Ayushman Bhava Campaign

Context: On Wednesday, President Droupadi Murmu launched the Ayushman Bhav campaign and the Ayushman Bhava portal virtually from Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar.

- **Launch and Significance**: The Ayushman Bhav campaign and Ayushman Bhava Portal were virtually launched by President Droupadi Murmu from Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. This launch is considered historic and marks a significant step toward achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and ensuring healthcare access for all.
- **Universal Healthcare Access**: The campaign aims to make healthcare services accessible and affordable, particularly for underserved populations. It emphasizes the philosophy of "antyodaya," which means ensuring good health for all without leaving anyone behind.
- **Multi-Ministerial Approach**: The campaign adopts a multi-ministerial approach to deliver healthcare services to even the most remote areas of India. This approach is seen as crucial for the successful accomplishment of its goals.
- **Community Involvement**: Local governance, including Gram Panchayats, is actively involved and recognized for its efforts. Successful Gram Panchayats will be declared as Ayushman Gram Panchayats.
- **Seva Pakwada**: An initiative called Seva Pakwada, running from September 17th to October 2nd, 2023, aims to ensure the saturation of essential health services, emphasizing the government's commitment to achieving sustainable development goals.
- **Key Components**: The campaign includes key components such as Ayushman - Apke Dwar 3.0, Ayushman Melas at Health and Wellness Centres (HWC) and Community Health Clinics (CHC), and Ayushman Sabhas in every village and panchayat. These components are designed to expedite healthcare access at the grassroots level.
- **Digital Inclusion**: The campaign acknowledges India's achievements in digital inclusion, which enhance the reach of healthcare facilities.
- **Health Melas and Medical Camps**: Ayushman Bhav includes Health Melas and Medical Camps, which will be set up weekly at all HWCs and CHCs. These initiatives aim to provide healthcare services and raise awareness.
- **Organ and Blood Donation**: The campaign plans to organize organ and blood donation pledge campaigns, emphasizing the importance of these noble initiatives.
- **TB Eradication**: The campaign acknowledges progress in tuberculosis (TB) eradication, with the support of Ni-kshay mitras taking care of TB patients.
- **Healthcare Transformation**: Over the past nine years, there has been a significant transformation in India's healthcare landscape, with the establishment of over 1.6 lakh functional AB-HWCs (Health and Wellness Centres) offering free primary care facilities, diagnostics, and medicines.

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

- **Purpose**: It's a digital ecosystem to support Universal Health Coverage efficiently, inclusively, and securely.
- **Implementing Agency**: Managed by the National Health Authority (NHA) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- **Features of ABDM**
  - **ABHA Number**: A unique health account number for individuals to authenticate and access their health records.
  - **Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR):** A comprehensive database of all healthcare professionals.
  - **Health Facility Registry (HFR):** A database of health facilities, including hospitals and clinics.
  - **ABHA Mobile App**: Allows users to access health records, insurance plans, and public health initiatives.
  - **Unified Health Interface (UHI):** Facilitates digital health services like teleconsultation and appointment booking.
  - **ABDM Sandbox:** Supports technology and product testing for organizations joining the digital health ecosystem.

75th anniversary of Operation Polo

Context: 75th anniversary of Operation Polo, the military action in 1948 that integrated Hyderabad into India was on 13th September 2023

Background of Operation Polo

- The Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Shah, had a vision of maintaining Hyderabad as an independent entity post-Independence.
- He deliberately chose not to accede to either India or Pakistan after the British left.
- The Nizam capitalized on the fact that the Indian government was preoccupied with the Kashmir war immediately after gaining independence, diverting its attention and resources towards the conflict in Jammu and Kashmir.

Reasons for Launching Operation Polo

- Hyderabad, located in the Deccan region, was not geographically connected to Pakistan or India. It was landlocked.

- Although it had a Hindu majority population, the state was governed predominantly by Muslim rulers.
- The Nizam's administration took advantage of the standstill agreement signed with India, using the period to increase its irregular force known as the Razakars, led by Major General SA El Edroos, the Arab commander in chief of the Hyderabad state forces.
- The Razakars, ill-trained and volatile, committed atrocities against the Hindu population in the state.
- They also engaged in aggressive activities along the state's borders through cross-border raids.
- Additionally, the Nizam sought to establish an independent nation within the heart of India, raising concerns about secession.

How major Princely States acceded to India?

