PERFECT 7

January 2022 / Issue-1

Judicial delay on constitutional issues indicating the need for judicial reforms

'Dekho Apna Desh' Initiative and Cultural Integration of India

Rising demand to repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA)

Rising Wildlife Trafficking in India: Challenges Initiatives taken for Solution

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Director's Message





Mr. Vinay Kumar Singh

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Vinay Kumar Singh CEO and Founder

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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 DhyeyalAS



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1

Judicial delay on constitutional issues indicating the need for judicial reforms

- Reference
- Introduction
- Important issues pending in the judiciary
- Important decisions given by the judiciary
- The need for reforms in the judicial system
- Conclusion

Reference:-

The judiciary has an important role in the governance of India. For some time there are many issues related to, state power and accountability are pending in the judiciary.

Introduction:-

During the framing of the Indian Constitution, it was proposed in the Constituent Assembly that any matter which violates the fundamental rights of individuals should be disposed of in the judiciary within a month. Although this provision could not be included in the constitution, but it demonstrated the importance of individual liberty and fundamental rights. But at present, many such important issues are pending in the judiciary which are related to the power and accountability of the state, somewhere this situation is weakening the importance of fundamental rights.

Important issues pending in the judiciary

Jammu and Kashmir Case:-

It may be noted that on August 5, 2019, Article 370 of the Indian Constitution was suspended by the order of the President. This article provided special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. With this, by using Article 3 in the Parliament, the state of Jammu and Kashmir was converted into two Union Territories. At the time when this order was given, President's rule was enforced in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Against this decision of the government, a suit was filed in the Supreme Court. In which some important questions were raised which are as follows

• Can the center take advantage of Article 356 to divide the state or change its status?

• The second question was that although Article 3 provides that Parliament can change the boundaries of the state, but does this article also refer that the Union government can reduce the existence of the state by converting it into a union territory?

These questions pending in the judiciary after 5th August 2019, have not been resolved yet. This somewhere raises a question mark on the competence of the judiciary.

Electoral bond issue:-

• Election in India is a process related to the transfer of public sovereignty. In electoral bonds, there are certain Provisions for elections financing, so it requires more attention. • The pendency of the Electoral Bonds case is going on for about 4 years.

The problem with Electoral Bonds is that it provides for donations to national parties and state parties, which in turn creates a disparity with independent candidates.
Corporate houses, who finance the parties, can create pressure on political parties for making policies of their benefit. Somehow it corrupts the process of democratic elections.

• Even after almost 4 years, the matter has not been resolved.

Citizenship Amendment Act:-

• The Citizenship Amendment Act was passed by the Parliament in 2019, providing citizenship to the victims of religious persecution (ie minorities in these countries) from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Bangladesh, who have come to India by 31 December 2014.

• Hindus, Sikhs, Parsis, Jains, Buddhists, Christians are minorities in these three countries. There was a lot of controversy in India and the matter went to the Supreme Court regarding the violation of Article 14. No specific decision has been taken on this matter also.

Farmers case:-

In 2020, ordinances were brought by





the government in the form of three agricultural laws, against which farmers' unions petitioned the Supreme Court and started the agitation on the road. After more than 1 year, the proper decision was not taken by the judiciary. But now these three laws have been withdrawn by the government.

Other Cases:-

• Judgment given by Gauhati High Court in 2013 in respect of CBI that CBI is not a statutory body and powers of CBI will have to be curtailed in states, is pending in Supreme Court.

• There is a petition in the Supreme Court concerning Section 43D(5) of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act. This section prevents the bail of persons under this Act with immediate effect.

• This act is misused as this case has been registered against the litigants in the Bhima Koregaon case. This condition restricts the liberty mentioned in Article 21. This matter is also pending in the Supreme Court.

Although the judiciary is not neutral in these matters, the issues related to human liberty, state power and federalism demand an early settlement as all these are among the basic elements of the Constitution.

Problems arising from these situations:-

• This situation is showing the heavy burden on the judiciary and the lack of efficiency of the judiciary. Somewhere the fundamental rights of common people have been affected due to lack of better decisions and quick decisions on issues like elections, federalism, citizenship. The status quo on these issues does injustice to an individual or a group of individuals.

• The right to constitutional remedies given under Article 32 was called by Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar as



the **Soul of the Constitution.** Thusdelay in the interpretation of questions arising on constitutional values is affecting the basic elements of the constitution.

• Violation of rights and delay in justice on those disputes are affecting democratic values. Delays in decision-making on matters of the balance of power lead governments to move from democracy to an authoritarian system.

Other problems prevailing in the judiciary:-

• Increasing number of pending cases - According to the National Judicial Data Grid, the total pending cases in India in July 2021 was 449 lakhs which was 23 lakh more than in January 2021.

• Low rate of disposal - In India, more than 40% of cases are such that take more than 3 years to resolve. In developed countries, such cases are only 1%.

• Lack of transparency in appointments:- The problem has become worse due to lack of transparency in judicial appointments of higher courts and non-recruitment of vacancies in lower courts.

• Difficulty of the judicial process-Difficulties of legal language in India with the presence of higher courts, lower courts, Lok Adalats and various tribunals add to the complexity of the judicial system.

• Work pressure:- Due to the short tenure and heavy work pressure, the

judges of the Supreme Court do not get the opportunity to excel in the law.

• Colonial Elements:- Colonial elements are still present in the judicial system. It has not been completely Indian due to language, process, and essence.

Important decisions given by the judiciary:-

• Attempts have been made by the judiciary of India to make the society and the laws of the state progressive. Many times the judiciary has followed the principle of separation of power and controlled the power of the state, while it has done the work of making the society progressive.

• By the Sabarimala judgement, judicary weakened the patriarchal masses by allowing women to enter the Sabarimala temple.

• Human liberty was promoted by the judiciary by decriminalizing Article 377 (about the LGBTQ community) and Article 497 (about adultery).

• The rights of women were protected by the judiciary itself by deciding on the issue of triple talaq and efforts were made to reduce gender equality.

Daughters got equal rights in property by the decision given by the judiciary itself.
Honorable Court has played its major role in making society progressive through all the decisions.

• In the SR Bommai case, the Supreme Court issued a comprehensive guideline for the use of Article 356, after which the use of Article 356 was reduced to a certain extent.

• The basic structure theory given by the judiciary in the Kesavananda Bharati case describes the essential elements which are basic and necessary for the constitution.

Thus we can say that although the workload and lack of human resources have affected the efficiency of the



PERFECT 7

judiciary, the role of the Supreme Court is important for the progress of the Indian society and the protection of fundamental rights.

The need for reforms in the judicial system:-

Judiciary is very essential for the Indian democratic process and constitutional supremacy and in fact, some reforms are needed in the judicial system to ensure "rule of the people"- which is described below

• Reduce the pendency of cases by filling the sanctioned judicial posts and the second remedy is to improve judicial work by using technology.

• The analysis shows that between 2006 and 2019, the average growth in pending cases was less than 2% per year while the average vacancy in sanctioned judicial posts was around 21%. Had the sanctioned posts been filled, the number of pending cases

each year would have been reduced.

• The responsibility of ensuring almost zero vacancies should lie with the Chief Justices of the High Courts and the Chief Justice of India and they should be held accountable for the same.

• It is necessary to increase the application of e-filing and virtual hearing keeping in view the recommendation of the e-committee of Supreme Court.

• In addition, an All India Judicial Service should be created to improve the quality and quality of judges by attracting the best available talent at the level of subordinate courts.

Recently, the government is considering bringing a bill in this context.

• Reducing the number of tribunals and making them more efficient. The government is also making efforts in this direction.

• There is a need to Indianize the

judicial system. It is very important to Indianize this entire judicial system to get justice in a real sense to its citizens. By doing this, the justice system will not only be cheap but cases will also be disposed of quickly and people's faith in the justice system will also be strengthened.

Conclusion

IDDS Scheme and Somnath Temple

PRASAD Scheme

Judiciary has got the difficult task of establishing democracy in India, following the principles of constitutional supremacy, natural justice, and maintaing the balance between fundamental rights and state power. Many times justice gets delayed while balancing these principles. The efficiency of the judiciary has to be improved by implementing reforms because delay in justice can be a factor of injustice which will be contradictory to the concept of justice.



- Why in news?
- Background
- Major cultural and religious places of Maharashtra
- Importance of Buddhism and 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative of Ministry of Tourism

Why in News?

The Ministry of Tourism is organizing webinars on various tourism-based themes under the 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative. A webinar has been organized on 'Jyotirlingam Temple of Maharashtra' on December 11, 2021, under "75 Destinations with Tour Guides". Dekho Apna Desh' webinar series has been presented in technical partnership with the National Department of e-Governance, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Background-

India is a multi-faceted, multi-religious, multi-lingual, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic country. India has a great heritage in every field like sports, tourism, culture, language, etc. India has its own unique cultural, religious, spiritual political identity but in order to contribute to social reforms, economic prosperity, and development in nation-building, it becomes necessary that the





citizens, investors, businessmen of India should know about India so that they can come to know about Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The cultural, spiritual, religious, political diversity of India has been an important medium to highlight the secular and nationalist aspects of the country.

Major cultural and religious places of Maharashtra

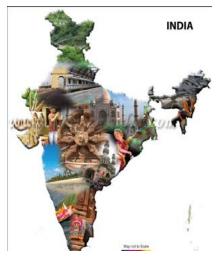
There are a large number of religious and spiritual places in Maharashtra, which attract a large number of tourists. The major Jyotirlingas of Maharashtra include Trimbakeshwar, Bhimashankar, Ghrishneshwar, Aundha Nagnath and Parli Vaijnath. Lord Shiva is enshrined in these temples in the form of Jyotirlingam. Out of the 12 Jyotirlingas, the Jyotirlinga of the South is located in Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu, while the Jyotirlinga of the North is located in the Himalayas and Kedarnath in Uttarakhand. These temples are closely associated with the legends of the Puranas and are rich in history and tradition. Trimbakeshva Jyotirlingam is one of the four places where Simhastha Kumbh Mela is held. This temple is situated 28 km southwest of Nashik. The Trimbakeshwar temple is built in the Nagara style of architecture and made of black stones. Whereas Bhimashankar Temple located in Maharashtra itself is an ancient Shiva temple located in the Sahyadri mountain range of Maharashtra, which attracts devotees from all over the country. This temple is one of the important pilgrimage sites in India which is situated in the Pune district and also the origin of the Bhima River.

The Ghrishneshwar or Ghushmeshwar Jyotirlingam, a symbol of the spiritual and religious splendour of Maharashtra, is located in Aurangabad, which was built by Ahilyabai Holkar. The name of this temple of 11th-12th AD is also mentioned in mythological literature like Shiva Purana and Padma Purana. It is a beautiful example of Nagara style temple built with red stones. UNESCO World Heritage Site- Ellora Caves are located very close to this temple. Along with this, Aundha Nagnath located in the Hingoli district of Maharashtra in the 13th century is considered to be the best Jyotirlinga. Architecturally, the Aundha Nagnath Temple is built in the Hemadpanthi style and has exquisite carvings. It is believed to be the first or 'Adya' linga established by the Pandavas.

Apart from this, in the Dekho Apna Desh scheme of the Ministry of Tourism, an attempt has been made to highlight the importance of Jyotirlingam temples of Maharashtra, including the Jyotirlingam temple of Parli Vaijnath, which is also called Vaidyanath and it was renovated by Queen Ahilyabai Holkar. This temple has been built on a hill with stones.

In fact, the historical religious importance of Jyotirlinga temples in India has increased with time and they have emerged as the biggest centres of religious tourism.

When people from different regions, languages, cultures meet at such centres and a connection is established between them, then the process of understanding India is accelerated.



Importance of Buddhism and 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative of Ministry of Tourism:

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India also organized an interesting webinar titled "Journey to Buddhist Circuit by Train" on 16th January 2021 as a part of the 'Dekho Apna Desh' webinar series. The focus has been on promoting and showcasing the rich Buddhist heritage of India through this webinar. In addition, the sites of Lord Buddha personally visited across the country and Buddhist monasteries built by his disciples are shown which also include modern monasteries.

Additionally, the webinars focused on providing visitors with primary information on travel to Buddhist sites in India (especially by train) and accommodation arrangements. As Buddhist tourism to India has tremendous potential to attract 500 million Buddhists from all over the world to the "Land of India-Buddha" and India has a rich ancient Buddhist heritage with many important sites associated with the life of Lord Buddha and the world. So this initiative of the Ministry of Tourism is considered very worthy.

In the preparation of the Buddhist Circuit Tourist Train Itinerary, special care has been taken to include the original teaching site of the Buddha. The IRCTC Buddhist Circuit Tourist Train was conceived to visit the most revered sites of Buddhism, including the place where Lord Buddha attained enlightenment. This tourist train covers all the places that had a significant impact on the life and teachings of Lord Buddha.

The Ministry of Tourism of India says that about 6 per cent of foreign tourists visiting the country go to Buddhist sites. Sarnath and Bodh gaya are leading among them. Buddhists represent 7 per cent of the world's total population with





approximately 500 million followers. Uttar Pradesh has a maximum of 6 places related to Lord Buddha and rapid development work is going on at all these places. An international airport has also been inaugurated at Kushinagar. Under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has approved 5 projects worth Rs 325.53 crore for Buddhist circuit development in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.

IDDS Scheme and Somnath Temple

The development of Somnath as one of the iconic tourist destinations has been proposed by the Ministry of Tourism under its Integrated Destination Development Scheme (IDDS), which includes the development of components like Prabhas Patan Museum, Tourist Facilities, Haat etc. To provide better connectivity to Somnath and ensure comprehensive and holistic development of the entire region are also proposed under this project.

PRASAD Scheme

The new projects for the state of Gujarat under the PRASAD scheme are Maa Ambaji Temple, Development of Pilgrim Amenities at Banaskantha and Development of Public Plaza/Entry Plaza at Somnath. For the past seven years, many pilgrimage centres have benefited from the 'Prasad' scheme and people of all religions have been able to worship at their respective shrines. Under the PRASAD scheme announced in 2014, 40 major pilgrimage sites are being developed, out of which 15 have already been completed. Work is underway on three projects worth more than Rs 100 crore in Gujarat. Work is being done to interconnect the pilgrimage sites.

The Ministry of Tourism had launched the 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spiritual Augmentation Drive' (PRASAD) in the year 2014-15 with the objective of integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage sites. The concept of equal access is the first and foremost aspect in the process of finalizing and implementing various projects under this scheme. The objective of this scheme is the creation of pilgrimage/ religious and heritage tourism infrastructure development. At present 37 projects (including 15 completed projects) costing Rs 1,214.19 crore have been approved in 24 states and a total amount of Rs 675.89 crore has been released for these projects under the scheme.

