

PERFECT 7

FORTNIGHTLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

February 2022 / Issue-2

Budget at a Glance

Uniform in school and "right to religious freedom"

Role of Private Participation in Defence Manufacturing

The relation between reservation and eligibility

Ground Water in India: Management and Regulation

Digital University: The beginning of a new era in education

Increasing instability in South Asia and India



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English Medium

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		General Science	Peeyush
		General Studies- Dynamic (Current Issues & Developments)	
		Indian Polity & Governance	Kumud Ranjan
		Environmental Ecology, Bio-Diversity & Climate Change	Sanjay Singh
		Economy + Budget & Economic Survey	Kumar Amit
		Technology	Q. H. Khan & Peeyush
		Health	Javed Haque
		International Issues	Bharat
		CSAT	
		Maths and Reasoning	Mukesh Singh
		Comprehension	Shweta Singh

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		Economy	Kumar Amit
		General Science	Peeyush
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		Environmental Ecology, Bio-Diversity & Climate Change	Sanjay Singh
		Economy + Budget & Economic Survey	Kumar Amit
		Technology	Q. H. Khan & Peeyush
		Health	Javed Haque
		International Issues	Bharat

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		Indian Polity & Governance	Kumud Ranjan
		Environmental Ecology, Bio-Diversity & Climate Change	Sanjay Singh
		Economy + Budget & Economic Survey	Kumar Amit
		Technology	Q. H. Khan & Peeyush
		Health	Javed Haque
		International Issues	Bharat

UPSC CSAT

Fee: 10,000/-

Objective	Features	Course Content	Faculty Name
The Course is designed to develop a better understanding of various Principles and their applications amongst students. Concept building and clarifications would also be a part of the curriculum. Various Techniques would be discussed and taught that would help to solve the questions that come in this section.	* 150 Hrs. of Live Classes * Half an hour of doubt clearing session at the end of all Live classes. * Academic chat support would be provided. * Each class would be of 2 Hours. * Downloadable Study material in PDF format would be provided in the Application.	Maths and Reasoning	Mukesh Singh
		Comprehension	Shweta Singh

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Director's Message



Mr. Vinay Kumar Singh

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Vinay Kumar Singh
CEO and Founder



Mr. Q H Khan

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Yours very truly,



Q H Khan
Managing Director

PREFACE



Current Affairs has an important role in the examinations conducted by Union Public Service Commission and State Public Service Commissions. It is necessary for the candidate to have knowledge of relevant information on issues of national and international importance. Perfect 7 Magazine is being presented fortnightly in front of the students to fulfill this requirement. Preparation of civil services exam is only completed when candidates have holistic knowledge and analysis of the dynamic nature of the current affairs. 'Perfect7' keeps this vision and approach and understands the multidimensional need of students at the content level, so this magazine has presented the current affairs with relevant issues of general studies. Keeping in mind the mains exam, current articles on 7 burning issues, Ethics Case Studies, Biographies of important personalities, coverage of most useful topics of various sections of General Studies and the most important current affairs issues are being covered for Preliminary Examination in which emphasis is being given on environmental, ecology, art and culture, science and technology, economy issues. A short section on Terminology will also be part of Perfect 7 Magazine.

Brain boosters with 7 themes based graphics are being presented in a concise form to enhance the conceptual understanding of the students. Apart from this, updated information on Global Initiatives, Global Institutions, Structure of Organizations, Functioning, Important Reports, and Indices will be included in this magazine, which is asked prominently in the Civil Services Examination. To give emphasis on facts and analysis, keeping in view the trends of new nature of questions in Preliminary and Main Examination of Civil Services, an inclusive magazine is being provided to the students so that they can give the right direction to their preparation by understanding the new requirements of Civil Services Examination. We hope that Perfect 7 in its new form will prove to be very useful. Your suggestions are always welcome.

Vinay Kumar Singh
Editor
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PERFECT 7

FORTNIGHTLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Contents

Important Issues ————— 1-15

- Budget at a Glance
- Uniform in school and "right to religious freedom"
- Role of Private Participation in Defence Manufacturing
- The relation between reservation and eligibility
- Ground Water in India: Management and Regulation
- Digital University: The beginning of a new era in education
- Increasing instability in South Asia and India

National Issues ————— 16-17

International Issues ————— 18

Environmental Issues ————— 19

Science and Tech Issues ————— 20-21

Economy Issues ————— 22-23

News of National and International Importance ————— 24-26

Current Affairs at a Glance ————— 27

Brain Boosters ————— 28-34

Environment & Ecology and Current Affairs Based MCQs ————— 35-39

Case Study for GS Paper IV ————— 40

Eminent Personality ————— 41

Polity Terms ————— 42

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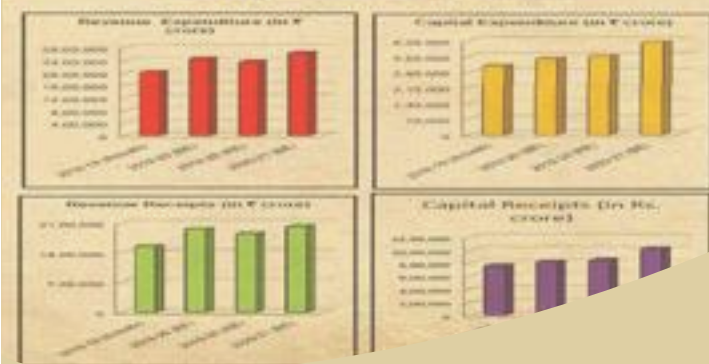
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Ex. Editor RSTV) & by Dhyye Team
Broadcasted on YouTube & Dhyye TV



7 IMPORTANT ISSUES



Budget at a Glance

Budget consist of data from 3 years and is subdivided into 4 data

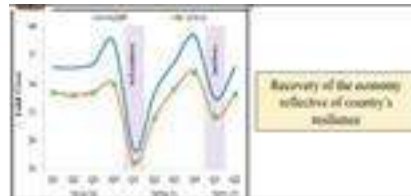
- Actual data of 2 years previous from Budget year (FY 2020-2021)
- Budget estimate (what was presented in last year's budget) (FY 2021-2022)
- Revised estimate (what changes were observed in the last year's budget) (FY 2021-2022)
- Budget estimate for the upcoming Financial year (FY 2022-23)
- India is celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and it has entered into Amrit Kaal, the 25-year-long leadup to, the government aims to attain the vision of Prime Minister outlined in his Independence Day address and they are:
 - Complementing the macro-economic level growth focus with a microeconomic level all-inclusive welfare focus,
 - Promoting digital economy & fintech, technology enabled development, energy transition, and climate action, and
 - Relying on virtuous cycle starting from private investment with public capital investment helping to crowd-in private investment
- Productivity Linked Incentive in 14 sectors for achieving the vision of AtmaNirbhar Bharat has received excellent response, with potential to create 60 lakh new jobs, and an additional production of Rs 30 lakh crore during next 5 years
- Implementation of the new Public Sector Enterprise policy Air India's strategic transfer of ownership has

been completed,

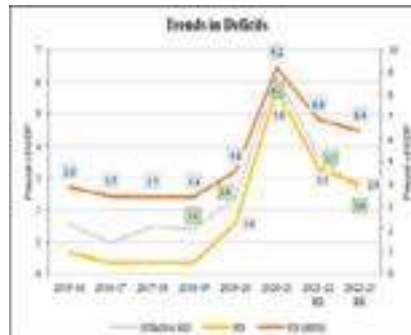
- NINL (Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited)'s strategic partner has been selected, the public issue of the LIC is expected shortly and others too are in the process for 2022-23

India's economy staging a comeback

Growth rate estimated for FY 2022 is 9.2% and that of FY 2022-23 is 8.0-8.5%



- This hints at V-Shaped recovery



Deficits: In 2022-23

- Fiscal deficit (an indicator of borrowings by the government for financing its expenditure) is targeted at 6.4% of GDP
- Revenue deficit (excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts) is targeted at 3.8% of GDP
- Primary deficit (which is fiscal deficit excluding interest payments) in 2021-22 is 2.8% of GDP.

Table 8: FRBM targets for deficits (as % of GDP)

	Actuals 2020-21	Revised 2021-22	Budgeted 2022-23
Fiscal Deficit	9.2%	6.9%	6.4%
Revenue Deficit	7.2%	4.7%	3.8%
Primary Deficit	5.8%	3.2%	2.8%

Sources: Medium Term Fiscal Policy Statement, Union Budget 2022-23, FRM.



Showcases increase in Employment generation on account of new jobs being created after the conditions were somewhat normalised.

Foreign Exchange Reserves touched 634 Bn \$ and Import cover touched 12+ months



PM Gatishakti

- Driven by 7 engines
 - Roads,
 - Railways,
 - Airports,
 - Waterways,
 - Ports,
 - Mass Transport, and
 - Logistics Infrastructure

Formulation of Master Plan for expressways.

Completing 25000 km national highways in 2022-23.

- Unified Logistics Interface Platform allowing data exchange among all mode operators.
- Open Source Mobility Stack for seamless travel of passengers
- 4 Multimodal Logistics parks through PPP to be awarded in 2022-23.

• Railway infra

- Integration of Postal and Railways Network facilitating parcel movement.
- One Station One Product
- Extending coverage under Kavach 400 new generation Vande Bharat Trains.

• Urban Infra

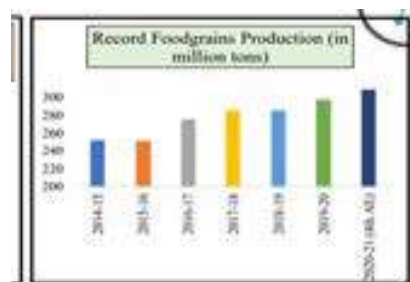
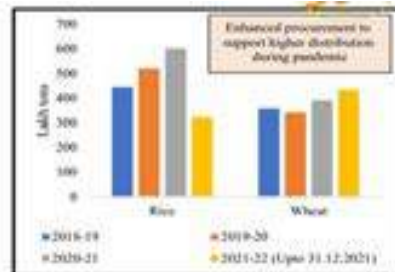
- Multimodal connectivity between mass urban transport and railway stations.
- National Ropeways Development Plan as a sustainable alternative to conventional roads.
- Capacity building for infrastructure Projects.

Inclusive Development

• Agri and Food Processing

- Promoting chemical free natural farming starting with farmers' lands close to river Ganga.
- Promoting post harvest value addition, consumption and branding of millet products.

- Tech in Agriculture
- Delivery of Digital and Hi-Tech services to farmers in PPP mode.
- Use of Kisan Drones to aid farmers
- Launching fund with blended capital to finance agriculture startups



• Interlinking of river

- Implementation of Ken Betwa Link Project
- Benefitting 9.1 lakh hectare farm land.
- Providing drinking water to 62 lakh people and
- Generating 130MW power.
- 5 more such projects - Damanganga-Pinjal, Par-Tapi Narmada, Godavari Krishna, Krishna-Pennar and Pennar-Cauvery have been finalised.

• MSMEs

- Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) has provided much-needed additional credit to more than 130 lakh MSMEs to help them mitigate the adverse impact of the pandemic - extended up to March 2023.
- Guarantee cover will be expanded by Rs 50,000 crore to total cover of Rs 5 lakh crore, with the additional amount being earmarked exclusively for the hospitality and related enterprises.

- Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme will be revamped with required infusion of funds. This will facilitate additional credit of Rs 2 lakh crore for Micro and Small Enterprises and expand employment opportunities.

- Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme with outlay of Rs 6,000 crore over 5 years will be rolled out to make the MSME sector more resilient, competitive and efficient.

Udyam, e-Shram, NCS and ASEEM portals will be interlinked and their scope will be widened.

• Education

- One class One TV channel programme to be expanded to 200 TV channels.
- Virtual labs and skilling e-labs to promote critical thinking skills and simulated learning environment
- A Digital University will be established with world class quality universal education.
- High quality e-content will be delivered through Digital Teachers.

• Skill Development

- Digital Ecosystem for Skilling and Livelihood (DESH-Stack e-portal) will be launched to promote online training.
- Startups will be promoted to facilitate Drone Shakti for Drone-As-A-Service.

• Health

- National Digital Health Ecosystem will be rolled out
- National Tele Mental Health Programme will be launched for quality counselling
- Integrated architecture: Mission Shakti, Mission Vatsalya, Saksham Anganwadi, and Poshan 2.0 to be launched
- 2 L Anganwadis to be upgraded to

Saksham Anganwadis

• All inclusive Welfare

- Har Ghar, Nal Se Jal: 3.8 crore households to be covered in 2022-23
- PM Awas Yojana: 80 lakh houses to be completed in 2022-23
- PM-DevINE: To fund infrastructure and social development based on felt needs of the North East.
- Aspirational Blocks Programme: For development of lagging blocks of aspirational districts.
- Vibrant Villages Programme: Targeting development of villages on the Northern Border left out from the development gains.
- Digital Banking by Post Offices: 100% of post offices to come on the core banking system.
- Digital Payments: Scheduled Commercial Banks to set up 75 Digital Banking Units in 75 districts.

Productivity Enhancement and investment

• Ease of Doing business 2.0

- PLIs in 14 sectors and extend support of 5G to them
- Trust based governance
- Expanding scope of PARIVESH Portal (for environmental clearances)
- Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) for IT based management of land records
- Establishing C-PACE to facilitate voluntary winding up of companies
- AVCG promotion task force
- End to end online e-Bill System and utilising surety bonds in government procurement.
- Opening up defence R&D for industry, startups and academia.

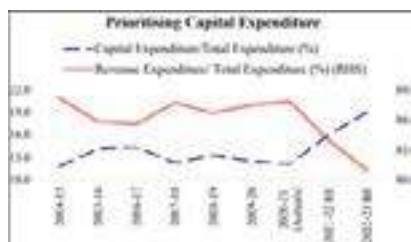
• Ease of Living

- Establishing Centres of Excellence in urban planning.
- Providing a battery swapping policy as an alternative to setting up charging stations in urban areas.

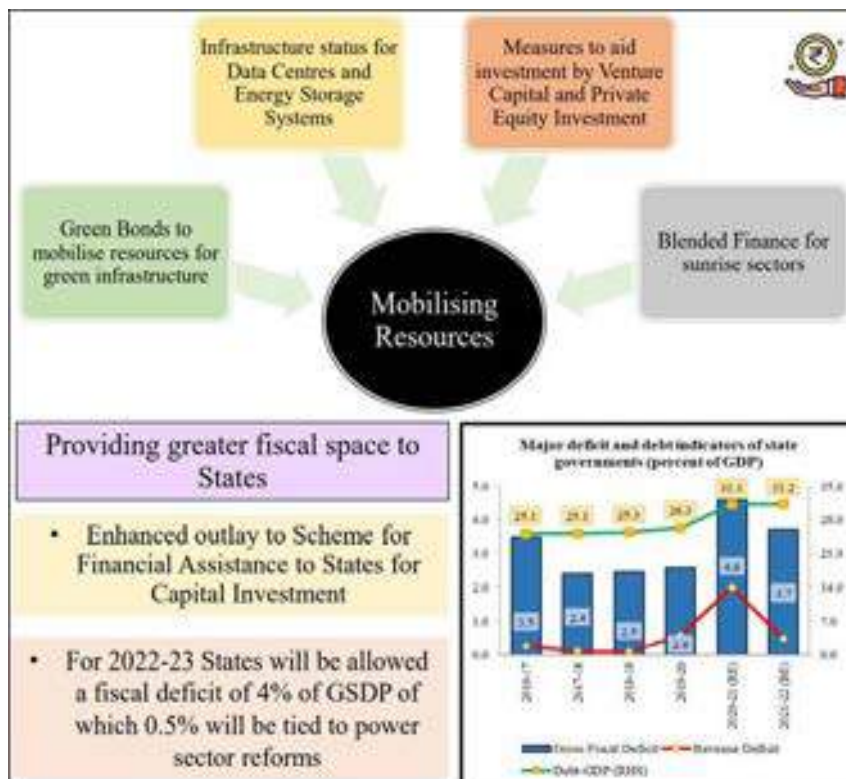
- Issuance of chip embedded e-Passport.
- Modernisation of building bye-laws, implementing Town Planning Schemes and Transit Oriented Development.

Financing Investment

- Public investment to continue to pump prime private investment and demand in 2022-23
- Introduction of Digital Rupee by RBI starting 2022-23
- Capital Expenditure to increase to 35.4% (year-on-year)



NOTES





Uniform in school and "right to religious freedom"

Reference

Recently, a new controversy started on the right to religious freedom after the Karnataka government made the school administration-prescribed uniform mandatory for pre-university schooling. Which these girls have called a violation of their religious freedom.

Introduction

Under Part 3 of the Constitution of India, all persons have the right to freedom of religion. Recently, after the decision taken by the Karnataka government, a new debate has started on the issue of religious freedom. This issue demonstrates the contradiction between the right to freedom of religion and the autonomy of school administration. The main reason for such issues in India is that the state is secular while the society is religious.

Arguments in favor of Uniform Fixation

- **Autonomy of School:** An institution like a school or college has some degree of cleanliness. They have the right to prescribe uniforms.
- **Secularism of Education:** Education sites are separated by religious identity. Binding them to any religion is not good for a secular state. Therefore, educational places should go beyond the public display of religious identity.
- **Patriarchal mentality:** Some argue that the compulsory hijab for women is imposed by a patriarchal mindset, not a mandatory element of Islam. And patriarchal mindset

cannot be promoted in the name of religious freedom.

