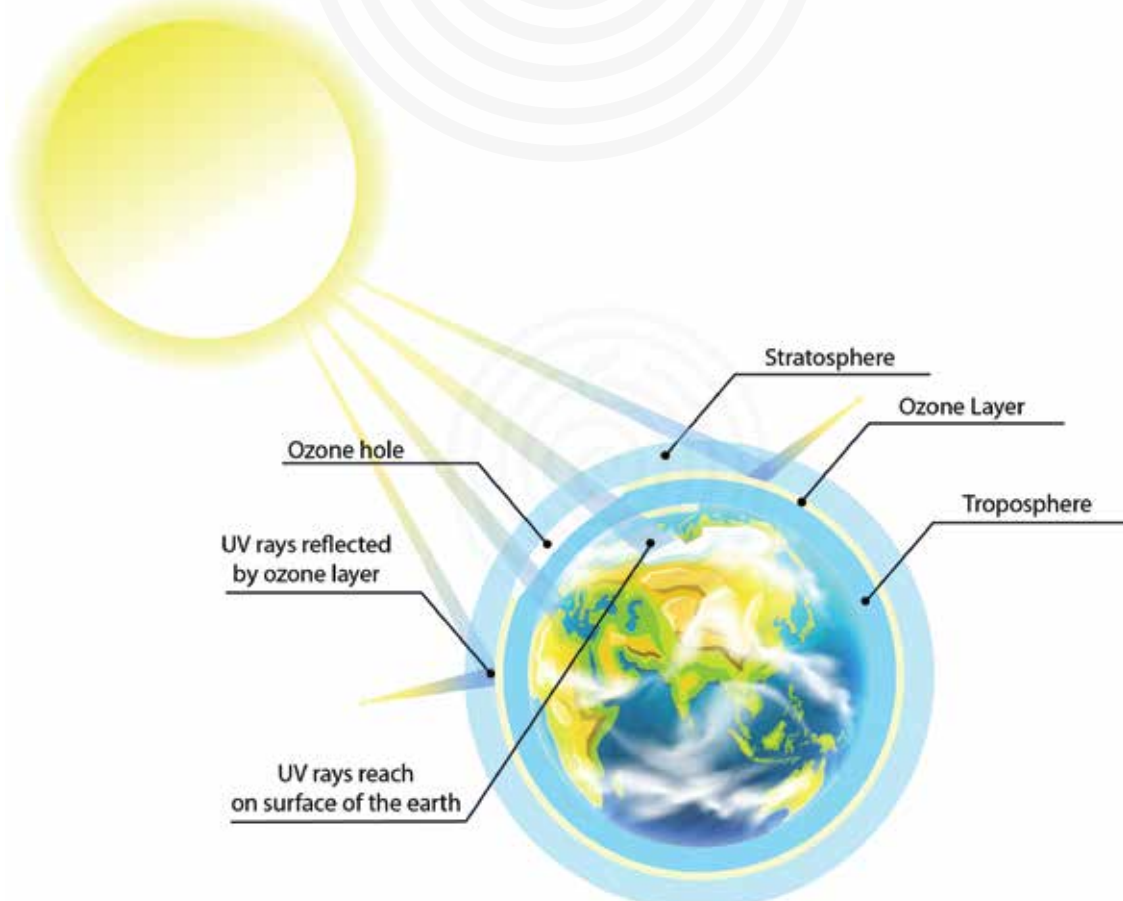
About ozone & ozone hole

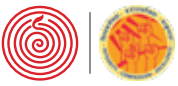
- ✂ The ozone layer surrounds the Earth, shielding it from the Sun's damaging UV rays.
- ✂ According to NASA, the ozone hole is a region of exceptionally low levels of the gas in the stratosphere over Antarctica that occurs at the start of the Southern Hemisphere spring (August-October).
- ✂ The ozone hole is defined by environmentalists as a region where the loss of the gas is 25% greater than in the undisturbed atmosphere.
- ✂ The ozone layer holes are created by chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).
- ✂ These compounds are released into the atmosphere via refrigeration and propellant systems, among other things. They are so stable in the lower atmosphere that they might last for years.

Why concern?

The ozone layer's depletion can result in

- ✂ Increased ground-level UV radiation, which can increase the risk of skin cancer and cataracts in people
 - ✂ Cause impair human immune systems
 - ✂ Reduce agricultural output
- Negatively impact sensitive aquatic creatures and ecosystems.





FOREST CONSERVATION RULES, 2022

Context: *The MoEFCC notified the Forest Conservation Rules, 2022 under the Forest Conservation Act*

About

- ✎ The Forest Conservation Rules govern the implementation of the Forest Conservation Act (FCA), which was passed in 1980.
- ✎ They outline the process for diverting forest area for non-forestry purposes such as road construction, highway development, railway lines, and mining.
- ✎ The Forest Conservation Act's broad goals are to safeguard forests and animals, to stymie state governments' efforts to hive off forest land for commercial ventures, and to increase the area under forest cover.

Forest Conservation Rules, 2022

It was made up of an Advisory Committee, a regional empowered committee in each of the integrated regional offices, and a screening committee at the state/union territory (UT) government level.

Project Screening Committee

- ✎ The MoEFCC has directed the formation of a project screening committee in each state/UT for an initial examination of applications involving forest land diversion.
- ✎ The five-member committee will meet at least twice a month and will provide timely advice to state governments on projects.
- ✎ Non-mining projects of 5-40 hectares must be examined within 60 days, and mining projects must be reviewed within 75 days.
- ✎ The committee is given additional time for projects involving a greater area – 120 days for non-mining projects involving more than 100 hectares and 150 days for mining projects.

Main Changes

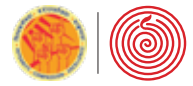
- ✎ The laws shift the responsibility of the Union government to get Adivasi agreement (prior to project approval) to the state governments. It means that the task of ensuring Scheduled Tribes' rights to their traditional forestlands has shifted to state governments.
- ✎ Once accepted by the FAC, a project will be forwarded to state authorities, who will collect the compensation fund and process it for final approval. The new guidelines empower the Union Government to remove a forest without first consulting its people.
- ✎ Even before the State Government has the approval of the forest inhabitants, the Union Government can sanction the turnover of the forest and collect money for compensatory afforestation from the private developer.
- ✎ The guidelines allow private parties to cultivate plantations and sell them as land to businesses that must achieve compensating afforestation requirements.



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CHENKURINJI

Context: *Saving Chenkurinji from climate change*

About Chenkurinji

- 🌀 Scientific Name: *Gluta travancorica*
- 🌀 Family: Anacardiaceae family
- 🌀 Location: Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala
- 🌀 Significance: Species endemic to Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve
- 🌀 Properties: Medicinal properties and is used to lower blood pressure and treat arthritis.

SHENDURNEY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, KERALA

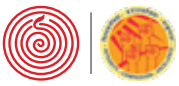
- 🌀 Altitudes range from 100 to 1550 metres. Alwarkurichi is the highest peak (1550m)
- 🌀 Annual rainfall ranges between 2600 to 3000mm.
- 🌀 The largest rivers are Shendurney, Kazhuthuruthy, and Kulathupuzha, which merge to form the Kallada.
- 🌀 Umayar, Parappar, Uruliar, and Pasmankandamthodu are significant tributaries.
- 🌀 Forest types include: West coast tropical evergreen, Southern hilltop triotropical evergreen, West coast tropical semi-evergreen, Southern secondary wet mixed deciduous forest, Myristica swamp forest, Southern subtropical hill forests, Reed brakes, and grassland are some of the forest types.
- 🌀 *Gluta travancorica*, *Terminalia paniculata*, *T.ballerica*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Cullenia exarillita*, *Palanquium ellipticum*, *Mesuaferrea*, *Poeciloneuron indicum*, *Elaeocarpus tuberculata*, *Mangifera indica*, *Vateria indica*, *Dipterocarpus indicus*, *Vitex altissima* and others are common tree
- 🌀 Elephant, Gaur, Sambar, Wild bear, Malabar giant squirrel, Nilgiri langur, and Lion-Tailed Macaque are among the most common mammals found.

JUST STOP OIL

Context: 'Just Stop Oil' climate activists gluing themselves to artworks

About

- 🌀 UK-based group of climate activists.
- 🌀 They describes itself as "a coalition of groups working together to ensure the government commits to halting new fossil fuel licensing and production".
- 🌀 Led by organisers from climate groups Extinction Rebellion and Insulate Britain and funded through donations.
- 🌀 The group propagates "Non-Violent Direct Action" and asserts non-violent civil resistance as a way to "demand their rights, freedom and justice and use tactics such as strikes, boycotts, mass protests and disruption to withdraw their cooperation from the state".
- 🌀 The group wants the government to "immediately halt all future licensing and consents for the exploration, development and production of fossil fuels in the UK".



WORLD'S GREATEST PLACES OF 2022

Context: *Ahmedabad and Kerala on TIME magazine's list of World's Greatest Places of 2022*

About

- ✎ TIME magazine introduced the World's Greatest Places of 2022. Ahmedabad and Kerala have featured on TIME magazine's list of World's Greatest Places of 2022. These are two major tourist destinations in India.
- ✎ Seoul, Buahan in Bali, the Great Barrier Reef in Australia have also made it to the list.
- ✎ TIME described Kerala as 'one of India's most beautiful states.' "With spectacular beaches and lush backwaters, temples, and palaces, it's known as "God's own country" for good reason.
- ✎ It described Ahmedabad as India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, and a city which "boasts both ancient landmarks and contemporary innovations that make it a mecca for cultural tourism, from the serene Gandhi Ashram that sits on 36 acres on the banks of the Sabarmati River to Navratri, a vibrant nine-day celebration (this year from Sept. 26 to Oct. 5) billed as the longest dance festival in the world.
- ✎ It added that Ahmedabad's Gujarat Science City, a "sprawling entertainment center and theme park", unveiled three major attractions last year, including a 20-acre nature park to educate the public on local flora as well as provide new spaces for playing chess and practicing yoga.

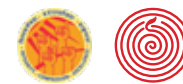
EOSCANSOR COBRENSIS

Context: The incomplete skeleton of *Eoscansor cobrensis* was recovered from the El Cobre Canyon Formation in the Cañon del Cobre of Rio Arriba County, New Mexico.

About

- ✎ Significance: The oldest tree-climbing reptile on record.
- ✎ Identified location: New Mexico, the United States.
- ✎ Period: Pennsylvanian sub period of the Carboniferous period, some 305 million years ago.
- ✎ Belonged to: Varanopidae, an extinct family of reptiles that resembled monitor lizards and may have filled a similar niche.
- ✎ The ancient reptile measured 24.5 cm (9.6 inches) and weighed 58.3 g.





ALTERNATIVES TO PLASTICS

Context: *Niti Aayog Report on Plastic Alternatives*

About

- ✎ According to the report, India generates 3.47 million tonnes of plastic garbage each year, of which 60% is collected for recycling.
- ✎ The largest per capita plastic trash creation was reported in Goa, Delhi, and Kerala, while the lowest per capita plastic waste generation was reported in Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.
- ✎ Globally, 97-99 percent of these polymers are sourced from fossil fuel feedstock, with bio (plant) based plastics accounting for the remaining 1-3 percent.

Recommendation in the report

- ✎ Develop new technology, such as additives that can make biodegradable polyolefins like polypropylene and polyethylene.
- ✎ Bio-plastics are being used as a low-cost alternative to plastics.
- ✎ Recognize the informal sectors and vulnerable communities' contributions to garbage recycling. It is the producer's job to reduce waste.
- ✎ Compostable and biodegradable plastics are levelled and collected.
- ✎ Transparency: Provide information about waste generation, collection, and disposal.
- ✎ Greenwashing should be avoided: Greenwashing is the practise of providing false information about how a company's products are more ecologically friendly.

MAJOR ECONOMIES FORUM ON CLIMATE AND ENERGY

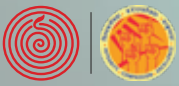
Context: *Major Economies Forum on Climate and Energy Meets*

About

- ✎ Hosted by: U.S. President Joseph Biden
- ✎ Aim: Galvanizing actions that are to strengthen energy security and tackle the climate crisis thereby building momentum for COP27.
- ✎ Significance: The meeting was attended by twenty three major economies across the world and the Secretary General of United Nations.

Efforts by India

- ✎ International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilience Infrastructure.
- ✎ Installed 159 GW of non-fossil fuel based electricity generation capacity.
- ✎ During the last 7.5 years, India's installed solar energy capacity has increased over 18 times.
- ✎ India's annual per capita emissions are only a third of the global average and its cumulative GHG emissions are less than 4 percent.
- ✎ Panchamrit goals are being fructified through one of the largest clean energy development plans in the world.
- ✎ India is on track to meet its commitments, through adoption of low carbon policies across key sectors of our economy ranging from green hydrogen mission to e-mobility.



AZOOXANTHELLATE CORALS

Context: *Four new corals recorded from Indian waters.*

About

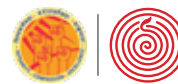
- ✂ Family: Flabellidae
- ✂ Location: Waters of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- ✂ Discovered by: Tamal Mondal, the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) scientist.
- ✂ Significance: Japan to the Philippines and Australian waters while only *T. crassum* was reported within the range of Indo-West Pacific distribution including the Gulf of Aden and the Persian Gulf.
- ✂ Azooxanthellate corals are a type of coral that does not have zooxanthellae and gets its nutrition from catching various types of plankton rather than the sun.
- ✂ These coral groups are deep-sea representatives, with the majority of species reporting depths ranging from 200 to 1000 metres. Their presence has also been observed in shallow coastal waters.
- ✂ Meanwhile, zooxanthellate corals are restricted to shallow seas.
- ✂ There are around 570 species of hard corals in India, with nearly 90% of them found in the waters surrounding the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- ✂ The pristine and oldest coral ecosystem accounts for less than 1% of the earth's surface but is home to approximately 25% of marine species.