AFSPA

ARMED FORCES SPECIAL POWERS ACT

3

Rising demand to repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA)

- Why in news?
- Background
- Some cases of misuse of AFSPA
- Why was the AFSPA Act introduced
- How and where AFSPA is applied

Why in news?

In recent times there has been again rise in demand to repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in northeast India. In some states of Northeast India, paramilitary forces, especially the Assam Rifles, have been accused of targeting innocent civilians while their job is to take action against extremists and insurgents. Recently 14 local civilians, including a soldier, were killed during firing by the Assam rifles in Mon district of Nagaland in an action against militants. After this the Assam Rifles said that on the basis of credible intelligence of possible movement of insurgents, militants, special military operations were planned in the Mon area of Nagaland. But the Nagaland state government, strongly condemning the incidents has started a new debate with the demand for the removal of AFSPA after which Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma has also demanded the central government to abolish AFSPA.

Earlier demands to remove AFSPA

Conclusion





Background:-

In fact there has been a demand to repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act in Northeast India for a long time. The grounds on which the demand for its removal has been taking the form of an agitation in the Northeast include :

1. Right of paramilitary forces to shoot at sight of insurgents or extremists in internal troubled areas because of which paramilitary forces have been convicted on many occasions of extra judicial killings or fake encounters. There have been allegations against the paramilitary forces that innocent civilians have been targeted by them by misusing their authority and powers.

2. A serious allegation has been made repeatedly against the soldiers of the paramilitary forces posted under AFSPA that they misbehave with the women of North Eastern states. Many times the soldiers of the paramilitary forces have been accused of raping the women of Northeast India and have also been proven too.

Some cases of misuse of AFSPA:-

The security forces were often accused of human rights violations but in July 2004 the gangrape and murder of a 32-year-old woman, Manorama, allegedly by paramilitary forces, stirred the state. Manorama was picked up from her house on the midnight of July 11 by soldiers of the Assam Rifles, stationed in Manipur to fight the extremists and a few hours later her mutilated and bullet-marked body was found lying on the side of the road. This incident exposed the insenstivity and inhumanity of the paramilitary forces and after this, the demand for abolishing the law related to AF-SPA, which empowers the central government to deploy Para Military Forces in the troubled areas of the Northeast became a big movement.



It would be appropriate to mention another incident in this context. On November 1, 2000, ten people were gunned down by the armed forces working under the AFSPA near a bus stand. Irom Sharmila Chanu was a female eyewitness of this incident. Opposing this incident, 29-yeat-old Sharmila Chanu started a fast unto death from 2nd November itself. Their demand was that the Armed Forces Special Powers Act should be removed from Manipur. However.on 6th November.four days after the fast she was arrested for the offense of 'attempt to commit suicide' and was charged with section 309. On 20th November, she was forcibly given fluids by inserting pipe in her nose thus preventing her from protesting against AFSPA. Only after this Irom Chanu was repeatedly caught and released. Irom Sharmila popularly known as the Iron Lady of Manipur went on a 16-year unceasing fast demanding the removal of AFSPA from Manipur.

Why was the AFSPA Act introduced?

The Armed Forces Priveleges Act, 1958 was passed by the central government to deal with the violent separatist movements that were being run in Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura to separate from the Indian union at the time of independence and even after that. In other words, the need for this law can be seen in the context of helping the army in action in the troubled Northeast and hence this Act was passed in the Parliament on 11th September 1958 knowing that law and order is a state subject.

How and where AFSPA is applied?

The special feature of AFSPA is that it empowers certain units to deploy paramilitary forces in certain areas or the entire region of Northeast India.Here , the first question arises that, in which areas this is done? The answer is such areas which are internally declared as nuisance prone areas. Before 1972, the state governments had the right to declare a disturbed area but in 1972 by amending the AFSPA this right was given to the central government.

The principal act of 1958 states that in case of internal disturbances, the governor of a state, the adminis trator of a union territory or the central government can impose AFSPA in any region of the Northeast. In the case of Indrajit Barua vs State of Assam in 1983 the Supreme Court held that the Governor was empowered to declare any area of a North-Eastern state as a disturbed area.

This law can be implemented in any state or any area only when the state or central government declares that area as a disturbed area. AFSPA is imposed only in those areas which have been declared as disturbed areas.

Army or armed forces are sent there only after the implementation of this law. As soon as the law comes into force, the army or armed force gets the right to take action against any suspicious person. On the basis of the report of the governor, the central government declares a state or area as a disturbed state and deploys central security forces those areas. Due to differences or disputes between different religious, racial, language, regional groups, castes, communities, the state or central



government declares any area as disturbed area. Section 3 of the AFSPA Act empowers the Governors of the State and Union Territories to issue an official notification in the Gazette of India after which the Center is empowered to send armed forces to the disturbed areas. According to the Disturbed Areas(Special Courts) Act, 1976, once declared a disturbed area, the status quo has to be maintained in the area for a minimum period of three months. State Governments can suggest whether this Act should be implemented or not but under section -3 of this act the Governor or the Center has the power to take cognizance of his suggestions or not. Under section (3) of the Act, it is necessary to be of the opinion of the State Government whether the area is 'disturbed' or not. If it is not so, it should be dismissed by the Governor or the center.

Section (3) of the AFSPA Act empowers the governor of a state or a federal state to issue official gazette information after which he is empowered to send armed forces to assist the citizens of the center.

According to the (Special Courts) Act 1976, once a disturbed area is declared the Special Forces are deployed there for at least 3 months.

Earlier demands to remove AFSPA;-

In 2005, a committee headed by former Supreme Court Justice BP Jeevan Reddy recommended abolishing AFSPA in its report. However, the five-member committee submitted a 147-page report on June 6,2005, describing the AFSPA as a 'symbol of repression'. However, due to opposition from the Army and the Ministry of Defence, the Central Government rejected this recommendation. In fact, in the year 2004, Justice Reddy Committee was formed in Manipur due to the

agitation against the death of a woman, Thangjam Manorama in the custody of Assam Rifles and the indefinite stike by Irom Sharmila. Then on March 31st.2012, Special Rapporteur at the United Nations, Christopher Haynes, demanded the removal of AFSPA from India. According to him in a democratic country like India, there should not be a strict law like AFSPA.Human Rights Watch also raises objections from time to time regarding this law.

Conclusion :-

Even though law and order is a state subject in which the central government should ordinarily not interfere, it should also be noted that Article 355 of the Constitution of India gives the central government the responsibility of the security of the states and since state borders of Northeast India with countries like Myanmar, Bangladesh, China, Nepal have multi-faceted security concerns in these border areas shows that AFSPA should not be removed from these areas. But it is extremely important to make the provisions of the Act respectful of Human, rational, gender sensitive human rights. The Supreme Court has conducted an inquiry into the fake encounters of paramilitary forces. In shocking revelations, the investigative panel in 2009-10 convicted the security forces in Manipur of misuse of AFSPA. Retired Supreme Court Justice Santosh Hegde, former Chief Election Commissioner JM Lyngdoh and former Karnataka police cheif Ajay Kumar Singh had concluded in their reports that at least six encounters by security forces were fake. The Supreme Court bench of Justices Madan Lokur and UU Lalit, while delivering its judgement on Extrajudicial Execution Victims Family Association of Manipur vs Union of India in 2016, cited the

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findings of the Hegde Commission

NOTES





Rising Wildlife Trafficking in India: Challenges Initiatives taken for Solution

- Why in news?
- Wildlife smuggling in India
- Recent measures to combat wildlife crimes and trafficking
- Some institutional measures

Why in news?

4

Recently, some such incidents have happened in India which illustrates the need to formulate an effective strategy to control wildlife crimes and smuggling. Recently some people have been arrested from Thane in Maharashtra for selling a rare whale 'Ambergris' worth more than two crore rupees. Ambergris is a wax-like solid that is produced in the digestive system of whales and is also known in common parlance as "whale vomit".

Since the whale fish is included in the list of extinct species under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 in India, it is illegal to keep ambergris.

On the other hand, the lives of Guldars and Bears have been endangered due to wildlife smuggling in the marginal districts of Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand. There is a special demand for the parts of Guldar in Tibet. There is no direct smuggling from India to Tibet China.

In this, smugglers of Nepal are middlemen. Apart from this, smuggling of monitor lizards, pangolins, owls has increased in some states of India in recent times. In the same year, the Border Security Force (BSF) has freed 31 rare species of snakes from their clutches in the Indo-Bangladesh border area. The smugglers were trying to illegally cross the international border and send these snakes from India to Bangladesh.

Wildlife smuggling in India:-

In India, Tiger and leopard skin, their bones and other body parts, rhinoceros horn, ivory, turtle, sea horse, snake venom, mongoose hair, snake skin, sea cucumber, chiru's wool, musk deer Musk, Bear bile, medicinal plants, red sandalwood and caged birds such as parakeets, myna and munia have been smuggled in.

Most of the people are not aware that these priceless species are present in India. But such species are rapidly disappearing. Only 25 Chiru are left in India now. Pangolins, seahorses and turtles are most commonly smuggled. In 2018 Traffic India released a study which stated that from 2009 to 2017 at least 5,772 pangolins were caught for illegal trade from India.

The Patagonian seahorse (Hippocampus patagonicus) is one of three seahorses that are trafficked for their medicinal properties. At the same time, Indian Star Turtle is now smuggled the most globally. It is in high demand as a pet..

Recent measures to combat wildlife crimes and trafficking:-

As part of an intelligence operation by the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB), New Delhi, two major centers of wildlife poaching and trade were identified in Jammu and Kashmir. The first center is located in Anantnag area of Srinagar Valley and second at Manwal in Jammu region. In a joint operation by WCCB officials who had gone from Delhi along with the Chief Wildlife Warden of Jammu and Kashmir and a local police officer, raids were conducted, at both these places simultaneously on January 29, 2021. In this 13 leopard skins, nails, skull, bones, 38 bear bile and 4 musk have been confiscated. The present seizure is one of the biggest seizures of recent times. The musk deer and Himalayan black bear are endangered species and are poached for musk and bear bile, which are used in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

These hunted animals- leopard, bear and musk deer are listed in Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. As per the provisions of the Act, the punishment for illegal hunting of these animals and trading in their parts is imprisonment for a





minimum period of 03 years, which may extend to 07 years

On May 22, 2019, India's Wildlife Crime Control Bureau and United Nations Environment (UN Environment) launched a campaign to prevent trafficking in wildlife at airports across the country. In this, the wildlife that was decided to spread awareness to stop the trafficking included: tiger, pangolin, star tortoise and tauktae lizard.

To mark the International Day of Bio-diversity, observed on 22 May, the United Nations Environment and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) of India has launched an awareness campaign 'All animals do not flee by will', can be seen at airports.

The purpose of this campaign is to create awareness and mobilize public support for the conservation and protection of wildlife, to prevent trafficking and to reduce the demand for wildlife products. The campaign complements the United Nations Environment Global Campaign, a worldwide action on the illegal trade in wildlife through forests for life.

Tigers, pangolins, star tortoises and tauktae lizards have been selected in the first phase of the campaign, whose existence is in danger due to illegal trade in international markets. The tiger is traditionally used for its skin, bones and body parts, the lizard for its meat and its skin, in traditional medicines, the star turtle for meat and rearing and the tauktae lizard is illegally traded is done for traditional medicines in Southeast Asia, especially in Chinese markets.

In the second phase, more threatened species will be included and other routes of smuggling will be explored. Major species of fauna



that have been included in the second phase include:- star turtle, bird, mulberry, shoal, various body parts of tiger and leopard, ivory, horn of rhinoceros, pangolin and pangolin skins, oysters, sea horse , C. Cucumber, skins of reptiles, live snakes, lizards, coral and medicinal herbs

Some institutional measures:

The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to combat organized wildlife crimes in the country.

Under Section 38 (z) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Bureau is empowered to collect intelligence relating to organized wildlife criminal activities and transmit it to the states and law enforcing agencies for prompt action against offenders.

Apart from this, there is also a provision to establish a wildlife crime data bank under this section. The Bureau advises the government on issues, relevant policies and laws relating to wildlife crimes that have a national and international impact.

The Indian Coast Guard is actively working to prevent the smuggling of animals in the coastal areas, marine areas of India.

Recently, the Indian Coast Guard

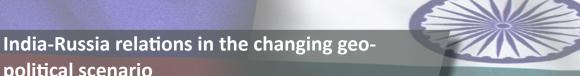
team seized 2,000 kg of sea cucumbers in connection with the smuggling of sea cucumbers in a swiftly conducted operation at Mandapam in Tamil Nadu.

The value of the seized sea cucumber was around Rs 8 crore. This species is known as endangered. This is a restricted species. Transaction of this species is illegal.

NOTES







- Context
- Introduction
- 21st India-Russia Summit
- 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue
- India-Russia Relations: An Overview

political scenario

Way Forward

Context:-

5

Recently, a 10-year military agreement has been signed between India and Russia. With this, "2+2" dialogue has started between India and Russia. This will further strengthen the traditional relations between India and Russia.

Introduction:-

Recently, Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in India for the 21st India-Russia Summit where he met Prime Minister Narendra Modi. During the summit, both the Heads of Government described India and Russia as close allies and Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India-Russia relations remain unchanged even in the rapidly changing geopolitical scenario. During this summit, a 10-year agreement was signed for defense relations between India, and 2 + 2 negotiations were started.

21st India-Russia Summit:-

During the 21st summit, discussions were held regarding strategic partnership, economic partnership, defense sector, and other common points between India and Russia.

To make the economic sector

more intimate, a target of \$ 30 billion trade and \$50 billion investment has been set between India and Russia by 2025, for which the governments will direct their respective committee of entrepreneurs.

- Along with this, it was directed in • the conference that both countries will cooperate against organized crime, drug trafficking, terrorism.
- The conference directed that the concerns of both countries in Afghanistan and other regional issues would be driven by shared obiectives.

Along with this, the Prime Min-• ister has congratulated Russia for becoming an observer in the Indian Ocean Association of non-alignment.

2+2 Ministerial Dialogue:-

• This is a dialogue sponsored by India, in which talks take place between the Defense Minister and Foreign Minister of India and the allied country on various points.

• In this dialogue, India mainly talked about the challenges of Central Asia and the Indian Ocean region, while talks were held with Russia in the context of S-400 and AK-Rifle 203. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh

and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar participated in this dialogue, while Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu participated from Russia's side.

• The talks were concluded before President Putin arrived in India.

India-Russia Relations: An Overview Background:-

The relation between India and Russia is very old. Many revolutionaries were inspired by Russian movements during the Indian freedom struggle. Manv big leaders of India like Jawaharlal Nehru Subhash Chandra Bose are all inspired by socialism which was a form similar to Russian communism. The communist ideology influenced the people during independence in India. After the Second World War, Russia also put pressure on Britain to make India independent.

