

## Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956

### ❖ Context

- Recently, Karnataka's Chief Minister said many **projects in Karnataka have been delayed**, and bogged down by the procedure of inter-State river water disputes act.
- He also **asked the Center to 'revisit the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act** since the law is creating more disputes than resolving them'.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- The execution of many irrigation projects in Karnataka have been delayed due to **inter-State river water disputes with neighbouring Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Goa and Andhra Pradesh**.
- He called for removal of **multi-fold levels of dispute resolution**, especially on the **basis of maximum utility of a river basin capacity, and use of technology** and giving away all political considerations.
- Laws relating to environmental, forest, investment, inter-State river water dispute and CRZ need to be revisited to **accelerate the speed of infrastructure development, and development of tourism**.

### About Inter-State Water Disputes

#### • Constitutional Provisions

- **Entry 17 of State List** deals with water i.e. water supply, irrigation, canal, drainage, embankments, water storage and water power.
- **Entry 56 of Union List** empowers the Union Government for the regulation and development of inter-state rivers and river valleys to the extent declared by Parliament to be expedient in the public interest.
- **Article 262-** In case of disputes related to waters, Parliament may by law provide:
  - For the adjudication of any dispute or complaint concerning the use, distribution or control of the waters of, or in, any inter-State river or river valley.
  - That **neither the Supreme Court nor any other court shall exercise jurisdiction** in respect of any such dispute or complaint as mentioned above.

#### • Parliament has enacted two laws according to **Article 262:**

- **River Board Act, 1956 -**
  - The Act empowered the Central Government to **establish boards for Interstate Rivers and river valleys in consultation with State Governments**. However, no board has been created to date.
- **Inter-State Water Dispute Act, 1956**
  - If State Government(s) approach the Central Government for the **constitution of the Tribunal**, the Centre may form a Tribunal after trying to resolve the dispute through consultations.
  - It is to be noted that the **Supreme Court shall not question the Award or formula given by the Tribunal** but it can question the working of the Tribunal.

### ❖ Permanent Tribunal

- The Interstate River Water Disputes Amendment Bill 2019 is a modified version of a piece of legislation that was placed in Parliament in 2017. It was referred to a Standing Committee. Put simply, the bill has three new elements- one, a permanent tribunal with exclusive benches for each dispute instead of separate tribunals in the principal act; two, a Disputes Resolution Committee (DRC) to attempt an ex-ante resolution through mediated negotiations, instead of the Centre's mediation; and three, a provision for appointing a technical agency for a data bank to support dispute resolution

## World Economic Forum

### ❖ Context

- The Prime Minister of India delivered '**State of the World**' special address at the World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda.
- The World Economic Forum is holding its **annual meeting in Davos**.

### ❖ Key Highlights of PM Address

- During Corona time, India saved many lives by exporting essential medicines and vaccines by following its vision of '**One Earth, One Health**'.
- India is the world's **third largest pharmaceutical producer** and is considered '**pharmacy to the world**'.
- India is **providing a record number of software engineers**. More than 50 lakh software developers are working in India.

### ❖ The Davos Agenda 2022

- The **Davos Agenda virtual event** offers the first global platform of 2022 for world leaders to come together to share their visions for the year ahead.
- The week long virtual event, **taking place on the World Economic Forum website**

### ❖ Major Reports Published by WEF

- Energy Transition Index
- Global Competitiveness Report
- Global IT Report WEF along with INSEAD, and Cornell University publishes this report

## Face to Face Centres



19 January, 2022

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Enhancing Ease of Doing Business</b> and reduction of government interference.</li> <li>• India is focussing on easing the processes in its quest for <b>self-reliance, it is also incentivizing investment and production.</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>and social media channels</b> 17-21 January 2022, will feature heads of state and government, CEOs and other leaders.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Gender Gap Report</li> <li>• Global Risk Report</li> <li>• Global Travel and Tourism Report</li> </ul> |
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| <p><b>About World Economic Forum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The World Economic Forum (WEF) is a <b>Swiss nonprofit foundation established in 1971</b>, based in Geneva, Switzerland.</li> <li>• It is <b>Recognized by the Swiss authorities</b> as the international institution for public-private cooperation.</li> <li>• <b>Founder and Executive Chairman:</b> Klaus Schwab</li> <li>• <b>Significance of WEF-</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The WEF summit brings together the who's-who of the <b>political and corporate world, including heads of state, policymakers, top executives, industrialists, media personalities, and technocrats.</b></li> <li>• Deliberations at the WEF <b>influence public sector and corporate decision-making</b>, especially on the issues of global importance such as poverty, social challenges, climate change, and global economic recovery.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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## World Economic & Social Outlook - Trends 2022