BONN GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY CONCLAVE 2022

Context: *The 'Bonn Global Biodiversity Conclave 2022' is being organised, with an emphasis on the sustainable use of wild species.*

About

- ✂ In Bonn, Germany, the Bonn Global Biodiversity Conclave is being held.
- ✂ This conference is primarily concerned with the sustainable usage of wild species.
- ✂ The "Assessment on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species" report will be released during the conclave at the 9th conference of the "Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)."
- ✂ The report will be based on previous IPBES evaluation reports.
Report on the Assessment of the Sustainable Use of Wild Species
- ✂ The new report will include information on various uses of wild animals and actions associated with them, such as gathering, logging, fishing, observing, and terrestrial animal harvesting (shearing and hunting).
- ✂ It will look into what the term "sustainable use" means and how it relates to the United Nations-mandated Sustainable Development Goals.
- ✂ The report's authors will also look into tools and methods for assessing, measuring, and managing the sustainable use of wild species.
- ✂ They will also learn about the effectiveness of policy solutions for better governing the sustainable use of wild species.
- ✂ Trade and incentive policies, as well as governance, are examples of such policies. They would also emphasise why and for whom the sustainable use of wild species is necessary.
- ✂ The report will also look at the connections between sustainable use of wild animals and the difficulties that come with it, such as climate change and land usage.



GREAT INDIAN BUSTARDS

Context: Gujarat energy dept. proposes translocation of 4 female Great Indian Bustards

About

- ✘ The Gujarat Energy Department has agreed to relocate four Great Indian Bustards (GIB) from the state's Kutch region.
- ✘ Kutch has seen no male bustards since 2018.
- ✘ Great Indian bustards are big birds with limited frontal vision, making it difficult for them to change course quickly even if they detect a live wire.
- ✘ The Kutch GIB sanctuary, which spans two square kilometres in Abadasa taluka, has been lauded as one of the best places for the critically endangered species.
- ✘ The GIB is a severely endangered bird, with India having the only viable breeding population. According to conservationists, less than 100 of these exquisite grassland birds survive in the wild.

Great Indian Bustards

- ✘ Scientific Name: *Ardeotis nigriceps*
- ✘ Distribution: Distributed throughout Western India, spanning 11 states, as well as parts of Pakistan.

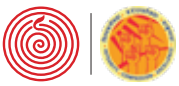
Threats faced by them

- ✘ The biggest threat to this species is hunting, which is still prevalent in Pakistan.
- ✘ Occasional poaching outside Protected Areas
- ✘ Collisions with high tension electric wires.
- ✘ Fast moving vehicles and free-ranging dogs in villages.

Status of protection

- ✘ Listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List and the National Wildlife Action Plan.
- ✘ Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 197
- ✘ The CMS Convention
- ✘ Appendix I of CITES (2002-2016).
- ✘ It has also been designated as one of the species for the recovery Programme under the Ministry of Environment and Forests' Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats.





NITI AAYOG REPORT

CONTEXT: NITI Aayog released a report - "Harnessing Green Hydrogen – Opportunities for Deep Decarbonisation in India".

"Hydrogen/ ammonia produced by way of electrolysis of water using renewable energy, including renewable energy which has been banked and the hydrogen/ammonia produced from biomass."

- GREEN HYDROGEN

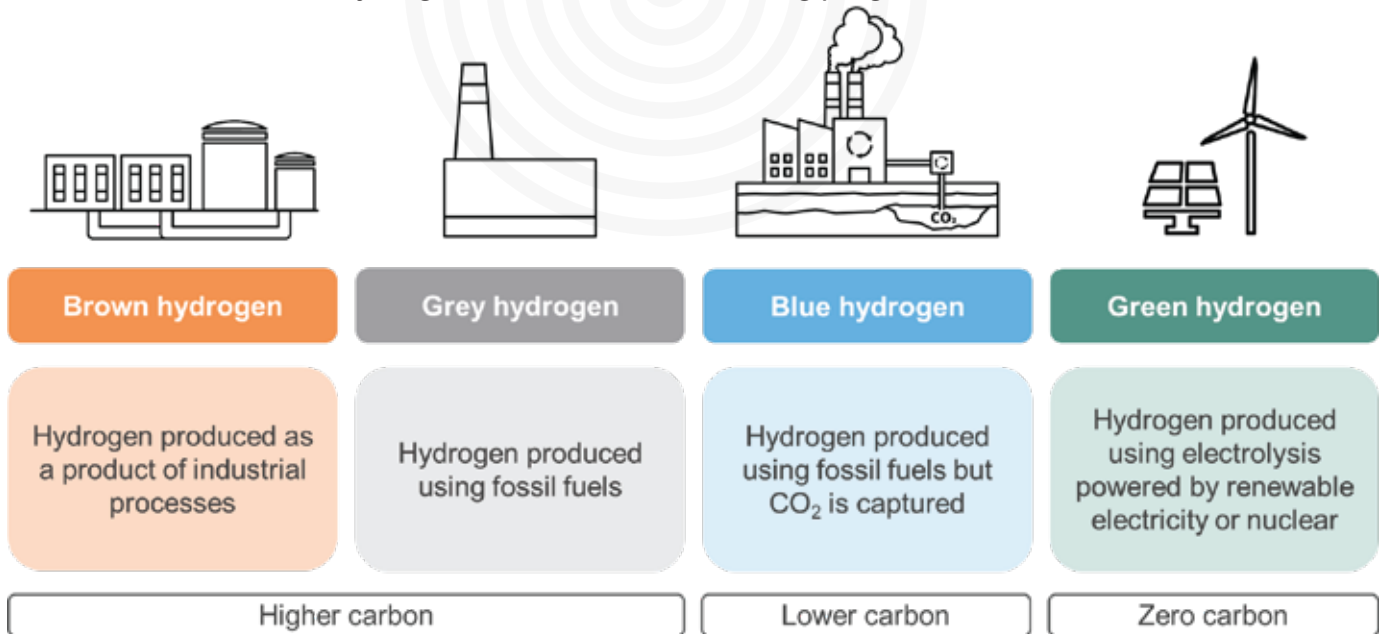
REPORT ON GREEN HYDROGEN:

DEMAND: FOURFOLD forecasted increase in demand by 2050.

STRATEGY:

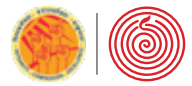
- ➡ Develop Green Hydrogen Corridors.
 - ➡ Financial assistance for Start-ups engaged in Green Hydrogen eco-system.
 - ➡ Facilitate investments via 'Demand Aggregation' and 'Dollar-based' bidding.
 - ➡ Promote export of green hydrogen and green hydrogen-embedded products through a Global Hydrogen Alliance.
 - ➡ Make Green Hydrogen competitive vis-à-vis Grey Hydrogen.
 - ➡ Promote markets using the industrial cluster, and Viability Gap Funding.
- Initiate Green Hydrogen standards and a labelling programme.

SECTORS:
 FERTILIZERS
 CEMENT INDUSTRY
 REFINING
 METHANOL
 MARITIME SHIPPING
 TRANSPORTATION

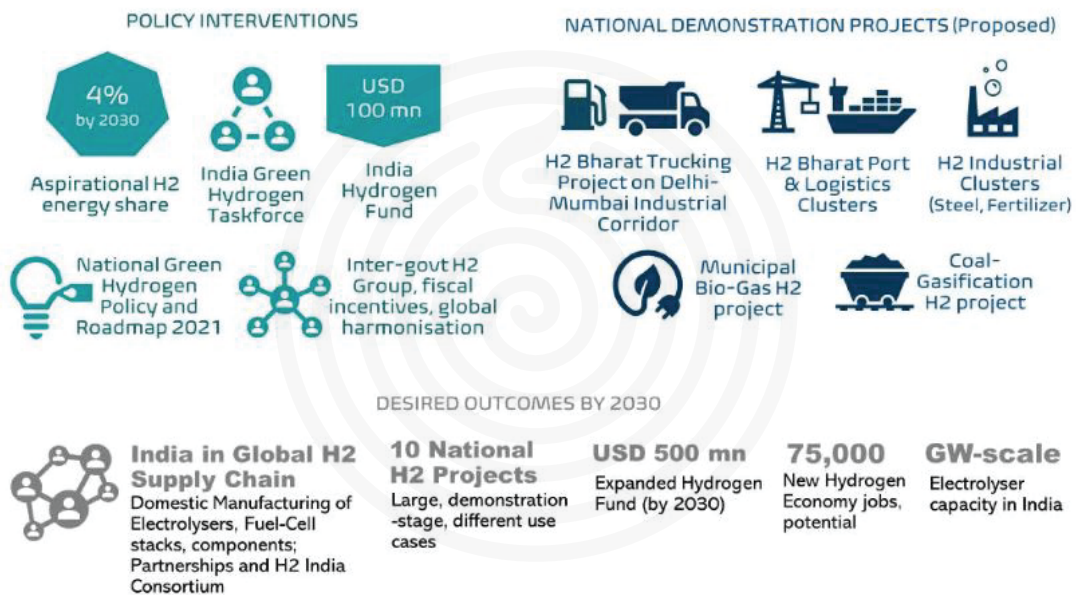


GOVERNMENT MEASURES:

- 🌀 2003 – The National Hydrogen Energy Board (NHEB) initiated the National Hydrogen Energy Road Map (NHERM).
- 🌀 2006 – Approved National Hydrogen Energy Road Map (NHERM) for bridging the technological gaps in different areas of hydrogen energy, including its production, storage, transportation and delivery, applications, safety, codes and standards and capacity building for the period up to 2020.



- 2016 – Constituted Dr. K. Kasturirangan Committee, prepared reports on Hydrogen and Fuel cells and suggested a way forward on the same.
- 2021 – Launched ‘MISSION INNOVATION’, a global initiative to accelerate global clean energy innovation.
- 2022 – Formulated ‘Green Hydrogen Policy (GHP)’ that set a target of 5 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) of green hydrogen production by 2030, more than 80% of the current hydrogen demand in the country.



CONCLUSION:

India has the potential to become a net exporter of green hydrogen by 2030 due to its cheap renewable energy tariffs. Hydrogen FCEV (Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles) can reduce India’s demand for rare earth metals used for manufacturing batteries for electric vehicles. Besides, higher adoption can help in reducing India’s current account deficit by reducing import dependency on fossil fuels. India has a huge edge in green hydrogen production owing to its favourable geographic conditions and presence of abundant natural elements.

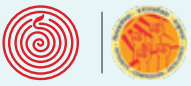


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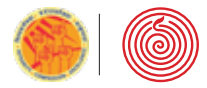


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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY





INDIA'S LARGEST FLOATING SOLAR POWER PROJECT

ANT CHUTNEY

HIGH SPEED EXPENDABLE AERIAL TARGET – ABHYAS

TiHAN (TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION HUB ON AUTONOMOUS
NAVIGATION)

PSLV-C53/DS-EO MISSION

AUTONOMOUS FLYING WING TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR

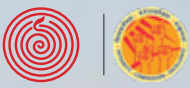
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

ANTHRAX

COVARSCAN

KALA AZAR OR BLACK FEVER

CERVAVAC



INDIA'S LARGEST FLOATING SOLAR POWER PROJECT

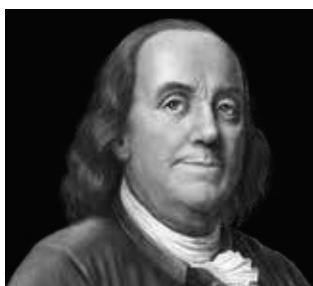
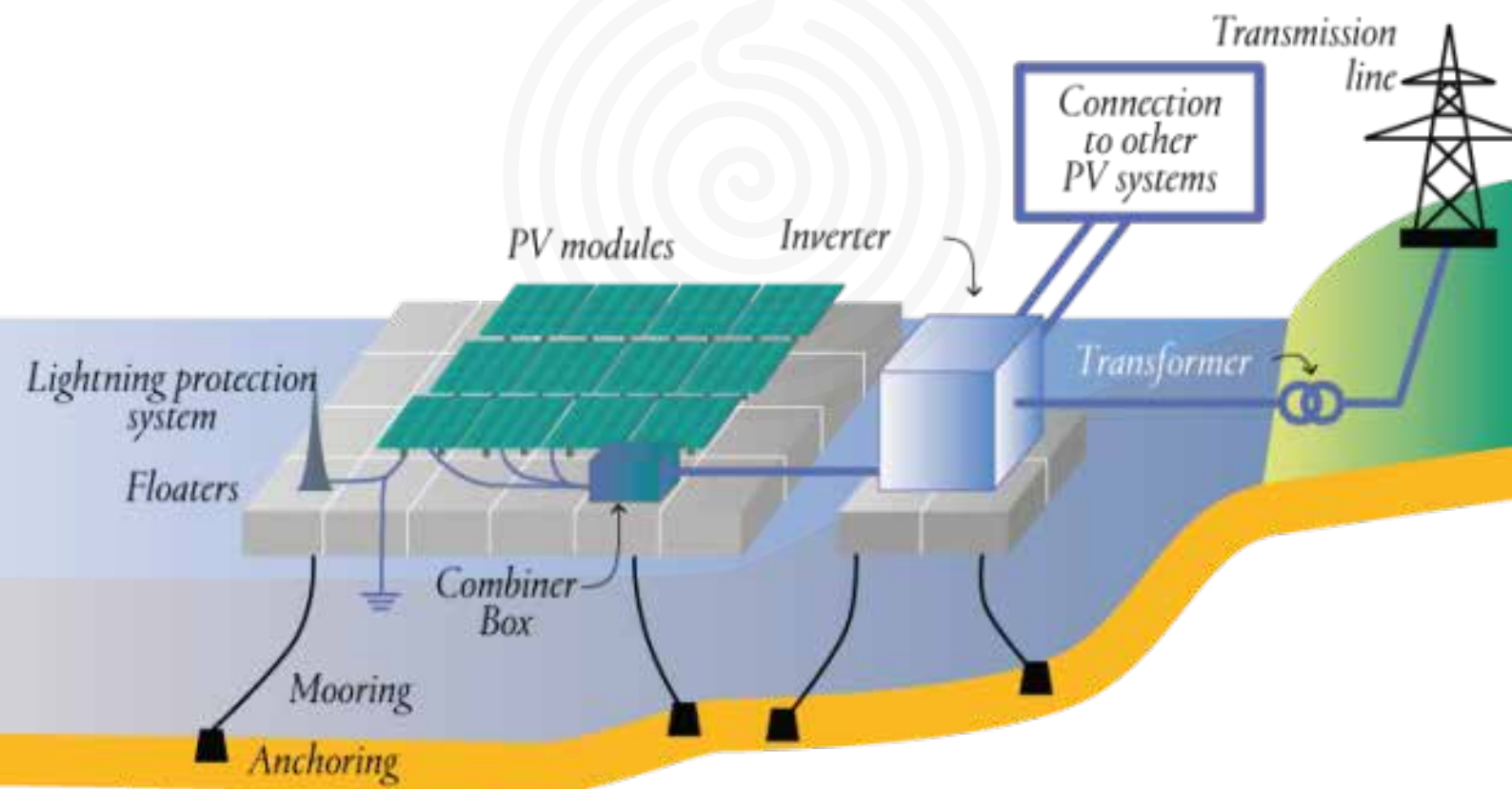
Context: India's largest floating solar power project now operational in Telangana

About

- 🌀 Location: Ramagundam in Telangana.
- 🌀 Setup by: National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has set up the 100 megawatt (MW) plant through Bharat Heavy Electricals (BHEL) under Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract.
- 🌀 Capacity: 100-megawatt (MW)

What exactly is a floating solar plant, and how does it operate?