 Relations between India and Russia were not as good during Stalin's rule, because Stalin believed that who was not with socialism was capitalist and considered Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru as a supporter of the capitalist system. But after Khrushchev came to

power in 1953, the ideology of Russia





changed and Russia accepted peaceful co-existence and admitted that India is not a supporter of the capitalist system. The Indian point of view was also supported by Russia on the Kashmir issue. The relations between India and the erstwhile Soviet Union improved.

Russia's indifference to China in the 1962 war and the Indo-Pak treaty in the 1965 war demonstrated the importance of Russia to India. After 1962, Russia also cooperated for the modernization of Indian forces. In the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971, the Soviet Union also provided intelligence to India and supported India in the United Nations Security Council. At the time when the strategic triangle of America, China, and Pakistan was against India, at that time Russia strengthened India by making a peace and friendship treaty with India.

• Before 1991, India was completely dependent on the Soviet Union for arms imports, but the Soviet Union never imposed adverse conditions on India. In the event of US-imposed sanctions on India, Russia allowed trade with India in Rupee Ruble.

• After the disintegration of Soviet Russia after 1991, relations were rebuilt on pragmatism and reciprocity. Before 1991, India was completely dependent on the Soviet Union, but after that India needed a new ally.

• After 1991, Russia tried to smoothen its relations with European countries and America, but it did not get enough success and due to the expansion of NATO's influence towards Eastern Europe, Russia focused on increasing relations with India and China. Started giving After 1991, Russia's foreign policy shifted towards Asian countries.

• India's nuclear test in 1998 was criticized by Russia but Russia did not support the sanctions imposed on India by the US. • The relations between India and Russia were further strengthened with the Delhi Declaration in the year 2000, India celebrated 2008 as the Year of Russia and 2009 as the Year of India by Russia.

• Recently, seeing the increasing relations of India towards America, people were speculating that there has been some distance between India and Russia, but it is not so that India and Russia are each other's traditional allies and they are involved in various regional and global issues. But we will continue to support each other.

Relations between India and Russia in various fields:-

• After 1974, India and Russia had significant cooperation in the nuclear field, but after 1991, when the US pressured India to sign the NPT, Russia refused to give cryogenic engines to India. But after 1995, Russia, considering nuclear non-proliferation as global, did not allow it to become a hindrance in bilateral relations with India. The story of the Kudanuklam project started in India in collaboration with Russia Considering setting up of 6 new reactors in the eastern coastal areas of India.

• Russia supported India for India's membership in NSG in 2017.

• From the very beginning of the Kashmir issue, India was supported



by the Soviet Union or Russia on the Kashmir issue. Russia also supported India during the Kargil war in 1999 and considered Kashmir as an integral part of India. Recently, even in the case of abrogation of Article 370, Russia has called it an internal matter of India.

• India and Russia both are plagued by terrorism, the Chechnya Muslim community in Russia has been demanding separatism, where the situation is almost similar to that of Kashmir. Both countries are making continuous efforts to tackle terrorism. After the recent return of the Taliban to power in Afghanistan, both countries are considering a common strategy to deal with terrorism emanating from Afghanistan.

• India still imports about 65% of its arms. Along with this, India is dependent on Russia for its energy security. Russia can be an ally in establishing relations with Central Asian countries which are part of Russia in the past, which can solve the problem of India's energy crisis to an extent.

• India and Russia are each other's allies in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and BRICS and RIC.

• The Indian Space Department has also been supported by Russia.

Impact on India-Russia relations in the light of Russia-China relations and Indo-US relations :-

• India and Russia have remained each other's allies for more than 7 decades. But in the present circumstances, a large series of tensions exist between India and China and Russia and China are emerging as each other's great allies. Contrary to this, there is a situation that India-US relations are getting stronger while America is the traditional opponent of each other.

• Before 1991, India was dependent only on Russia for arms, but





now India is importing arms from America and Israel.

• Amid these developments, for the first time, cooperation between Russia and Pakistan has been established, which is a matter of concern for India somewhere.

• China has imported a large amount of arms oil and gases from Russia, which provides support to the economy of Russia, an agreement has also been made between Russia and China to lay an oil gas pipeline, Russia will also supply those weapons to China. Those were earlier given to India only-

• The growing cooperation between India and the US is a matter of concern for Russia as India is a member of the Quad which is likely to be used primarily against China and indirectly against Russia.

• More recently, America's objection was lodged on the issue of the S-400 missile defense system.

• Although these equations have changed over time, the bilateral relations between India and Russia will not be affected much because they believe in realism- and reciprocity.

Way Forward:-

Rus India and Russia are traditional allies of each other but there is a need for improvement in many areas. As India story, Russia's mainly trade co-operation is only in the defense and energy sector, due to which the total value of trade between India and Russia after ample possibilities is

only 10.11 billion in US dollars. And this sector needs to be expanded in IT, Pharma, Agro-Industry, Minerals & Metals Infrastructure Project etc. so that both the countries can , develop.

• A new relationship will begin with the 2+2 dialogue between India and Russia.

• People-to-people contact between the two countries is also important in the stability of relations between India and Russia. People of both countries see each other as the closest allies.

• The availability of Buddhist and Christian religions in the religious bases of both countries will play an important role in cooperation.

Different Dimensions Of Human Rights At International Level

Context

- Introduction
- What are Human Rights: Definition

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- Efforts for prevention of human rights violations at the global level
- Efforts of United Nations for Protection of human rights
- International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights 1966
- Way Forward

Context:-

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Many such incidents in the present world affect human rights in a big way. In the present world scenario, human rights are violated by both Non-state actors as well as the Nation States. While non-state actors like terrorism, organized crime, etc. violate human rights, on the other hand, there have been issues of human rights violations by different states such as Myanmar, Afghanistan.

Introduction:-

The concept of human rights, developed as a product of the Philosophy of Humanism during the Renaissance, has been a major issue in international politics for the past two decades. There was widespread human rights violation during the Second World War. Where on the one hand Hitler's locking of Jews in gas furnaces was against the principle of human rights, on the other hand, America, a self-declared advocate of global human rights, used atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, presented an example of a violation of human rights. After the Second World War, the issue of human rights was influencing global politics with two different concepts. On one hand, while the freedom fighters (most affected from communist and socialist ideology) fighting against colonialism and imperialism called it a violation of human rights, on the other hand, the capitalists





countries led by America. Termed the communist classes (led by USSR) as violators of human rights.

What are Human Rights: Definition

• According to Harald Laski, human rights are such rights without which no person can develop his full personality and live a dignified life.

• According to the Protection of Human Rights Act 1993, Human Rights means those rights related to life, liberty, equality, and dignity of a person, which are guaranteed by the Constitution of India or are described in international covenants and are enforceable by the courts in India.

Violation of human rights in the present world

Violation of human rights by nonstate actors

Violation of human rights by terrorism

• Terrorism is the biggest and serious cause of human rights violations. There were violent actions taken by terrorists at various places every day, due to bomb blasts, firing, etc., people have to lose their lives or have to face dismemberment. Along with this, an atmosphere of fear is created due to which the person loses the opportunity of his proper development.

• Terrorists first convert young children into human bombs in the name of radicalization, which violates the human rights of those children too.

• Right to life, right to trade, right to free movement, right against exploitation, etc. rights are violated by terrorism.

• According to the Global Terrorism Index released by the Institute of Economics and Peace, about 163 countries around the world are wholly or partially affected by terrorism. In this way, it has become the



biggest violation of human rights.

• Human rights violations are taking place in Syria and on a large scale due to the effects of the current ISIS, which is also a major cause of the refugee crisis.

Violation of human rights by Organized crime

• The category of organized crime includes drug trafficking, kidnapping, an act of spurious liquor, etc. The ability of a person is affected by the use of drugs and the person starts moving towards destruction. Kidnapping, forced labor, and sexual exploitation of people have also become a category of organized

crime. Violation of human rights by cybercrime.

With the advancement of technology, where human facilities increased, the methods of crime also increased. Cybercrime is a part of this. The right to privacy of a person is violated by cybercrime, along with this, financial freedom is also violated by ATM theft, online fraud, etc.

Violation of human rights by other chaotic elements

• In the present world, incidents of rape, murder, sexual harassment at the workplace by the chaotic elements are frequent.

• According to data provided by agencies of all countries regarding rape, about 35 percent of women have faced sexual harassment at one

time or more in their life. This grossly violates human rights.

• Along with this, there is widespread violation of human rights due to the separatist and communal feelings prevailing in most parts of the world.

Violation of human rights by society

• Many times incidents of human rights abuses come to the fore in the name of stereotypes. The discrimination against black people in America in 2019-20 was a prime example of this.

• In India also discrimination is done in the name of social customs against scheduled tribes, scheduled castes, women, gay community, etc. which violates the human rights of all those sections.

Violation of human rights by the Nation-State

• Recently, after the formation of the Talibani government in Afghanistan, there were widespread human rights violations of the people there. The issue has escalated so much that UN Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet has warned Taliban leaders to respect the rights of all individuals in Afghanistan.

Democracy was recently disbanded in Myanmar. There is a continuous violent crackdown on democracy supporters. Even before this, the treatment of Rohingya Muslims by Myanmar was a violation of human rights. China continues take to violent action against pro-democracy supporters in Hong-Kong. With this, China considers the Muslims of Xinjiang province in the western region, while reducing their religious freedom, considering them as second-class citizens, this is a violation of human rights.

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Efforts for prevention of human rights violations at the global level

• After the American Revolution in 1776, it was declared by America that "It is a self-evident truth for us that man is equal by birth"

• The principle of liberty, equality, and fraternity that came after the French Revolution further strengthened human rights.

• The International Labor Union, formed in collaboration with the League of Nations formed after the First World War, made special efforts in the protection of the rights of workers and the rights of children and the eradication of forced labor.

• A holistic effort was made to establish human rights by the United Nations Organization created after the end of World War II.

Efforts of United Nations for Protection of human rights UN Charter

• Human rights have an important place in the United Nations Charter. In the preamble of the Charter, fundamental rights, human dignity, gender equality, and equal rights for all have been demanded.

• Additional Article 1 of the Preamble, Article 13 Article 55, 56 deals with human rights.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948

• The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was passed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. There are a total of 30 articles in this declaration that are related to civil rights, economic rights, and social rights, etc.

• Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights "All human beings are born free and equal in human rights, they have reason and conscience and should be treated in fraternity towards each other" This clearly shows the purpose of the Universal Declaration.

International Covenant of Economic and Cultural Rights 1966

• This covenant mainly deals with economic and cultural rights. There are 31 articles in this covenant which is divided into five parts.

• Under this covenant, the right to work, the law to get reasonable facilities, labor rights, maternity benefits, life and personal liberty, environmental protection, the right to education, and the right to cultural protection have been given.

International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights 1966

• This covenant is related to political and civil rights at the international level.

• The rights conferred by it include the right to prohibit discrimination based on religion, race, sex, caste, etc., the right to legal aid, the right to protection against arrest, etc.

Along with this, the Human Rights Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women have been created by the United Nations, which work under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and try to protect human rights at the global level.

In addition to the above international covenants and laws, European

Human Rights Convention, American Convention on Human Rights 1969, African Charter on Human Rights and Indian Constitution, etc. are such documents which protect human rights at the global level.

Way Forward

Despite the above provisions and laws, human rights are being violated on a wide scale in the world, in this context the following steps need to be taken.

• The United Nations should

impose strict sanctions on nation-states that violate human rights.

• Countries like India, America, and Japan should substitute the basis of human rights while building their bilateral relations with other countries.

• Efforts should be made to promote democracy at the global level.

• At present, China's attempts to establish border disputes, violation of international law, human rights violations, and new imperialism are becoming a major problem. Therefore, the global community should pay attention to this matter.

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India And Central Asia Dialogue: Strengthening Of Mutual Relations

- Reference
- Key Points of The India-Central Asia Dialogue
- Dialogue on People to people contact
- Dialogue on Cooperation on the environment
- Way forward

Why in news?

Recently the 3rd meeting of the India-central Asia dialogue was held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of the external affairs minister of India. The foreign ministers of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan participated in the meeting. After which all the foreign ministers met the Indian prime minister. During the visit of the foreign ministers, the strong relations between India and central asia, and the measures to further strengthen these relations, and the India-central asia summit to be held in january 2022 were discussed.

Key Points Of The India-Central Asia Dialogue:-

The dialogue underscored the civilizational, cultural, trade, and people-to-people contacts between India and central asian countries and reaffirmed their commitment to building a comprehensive and enduring India-central asia partnership.

Talks on connectivity:-

• The use of line of credit of USD 1 billion announced by India last year for infrastructure development proj

ects in central asian countries was also discussed. The foreign minister of Turkmenistan emphasized the importance of the Tapi gas pipeline project.

• The dialogue emphasized on optimal use of the "Ashgabad agreement" on the international northsouth transport corridor (INSTC) as well as the international transport and transit corridor to enhance connectivity between India and central asian countries.

• Welcomed the proposal by the foreign ministers of central-asia to include chabahar port within the framework of instc and expressed interest in cooperation on issues related to the development and strengthening of regional connectivity in central and south asia.

Discussion on the issue of COVID-19

• Central-asian ministers appreciate India's assistance in the ongoing central asia-India cooperation in the fight against the covid-19 pandemic,

• During the talks, the central-asian foreign minister emphasized the Importance of comprehensive immunization in the fight against covid-19 and in this regard, inter alia, sharing of vaccines, transfer of technology, development of local production capacities, medical products calls for continued cooperation with regard to promotion of supply chain and price transparency.

Simultaneously, the foreign ministers of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz republic welcomed the mutual recognition of covid-19 vaccination certificates between India and their countries, while the ministers of tajikistan, turkmenistan, and uzbekistan hoped early mutual recognition of vaccine certification with India hoped.

Capacity building talks :-

• The foreign ministers of central asia appreciated the important role of the Indian technical and economic cooperation (ITEC) program in capacity building and human resource development of their countries, especially in information technology and communication skills in the english language.

• External affairs minister of India proposed to increase the number of ITEC slots as per the requirements of central asian countries and customized training programs in India for professionals from central asian countries in the field of terrorism, cyber security, space, energy, wto, etc.





Dialogue on Business negotiations

• Special attention was paid to the trade situation during the talks. The current level of trade and investment between India and central asian countries was noted and stressed the importance of making concerted efforts to realize the full potential for trade.

• Trade was given importance in sectors like pharmaceuticals, information technology, agriculture, energy, textiles, gems, and jewellry. They called upon the India-Central Asia Business Council (ICABC) to continue as a b-2-b body under the India-central asia dialogue to enhance trade.