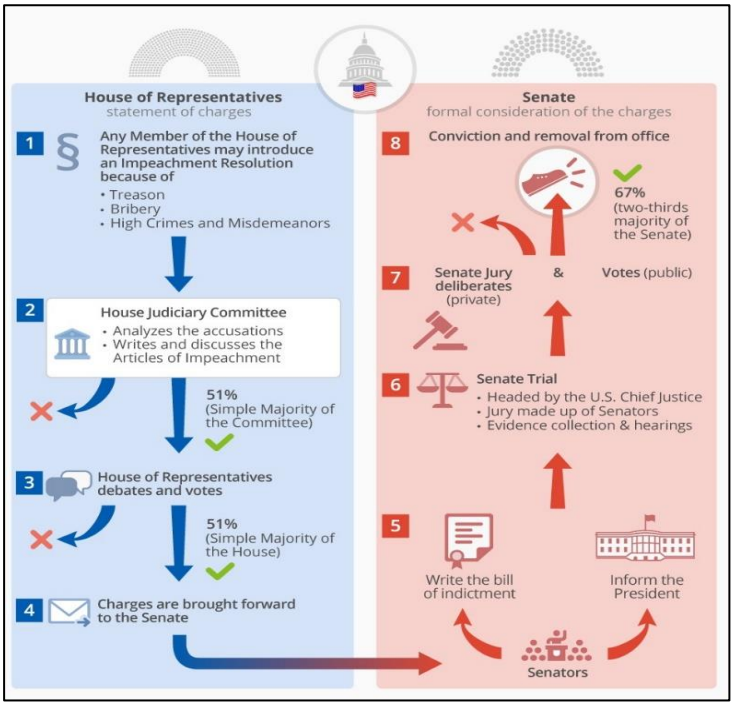
- **Jodhpur:** The Diwan of neighboring Bikaner was used to persuade the King of Jodhpur to align with India, leading to the signing of the Instrument of Accession.
- **Bhopal:** After being urged by Lord Mountbatten to sign the Instrument of Accession, the Nawab of Bhopal initially resisted, citing the interests of Muslims in the Hindu-majority region. However, public pressure forced him to accede to India.
- **Travancore:** Initially, Travancore sought to remain independent due to its abundant natural resources. However, negotiations with its Dewan, C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, led to its eventual accession to India.
- **Junagarh:** Junagarh, which had already signed an agreement with Pakistan, saw a clash between Indian and Junaghadi armies. The Nawab fled to Pakistan, and a plebiscite resulted in Junagarh acceding to India.
- **Hyderabad:** The Nizam of Hyderabad's administration had increased tensions through the Razakars and overtures to Pakistan. A police action by the Indian government in 1948 led to the surrender of Hyderabad, and the Nizam agreed to accede to India, becoming the Rajpramukh (Governor) of the democratic state of Hyderabad.
- **Kashmir:** At the time of Independence, Kashmir was neither part of India nor Pakistan. After a section of Pakistanis attacked Kashmir in 1947, the Maharaja of Kashmir requested Indian assistance and signed the Instrument of Accession. The Indian Army was sent to help, and a ceasefire was declared in 1948. The issue remains unresolved and is a source of conflict between India and Pakistan.

Impeachment Process of US President

Context: Republican House Speaker Kevin McCarthy has called for an impeachment inquiry into Democratic President Joe Biden.

What is an Impeachment Inquiry?

- **External Initiators**: Impeachment inquiries often start due to external bodies like the Judicial Conference or grand juries.
- **House Authority**: Only the House of Representatives can launch impeachment proceedings.
- **Speaker's Decision**: The House Speaker typically decides whether to proceed with an inquiry.
- **No Formal Vote Required**: While debatable, a formal House vote isn't always necessary to begin an inquiry.
- **Legal Opinions**: The Office of Legal Counsel's opinion influences the process.
- **Committee Powers**: House committees have investigative authority and can gather evidence.
- **Authorizing Resolutions**: Resolutions define the inquiry's scope and empower committees.
- **Investigative Tools**: Committees can compel responses, conduct depositions, issue subpoenas, and hire staff.
- **Constitutional Sanction**: Authorizing resolutions provide official House backing based on constitutional powers.



Difference between Impeachment of President in India and United States of America

Aspect	Impeachment Procedure (United States)	Impeachment Procedure (India)
Initiation	Any House member can introduce a resolution.	Any House member can introduce a resolution.
Judicial Committee Analysis	House Judicial Committee analyzes the resolution.	N/A
Framing of Charges	House Judiciary Committee frames charges.	N/A
House Vote on Articles	House passes Articles of Impeachment by a simple majority.	Articles of Impeachment require a simple majority to pass.
Preferment of Charges	Either House can prefer impeachment charges with at least 1/4th members' signatures.	Charges require a special majority to pass and are sent to the other House.
Senate Trial	Articles are forwarded to the Senate for trial, presided over by the Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court.	N/A
Other House Investigation	The other House investigates the charges, headed by the presiding officer (Speaker of Lok Sabha or Chairman of Rajya Sabha).	N/A
Senate Trial Verdict	If Articles pass in the Senate Trial by a special majority, the President is convicted and removed.	N/A
House Resolution Result	A special majority in the investigating House results in impeachment and removal.	N/A
Impeachment Effect	Impeachment serves as an indictment.	Impeachment results in the removal of the President from office.
Grounds for Impeachment	Treason, Bribery, high crimes, and misdemeanors (Article II, Section 4 of the US Constitution).	Violation of the Constitution (Article 56 (1) (b) of the Constitution).
Constitutional Basis	Articles I and II of the US Constitution.	Article 61 of the Indian Constitution.
Number of Presidents Impeached	Three Presidents impeached: Andrew Johnson, Bill Clinton, and Donald Trump.	No President impeached so far.
Justiciability of Impeachment	Non-justiciable due to the Political Question Doctrine (Nixon v. United States).	No question on justiciability has arisen.