- 🌀 A network of floating solar panels, also known as photovoltaics/floatovoltaics, are mounted on a structure designed to float on the surface of a body of water.
- 🌀 It includes a reservoir, lake, irrigation canal, or pond.
- 🌀 A floating solar plant will typically consist of a floating system or pontoon, a mooring structure to keep panels from floating freely in water and to keep it close to the shore.
- 🌀 The photovoltaic system to generate electricity using thermal energy, and an underwater cable to transfer the generated power to a substation.



I didn't fail the test,
I just found Hundred ways to do it wrong.

- BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



ANT CHUTNEY

Context: In Odisha, scientists are now fine-tuning their research to make a presentation for the geographical indications (GI) registry of Kai Chutney.

About

- ❖ Location of origin: Odisha's Mayurbhanj district
- ❖ GI labels enhance the reputation and value of local products and support local businesses.
- ❖ Made by: Weaver ants, scientifically called *Oecophylla smaragdina*.
- ❖ Significance: This savoury food item, rich in valuable proteins, calcium, zinc, vitamin B-12, iron, magnesium, potassium, sodium, copper, fiber and 18 amino acids, is known to boost the immune system and keep diseases at bay.
- ❖ Applied under food category, the GI tag would help develop a structured hygiene protocol in the preparation of Kai Chutney for standard wider use.

How it is made?

- ❖ Weaver ants, scientifically called *Oecophylla smaragdina*, are abundantly found in Mayurbhanj throughout the year.
- ❖ They construct nests with leaves of host trees.
- ❖ When required, leafy nests of ants are plucked from their host trees and collected in a bucket of water before sorting and separation from leaves and debris.
- ❖ Larval and adult stages of the ants are preferred and are either eaten raw or turned into "chutney" by mixing them with spicy ingredients.
- ❖ The chutney is prepared by mixing and grinding salt, ginger, garlic and chilly and is sold by tribals in rural markets.

"Kai" (Red Weaver Ant)

- ❖ The family consists of three category members - workers, major workers and queens. Workers and major workers are mostly orange-colored.
- ❖ Kais feed on small insects and other invertebrates, their prey being mainly beetles, flies and hymenopteran.
- ❖ Kais are bio-control agents. They are aggressive and prey on most arthropods entering their territory.
- ❖ Due to their predatory habit, Kais are recognized as biological control agents in tropical crops as they are able to protect a variety of crops against many different insect pests.

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HIGH SPEED EXPENDABLE AERIAL TARGET – ABHYAS

Context: *High speed Expendable Aerial Target - ABHYAS - successfully flight-tested off Odisha coast.*

About

✈ Designed & developed by: Aeronautical Development Establishment of Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).

Specification

- ✈ Twin under-slung boosters which provide the initial acceleration to the vehicle.
- ✈ Powered by a small gas turbine engine to sustain a long endurance flight at high subsonic speed.
- ✈ Equipped with Micro-Electromechanical Systems-based Inertial Navigation System for navigation along with the Flight Control Computer for guidance and control.
- ✈ Contains Indigenous Radio Altimeter for very low altitude flight and Data Link for encrypted communication between the Ground Control Station and Target Aircraft.
- ✈ Programmed for fully autonomous flight.

TIHAN (TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION HUB ON AUTONOMOUS NAVIGATION)

Context: India's first autonomous navigation facility, TiHAN, launched at IIT Hyderabad

About

- ✈ Type: Autonomous Navigation.
- ✈ Funded by: Union Ministry of Science & Technology.
- ✈ Location: IIT Hyderabad campus.
- ✈ Significance: First-of-its-kind, state-of-the-art "Autonomous Navigation" facility to develop unmanned ground and aerial vehicles.
- ✈ TiHAN Testbed will provide a unique platform for high quality research between academia, industry and R&D labs both at the national and international level.
- ✈ TiHAN - IITH will be the source of futuristic technology generation for autonomous vehicles
TiHAN is developing and deploying a real-time CPS system utilising autonomous UAVs and ground/surface vehicles for many application sectors of the national importance of this decade.

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PSLV-C53/DS-EO MISSION

Context: ISRO conducted the second launch of the year as it lifted off the PSLV-C53 mission from its Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

About

- Significance: Dedicated commercial satellite mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under Department of Space, Government of India.
- Mission: Launch Singapore satellites DS-EO, NeuSAR and SCOOB-I to serve the Singapore governmental, commercial & educational purposes.
- 55th flight of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

PSLV Orbital Platform Experiment Module (POEM)

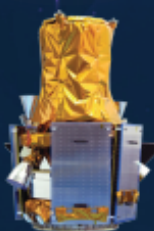
- The power for the platform is derived from the solar panel mounted around the PS4 tank and a Li Ion battery.
- The stage navigation system aided by sensors (4 sun sensors, Magnetometer, MRGPD & NavIC) will be used to provide the navigation inputs.
- Enabled Tele-command features on-board
- OP Passivation after intended period of operation.
- Attitude stabilization using a dedicated NGC system.
- Dedicated control thrusters (8 Nos.) using Helium (He) gas storage in 5 gas bottles.
- Initiation of OP NGC functions, after all satellites separation at a predefined time



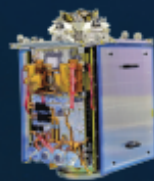
Customer Spacecrafts in this mission



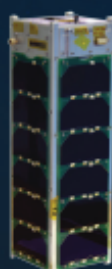
▶ Payload Accommodation within heatshield of PSLV-C53



DS-EO carries an Electro-Optic, multi-spectral payload which will provide full color images, which are useful in recognizing scenes in different ground terrain features, generating high quality maps for land classification, and serving Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief needs.



NeuSAR is Singapore's first small commercial satellite carrying a SAR payload, which is capable of providing images in day and night and under all weather conditions. This is particularly useful for applications like commodity reporting and maritime safety.



SCOOB-I satellite is the first satellite in the Student Satellite Series (S3-I), a hands-on student training program from the Satellite Research Centre (SaRC) at Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. SCOOB-I is of the size of a shoe box and carries a solar spectral sensor, earth imaging camera, attitude determination system and a novel solar panel developed at SaRC.

S. No.	Satellites	Country	Mass (kg)
1	DS-EO	Singapore	367
2	NeuSAR	Singapore	155
3	SCOOB-I	Singapore	2.8



AUTONOMOUS FLYING WING TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR

Context: DRDO flight tests new autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator

About

- ✎ Organisation: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ✎ Designed & developed by: Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru, a premier research laboratory of DRDO.
- ✎ Specifications: Powered by a small turbofan engine. The airframe, undercarriage and entire flight control and avionics systems used for the aircraft were developed indigenously.

What is the Autonomous Flying Wing Technology?

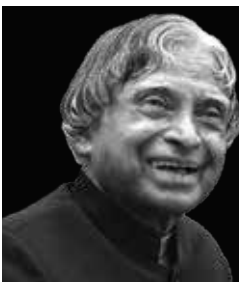
- ✎ Refers to a tailless fixed-wing aircraft which houses its payload and fuel in its main wings and does not have a defined fuselage-like structure found in the conventional aircraft.
- ✎ The design has the potential to deliver high fuel efficiency and stealth, if executed with precision, as demonstrated by some of advanced bombers in the USA's arsenal like B-2 bomber.
- ✎ The flying wing type of aircraft has a key operational advantage because it has low reflective cross sections resulting in low radar signature, making it a stealth machine.
- ✎ Because of the shape, the aircraft also has very low drag or air resistance. However, this unique design also comes with its issues related to stability and thus requires additional systems.
- ✎ The airframe – the basic mechanical structure of the aircraft, the undercarriage – the landing gear used for take-off and landing and the entire flight control along with avionics systems used for the demonstrator have been developed indigenously.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Context: Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence was inaugurated at Netaji Subhash University of Technology (NSUT)

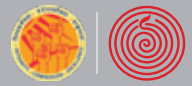
About

- ✎ The centre is envisaged to enhance the university's research capabilities.
- ✎ Equipped with high-end graphical processing units, workstations, and data storage and communication systems.
- ✎ A state-of-the-art supercomputing system, comprising DGX A100 with 324 GB RAM and eight graphical processing units, 100TB storage, smart rack, and high-speed switches, has been installed in the centre.
- ✎ Supercomputing system is capable of executing training at 5 petaflops and 56 instances can be executed in parallel.
- ✎ The centre also has 10 high-end workstations having their independent graphical processing units and 256 GB RAM.



Creativity is seeing the same thing
but thinking differently

- A. P. J. ABDUL KALAM



ANTHRAX

Context: *Anthrax outbreak in Kerala*

- ☞ About Disease
- ☞ Causative organism: Bacteria
- ☞ Type: Zoonotic disease
- ☞ Causative Bacteria: Gram-positive, rod-shaped bacteria known as *Bacillus anthracis*.

Symptoms of Anthrax

- ☞ In livestock species, like cattle, sheep or goats, the first sign is usually the sudden death of one or two animals within the herd. Prior to their death, they might show signs of high fever.
- ☞ In humans, symptoms can include groups of small blisters that may itch, painless skin sores with a black centre, with the possibility of swelling around them.

More about Disease

- ☞ It occurs naturally in soil.
- ☞ According to the WHO it is primarily a disease of herbivores, with both domestic and wild animals being affected by it.
- ☞ **Affecting Animals:** Domestic and wild animals can get infected when they breathe in or ingest spores in contaminated soil, plants or water.
- ☞ **Affecting People:** People can get the disease through contact with infected animals or animal products that are contaminated with bacteria.
- ☞ People get infected with anthrax when spores enter the body, through breathing, eating contaminated food or drinking contaminated water, or through cuts or scrapes in the skin.
- ☞ The spores then get “activated” and multiply, spreading across the body, producing toxins and causing severe illness.

Treatment

- ☞ Antibiotic therapy that is administered early in the course of the infection has been proven to be responsive, according to the WHO.
- ☞ Penicillin has long been the antibiotic of choice and in recent years, ciprofloxacin and doxycycline have also been used as alternatives.
- ☞ One way to prevent the disease is by vaccination of livestock so that the disease cannot spread.
- ☞ There are also vaccines for humans, but their availability is usually restricted to at-risk individuals, such as lab workers and people who handle animals.

COVARSCAN

Context: *Researchers claim new COVID-19 test CoVarScan can identify all variants in hours*

About

- ☞ **Discovered by:** The researchers at the University of Texas (UT) Southwestern Medical Center
- ☞ A rapid COVID-19 test that can accurately detect all current variants of SARS-CoV-2 within hours.
- ☞ The test, CoVarScan, detects the signatures of eight hotspots on the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19.
- ☞ **Working:** It detects small mutations – where the sequence of RNA building blocks varies – and measures the length of repetitive genetic regions that tend to grow and shrink as the virus evolves.
- ☞ **Technique used in working:** Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) – a technique common in most pathology labs – to copy and measure the RNA at these eight sites of interest.



KALA AZAR OR BLACK FEVER

Context: At least 65 cases of black fever or 'kala-azar' have been reported from eleven districts of West Bengal.

About

- ☞ Causative organism: Protozoan parasite
- ☞ Spread by: Sandfly bites. Sandflies are brown in colour and have hairs on their bodies.
- ☞ Leishmaniasis/ kala-azar are classified into three types: visceral (also known as kala-azar, which is the most severe form of the disease), cutaneous (the most common), and mucocutaneous.
- ☞ Leishmaniasis is caused by protozoan parasites that are passed on by the bite of infected female phlebotomine sandflies.
- ☞ Malnutrition, population displacement, inadequate housing, a weak immune system, and a lack of financial means are all related with the disease, which affects some of the poorest individuals.
- ☞ Environmental changes such as deforestation, dam construction, irrigation systems, and urbanisation have also been related to leishmaniasis.
- ☞ Every year, 700,000 to 1 million new cases are reported.
- ☞ Only a small percentage of those infected with the parasites that cause leishmaniasis will develop the disease.