Dialogue on People to people contact:-

• The ministers paid special attention to the need to establishing cooperation between specialized national institutions, including in the areas of finance, renewable energy, information, digital, and other advanced technologies. People-to-people exchanges between India and central asian countries were discussed during the talks. The gradual restoration of connectivity, tourism and trade ties were supported.

• Both sides expressed their desire to deepen cooperation between India and central asian countries in the health care sector, including medical tourism. Emphasis was placed on increasing tourist arrivals, including the areas of pilgrimage and historical and cultural tourism, creating tourist trails throughout the region, encouraging investment in tourism infrastructure.

• In view of the large number of students studying in each other's higher educational institutions from India and central asian countries, stress was laid on ensuring their welfare.

Dialogue on Cooperation on the environment:-

• The negotiations agreed on the implementation of the UNFCCC and its commitments under the paris agreement, in line with the principles of equality, national circumstances, and shared but differentiated responsibility (CBDR-RC). Both the groups expressed their intention to actively cooperate in the respective fields.

• India highlighted the role of the "international solar alliance (ISA)" initiative, highlighting the importance of the need for solar energy in effectively implementing the paris agreement. , India also underlined the role of the "coalition for disaster resilient infrastructure (cdri)" in relation to disaster-resilient infrastructure to reduce economic losses and improve the well-being of communities in the event of disasters.

Dialogue on Terrorism:-

India and central asia jointly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and clarified that terrorism provides safe havens, crossborder terrorism, terrorist financing, arms and drug smuggling, and terrorist capabilities.

Dialogue on strategic cooperation:-

• In this dialogue, the Afghanistan crisis, growth of trade between India and central asian countries, dynamics of strategic cooperation, etc were discussed. In this context, the outcome document of the delhi regional security dialogue of November 2021 was also discussed.

• Proposal 2593 of UNSC in 2021 was supported by all.

Dialogue On Shanghai Cooperation Organization:-

• The foreign ministers of Central Asia noted that the SCO plays a constructive role in achieving peace and sustainable development, advancing regional cooperation, and strengthening good-neighborhood and mutual trust ties. During this, the ministers outlined the results of the meeting of the SCO heads of state council held in Dushanbe on 17 September 2021.

Other collaborations:-

• Foreign ministers of central asian countries reiterated their countries' support for India's permanent membership in the expanded and

amended un security council. • Both sides also expressed interest in strengthening mutual cooperation in the fields of science, technology, and innovation by enhancing direct cooperation between government organizations, research institutes, innovation centers, and technical enterprises of India and central Asian countries.

• Noted the importance of the outcome of the international conference on "peace and trust policy - the basis of international security, stability and development" organized by Central-Asian countries on December 11, 2021, in Ashgabad.

Way forward

• Central asian countries including India are prone to terrorism, separatism, and organized crime whose origin is the golden crescent of afghanistan, thus both can be allies to each other in solving the problem of these non-state agents.

• India can try to prevent in the context of anti-India activities by china and pakistan by using diplomatic relations with central asian countries.

SHORT ISSUES

NATIONAL

National Clean Air Program

Why in News?

The first meeting of the National Apex Committee of the National Clean Air Program (NCAP) was recently held. Many states have failed to utilize the funds given by the Central Government under the NCAP. The Environment Ministry has released the data related to this which has been recently published in India.

Findings of Report-

It has been said in this report that under the National Clean Air Program, Rs 375.44 crore was allocated to 114 cities for the period 2018-19 to 2020-21 whereas, for 2021-22, an allocation of Rs 290 crore has been made for 82 cities. On the other hand, the central government has talked about giving another Rs 700 crore for the period from 2021 to 2026.

Bihar and Chandigarh used 77 per cent and 82 per cent funds respectively for air pollution control while Punjab and Uttar Pradesh only 17 per cent, Chhattisgarh 21 per cent, Andhra Pradesh 10 per cent, Assam only 4 per cent, Himachal Pradesh only 2 per cent and J&K has used only 1 per cent of the funds under NCAP. Uttarakhand and West Bengal have used 53 per cent and 58 per cent of this fund respectively.

The states which have not fully utilized such funds have been given three months' time. The Environment Ministry has decided that now this fund will be performance-based and city specific. Those states which fail to utilize the allocated funds, their funds will be given to those cities which are doing good work in air pollution control.

The Ministry of Environment has said in its official statement that the number of cities showing improvement in air quality, which was 86 in 2019, has increased to 96 in 2020.

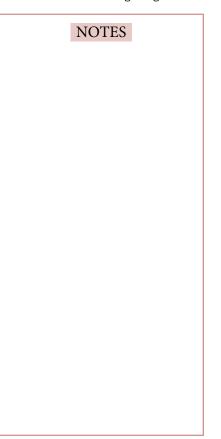
According to the data given by the Environment Ministry, a total of 22 states have collectively utilized only 33.53 per cent of the total released amount (Rs 375.44 crore) under the NCAP. Thus, the states have not been found active in the use of funds released under NCAP.

What is National Clean Air Program?

The National Clean Air Program (NCAP) was launched by the central government in 2019 to reduce particulate matter by 20 to 30 per cent by 2024 and tackle air pollution. Under this, 2017 has been made



the base year for comparison of the concentration of particulate matter 2.5 and 10. Under this, 122 cities that have not achieved the targets have been identified in recent times. The air quality data between 2014 and 2018 has been taken to identify such cities. But basically, the National Clean Air Program covers 132 non-attainment cities, which do not meet the prescribed National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These cities have been identified on the basis of ambient air quality data obtained during the period 2011-2015 under the National Air Monitoring Programme.









Demand for include Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule

Why in News?

After the bifurcation of the state of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019, two union territories emerged as Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The area of Ladakh is underdeveloped as compared to J & K due to this there is need to pay extra attention to Ladakh. The demand for inclusion of Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule is rising continuously. Recently, Ladakh MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal has demanded the inclusion of the Ladakh region in the Sixth Schedule.

What is Sixth Schedule?

- The Sixth Schedule deals with autonomous administrative areas (autonomous district councils) by the provisions provided by Article 244 of the Indian Constitution.
- These units have legislative, judicial and administrative autonomy within the state.

 The Autonomous District Councils consist of 30 members, 4 of whom are nominated by the Lt. Governor and hold office during the pleasure of the Lt. Governor. At the same time, 26 members are elected on the basis of adult franchise, whose term is 5 years. The Bodoland Territorial Council of Assam is an exception in this context which has 40 members. This Joint District Council can make laws, rules and regulations regarding land, forest, agriculture, village council, health, sanitation, law and order, marriage, divorce, social customs and mining. But they are not outside the executive authority of the respective state.

• The governor has the power to establish or restore autonomous districts.

• An area is included in the Sixth Schedule on the basis of segrega-

-tion, insufficient development and cultural diversity.

• At present there are Sixth Sched--ule areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Arguments in favour of inclusion of Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule

• Due to the presence of Article 370 within the state, has led to the decline of the region's development, political aspiration, identity and language.

• At present, Ladakh is a union territory, where there is no legislative assembly, so the governance of the Union Territory of Ladakh is completely under bureaucracy.

After the separation from the state of Jammu and Kashmir, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes had talked about the inclusion of the Ladakh region in the Sixth Schedule. The Commission said that most of the population in the Union Territory is from the tribes and after the formation of the newly created Union Territory, the external population will increase in this area, due to which the separate cultural heritage of the tribes of here may be threatened. The commission has stressed the need to preserve the cultural heritage of the region at present.

Challenges on the inclusion of Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule

• The Sixth Schedule has not been used in many other areas of the North-East where there is a tribal majority like Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh etc.

• Different demands are being made regarding the situation in the Ladakh region itself. The Kargil district (where Shia Muslims are the main population) wants to restore

the old situation. At the same time, some other organizations of Leh and Kargil region are demanding full statehood for the Ladakh region.

• A comprehensive part of the administration of tribal areas in the Constitution comes under the Fifth Schedule and the Sixth Schedule has been made for the most sensitive areas.

• Ladakh region is very important from the strategic point of view. Indirect interference of China and Pakistan remains in this area. Therefore, with the establishment of autonomous regional councils here, possibilities of separatism can also arise.

Way Forward-

The Leh Ladakh region has faced a lot of troubles since independence. Therefore, it is necessary that importance should be given to the development and identity of the people of the Leh Ladakh region. Along with this, we should also pay attention to this aspect that it also comes in very strategic areas of India. Autonomous governance in such strategic areas can affect the unity and integrity of the nation. Balancing both the aspects of national security and public aspiration, steps should be taken for the development of the people of the Leh Ladakh region.







The Active Role of Sashastra Seema Bal

Why in News?

Recently, the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has taken major action on the Indo-Nepal border to prevent illegal transmission. SSB has detained two American citizens of Nepal origin. They were detained for not having valid documents to enter India. These American citizens of Nepalese origin were going to Nepal after visiting Darjeeling.

Sashastra Seema Bal

The Sashastra Seema Bal is the main Central Armed Police Force and paramilitary force of India which was formed in 1963 in the circumstances of the Indo-China war. When it was formed, it was not named Sashastra Seema Bal. Then it was known as the Special Service Bureau. In 2001, Sashastra Seema Bal was declared a Border Guarding Force and in 2003 the Ministry of Home Affairs named it Sashastra Seema Bal. On June 19, 2001, it was given the responsibility of protecting the India and Nepal border and in 2004 it was given the responsibility of protecting the Indo-Bhutan border.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs of India, Nepal shares an 1850 km long border with India. The Indian states that share borders with Nepal are Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal and Bihar. The challenges of smuggling and crime exist on the borders of these states with Nepal. Similarly, India also shares a 699 km long international border with Bhutan is bordered by Bhutan. the four Indian states of Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. In view of the nexus of extremists, separatists, insurgents and other anarchic elements with foreign powers in Northeast India, it has been considered necessary that proper security arrangements should be made on the border of India and Bhutan. The deployment of Sashastra Seema Bal on the Bhutan border is necessary because the militant organizations, drug smuggling groups are active on this border.

The main functions of Sashastra Seema Bal are:

- Control of cross border crime

- Dealing with smuggling and other activities

- Running the Civic Action Program To develop a sense of security in the minds of the local people living in border areas

- Conducting counter-insurgency operations etc.

The Sashastra Seema Bal functions with the motto of security and brotherhood.

INTER-NATIONAL

1

Sri Ramana Kali Temple

Why in News?

Recently, Shri Ramana Kali Temple located in Dhaka has been inaugurated by President Shri Ram Nath Kovind which was demolished by Pakistan Army in the 1971 war.

About the temple-

- Ramna Kali Temple is located in Dhaka which was built during the Mughal period.
- This temple is dedicated to the Hindu goddess Maa Kali.

• It is also known as Ramna Kalibari.

• It is spread over two and a half acres near Suhrawardy Garden in Dhaka.

• This temple represents the migration of Maa Kali from the Himalayas to Bengal.

• Although the historical description of this temple is very old, but it was built under the patronage of Queen Vilasmoni Devi.

• It is one of the largest temples of Dhaka.

The architecture of Temple-

• After being established for the last several centuries, many changes have been seen in the architecture of this temple.

• There is a huge Dighi (pool) in front of this temple which is used for worship and holy bath.

• This temple has a huge shikhara.

- Next to the temple is Maa Anandmoi Ashram.
- This temple is built in the Nagara style prevalent in North India.





Demolition of Temple-

This temple was demolished on 27 March 1971 during Operation Searchlight conducted by Pakistan Army. With the demolition of this temple, about one thousand people were also massacred.

Rebuilding the temple

This temple has been rebuilt by the Government of India. The temples

of Durga, Kali and Radha Krishna are present in this newly built temple. It has been inaugurated by the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind on the occasion of the 50th Vijay Diwas.

Operation Searchlight

• Operation Searchlight was conducted by the Pakistan Army from 26 March 1971 to 25 May 1971. The purpose of this operation was to stop the wave of nationalism and independence rising in Bangladesh (erstwhile East Pakistan).

• Around 30,000 to 3,00,000 Bengali people were massacred by this operation.

• During this war, after the intervention of the Indian Army, Pakistan was forced to lay down arms and Bangladesh was born as a new nation on the world map.



Why in News?

Chief of Army Staff of India General Manoj Mukund Naravane addressed the Panex 21 event organized by BIMSTEC countries. In his address, underlining the crisis arising out of the Corona epidemic, he talked about joint development by BIMS-TEC countries in the area of disaster management. General Manoj Naravane said that the Covid-19 epidemic has affected the capacity of nations.

What is Panex 21?

• It is a humanitarian aid and disaster management exercise with the participation of subject experts and diplomats from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

• This is the third exercise related to humanitarian aid and disaster management. The last such exercise was held in February 2020. The exercise for the year 2021 is being organized from 20 to 22 December 2021 in Pune, India.

• It is a multi- body exercise in which the Indian Armed Forces and other civil agencies participate from the Indian side.

The main goals of this exercise are as follows-

1. To develop joint planning and

regional assistance in the area of natural disasters.

2. To balance the effects of sudden environmental changes and natural disasters.

BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) at a Glance

• It is a grouping of India, Nepal, SriLanka, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand.

• It was established on 6 June 1997.

• Its headquarter is in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

• Five of these countries are India Nepal Sri Lanka Bhutan and Bangladesh are South Asian countries while Myanmar and Thailand are Southeast Asian countries. Due to which BIMSTEC is also called the connecting point of SAARC (Organization of South Asian Cooperation) and ASEAN (Organization of Southeast Asian Nations).

• BIMSTEC represents about 22% of the global population and an economy of 2.7 trillion.

• Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand are vulnerable to maritime disaster due to sharing borders with the Indian Ocean, while Nepal and Bhutan are vulnerable to landslides and floods due to their location on the Himalayas. India is vulnerable to both these problems. Therefore, this step of BIMSTEC countries towards disaster management is commendable.



NOTES

ENVIRONMENT

Octopus, crab and lobster declared vulnerable in the United Kingdom

Why in News?

1

Recently the government of the United Kingdom has declared Octopus, Crab and Lobster as Sensitive Beings which means that these creatures have some degree of consciousness so that they can experience pain and suffering. A report in this regard has been prepared by experts from the London School of Economics, which has been recognized by the UK government.

Studies have been done on Cephalopods and Decapods

These experts submitted the findings to the United Kingdom

government after a study on 300 species of cephalopods (such as octopus, squid, cuttlefish) and decapods (such as crabs and lobsters) and it was recommended to the government that they should be recognized as sensitive creatures. The report also recommended that lobsters and crabs should not be boiled alive.

Planning to bring Bill-

To work in this direction, the Animal Welfare Sentience Bill has been prepared, as soon as it is passed, octopus, crab and lobster can be declared as sensitive creatures at the legal level.