- **Priority to Collective Rights:** The High Court of Kerala in *Fatima Tasneem v State of Kerala* has held that the collective rights of an institution should be given priority over individual rights. In light of this decision, if we look at the right to wear the hijab, priority should be given to the collectiveness of the school.

Arguments Against Uniform Fixation

- **Religious Freedom:** Some argue that the hijab is a symbol of Islam, as the Sikh turban. Being barred from wearing the hijab violates the religious freedom of these women.
- **Violation of Article 15:** Article 15 prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion for any person to go to a public place. Thus it can be argued that preventing someone from coming to school (public place) because of a religious symbol (hijab) would violate Article 15 of hijab-wearing women by discriminating against them based on religion.
- **Can be Against the essence of "education for all":** By banning this type of religious insignia (hijab) it is also possible that Muslim families may ban girls from taking education. Thus this problem would be against the essence of "education for all".
- **The High Court of Kerala in *Aamna Vint Basheer vs CBSE*** has held the hijab to be a Essential religious practice that is protected under Article 25.

Provisions related to religion in the Indian Constitution

Preamble:-

- According to the Preamble, the nature of the state in India is secular.
- Preamble gives freedom of thought, expression, belief, worship, and religion to any person.

Part 3: Fundamental Rights of the Constitution

- Article 15 and Article 16 prohibit discrimination on grounds of religion.
- **Article 25:** It entitles all persons to "freedom of conscience and equal right to profess, practice and propagate religion freely. Although this right is not absolute and this freedom can be restricted by the state on the basis of public order, morality, morality, health.
- **Article 26-**
- Subject to public order, morality, and health, every religious denomination or any class thereof shall have the right to
- Establishment and maintenance of institutions for religious and charitable purposes
- To manage his affairs in matters of religion
- To own and acquire movable and immovable property
- To administer such property in accordance with law
- **Article 27:** Freedom as to payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion No person shall be compelled to pay such taxes, the proceeds of which may be specified to be spent in the promotion or

maintenance of any particular religion or religious denomination are appropriately appropriated.

• **Article 28**

(1) No religious instruction shall be imparted in any educational institution maintained wholly out of State funds.

(2) Nothing in clause (1) shall apply to an educational institution administered by the State but which is established under any endowment or trust which requires that religious instruction be imparted in that institution.

(3) Any person attending an educational institution recognized by the State or receiving aid out of State funds for attending to religious instruction to be imparted in such institution or to be conducted in such institution or any place attached thereto, shall not be compelled to attend the worship unless that person, or if he is a minor, his guardian has given his consent.

Principle of essential religious practice -

A seven-judge bench of the Supreme Court propounded the fundamental principle of religion in the *Shirur Math* case in 1954. According to the court, there are basic and other customs under religion and it will be the responsibility of the court to determine the essential and non-essential practices of a religion.

Challenges before religious freedom in India

• India is a country with diverse religions, people of many religions and sects are found here. In which mutual conflict persists. Failure to determine the limits of freedom and liberty leads to religious freedom many times into religious fanaticism. Due to this communal riots also take



place in India.

• The US Commission on International Religious Freedom in its 2020 report had placed India in the category of the country with particular concern in terms of religious freedom. According to this organization, there was a sharp decline in religious freedom in India in 2019. The Citizenship Amendment Act, the National Register, the change in the status of Jammu and Kashmir, and anti-conversion laws were considered factors restricting religious freedom. This organization also recommended that the US government take strict action against India under the International Religious Freedom Act.

• India's state and politics run according to secular principles, while India's society is religious. Due to this situation, many times there is a situation of conflict in the society and the state, such as the issue of triple talaq, Sabarimala, etc. This contradiction like the state and society also hinders religious freedom

Conclusion

If we look carefully, we find that the limit of religious freedom has been continuously lowered by the Supreme Court and these decisions have helped in the progress towards the Uniform Civil Code mentioned in Article 44. Normalizing the school uniform in a way reflects the uniformity itself, thus this step is welcome.

Although the decision of the court is yet to come on this, it can be said that the decision should be taken by establishing a balance between the autonomy of the school and religious freedom so that the essence of Education for All is not obstructed.

NOTES



Role of Private Participation in Defence Manufacturing

Why in News?

- “Defence R&D will be opened up for industry, start-ups and academia with 25 per cent of defence R&D budget earmarked. Private industry will be encouraged to take up design and development of military platforms and equipment in collaboration with DRDO and other organisations through SPV model,” Sitharaman said in her speech.

Defence manufacturing industry in India:

- The Indian defence manufacturing industry is a significant sector for the economy. The industry is likely to accelerate with rising concerns of national security.
- India’s defence manufacturing sector has been witnessing a CAGR of 3.9% between 2016 and 2020.
- The Indian government has set the defence production target at US\$ 25.00 billion by 2025 (including US\$ 5 billion from exports by 2025).
- Defence exports in India were estimated to be at US\$ 1.29 billion in 2019-20. India’s defence import value stood at US\$ 463 million for FY20 and is expected to be at US\$ 469.5 million in FY21.
- Defence exports in the country witnessed strong growth in the last two years. India targets to export military hardware worth US\$ 5 billion in the next 5 years. As of 2019, India ranked 19th in the list of top defence exporters in the world by exporting defence products to 42 countries.

Private Industry Participation in Defence Manufacturing

- Since 2016-17, the earliest for

which such data is available, there has been a gradual shift away from the public sector to the private sector. The share of the private sector in total defence production has risen from 19% in 2016-17 to 22% in 2018-19. In the same period, the share of the public sector (DPSU plus ordnance board) has decreased from 75% to 72%.

Constraints for Private Industry Participation in Defence Manufacturing:

- First and foremost, there is a well-entrenched public sector i.e. DRDO, Defence PSUs & Ordnance Factories, designed to meet the operational needs of defence services, is well established in terms of infrastructure, skilled manpower & manufacturing facilities. It is therefore not surprising, these companies get most of the major defence equipment contracts. Any gaps existing in public sector is being made up by the private sector through outsourcing/subcontracting. In this scenario, the private industry acts only as second alternative with scope only for spill over/leftovers participation in defence projects.
- Secondly, the private sector is being looked upon to bring in modern technology besides speeding up production process to make up for critical deficiencies. There is thus a need to acquire technology from foreign OEMs as the industry is not yet geared for development of indigenous defence technologies. This is not a simple matter as there are broad trends in military industrial

technologies that are regarded as critical by the major powers for developing their strategic military capabilities and as important from the perspective of export controls.

- Thirdly, unlike other industrial sectors, the response to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in defence sector is not encouraging at all. As per the FDI policy announced in June 2020, FDI beyond 76% has now been permitted through government approval route, in cases resulting in access to 'modern technology in the country. Earlier, foreign OEMs were required to form JVs with domestic firms if they wanted to establish a manufacturing base in India.

- Fourthly, there are inherent contradictions in the process for selection of strategic partners, Selection of partners for long term partnership seems to be the most complicated part as no Indian company has undertaken a major weapon system programme on its own. It is logical to assume that Strategic Partners (SP) are selected only after verified physical performance following the regular RFP process. However, this is at variance with the suggestions made by the Task Force set up by the ministry of defence (MoD) to evolve an eligibility criteria for selection of SPs from private sector.

- In private sector, there is limited experience and expertise in relation to defence production and even lesser in relation to final integration of complex defence systems & subsystems. Therefore, instead of experience in defence manufacturing, competence in integration of

multi-disciplinary functional systems, system engineering and manufacturing capability should be primarily looked for.

Government Initiatives to promote private sector participation in Defence sector:

There are following measures have been taken by the Government to promote private sector participation in Defence sector:-

- Government formulated the 'Defence Production and Export Promotion Policy 2020' to provide impetus to self-reliance in defence manufacturing under the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' scheme. The ministry aims to achieve a turnover of US\$ 25 billion, including an export of US\$ 5 billion in the aerospace and defence goods and services by 2025.
- The 2020 policy has introduced a new category 'Buy (Global-Manufacture in India)' to encourage foreign OEMs to setup "manufacturing or maintenance entities through its subsidiary in India". The new guidelines encourage the manufacturing of the entire equipment rather than just components and spares. Additionally, domestically developed defence platforms must now have at least 60% Indian content.
- The Government of India has enhanced FDI in Defence Sector up to 74% through the Automatic Route for companies seeking new defence industrial license and up to 100% by Government Route wherever it is likely to result in access to modern technology or for other reasons to be recorded.
- An indigenization portal namely SRIJAN has been launched in August 2020 for DPSUs/OFB/Services with an industry interface to provide development support to MSMEs/Startups/Industry for import substitution.
- Government has notified a

'Policy for indigenisation of components and spares used in Defence Platforms' in March 2019 with the objective to create an industry ecosystem which is able to indigenize the imported components (including alloys & special materials) and sub-assemblies for defence equipment and platform manufactured in India.

- Government has established two Defence Industrial Corridors, one each in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. So far, investment of approx. Rs 3342 Cr has been made in both the corridors by public as well private sector companies. Moreover, the respective State Governments have also announced their Aerospace & Defence Policies to attract private players as well as foreign companies including Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in these two corridors.
- An innovation ecosystem for Defence titled Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) has been launched in April 2018. iDEX is aimed at creation of an ecosystem to foster innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace by engaging Industries including MSMEs, Start-ups, Individual Innovators, R&D institutes and Academia and provide them grants/funding and other support to carry out R&D which has potential for future adoption for Indian defence and aerospace needs. The scheme aims to benefit 300 new Startups for innovative design and development in defence sector.
- Defence Investor Cell (DIC) has been created in Feb-2018 in the Ministry to provide all necessary information including addressing queries related to investment opportunities, procedures and regulatory requirements for investment in the sector.



Way forward:

- Aligned with the Prime Minister's Aatmanirbhar Bharat agenda, the government's commitment to promoting self-reliance and indigenisation by leveraging Indian industry is once again reinforced with the 68 per cent (enhanced) domestic allocation for defence capital procurement. Earmarking 25 per cent of defence R&D budget for industry, start-ups and academia is a forward-looking measure that will pave way for investments in frontier technologies and capability development.
- To build a defence industrial base, the government should consider supporting the private sector in India and trusting the private sector with bigger and stable defence contracts. Supporting research and development, and design and manufacturing capabilities of the private sector are vital for increasing defence production in India.
- Industry in partnership with DRDO through SPV mode for the development of critical weapon systems and military platforms is a path-breaking reform that will significantly transform the Indian defence eco-system and lead India to be a net-exporter of defence equipment/platforms.

The relation between reservation and eligibility

Why in News?

Recently, Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of quota for Other Backward Classes candidates in NEET's All India Quota seats, noting that "reservation is not at odds with merit" in open competitive examinations. The judgement deserves closer attention for a reason other than its impact on post graduate medical admissions.

Key Points:

For the longest time, critics of affirmative action have argued that reservations violate merit. Those in favour of reservation too often concede this but argue that affirmative actions serve other goals such as social representation.

The judgment, authored by Justice DY Chandrachud, breaks fresh ground. The Court took this opportunity to directly address the issue of merit versus reservations at some length (12 paragraphs).

- Judgement begins by recalling and reaffirming the principle of substantive equality, rather than formal equality, that underlies our constitutional promise of equality of opportunity.

- o Relying on the debates in the Constituent Assembly, the Court reminds us that the intent of the framers was to remedy real structural barriers that prevented the realisation of equality of opportunity.

- The Court builds on landmark cases such as *State of Kerala vs N.M. Thomas*, *K.C. Vasanth Kumar (1985)*, and *Indra Sawhney vs Union of India (1992)* to reiterate sharply that the

provision of reservations in Article 16(4) of the Constitution is not an exception to but an extension of the principle of equality enunciated in Article 16(1).

- The Judgement observed, 'Reservations are crucial to achieving the aspirational goal of genuine equality of opportunity and status amongst all citizens. Reservation is one of the measures that is employed to overcome these barriers. The individual difference may be a result of privilege, fortune, or circumstances but it cannot be used to negate the role of reservation in remedying the structural disadvantage that certain groups suffer'.

- Second, the judgment contributes to the specification of the mechanisms through which social privileges work.

- o Justice C Reddy in *K.C. Vasanth Kumar vs State of Karnataka (1985)* had critiqued the purely economic understanding of claims for reservation by emphasising the embedded and rigid nature of the socio-cultural institution of caste.

- o The order notes Marc Galanter's insight that processes of resource accumulation impact the performance of candidates in examinations.

- o Taking this understanding forward, it draws upon the work of K.V. Shyamprasad to recognise, perhaps for the first time, the role of cultural capital.

- o The order holds: 'The cultural capital ensures that a child is trained unconsciously by the familial environment to take up higher education

or high posts commensurate with their family's standing. This works to the disadvantage of individuals who are first-generation learners and come from communities whose traditional occupations do not result in the transmission of necessary skills required to perform well in open examination...'

- o The judgment is also attentive to the exclusionary implications of this process as meritocratic discourse legitimises consolidation of 'family habitus, community linkages, and inherited skills'.

- o In addition to 'reaffirming social hierarchies', this obsession with scores in an examination 'serves to denigrate the dignity of those who face barriers in their advancement which are not of their own making'.

- Third, it exposes social prejudices that manifest as concerns about 'efficiency of administration' and the anxieties about the dilution of merit.

- o It recognises that there is a need to rectify prejudicial stereotypes about the skills of persons belonging to weaker sections.

- o It relies on the 2019 decision in *B.K. Pavitra vs State of Karnataka*, which held, 'The benchmark for the efficiency of administration is not some disembodied, abstract ideal measured by the performance of a qualified open category candidate. Efficiency of administration in the affairs of the Union or of a State must be defined in an inclusive sense, where diverse segments of society find representation as a true aspiration of governance by and for the people.'

- Finally, the judgment goes to the heart of the matter and questions examinations as a measure of merit.
 - It cites Ashwini Deshpande's study highlighting a stark separation between what examinations claim to measure, and what they actually do.
 - It elaborates by citing Satish Deshpande's research that shows that often what examinations measure have an indirect and weak link to the tasks the candidate is supposed to perform.

- He argues that the prestige of competitive entrance examinations and the unimpeachability of its evaluator standards are a manufactured construct.

- Satish Deshpande calls these examinations 'traumatic bloodbaths' that are administered to jealously guard the social prestige of the professional class.

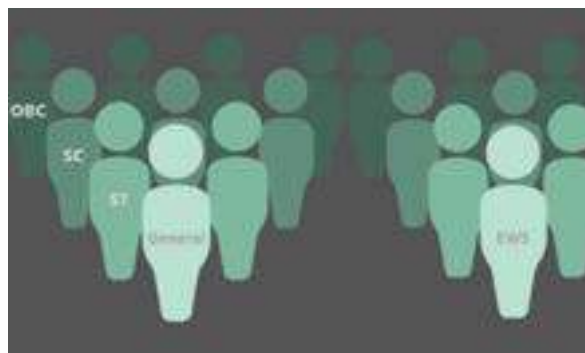
- Thus, Deshpande concludes that if the examinations were to be any less ruthless, their main social function of persuading 'the vast majority of aspirants to consent to their exclusion' would be stymied.

- Drawing upon this, the judgment opines that exams can 'only reflect the current competence of an individual but not the gamut of their potential, capabilities or excellence'. Foregrounding the importance of individual character, lived experiences, and subsequent training, the judgment emphasises that examinations are exclusionary, though convenient, methods of resource allocation and that our constitutional ideals should inform our cautious appreciation of these processes.

Significance:

This critique of the widespread misconception about merit — the common sense of the upper caste elite can have far-reaching consequences.

- Claims of reverse discrimination by candidates from the unreserved



category would have to be justified under the paradigm of substantive equality.

- This implies that a crude disparity in cut-off marks would not be construed in isolation of the structural inequalities perpetuated by a competitive examination.

- This also invites a stringent judicial review of the constitutionality of EWS reservations since it overlooks the role of cultural capital for general category EWS candidates and fixes the same income limits for 'creamy layer' OBC and EWS.

- In the policy realm, this judgment opens the way for designing examinations that are free of linguistic, class, school boards, and regional bias.

- Justice A.K. Rajan's report on NEET, cited in this judgment, could be a potential blueprint for democratising access to higher education.

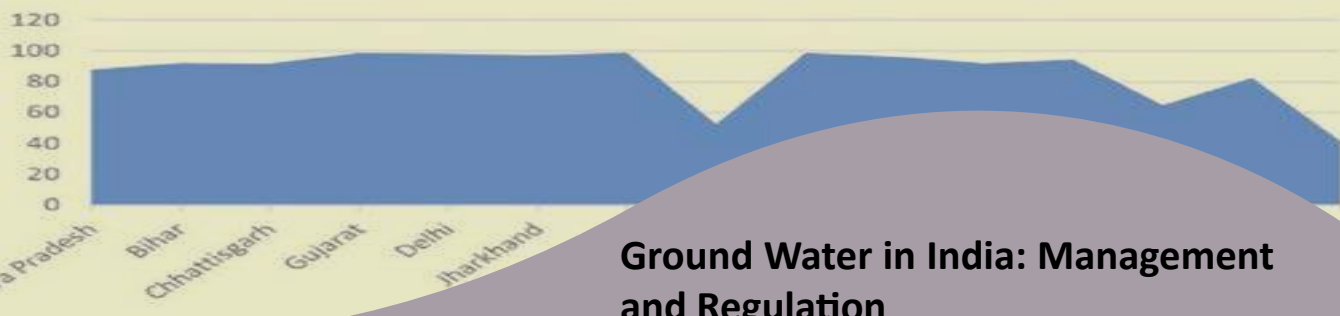
- The recognition of social privileges that hide behind merit also buttresses the demand for caste census that can document the dynamics of privilege accumulation.