Symptoms of kala-azar

- ☞ Frequent bouts of fever over several days, weight loss, spleen and liver enlargement, and anaemia are all indications.
- ☞ In spots, the skin may become dry, thin, and scaly, and hair may fall out.
- ☞ According to the NCVBDC, those with light complexion may have greyish discoloration of the skin on their hands, feet, belly, and face, which is why the sickness is also known as "Black fever."

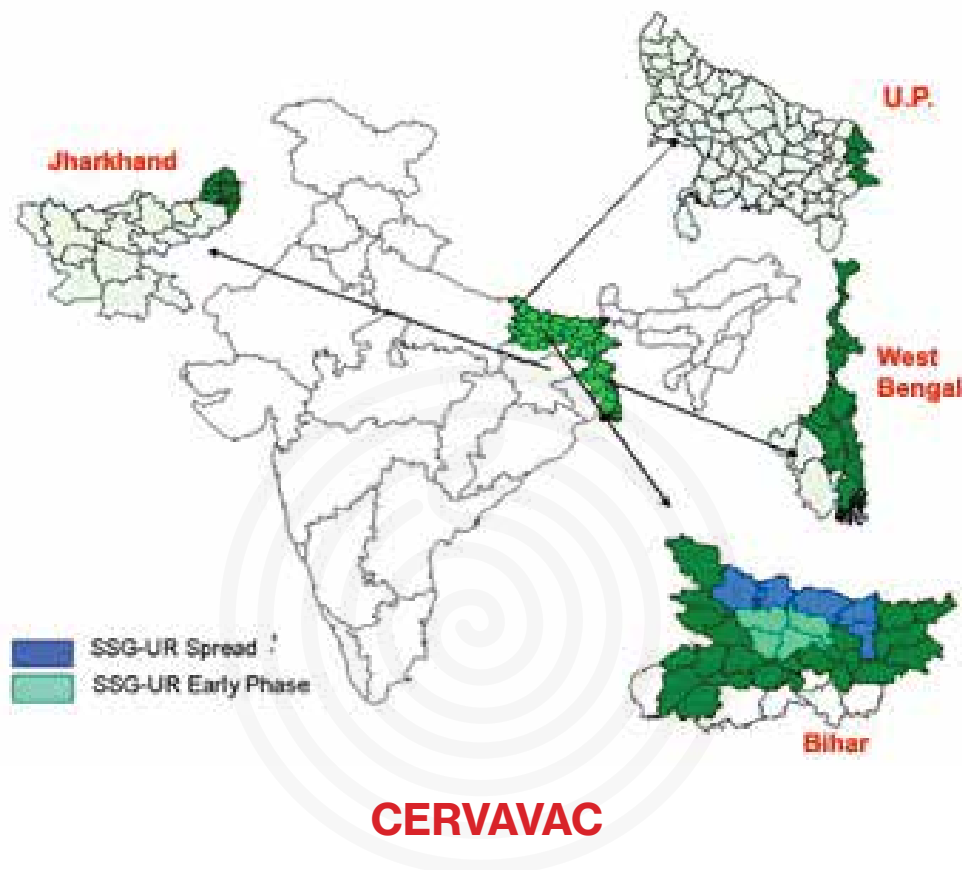
Status of Kala Azar in India

- ☞ State in which maximum number of cases reported: West Bengal
- ☞ The disease is endemic in Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. An estimated 165.4 million people are at risk, according to data from the National Centre for Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NCVBDC).
- ☞ In the country as a whole, there has been a significant decline in cases over the years. In 2014, around 9,200 cases were reported while in 2021 the number fell to 1,276 cases.

National Kala-Azar Elimination Programme.

- ☞ The Government of India (GOI) launched a centrally sponsored Kala-azar Control Programme in the endemic states in 1990-91.
- ☞ The GoI provided drugs, insecticides and technical support and state governments provided costs involved in implementation.
- ☞ The program was implemented through State/District Malaria Control Offices and the primary health care system.
- ☞ The programme brought a significant decline in Kala-azar morbidity, but could not sustain the pace of decline for long.

- ✎ The National Health Policy-2002 set the goal of Kala-azar elimination in India by the year 2010 which was revised to 2015.
- ✎ Presently all programmatic activities are being implemented through the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) which is an umbrella programme for prevention & control of vector borne diseases and is subsumed under National Health Mission (NHM).



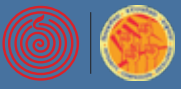
Context: DCGI approves India's first qHPV vaccine to treat cervical cancer

About

- ✎ Developed by: Serum Institute of India (SII).
- ✎ Significance: the country's first quadrivalent human papillomavirus vaccine (qHPV)
- ✎ The vaccine will ensure prevention of cancers caused by human papillomavirus (Type 6, 11, 16 and 18) vaccine recombinant.

Human papillomavirus (HPV)

- ✎ It is the most often transmitted sexually transmitted infection.
- ✎ There are numerous forms of HPV. Some varieties can cause health issues, such as genital warts and cancer.
- ✎ It is most usually transmitted during vaginal or anal intercourse.
- ✎ It also spreads during intercourse through close skin-to-skin contact.
- ✎ A person infected with HPV can infect another person even if they show no signs or symptoms.
- ✎ It has also been linked to throat cancer (called oropharyngeal cancer). This includes the base of the tongue as well as the tonsils.

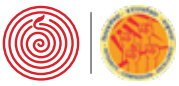


CSAT





TIME AND WORK PROBLEM



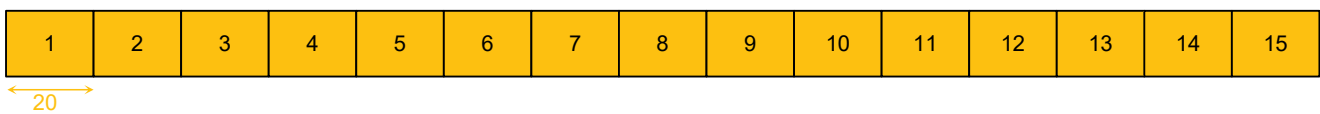
TIME AND WO

A can do a work in 15 days and B in 20 days. If they work on it together for 4 days, then the fraction of the work that is left is:

Assume that the **WORK** assigned is a 'road construction 300 km long'.

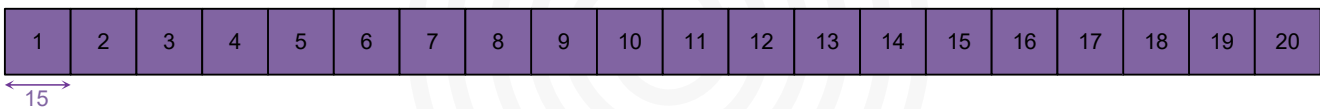
As per the question, if 'A' can complete the work in 15 days, 'A' needs to complete the construction of a 20 km of road per day.

In this figure, a **BLOCK** represents 20 km of road constructed



As per the question, if 'B' can complete the work in 20 days, 'B' needs to complete the construction of a 15 km of road per day.

In this figure, a **BLOCK** represents 15 km of road constructed.

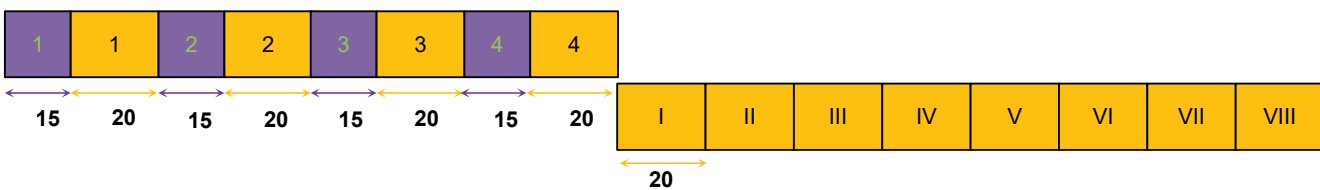


A and B together work for FOUR DAYS.

A manages to complete the construction of 80 km of road.

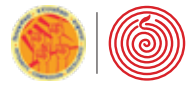
B manages to complete the construction of 60 km of road.

Total length of road constructed by A and B together in FOUR DAYS = 140 km



Road left for construction = 160 km.

Fraction of the work left = $(160/300) * 100 = 53.33\%$



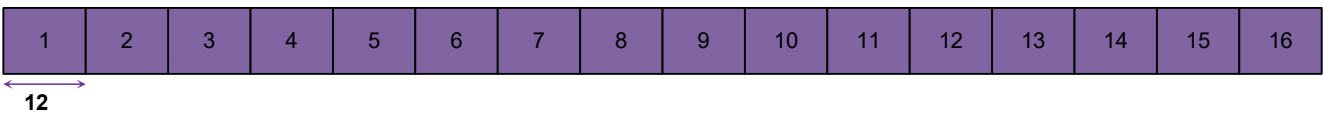
RK PROBLEM

A can lay railway track between two given stations in 16 days and B can do the same job in 12 days. With help of C, they did the job in 4 days only. Then, C alone can do the job in:

Assume that the WORK assigned is a 'rail construction 192 km long'.

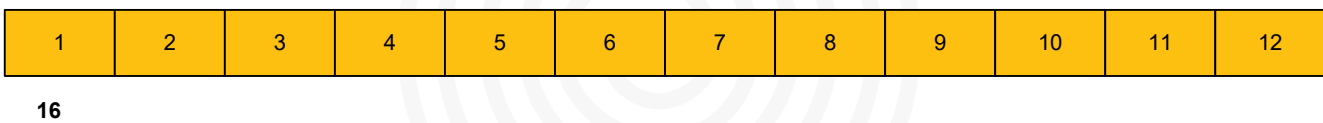
As per the question, if 'A' can complete the work in 16 days, 'A' needs to complete the construction of a 12 km of rail per day.

In this figure, a **BLOCK** represents 12 km of rail constructed.



As per the question, if 'B' can complete the work in 12 days, 'B' needs to complete the construction of a 16 km of road per day.

In this figure, a **BLOCK** represents 16 km of road constructed.

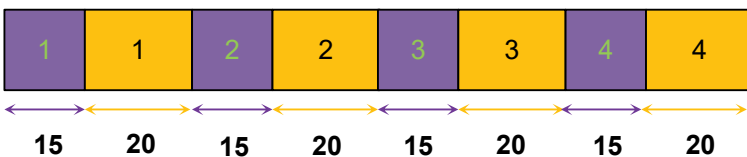


A and B together work for FOUR DAYS.

A manages to complete the construction of 48 km of rail.

B manages to complete the construction of 64 km of rail.

Total length of rail constructed by A and B together in FOUR DAYS = 112 km



A, B and C can together work for FOUR DAYS to complete the rail project between two stations.

Rail constructed by C in 4 days = 80 km.

C manages to complete the construction of 20 km of rail per day.

Total days required for C alone the taken to complete 192 km of rail = $(192/20) = 9.6$ days



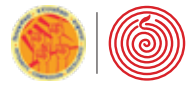
1. A, B and C can do a piece of work in 24 days, 30 days and 40 days respectively. They began the work together but C left 4 days before the completion of the work. In how many days was the work completed?

2. P can complete a work in 12 days working 8 hours a day. Q can complete the same work in 8 days working 10 hours a day. If both p and Q work together, working 8 hours a day, in how many days can they complete the work?

3. A can do a piece of work in 10 days, B in 15 days. They work together for 5 days; the rest of the work is finished by C in two more days. If they get Rs. 3000 as wages for the whole work, what are the daily wages of A, B and C respectively (in Rs):

4. 12 men can complete a work in 8 days. 16 women can complete the same work in 12 days. 8 men and 8 women started working and worked for 6 days. How many more men are to be added to complete the remaining work in 1 day?

5. 4 men can repair a road in 7 hours. How many men are required to repair the road in 2 hours?



6. An air conditioner can cool the hall in 40 minutes while another takes 45 minutes to cool under similar conditions. If both air conditioners are switched on at same instance, then how long will it take to cool the room approximately?

7. A, B, C together can do a piece of work in 10 days. All the three started working at it together and after 4 days, A left. Then, B and C together completed the work in 10 more days. In how many days can complete a work alone?

8. If 6 men and 8 boys can do a piece of work in 10 days while 26 men and 48 boys can do the same in 2 days what is time taken by 15 men and 20 boys?

9. 10 men and 15 women together can complete a work in 6 days. It takes 100 days for one man alone to complete the same work. How many days will be required for one woman alone to complete the same work?

10. 3 men, 4 women and 6 children can complete a work in 7 days. A woman does double the work a man does and a child does half the work a man does. How many women alone can complete this work in 7 days?

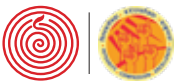
MISCELLANEOUS





WEB3: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

LOW TEMPERATURE THERMAL DESALINATION (LTTD)



WEB3: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Context: Web3 imagines a decentralised web

About

- ❌ In 2021, the concept of Web3, often known as Web 3.0, intended to depict a probable future generation of the internet, generated quite a stir.
- ❌ The model, a decentralised internet based on blockchain technology, would differ from the current versions, Web 1.0 and Web 2.0.
- ❌ Users will own platforms and applications in web3, as opposed to now, when tech behemoths dominate the platforms.
- ❌ The spirit of Web3 is Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO) which is that all the business rules and governing rules in any transaction are transparently available for anyone to see and software will be written conforming to these rules.



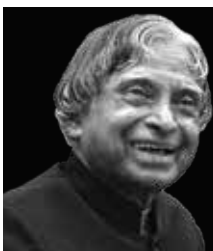
Pros of Web 3.0

- ❌ **Faster and more equitable:** As more people participate in bitcoin, they will want to use it for all of the transactions that fiat now permits, including lending and borrowing, investing in assets, and making payments.
- ❌ **Direct Seller-Customer Relationship:** Web 3 technology can also eliminate middlemen, allowing vendors and customers to engage directly.
- ❌ **Decentralisation:** In contrast to the current norm of hierarchical corporate governance, Web 3 has the ability to decentralise the business world by permitting community ownership of enterprises.