NEWS IN BETWEEN THE LINES

C-295MW

Recently, the Indian Air Force received its first C-295MW transport aircraft from Airbus in Seville, Spain, as part of a significant fleet upgrade.

About:

- C-295MW is a transport aircraft designed for various military and logistical missions.
- It will replace the aging Avro aircraft, marking a major modernization initiative.
- The aircraft is manufactured by Airbus, a leading European aerospace corporation.
- The C-295MW can transport up to 71 troops or 50 paratroopers, enhancing military mobility.
- It features indigenous radar warning receiver and missile approach warning systems made by Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) and a countermeasure dispensing system made by Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL).
- A significant portion of the C-295MW aircraft will be manufactured in India under a joint venture between Airbus and Tata Advanced Systems Ltd. (TASL), with a final assembly line (FAL) in Vadodara, Gujarat.
- The first Indian-manufactured aircraft is expected to be delivered in September 2026, with the 56th and final aircraft scheduled for delivery by August 2031.

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee of Parliament has urged quick government action to issue permanent disability certificates to individuals aged five and above with sickle-cell disease.

About Standing Committee:

- A Standing Committee is a permanent committee in the Indian Parliament, formed regularly as per parliamentary rules, to handle specific functions and responsibilities.
- It is categorized into six types, based on its functions.
- It aids in Parliament's complex work, analyzes laws and facilitates consensus among political parties.
- Apart from the Standing Committee, Ad hoc committees are also formed for specific purposes.
- It represents Parliament in various departments, investigates grants, enhances debates, scrutinizes public finances, and improves legislation.

About Sickle Cell Disease:

- Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is a genetic disorder causing chronic anemia, pain crises and organ damage.
- Common symptoms include chronic fatigue, weakness, painful episodes, delayed growth, and puberty.
- The Union Budget 2023-24 aims to eliminate Sickle Cell Anemia by 2047.
- Technical guidelines for hemoglobinopathies, including SCD, were issued in 2016.

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Hindi Diwas

About Hindi Diwas:

- Hindi Diwas is observed annually on September 14th.
- It marks the adoption of Hindi as one of India's 22 scheduled languages in the 8th Schedule in 1949, under Article 343 of the Indian Constitution.
- After Independence in 1947, Hindi played a vital role in uniting India's diverse linguistic, cultural and religious groups, providing a unique national identity.
- Commemorates the adoption of Hindi as an official language in 1949.
- Constitution of India recognized Hindi in Devanagari script as the official language on 14th September 1949.
- First Hindi Diwas celebrated on 14th September 1953.

Ganga, Mekong Besin

Recently, a report highlighted that the Ganga and Mekong floodplains will likely have fewer tropical storms by 2050,

Ganga Basin:

- The Ganga Basin is one of the largest river basins in the world, covering parts of India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Tibet.
- The Ganga River is considered sacred in Hinduism and is of im mense cultural and religious significance.

Mekong Basin:

- The Mekong Basin spans multiple countries in Southeast Asia, including China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.
- The Mekong River is a lifeline for the people living in these countries, supporting agriculture, fisheries and transportation.
- The Mekong Basin is renowned for its biodiversity, including unique aquatic species like the Mekong giant catfish.

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)

Recently, the Commerce and Industry Ministery pledges to protect Indian industries from the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).

About:

- Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is part of the "Fit for 55 in 2030 package" by the European Union (EU).
- It aims to reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.
- CBAM ensures that imported goods face the same carbon costs as products produced within the EU.
- Importers must declare the quantity of imported goods and their embedded Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions annually.

Place in News

Anantnag

Recently, in Anantnag, Jammu and Kashmir, two Army officers (including a Colonel and a Major) and a police official were killed in an encounter with terrorists.

Location: Administrative hub of Anantnag district in Jammu and Kashmir, situated in the disputed Kashmir region and about 53 km from Srinagar.

Names: Known as Anantnag (Hindu name) and Islamabad. "Anantnag" is derived from a local spring mentioned in ancient texts, while "Islamabad" is believed to have originated from a Mughal governor's name.

Historical Significance: During the Dogra rule, it served as the headquarters of a district in Kashmir Valley referred to as the "Anantnag wazarat."

POINTS TO PONDER

- **Who is the German engineer known for building the first electric train in 1879, founding a major electrical engineering multinational corporation, and having his name adopted as the SI unit of electric conductance (Siemens)?** -Werner von Siemens, and the SI unit is Siemens (S)
- **What is the modern version of the 1880s invention known as a "trolley pole," which allowed vehicles like trolleys, trams and streetcars to draw power from overhead electric transmission lines?** -Pantograph
- **Due to its abundant coal reserves, which country was the last in the world to switch all of its locomotives from being steam-powered to diesel-powered?** -China
- **What is the collective name for trains that are powered by hydrogen, aligning with the goal of achieving a sustainable hydrogen economy?** -Hydrogen Trains
- **Which tribal language, known as Deodhai, was the first tribal language to be included in the Eighth Schedule and an accord was signed in 2020 between the Centre, the Assam government and this community with the same name as the language?** -Bodo