Conclusion:

- The judgment has the potential to settle a long, fractious and futile debate in our country: merit versus reservations. This reasoning — coming from the highest court of the land would open the eyes of the public to the reality of inherited caste privileges that masquerade as merit. The judgment should have far-reaching

consequences for judicial orders, public policy, and, hopefully, public discourse.

NOTES



Ground Water in India: Management and Regulation

Introduction

Groundwater is an important resource that is used for agriculture and drinking water. CAG has presented its data on groundwater management and regulation. The report deals with groundwater management from 2013 to 2018 and also evaluates the implementation of plans on groundwater management.

Formation of ground water

The water that gets accumulated under the ground by seeping through the rocks and soil is called underground water. The rock in which underground water is stored is called an aquifer or aquifer.

Aquifers are normally composed of sand sandstone limestone histories. These rocks have large and interconnected vents which make the rocks permeable. The water from these holes goes down to the earth.

key terminology

- **Saturated Zone:** The places where water accumulates in the aquifer.
- **Water level:** The depth from which water is received on the surface of the earth.

Status of ground water logging in India:

Aquifers are found mainly in two regions in India.

- Alluvial aquifers of the Indus-Gangetic plain: It is the most resource-rich area from the point of view of groundwater. The aquifers found here have ample capacity for water storage. The use of groundwater in this area is increasing in sufficient

quantity for drinking water and agriculture. This is about 35% of the aquifer area of India.

- **Aquifers in Peninsular India:** This hard rock zone covers about 65% of the total aquifer area of India. Complex and low-storage aquifer systems are created in these rocks. Their water permeability is very low, due to which they cannot be replenished even when it rains. Therefore, if used continuously, it dries up.

Availability of groundwater

Data related to water resources in India)	
Criterion	Unit (Billion Cubic Meter/Year
Annual Water Availability	1,869
usable water	1,123
surface water	690
groundwater	433

Key points of the CAG report on Groundwater Management and Regulation:

- According to this report, the level of groundwater extraction (the ratio of recharge and extraction) in India has increased from 58 percent (in 2004)to 63 percent(in 2017).
- Extraction is more than 100% in Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan.
- Average of extraction in 13 States/UTs is higher than the national average.
- After the district-wise assessment, the report found that in 267 districts, the level of groundwater extraction was between 64 percent and 384 percent.

CAG Report: Major problems and ways to solve them

- The CAG said that the Central Ground Water Board should assess the groundwater resources every two years, but after the assessment in 2013, the next assessment was done in 2017. The CAG has suggested that the irregularity in the assessment has to be reduced.
- Groundwater assessment is also done by the Central Ground Water Board by Observation Wells, for this 50000 wells were proposed till March 2017 but till March 2019 only 15000 wells could be made. In this context, the CAG suggested that the Ministry of Jal Shakti should consider increasing observational wells.
- Groundwater is a state subject. Many states have different laws. Which at times give rise to asymmetric problems. In this context, the CAG has talked about the creation of a model law.
- Industries are provided NOC in the use of groundwater. It is given by the Central Ground Water Authority. According to the CAG data, 474 NOCs were to be renewed between 2013 and 2018 but the applicants did not propose this. In this context, the CAG proposes that the provisions of the Environment Protection Act 1986 should be strictly enforced.
- Along with this, the CAG pointed out that only 27 percent of the sanctioned expenditure (Rs 4051 crore) for groundwater management and a regulation scheme were spent. This situation shows erroneous performance. That the department should

complete the mapping of the aquifer area and spend it on that basis.

Reasons for over-exploitation of groundwater in India

It has been clearly described in UNESCO's Water Development Report-2018 that India is one of the countries with the highest extraction of groundwater. The Key reasons for the extraction of groundwater in India are described as follows.

- **Increasing Urbanization:-** India is developing rapidly urbanization. The United Nations (UN) has also said that between 2018 and 2050, the urban population in India will double from 461 million to 877 million. In this situation, there is a rapid extraction of groundwater for the construction of residential places, and the consumption of the urban population.
- **Green Revolution:-** The concepts of Green Revolution and Minimum Support Price provided support to the cultivation of some crops. As a result, the production of more water-intensive crops was started even in drought-prone or low water areas. The required water supply for the crop was made from the extraction of groundwater. Due to this groundwater was exploited. According to the CGWB, about 230 billion cubic meters of groundwater is extracted every year to irrigate agricultural land in India.
- **Growing Industrial Sector:** India is moving from a developing country to a developed country in the process. Industries are being developed for this. Special economic zones and special economic zones are being created. For this, groundwater is being extracted. Along with this, pollution from industries is polluting other water sources like rivers, springs, etc., due to which, the pressure on groundwater resources is increasing.

Due to the above reasons as well as lack of regulation, groundwater is being extracted rapidly in India.

Measures for Conservation of Ground Water in India:

Knowing the importance of groundwater, the government has taken several measures to conserve groundwater. Whose description is as follows.

Master plan for artificial recharge of water - 2020:

- This plan has been prepared by CGWB with the help of state governments.
- The target of the scheme is to construct around 1.4 crore rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge structures.

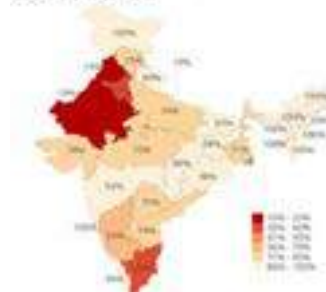
Jal Shakti Abhiyan:-

- The first phase of Jal Shakti Abhiyan was launched in 2019.
- The main objective of this scheme was to overcome water scarcity in 256 water-stressed districts in India.
- This scheme ended in 2022. During this scheme, out of 2836 blocks in 256 districts of the country, only 1592 water-stressed blocks were covered.
- The second phase of Jal Shakti Abhiyan was launched on 22 March 2021 (Jal Diwas). It aims at the conservation of groundwater by constructing artificial recharge structures, reviving existing ponds and water bodies before the onset of the monsoon.

Atal Ground Water Scheme:-

- Atal Bhujal Yojana has been launched by the Prime Minister on 25 December 2019 for groundwater conservation in areas with low groundwater levels.
- The total outlay of this scheme is 6 thousand crore rupees and it will be implemented for a period of 5 years (2020-21 to 2024-25).
- The objective of this scheme is to

Only 18% of wells in Rajasthan are deemed to be at a safe level



improve groundwater management through public participation in the 7 identified priority states of Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.

- About 8350-gram panchayats in 78 districts of these states are expected to benefit from the implementation of this scheme.
- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Jal Shakti, and the National Geophysical Research Institute of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for the Advanced Heliborne Geophysics Survey (Survey by helicopter) and other scientific studies under the Aquifer Mapping Program.
- Geophysical data is used to provide information about the physical properties of the Earth's surface and subsurface. Thus geophysics data can help in locating hydrocarbon mineral deposits and other natural resources.
- High-resolution aquifer mapping and identification of sites for artificial recharge using Heliborne geophysics studies.

Jal Jeevan Mission

- This initiative under the Ministry of Jal Shakti aims to ensure piped water access to every household in rural India.
- The Government of India has restructured the National Rural Drinking Water Program into the Jal Jeevan Mission to provide functional household tap connections to every

rural household i.e. Har Ghar Nal Se Jal.

Catch The Rain: National Water Mission

- Recently, the National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti, has started an awareness campaign called Catch the Rain in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Its tagline is: "Conservation of rainwater, wherever possible".
- Constructing a water rain harvesting structure to store rainwater suited to the climatic conditions

based on a condition.

National Water Policy-2012:- In this policy, provision has been made to conserve groundwater through community participation and scientific intervention.

Way Forward

- Conservation of groundwater is very important from an environmental point of view. But along with this, there is also a need for economic development and urbanization. Therefore, it is necessary that the government and the private sector

together promote technological innovation on the use of oceanic and wastewater and usable recycling of water.

- By protecting the environment, the groundwater level can be increased. Along with this, there is also a need for the conservation of wetlands.
- People's movements like "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" should be started for water conservation and extraction of groundwater.



Digital University: The beginning of a new era in education

Introduction :

Students suffered due to the closure of educational institutions after the Covid-19 pandemic. The biggest impact was in rural areas as rural areas remained untouched by the digital revolution. To mitigate the impact of loss in education due to Corona An announcement has been made for the establishment of a digital university in the budget 2022-23. This digital university will be able to provide better access to high-quality higher education in diverse languages. Its concept aligns with the goals set out in the National Education Policy 2020. In a digital university working on a hub and spoke model network, education will be distributed from the centralized campus to the students. The country's first digital university has been exposed in Kerala. The main objective of this university is "Education at your doorstep".

The main proposal for digital university in the budget:-

- It has been proposed in the budget that the central government will set up a digital university to provide "world-class quality education" and provide education in almost all regional languages of India. This university will be built on a network hub-spoke model. Building in this university state-of-the-art ICT expertise and public institutions will collaborate as a hub-spoke network.
- Under this, the government will expand the area of 'One Class One TV Channel' under 'Pradhan Mantri e-Vidya' (PM e-Vidya) for the mitigation of educational loss ('Learning Loss') during Corona. The Finance Minister has announced that to compensate for the loss of studies due to Corona, free channels will be increased from 12 to 200 under the Prime Minister's e-Vidya scheme, so

200 free TV channels for classes 1 to 12 in regional languages in all states. You will study through the medium.

- The proposed digital university and extended TV learning program will help in creating a modern, pioneering roadmap for India to move forward in the 'Amrit Kaal'.

Why Digital University is necessary for India?

- For Mitigation of Corona Effect:
- In the last two years, due to the effect of Corona, education has been affected extensively. According to Human Rights Watch, there has also been an increase in educational inequality due to excessive reliance on online education during the pandemic. Education is essential for human resources, that is why it is necessary to reduce the effect of corona on education as soon as possible. The role of the digital university will be important in this.



- For the goal of Education for All:- Due to the heterogeneous socio-economic situation in India, many students (especially girl students) can't go far away from home and take education. The concept of a digital university will help reduce this problem. Through the centralized network of digital universities, even a person sitting in a remote area of the country will be able to participate in a particular course of any university. Along with this, this university will reduce the linguistic restrictions in taking education. Because it will be conducted in almost all regional languages.
- For achieving the goals of SDG-4: The concept of the digital university will help in achieving the goals mentioned in SDG-4.
- This university will be prepared in alignment with the provisions of the National Education Policy. This will avoid the problem of policy duplication. With this, the concept of multi-disciplinary education mentioned in the National Education Policy 2020 can be easily implemented through a digital medium.
- Through the digitization of education, the goal of quality equitable and inclusive education can be achieved and the gap between different social classes in education participation and learning outcomes can be bridged.
- It will also help in the inclusion of disadvantaged sections. In the present time, the problems of Divyang class, women trapped in

social bondage/transgender, etc., who are not able to get access to physical university easily, problems can be solved through digital university.

- The goal of universalization of higher education can be achieved through digital education, by which the Gross Enrollment Ratio will increase and problems like college dropout will be solved.
- World-class quality education will be established through a digital university.
- Linguistic knowledge will not become a hindrance in learning and the importance of regional languages will increase.
- Improvement in the quality of education will be seen through this and the curriculum prepared by the skilled teachers of the country will be easily available to all the students.
- There will be no time compulsion to get education through a digital medium.
- The Digital University and Extended TV Learning Program will help in creating a modern, pioneering and practical blueprint for India's progress in the Eternal Age
- Keeping in mind the need for skilled people in the Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence and other emerging areas, many programs will be run in Digital University to boost skill development.

Arguments against the concept of Digital University

- Schools, colleges, or educational institutions are not mere places of learning. Along with this, values like discipline, teamwork, cooperation, competition, social malpractices are also developed in these educational institutions which are not possible through the digital medium.
- The level of learning can be increased through online education, but it cannot fully develop the

personality of the person.

- Online education because capitalism is supported, it is also possible that the person may become completely consumerist or individualist. Which will affect the social status of the human being.
- Practical knowledge is required in subjects like aesthetic culture, fashion design, tailoring, travel, tourism, etc. Digital learning is not effective in these subjects.
- Online learning should not be considered a complete substitute for meaningful learning. It may provide some engagement when schools are closed, but it may be an educationally inferior option from the standpoint of individual learning for classroom and school students or the learning community. Is.
- Digital learning is also associated with many socio-economic problems. These include many problems ranging from frequently interrupted internet connectivity and power cuts to financial constraints of getting high-speed internet connections and lack of digital literacy and limited access to digital devices among college-going students in the country, cyberattacks...

Efforts made for digitization of education:-

- Operation Digital Board:- To provide smart classroom facilities to all the schools having secondary and senior secondary classes.
- 'Shagun Portal':- To improve the school education system by creating a junction for all online portals and websites.
- National Digital Library of India:- To provide digital educational resources to all the citizens of the country.
- Shodhganga:- Digital repository for researchers in universities and institutes.

Way Forward:

- With the collaboration of online learning and offline learning, universities will have to adapt their program to suit the preferences of the students.
- Online learning should be seen as a small part of a larger complex

system. Along with this, direct human engagement and social learning should be placed at a central role here.

- In Digital University, capabilities of earlier schemes like Swayam Prabha, EPG Pathshala, e-Gyan Kosh, National Digital Library, and Virtual Lab can

be integrated.

- Digital universities can integrate all components of the learning value chain, from the admissions process to the delivery of instructional materials in a digital format, to online interaction, continuous assessment, and awarding of degrees.



Increasing instability in South Asia and India

Introduction

Although bilateral relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan have always been tense, at present this tension has increased. A situation of conflict has arisen between the Pakistani army and the Taliban due to the encroachment by the Pakistan Army up to Chahar Burjak, Nangarhar, Kunar province, 15 km inside the border of Afghanistan. Stability will increase in South Asia, which is currently plagued by many other crises. India's world policy will be affected by the instability of South Asia.

South Asia :

South Asia mainly includes the countries of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. These countries have an organization known as the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). The overall population of South Asia in 2020 is 1.94 billion and GDP is 3.326 trillion \$. Here the per capita income was 1826 \$.

South Asian instability:

Regional conflict

The mutual rivalry between India and Pakistan is well known, along with the tension in Pakistan-Afghanistan, the border dispute between India and Nepal has increased the instability of the region.

Internal strife

More recently, the South Asian region has seen infighting between the Taliban in Afghanistan and democratic Afghanistan. Problems like the Madhesi movement in Nepal, the tension between military and democratic elements in Myanmar, internal standoff in the Maldives add to the instability of South Asia.

Increasing activities of non-state agents

The sector is also suffering from the increasing activities of non-state actors. There are problems of terrorism, Naxalism, organized crime. The Golden Crescent (Iran-Afghanistan-Pakistan) and the Golden Triangle (Myanmar, Thailand, and Laos), two regions considered as havens for illegal drug smugglers all over the world, exert a massive influence on

this region. The activities of these agents add to the instability of the region.

Along with the above situations, there are internal communal problems, ethnic and religious conflicts in the countries which give rise to the instability of the region.

Reason of South Asian instability Artificial Boundries

The South Asian region is mainly known as the Indian subcontinent. This entire region is bounded by the Himalayas in the north, the Hindu Kush in the west, and the Indian Ocean region in the southwest. The geographical boundaries in the region are almost zero and geographically all these countries are part of the same landmass. Here artificial boundaries have been created due to historical mistakes and colonial ambitions, these artificial boundaries are flawed. The errors of artificial boundaries fuel regional conflict.

Trust Deficit between countries

India-Pakistan, Pakistan Afghanistan, India and Taliban leadership, Nepal, etc. do not trust each other. Here

comes the concept of a big brother syndrome under which India maintains the balance of power in South Asia in its favor. These conditions give rise to a confidence crisis in the region.

Increase in China's influence

Due to the mutual trust crisis in South Asian countries, China is getting an opportunity to intervene in South Asia. Smaller countries are looking to China to balance India, which is giving China a wider reach in these countries. China is trying to establish financial imperialism in the South Asian region through the Belt and Road Initiative project and continues to destabilize South Asia.

Social problems

The Human Development Index of South Asia is around 0.70. This area is suffering from population pressure, poverty, hunger, employment crisis. As a result of this, crime is also more here. The increase in crime increases to date.

Economic Crisis

The region represents about 24.5% of the world's population but produces only 4.42% of the global GDP. Due to this, the capacity here is very little. At the same time, efforts and cooperation for economic integration are negligible here. South Asian countries are often unstable due to economic instability

Refugee crisis

The region also suffers from a refugee crisis. Tension is increasing in India due to the Rohingya problem, Chakma refugee problem.

Religious conflict

There are frequent religious conflicts in the area. The Buddhist community in Myanmar does not consider minority Muslims as their citizens, while other minorities are persecuted in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh (which are Muslim majority countries). Communalism and religious conflicts often take place in

India too.

What needs to be done for the stability of South Asia?

- The present era is an era of regional contracts rather than globalization. There are many regional organizations like the European Union, ASEAN, which are moving forward in the direction of development by making comprehensive economic progress. Economic potential is immense in South Asia, but due to mutual conflict and tension, the economic potential has not been exploited. Economic development is essential for the stability of South Asia. All countries should think in this context.