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Context</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The report released by International Labour Organization (ILO)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Key Highlights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Global unemployment</b> is projected to stand at <b>207 million in 2022</b> falling from 214 MN in 2021. However, this is <b>still 21 million more than pre-pandemic levels</b> (184 MN in 2019) and will take <b>two years to recover</b></li> <li>• <b>Lower middle-income countries</b> saw the largest decline in manufacturing employment</li> <li>• In <b>Asia and the Pacific</b> as a whole, <b>over 80 per cent of net job creation in the decade preceding the pandemic comprised service jobs.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>Effect of Pandemic</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Outlook remains fragile</b> because the future path of the pandemic remains <b>uncertain.</b></li> <li>• Estimates suggest that the pandemic has <b>pushed as many as 77 million children and adults into extreme poverty</b> (living on less than \$1.90 per day in purchasing power parity) with the <b>number of childrens accounting for 50%</b></li> <li>• Fostering <b>gender inequities - 47 million women</b> would fall back into poverty as a result of pandemic-related shocks</li> <li>• Inducing <b>economic changes that could become structural</b>, with enduring implications for labour markets.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Particularly devastating for developing nations</b> that have higher levels of inequality, more heterogeneous working conditions, weaker social protection systems and constricted fiscal space.</li> <li>• <b>Before the pandemic, tourism</b> accounted for the <b>largest component of global trade in services (25 per cent).</b> This figure <b>dropped to 10 per cent</b></li> <li>❖ <b>Nature of recovery and its effects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Labour market recovery is unequal</b> - Rich countries account for 20% of global workforce but will account for half of decline in global unemployment in 2020-2022</li> <li>• The uneven recovery due to <b>uneven vaccination rates is widening the gaps</b> between more and less developed countries.</li> <li>• The asymmetric recovery of the global economy is already causing <b>long-term knock-on effects</b> in terms of <b>persistent uncertainty, continuing instability, and production bottlenecks that are fuelling price hikes.</b></li> <li>• A global scenario of <b>fast-rising prices despite weak economic growth is not an impossible consequence</b> of this crisis</li> <li>• Rising energy and food prices have added to the difficulties of those who lost jobs</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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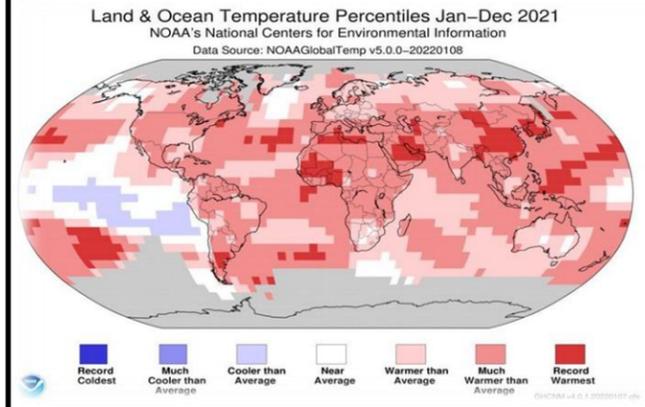
## 2021: 6th warmest year on record

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Context</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ According to NOAA (US' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), the <b>global surface temperature</b> for 2021 was the sixth-highest <b>since record keeping began in 1880</b></li> <li>➤ NASA said 2021 is <b>at par with 2018</b> as the sixth warmest year on record</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Key Highlights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>average temperature across global surfaces was 0.84 degrees Celsius (°C)</b> above the 20th century average.</li> <li>• The year 2021 was the 45th consecutive year (since 1977) with global temperatures, at least nominally, above the 20th century average.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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### Face to Face Centres



- The nine years spanning 2013 through 2021 rank among the 10 warmest years on record.
- The annual global surface temperature has increased at an average rate of 0.08°C per decade since 1880. Since 1981, the average rate of increase is more than twice that rate (0.18°C).
- The upper ocean heat content (the amount of heat stored in the 0-2,000 metres depth of the ocean) was record high in 2021, surpassing the previous record set in 2020. The seven highest ocean heat content have all occurred in the last seven years (2015-2021).