Other efforts-

If we talk about India, the Uttarakhand High Court in its order dated March 20, 2017, recognized Ganga and Yamuna as a living entities. In this order, the High Court had given the responsibility of keeping these rivers clean and healthy to the state governments. At the global level, New Zealand's parliament passed a bill recognizing the Whanganui River flowing in the North Island as a living entity. In such a situation, it was the first time globally that a natural resource was legally given the status of personality.



Kazhuveli wetland declared as bird sanctuary in Tamilnadu

The Kazuveli wetland located near Villupuram in Tamil Nadu has recently been declared the 16th Bird Sanctuary of Tamil Nadu by the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forests. This 'Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary' is situated on 5,151.60 hectares of land. This sanctuary is situated near the Bay of Bengal along the eastern coast. 13 villages also fall within the purview of this sanctuary. It is a wetland of international importance.

It is one of the ideal habitats for migratory birds traveling long distances from the cold sub-arctic regions of Central Asia and Siberia. Some of these birds are special: black-tailed godwits, Eurasian curlew, white stark and ruff.

The Kazhuveli wetland with a runoff area of 670 sq km is considered to

be the second largest brackish water lake in South India after Pulicat Lake. Recently, the Wadhwana wetland in Gujarat has been declared as Ramsar site and this wetland is also internationally important for its birdlife like Kazhuveli wetland because it provides a suitable place for migratory waterfowl to stay in winter. There are more than 80 such species that migrate to different places in the Central Asian flyway. These include some endangered or near-endangered species such as the endangered Pallas fish-eagle, the vulnerable common pochard and the impending threatened Dalmatian pelican, the grey-headed fish-eagle and the ferruginous duck

The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 :-

• This act provides for the protec-

-tion and ensures environmental and ecological security.

- The Act prohibits hunting of several animal species.
- The act was last amended in 2006.

Areas protected by the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:-Wildlife Sanctuary:-

• An area where wildlife is allowed to live in its natural environment with no human intervention.

• There is a provision to declare the sanctuary by a notification by the state government. The boundaries of the sanctuary can also be changed by a resolution of the state legislature. Human activities are permitted to an extent in this area.

National Park:-

National Parks are those areas





that have been marked by the government to protect the natural environment.

• It is a more restricted area than a wildlife sanctuary.

• No human activity of any kind is allowed here.

• The state government has the right to change its name and boundary.

"The amended Wildlife Act 2006 does not permit any commercial exploitation of forest produce in both wildlife sanctuaries and national parks, and local communities are permitted to collect forest produce only for their actual needs".

Conservation Reserve:-

This is an area adjacent to wildlife sanctuaries and national parks, which is determined after consultation with the local community.

Community Reserve:-

The State Government may, after consultation with the local community, declare any private and community land as a community reserve area where wildlife conservation

work has been done voluntarily.

Tiger Reserve:-

It has been built for the purpose of conservation of tigers in India. An area can be declared as a Tiger Reserve after the recommendation of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

3

Askot Wildlife Sanctuary declared eco-sensitive zone

Recently, after declaring an area of three kilometres of the boundary of Binsar Sanctuary in Almora district as an eco-sensitive zone, again the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India has declared Askot Wildlife Sanctuary located in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand as an eco-sensitive zone. The special thing is that this eco-sensitive zone has been made the first eco-sensitive zone of Uttarakhand in which not a single village is included.

Askot Wildlife Sanctuary extends from an altitude of 600 meters to seven thousand meters. It is mainly located in the Kali River and its tributaries.

Askot Wildlife Sanctuary has 2600 hundred species of plants, 250 species of birds, 37 species of mammals. The wildlife includes Leopard, Himalayan Black Bear, Musk Deer, Himalayan Thar, Blue Sheep, Serov. Apart from this, there are Monal, Kalij Pheasant, Chir Pheasant etc.

Askot Musk Deer Wildlife Sanctuary covers an area of 600 square kilometres. The objective of creating the sanctuary was to conserve the vast biodiversity of the flora and fauna of the region. The Eco-Sensitive Zone of Askot Wildlife Sanctuary

extends from zero to 22 km around the boundary of the Askot

Wildlife Sanctuary and the area of the Eco-Sensitive Zone is 454.65 sq. km. This year, the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change Government of India has declared a 177 square kilometre area of coringa Wildlife Sanctuary located in Andhra Pradesh as Eco-Sensitive Zone under Section 3 of Environment Protection Act 1986. The total area of this sanctuary is 235.70 square kilometres and it includes the entire Hope Island.

This decision has been taken as the future development needs of Kakinada city, current activities of Kakinada port and fishing activities may pose a threat to the fauna of Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary. These faunas especially include Fishing Cat, Indian Smooth Coated Otter, Olive Ridley Turtle and many bird species.

Apart from this, recently the Kerala State Government has submitted an application to the Ministry of Enviro-nment of India to declare 88.21 square kilometre area of Kerala's Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary as an eco-sensitive zone. Industries prohibited under the guidelines for eco-sensitive zones around national parks and wildlife sanctuaries are not allowed to operate in these areas.

These guidelines prohibit activities such as commercial mining, commercial use of firewood and major hydroelectric projects. Certain activities such as felling of trees, exploitation of groundwater, commercial use of natural water resources including setting up of hotels and resorts etc. are regulated in these areas.



SCIENCE AND TECH

Uses of 5G technology in India

Introduction

In an official statement by the Department of Telecommunications, it has been said that 5G services will be started in Delhi, Gurgaon, Mumbai, Bangalore, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Pune by next year. Earlier this year, the DoT had sought inputs from telcos and industry experts on the sale and use of radio-frequency spectrum over the next 10 years, including the 5G band. Telcos (telecom sector) companies (companies that supply 5G) have indicated that this band can be used by industries and specialized factory units to build captive networks.

What is 5G?

5G refers to the fifth generation of the communication revolution and is the latest upgrade in LTE (Long Term Evolution) mobile broadband networks.

• 5G mainly works in 3 bands (ie low, mid and high-frequency spectrum). All these spectrums also have their own capabilities and limitations. The High-band spectrum provides the highest speeds of all three bands but has very limited coverage. Internet speeds in the high-band spectrum of 5G have been tested to be as high as 20 Gbps (gigabytes per second).

• The coverage of internet and data exchange in the low band spectrum is very high but the maximum speed is limited to 100 Mbps (megabits per second).

• Ideally the 5G network speed should be 20 gigabytes per second for downloading and 10 gigabytes per second (Gb/s) for uploading. But

practically it will be up to 100 Mbps downloading speed and 50 Mbps uploading speed only.

Benefits of 5G technology

The benefits of 5G technology are described as follows-

• 5G will help device connectivity on a large scale. It will provide quick and uninterrupted ultra-low latency communication.

• It will be helpful for the success of Industrial Revolution 4.0. Its networking will reduce the economic cost, electrical energy and complexity.

 It will help in the success of 'Smart Cities' and 'Smart Farming', Telesurgery and Augmented Realty. The use of 5G technology will also accelerate the implementation of these areas. This will create technology-based employment.

Disadvantages of 5G Technology

Some challenges are also attached with 5G technology, which is described as follows-

5G will lead to security and • privacy concerns due to cyberattacks.

• The band frequencies used in 5G are also used by remote sensing satellites. Therefore, this interference can degrade the quality of the data sent by satellite due to the 5G signals.

• It is well known that there are health concerns associated with cellphone towers and cellphon radiation. These concerns will increase further with 5G radiation. According to some research, high-strength bands can cause health effects such as brain cancer and infertility.

With the advent of 5G, 4G equipment will become unusable, which will increase the problem of electronic waste.

Conclusion-

The use of 5G technology has started globally. Global telecommunications companies have started building 5G networks sooner than governments. 5G is necessary for the fourth industrial revolution, so India is also taking steps in this direction so, India should also invest heavily in research and development for 5G technology.





ECONOMY

Global Inequality Report

Why in News?

1

Recently, Global Inequality Report released the trends of inequality in India.

Key point:-About India-

• It has been said in the report that India is a poor and highly unequal country where the elite class is dominant.

• Only 10% of the people in India have 57% of the national income and only 1% of the people have 22% of the national income.

• The 50% poorest of the people have only 13% of the assets.

• It has been told in the report that India's middle class is relatively poor and its income is 29% of the national income.

• On average, the annual income of an Indian is Rs 204000, while 50% of the poorest people in India have an annual income of only Rs 53610.

• According to the recent Multidimensional Poverty Index, one in four people in India is multidimensionally poor. • Private income has increased by more than 200 percent in India from 1980 to 2020.

Global Trend

• The report states that 50% of the world's poorest population have 8% of the global income while 10% of the richest have 52% of the global income.

• The Middle East and North Africa come in the most unequal regions of the world while Europe has the most equality.

• The top 10% of the rich in Europe account for 36% of the national income, the same in the Middle East and North America it is 58%, in East Asia it is 43% and in Latin America it is 55%.

• Global income in 2020 was around 510 trillion Euros.

• Economies like India and China are growing at a faster rate than the world's wealthiest countries.

• Economic inequality between countries is much wider than internal economic inequality within countries.

In 2020, the top 10% of the world's wealthiest countries have about 38 times more wealth than the world's 50% poorest countries.

• Global income and wealth inequality is related to environmental inequality and climate change. The top 10% of the world's emitters account for 50% of all emissions while the last 50% of the world's poorest countries emit only 12%.

Conclusion

This report prepared under the guidance of Global Inequality Lab, suggests that the pandemic has had an impact on Indian income along with global income. But even before the pandemic, inequality was widely established. Inequality gradually leads to class struggle and is the opposite of equality in democracy. Therefore, the government needs to create such an environment so that all the people can get equal opportunities for economic growth and development.

NOTES





2

Manufacturing of semiconductors in India

Why in News?

Due to the lockdown, there was a decrease in the demand for goods and products, due to which the production of chips also decreased. As soon as the lockdown opened, the demand for electronic goods suddenly increased. Due to this the gap between demand and supply has increased. As a result, there was a shortage of semiconductor chips in the market. To avoid this situation in future, a plan of Rs 76000 crore has been run by the Union Cabinet recently for the manufacture of semiconductors.

What is Semiconductor?

Semiconductor chips are made of silicon and are used to control electricity in any electrical circuit. They are neither completely poor conductors nor completely good conductors of electricity. In other words, it helps to operate electronic goods automatically.

Key points of the Scheme-

• After this announcement, the value of the total incentive provided by the government in the electronics sector will be around 2.3 lakh crores.

• The government is constantly striving for growth in the semiconductor and electronics sector. In the present time, for the success of technology sector, information revolution and fourth industrial revolution, it is necessary to expand the semiconductor industry in the country. In this way the help given by the government will prove to be very beneficial.

• According to this scheme, 50% of the cost of starting the fabrication units will be borne by the government.

• Under the scheme, the central government will build 11 clusters of high-tech and basic infrastructure in the field of semiconductors in collaboration with the states.

• India Semiconductor Mission will be launched to manufacture sustainable semiconductors and displays with a long term strategy in the field of semiconductors.

• The government has already started Semiconductor's Production Based Incentive Scheme or Production Link Incentive Scheme.

• This scheme will be helpful in increasing India's participation at the global level. According to the Semiconductor Industry Association, US -based firms currently account for 47% of the global semiconductor manufacturing wherein South Korea 20% Japan and the European Union 10% Taiwan 7% and China 5% are the participants in the global trade of semiconductors.

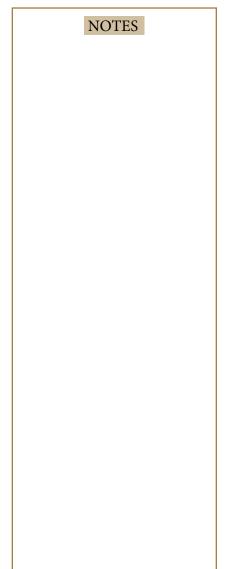
Production Link Incentive Scheme for Semiconductor

• Hardware manufacturers in India's electronics sector were unable to compete globally. Lack of infrastructure, lack of domestic supply chain, lack of logistics, lack of finance, lack of high-end power supply, and limited research and development were responsible for this situation.

• The National Electronics Policy was brought by the government in 2019 with the aim of getting a solution from this situation. The aim of which was to make India a global hub in the field of Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (SDM).

• In this context, the Production Link Incentive Scheme was launched by the government on April 1, 2020 in the field of electronics manufacturing which encourages companies on the basis of production in the field of manufacturing, assembling, testing, marketing and packaging of mobile phones and other electronic components.

• Initially this scheme was kept for only 4 months but later this scheme was extended further.



NEWS OF NATIONAL AND INTER-NATIONAL IMPORTANCE



1. Haiderpur wetland declared as Ramsar site

Haiderpur Wetland, located within the boundaries of the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary in western Uttar Pradesh, has been recognized as a Ramsar site. With Haiderpur getting the status of the Ramsar site, there are 47 Ramsar sites in India. Haiderpur is a man-made wetland that was created in 1984 after the construction of the Madhya Ganga Barrage. This wetland is home to more than 30 species of plants and 300 species of birds. The purpose of the Ramsar list is to maintain the existence of wetlands that are important for the conservation of global biodiversity.

Ramsar Convention:

The Ramsar Convention is an intergovernmental environmental treaty that was signed in 1971 and came into force in 1975. It provides a framework for the conservation and use of all wetlands through local and national efforts and collaborations.

2. International Science Festival of India concludes in Panaji

The seventh edition of the International Science Festival of India concluded in Panaji, Goa. The objective of this festival is to promote innovation among the people and to develop affordable technology for the masses as well as to spread scientific temper among the people for sustainable development and new technological innovations in India. The theme of the festival this year was "Celebrating Creativity, Science, Technology and Innovation for a Prosperous India". International Science Festival of India provides a platform for the exchange of knowledge to students, scientists and technocrats. The International Science Festival of India is a joint event of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences and Vigyan Bharati.





3. Indigenous stand-off anti-tank missile successfully test-fired

Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has successfully test-fired a Stand-off anti-tank (SANT) missile from the Pokhran range. The stand-off anti-tank missile is equipped with state-of-the-art Millimeter Wave (MmW) Seeker technology, which gives the missile a high precision strike capability. This missile can hit the target up to 10 km. This flight test conducted by DRDO and Air Force was successful in all its objectives. This missile has been developed by DRDO in collaboration with Research Center, Imarat Hyderabad.

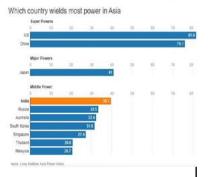
DRDO at a Glance:

DRDO was established in 1958 under the Ministry of Defense. It develops defence technologies and products for the Indian Armed Forces. The present Chairman of DRDO is G Satheesh Reddy.