Cons of Web 3.0

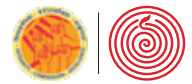
- ❌ **Rise in Cybercrime:** Some experts believe that controlling Web 3 would be difficult. They also warn that decentralisation will introduce new sorts of cybercrime into the scene.
- ❌ **Regulatory Ambiguities:** The Web3 and crypto industries are currently navigating an undefined regulatory landscape.

Web 3 will be inaccessible to less capable devices due to the need for a stronger platform.



You have to dream before your dreams can come true..

- A. P. J. ABDUL KALAM



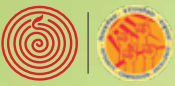
LOW TEMPERATURE THERMAL DESALINATION (LTTD)

Context: Ministry of Earth Sciences has developed indigenous technology for conversion of sea water to potable water

About

- Developed by: National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)
- Low temperature thermal desalination (LTTD) is a prominent technology, considered an alternative to the largely-used seawater reverse osmosis membrane technology.
- In this technology, the temperature difference is used to produce potable water.
- Surface sea water is evaporated at low pressure and the vapour is condensed with cold sea water to obtain freshwater.
- At present, LTTD plants are functioning in three islands – Kavaratti, Agatti and Minicoy – with each having the capacity to generate one lakh litres of drinking water per day.
- The OTEC plant requires only electricity to start the process, and after that, it runs on its own utilising green energy provided by the process to convert sea water into drinking water.
- It also avoids the need to build a sump in the deep sea utilising bridges and concrete structures because it pumps water from the seashore area, minimising the need for infrastructure.





ETHICS

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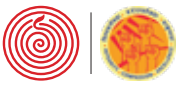
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ETHICS SPORTS



ETHICS SPORTS

Working toward excellence in sports can produce incredible gratification. But what happens when the drive to win overtakes respect for the rules of the game? On June 10, the Delhi HC heard a case involving table tennis players who alleged discrepancies in the selection process of the 2022 Commonwealth Games team. One of the players, Diya Chitale, was included after the Table Tennis Federation of India, run by a court-appointed Committee of Administrators, made a U-turn. The CoA itself was under intense scrutiny.

Allegations of racism and bullying by National Cricket teams, and a host of other incidents highlight the ethical challenges the sports world must address. These scandals can teach important lessons about respecting others, acting with integrity, and behaving fairly.

Sports ignite people's deeply rooted instincts to compete and succeed. Regardless of this drive for accomplishment, a love of sports must include respect for fairness. Athletic leaders in professional, college, and interscholastic sports play a key role in promoting best practices that not only support fair play, but also create environments that inspire camaraderie, encourage respect, and unite people.

Those interested in building sports programs that cultivate these core values in student-athletes must develop the right skills. Many universities offer advanced degree programs in athletic administration that prepare graduates to lead successful athletic departments.

WHY ARE ETHICS IMPORTANT IN THE SPORTS WORLD?

How a game is played matters. Faking injuries, using steroids, altering a bat so it can hit a baseball farther, or purposefully injuring star players all compromise the integrity of competition. Sporting events are not wars, after all, although deep rivalries often exist. Instead, competitions should allow athletes equal opportunity to demonstrate who performs best within an established set of rules.

Problems in sports can arise when teams, managers, or coaches place more value on winning than on how they win. Acting ethically on the playing field – from the side-lines to administrative offices and beyond – should weigh more significantly than who wins or loses.

Sports are played by rules. When athletes, referees, coaches, or administrators attempt to circumvent the rules of the game, they undermine the foundations of sport itself.

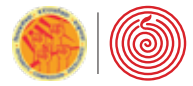
The value of sports lies in their ability to do more than identify the best athletes. Sports can instill important values, including respect and teamwork, as well as teach lessons about perseverance and honesty. As far back as ancient Greece, athletics have been seen as an important character-building tool that encourages discipline, collaboration, and responsibility. Sports without ethics do not live up to these values.

In many ways, athletic competitions mimic other aspects of life; its disappointments, victories, and struggles. These experiences can have meaningful implications on people's behaviours, values, and understanding of themselves and others. For example:

- ❌ Managing a defeat in a tennis tournament can prepare a person to handle other disappointments.
- ❌ Supporting a teammate who cannot finish a soccer season because of an injury can build greater empathy in other areas of life.
- ❌ Battling to make a qualifying time for a swimming event can prepare a person for the rigor required to achieve professional goals.

Strong ethical principles in athletics communicate respect for everyone involved in a sport – the athletes, the fans, the coaches, and so on. Ethical behaviour in sports can refer to:

- ❌ Protecting the health of athletes
- ❌ Following the rules
- ❌ Respecting opponents
- ❌ Demonstrating self-control in the face of frustration or defeat



- ☒ Taking responsibility for one's mistakes and not blaming others
- ☒ Not trying to gain unfair advantages

Ethical behaviour in sports can promote ethics-driven behaviours in other areas, such as helping others in need, building trust, respecting dignity, and treating others equally. Additionally, a commitment to ethical behaviour can allow athletic programs and athletes at any level to form better connections with their communities.

For example, high school athletic departments that treat all sports programs equally – without showing favouritism to male or female teams or certain sports – foster greater equity and unity in the school community. Conversely, a university athletic program that turns a blind eye to hazing practices against incoming players or falsifies the academic certification of student-athletes will likely breed distrust and disunity within the community.

DEALING WITH ETHICAL DILEMMAS IN SPORTS

Situations sometimes arise that tempt people in the sports world to skirt ethically driven principles. Two often-cited reasons for engaging in unethical behaviour include:

- ☒ The desire to gain an advantage
- ☒ The fear of competing at a disadvantage

Consider the following situations:

A college basketball coach is concerned that his student-athletes will not maintain high enough grade point averages to be eligible to compete in games. To boost their GPAs, he works out a scheme that gives some student-athletes. As for classes they never have to attend. Such was the case at the University of Georgia where the head coach collaborated with his son, the assistant coach, who taught a class. Student-athletes never attended the class but still received credit and high marks.

A high school football coach discovers talented players, but then learns the players live in another district. The coach fabricates residency documents so these students can play outside of their attendance zones. Such was the case in a Dallas scandal that resulted in the firing of the athletic director of Dallas Independent School District, along with a number of other district employees.

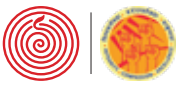
Ethical issues in sports do not only impact coaches, managers, and administrators. Athletes also encounter dilemmas that may test their commitment to ethical behaviour, especially in environments that offer easy access to performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs).

With rumours, speculation, and confirmation that some of the world's most admired athletes have used PEDs, it should come as no surprise that others consider doping. When athletes suspect that "everybody's doing it," they may think they are putting themselves at a disadvantage by not using PEDs.

Former professional cyclist Tyler Hamilton describes the first time he decided to take a PED in the film "Effects of PEDs: Athlete Stories." He knew most of his teammates were doping, and explains, "I thought if I said no to [the drugs] I wouldn't be selected to ride in the Tour de France." Ultimately, Hamilton testified in front of a grand jury nearly ten years later about the doping schemes he participated in that led to his success, but which also ravaged his mental well-being.

Unethical behaviour in sports can have far-reaching consequences. In doping cases, whether offending athletes are detected or not, they can end up with a variety of health problems including:

- ☒ Blood clots
- ☒ Liver problems
- ☒ High blood pressure
- ☒ Depression
- ☒ Irregular heartbeat



Beyond health problems, doping has tainted the careers of legends such as Lance Armstrong and Sammy Sosa, and ended the careers of countless others. Although athletic governing bodies such as the NCAA, professional sports leagues, and the World Anti-Doping Agency conduct drug testing, many younger athletes do not undergo testing.

Athletes confront other ethical challenges as well. What happens when referees, judges, or umpires make bad calls or fail to see violations? Athletes might feel compelled to “correct” the errors. Consider a match in which a defender inadvertently deflects a soccer ball with their hand and prevents the other team from scoring. Later in the game, a player from the opposing team might see an opportunity to make up for the lost goal and intentionally use their hand to alter a potential score.

In this case, the player may chalk up this action as nothing more than evening things out. Others might note the different intentions of each player. While both players committed a foul, the second player intentionally broke the rules to gain an advantage. Moments like this frequently happen in sports, forcing athletes to make instantaneous decisions that may, or may not, follow ethical principles.

EXAMINING ETHICAL ISSUES IN COLLEGE SPORTS

College sports administrators who coordinate the athletic programs, coach teams, or manage player recruitment confront ethical decisions every day regarding:

- ☞ Student-athlete athletic performance
- ☞ Student-athlete behaviour on and off the field
- ☞ Equitable treatment of student-athletes
- ☞ Student-athlete academic performance
- ☞ Team management

A LOOK AT ETHICAL ISSUES IN YOUTH SPORTS

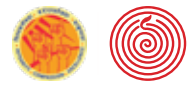
Younger athletes require thoughtful guidance and support when they participate in sports. They not only need someone to teach them the rules and help them develop their athletic skills, but they also need adults to model positive attitudes toward competition and teach them about fair play. Sports have great potential to teach important life lessons. However, student-athletes need responsible coaches to instil values that will allow them to both enjoy sports and grow.

ETHICAL COACHING PRACTICES

Applying ethical coaching practices can make a huge impact on an athletics program, especially when it involves athletes who are minors.

- ☞ By focusing holistically on the development of minor athletes, coaches help them reach their greatest potential within the sport.
- ☞ By setting developmentally appropriate goals and planning strategically, coaches can empower minor athletes to succeed.
- ☞ By identifying and modelling ethical behaviours in a sport, coaches can prepare students to respond appropriately during practices and competitions.
- ☞ By creating safe, respectful environments free of abuse, coaches create the conditions for minor athletes to learn from their mistakes and build confidence.
- ☞ By paying attention to the wellness of minor athletes and their body structures, coaches can help prevent injuries and advise students on good nutrition and other practices that can help them stay healthy.

These practices help nurture the talents of minor athletes. Beyond helping young athletes perform well, ethical coaching can cultivate resilience, concern for others, and integrity.



PARENTAL INTERFERENCE

Even after exerting their best efforts to ethically lead and teach young athletes, coaches may face interference from parents. What happens when parents do not show the self-control, good sportsmanship, and patience that younger, more impressionable athletes need to see?

Parents who coach from the side-lines can create conflicts and stress for young athletes. Shouting instructions to their sons or daughters in the middle of a game can cause problems. What if parent instructions contradict the instructions of the coach? Young athletes then must choose who to listen to, and their choice inevitably puts them at odds with someone they are supposed to respect. Such scenarios can put young athletes under unnecessary stress, shake their focus, and take the joy out of a game. Coaches and athletic directors must navigate a fine line in these situations. While still encouraging parent involvement, they must communicate in clear terms who should coach and who should cheer.

WHAT IS AN ACTION PLAN IN SPORTS ETHICS?

Conscientious coaches, athletic directors, and other administrators can promote ethically driven sports programs by adopting action plans. These plans lay out frameworks to help teams demonstrate positive ethical and social behaviours.

Action plans:

1. Identify goals
2. Identify tasks to reach those goals
3. Set timelines
4. Provide ways to monitor progress

Strategies such as action plans can help coaches and administrators effectively address ethical issues. They also help program leaders respond proactively instead of reactively.

The most effective strategies for addressing ethical issues in sports center around building community values. Community values focus on unity and cooperation, and cultivate a sense of responsibility to others. When athletes feel responsible to others, they may also feel less inclined to act dishonestly or engage in unfair behaviours. Setting goals also strategically fits into running ethical sports programs, because goals provide clear expectations for students.

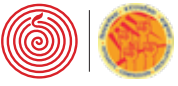
Another important component of action plans involves setting goals. Goals should specifically address relevant ethical issues in sports and be broken down into small, actionable steps. The plan should also provide for ways to measure whether its goals are being achieved.

The Society of Health and Physical Educators has developed national standards that can help coaches and sport administrators build more ethical sports programs. Some recommended strategies include:

- ☒ Embrace a philosophy that focuses on developing the whole athlete
- ☒ Create goals that address the physical, behavioural, and social development of student-athletes
- ☒ Ensure the sports program matches community needs, athlete needs, and established rules and regulations
- ☒ Teach and model established codes of conduct
- ☒ Cultivate an environment that rewards effort and learning
- ☒ Encourage the participation of all athletes regardless of their backgrounds

By using these strategies, athletic programs can:

- ☒ Improve the quality of student performance
- ☒ Reduce violence
- ☒ Lower the number of injuries
- ☒ Build a greater sense of community



SPACE FOR ROUGH NOTES

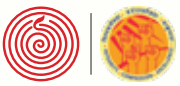




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TOPICS OF THE MONTH

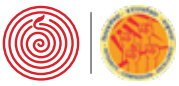




MY VISION OF AN IDEAL WORLD ORDER

**ATTITUDE MAKES HABIT, HABIT MAKES CHARACTER
AND CHARACTER MAKES A MAN**

DOES THE HUMAN RACE NEED TO SLOW DOWN?



MY VISION OF AN IDEAL WORLD ORDER

Undoubtedly, we can say that the world is our home. We are not living in this world merely to pass time or to pay our bills, rather to act on our purposes. When we take each breath, the excitement of being alive must be there. Every human being on this planet must be motivated by a sense of belonging and a stronger connection to the environment. We must all keep things in order in order to coexist peacefully with this planet. Every person on this earth will have a different perspective on how to put things in order. I am eager to share my vision of an ideal world order.

We have to start with ourselves if we want to create an ideal, harmonious world. Ask and try to find the best answers to the following questions: – what sort of culture need to exist? How should we handle our environment and other people? How can we set an example for bringing order to this world? What must we prioritise: the planet or profit, entertainment or education, being nice or being proud? We can definitely come up with a plan for what our ideal world order should look like, if we can come up with better answers for these questions.