- At present, global superpowers are increasing their influence in the region. The world balance of power has shifted from Europe and the Atlantic to the Asia Pacific region. Soon South Asia is going to become the battleground of the global superpowers. To save the regional independence of South Asia, it is necessary to strengthen SAARC.

- At present, China is promoting financial imperialism. Due to this financial imperialism, China's access to Colombo port in Sri Lanka, port of Bangladesh, etc. is increasing. To enhance regional stability, China has to be removed from the region.

- India and Pakistan are the two largest countries in this region. Both should promote cooperation for the stability of the region.

- India has to play a big role in this context. India is the largest country in this area in terms of GDP, area, and population. ASEAN countries see India as a security provider against China, but the insecurity of South Asia can cast doubt on India's role as a security provider. However, Bhutan's Doklam dispute showed India that it could stand up to China for territorial independence.

- Simultaneously, India should try to reduce the confidence crisis in the region. In which direction India is also striving, in the recent Karo Na epidemic, India has made available vaccines to South Asian countries, as well as created an emergency fund of 10 million dollars, confidence can help reduce the crisis.

Conclusion

With the weakening of globalization, the role of regional alliances will increase. The region is almost identical geographically, culturally. Their problems are also almost the same. Similar problems can be shared diagnoses. And it can be said with certainty that it is India's interest in a stable South Asia. India is the largest country in this region, India's role becomes very important. Along with this, if India is seeking its role as a leader at the global level, then India will have to stabilize SAARC.



SHORT ISSUES

1 Government Meets with Top Job Portals

The Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a Mission Mode Project for transformation of the National Employment Service to provide a variety of employment related services like job matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, apprenticeship, internships etc. The services under NCS are available online which was dedicated to the Nation by Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2015. All the services available in the portal are free of cost for all stakeholders including jobseekers, employers, training providers and placement organizations. The NCS portals can be accessed directly or from Career Centres (Employment Exchanges), Common Service Centres, Post Office Network, mobile devices, cyber cafes etc.

Shri Sunil Barthwal, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment held

a meeting today i.e. 10th February 2022 with representatives of the top private Job Portals of the country for discussion towards strengthening the "Employment and Skilling Ecosystem" in India.

The Secretary, Labour & Employment briefed about the vision of the Ministry to strengthen the ecosystem to enhance job and skilling opportunities for its users and also informed the participants that the Udyam, e-Shram, NCS and ASEEM portals will be interlinked as per the Budget announcement made by the Honorable Minister of Finance.

The representatives from top private Job Portals like Naukri, Monster, LinkedIn, Indeed, TimesJobs, Quesq Corp Limited, HT Shine, Freshersworld (A TeamLease Company), QuikrJobs, Portea, Freshers Live, HireMee, FirstJob enthusiastically participated in the meeting and appreciated the transformational vision of the Ministry of Labour and

Employment.

Further, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment informed that the top industry associations namely the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) are also onboard on the theme of strengthening the "Employment and Skilling Ecosystem", in the country.

The Secretary, Labour & Employment outlined the vision of the Ministry to enhance the reach of National Career Service Portal (NCS) for all Employment and Skilling initiatives across all the industries and emphasised on the upcoming linkages with e-Shram, Udyam and ASEEM portal. The participants were also informed of the initiative of the Ministry to leverage Universal Account Number (UAN) issued by eShram and EPFO to facilitate easy registration on NCS.

2 Rayalaseema region in news after the reorganization of districts in Andhra Pradesh

Recently, the Andhra Pradesh government has decided to form 13 new districts, taking these, the total number of districts in Andhra Pradesh will be 26. The Andhra Pradesh government has also issued a draft notification for this. This decision has been taken for the purpose of good administration and development. These new districts will be formed under sub-section 5 of section 3 of the Andhra Pradesh District Formation Act 1974.

Two new tribal districts are being

created, one being Manyam with its headquarters at Parvathipuram and the other named after Alluri Sitarama Raju who is a Telugu freedom fighter. Anakapalli, Konaseema, Kakinada, Eluru, NTR, Bapatla and Palnadu, Nandyal, Sri Sathya Sai, Annamaya and Sri Balaji districts are to be formed.

With this, the demand for creating districts in Andhra Pradesh in the name of some other great personalities, freedom fighters have intensified, in which the most prom-

inent name is Pingali Venkaiah, who designed the Tricolour of India's national flag. Just a few months ago, the CM of Andhra Pradesh had demanded Bharat Ratna to freedom artist, freedom fighter Pingali Venkaiah, who designed the Tricolour flag of India.

Pingali Venkaiah, who was interested in geology, had so much knowledge of diamond mining that he was called Diamond Venkaiah by the people of Machilipatnam, his birthplace. He was the first to suggest the Tricolour

flag in the 1921 Vijayawada session of the Congress which was adopted with some modifications.

Four districts are being formed in the Rayalaseema region which included Kurnool, Cuddapah, Chittoor and Anantapur and all these four are landlocked districts. Now, these 4 districts have been reorga-

nized into 8 new districts after which Rayalaseema has its own beach.

For a long time, there has been a disparity in the division of coastal and non-coastal districts in Andhra Pradesh, but now the arid Rayalaseema region has become a coastal area for the first time after the reorganization of the districts of

Andhra Pradesh. This has happened because, with the creation of the new district Sri Balaji district, some parts of Nellore have also been included in its purview. Tirupati will be the headquarters of the Sri Balaji District.

3

Intensified Mission Indradhanush 4.0

India is implementing the largest inoculation drive globally where annually more than three crore pregnant women and 2.6 crore children are covered through the Universal Immunisation Programme. The Health Minister virtually launched the IMI 4.0 portal. Three rounds of IMI 4.0 have been planned to catch up on the gaps that might have emerged due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it said, adding the activity will be conducted in 416 districts across 33 States and UTs. In the first round (Feb-April 2022), 11 states will conduct IMI 4.0. These are Assam, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura and Chhattisgarh. The others (22 states) will conduct the rounds from April to May 2022.

Mission Indradhanush-

- Mission Indradhanush is a health mission of the Government of India launched in 2014. The scheme this seeks to drive towards 90% full immunisation coverage of India and sustain the same by year 2022.
- The Mission Indradhanush aims to cover all those children who are either unvaccinated, or are partially vaccinated against vaccine preventable diseases.

Intensified Mission Indradhanush:

- To further intensify the immu-

nisation programme, PM Narendra Modi launched the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) on 8 October 2017. Through this the Government aims to reach each and every child up to two years of age and all those pregnant women who have been left uncovered under the routine immunisation programme/UIP. The focus of special drive was to improve immunisation coverage in select districts and cities to ensure full immunisation to more than 90% by December 2018 instead of 2020.

Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0

- To boost the routine immunisation coverage in the country, the Minister of Health and Family welfare introduced Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0 to ensure reaching the unreached with all available vaccines and accelerate the coverage of children and pregnant women in the identified districts and blocks from December 2019-March 2020.
- This aims to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of ending preventable child deaths by 2030.
- It aims at immunising 272 districts in 27 States and at block level (652 blocks) in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar because of its hard to reach and tribal populations.

Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0:

- It is a campaign aimed to reach those children and pregnant women who have been missed out or been left out of the Routine Immunisation Programme.
- This is aimed to accelerate the full immunisation of children and pregnant women through a mission mode intervention.
- It is being conducted in pre-identified 250 districts/urban areas across 29 States/UTs in the country.
- Beneficiaries from migration areas and hard to reach areas will be targeted as they may have missed their vaccine doses during the pandemic.

Partially immunized and unimmunized children are most susceptible to childhood diseases and are at a much higher risk of dying as compared to fully immunized children. Full immunization is critical to reduce child mortality and progress on socio-economic indicators. To conclude we can say that Mission Indradhanush with Universal Immunization Programme scheme is a master stroke in fulfilling the sustainable goals set up by United Nations of eradicating diseases, reduce infant mortality rate, and provide more aid to pregnant woman and her baby.

Why in News?

Recently, Australia is committed to concluding an “interim” Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India, Canberra’s Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan.

What is Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements?

- It is a kind of free trade pact that aims to provide an institutional mechanism to encourage and improve trade between the two countries.
- CECA generally covers negotiation on trade tariff and TRQ (tariff rate quota) rates only. It is not as comprehensive as CEPA. India has signed CECA with Malaysia and Singapore.
- The aim of the agreement is to enhance economic and social benefits, improve living standards and ensure high and steady growth in real incomes in their respective territories by expansion of trade and investment flows.

Benefits of Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements:

- CECA’s contribute to greater economic activity and job creation in India and Australia, and deliver opportunities for big and small India businesses to benefit from greater trade and investment.
- CECAs don’t just reduce and eliminate tariffs, they also help address behind-the-border barriers that would otherwise impede the flow of goods and services; encourage investment; and improve the rules affecting such issues as intellectual property, e-commerce and

government procurement.

- CECAs give India businesses and consumers improved access to a wider range of competitively priced goods and services, new technologies, and innovative practices.
- CECAs help India obtain more benefits from foreign investment.
- CECAs promote regional economic integration and build shared approaches to trade and investment between India and our trading partners.
- CECAs can deliver enhanced trade and investment opportunities that contribute to the economic growth of economies.
- CECAs support stronger people-to-people and business-to-business links that enhance India’s overall bilateral relationships with FTA partners.
- CECAs can continue to provide additional benefits to India and trading partners over time, including via in-built agendas that encourage ongoing domestic reform and trade liberalisation.

India - Australia Trade Relation:

- The value of bilateral trade in goods and services between both countries increased from US\$10.12 billion in 2007 to US\$18.08 billion in 2020.
- In 2020, India was Australia’s seventh-largest trading partner and sixth largest export destination, driven by coal and international education. On the other hand, Australia is also an increasingly important destination for Indian exports.
- In 2020, India exported US\$3.19 billion to Australia. The main prod

ucts that India exported to Australia are refined petroleum (US\$287 million), packaged medicaments (US\$277 million), and railway passenger cars (US\$166 million).

- In 2020, Australia exports to India amounted to US\$15.3 billion. The main products that Australia exported to India were coal briquettes (US\$12.1 billion), gold (US\$604 million), and petroleum gas (US\$419 million).
- Education remains Australia’s largest service export to India, valued at US\$4.46 billion and accounting for around 88 percent of the total in 2020. At the end of 2020, Indian students in Australia numbered 115,137.
- The total value of two-way foreign direct investment (FDI) between both countries was valued at US\$1.04 billion in 2020.

India’s CECA with Other Countries

- Between Singapore and India to strengthen bilateral trade, CECA was signed on 29 June 2005,
- Between Malaysia and India to strengthen bilateral trade, CECA was signed on 27 October 2010 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

ENVIRONMENT

1 Two new sites of India were declared as Ramsar sites

On the day of World Wetlands Day (February 2), India has achieved a major achievement in the field of the environment. Two more sanctuaries in India have been declared as Ramsar sites and with this, the total number of wetlands of international importance from India has increased from 47 to 49. Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary in Gujarat and Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh have been declared as wetlands of international importance. It is worth noting that Haiderpur Wetland in Uttar Pradesh was recently declared as the 47th Ramsar site of India. India's Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav says that development

and environment going together is very important for a country like India because 40% of the biodiversity comes from wetlands. There are more than 200,000 small ponds in India, out of which there are many that need to be protected because there is a need to protect aquatic birds and other animals. At present, there are 49 Ramsar sites in India. These are spread over an area of 10.93 hectares, which is the largest area in South Asia.

The Ramsar Treaty is an international treaty for the conservation and efficient use of wetlands. It is named after the Iranian city of Ramsar on the Caspian Sea, where the treaty

was signed on February 2, 1971.

Now total of 10 wetland Ramsar sites from Uttar Pradesh:

Upper Ganges River (Brajghat to Narora stretch)

Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary (Unnao)

- Sandi Bird Sanctuary (Hardoi),

Samaspur Bird Sanctuary (Rae Bareilly)

- Saman Bird Sanctuary (Mainpuri),

Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary (Gonda),

- Sarsai Nawar Lake (Etawah),

- Sur Sarovar Lake / Keetham Lake (Agra),

- Haiderpur Wetland

- Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary (Sant Kabir Nagar)

2 An environmental penalty by NGT

Recently, the National Green Tribunal has imposed a fine of Rs 25 crore on Hindustan Zinc Limited, a firm of Vedanta Group. The premise behind imposing the fine is that Hindustan Zinc Limited in the Bhilwara district of Rajasthan has violated environmental standards. In fact, a case had come to the NGT in which it was said that Hindustan Zinc Limited is engaged in executing mining leases of lead zinc and other related minerals in villages located near 1200 hectare mining area and on these basis environmental standards are being violated. NGT Chairperson Justice AK Goel has directed the District Magistrate of Bhilwara to deposit a fine of Rs 25 crore within three months as the impact of these mining projects

on the village and the cost of its improvement. Along with this, the NGT has also directed that a joint committee of Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Board, and District Magistrate Bhilwara should prepare such a restoration plan so that the quality of ground water and soil health of the areas of Bhilwara can be maintained. NGT says that people living in 6 panchayats Bherukheda, Kothia, Balapura, Parasrampura, Agucha, Kalyanpura are the beneficiaries of development works of Hindustan Zinc Limited.

The National Green Tribunal was established on 18 October 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010. It was created for the protection of the environment and the

enforcement of any legal right related to the environment, including forest protection and other natural resources.

It also works to provide relief and compensation for the beneficiary person or property. It is a specialized body that resolves environmental disputes. This tribunal is not bound by any procedure of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but is guided by the principles of natural justice.

This tribunal is under orders to endeavor to dispose of the applications and petitions within 6 months from the date of its receipt. The Principal Bench of the Tribunal is at New Delhi and the other four Benches of the Tribunal are at Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai.

1 Nuclear Fusion Technology

Scientists in the United Kingdom have achieved a new milestone in producing nuclear fusion energy, or imitating the way energy is produced in the Sun. Energy by nuclear fusion is one of mankind's long standing quests as it promises to be low carbon, safer than how nuclear energy is now produced and, with an efficiency that can technically exceed a 100%.

Nuclear Fusion Technology:-

In a Nuclear fusion process, two lighter atomic nuclei combine to form a heavier nucleus, while releasing energy. Devices designed to harness this energy are known as fusion reactors. Nuclear Fusion reactions power the Sun and other stars. The process releases energy because the total mass of the resulting single nucleus is less than the mass of the two original nuclei. The leftover mass becomes energy. The main fuels used in nuclear fusion are deuterium and tritium, both heavy isotopes of hydrogen. Deuterium constitutes a tiny fraction of natural hydrogen, only 0,0153%, and can be extracted inexpensively from seawater. Tritium can be made from lithium, which is also abundant in nature.

Advantages of Nuclear Fusion Technology:

- Less nuclear waste : The fusion reactors will not produce high-level nuclear wastes like their fission counterparts, so that disposal will be less of a problem. In addition, the wastes will not be of weapons-grade nuclear materials as is the case in fis-



-sion reactors.

- Carbon neutral : There are no CO₂ or other harmful atmospheric emissions from the fusion process, which means that fusion does not contribute to greenhouse gas emissions or global warming.
- The 2018 book Comprehensive Energy Systems notes: "Nuclear fusion energy is a good choice as the base load energy in the future with many advantages, such as inexhaustibility of resources, inherent safety, no long-lived radioactive wastes, and almost no CO₂ emissions."
- The potential advantages of nuclear fusion energy are manifold, as it represents a long-term, sustainable, economic and safe energy source for electricity generation.
- Fuel is inexpensive and abundant in nature. The amount of deuterium present in one litre of water can in theory produce as much energy as the combustion of 300 litres of oil. This means that there is enough deuterium in the oceans to meet human energy needs for millions of years.

Potential of Nuclear Fusion Technology-

- Nuclear fusion energy is also a potential candidate for space travel, especially for high-energy require

ments. For the purpose of the transport of astronauts and cargo to Mars and beyond, an innovative concept with a direct utilization of fusion energy via laser ignited (D,T) capsules for propulsion has been suggested by the scientists of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

- Nuclear fusion powers the sun and all of the stars of the universe. Harnessing fusion energy on earth would provide a practically unlimited amount of renewable energy to supply the needs of the growing world population.

The future of nuclear fusion is uncertain. Fusion research began to make substantial progress in the last decade. This has culminated in recent breakthroughs in magnetic confinement technology, and work on laser and particle beam implosion is also progressing. Although such developments are encouraging and the potential is great, much work remains to be done and significant contributions from fusion are certainly very far in the future.

From an environmental standpoint, many people hope nuclear fusion will be the long-term clean energy solution. However, it may not be totally free of as yet undefined environmental concerns.

2 Biomass-based hydrogen

The country's first commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant is coming up in the Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh. The plant will produce a tonne of hydrogen per day, from 30 tonnes of biomass feed-stock.

Biomass-

Biomass can be described as all material that was or is a part of a living organism. For renewable energy applications, however, the definition of biomass is usually limited to include only materials that are plant-derived such as agricultural residues.

Biomass sources for energy include:

- Wood and wood processing wastes: firewood, wood pellets, and wood chips, lumber and furniture mill sawdust and waste, and black liquor from pulp and paper mills
- Agricultural crops and waste materials: corn, soybeans, sugar cane, switchgrass, woody plants, and algae, and crop and food processing residues
- Biogenic materials in municipal solid waste: paper, cotton, and wool products, and food, yard, and wood wastes
- Animal manure and human sewage

Why hydrogen production from Biomass is Important?

- Renewable Source: Biomass is a renewable source of energy because it can be renewed by planting more trees and plants. So hydrogen production from biomass is a renewable fuel. India being a predominantly agriculture-based country, the availability of biomass from agriculture residue can be leveraged for produc-

ing hydrogen.