4. The fourth most powerful country in Asia is India

According to the Asian Power Index 2021 released by the Lowy Institute, India is the fourth most powerful country in Asia among the 26 countries and regions of the Indo-Pacific.

The report said that India's position in important indicators such as diplomatic influence and economic ties has deteriorated. Despite this decline, India has retained its fourth position on the basis of indicators such as economic capability, military capability, resilience and cultural influence. The United States ranks first. The United States ranked first in 6 of the 8 indicators of the index. The Lowy Institute's annual Asia Power Index was launched in 2018. The first 10 countries in the index are America, China, Japan, India, Russia, Australia, South Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, and Thailand.



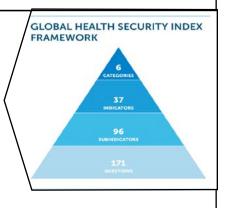


5. 'Swarnim Vijay Parv' celebrated at India Gate

A two-day 'Swarnim Vijay Parv' was celebrated at India Gate in Delhi to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1971 war and Indo-Bangladesh friendship. Inaugurating the event, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh said that this war is one of the most decisive battles in the world after two world wars. The event was celebrated as a part of the year-long celebrations to mark 50 years of India's victory in the 1971 war. Weapons and equipment used during the war were displayed in the event.

6. Global Health Security Index

The Global Health Security Index (GHS) for 2021 was released on 8 December. India has got a score of 42.8 in the index, which is .8 less than in 2019. On the other hand, India's neighbouring countries Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Maldives have improved their score by 1-1.2 points. Global data in the index shows that the overall performance of the world has fallen to 38.9 from 40.2 in 2019. The index has been developed by the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) and the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. The report states that 65% of countries did not implement a national public health emergency response plan for epidemic diseases. The index is based on the updated data collection between August 2020 and June 2021.





7. Durga Puja in UNESCO's list of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Kolkata's Durga Puja has been added to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List of Humanity. The Intergovernmental Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention has decided to include 'Durga Puja of Kolkata' in this list during its 16th session in Paris. The committee has praised the initiative of Durga Puja, in which women, as well as persons from backward groups, get participation. With the inclusion of Kolkata's Durga Puja, India now has 14 Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in ICH's prestigious UN-ESCO Representative List. These 14 Intangible Cultural Heritage are (1) Vedic Chanting Tradition (3) Ramlila (3) Kutiyattam (4) Ramman (5) Mudiyettu (6)

Kalbelia Folk Songs and Dances of Rajasthan (7) Chhau Dance (8) Ladakh Buddhist chanting of (9) Sankirtana, traditional singing, drums and dances of Manipur (10) Brass and copper utensils made by coppersmiths of Punjab (11) Yoga (12) Navroz (13) Kumbh Mela (14) Durga Puja, Kolkata. India is a signatory to the 2003 UNESCO Convention which aims to protect intangible heritage along with traditions and living expression.





8. NASA's Parker Solar Probe spacecraft 'touched the sun'

Recently, NASA's Parker Solar Probe has passed through the outer atmosphere of the Sun. It has become the first spacecraft to achieve such a feat. The US space agency NASA has said in its official statement that the spacecraft flew through the middle of the Sun's upper atmosphere 'Corona' and took samples of the magnetic field and particles there. The Parker Probe spacecraft was launched in the year 2018 with the goal of passing close to the Sun. The speciality of this spacecraft is that to escape the heat of the Sun it rapidly enters the Sun's orbit and exits quickly. For this, the speed of this vehicle has been kept more than 500,000 km per hour.



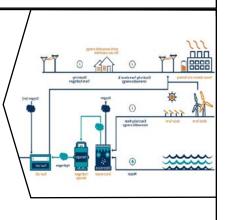


9. Sunil Gavaskar honoured with SJFI Medal

The Sports Journalists Federation of India (SJFI) will honour cricketer Sunil Gavaskar with the SJFI Medal. While Neeraj Chopra, Mirabai Chanu will be awarded SJFI Sportsman of the Year and Sports Woman of the Year respectively. The Indian men's hockey team, which won the bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics, has been declared the Team of the Year. Sumit Antil and Pramod Bhagat will receive the Para-Athlete of the Year award in the men's category while Avani Lekhara will receive the Women's Para-athlete of the year award.

10. World's largest green hydrogen micro grid project to be set up in Visakhapatnam

India will soon set up the world's largest green hydrogen microgrid project at Simhadri, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This will be India's first green hydrogen-based energy storage project set up by National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC). The objective of setting up this project is driven by the vision of becoming carbon neutral by 2070 and making Ladakh a carbon-neutral region. In the project, hydrogen production using electrolyser as well as single fuel cell-based microgrid project has been started. The project will further be used to set up multiple microgrids at various off-grid and critical locations. The initial power input for the project will be taken from India's largest floating solar plant set up at Ramagundam, Telangana.





11. Mithila Makhana of Bihar gets GI tag

The Geographical Indication Registry (GIR) of the Union Ministry of Commerce has accepted the petition to change the name of Bihar Makhana to Mithila Makhana. The ministry also suggested further modifications in the brand logo to better reflect its origin.

Geographical Indication and its importance:

A Geographical Indication (GI) is a sign or name given to a certain product that relates to a specific geographical location or origin of a city, region or country. The GI tag is considered as a certification that that particular product is produced according to traditional methods and has certain distinctive properties or has a

special reputation due to its geographical origin.

Recently given GI tag-

Harmal Mirch-Goa, Uttarakhand Ringle Craft-Uttarakhand, Munsiyari Rajma-Uttarakhand, Uttarakhand Aipan-Uttarakhand, Kumaon Chura Oil-Uttarakhand, Bhotia Dan-Uttarakhand, Naga Cucumber-Nagaland, Dalle Khorsani-West Bengal and Sikkim, Mizo Ginger-Mizoram.





Current Affairs at a Glance

- The country's first drone fair was held in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh on December 11, 2021
- America's Katherine Russell has been appointed as UNICEF's Executive Director. She will replace Henrietta Fore.
- Max Verstappen won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix title 2021
- Harnaaz Sandhu of India won the title of Miss Universe 2021.
- Dubai is the first government in the world to be '100% paperless'.
- India won 6 medals (2 gold and 4 silver) in the Asian Rowing Championships.
- Indian-origin Gautam Raghavan has been appointed as the head of the White House Office of Presidential Personnel.
- Odisha government launched the 'Mission Shakti Living Lab' project on December 11, 2021
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will get the 'Order of the Druk Gyalpo' award. It is the highest civilian award given by Bhutan.
- Haryana has started the "Khel Nursery" scheme to promote sports.
- Tamil Nadu has given state song status to the song 'Tamil Thai Vazhthu'.
- Skill Development University will be established in Mangaldoi, Assam with the help of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- Indian desert cat sighted for the first time in Panna Tiger Reserve (Madhya Pradesh).
- The prestigious Golden Peacock Award 2021 for environmental management has been given to Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). SAIL has been receiving this award for three consecutive years.
- Mohit Jain was elected the President of 'Indian Newspaper Society'.
- According to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) report, India is the world's top dope violator after Russia and Italy.
- India's first "International Arbitration and Medication Center" has been inaugurated in Hyderabad.
- India successfully test-fire of indigenously developed 'Pralaya' missile by Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), from Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Island (Odisha) off the coast.
- Atul Dinkar Rane was appointed as the new head of 'BrahMos Aerospace Limited'.
- The Punjab Government has given the status of 'State Festival' to 'Jagannath Rath Yatra'.

BRAIN BOOSTERS





Recently, at a seminar organised by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Defence Minister Rajnath Singh encouraged scientists to work towards developing hypersonic missile technology.

2. History of missile technology in India

Mysore under the leadership of Hyder Ali started using iron-cased rockets in the army in the mid-18th century.

• At the time of Tipu Sultan, a company of rocketeers was attached to each brigade of his army, which has been estimated at around 5,000 € rocket-carrying troops.

3. India's indigenous missile capabilities after independence

India created Special Weapon Development Team in 1958, later expanded and renamed as Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL).

 In 1972, Project Devil, for the development of a medium range Surface-to-Surface Missile was initiated. A large number of infrastructure and test facilities were established during this period.

• The development of components / systems for Project Devil formed the technology base for the future IGMDP Programme. By 1982, DRDL was working on several missile technologies under the Integrated Guided Missiles Development Programme (IGMDP).

7. What makes India good in missile technology?

Under IGMP then headed by Dr A P J Abdul Kalam India started working on

a) Short range surface-to-surface missile \rightarrow b) Short range low-level surface-to-air missile

c) Medium range surface-to-air missile

4. Kind of missiles India have

India is in a select league of nations designing and developing missiles indigenously.

Surface-launched systems:

ANTI-TANK GUIDED MISSILE

a) Nag: Nag has already been inducted into the services. It is the only "fire-and-forget ATGM meeting all weather requirements for its range (around 20 km)".

b) HeliNa: Helicopter based Nag will be inducted by 2022.



Indian Missile Systems

6. Hypersonic technology

 India is just behind the US, Russia and China regarding Hypersonic technology.

DRDO successfully tested a Hypersonic Technology Demonstrated Vehicle (HSTDV) in September 2020, and demonstrated its hypersonic air-breathing scramjet technology.

 India has developed its own cryogenic engine and demonstrated it in a 23-second flight. India will try to make a hypersonic cruise missile, using HSTDV.

Third-generation anti-tank missile d)

BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile being developed by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture between Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India and NPO Mashinostroeyenia (NPOM) of Russia.

- SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE
- a) Short-range SAM system
- I. Akash has already been inducted in the Army and the Air Force.

II. Akash 1, has a seeker, the Army has already got the Acceptance of Necessity from the government.

III. Akash NG (New Generation) is in the development phase.

b) Medium-Range SAM: Production of MRSAM systems for the Navy is completed

c) Short-Range SAM: For the Navy, the first flight tests have been successfully conducted.

Air-launched systems:

AIR-TO-AIR:

a) Astra:- It is a Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM). It is under induction & has a range of around 100 km. Solid fuel & ramjet technology is used for enhances speed. It will have an indigenously-built seeker.

AIR-TO-GROUND:

b) Rudram is a New Generation Anti-Radiation Missile (NGRAM), has cleared initial tests. Maximum range is 200 km. The missile mainly targets communication, radar and surveillance systems of the adversary.

c) BrahMos is jointly developed by India & Russia. It is already operational and has a range of 290 km. The missile can be installed on ships, submarines, aircraft and ground vehicles. It is a short-range, ramjet-powered, single warhead, supersonic cruise missile.

5. India's most important missile systems

• Agni and Prithvi are surface-to-surface missiles. They are used by the Strategic Forces Command. They form the backbone of India's Missile Defence.

Agni-5 (range 5,000 km), is India's only contender for an inter-continental ballistic missile (ICBM).

• Prithvi is a short-range surface-to-surface missile with a 350 km range, is a strategic missile.

 India successfully tested ASAT, an anti-satellite system in April 2019.



On 11 October 2021, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) through a Gazette Notification, modified the areas of jurisdiction for the Border Security Force (BSF) to exercise its powers in the states bordering Pakistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar.

2. Notification

BSF's new jurisdiction now comprises "the whole of the area in the States of Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya and Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir (J & K) and Ladakh and so much of the area within a belt of 50 kilometers in the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal and Assam, running along the borders of India".

3. Reasons for Jurisdictional Changes

 National security concerns triggered the MHA to take the decision.
 Taking over of Afghanistan by the Taliban has emboldened anti-India elements in the Af-Pak region, as a result India might witness heightened incidents of cross-border terrorism in future.

• The concomitant rise in terrorist attacks in J & K as well as an increase in the incidents of arms being dropped by Pakistani drones in Punjab has reinforced the concerns.

• Concerns regarding illegal migration, cattle smuggling, trafficking in person and narcotics and smuggling of fake Indian currency notes (FICN) along the Bangladesh border continue to persist.

such as district and state coordination committees and appoint nodal officers to achieve better synergy among all the agencies concerned.

4. BSF's Response

BSF said, "The amendment will aid the border guarding force in effectively curbing trans-border crimes and the new amendment brings in 'uniformity' for its operations in the border states of Punjab, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Assam where it can now operate within a 50 kms area from the border".

Enhanced Area of Jurisdiction for BSF

8. How will it be implemented?

Until now, state police and border forces have been working in tandem with minor, occasional differences. Now, with the issue taking political colour, implementation could be tricky if there are difficulties in coordination in future.

9. Way Forward

• Emphasis must be laid on sensitising the personnel on the local customs, traditions and languages so that the BSF can initiate a dialogue with the border inhabitants and encourage them to support the efforts of the force in making the border areas secure and peaceful.

• The union government, should formulate guidelines for the operationalisation of the notification.

It should also establish structures

5. Changes Made in the BSF's Power

• Its jurisdiction has been extended only in respect of the powers it enjoys under Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 and the Passport Act, 1967. BSF currently has powers to arrest and search under these laws.

• It also has powers to arrest, search and seize under the NDPS Act, Arms Act, Customs Act and certain other laws. Its jurisdiction under these laws has not been changed, i.e. its powers under these will continue to be only up to 15 km inside the border in Punjab, Assam and West Bengal, and will remain as far as 80 km in Gujarat.

6. Why and when BSF got these powers

• In 1969, the BSF first got powers to arrest and search under the CrPC with respect to certain laws such as the Foreigners Act, The Passport Act, forex laws and Customs Act.

• At that time, border areas were sparsely populated and there were hardly any police stations for miles. To prevent trans-border crimes, it was felt necessary that BSF is given powers to arrest.

7. Reaction to the Changes

• Assam government has welcomed the decision and expressed confidence that in coordination with the state police, the amendment will help defeat cross-border smuggling and illegal migration.

• Punjab and West Bengal governments have termed it "a direct attack on federalism" and "an infringement on the rights of the state".





• On December 14, the Supreme Court cleared the way for Government to widen three Himalavan highways. These are

- i) Rishikesh to Mana
- ii) Rishikesh to Gangotri
- iii) Tanakpur to Pithoragarh

• These are part of the Char Dham Pariyojna of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).

2. About Char Dham project

• The ₹12,000 crore project was announced on December 23, 2016.

It aims at broadening the roads of about 900 km of national highways for safer, smoother and faster traffic movement.

• They connect the holy shrines in Uttarakhand:

- i) Yamunotri
- ii) Gangotri
- iii) Kedarnath
- iv) Badrinath

• The project also includes the Tanakpur Pithoragarh stretch of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra route.

3. The Controversy

Environmentalist groups filed an application on February 27, 2018, in the National Green Tribunal (NGT). Construction of the project was challenged on the ground that devel-

opment activity would have a negative impact on the Himalayan ecosystem.