UNDERSTANDING THE TERM WORLD ORDER

A world order is defined as a system that governs world events, particularly a collection of agreements made on an international level to maintain political stability on a worldwide scale. It is a term used in international affairs to describe how power is divided among superpowers. Prescriptively, "world order" refers to a desirable configuration of power and influence that is linked to the realisation of goals like peace, economic progress and equity, respect for human rights, and a healthy and sustainable environment.

HISTORY

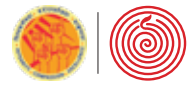
Thirty years ago, the West anticipated that the US, the dominant superpower and "leader of the free world," would spearhead the implementation of the new world order. China, Russia, and other major powers all have distinctive views of the international order. As did international terrorists. The same international relations academics and politicians who declared the creation of the new global order thirty years ago are now fighting against its continuation. Future global conflict and rivalry between superpowers are on the horizon. The United States emphasises its "America First" policy, China is a growing power, and Russia poses a threat to the United States' global dominance, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

A VISION ON EQUALITY

Men and women would be treated equally in my ideal world. There wouldn't be any discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, race, or views. Every person is required to uphold moral standards, respect others, respect the law, and follow the law, as well as to practise good manners both in public and private life. Equal opportunity will advance justice and, inadvertently, improve the state of law and order. If we could prevent prejudice, we could avoid the labels of underdeveloped, developing, and developed nations since each nation would proactively offer to assist the others with their needs in an understanding manner.

BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

In my view all people should have access to free education that included skill development needed by society and guaranteed work from the time they finished school until the legal retirement age. Governments would need to operate like corporations, maximising results while minimising costs. An increase in work



opportunities will address the problem of brain drain by itself, since there are still individuals who must commute far distances from their loved ones in order to earn a livelihood and provide a comfortable lifestyle for their family.

ONE RELIGION FOR ALL

There won't be any caste- or religious-based prejudice in my ideal world. There will only be one religion, and it is that of humanity. This might put an end to all privileges bestowed upon persons based on their religion and caste. In the same manner, it can end all religiously-motivated human-murdering politics. This action alone may create opportunities for peaceful coexistence among a nation's citizens.

DESTROYING TERRORISM

The deliberate use of violence against non-combatants in civilian settings in the name of advancing an ideology, a religion, or a political cause must end. Governments from different countries are supposed to uphold peace, encourage fair and open trade, and eradicate any ties to terrorism within their borders. In a world free of fear, more people will travel and have fun because they will feel secure doing so everywhere in the country.

SAY NO TO ADDICTIVE PRODUCTS

Destroying the compounds that lead to addiction in people will be my next move. Government entities do pay significant taxes on alcohol and tobacco products each year, but it's important to remember that these products are also destroying our future. As a result, it's urgent to put an end to these substances and all illegal drug use. We need to stop these things from tearing apart our families. Despite the known health concerns, these addictive substances entice the trade industry. Since health is undoubtedly more important than income, our focus must be more on people's overall well-being in general.

EDUCATION

Education has a plethora of advantages, especially in terms of a person's quality of life and the convenience with which they can

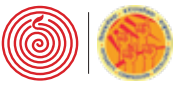
achieve their personal goals. People who have received a quality education have a better grasp of their surroundings and are therefore less sensitive to outside influences. Education is necessary for accurate information interpretation since it advances knowledge. An educated individual is more aware of their own and others' roles in society as well as their rights. As a result, there are fewer disputes and more tolerance for diversity, as well as a better knowledge of individuals. All of these foster an environment favourable to social justice, which calls for: equal treatment, opportunities, and rights.

A STEP TOWARDS FUTURE

Even though it may seem severe, I would stop using cash notes and coins and convert all transactions to electronic ones, which are simpler to track and would reduce the amount of black money. Every person in the world will receive a unique social security number at birth. This number will be linked to all of that person's accounts, including bank accounts, work references, electoral rolls, income tax numbers, and medical insurance. This would be a key entry point for law and order to enter the country and drive out corruption.

There is no perfect world for us to wait around for, said Isaac Marion once. It is up to us how we react to the world as it is at any given moment. Yes, without a doubt, we can declare that it is up to us to improve the world. Remember, "If not us - who?, If not here - where?, and if not we - who?," and let this be a clarion call for all of us to act.

Our idealised visions of the world shouldn't only be in dreams; actual action and generosity are needed to turn them into reality. This dream of the perfect world can come true if we cooperate with bravery, tenacity, and persistence. The first and most important step we must take to create an orderly world is to promote peace and unity among all nations. So let work together to make an ideal world where no child would suffer, charitable instincts would prevail. There would be global acceptance of all different types of people.



ATTITUDE MAKES HABIT, HABIT MAKES CHARACTER AND CHARACTER MAKES A MAN

Scott Hamilton, an Olympic gold medalist, claimed that the only disability in life is a lousy attitude. The term "attitude" is without a doubt the most beautiful word in the English language, as it is the small thing that makes a tremendous impact. In psychology, attitude is a psychological construct, a mental and emotional phenomenon that exists in or characterises a person. It involves your thoughts, perceptions, and emotions also refers to a person's opinion or approach on something.

On habits, countless books have been published. The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, a self-help book on habits written by Stephen R. Covey, is the best-selling book of all time. Habits are activities or behaviours that we perform regularly and religiously. In some situations, we could find ourselves repeating the same behaviour. To put it simply, a habit can be anything that is repeated frequently enough to become automatic. We don't really need to consider doing it any more. It simply occurs. According to renowned author Jack Canfield, "your habits will determine your future."

The character of a person consists of all the qualities they have that make them distinct from other people. The most important feature of a man's behaviour is his character traits, and every human on this earth has their own character traits. From literary figures to modern screen actors, they portray different characters before the audience. These archetypes play a role in influencing human behaviour. Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung's proposition proposes that these archetypes are archaic forms of innate human knowledge passed down from our ancestors.

WHY WE NEED A POSITIVE ATTITUDE IN LIFE

Positive attitude doesn't mean that you have to smile 24*7. It is way more than beaming. It is a mindset. It is your thinking pattern. It is your capacity to maintain optimism when circumstances are not on your side. A nutritious diet is necessary for a fit physique. We are aware of the impacts of both healthy and unhealthy diets. A poor diet has the same detrimental effects on our bodies as a poor attitude has on our minds and way of thinking. Like a farmer sowing potential seeds on his farm, a person with a positive attitude constantly

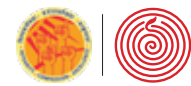
nourishes his mind with optimistic ideas. Only an optimistic outlook will help us succeed in life.

IS THE GLASS HALF FULL OR HALF EMPTY?

What would you call, for example, a glass that is half filled of water? Is the glass half full or half empty? These basic experiments are used by psychologists to gauge the attitude of the beholder. The glass will be described as half full by an optimist and half empty by a pessimist. Positive people often concentrate on the positive: there is still water available for drinking. Conversely, pessimists focus on the negative: a glass that would otherwise be full lacks water. Optimists frequently focus on the positive. Even under difficult circumstances, they are cheerful and look for the good.

ALL SUPER ACHIEVERS HAVE POSITIVE ATTITUDE

A person's attitude is like a piece of jewellery they wear. Anyone who has a pleasant attitude will make friends. In society, they will be respected. They are outstanding achievers and an inspiration to everyone! Another successful person who always had a positive attitude is Sachin Tendulkar. At the age of 16, he was sent to Pakistan, where the unstoppable Imran Khan leads the pace squad. Imran had two disciples: Wasim and Waqar. It is no small feat to face such fast bowlers on one's debut. Sachin was hit by a Waqar bouncer on the nose. Nevertheless, he persisted and



passed with flying colours. He put up a brave fight. He received praise for his positive approach. He currently holds the world record for most centuries and no one has come close to breaking it.

LEADERS WITH NEGATIVE ATTITUDE

When trying to succeed in life, having a good attitude is crucial. Hitler was a successful person as well. He was, nevertheless, utterly dissatisfied with life. He desired control over the entire world and power for Germany. His divisive behaviour split Germany into East Germany and West Germany, and it destroyed his nation. He died, which was inevitable, but he discredited his industrialist nation's reputation. The name "Hitler" has never been given to a kid by a parent, according to records. He had such a bad attitude, and the world still won't forget him or forgive him! Saddam Hussain, Muammar Gaddafi, Mao Zedong, Mussolini, and many others! Even though they all exercised an iron fist of authority, these tyrants all had a pessimistic outlook, which foretold their demise!

HOW HABITS ARE FORMED

The development of habits may begin with attitudes. When we try something new and it goes well or we like it, we could repeat the action until it becomes habitual. This can happen on its own and can occasionally give rise to both positive and unhealthy habits. A person who has positive habits has a positive outlook. And those with a positive outlook have excelled as visionaries. However, those who don't cultivate positive habits may have a harmful mindset and pose a threat to society.

POSITIVE ATTITUDE MAKES HEALTHY HABITS

A good attitude is generated by moral principles and a general cheerful life perspective. A recent study by a foreign institution found that a person's attitude accounts for 85% of his or her achievement in life. A person's environment, family beliefs, and the best way to view challenges are generally what shape their attitude. An optimist always searches for hope in difficult circumstances,

while a pessimist with flawed values and attitudes sees the worst in everything. The key reason is that having a positive attitude has helped people form healthy habits over time.

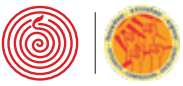
CHARACTER COMES FROM HABITS

Confucius asserted that men's nature is constant. Their habits set them apart from one another. Though the thinking must come before the action, developing good habits does not just come from setting excellent resolutions. Good habits are formed in the workshop of our daily lives. Character is formed in big moments of test and trial. Our daily routines, which are frequently mundane and unremarkable, shape the habits that govern our lives and define our personalities. They are learned through experience. To put it simply, a person's habits help to shape their character. Solomon the wise taught, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Prov. 22:6.)

CHARACTER PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

Character is the culmination of a person's traits and attributes that set them apart from others. The attributes that make a person distinct and enable them to stand out from the crowd make up their character, which is essentially an amalgamation of those qualities. Keep in mind that developing your personality is not just about looking attractive and wearing designer brands. It also has to do with improving one's inner self and being a nice person. You have to answer to yourself more than anyone else. Do not act in a way that you are not confident in. Only when someone is ashamed of what they are doing will they become anxious. Anyone who has good character is accepted and admired everywhere they go. Character attributes include things like honesty, leadership, trust, courage, patience, and so on.

A smart person always carries a more constructive attitude with him, which eventually permeates his thoughts and actions and develops into habits. His daily routines and habits mould a man from head to toe, and just as a tree

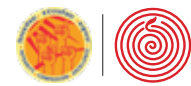


casts a shadow over others, so do his habits. The world will recognise great people by their character. Abraham Lincoln, Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela, and Mahatma Gandhi are just a few examples of people who had strong personalities that came from their attitudes and habits.

Keep in mind that your thoughts influence your moods and behaviour. You should there

fore instantly replace any negative thoughts that enter your head with positive ones. Even if things are bad, having an optimistic outlook will help you get through the challenging time with ease. "Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words. Keep your words positive because your words become your behaviour", as our nation's founding father Mahatma Gandhi famously remarked.





DOES THE HUMAN RACE NEED TO SLOW DOWN?

With each new day in Africa, a gazelle wakes up knowing he must outrun the fastest lion or perish. At the same time, a lion stirs and stretches, knowing he must outrun the fastest gazelle or starve. It's no different for the human race. Whether you consider yourself a gazelle or a lion, you have to run faster than others to survive. But humans are not only run to survive, they are running to conquer this world.

These lines adequately describe the state of modern humanity. The fundamental traits of our species – love, compassion, and care – have been snatched from us by statistics and the force of numbers. We are all now members of a race due to the overemphasis on material advancement and the strength of numbers. There is only one winner in this race, and that winner is death. We are oblivious to minor joys like watching a squirrel forage for nuts or a rose blooming because of our concern with status and wealth. This lowers the quality of life and undermines moral principles. Ironically, despite efforts to raise quality of life, it is really declining..

WE NEED A PAUSE BUTTON

Let's just pause for a moment before moving forward. Our own species, our own brothers and sisters, are now the targets of prejudice based on religion, caste, and creed. Spiritual consciousness doesn't come from using religion to degrade others, but rather from loving and caring for all living things. Early man lived in a simpler, more fair, and probably happier era than the one we do now. After hearing all of this, the issue of whether the human race should slow down arises.

WE LOST MANY THINGS

The most important societal problem is the loss of family ties, which is happening quickly. The long-standing custom of the joint family structure nearly went extinct and is now uncommon. The distinctive characteristics of Indian heritage, culture, and tradition

include moral principles, ethics, social fabric, and unity. The Vedas, Upanishads, and Gita are all examples of our saints' excellent works. Understanding them better might provide relief from our mental, physical, and other issues. Swami Dayanand Saraswati's advice to "go back to the Vedas" in this fast-paced age is praiseworthy and should be heeded in order to understand what we have lost in the name of advancement.

If current development trends continue, a time may come when we will have to struggle for necessities like food, housing, and water.

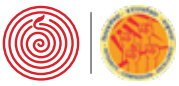
FALSE COMPETITION

Everywhere there is fierce competition, and because man is motivated by money and selfishness, love and compassion are kept at a distance. In certain ways, having money is necessary for day-to-day living. Making money is a lengthy process that requires a lot of effort from man. Nobody is ready for the stretched procedure, though; all they want is quick riches and recognition. People's tolerance levels have drastically decreased. The rising number of traffic accidents and increasing suicide rates demonstrate that people have forgotten the saying from their youth that "slow and steady wins the race."

According to the renowned philosopher Karl Marx, alienation is one of the strangest and most unusual aspects of human civilization. Today's human race and culture are characterised by dualistic links between males, and relationships essentially only exist when necessary. In this fast-paced environment, man is disconnected from himself.