## News in Between the Lines

### Nurturing Neighbourhood Challenge



#### ❖ Context

- MoHUA announced ten winning cities for the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge. Bengaluru city is the topper

#### ❖ Key Highlights

- Aimed at enhancing the physical and psychological health of infants, toddlers, and their caregivers by shaping early childhood-friendly neighbourhoods in Indian cities
- Under stage -1, 25 cities implemented over 70 projects ranging from creation of public spaces in slums, age-appropriate play areas, enhanced outdoor waiting spaces around primary health centres and anganwadis, amenities for caregivers etc. They received technical assistance and capacity building support
- These projects benefitted over 1 lakh children between the ages of 0-5 and more than 1 million people.
- In the next stage, the ten cities will receive technical assistance to replicate the pilots, influence development plans, regulations and policies & setting up a dedicated institutional mechanism
- Since 2020, the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) has been anchoring inter-city challenges to make public spaces more people-friendly. This is in line with the 2006 National Urban Transport Policy, which called for a paradigm shift from car-centric roads to people-centric streets.

### Data Adequacy Agreement



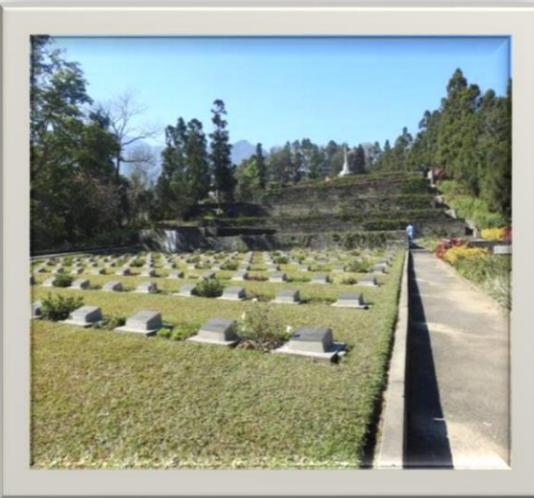
#### ❖ Context

- UK India Business Council (UKIBC)'s MD have highlighted that India - UK FTA should include a data adequacy agreement

#### ❖ Key Highlights

- According to him, IP-rich digital services will dominate India - UK trade in coming years with remote working is becoming norm and several services such as education, healthcare, shopping and banking increasingly being done on digital platforms
- The agreement will led to alignment in data protection rules of both the countries and facilitate free flow of personal data across the borders without putting any additional arrangements
- Businesses are reliant on the ability to transfer personal data about their customers or workforce to offer goods and services, and to run even basic internal processes such as cloud-based email or file storage.
- The European Commission grants Data Adequacy status to countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA) who provide a level of

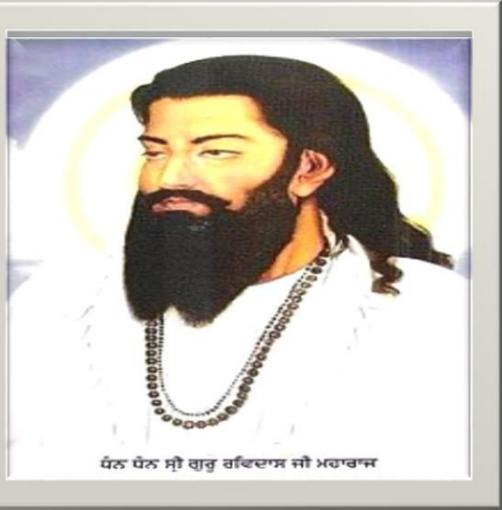


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|   | <p>personal data protection comparable to that provided in General Data Protection Regulation (<b>GDPR</b>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The UK had entered into such an agreement with the EU post Brexit.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Web3</b></p>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Context</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The concept of Web3, also called Web 3.0, used to describe a <b>potential next phase of the internet</b>, created quite a buzz in 2021.</li> <li>The model, a <b>decentralized internet to be run on blockchain technology</b>, would be different from the versions in use, Web 1.0 and Web 2.0.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>About Web 3.0</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Web3, users will have <b>ownership stakes in platforms and applications</b> unlike now where tech giants control the platforms.</li> <li>Web3 enables <b>peer to peer (seller to buyer) transactions</b> by eliminating the role of the intermediary (Amazon, eBay).</li> <li>The spirit of Web3 is <b>Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO)</b> 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>About Web 1.0</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was <b>developed in 1989</b>.</li> <li>The internet in the Web 1.0 days was <b>mostly static web pages</b> where users would go to a website and then <b>read and interact with the static information</b>.</li> <li>Users <b>could not post reviews, comment and like etc.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>About Web 2.0</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully developed in 2004, and <b>It is still the age of Web 2.0 now</b>.</li> <li>The differentiating characteristic of Web 2.0 compared to Web 1.0 is that <b>users can create content, interact and contribute in the form of comments, registering likes, sharing and uploading their photos or videos</b> and perform other such activities.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Nagaland's Kohima War Cemetery</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Context</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently, the <b>United Kingdom-based Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC)</b> has listed five sites with unusual features. These sites are associated with World War I and World War II.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>Key Highlights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Kohima War Cemetery is a <b>memorial dedicated to the soldiers of the 2nd British Division of the Allied Forces</b> who died in World War II at Kohima in April 1944.</li> <li>The soldiers died on the battleground of <b>Garrison Hill</b> in the tennis court area of the Deputy Commissioner's residence.</li> <li>It is <b>one of 23,000 World War graves across the continents maintained by the CWGC</b>, who ensure the men and women who died in the wars will never be forgotten.</li> <li>Nagaland's capital Kohima probably has the only cemetery on earth that sports a tennis court.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>About CWGC</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is an <b>intergovernmental organisation of six member-states</b> (Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom)</li> <li><b>Founded by Sir Fabian Ware</b> and constituted through <b>Royal Charter in 1917</b> as the Imperial War Graves Commission.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Guru Ravidas</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Context</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The postponement of the Assembly elections in Punjab to February 20 underlines the <b>importance of the Ravidassia community</b> (Dalit Community) in the state.</li> <li>The postponement of elections will allow Ravidassias to travel to Varanasi for <b>Guru Ravidas Jayanti</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |

**Face to Face Centres**

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### ❖ About Guru Ravidas

- He was a **mystic poet saint, Philosopher, and social reformer** of the Bhakti Movement from the 15th and 16th centuries.
- He **founded the Ravidassia religion**.
- It is believed that he was born in Varanasi in a cobbler's family in 1377 A.D.
- He gained prominence due to his belief in one God and his unbiased religious poems.
- He is known for **making efforts in eradicating the caste system** and openly despised the notion of a Brahminical society.
- His devotional songs made an instant impact on the Bhakti Movement and around 41 of his poems were included in '**Guru Granth Sahib**', the religious text of the Sikhs.
- He was **contemporary of Kabir and Gurunanak Dev** and **Mirabai** was a disciple of Ravidas,

### Kalapani and Lipulekh

### ❖ Context

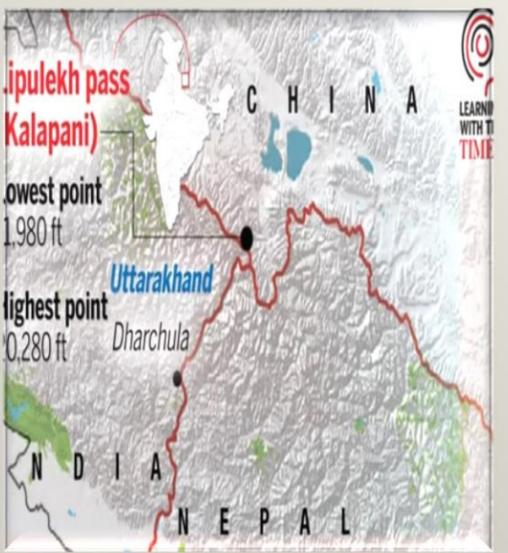
- Recently an announcement was made by PM that India is further widening the road built in Lipulekh in Uttarakhand.

### ❖ Where is Lipulekh pass and why is it important?

- Lipulekh sits atop the Kalapani Valley and forms a tri-junction between India, Nepal and China and has been used for centuries by Hindu and Buddhist pilgrims and tourists on their way to Kailash Mansarovar since its opening in 1982

### ❖ The Darchula-Lipulekh road

- It originates from Ghatiabagarh and terminates at Lipulekh Pass, the gateway to Kailash Mansarovar.
- Importance of the wide motorable road to Lipulekh
- With the completion of this project, the arduous trek through treacherous high-altitude terrain can now be avoided by the pilgrims of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and the period of journey will be reduced by at least 6 days.
- The government has underlined that through this improved route, yatris do not need the alternative routes now available for the pilgrimage, one through the Nathu La border in Sikkim and the other via Nepal, which entailed "20 per cent land journeys on Indian roads and 80 per cent land journeys in China ... the ratio has been reversed. Now pilgrims to Mansarovar will traverse 84 per cent land journeys on Indian roads and only 16 per cent in China."
- It would now be possible to complete the entire distance from Delhi to Lipulekh in 2 days



### Do you know?

- In 1954, **India and China signed a trade treaty, agreeing Lipulekh pass as the Indian gateway.**
- In 1962, **India shut the Lipulekh pass** fearing more Chinese incursions. **Nepal is not known to have objected to its closure.**
- Currently, India and Nepal have border disputes over
  - Kalapani - Limpiyadhura - Lipulekh trijunction between India-Nepal and China and
  - Susta area (West Champaran district, Bihar).
- Lipulekh pass was opened for trade in 1992.