The project would result in deforestation, excavation of hills and dumping of muck, which would lead to further landslides and soil erosion, in an already fragile environment.

 The NGT, on September 26, 2018, observed that the length of each of these projects was less than 100 km and therefore, they did not require environmental clearance. However, it directed constitution of an 'Oversight Committee' to monitor environmental safeguards.

The order was challenged in the Supreme Court.

4. What happened in the **Supreme Court?**

The Supreme Court formed a high-powered committee (HPC) under environmentalist Ravi Chopra to examine the issues.

In July 2020, the HPC submit-• ted two reports after members disagreed on the ideal width for hill roads.

 In September, the Supreme Court upheld the recommendation of 4 HPC members, including Chopra, to limit the carriageway width to 5.5 m (along with 1.5 m raised footpath),



7. Supreme Court's Judgement

The Supreme Court's approval is conditional upon MoRTH and MoD implementing the HPC recommendations.

An Oversight Committee will as-• sess the implementation, has been set up by the Supreme Court.

• As directed, the Government will issue a formal notification in terms of the Supreme Court's directions within two weeks

 MoRTH and MoD will place before the Committee the steps taken to adhere to the recommendations, along with a projected timeline for complying with the remaining suggestions.

based on a March 2018 guideline issued by MoRTH for mountain highways.

 The majority report by 21 HPC members favoured a width of 12m as envisaged in the project following national highway double-lane with paved shoulder standards(DLPS).

5. What did respondents argue?

 They argued that the HPC was not allowed to function independently and was given inadequate assistance by the Government.

No concrete action was taken on concerns related to slope stabilisation, muck disposal, restoration of damaged slopes and hill cutting activities.

 MoRTH violated its 2018 circular and the Supreme Court's September 2020 directive.

The fragile environment of the • Himalayas would be severely dam--aged if the DLPS standard was adopted.

6. The defence angle

MoD moved an appeal before the Supreme Court in November, seeking "a double-lane road having a carriageway width of 7 m (or 7.5 m in case there is a raised kerb)" with 8-10 m formation width to "meet the requirement of the Army".

 While conceived primarily to facilitate the Char Dham yatras (pilgrimage) and to boost tourism, the project always had a strategic angle to it as the highways would facilitate troop movement to areas closer to the China border.





1. Background

American Constitution was the first to come up with a Preamble. The Preamble of the Indian Constitution is based on the 'Objective

Resolution', drafted and moved by J L Nehru, and adopted by the Constituent Assembly.

2. The Preamble

"We, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens: JUSTICE, Social, Economic and Political; LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; EQUALITY of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all; FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation; IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, EN-ACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION".

3. Elements of the Preamble

• Source of authority: The Preamble states that the Constitution derives its authority from the people of India.

• Nature of Indian State: It declares India to be of a sovereign, socialist, secular democratic and republican state.

• Objectives: It specifies justice, liberty, equality and fraternity as the objectives.

Date of adoption of the Constitution: It stipulates November 26, 1949, as the date.

10. Amendments of the Preamble

The Preamble has been amended only once by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976. Three new words Socialist, Secular and Integrity were added to the Preamble.

4. Building blocks of the Preamble

Sovereign:- Free from external control

- Socialist:- Welfare of all, i.e. All equitable distribution of wealth
- Secular :- State has no religion but citizen have.
- Democratic :- Government is representative of people

Republic :- Head of the state is elected

- Justice :- Fairness
- Liberty :- Freedom
- Equality :- No Discrimination •
- Fraternity :- Brotherhood
- Unity :- Oneness
- Integrity :- Emotional Oneness

Indian Constitution

8. Social Justice

The policies that turn a blind eye to deliberate infliction of misery on large segment of population even in its weakest form and content can't be condoned in view of the promise for social, economic and political justice to citizens made by Constitution of India (Nandini Sundar case, 2011).

9. Amendability of the Preamble

In the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) the SC held that the Preamble can be amended, subject to the condition that no amendment is done to the 'basic features'.

5. Preamble as a part of the Constitution

In the Keshavananda Bharti Vs State of Kerala Case, 1973 Supreme Court (SC) Observed that Preamble is a part of the constitution.

• In the Harihar Yadav Vs State of Jharkhand Case, 2014 SC Observed that Constitution casts a responsibility on the State to sustain social & economic security, for the Preamble is the floodlight illuminating the path to be persuaded by the State to set up a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic.

Important notes

a) The Preamble is neither a source of power to legislature nor a prohibition upon the powers of legislature.

b) It is non-justiciable, i.e. its provisions are not enforceable in courts of law.

6. Preamble as Basic Structure

• In the Keshavananda Bharti Case, 1973 & Excel Wear Case, 1979 SC Observed that Objectives specified in the Preamble contain the basic structure of the constitution.

- Basic Structure contains:-•
- a) Supremacy of the Constitution.
- Republican & Democratic form b) of Government

c) Secular character of the Constitution

d) Separation of Powers between the Legislature, the Executive & the Judiciarv

e) Federal Character of the Constitution.

7. Interpretation of Preamble

According to Keshvananda Bharti Case, 1973; Chandra Bhawan Boarding Case, 1973; the preamble maybe invoked to determine the ambit of a) Fundamental Rights

b) Directive Principles of State Policy

Preamble of the



The Indian Air Force on Thursday deployed two military aircraft to send 100,000 kilogram nano nitrogen fertiliser to Sri Lanka. New Delhi sent the consignment of fertiliser following a request from the Sri Lankan government.

2. The announcement

On May 6, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa issued a gazette banning the import of chemical fertilizers, in what was widely seen as a rash embrace of organic farming promised in his poll manifesto.

3. Benefits of Organic farming

- Discourages environmental exposure to pesticides and chemicals
- Builds healthy soil
- Helps combat erosion
- Fights the effects of global warming
- Supports water conservation and water health
- Discourages algae blooms
- Supports animal health and welfare
- Encourages biodiversity.

4. Benefits of inorganic fertilizers

- Works immediately
- Contains all necessary nutrients that are ready to use
- Affordable
- Convenient to use

5. No transition plan by Lankan Government

At a time when all sectors, including agriculture, were reeling under the persisting economic impact of the pandemic, the administration's announcement, perhaps the most consequential change to agriculture policy in the region in recent decades, came with no consultation, forethought, or convincing transition plan apparent.

6. President's comments

• At COP 26, Glasgow President Gotabaya had defended the initiative and said "We need a new agricultural revolution that is not against nature,"

• Acknowledging the "criticism and resistance" to the 'organic only' policy, he said: "In addition to chemical fertilizer lobby groups, this resistance has come from farmers who have grown accustomed to overusing fertilizer as an easy means of increasing yields."

The Organic Farming Disaster

11. Confusing messages

• Ban on inorganic fertilizers was announced without any pre-announcement.

• In late November the government permitted the private sector to import chemical fertilizers in a sudden decision

• The government's ban on chemical fertilizers and subsequent tweak in policy allowing private players create doubts in the minds of farmers.

12. Way Forward

- The transition should be planned
- Farmers should be educated about the benefits of organic farming
- Infrastructure should be developed to store and process the

7. View of Scientists

• The Sri Lankan scientists have termed the initiative, ill-advised and "a catastrophe" in the making.

8. Farmers' Problems

- No chemical fertilizer when sowing started in September.
- Pressure to buy Organic fertilizer only
- Uncertainty about the quality of organic fertilizer
- Less availability of organic fertilizer

• Instead of spending their time on their lands cultivating, farmers were forced to agitate on the streets.

9. Crops in peril

- The government's ban, has put Sri Lanka's top staple crop in peril.
- This has also endangered the country's food security achieved through decades.
- Farmers are dreading their next paddy harvest in January and February, with most fearing their yield would drop by 50%.
- The ban will also adversely impact Sri Lanka's \$1.3 billion tea industry, a vital foreign exchange earner for the country

10. Blunders by Sri Lankan Government

• Sri Lanka was not able to produce all the organic fertilizer required in the country instead it was importing organic inputs, from India and China, despite banning agrochemicals in order to preserve draining foreign reserves.

• In the Chinese company's contaminated fertilizer consignment case, Sri Lankan government had agreed to pay \$6.7 million to the Chinese company.

organic products.

• Farmers should get the maximum profits of organic farming & con sumption of organic products





Delhi High Court has granted relief to a petitioner seeking to exercise Right To Be Forgotten (RTBF).

2. About Right to Be Forgotten 🗡

• Right to have publicly available information removed personal from the internet, search, databases, websites or any other public platforms, once the personal information in question is no longer necessary.

 RTBF gained currency after the 2014 decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) in the Google Spain case.

 RTBF is also known as the right to erasure.

3. Countries implementing RTBF

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was adopted by EU in 2018.

• Article 17 of GDPR provides for the right to erasure of personal data which is

a) considered no longer necessary

b) consent has been withdrawn

c) processing of which has been objected to

d) personal data unlawfully processed e) where there is a legal obligation for erasure

• Limitation to GDPR:-

a) for reasons of public interest in the area of public health

b) for archiving purposes "in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes in accordance"

c) for establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims

d) to exercise the right of freedom of expression and information

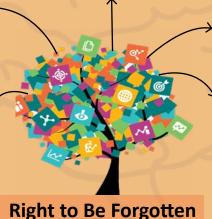
e) for the establishment of a legal defense or in the exercise of other legal claims.

4. Status in India

RTBF doesn't have legislative • sanction yet. However, in the Puttaswamy judgment 2017, the Supreme court held that the right to privacy is a fundamental right.

• Currently, many High courts have expressly recognised the right to be \nearrow forgotten in their judgments, taking note of international jurisprudence on this right.

Recommendations by the B.N • Srikrishna Committee also emphasized this right. Thus, it was incorporated under the Draft Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019



8. Way ahead

Privacy needs to be added as a ground for reasonable restriction under Article 19 (2) through a constitutional amendment for the effective implementation of RTBF.

The impending Data Protection Bill should be passed expeditiously. This would give individuals a legal right to erase their unnecessary and inappropriate personal data.

 $\boldsymbol{y}_{\mathsf{f}}$ to comply with a legal ruling or obligation

• Irrelevancy, inaccuracy and violation of law make the ground in Russia for removal of links to personal information from search engine.

• Turkey and Siberia recognise the right to be forgotten to some extent

5. Effect on International Relations

• The regulatory differences in the protection of personal data between countries have real impact on international relations.

• Data is the new oil, so it needs utmost security in relation to cross border data flow.

6. Need of such right

Ability to remove libelous, embarrassing, and stigmatizing information from a past post or upload

• The removal of illegally uploaded content by a third party, including "revenge porn"

 Removing information that might compromise personal or financial safety

7. Challenges with such rights

 Balance need to be established between the Right to Privacy of individual and the Right to Information of the public.

• It may impair the right of media personnel to do independent reporting. The adjudicatory officer may remove articles of media groups that generally criticize government policies.

The removal of complete judg-• ments may restrict public scrutiny of judicial performance to ascertain the fairness and objectivity of the administration of justice. Further judgments are an important source of learning for law students.

The removal sometimes creates a Streisand effect. It is a social phenomenon that occurs when an attempt to hide, remove or censor information has the unintended consequence of further publicizing that information.



The 4th Scorpene class conventional submarine, INS Vela, was commissioned into the Navy in the presence of then Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh on 25th November, 2021.

2. India's submarine strength

• Currently, India has 15 conventional diesel-electric submarines, classified as SSKs, and one nuclear ballistic submarine, classified as SSBN.

• Of the SSKs,

a. 4 are Shishumar Class, which were bought and then built in India in collaboration with the Germany in 1980s.

b. 8 are Kilo Class or Sindhughosh Class bought from Russia (including erstwhile USSR) between 1984 and 2000.

c. 3 are Kalvari Class Scorpene sub marines built at India's Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) in partnership with France's Naval Group, earlier called DCNS.

• The SSBN, INS Arihant, is a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, built indigenously.

3. History of India's submarine acquisition

• India got its first submarine, INS Kalvari of the Foxtrot Class, from the USSR in December 1967.

• In 1981, India signed a contract to buy 2 Type 209 (Shishumar Class) submarines from West Germany, while two other were to be assembled at Mazgaon Dock.

• Russia offered India its Kilo Class submarines in 1986 which formed the Kilo Class submarines for India.

4. Delays in modernisation

• Due to policy-paralysis, 30-year plan (2000-30) for indigenous submarine construction, approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security in 1999, was signed in 2005.

• It envisaged two production lines of six submarines each, built in India in partnership with a foreign Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). The projects were called P-75 and P-75I.

• P-75, has been delayed and P-75I is yet to be signed.



India's Submarines

8. India's nuclear submarines

• India is among six nations that have SSNs, alongside the US, the UK, Russia, France and China.

• India got its first SSN in 1987 from the Soviet Navy, which it rechristened INS Chakra, which was decommissioned in 1991.

• India has developed its own SSBNs, INS Arihant and INS Arighat. Unlike the other submarines, the SSBNs are strategic programmes and fall under the Strategic Forces Command, the triservices command responsible for India's nuclear weapons.

• The government has also decided that of the 12 submarines to be built indigenously after the P75 and P75i projects, six would be SSNs.

5. Current projects to manufacture submarines

• Of the six being built, P-75 has delivered three Kalvari Class Scorpene submarines so far.

• P-75I will be India's first under the Strategic Partnership Model, which came up in 2015.

• The government will give the contract to an Indian Strategic Partner (SP), which will then partner with a foreign OEM.

• The two selected SPs are MDL and Larsen and Toubro.

 The 5 selected OEMs are France's Naval Group, Germany's ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems, Russia's ROE, South Korea's Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering, and Spain's Navantia.

6. China's capability and India's worry

• India needs more submarines for our own maritime security.

• Chinese are going to be positioning a lot more ships and submarines in the Indian Ocean in the coming years.

• China is giving Pakistan 8 submarines and 4 destroyers, which can be used as proxy by China.

• According to the report by Pentagon, Chinese Navy will "likely to maintain between 65 and 70 submarines through the 2020s, replacing older units with more capable units on a near one-to-one basis".

7. Why are nuclear submarines so coveted?

• SSNs have infinite capacity to stay dived.

• They are propelled by a nuclear-powered engine, these submarines only need to come to the surface for replenishing supplies for the crew.

• SSNs are also able to move faster underwater than conventional sub-marines.

• All this allows a navy to deploy them at farther distances, and quicker.





MCQs Based on Current Affairs

- Q1. With reference to Shri Ramana Kali Temple, consider the following statements-
 - 1. This temple is located in Chittagong city of Bangladesh.
 - 2. This temple was built during the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq in the Sultanate period.
 - 3. This temple has been rebuilt by the Government of India.

Which of the following statement(s) is/are true.