- Reduce GHGs: Plants consume carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as part of their natural growth process as they make biomass, off-setting the carbon dioxide released from producing hydrogen through biomass gasification and resulting in low net greenhouse gas emissions.
- Cost effective: Hydrogen produced through the biomass pathway could be a viable, cost effective and efficient alternative for India. Power generation from biomass is not new to India however, hydrogen from biomass is an area which although nascent, holds great promise.
- Abundant sources: India being a predominantly agriculture-based country, the availability of biomass from agriculture residue can be leveraged for producing hydrogen. There is more biomass available than is required for food and animal feed needs.
- Carbon neutral: Although hydrogen is a clean fuel, with multiple applications across industry, power, and mobility, its production from fossil fuels dilutes its potential as a decarbonizing vector. However, hydrogen produced from renewable sources is emission free and is con-



-sidered a green fuel. One of the promising ways to produce this green hydrogen could be through biomass- a carbon neutral feedstock

Way Forward:

- Key challenges to hydrogen production via biomass gasification involve reducing costs associated with capital equipment and biomass feed-stocks. There is a need to boost support for the production of hydrogen via biomass gasification.
- Based on both economical and environmental consideration hydrogen production from biomass gasification will be a promising option.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India has realized the potential and role of biomass energy in the Indian context and has initiated a number of programmes for the promotion of efficient biomass conversion technologies to be used in various sectors of the economy.

ECONOMY

1

Important measures for agriculture in the budget 2022

Recently, the budget emphasized diversification towards high value agriculture, and towards greater focus on allied activities.

Measures for agriculture in the Budget : Crop diversification, Modernisation

- **Crop Diversification:** Budget gives enough attention to deficit crop segments — oil seeds and millets.

- a. India has been importing ₹70,000 crore worth of edible oils annually.

- b. If domestic oilseeds and other sources like palm are encouraged.

- **Pulses for Prosperity:** Pulses are also climate-resilient, thus offering a win: win solution to India's efforts in climate action.

- a. The millets and pulses will now be provided for post-harvest value addition, enhancing domestic consumption and branding their products for integration with supply chains.

- b. Promoting these crop diversification is integral to the practice of smart agriculture.

- **Climate smart agriculture:** Stepping of the Budget into smart agriculture is further galvanised by supplementing production technology with digital technology.

1. The ensemble of digital technology including that of 'Kisan Drones' will take care of the plurality of issues all along the value chain.

2. These encompass production planning, resource use efficiency and risks that arise from monsoons and markets.

3. Also desired digitisation of land records and delivery of digital and

high-tech services.

- **Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) revolution:**

Increasing volumes of marketable surpluses will get better monetised with the continuing support to mobilisation of farmers and aggregation of farm-produce through FPOs.

The budgetary allocation gets strengthened with blended capital to be raised under the co-investment model facilitated through NABARD.

- **Agricultural and Rural entrepreneurship:** The spin-off effect of financing the agricultural and rural entrepreneurial start-ups linked to farm produce value chains will extend the footprints of agriculture into secondary agriculture.

Solutions suggested in budget: Credit, Sustainability, Decarbonisation

- **Credit support :**

1. Adequate support in the higher allocations for the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (a jump of more than 125%)

2. Various initiatives committed in favour of the MSME sector, including the Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for Micro & Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), that expands the credit size to ₹200,000 crore.

- **Focus on sustainability:** The resulting growth of secondary agriculture and bioeconomy, will generate supplementary jobs and incomes besides stimulating an eco-friendlier developmental approach.

- **Decarbonize Agriculture sector:**

1. Making a strong bid for energy

transition and climate action, specific references are made to solar power, circular economy, carbon neutral economy, and promotion of agro forestry and private forestry.

2. If the targeted 5-7 per cent biomass pellets come to be co-fired in thermal power plants, along with savings of carbon di-oxide, there will be opportunities for extra income to the farmers and jobs for the locals.

- **Interlinking of Rivers:** The commitment to fund Ken-Betwa River linking project, besides five others, as and when a consensus is reached will benefit poorly endowed regions. This will add to the objective of harvesting utilisable water in the country under the ongoing AIBP programme of the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Conclusion

The government's focus is on higher capital investment through convergence of budgetary and non-budgetary financial sources by way of sinking up the policies and programmes of various ministries. The Railways, for example, intends to develop infrastructure for small farmer produce. It is such a cohesive inter-ministerial approach that will enhance capital use efficiency, which has a great bearing on agricultural growth rate. The vision of the government for transitioning agriculture as an employment creating, income generating and sustainable entrepreneurial system even as it meets the food and nutrition security is well borne out by the Budget.

2

e-Rupi

Why in News:

The increase in the e-Rupi voucher cap to ₹1 lakh will boost digital payments in the offline mode and allow direct benefit transfers without having to have a bank account.

What is e-RUPI?

- e-RUPI is basically a digital voucher which a beneficiary gets on his phone in the form of an SMS or QR code. It is a pre-paid voucher, which he/she can go and redeem it at any centre that accepts it.
- e-RUPI is a one-time contactless, cashless voucher-based mode of payment that helps users redeem the voucher without a card, digital payments app, or internet banking access.
- e-RUPI should not be confused with Digital Currency which the Reserve Bank of India is contemplating. Instead e-RUPI is a person specific, even purpose specific digital voucher.
- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), which oversees the digital payments ecosystem in India, has launched e-RUPI, a voucher-based payments system to promote cashless transactions.

How will e-RUPI work?

e-RUPI is a cashless and contactless digital payments medium, which will be delivered to mobile phones of beneficiaries in form of an SMS-string or a QR code. This will essentially be like a prepaid gift-voucher that will be redeemable at specific accepting centres without any credit or debit card, a mobile app or internet banking. e-RUPI will connect the sponsors of the services with the beneficiaries and service providers in a digital manner without any physical interface.

Advantages of e-RUPI:

- e-RUPI does not require the beneficiary to have a bank account, a major distinguishing feature as compared to other digital payment forms. It ensures an easy, contactless two-step redemption process that does not require sharing of personal details either.
- Another advantage is that e-RUPI is operable on basic phones also, and hence it can be used by persons who do not own smart-phones.
- Being a prepaid voucher, e-RUPI would assure real time payments to the service provider.
- If payment is done through e-RUPI, there is no need of internet connection as compared to other digital payment system.

Potential of e-RUPI:

- It will ensure better digital delivery of benefits of the central and state government schemes to the beneficiaries. Hence, it is likely to play a major role in strengthening direct benefit transfer (DBT) to citizens at the last mile, making it more transparent.
- e-RUPI's key benefit for governments is in enabling penetration among the unbanked and feature phone users, allowing issue without needing the recipient's bank account or KYC.
- e-RUPI would also interest the private sector and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to deliver employee benefits besides exploring a wide range of business-to-business transactions.
- This payment platform will be prepaid in nature which does not require any kind of intermediary to make payment of the service provid-

er. Other than that this platform can also be used for delivering services under schemes that are meant for providing drugs and nutritional support like mother and child welfare scheme, Ex. TB eradication program, drug and diagnostic under a scheme like Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, fertilizer subsidies, etc.

- In the midst of the pandemic, the government had done cash transfers to Jan-Dhan accounts of underprivileged citizens as part of its stimulus package. While the move did provide relief, it led to large queues in rural branches. With e-RUPI, the government can specify the end use of the money.

Way forward:

The e-RUPI solution has been introduced in the backdrop of the policy objectives of the Government of India for financial inclusion. The aim appears to be to evolve the acceptance infrastructure for offline solutions to cater to under-served areas, the under-banked demographic, and non-smartphone users across India. Given that the e-RUPI does not require the beneficiaries to have a bank account or a mobile application (compared to other digital payment instruments), nor require them to have a smart phone, e-RUPI may witness a higher adoption rate in rural and remote parts of India, compared to the existing pre-paid payment instruments.

Safeguards must also be put in place so that the risk of any misuse of the e-RUPI solution at the point of redemption is addressed, including where the SMS-string or QR code is shared with another person.



1. PR Sreejesh honored with 'World Games Athlete of the Year' award

Indian hockey goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh has been selected for the prestigious 'World Games Athlete of the Year 2021'. He has become the second Indian to receive this award. Earlier, Rani Rampal was honored with this honor in 2019. The name of PR Sreejesh was recommended by the International Hockey Federation. Apart from PR Sreejesh, other contenders for the award were Spain's Alberto Gins López and Italy's wushu player Michele Giordano. PR Sreejesh was a former hockey captain of the Indian hockey team and a part of the Tokyo Olympic team. He has represented India in 244 international matches.

2. India's first Geological Park in Madhya Pradesh

The country's first Geological Park will be built on the banks of river Narmada in Kelamheta village in Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh. The approval for the establishment of this park has been received from the Geological Survey of India. The estimated cost of this project will be 35 crores and it will be constructed on five acres of land. The site is already on UNESCO's tentative list of geo-heritage for natural heritage protection. In 1828, British military officer William Sleeman collected the first dinosaur fossils from the Lamata Bed. Along with this geological park, a science center will be built at Bhedaghat in Jabalpur district itself at a cost of Rs 15.20 crore.



3. Chandrayaan-3 to be launched in August 2022

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh has informed that Chandrayaan-3 will be launched in August 2022. Dr. Jitendra Singh also informed that from January to December 2022, 19 missions have been planned. These include 08 Launch Vehicle Missions, 07 Spacecraft Missions, and 04 Technology Demonstrator Missions. The list of satellites launched by ISRO in the last year is given below-

Satellites launched in the last two years	
Name of the Satellite	Launch Date / Launch Month
EOS-03	August, 2021
Amazonia -1	February 28, 2021
Satish Dhawan SAT (SDSAT)	February 28, 2021
UnitySAT	February 28, 2021

About Chandrayaan-2:-

It was launched on 22 July 2019 by GSLV Mark III M1 from Satish Dhawan Space Center in Andhra Pradesh. Its lander (Vikram), rover (Pragyan), and orbiter were developed in India. On 7 September 2019, ISRO lost contact with the Vikram lander carrying the rover.



4. America to become India's largest trading partner in 2021

In 2021, the United States has once again become India's largest trading partner. In 2021, India's bilateral trade with the US increased to \$112.3 billion. The US was India's largest trading partner with a trade value of \$90.1 billion in 2019, but fell to \$76 billion in 2020 due to corona pandemic. The main items exported by India are:- Pharmaceutical products, pearls, precious stones, metals and textiles. India's imports from China increased by 49 percent in 2021 compared to last year. At the same time, exports from India to China also increased to \$ 22.9 billion in 2021. India's trade deficit with China has increased to \$64.5 billion in 2021. UAE, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Singapore, Iraq, Indonesia and South Korea are among the top ten trading partners of India.

5. Summer Olympics 2028 includes three urban sports

The International Olympic Committee has included skateboarding, surfing and sports climbing in the 2028 Summer Olympic Games to be held in Los Angeles. While weightlifting, modern pentathlon and boxing are yet to be included. It is expected that they may be added by the IOC Board once the targets are met next year. At the request of Paris organisers, breakdancing will be part of the 2024 Olympics.

International Olympic Committee:-

The International Olympic Committee is a non-governmental sports organization. It hosts the modern summer and Winter Olympic Games. Its head-quarter is located in Lausanne, Switzerland. It was established in the year 1894.



6. Aravalli Biodiversity Park to be India's first OECM site

On the occasion of World Wetlands Day, Aravalli Biodiversity Park located in Gurugram has been declared as India's first "Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures" (OECM) site. OECM status is given by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to areas that are not protected but support rich biodiversity. The OECM tag is given to areas that are achieving effective in-situ conservation of biodiversity outside protected areas. The National Biodiversity Authority had sent a proposal to IUCN to declare the Aravalli Biodiversity Park as an OECM site in 2020.

Aravalli Biodiversity Park:-

It is spread over 390 acres with 300 native plants and 101,000 trees and is home to many species of birds. With the help of ecologists and biologists, it has been transformed from an abandoned mine site into a city forest. It has the capacity to supply about 7.07% of the oxygen requirement for Delhi-NCR. The Aravalli mountain range is one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world and is considered the 'Green Lungs' of Delhi-NCR.



7. NASA's International Space Station will stop by 2031

Recently, NASA has announced that it will stop operations of the International Space Station (ISS) by 2031. It will drop out of orbit and fall into the waters of the South Pacific Ocean. For nearly two decades, the International Space Station has been orbiting the Earth at a speed of about eight kilometers per second. The idea of the International Space Station was given by former US President Ronald Reagan. The first part of the International Space Station was launched in 1998 from a Russian rocket. After this, on November 2, 2000, the first crew reached the International Space Station. Since then, more than 200 astronauts from 19 different countries have visited the International Space Station. The life span of the International Space Station

at the time of its installation was about 15 years but in 2014 its term was extended for another 10 years.

8. Republic Day Parade 2022 'Best State Tableau' Award to Uttar Pradesh

The tableau of Uttar Pradesh has been declared the 'Best State Tableau' of the Republic Day Parade 2022. This year the tableau of Uttar Pradesh was based on the theme of 'One District One Product and Kashi Vishwanath Dham'. The tableau of Karnataka has got the second position which was based on the theme 'Cradle of Traditional Handicrafts'. The tableau has jointly won the Best Tableau Award in the Central Ministries and Departments category. The tableau of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (CPWD) and the Vande Bharatam dance group were selected for the special award category.

The marching contingent of the Indian Navy has been adjudged as the best marching contingent among the three services. Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has been adjudged as the best marching force amongst CAPFs/ other auxiliary forces.



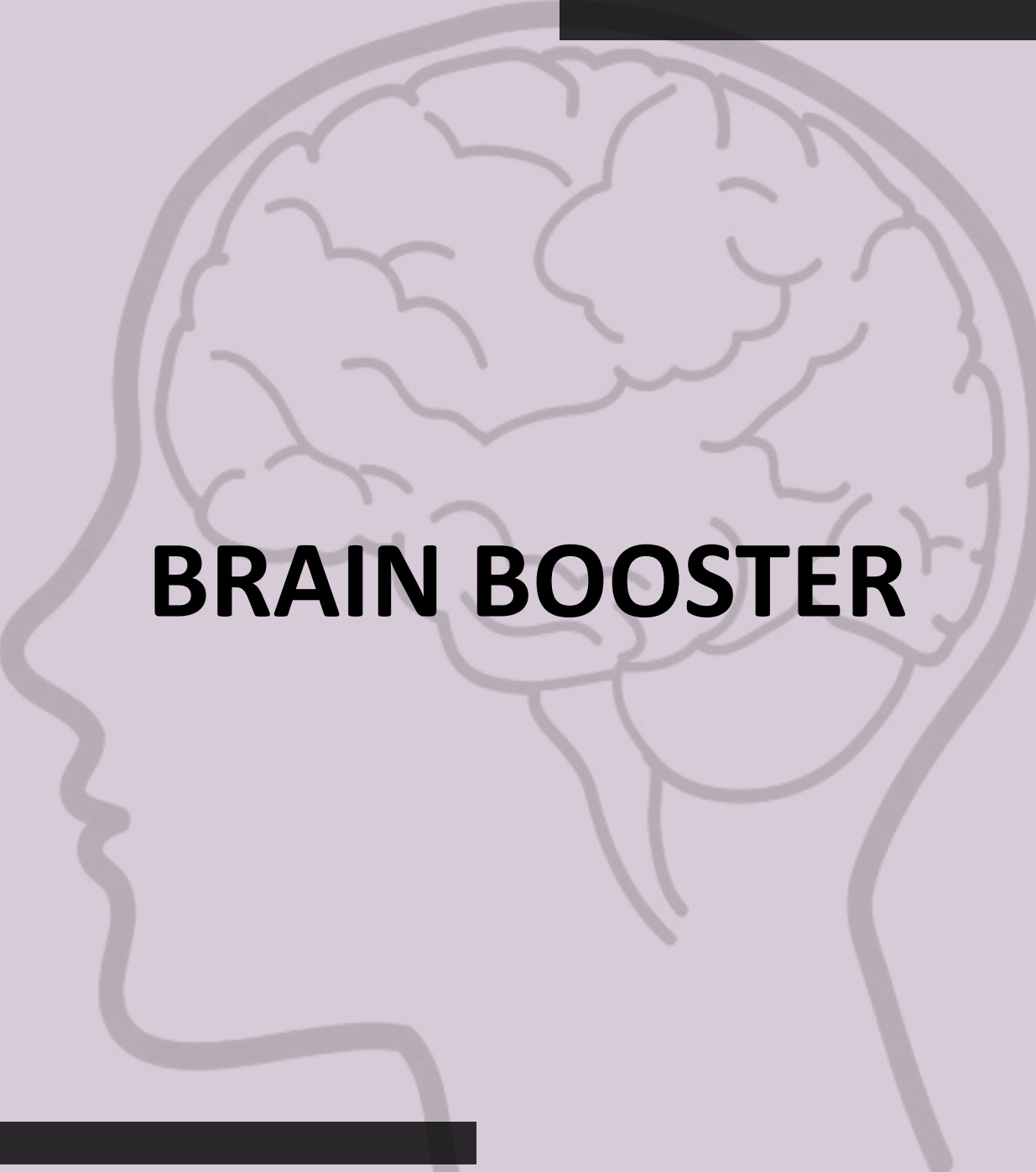
9. A Global Summit on "Reimagining Museums in India" concluded

On 15 and 16 February 2022, the Global Summit on "Reimagining Museums in India" was organized by the Ministry of Culture. The aim of this summit was to make its glorious history, culture and achievements accessible to all. The global summit was attended by leading museum stalwarts, experts in the field from around the world. This summit was organized in collaboration with Bloomberg. Culture Minister Shri G Kishan Reddy inaugurated the summit. This summit was conducted online. Four major themes were covered in the conference:

1. Architectural and Functional Requirements
2. Management
3. Collection (including curation and conservation practices)
4. Education and Audience Participation

Current Affairs at a Glance

- National Waterway 1 opened and the first cargo ship 'MV Lal Bahadur Shastri' with 200 metric tonnes of food grains departed from Patna.
- India became the first country to play 1000 cricket ODIs.
- Dinesh Prasad Saklani will be the new director of NCERT.
- Odissi classical singer Pandit Damodar Hota passed away. He was the exponent of Odissi classical music and Hindustani classical music.
- Shantashree Pandit appointed as the first woman vice-chancellor of JNU.
- Queen Elizabeth II became the first British monarch to rule for 70 years.
- World's largest igloo cafe opened in Gulmarg.
- Sports writer Navdeep Singh Gill wrote a book on Neeraj Chopra under the name 'Golden Boy Neeraj Chopra'.
- RPF (Railway Police Force) has launched a nationwide campaign "Operation Aahat" to stop human trafficking.
- India topped the Salesforce Global Digital Skills Index, 2022. Brazil and Thailand are ranked second and third with scores of 53 and 48 respectively.
- China won the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022. China defeated Republic of Korea 3-2 in the final of the AFC Women's Asian Cup at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. China won the AFC Women's Asian Cup title for the ninth time.
- Zara Rutherford became the youngest woman to fly solo in the whole world.
- India's 'Writing with Fire' has been nominated for an Oscar in the documentary category. This documentary is directed and produced by Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh.
- Kanchoth Mahotsav was celebrated in Jammu and Kashmir.
- India will assist Sri Lanka to launch its Aadhar version.
- White-cheeked macaque spotted in Arunachal Pradesh.