DISMAL STATE OF HUMANITY

Peace of mind and solace is something for which he pays and goes on a vacation to the hills to experience. Land and nature's beauty is also something, which can be, utilized a source of income. Crime is increasing. In addition to killing animals for



cash at an unprecedented pace, people also kill other people when they're upset or distressed. Social ties are deteriorating, family values are shifting, and divorce in couples is at an all-time high. Depression and loneliness are now recognised as two of the leading causes of disease and death worldwide.

A QUESTION NEEDED TO BE ANSWERED

Bhutan, one of the world's relatively smaller nations, recently made an attempt to measure happiness among its citizens, which forced the rest of the world to consider how well we have done so far on social indicators rather than just achieving simple numbers for the measurement of a nation's prosperity.

NEED OF THE HOUR

The developed nations frequently oppress the developing nations in order to gain dominance. Every nation should understand that a peaceful resolution to a disagreement is always preferable to going to war. To make our globe a better place for all humankind to dwell in, universal unity and love for humanity should expand across the nations. Every time nuclear power is used, it should be for good. We must take our time in the midst of life's busyness and consider our actions carefully before taking any action. In summary, tolerance, compassion among people, protection of the environment, and a healthy, balanced way of living are urgently needed. In order to appreciate life to the fullest, we need to take a little more time to reflect on what living means to us in order to brace ourselves for dizzying success in all spheres of life.

MODERN WORLD

Even while the modern world has given us amazing gadgets and gizmos, it has also taken away our happiness and health.

In today's society, a person's success is measured by his possessions and wealth rather than by his morality and philanthropy. Men accept occupations based more on mercenary benefits than on their true interests. The nuclear family trend has not been able to produce positive outcomes. Conflicts and challenges are a part of everyday existence. A man must struggle and conquer numerous obstacles in order to survive this vicious conflict, which deprives him of many opportunities in both work and life.

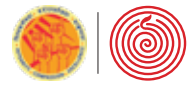
Really speaking the life of man is a struggle right from his birth to his death, which we must undertake. A child is born into a world that is filled with difficulty at every turn. As he matures into a man, the conflict intensifies, leaving him with no alternative except to engage in combat. He must continue to struggle against various odds till he dies. Otherwise, this busy, nasty world will overwhelm him. Children who have working parents struggle to receive love and attention. It is important to highlight that most parents find it challenging to make time for their loved ones. There should be a balance between the professional and personal, else life is not enjoyable. It is time to slow down the pace of rush hour towards money.

We must sincerely consider if the human race needs to slow down. Is it time to consider what we have gained from all of our internal conflict over the last centuries? Has it been beneficial to us, or was it just a waste of time and money? The two major world wars in modern history, whose effects are still felt by the whole human species, were caused by the desire for more colonies and the expansion of spheres of influence. The human race has to take a break and slow down.

Time will not pause or tarry on his way,
Today that seems so long, so strange, so bitter,
Will soon be forgotten yesterday.

- SAROJINI NAIDU





PRACTICE QUESTION

To what extent has the urban planning and culture of the Indus Valley Civilization provided inputs to the present day urbanization? Discuss. #Indian Civil Services, 2014#

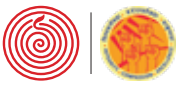
The most unique feature of Indus Valley Civilization perhaps would be its evolution from a rural pastoral settlement during its early phase to a sophisticated urbanised civilization displaying remarkably advanced level of town planning with an extensive and well-maintained corbelled drains and sewerages.

The most striking feature of Indus cities are methodically planned urban spaces in rectangular grid-like patterns with properly planned with well laid out streets. Le Corbusier adopted a similar rectangular grid-pattern plan for Chandigarh, which enabled fast movement of traffic and reduced the area.

Single storied and multi-storied flat roofed houses and public buildings were built using burnt bricks lining either side of the streets over raised plinths. A courtyard, probably the centre of the house was the place of all activities such as cooking and weaving, particularly during hot and dry weather. Windows were not provided in the walls along the ground level. Besides, the main entrance does not give a direct view of the interior or the courtyard. Every house had its own brick-paved bathroom, with drains connected through the wall to the street drains. Brick lined channels first emptied sewage water into a sump or cesspit into which solid matter settled while waste water flowed out into the corbelled street drains. Very long drainage channels were provided at intervals with sumps for cleaning. Many houses had wells, often in a room that could be reached from the outside and perhaps used by passers-by.

The planners developed Indus cities with all necessary urban amenities to fulfil their social, economic and cultural needs. Demarcated urban settlements with a citadel housing public buildings, namely the Great Granary at Harappa, Great Bath, College Buildings etc. and lining houses along the roads opening out into the lateral lanes instead to the main street shows the remarkable vision of erstwhile urban planners. Most cities, even the modern metropolis cannot claim such sophistication.

The urban planning of Indus cities displays a remarkably egalitarian nature with socially inclusive urban spaces, contrasting Indian cities noted for its notoriously exclusive nature. Our cities have been often referred to as 'auto-constructed haphazard urban sprawls', rather than planned spaces with trunk infrastructure to ensure dignified living opportunities for inhabitants.



Critically evaluate the continental drift hypothesis of A. Wegener. Indian Civil Services, 2006

Alfred Wegener hypothesised the existence of Pangaea, a prehistoric proto-continental landmass surrounded by Panthalassa, a mega ocean under the Continental Drift Theory. Pangaea split into two large continental masses, Laurasia and Gondwanaland and drifted towards the poles around 200 million years ago. Tethys Sea separated the large continental masses - Laurasia and Gondwanaland. The landmasses subsequently broke into various smaller continents that exist today.

A. Evidences supporting 'continental drift':

1. **Matching of Continents (Jig-Saw-Fit):** Matching continental shorelines of Africa and South America, across the Atlantic Ocean.

a. Fossil patterns across continents (Gondwanaland).

b. Antonio Snider-Pellegrini's Illustration of the closed and opened Atlantic Ocean (1858).

c. Mesosaurus skeleton, MacGregor, 1908. Bullard used a computer programme to produce a map with match tried at 1,000 fathom lines instead of the present shorelines.

2. **Similar geomorphologic history of present non-contiguous landmasses:**

a. Similarity of rocks and minerals:

Radiometric dating of rocks present in the Brazilian coast in South America and Western African coast in Ghana across the Atlantic Ocean and locations elsewhere exhibit similar geological history.

b. Placer deposits:

The Ghana coast has rich placer deposits of gold, whereas the source rocks of gold bearing veins are found in Brazil plateau.

c. Glacial tillites:

Evidences of glacial tillite deposits and paleo-climates are found in Indian subcontinent, Africa, Madagascar, Falkland Islands, Antarctica and Australia.

3. **Distribution of flora and fauna:**

a. Paleologists coined 'Lemuria' for the proto-continent, comprising of India, Madagascar and Africa after excavation of fossil deposits of Lemurs.

b. Discovery of *Nasikabatrachus bhupathi*, a soil dwelling species of purple frog, an inhabitant of Seychelles from the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats, near the Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu constitutes additional evidence in favour of the theory of continental drift. The discovery suggests that the Indian subcontinent was part of the ancient landmass of Gondawana before splitting from Seychelles 65 million years ago.

c. Purple frog (Maveli frog / Pignose frog) could be soon designated as Kerala's state amphibian. Scientific Name: *Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis* (N.sahyadrensis). IUCN conservation status: Endangered. Distribution: Widely distributed in Western Ghats. Earlier, they were thought to be distributed around the Palaghat gap only. Endemic to Western Ghats. Appearance: Sturdy and swollen body, relatively round in shape with smaller head and an unusual pointed snout (muzzle). In most cases adults are dark purplish-grey in color. Habitat: For almost its entire life it lives in underground tunnels and comes out to surface for only a single day in a year to breed. Herpetologists called 'living fossil' as it is believed that they have coexisted with dinosaurs almost 70 million years ago.

d. Discovery of fossils: Skeletal deposits of Mesosaurus and marine fossils of Jurassic age were excavated from Southern Cape Province of South Africa and Iraver formations of Brazil.

e. Geologists discovered 152 million year-old fossils of ichthyosaurs, an extinct marine reptile belonging to Ophthalmosauridae family that lived oceans between 165 and 90 million years ago from Kutch desert region of Gujarat.



4. Discovery of Lost Continent:

a. Scientists found zircons, 3 billion years old off the island of Mauritius believed to be remnants of the super-continent Gondwana. Zircons are minerals that contain trace amounts of uranium, thorium and lead and occur mainly in granite from the continents.

b. Geologists discovered a new geological continent named Zealandia submerged beneath the south-west Pacific Ocean. Zealandia is around 4.5-million km² land mass and is 94 % under water. Only its highest points – New Zealand and New Caledonia are visible. Zealandia is two-thirds the size of Australia and spreads out over 4.9-million-square kilometres of continental crust. It was once a part of Australia. It is believed that it had broken off from Antarctica about 100 million years ago, and then from Australia about 80 million years ago as part of the breakup of super-continent Gondwanaland and sank beneath sea. Sea-floor samples show that Zealandia consists of light continental crust and not the dark volcanic rocks that make up nearby underwater plateaus.

B. Critical analysis:

1. Failure to satisfactorily explain continental drifting forces. Scholars have strongly opposed the arguments of Wegner; tidal forces applied over many million years as sufficient enough to displace continents to the present position. Arthur Holmes proposed the possibility of existence of a “convection currents” operating in the entire mantle to satisfactorily explain continental drifting forces.

2. Failed to explain the formation of Fold Mountains and volcanic chain Islands along the plate boundaries.

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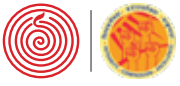
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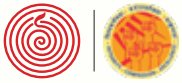
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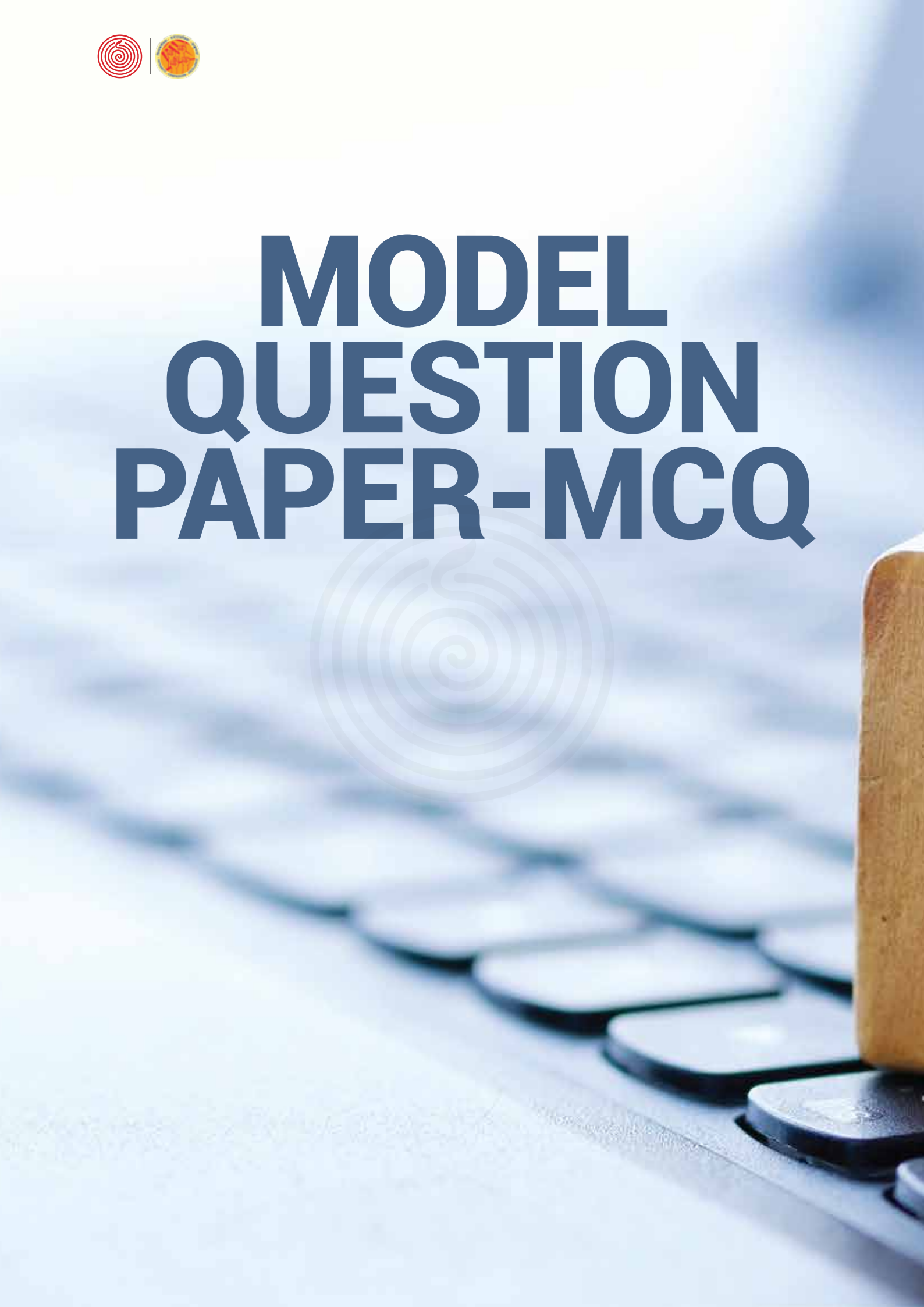
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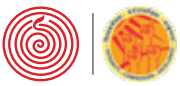




MODEL QUESTION PAPER-MCQ







MODEL UPSC CIVIL SERVICES MCQS

1. With reference to the Indian economy, consider the following statements: (UPSC CSE 2022)

1. If the inflation is too high, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to buy government securities.
2. If the rupee is rapidly depreciating, RBI is likely to sell dollars in the market.
3. If interest rates in the USA or European Union were to fall, that is likely to induce RBI to buy dollars.