BRAIN BOOSTER

1. Why in News

On January 28, Philippines signed a deal with BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. for the supply of shore based anti-ship variant of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile. This is the first export order for the missile.

2. About the deal

- The Philippines contract includes delivery of three BrahMos missile batteries, training for operators and maintainers as well as the necessary Integrated Logistics Support (ILS) package.
- The coastal defence regiment of the Philippine Marines, which is under the Navy, will be the primary employer of the missile system.
- The cost of the deal would be \$374.96 million.

3. About BrahMos Aerospace

- BrahMos Aerospace was formed as a joint venture between DRDO, India and NPO Mashinostroyeniya, Russia.
- The name BrahMos is a portmanteau formed from the names of two rivers, the Brahmaputra of India and the Moskva of Russia.

4. Range

- The range of the BrahMos was originally limited to 290 kms as per obligations of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) of which Russia was a signatory.
- Following India's entry into the club in June 2016, plans were announced to extend the range initially to 450 kms and subsequently to 600 kms.
- BrahMos with extended range upto 450 kms has been tested several times since.

5. Platforms

I. Ship-based Weapon System

- Its naval configuration, the weapon has been designed for launch in either vertical or inclined mode from a moving or static maritime platform from stand-off ranges against sea or land targets.
- BrahMos has been deployed on Indian Navy's frontline surface combat platforms, including Destroyers and Frigates as the "prime strike weapon".

II. Land Based Weapon System

- The Land Based Weapon System consist of 4 to 6 Mobile Autonomous Launchers.

III. Air Launched weapon System

- The air-launched cruise missile (ALCM) has precision attack capability against sea and land targets.
- BrahMos ALCM is the heaviest and most powerful weapon to arm the Su-30MKI.

IV. Submarine Launch Version

- BrahMos missile is capable of being launched from submarine from a depth of 40-50 meters.

6. Other Interested Customers

- There is another long pending deal under discussion for BrahMos missiles for the Philippines Army which could see progress in the near future.
- The next order is likely to be concluded soon as negotiations with Indonesia and Thailand are in advanced stages.

7. Other Products in limelight

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has received interest from Philippines Coast Guard for procurement of seven Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopters and eight Dornier Do228 aircraft under the \$100mn Line of Credit (LoC) extended by India.
- Maritime domain and ship building is another potential area for Indian companies in the Philippines
- India's LCA Tejas is in the forefront of Malaysia's requirement for its air force.

8. Government's aim

- A target is set at defence manufacturing turnover of \$25 billion or ₹1,75,000 crore including exports of ₹35,000 crore in aerospace and defence goods and services by 2025.
- India has put out a range of military hardware on sale which

BrahMos in International Arena

includes various missile systems, Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), helicopters, warship and patrol vessels, artillery guns, tanks, radars, military vehicles, electronic warfare systems in addition to other weapons systems.

9. Measures by Government

- Simplified defence industrial licensing.
- Relaxation of export controls.
- Grant of No Objection Certificates (NOC).
- Extending Line of Credit (LoC) to foreign countries to import defence products.
- Empowering Defence Attaches in Indian missions abroad to promote defence exports.
- To provide faster approvals for export of major defence platforms, a committee comprising of the Defence Minister, External Affairs Minister and National Security Advisor was set up.



1. Why in News

Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister G.L. Peiris on February 7, 2022 met his counterpart S. Jaishankar in New Delhi. SL FM said 'New Delhi's economic assistance to Colombo in recent weeks has made a "world of difference"

2. Help by India

- Beginning January 2022, India has been providing crucial economic support, in the grip of a severe dollar crisis.
- There was a fear of sovereign default, and a severe shortage of essentials in the import-reliant country.
- From the beginning of 2022, India has provided a relief of \$1.4 billion. A \$400 currency swap, a \$500 loan deferment and a \$500 Line of Credit for fuel imports.
- Sri Lanka is further negotiating a \$1 billion assistance from India to tackle the economic crisis.

3. Political Relations

- Political relations between the two countries have been marked by high-level exchanges of visits at regular intervals.
- Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi hosted a Virtual Bilateral Summit (VBS) with Sri Lankan Prime Minister H.E. Mahinda Rajapaksa on 26 September 2020.
- External Affairs Minister (EAM) Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Sri Lanka from 5-7 January 2021. This was the first foreign visit by EAM in 2021

4. Commercial Relations

- The India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA) in 2000 contributed significantly towards the expansion of trade between the two countries.
- Economic ties include different areas such as infrastructure, connectivity, transportation, housing, health, livelihood and rehabilitation, education and industrial development.

5. Development Cooperation

With grants alone amounting to around USD 570 million, the overall commitment by GOI is to the tune of more than USD 3.5 billion.

6. Projects under Lines of Credit

- 11 Lines of credit (LOC) have been extended to Sri Lanka by the Export Import Bank of India in the last 15 years.
- Important sectors in which Project have been executed/ are under execution, under these LOCs include: Railway, transport, connectivity, defence, solar.

7. Cultural relations:

- India and Sri Lanka have a shared legacy of historical, cultural, religious, spiritual and linguistic ties that is more than 2,500 years old.
- In contemporary times, the Cultural Cooperation Agreement signed by the two governments forms the basis for periodic Cultural Exchange Programmes between the two countries.

8. Special prayers across Sri Lanka

In May-June 2021, a series of special prayers and ceremonies were held by people of different faiths across Sri Lanka for the well-being of people of India in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

9. Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre

- The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), is the cultural arm of the High Commission of India, Colombo.
- It has been playing a key role in strengthening these ties and promoting people-to-people contacts between India and Sri Lanka since its inception in 1998.
- SVCC actively promotes awareness of Indian culture by offering classes in Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Hindustani and Carnatic vocal, Violin, Sitar, Tabla, Hindi and Yoga.

12. Fishermen issue

- Both countries have agreed on certain practical arrangements to deal with the issue of bona fide fishermen of either side inadvertently crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line.

Indo-Lanka relations

10. India-Sri Lanka Foundation

The India-Sri Lanka Foundation, set up in December 1998 as an intergovernmental initiative, also aims towards enhancement of scientific, technical, educational and cultural cooperation through civil society exchanges and enhancing contact between the younger generations of the two countries.

11. Tourism:

- Tourism also forms an important link between India and Sri Lanka.
- Government of India formally launched the e-Tourist Visa (eTV) scheme for Sri Lankan tourists on 14 April 2015.
- The tourism sector of Sri Lanka which was severely hit by Easter Sunday attacks received a boost by the arrival of Indian tourists.
- On 24 July 2019 Sri Lanka included India in the free visa on arrival scheme and commenced the scheme on 1 August 2019.

1. Why in news?

During presenting the Annual Financial Statement for 2022-23, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the introduction of India's Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) and that the digital rupee would give a 'big boost' to digital economy.

2. About Central Bank Digital Currency

- A CBDC is no different from the cash that we hold in our wallets, except that it exists in a digital form.
- The CBDC will be held in a digital wallet that is supervised by the Central bank.
- In India, it will be the RBI that supervises the digital rupee although it may delegate some power to banks.
- However, it does seem probable that the RBI will take steps to encourage the use of its digital currency over physical cash.
- RBI's digital rupee will not directly replace demand deposits held in banks.
- Physical cash will continue to be used by banks, and people who wish to withdraw cash from banks can still do so.
- They can also opt to convert their bank deposits into the new digital rupee.

3. Force behind CBDC

- Central banks claim that there is an increasing demand for digital currencies, which they wish to satisfy.
- They point to the rise of private digital currencies such as bitcoin and also to the increasing use of digital payments as examples of this secular trend.
- Central bank digital currencies are promised as reliable, sovereign-backed alternatives to private currencies which are volatile and unregulated.
- Central banks also believe that the cost of issuing digital currencies is far

4. Pros of private currencies

- The demand for private currencies comes primarily from people who have lost faith in fiat currencies issued by Central banks.
- They argue that governments across the world have been debasing their respective currencies by printing them in excessive amounts, thus forcing many to switch to private currencies whose supply is limited by design.

- The need for privacy has been one of the primary reasons behind the switch to private digital currencies.

5. Status of CBDC across the world

- Several countries, including the USA those in the European Union and China, have been working seriously towards issuing their own CBDC in recent years.
- In October 2020, the Bahamas launched the world's first CBDC.
- A few countries, including Finland and Denmark, have taken a step back and have said they had cancelled efforts to introduce a digital currency.

6. Risks in adopting CBDC

- Various central bankers, fear that people may begin withdrawing money from their bank accounts as digital currencies issued by Central banks become more popular.
- When the digital wallet offered by the RBI can safely store the cash, people could very well begin converting their bank deposits into digital cash.
- One thing that could prevent any large flight of capital from bank accounts to digital currencies is the fact that bank accounts, unlike digital currencies, offer interest on deposits.
- The withdrawal of bank deposits can also affect the amount of loans created by banks.

Digital Currency in India

lower than the cost of printing and distributing physical cash.

- The RBI can create and distribute the digital rupee at virtually zero cost since the creation and the distribution of the digital rupee will happen electronically.
- Another likely reason for the introduction of digital cash may be to bring down the use of physical cash.
- Unlike physical cash, which is hard to trace, a digital currency that is monitored by the RBI can be more easily tracked and controlled by the Central bank.

create loans is not affected by depositors' rush to digital currencies.

7. What lies ahead?

- Central banks may cap the amount of money that an individual can hold in the form of CBDCs. This is to prevent the mass withdrawal of deposits from banks.
- Some Central banks, such as the European Central Bank, may impose a negative penalty on their digital currencies.
- This could be done to force people to spend their digital currencies and to discourage the withdrawal of deposits from banks that impose negative interest rates.
- Central banks may also have to inject fresh money into banks to ensure that the ability of banks to



1. Why in News

During Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced a 30% tax on income earned from transfer of virtual digital assets. The Government is yet to recognise crypto-currencies, but this ambiguity has not stopped people from trading in digital assets in large numbers, which apparently forced the Government's hand in announcing a tax on such transactions

2. About Cryptocurrency

A cryptocurrency is a digital or virtual currency that is secured by cryptography, which makes it nearly impossible to counterfeit or double-spend. Many cryptocurrencies are decentralized networks based on blockchain technology.

3. Blockchain

- Central to the appeal and functionality of cryptocurrencies is blockchain technology.
- Blockchain is essentially a set of connected blocks or an online ledger.
- Each block contains a set of transactions that have been independently verified by each member of the network.
- Every new block generated must be verified by each node before being confirmed, making it almost impossible to forge transaction histories.
- The contents of the online ledger must be agreed upon by the entire network of an individual node, or computer maintaining a copy of the ledger.

4. Taxing the income from virtual digital assets

- The Budget has proposed a 30% tax on income from the "transfer of any virtual digital asset."
- Except for the cost of acquisition, no deduction will be allowed.
- Losses from such transfers cannot be set off against any income.
- Tax will be deducted at source at the rate of 1%, so as to capture transaction details.

5. India's approach to cryptocurrencies

- The Government and the Reserve Bank of India have in the past cautioned people against considering cryptocurrencies as legal tender.
- As transactions using such currencies can easily bypass the tax net, and therefore be used for illicit transactions, have been bothering governments across the world.
- The Reserve Bank of India, in 2018, directed banks not to provide services to the cryptocurrency ecosystem.
- The Supreme Court set this aside, calling the move disproportionate, given that such currencies were not banned in the country.
- A law on cryptocurrencies, which was supposed to have been brought in last year, is yet to see the light of day.
- The broad expectation about the Government's approach to this was set by a 2019 report by an inter-ministerial committee which recommended a ban on all cryptocurrencies.
- Ms. Sitharaman noted in her Budget speech that "there has been a phenomenal increase in transactions in virtual digital assets".
- The magnitude and frequency of these transactions have made it imperative to provide for a specific tax regime.

6. Cryptocurrency ecosystem view on tax

- All major players have welcomed it. They took it as a move that provides clarity and "mainstreams" their industry.
- Some see it as, Government legitimising the industry.

thought process.

- The verdict in the Commissioner of Income Tax v. Piara Singh in 1980 quoted from the judgment in the Commissioner of Income Tax, Gujarat v. SC Kothari, in which the court had observed that "if the business is illegal, neither the profits earned nor the losses incurred would be enforceable in law. But, that does not take the profits out of the taxing statute."

9. Legality of Crypto Currencies

- Statements by ministers and bureaucrats after the Budget seem to suggest that the legality of cryptocurrencies in the country is still a grey area, never mind the tax.
- Finance Secretary said: "They are in a grey area. It's not illegal to buy and sell crypto."
- Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar told, "Yesterday's Budget has given a direct answer — crypto won't be banned."
- Ms. Sitharaman, seemed to suggest that the question on the ban hasn't been decided one way or another. She also seemed to divorce the taxability issue from the legitimacy issue. She further stated that taxing is completely her prerogative.
- Experts have pointed out that the legal position is in sync with this



Crypto Puzzle

1. Why in News:

The Padma awards were announced on January 25. The awards are always announced a day before the Republic Day celebrations. The awards are given away by the President at ceremonial functions held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The functions for the 2020 and 2021 awardees were held together last November because of the COVID19 pandemic. This year the President approved the conferment of 128 Padma Awards.

2. Bharat Ratna

- Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country.
- It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour.
- It is treated on a different footing from Padma Award.
- The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister to the President of India.
- No formal recommendations for Bharat Ratna are necessary.
- The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.
- Government has conferred Bharat Ratna Award on 45 persons till date.

3. About Padma awards

- After Bharat Ratna, Padma awards are the second highest civilian awards in the country and are given in three categories.
- The awards, initially known as Padma Vibhushan and then categorised as Pahela Varg, Dusra Varg and Tisra Varg, were first constituted in 1954.
- These were subsequently renamed as Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri vide Presidential Notification issued on January 8, 1955.
- The Padma Vibhushan is given for exceptional and distinguished service.
- Padma Bhushan is given for distinguished service of higher order.

4. Fields recognised for awards

The award seeks to recognize works of distinction and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields of activities/disciplines.

- Art (includes Music, Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Cinema, Theatre etc.)
- Social work (includes social service, charitable service, contribution in community projects etc.)
- Public Affairs (includes Law, Public Life, Politics etc.)

- Science & Engineering (includes Space Engineering, Nuclear Science, Information Technology, Research & Development in Science & its allied subjects etc.)
- Trade & Industry (includes Banking, Economic Activities, Management, Promotion of Tourism, Business etc.)
- Medicine (includes medical research, distinction/specialization in Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Sidhha, Allopathy, Naturopathy etc.)
- Literature & Education (includes Journalism, Teaching, Book composing, Literature, Poetry, Promotion of education, Promotion of literacy, Education Reforms etc.)
- Civil Service (includes distinction/excellence in administration etc. by Government Servants)
- Sports (includes popular Sports, Athletics, Adventure, Mountaineering, promotion of sports, Yoga etc.)
- Others (fields not covered above and may include propagation of Indian Culture, protection of Human Rights, Wild Life protection/conservation etc.)

The Padma Awards

- Padma Shri is given for distinguished service.
- All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these awards. However, Government servants including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible for these Awards.

5. Who decides the awards?

- All nominations received for Padma Awards are placed before the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.
- The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the Cabinet Secretary and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members.
- The recommendations of the committee are submitted to the Prime Minister and the President of India for approval.

6. Award entail

- The names of the awardees are published in the Gazette of India on the day of the presentation ceremony.
- The total number of awards to be given in a year (excluding posthumous awards and to NRI/foreigners/OCIs) should not be more than 120.
- The award does not amount to a title and cannot be used as a suffix or prefix to the awardees' name
- The awards are presented by the President of India where the awardees are presented a Sanad (certificate) signed by the President and a medallion.
- The recipients are also given a small replica of the medallion, which they can wear during any ceremonial/State functions etc., if the awardees so desire.

1. About

Dr. Uttamadhanapuram Venkatasubbaier Swaminatha Iyer, known as U.V. Swaminatha Iyer, was one of the famous Tamil Scholars, born on February 19th 1855 in Uthamadhanapuram nearby Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu. For his efforts in the publishing field, he is respectfully referred to as "Thamizh Thatha". The grandfather of Tamil Literature. His father Venkata Subbu Iyer was a leading Musician.

2. Education

- Dr. Swaminatha Iyer did his schooling and music in his own town.
- In his 17th year, he started learning Tamil from Thirisipuram Sundaram Pillai, who was a teacher in Thiruvaduthurai Saiva Athinam.
- U.V. Swaminatha Iyer learned Tamil for 5 years and later he worked in a college at Kumbakonam in the year 1880 and then he worked for some time in Presidency College, Madras.

3. Contribution to Tamil Literature

- He was instrumental in bringing many long-forgotten works of classical Tamil literature to light.
- Due to his efforts, a large number of literary works which were gathering dust as palm-leaf manuscripts in lofts, storerooms, boxes and cupboards saw the light of day.
- Cilappatikaram, Manimekalai and Purananuru were received by Tamil lovers with a lot of enthusiasm.
- Purananuru, which mirrored the lives of Tamils during the Sangam period, prompted scholarly research on the subject.
- Iyer published over 90 books in his lifetime, on a variety of matters connected to classical Tamil literature, and collected over 3,000 paper manuscripts, palm-leaf manuscripts and notes of various kinds.
- Swaminatha Iyer published books, including minor poems, lyrics, puranas and bhakti (devotional) works.

4. Contribution to Tamil Music

- Swaminatha Iyer made a significant contribution in the realm of Tamil music.
- Until the publication of Cilappatikaram, Pattupattu and Ettuthokai by Swaminatha Iyer, music was a grey area in Tamil research.
- During the previous four centuries, Telugu and Sanskrit dominated the music scene in Tamil Nadu in the absence of any valuable information on Tamil music.

- Swaminatha Iyer's publications threw light on the presence of Tamil music in the earlier centuries and paved the way for serious research on the subject.
- As the son of a famous musician of his time, Swaminatha Iyer learnt music from Gopalakrishna Bharathi, a musical exponent and the author of Nandan Sarithiram.

5. Autobiography

- Swaminatha Iyer published his autobiography, En Saritham, serialised in the Tamil weekly Ananda Vikatan, from January 1940 to May 1942.
- It was later published as a book in 1950. It ran into 762 pages.
- The book is an excellent account of the life and times of villages, especially in the Thanjavur district in the late 19th century.
- The Tamil is simple and peppered with many observations on people as well as descriptions of school life, life in monasteries (Mutts).
- The book also reveals the enormous perseverance of U V Swaminatha Iyer in his quest to master Tamil and save manuscripts.

6. Honours

- Rabindranath Tagore met Swaminatha Iyer in 1926 in Chennai.
- Tagore penned a poem in praise of Iyer's efforts to salvage ancient classical Tamil literary works from palm leaf manuscripts.
- The honorary doctoral degree (D.Litt.) was conferred on Iyer by the University of Madras in 1906. In recognition of his outstanding literary accomplishments and contributions, he was also honoured with the title, Mahamahopathiyya, literally: "Greatest of great teachers".
- In the same year, when the Prince and Princess of Wales visited Madras, a function was arranged where Swaminatha Iyer was honoured. Iyer was awarded the title of Dakshinathya Kalanidhi in 1925.
- In 1932, the Madras University awarded an honorary PhD to him in recognition of his services in the cause of Tamil.
- Indian Postal department issued a commemorative postage stamp on 18 February 2006.
- His house in Uthamadhanapuram has been converted as a Memorial.

Dr. U. V. Swaminatha Iyer



1. Why in News:

On January 18, Indonesia's Parliament approved a bill to relocate the country's capital from Jakarta to a new city to be built on the island of Borneo, named as Nusantara. The decision was taken after the growing concerns of the long-term sustainability of Jakarta. The move has triggered concerns about the environmental impact on the forested island of Borneo

2. About Borneo Island

- The Southeast Asian island of Borneo, located on the Equator, is home to some of the world's most diverse rain forests and Southeast Asia's last intact forests.
- Borneo is the world's third largest island.
- The island's tropical climate and diverse eco-regions have created habitats that house thousands of unique species.
- Massive rivers cut across the landscape. These are the islands' lifelines, offering transport and providing the freshwater needs for the islands' people.
- Borneo and Sumatra are the only places on Earth where tigers, rhinos, orangutans, and elephants live together.
- The forests are home to marvelous creatures like the proboscis monkey, sun bear, clouded leopard, and flying fox bat.

3. Drawbacks with Jakarta

- In August 2019, President Joko Widodo first announced that the capital would be shifted from Jakarta, on the island of Java, to a new city to be built in East Kalimantan on the island of Borneo.
- The city has suffered from a range of urban problems from overcrowding to pollution and congested roads.
- One major concern about its long-term future was the slowly sinking of the Jakarta.
- Studies have forecast that the entire city could sink by 2050, while flooding is a recurring problem.

4. The bill & the Plan

- The bill has given the green light to Mr. Widodo's move and outlined a plan to shift the capital in five stages.
- Planning Minister Suharso Monoarfa told Parliament the first stage, to be completed by 2024, will focus on basic infrastructure such as new roads to provide access to the site.
- The last stage will be finished in 2045

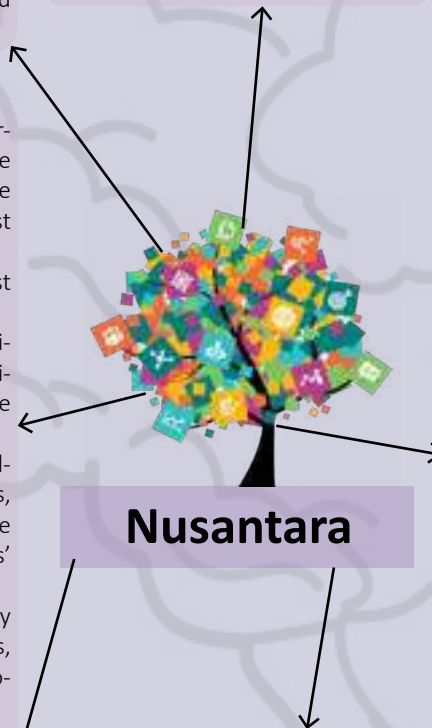
- The project is estimated to cost more than \$30 billion. A broader goal, President Widodo has said, was to bring greater economic activity to Kalimantan and reduce the dependence on Jakarta.
- Government offices will all be moved to Nusantara.
- If the current capital is suffering from pollution and flooding among other problems, environmental groups have, however, expressed concerns that the new project may end up bringing those problems to Kalimantan, a region known for its forests and biodiversity

5. The name "Nusantara"

- The name literally means "archipelago".
- It also has a historical context referring to the entire region, including Indonesia and its neighbours in South-east Asia.
- The Planning Minister said Nusantara "is a unity concept that accommodates all of our diversity, whether in race, language, or ethnicity" and the hope was for the new capital to be reflective of that aspiration.
- The name Nusantara dates back to Majapahit, a Hindu empire that was based in Java and ruled from the late 13th to the early 15th centuries. At its peak, its influence extended beyond today's Indonesia to much of South-east Asia, including Brunei and parts of Thailand and the Philippines.
- While the official explanation is that this connotes diversity, there has been disquiet over, why the name from a list of 80 suggestions was chosen, that refers not only to Indonesia but to the entire region.

6. Shifting of capitals by countries

- States have shifted capitals for a multitude of reasons throughout history, from reasons to do with the weather and the military to pride projects and just politics.
- In 1997, Kazakhstan shifted its capital from Almaty to Astana, a planned city.
- Then Astana was itself renamed in 2019 to Nur-Sultan, in homage to long-term former President Nursultan Nazarbayev.
- Myanmar in 2005 shifted its capital from Yangon to another planned city, Naypyidaw. Strategic reasons were cited as one possible explanation for the military regime's decision



Nusantara

MCQs Based on Environment and Ecology

1. The PH of Fresh ground water slightly decreases upon exposure to air because;
(a) Carbon dioxide from air is dissolved in the water
(b) Oxygen from air is dissolved in the water
(c) The dissolved carbon dioxide of the ground water escapes into air
(d) The dissolved oxygen of the groundwater escapes into air.
2. Arrange the following principal gases of the atmosphere in descending order of their volumetric proportions:
1. Argon
2. CO₂
3. Nitrogen
4. Oxygen
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 – 2 – 4 – 3
(b) 4 – 3 – 2 – 1
(c) 3 – 4 – 1 – 2
(d) 3 – 4 – 2 – 1
3. Which one of the following kitchen practices is considered to be beneficial from the standpoint of nutrition and health?
(a) Addition of baking soda to beans and lentils at the time of cooking
(b) Cutting vegetables into small pieces half an hour before cooking.
(c) Fermenting the ingredients before making the preparation as in Idli or dhokla
(d) Washing the rice with good amount of water before cooking.
4. Which of the following factors can decrease biological oxygen demand (BOD) of any fresh water ecosystem?
(a) Large amount of sewage
(b) Large biomass accumulation and decomposition
(c) Increased organic matter pollution.
(d) Low temperature and low plant biomass accumulation
5. Age of fossil may be found out by determining the ratio of two isotopes of carbon. The isotopes are
(a) C-12 and C-13
(b) C-13 and C-14
(c) C-12 and C-14
(d) C-12 and carbon black
6. Which one of the following is not required for the formation of photochemical smog?
(a) Carbon Monoxide
(b) Oxide of Nitrogen
(c) Oxygen
(d) Sunlight
7. Consider the following transient physiological changes:
1. Increase in blood pressure.
2. Decrease in intracranial pressure.
3. Dilation of the pupils.
4. Increase in breathing rate.
Which of the above changes transiently occur in a person exposed to noise pollution?
(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 2 only
8. "Carbon credits" are issued in the terms of units of certified Emission Reduction (CER). Each CER is equivalent to
(a) 1 Kg of Co₂ reduction
(b) 10 kg of Co₂ reduction
(c) 100 kg of Co₂ reduction
(d) 1 tonne of Co₂ reduction
9. Consider the following statements:
1. Oil spills in tropical marine environment are less environment are less disastrous due to Fast evaporation rate compared to the temperate environment.
2. Coastal vegetation is not affected by oil pollution in tropical condition.
Which of the statement(s) given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
10. Which of the following can help in reducing the

carbon footprint?

1. Using fly-ash based cement in building construction
2. Using LED-based electric lamps instead of incandescent lamps.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

11. CNG is considered as a ecofriendly fuel. Which one among the following is not feature of CNG:

- (a) CNG is heavier than air
- (b) It is a mixture of hydrocarbons consisting of approximately 80-90% methane in gaseous form.
- (c) It is not a liquid fuel, neither the same as LPG, which consists of propane and butane in liquid form.
- (d) CNG allows the use of catalytic converter more efficiently than diesel.

12. Consider the following kinds:

1. Dust
2. Fog
3. Fly ash
4. Smoke
5. Fumes

Which of the above are air pollutants?

- (a) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

13. Consider the following health hazards:

1. lowering of IQ in children.
2. Lowering of systolic blood pressure.
3. Reduced RBC survival and reduced haem biosynthesis.
4. Higher rates of miscarriages, stillbirths and pre-term deliveries.

Which of the above are associated with environmental lead exposure?

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

14. Which of the following will be the useful control strategies to check outdoor pollution with "Fine" Particulate matter?

1. Restriction on the use of two-stroke engines
 2. Restriction on burning biomass.
 3. Restriction of use coal as fuel in home.
 4. Active measures to control forest fires.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

15. While managing a mass disaster, the term "triage" applies to

- (a) It is the principle of "First come, First treated."
- (b) It is the classification of the injured on the basis of severity of Injuries with the concept of treating the most seriously injured first.
- (c) It is the classification of the injured on the basis of severity of injuries with the concept of treating the children and adolescents first.
- (d) It is the classification of the injured on the basis of severity of injuries with the concept of treating those first who are likely to survive with medical intervention.

Answers

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| 1. (a) | 13. (c) |
| 2. (c) | 14. (a) |
| 3. (c) | 15. (b) |
| 4. (c) | |
| 5. (c) | |
| 6. (c) | |
| 7. (a) | |
| 8. (d) | |
| 9. (d) | |
| 10. (c) | |
| 11. (a) | |
| 12. (a) | |

MCQs Based on Current Affairs

Q.1 With reference to the fisheries sector, consider the following statements:

1. The budget allocation has been increased by more than 50 percent as compared to 2021-22.
2. The fisheries sector has been registering impressive double-digit average annual growth of 10.87% since 2014-15.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 2
- d) neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Q.2 Consider the following statements about defense manufacturing in India :

1. The share of the private sector in total defense production has been increasing in the last five years.
2. India's share in global arms exports was 10% during 2016-20, making the country the world's sixth-largest exporter of major arms.

Which of the above statements is/are correct? Select the correct option using the code?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 2
- d) None of these

Answer: a

Q.3 Consider the following statements :

1. Parivartan Portal is related to Environment Clearance to promote ease of doing business.
2. States will be allowed a fiscal deficit of 3% of GSDP for FY 2022.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct? Select the correct option using the code.

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) Both are correct.
- d) None of the above.

Answer -a

Q.4 With reference to Intensified Mission Indradhanush, consider the following statements:

1. It targets children below 2 years of age and pregnant women for vaccination.
2. It provides vaccination against all vaccine-preventable

diseases to children and pregnant women.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 2
- d) None of these

Answer: a

Q.5 With which of the following countries, India have a comprehensive economic cooperation agreement?

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) United Kingdom
- c) Malaysia
- d) Australia

Answer: c

Q.6 Consider the following statements about biomass :

1. Biomass is a non-renewable source of energy.
2. Gasification is a process that converts organic or fossil-based carbonaceous materials into syngas at high temperatures, without combustion.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 2
- d) none of these

Answer: b

Q.7 Which of the following country has the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), an experimental superconducting tokamak magnetic fusion power reactor?

- a) Russia
- b) Japan
- c) France
- d) China

Answer: d

Q.8 Under the Indian Constitution, which of the following is not a specific ground on which a state can impose restrictions on freedom of religion?

- (a) Public Order
- (b) Morality
- (c) Social Justice
- (d) health

Answer: c

Q.9 Which of the following payment systems has the largest share in the digital payments taking place in India?

- a) card-based payment system
- b) UPI
- c) Aadhaar Enabled Payment System
- d) Internet banking

Answer: b

Q.10 With reference to the South Asian region, consider the following statements:

- 1. This region represents about 24.5% of the world's population.
 - 2. The sector accounts for 4.42% of the total global GDP.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 2
- d) none of these

Answer: c

Q.11 Which of the following is the cause of instability in the South Asian region?

- 1) artificial borders
- 2) crisis of mutual trust between countries
- 3) China's growing influence
- 4) Economic Crisis
- 5) Refugee crisis
- 6) Religious conflict

Which of the above are correct. Select the correct option using the code?

- 1. 3 and 4 only
- 2. 6, 5 and 3 only
- 3. Both 3, 4, 5 and 6
- 4. All of the above

Answer d

Q.12 On the basis of the CAG report on Groundwater Management and Regulation, examine the following statements :

- 1) According to this report, the level of groundwater extraction (ratio of recharge and extraction) in India has increased from 58 percent in 2004 to 63 percent in 2017.
- 2) Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan have more than 100 percent.
- 3) The average extraction in 19 states/UTs is higher than the national average.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 2

d) None of these

Answer: c

Q.13 What is the reason for the over-exploitation of groundwater in India?

- 1) growing urbanization
- 2) Green revolution
- 3) Growing industrial sector

Select the correct option using the code?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 3
- d) all of the above

Answer: d

Q.14 Which of the following are the efforts made for the digitization of education in India?

- 1) Operation digital board
- 2) Omen
- 3) National Digital Library of India
- 4) Shodhganga

Select the correct option using the code?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 3
- d) all of the above

Answer: d

Q.15 Why is Digital University necessary for India?

- 1) For mitigation of corona effect
- 2) Towards the goal of Education for All
- 3) To achieve the goals of SDG-4

Select the correct option using the code?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) both 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of these

Answer: c

Q.16 Consider the following statements :

- 1) Article 25 and Article 16 prohibit discrimination on grounds of religion.
- 2) Article 15:- All persons are entitled to "freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion". Although this right is not absolute and this freedom can be restricted by the state on the basis of public order, morality, morality, health.

Which of the above statements is/are correct? Select the correct option using the code?

- a) only 1

- b) only 2
- c) both 1 and 2
- d) None of these

Answer: d

Q.17 Which of the following is not correctly matched?

- a) Article 14: Article 14 provides for equality before the law and equal protection of laws, it prohibits discrimination on religious grounds.
- b) Article 15: Allows positive discrimination on the basis of religion in movement in public places
- c) Article 16: Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion in public employment.
- d) Article 25 to Article 28: Right to freedom of religion broadly

Answer: b

Q.18 Where is India's first Geological Park being established?