Which of the statements given below is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

2. With reference to the Indian economy, what are the advantages of "Inflation-Indexed Bonds (IIBs)"? (UPSC 2020)

1. Government can reduce the coupon rates on its borrowing by way of IIBs.
2. IIBs provide protection to investors from uncertainty regarding inflation.
3. The interest received as well as capital gains on IIBs are not taxable.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

3. Which of the following is the correct arrangement of points on LAC from North to South?

- a. Karakoram pass-Galwan valley-Hot Spring-Daulat Beg Oldi
- b. Hot spring-Karakoram pass-Galwan Valley-Daulat Beg Oldi
- c. Karakoram pass-Daulat Beg Oldi-Galwan valley-Hot Spring
- d. Daulat Beg Oldi-Karakoram pass-Galwan valley-Hot spring

4. With reference to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, consider the following statements:

1. The Act regulates the import, manufacture, and distribution of drugs in India.
2. It provides for the medical devices technical advisory board.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

5. Which of the following reports is/are published by the World Economic Forum (WEF)?

1. Global Gender Gap report
2. Global Risk report
3. Energy transition Index
4. Global Hunger Index

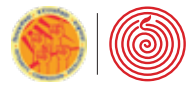
Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 4 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

6. With reference to India's satellite launch vehicles, consider the following statements: (UPSC 2018)

1. PSLVs launch the satellites useful for Earth resources monitoring whereas GSLVs are designed mainly to launch communication satellites.
2. Satellites launched by PSLV appear to remain permanently fixed in the same position in the sky, as viewed from a particular location on Earth.
3. GSLV Mk III is a four-staged launch vehicle with the first and third stages using solid rocket motors; and the second and fourth stages using liquid rocket engines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 2 only
- d. 3 only

7. Consider the following statements: (UPSC 2016) - The Mangalyaan launched by ISRO

1. is also called the Mars Orbiter Mission
2. made India the second country to have a spacecraft orbit the Mars after the USA
3. made India the only country to be successful in making its spacecraft orbit the Mars in its very first attempt

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

8. With reference of the 'Banks Board Bureau (BBB)', which of the following statements are correct? (UPSC 2022)

1. The Governor of RBI is the Chairman of BBB.
2. BBB recommends for the selection of heads for Public Sector Banks.
3. BBB helps the Public Sector Banks in Developing strategies and capital raising plans.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 2

9. Consider the following statements about Banks Board Bureau:

1. The BBB is a not-for-profit organisation registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act 2013.
2. The BBB was the part of Indradhanush Plan of government.

3. It will make recommendations for the appointment of whole-time directors as well as non-executive chairpersons of Public Sector Banks and state-owned financial institutions.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 2 and 3 only

10. The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee is constituted under the (UPSC CSE 2015)

- a. Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- b. Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999
- c. Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- d. Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

[10:27 am, 13/08/2022] Adul Sir Vedhik: 11. Consider the following statements: (UPSC CSE 2014)

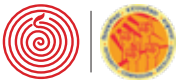
1. Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body.
3. National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 2 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

12. With reference to the history of India, Ulgulan or the Great Tumult is the description of which of the following events? (UPSC CSE 2020)

- a. The Revolt of 1857
- b. The Mappila Rebellion of 1921
- c. The Indigo Revolt of 1859-60
- d. Birsa Munda's Revolt of 1899-1900



13. Consider the following statements:
(UPSC CSE 2016)

1. The Sustainable Development Goals were first proposed in 1972 by a global think tank called the 'Club of Rome'.
2. The Sustainable Development Goals have to be achieved by 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

14. With reference to POCSO Act 2012, consider the following statements:

1. It defines a child as any person below 14 years of age.
2. It includes protection from sexual assault, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and pornography.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct:

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

15. Which of the following states is/are covered under Sixth Schedule?

1. Assam
2. Nagaland
3. Meghalaya
4. Tripura

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1, 2 and 4 only
- b. 1, 3 and 4 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

16. Why are dewdrops not formed on a cloudy night? (UPSC 2019)

- a. Clouds absorb the radiation released from the Earth's surface.
- b. Clouds reflect back the Earth's radiation.

c. The Earth's surface would have a low temperature on cloudy nights.

d. Clouds deflect the blowing wind to ground level.

17. During the thunderstorm, the thunder in the skies is produced by the (UPSC 2013)

1. meeting of cumulonimbus clouds in the sky
2. lightning that separates the nimbus clouds
3. violent upward movement of air and water particles

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3
- c. 1 and 3
- d. None of the above produces the thunder

18. With reference to the full-time organizational framework of NITI Ayog, consider the following statements:

1. The Prime Minister acts as the Chairperson of the organization.
2. It comprises the Chief Executive Officer who is appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

19. Consider the following statements:

1. The SC collegium is headed by the CJI and comprises four other senior-most judges of the court.
2. An HC collegium is led by its Chief Justice and four other senior-most judges of that court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only



- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

20. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Medical devices were categorized separately under the drugs and cosmetics act, 1940.
- 2. The drugs and cosmetics act, 1940 did not provide for a drug technical advisory board.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

21. Sowing of wheat is possible without burning the residue of the previous crops.

- 1. Without the need for a nursery of rice saplings, direct planting of paddy seeds in the wet soil is possible.
- 2. Carbon sequestration in the soil is possible.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

22. With reference to the cultivation of Kharif crops in India in the last five years, consider the following statements: (UPSC 2019)

- 1. Area under rice cultivation is the highest.
- 2. Area under the cultivation of jowar is more than that of oilseeds.
- 3. Area of cotton cultivation is more than that of sugarcane.
- 4. Area under sugarcane cultivation has steadily decreased.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a. 1 and 3 only
- b. 2, 3 and 4 only
- c. 2 and 4 only

- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

23. Democracy's superior virtue lies in the fact that it calls into activity

- a. the intelligence and character of ordinary men and women.
- b. the methods for strengthening executive leadership.
- c. a superior individual with dynamism and vision.
- d. a band of dedicated party workers.

24. With reference to the 74th constitutional amendment Act, consider the following statements:

- 1. All members of the municipality should be elected directly by the people.
- 2. The Parliament is empowered to provide for the manner of election of the chairperson of a municipality.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

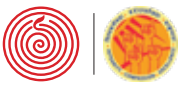
- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

25. Recently, Scientists observed the merger of giant blackholes' billions of light-years away from the Earth. What is the significance of this observation? (UPSC CSE 2019)

- a. 'Higgs boson particles' were detected.
- b. 'Gravitational waves' were detected.
- c. Possibility of intergalactic space travel through 'wormhole' was confirmed.
- d. It enabled the scientists to understand 'singularity'.

26. Consider the following pairs: (UPSC CSE 2018)

Terms sometimes seen in news	Context/Topic
1. Belle II experiment.	: Artificial Intelligence
2. Blockchain technology.	: Digital/Cryptocurrency



3. CRISPR – Cas9. : Particle Physics

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a. 1 and 3 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

27. The efforts to detect the existence of Higgs boson particle have become frequent news in the recent past. What is/are the importance (s) of discovering this particle? (UPSC CSE 2013)

- 1. It will enable us to understand as to why elementary particles have mass.
 - 2. It will enable us in the near future to develop the technology of transferring matter from one point to another without traversing the physical space between them.
 - 3. It will enable us to create better fuels for nuclear fission.
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

28. In India, which one of the following is responsible for maintaining price stability by controlling inflation? (UPSC CSE 2022)

- a. Department of Consumer Affairs
- b. Expenditure Management Commission
- c. Financial Stability and Development Council
- d. Reserve Bank of India

29. Which of the following statements best describes the term 'Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets (S4A)', recently seen in the news? (UPSC CSE 2017)

- a. It is a procedure for considering the ecological costs of developmental schemes formulated by the Government.

b. It is a scheme of RBI for reworking the financial structure of big corporate entities facing genuine difficulties.

c. It is a disinvestment plan of the Government regarding Central Public Sector Undertakings.

d. It is an important provision in The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code' recently implemented by the Government.

30. With reference to digital payments, consider the following statements: (UPSC 2018)

1. BHIM app allows the user to transfer money to anyone with a UPI-enabled bank account.

2. While a chip-pin debit card has four factors of authentication, the BHIM app has only two factors of authentication.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

[10:28 am, 13/08/2022] Adul Sir Vedhik: 31. The problem of international liquidity is related to the non-availability of (UPSC 2015)

- a. goods and services
- b. gold and silver
- c. dollars and other hard currencies
- d. exportable surplus

32. The balance of payments of a country is a systematic record of (UPSC 2013)

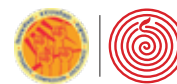
a. All import and export transactions of a country during a given period of time, normally a year

b. Goods exported from a country during a year

c. Economic transaction between the government of one country to another

d. Capital movements from one country to another

33. With reference to the Chief Justice of India (CJI), consider the following statements:



1. The procedure to appoint the next CJI is laid out in the constitution.

2. The President administers the oath of office to the new CJI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

33. The basic aim of Lead Bank Scheme is that (UPSC 2012)

- a. big banks should try to open offices in each district
- b. there should be stiff competition among the various nationalized banks
- c. individual banks should adopt particular districts for intensive development
- d. all the banks should make intensive efforts to mobilize deposits

34. Which of the following offences is/are investigated and prosecuted by the NIA?

- 2. Smuggling in High-Quality Counterfeit Indian Currency.
- 3. Offences affecting friendly relations with foreign States.
- 4. Offences related to atomic and nuclear facilities.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

35. What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD)", sometimes seen in the news? (UPSC 2018)

- a. An Israeli radar system
- b. India's indigenous anti-missile programme
- c. An American anti-missile system
- d. A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea.

36. With reference to Agni-IV Missile, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct? (UPSC 2014)

- 1. It is surface-to-surface missile.
- 2. It is fuelled by liquid propellant only.
- 3. It can deliver one tonne nuclear war-head about 7500 km away.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

37. With reference to India Forum for Nature-Based Solutions recently in news, consider the following statements.

- 1. It is launched by the Energy and Research Institute.
- 2. Along with mitigating the impact of climate change, it helps in providing multiple ecosystem benefits along with addressing various societal challenges.

Select the correct statements using the code given.

- a. 1 Only
- b. 2 Only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 and 2

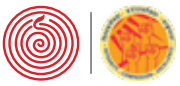
38. Lisbon Declaration often mentioned in news is connected with

- a. UN Ocean Conference
- b. Climate Centre for Cities
- c. Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
- d. None of the above

39. Consider the following.

- 1. Increased ground-level UV radiation
- 2. Cause impairment of human immune systems
- 3. Reduce agricultural output
- 4. Negatively impact sensitive aquatic creatures and ecosystems.

Which of the above can be consider as the negative impacts due to the depletion of ozone?



- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 2, 3 and 4 only
- c. 1, 3 and 4 only
- d. All the above

40. With reference to the 'Hariyali Mahotsav' often mentioned in news, consider the following statements.

- 1. It is organized by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
 - 2. Mahotsav is perceived as an effective tool to instill enthusiasm among masses for forest conservation and planting trees.
- Select the correct statements using the code given.

- a. 1 Only
- b. 2 Only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 and 2

41. Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary sometimes mentioned in news located at

- a. Kerala
- b. Karnataka
- c. Tamil Nadu
- d. Andhra Pradesh

42. With reference to Great Indian Bustards sometime seen in news, consider the following statements.

- 1. They are included in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972
- 2. They are included in Appendix I of CITES
- 3. They can see in India only

Select the correct statements using the code given.

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

43. Which among the following statement is wrong regarding Cheetah?

- a. They fastest land animals in the world over short distances.
- b. They are blisteringly fast and can reach speeds up to 64 miles per hour in 3 seconds.

c. In 1952, the Indian government officially declared the Cheetah extinct in the country.

d. None of the above

44. India's largest floating solar power project now operational in

- a. Rajasthan
- b. Telangana
- c. Karnataka
- d. Madhya Pradesh

45. With reference to the Aonla chutney often mentioned in news regarding the granting of the GI Tag, consider the following statements.

- 1. It belongs to the state of Odisha.
- 2. Applied under food category, the GI tag would help develop a structured hygiene protocol in the preparation of Kai Chutney for standard wider use.

Select the correct statements using the code given.

- a. 1 Only
- b. 2 Only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 and 2

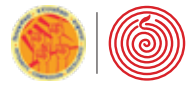
46. With reference to PSLV Orbital Platform Experiment Module often seen in news, consider the following statement.

- 1. The power for the platform is derived from the solar panel mounted around the PS4 tank and a Li Ion battery.
- 2. Enabled Tele-command features on-board
- 3. OP Passivation after intended period of operation.

Select the correct statements using the code given.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

47. The national motto of India, 'Satyameva Jayate' inscribed below the Emblem of India is taken from:



- a) Katha Upanishad
- b) Chandogya Upanishad
- c) Aitareya Upanishad
- d) Mundaka Upanishad

48. The Konark Sun temple also known as the Black Pagoda was built during the reign of:

- a) Narasimhavarman II
- b) Rudrasena I
- c) Narasimhadeva I
- d) Anantavarman

49. Consider the following sentences with reference to the Bhakti saint Ramanujacharya:

1. He is the chief proponent of Dvaita philosophy
2. Bijak is the famous work attributed to Ramanujacharya
3. He revolted against the discrimination of untouchability and advocated equality and justice

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3
- c) 3 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

50. Consider the following sentences with reference to Alluri Sitarama Raju:

1. He was the leading figure in the Paika rebellion of Odisha during the colonial period
2. He fought against the oppressive Bengal Indigo contracts act 1836.

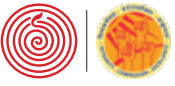
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2



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13	33	53	73	93
14	34	54	74	94
15	35	55	75	95
16	36	56	76	96
17	37	57	77	97
18	38	58	78	98
19	39	59	79	99
20	40	60	80	100

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