- a) Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh)
- b) Udaipur (Rajasthan)
- c) Lakhimpur (Uttar Pradesh)
- d) Nagpur (Maharashtra)

Answer: a

Q.19 Who among the following has been selected for the 'World Games Athlete of the Year' for the year 2021?

- a) Rani Rampal
- b) Alberto Gins Lopez
- c) PR Sreejesh
- d) Michelle Giordano

Answer: c

Q.20 Arrange the correct order of India's trading partner in 2021

- 1) America
- 2) Saudi Arabia
- 3) Singapore
- 4) UAE

Select the correct option using the code?

- a) 1,2,4,3
- b) 1,4,2,3
- c) 1,3,4,2
- d) 1,2,3,4

Answer: b

NOTES

Case Study

You are a District Magistrate posted in a district of western Uttar Pradesh. Union Minister of Agriculture is scheduled to arrive here in the evening today to inaugurate some schemes of the union government.

There is dissatisfaction among local peasants due to inadequate increment in the minimum support price of paddy and delay in its procurement. So local peasants organisations decided to encircle the agriculture minister to handover him a memorandum of their demands. Some political parties also extended their support to farmers. These farmers surrounded the venue of the minister's programme and collected in large numbers, both sides of the road.

In the meantime, the intelligence unit informs you that some anti-social elements are involved in peasant's demonstrations with weapons. They want to exploit the situation for inciting riots. Only three hours have been left in the arrival of the minister. Now, what would be your reaction? Explain in detail.

Ans.

In the given case study, I am the district magistrate of a district and have to control the situation that arose due to the complexities of the situation.

Challenges involved:

- Large scale riot leading to violence
- Stampede
- Vulnerable security of minister
- Loss of life and property
- Strict actions could be taken against farmers

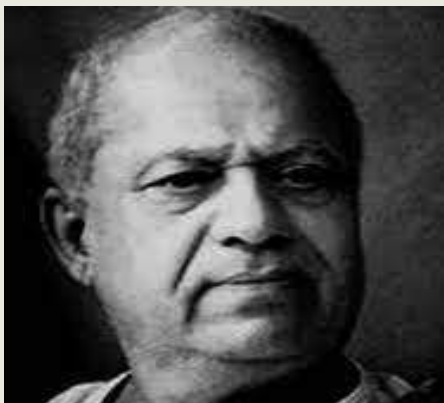
My course of action will be:

- I will arrange a meeting with the farmer leaders and request them to call off the protest, listen to new schemes which might be beneficial for them and then only peacefully meet the minister to submit their demands.
- I will make the protesting group of farmers aware of the unsocial elements present in their groupings to serve their unscrupulous objectives.
- I will also call for immediate police backup and barricade the complete area where the minister is coming and will only allow entry on identity verification.
- I will persuade opposition party leaders to come in public and request protesting farmers to peacefully raise for their demands.

- If the situation worsens I will request the minister to delay his program and request farmer leaders to personally submit their demands to a place of his choice.

NOTES

Eminent Personality- Dada Saheb Phalke



Dadasaheb Phalke needs no introduction. He is a cinematic visionary man who laid the foundations of the Indian acting tradition, who made India's first film, and portrayed all of India's major mythological characters. Drawing energy from the Swadeshi Movement during the British colonial rule, he did the landmark work of indigenous Indian filmmaking. His ability was in the fact that he was the first person who explored the possibilities of acting in the Indian film industry.

Dadasaheb Phalke (Dhundiraj Govind Phalke) was born on 30 April 1870 in Triyambak, Nashik, Maharashtra. He completed his studies at Sir JJ School of Art in Mumbai in 1885 and then moved to Kala Bhavan of Maharaja Sayajirao University in Baroda, Gujarat where he learned sculpture, drawing, painting, and photography. For a short time, Phalke also worked as a painter in Baroda and then as a photographer in Godhra and there he lost his wife and son to the bubonic plague and after that, he decided to return to Maharashtra.

Before starting his career as a filmmaker, he worked in the printing press of the Archaeological Survey of India and did many other jobs. Phalke is said to have worked with Raja Ravi Varma in his lithography press in the 1890s. After that Phalke set up his printing press. After some time Phalke decided to go to Germany to learn new printing techniques. He made up his mind to update his equipment and after coming back he started India's foremost press but his career in the printing press did not last very long and he decided to resign.

The turning point in Phalke's life came when he saw the French silent film "The life of Christ" in 1903 and was deeply impressed by it. "The Life of Christ" was shown at the America-India Picture Palace in Bombay. Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, watching the film while sitting in the the-

ater, decided to applaud that he too would bring to life the Indian religious and mythological characters on the silver screen.

After this, he started reading and watching everything in filmmaking. He went to England and from there bought a Williamson camera, a perforated and some Kodak film, even selling his wife's jewelry to make his film.

He made his first full-length 40-minute silent film Raja Harishchandra which was released on 3 May 1913. The film was so liked by the audience in India that Phalke's filmmaking journey started. He produced it, Direct it and he also handled the costume design, lightman, and camera department. He was also the writer of the script of the film. It was released on 3 May 1913 at Coronation Cinema Bombay. This was the first film in India.

Phalke felt that since the Swadeshi movement was going on at that time, then the Indian cinema industry could also get its benefit. After this, for the next two decades, he made 95 films, most of which were mythological characters, he also made more than 20 short films. He made films like Mohini Bhasmasur in 1913, Satyavan Savitri in 1914, Shri Krishna in 1918, Kaliya Mardan (1919), Raj Rishi Ambareesh in 1922, Guru Dronacharya in 1923, Draupadi Vastraharan in 1927, Sant Mirabai in 1929, Kabir Kamal in 1930.

In his 1917 film Lanka Dahan, actor Anna Salunkhe played both Lord Rama and Sita, and this was the first incident of double role play in Indian cinema. Dadasaheb Phalke inspired different regions of the country like Kolkata, Pune, Mumbai, and Kolhapur in the field of filmmaking and due to this a huge Indian film industry came into existence.

He also did a partnership in the Hindustan Cinema Films Company but later left it and settled himself in Kashi. In 1937, he made a film called Gangavataran, which was his first sound film and it was also his last directorial venture. His last silent movie was Setubandhan and his last movie was Gangavataran.

Dadasaheb Phalke breathed his last in Nashik on 16 February 1944. In his memory, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for Lifetime Achievement was instituted in 1969, the biggest award of Indian cinema.

POLITY TERMINOLOGY

Process of making the constitution

Constituent assembly demanded

- For the first time, M. N. Roy in 1934 demanded a Constituent Assembly for India.
- Indian National Congress officially demanded a Constituent Assembly for the first time in 1935.
- By "August offer" in 1940, British government finally accepted the demand in principle.
- Cripps Mission came to India in 1942 and offered full dominion status after the end of World War-II. Gandhi called the Cripps offer a "Postdated Cheque drawn on a falling Bank".
- Cabinet Mission came to India in 1946; it put forth a scheme for the Constituent Assembly.

Composition of the constituent assembly

The Constituent Assembly had 389 members. Of it 296 were from British India and 93 were from Princely States.

First meeting of Constituent Assembly

- First meeting of the Constituent Assembly was held on December 9, 1946.
- Dr. Sachidananda Sinha was elected as the temporary President of the assembly.
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of the Constituent Assembly.

Objective Resolution

- On December 13, 1946 Jawaharlal Nehru presented Objective Resolution in Constituent Assembly.
- It laid down the fundamental and philosophy of the constitutional structure.

Indian Independence act passed

Due to Indian Independence Act 1947, three major changes took place:-

- The Constituent Assembly became of fully sovereign body.
- Now Constituent Assembly had to perform two task:-
 - 1. Constitution making:-** it was chaired by Dr. Rajendra Prasad. Later Dr. Rajendra Prasad became the first President of India.
 - 2. Provincial Legislature:-** it was chaired by G V Mavalankar. Later he became the first Speaker of Lok Sabha of India.
- Muslim league members (from Pakistan areas) withdrew from the Constituent Assembly for India. Now Constituent Assembly had 299 members, of which 229

members were from Indian Provinces and 70 were from princely states.

Constituent Assembly's committees:-

- Union Power Committee- Jawaharlal Nehru
- Union Constitution Committee- Jawaharlal Nehru
- Provincial Constitution Committee- Sardar Patel
- Drafting Committee – Dr B R Ambedkar
- Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas- Sardar Patel
- Steering committee- Dr Rajendra Prasad
- Rules of Procedure committee- Dr Rajendra Prasad

Drafting Committee :-

- On 29th August, 1947 Constituent Assembly appointed the Drafting Committee. It's 7 members were
 1. Dr B R Ambedkar (Chairman)
 2. N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar
 3. Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar
 4. Syed Mohammed Saadullah
 5. Dr K M Munshi
 6. N Madhava Rau (Replaced B L Mitter)
 7. T T Krishnamachari (Replaced D P Khaitan)
- On 21st February, 1948 the first draft of the Constitution of India was published.

Enactment of the Constitution :-

- Final draft of the Constitution of India was introduced on 4th November, 1948 and the first reading took place.
 - Second reading took place from 15th November, 1948 to 17th October 1949.
 - Third reading took place from 14th November 1949 to 26th November 1949.
- On 26th November 1949, Constituent Assembly adopted the "Constitution of India". It had a Preamble, 395 Articles in 22 parts and 8 Schedules.

Constitution's enforcement

- On 26th November 1949, Constitution of India was partially enforced.
- Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 60, 324, 366, 367, 379, 380, 388, 391, 392 and 393 came into force on 26th November 1949.
- On 26th January 1950 rest of the articles came into force.
- "Commencement of the Constitution" took place on 26 January 1950.



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		Indian Polity & Governance	Kumud Ranjan
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		General Science	Peeyush
		General Studies- Dynamic (Current Issues & Developments)	
		Indian Polity & Governance	Kumud Ranjan
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		Economy + Budget & Economic Survey	Kumar Amit
		Technology	Q. H. Khan & Peeyush
		Health	Javed Haque
		International Issues	Bharat Singh
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		Indian History+ Art & Culture	Javed Haque
		Geography of India & World	Apurva Mehrotra
		Indian Polity & Governance	Kumud Ranjan
		Economy	Kumar Amit
		General Science	Peeyush
		General Studies- Dynamic (Current Issues & Developments)	
		Indian Polity & Governance	Kumud Ranjan
		Environmental Ecology, Bio-Diversity & Climate Change	Sanjay Singh
		Economy + Budget & Economic Survey	Kumar Amit
		Technology	Q. H. Khan & Peeyush
		Health	Javed Haque
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Objective	Features	Course Content	Faculty Name
The course has been designed to give extensive coverage of the Dynamic part of General Studies. In this course Expert Faculties would be analyzing and explaining in detail, all the current events and developments which are of dynamic nature through live classes.	* 100 Hrs. of Live Classes which will cover the Dynamic portion of General Studies. * Half an hour of doubt clearing session at the end of all Live classes. * Academic chat support would be provided. * Each class would be of 2 Hours. * Downloadable Study material in PDF format would be provided in the Application.	General Studies- Dynamic (Current Issues & Developments)	
		Indian Polity & Governance	Kumud Ranjan
		Environmental Ecology, Bio-Diversity & Climate Change	Sanjay Singh
		Economy + Budget & Economic Survey	Kumar Amit
		Technology	Q. H. Khan & Peeyush
		Health	Javed Haque
		International Issues	Bharat Singh

UPPCS CSAT

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Objective	Features	Course Content	Faculty Name
The Course is designed to develop a better understanding of various Principles and their applications amongst students. Concept building and clarifications would also be a part of the curriculum. Various Techniques would be discussed and taught that would help to solve the questions that come in this section.	* 150 Hrs. of Live Classes * Half an hour of doubt clearing session at the end of all Live classes. * Academic chat support would be provided. * Each class would be of 2 Hours. * Downloadable Study material in PDF format would be provided in the Application.	Maths and Reasoning	Mukesh Singh
		Comprehension	Shweta Singh
		English Language	Athar Abbasi
		General Hindi	Sandeep Sahil

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○ Current events of national and international importance. ○ History of India and Indian National Movement. ○ Indian and World Geography-Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World. ○ Indian Polity and Governance - Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc. ○ Economic and Social Development, Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion Demographics, Social Sector initiatives, etc. ○ General issues on Environmental Ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization. ○ General Science.	○ Comprehension ○ Interpersonal skills including communication skills. ○ Logical reasoning and analytical ability. ○ Decision making and problem solving ○ General mental ability ○ Elementary Mathematics upto Class X level-Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry and Statistics ○ General English upto Class X level ○ General Hindi upto Class X level



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Criteria:

**UPSC background: candidates who have
appeared or cleared the mains exam**

Minimum 1 Year Experience

Location Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi

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AN INTRODUCTION



DHYEYA IAS[®]
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DhyeyaIAS, one and half decade old institution, was founded by Mr. Vinay Singh and Mr. Q. H. Khan. Ever since its emergence it has unparalleled track record of success. Today, it stands tall among the reputed institutes providing coaching for Civil Services Examination (CSE). The institute has been very successful in making potential aspirants realize their dreams which is evident from the success stories of the previous years.

As the nation progresses, the young generations become more conscious and aware about their career options. There is plethora of jobs and one among them is civil services, the most prestigious service in the country, which needs no introduction. It attracts many young minds hailing from almost all spectra of academic disciplines. The popular belief that the examination for this service is only meant for the brilliant lots has become a taboo as it also attracts the hardworking, sincere and disciplined minds. The saying- "In the end passion and hard work can substitute natural talent" holds true. It gives immense power and opportunity for young folks to bring about the positive changes in the society which would bring harmony and development. It inculcates values, moral, ethos and feeling of national integrity.

Quite a large number of students desirous of building a career for themselves are absolutely less equipped for the fairly tough competitive tests they have to appear in. Several others, who have a brilliant academic career, do not know that competitive exams are vastly different from academic examination and call for a systematic and scientifically planned guidance by a team of experts. Here one single move may invariably put one ahead of many others who lag behind. Dhyeya IAS is manned with qualified & experienced faculties besides especially designed study material that helps the students in achieving the desired goal.

Civil Services Exam requires knowledge base of specified subjects. These subjects though taught in schools and colleges are not necessarily oriented towards the exam approach. Classes at Dhyeya IAS are different from classes conducted in schools and colleges with respect to their orientation. Classes are targeted towards the particular exam. Classroom guidance at Dhyeya IAS is about improving the individuals' capacity to focus, learn and innovate as we are comfortably aware of the fact that you can't teach a person anything, you can only help him find it within himself.

We feel that despite brilliance and diligence, most of the students are lacking proper guidance and aptitude needed to clear Civil Services Examination. This is why, we at Dhyeya IAS amalgamated the traditional as well as modern approach of teaching by incorporating best educators of the industry ably supported by Academic Associates, Class Notes and printed Study Material, routine as well as surprise Tests. Due to its arduous efforts, Dhyeya IAS is able to carve a niche among all the civil services coaching institutes in India. Access to an institution is as important as the quality of Institution. Our faith in this philosophy made us grow. With 12 Face to Face Centers located in different parts in India, Distance Learning Program, Live Streaming Centers and Residential Academy, we have made truly pan India presence. Ever since the foundation the institute has produced a heavy pool of bureaucrats both at central and state level. Dhyeya IAS not only aims at imparting the content of civil services in best way but also nurturing the aspirants as leaders of tomorrow who have a responsibility of fulfilling the dreams of around 1.4 billion Indians. Dhyeya IAS has guided over 50,000 aspirants with more than 4000 selections in civil services. Our journey is a small contribution for the development of the society and nation by nurturing the potential civil services aspirants.

Considering the toughness of Civil Services Exam, where success rate is a meager 0.1 percent, Dhyeya IAS has continuously produced phenomenal results over the years. Year after Year Dhyeya IAS is being recognized for imparting guidance to civil services aspirants using benchmarked quality practices. On the basis of scalability, innovation, achievements, impact potential our efforts and contribution have been acknowledged and rewarded with Education Excellence Awards by ET NOW, Brands Academy, Times of India, etc. This has enhanced motivation, pride and self-esteem of entire Dhyeya family.



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Face to Face Centres

North Delhi : A 12, 13, Ansai Building, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi - 110009, Ph: 9205274741/42/44 | **Laxmi Nagar** : 1/53, 2nd floor, Lalita Park, Near Gurudwara, Opposite Pillar no.23, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi -110092, Ph: 9205212500/9205962002 | **Greater Noida** : 4th Floor Veera Tower, Alpha 1 Commercial Belt., Greater Noida, UP - 201310, Ph: 9205336037/38 | **Prayagraj** : II & III Floor, Shri Ram Tower, 17C, Sardar Patel Marg, Civil Lines, Prayagraj, UP - 211001, Ph: 0532-2260189/8853467068 | **Lucknow (Aliganj)** : A-12, Sector-J, Aliganj, Lucknow, UP- 226024, Ph: 0522-4025825/9506256789 | **Lucknow (Gomti Nagar)** : CP-1, Jeewan Plaza, Viram Khand-5, Near Husariya Chauraha, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, UP - 226010, Ph: 7234000501/ 7234000502 | **Kanpur** : 113/154 Swaroop Nagar, Near HDFC Bank, Kanpur, UP - 208002, Ph: 7887003962/7897003962 | **Gorakhpur** : Narain Tower, 2nd floor, Gandhi Gali, Golghar, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh 273001, Ph: 7080847474 | **Bhubaneswar** : OEU Tower, Third Floor, KIIT Road, Patia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751024, Ph: 9818244644/7656949029

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