- (a) Statements 1 and 2 are true.
- (b) Statements 2 and 3 are true.
- (c) Only statement 3 is true.
- (d) Only statement 2 is true.

Answer (c)

- Q2. What is the rank of India (in Asia) in the Power Index released by the Lowy Institute?
 - (a) third place
 - (b) fourth place
 - (c) fifth place
 - (d) sixth place

Answer (b)

- Q3. Recently, "Operation Searchlight", which was in news, was related to?
 - (a) An operation conducted by the Pakistan Army in 1971 with the aim of stopping the rising nationalism and wave of independence in Bangladesh (erstwhile East Pakistan).
 - (b) An operation by India towards becoming selfreliant in manufacturing "semiconductor chips".
 - (c) An operation carried out by NASA for the International Space Station.
 - (d) An operation was undertaken by the BSF to deal with smuggling and other activities.

Answer (a)

- Q4. Where will the world's largest green hydrogen microgrid project be set up?
 - (a) New York, USA
 - (b) Brisbane, Australia
 - (c) Visakhapatnam, India
 - (d) Durban, South Africa

Answer (c)

- Q5. With reference to the National Clean Air Program (NCAP), which statement is false?
 - (a) The National Apex Committee of NCAP has

claimed that all the states have been successful in utilizing thed funds given by the Central Government under NCAP.

- (b) Under NCAP, Rs 375.44 crore was allocated to 114 cities for 2018-19 to 2020-21.
- (c) Rs 290 crore has been allocated for 82 cities for 2021-22.
- (d) The central government has announced an additional Rs 700 crore for the period 2021 to 2026 under the NCAP.

Answer (a)

- Q6. Which of the following has been included in the list of intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO recently?
 - (a) The tradition of Vedic chanting
 - (b) Durga Puja, Kolkata
 - (c) Kumbh Mela
 - (d) Nowruz

Answer (b)

- Q7. With reference to the recent Global Inequality Report, consider the following statements.
 - 1. This report is published by the World Economic Forum.
 - 2. Only 10% of the people in India get 57% share of the national income.
 - 3. The world's poorest 50% of the population receives only 8% of global income.
 - 4. The top 10% of the rich in Europe receive 36% of the national income.

Which of the above statements are true?

- (a) Statements 1, 2 and 3 are true.
- (b) Statements 2, 3 and 4 are true.
- (c) Statements 1, 2 and 4 are true.
- (d) All the above statements are correct.

Answer (b)

- Q8. Which spacecraft of NASA has recently touched the outer atmosphere of the Sun?
 - (a) Perseverance, Spacecraft
 - (b) NEA Scout, Spacecraft
 - (c) Parker Probe, spacecraft
 - (d) Veritas, the spacecraft

Answer (c)

Go to page no. 42

MCQs Based on Environment and Ecology

- Assertion (A): Tropical rain forests are disappearing fast from developing countries such as India.
 Reason(R): No value is attached to these forests because these are poor in biodiversity.
 Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
 - (a) A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation of A
 - (b) A and R both are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
 - (c) A is true but R is false.
 - (d) A is false but R is true
- Assertion(A): A network of food chains existing together in an ecosystem is known as a food web. Reason(R): An animal like kite cannot be a part of a food web.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) A and R both are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true

3. Assertion(A): In a food chain members of successive higher levels are fewer in number.

Reason(R): Number of organisms at any trophic level depends upon the availability of organisms which serve as food at the lower level.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) A and R both are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true
- 4. With reference to Framework for sustainable development in India, Consider the following statements:
 - 1. The National Environmental Policy (NEP)- 2006 states that only such development is sustainable, which respects ecological constraints and the imperatives of social justice
 - 2. With the help of eight missions of sustainabili

ty, National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) links development and climate change frontally Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2
- (c) 1 and 2 Both (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 5. Consider the following statements regarding Mangroves:
 - 1. Mangroves are found mainly in tropical and sub-tropical inter-tidal regions of the world
 - 2. Mangrove forests are one of the most produc tive and biodiverse wetlands on earth
 - 3. They exhibit very low capacity for saltwater tolerance
 - 4. Gujarat has the maximum mangrove cover in the country, followed by West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

- (a) Only 1 (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 1,2 and 4 (d) 1,2,3 and 4
- Assertion (A): The Western Ghats region is considered to be one of the most important biogeographic zones of India Reason(R): It is one of the richest centres of

endemism

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) A and R both are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true
- 7. Assertion (A): Ozone is produced naturally by the action of ultraviolet radiation on oxygen molecule in the upper atmosphere.

Reason(R): Ozone depletion has been caused by the release of chlorofluoro carbons (CFCs) into the atmosphere

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) A and R both are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) A and R both are true but R is not the correct





explanation of A

- A is true but R is false. (c)
- (d) A is false but R is true
- India has two identified biodiversity hot spots-8. Eastern Himalayas and the Western Ghats. Consider the following statements in this regard:
 - 1. Eastern Himalaya harbour viable populations of most of the vertebrate species found in peninsular India, besides an endemic faunal element of its own
 - 2. The Western Ghat is recognised as a rich centre of primitive flowering plants and is popularly known as the 'Cradle of Speciation'

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2
- (c) 1 and 2 Both (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 9. Which of the following Ramsar site in India is not correctly matched with it location?
 - (a) Renuka Wetland- Himachal Pradesh
 - (b) Ropar Wetland- Punjab
 - Nal sarovar-Gujarat (c)
 - (d) Chandra Taal- Uttarakhand
- 10. Which one among the following is not a goal of National Action Plan for Climate Change?
 - (a) To promote the development and use of solar energy
 - (b) To reduce energy consumption through supply side management
 - Afforestation of degraded forest lands (c)
 - (d) Improvement in water-use efficiency through pricing and other measures
- 11. You placed a car in an open parking area in a sum--mer day. After a few hours, you noticed that the heat is trapped inside the car. This phenomenon is known as
 - (a) solar effect
 - (b) cosmic ray impingement
 - (c) ozone depletion
 - (d) greenhouse effect
- 12. Which one among the statements is not correct?
 - (a) Central American lowland and highland forests are identified as biodiversity hot spots
 - The biodiversity hot spots are mostly confined (b) to the tropical and subtropical areas of the world

- The South-East Asian islands are not rich In (c) biodiversity
- None of these (d)
- 13. Consider the following statements
 - 1. Epiphytes, which do not have their roots in the ground, survive in the trees in tropical rain forest
 - 2. All epiphytes are not creepers
 - 3. Creepers or climbers are commonly found in tropical rain forests
 - Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
 - (c) Only 3 (d) 1,2 and 3
- 14. How do marine animals survive in water, without air contact?
 - They don't require oxygen (a)
 - (b) they take oxygen from water
 - they only produce oxygen in their body (c)
 - they get oxygen from water plants (d)
- 15. Consider the following statements regarding National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP):
 - 1. National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) is a centrally sponsored scheme exclusively aimed at restoring the water quality and ecology of the lakes
 - 2. The objective of this scheme is to restore and conserve the urban and semi-urban lakes of the country, degraded due to wastewater discharge into the lakes

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2
- (c) 1 and 2 Both (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 16. Consider the following statements regarding the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) in India:
 - The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) is a 1. statutory autonomous body under the Ministry of Environment and Forests
 - 2. It was established to implement the the National Biodiversity Action Plan
 - 3. It acts as a facilitating, regulating and advisory body to the Government of India on issues of conservation, sustainable use of biological resources
 - 4. It advises State Governments in identifying the areas of biodiversity importance as heritage sites Select the correct statements using the codes given below:





- (a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 1,2 and 3
- (c) Only 1,3 and 4 (d) Only 3 and 4
- 17. Threat to biodiversity stems mainly from:
 - 1. habitat fragmentation
 - 2. shrinking genetic diversity
 - 3. invasive alien species
 - 4. impact of development projects
 - 5. over exploitation of resources

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 Only
- (b) 2,3 and 5 Only
- (c) 1,4 and 5 Only
- (d) 1,2,3,4 and 5
- 18. Consider the following statements regarding ecosystem:
 - Every eco-system has a flow of energy and cycling of nutrients which bind the biological and physical components together

2. An ecosystem remains constant

- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2
- (c) 1 and 2 Both (d) Neither nor 2
- 19. Consider the following statements regarding 'Biosphere Reserves':
 - The idea of 'Biosphere Reserves' was initiated by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in under its Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme
 - 2. The world's major ecosystem types and land--scapes are represented in World Network of Biosphere Reserves
 - 3. Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme is primarily a programme of research and training Which of the statements given above is (see a second construction).
 - Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) Only 1 (b) 1 and 3
 - (c) 2 and 3 (d) None
- 20. Consider the following statements regarding the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission:
 - The Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission was launched in 2008 by the Prime Minister of India as a part of National Action Plan for Climate Change
 - This Mission has set the target of deploying 20,000 MW of grid connected solar power by 2020

- This mission is aimed at reducing the cost of solar power generation through aggressive Research & Development(R&D)
 Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?
- (a) Only 1 (b) 1 and 2
- (c) Only 3 (d) None
- 21. Which of the following rights are provided to Scheduled tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers under the Forest Rights Act, 2006?
 - 1. Right to hold and live in the forest land
 - 2. Right of ownership and dispose of minor forest produce
 - 3. Right to regenerate any community forest resource

4. Right of access to biodiversity Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) Only 1 (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 1,2 and 3 (d) 1,2,3 and 4
- 22. Consider the following statements:
 - 1. The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been fulfilling its mandate within the ambit of the Wildlife (Protection) Act
 - 2. 'Project Tiger' is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for ex-situ conservation of tigers

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) 1 and 2 Both
- (d) Neither 1 or 2
- 23. With reference to Coral reefs, consider the follow--ing statements:
 - 1. Coral reefs are underwater structures made from calcium carbide secreted by corals
 - 2. Coral reefs are colonies of tiny animals found in marine waters that contain few nutrients
 - 3. Coral reefs are found in the deep sea nearby continental shelves

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1 (b) Only 2
- (c) Only 3 (d) 1,2 and 3
- 24. With reference to 'Cartagena Protocol',consider the following statements:
 - 1. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB) is an attempt to produce a globally harmonized regime





for biosafety under the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD)

- 2. This protocol sets out a comprehensive regula--tory system for ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of Living modified organisms subject to transboundary movement
- 3. It covers pharmaceuticals for humans and prod--ucts derived from Living modified organisms
- 4. The protocol is silent on defining the 'living modified organism'

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 1,2 and 3
- (d) 1,2,3 and 4
- 25. With reference to 'wetlands', consider the following statements?
 - 1. A wetland is a land area that is saturated with water, either permanently or seasonally, such that it takes on the characteristics of a distinct ecosystem
 - 2. Wetlands consist primarily of hydric soil, which supports aquatic plants
 - 3. The largest wetlands in the world include the Amazon River basin and the West Siberian Plain
 - 4. Ashtamudi Wetland was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

- (a) Only 1
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 1,2 and 3
- (d) 1,2,3 and 4
- 26. With reference to 'Biomes', consider the following statements:
 - 1. Biomes are defined by genetic, taxonomic, or historical similarities
- 2. Biomes are contiguous areas with similar climat-

-ic conditions on the Earth

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

- 27. Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding a microbial fuel cell?
 - (a) A microbial fuel cell is a device that converts chemical energy to electrical energy by the catalytic reaction of microorganisms
 - (b) Microbial fuel cells (MFCs) are commercial used in the treatment of wastewater
 - (c) Like a normal fuel cell, a microbial fuel cell has both anode and cathode chamber
 - (d) Most of the microbial cells are electrochemi--cally active
- 28. With reference to 'Ecological succession', consider the following statements:
 - 1. Ecological succession is the observed process of change in the species structure of an ecological community over time
 - 2. Primary succession occurs on a surface where an ecosystem has previously existed but has been disturbed

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) 1 and 2 Both
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 29. Primary Ecological Succession Occurs on
 - 1. grazed areas
 - 2. new islands created by volcanic eruptions
 - 3. sand dunes
 - 4. Where glaciers have retreated
 - 5. burned areas
 - 6. Paved areas that are abandoned

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) Only 1 and 5
- (b) Only 2,3,4 and 6
- (c) Only 1,4,5 and 6
- (d) 1,2,3,4,5 and 6

30. Match the following

	5				
	List-I		List-II		
Α.	Brown carbon	1.	Formed through		
			incomplete combustion of		
			fuels		
Β.	Green carbon	2.	Carbon stored		
			in terrestrial ecosystems		

C. Blue carbon 3. Carbon bound in the world's oceans





D. Black carbon 4. Industrial emissions of greenhouse gases that affect the climate Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

DEIOV	v.			
	А	В	С	D
a)	1	2	3	4
b)	1	3	2	4
c)	4	2	3	1
d)	4	3	2	1

Answers

1.	(c)	18	8. (a)
2.	(c)	19	9. (c)
3.	(a)	20	0. (b)
4.	(c)	2	1. (d)
5.	(b)	22	2. (a)
6.	(a)	23	3. (b)
7.	(b)	24	4. (b)
8.	(d)	25	5. (c)
9.	(d)	20	6. (b)
10.	(b)	27	7. (d)
11.	(d)	28	8. (a)
12.	(c)	29	9. (b)
13.	(d)	30	0. (c)
14.	(b)		

- 15. (c)
- 16. (c) 17. (d)

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- Q9. What is wrong with the stand-off anti-tank missile that has been in the news recently?
 - (a) This missile has been developed by the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
 - (b) The missile is equipped with state-ofthe-art Millimeter Wave (MMW) Seeker technology.
 - (c) The range of the missile is 10 km.
 - (d) DRDO has taken technical help from France for the development of the missile.

Answer (d)

- Q10. Which place of Uttar Pradesh has been declared as Ramsar site recently?
 - (a) Sarsai Navar Lake, Etawah
 - (b) Samaspur Bird Sanctuary, Rae Bareli
 - (c) Hyderpur Wetland, Bijnor

(d) Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary, Unnao **Answer (c**)



Due to bumper harvest of onions in Madhya Pradesh. It's market price slashed to rupees 500 per quintal. Government fixed M.S.P. at 1000 rupees per quintal to help farmers and issued orders to all onion procurement centres to purchase onions of farmers.

Due to huge gap in market price and M.S.P. a number of brokers development nexus with employees of procurement centres. They help businessmen in selling their last years stock of onions at procurement centres.

Farmers of Indore district are facing a lot of problems in selling their onions. They wait for several days with their onions loaded in rented trolleys, which increase their cost. Being month of July, the climate is hot and humid. Frequent rain followed by sunlight often spoil their onions.

After getting frustrated, farmers blocked the national highway with their tractors and trolleys. It stopped movement of vehicles and transportation of goods. Citizens of Indore are also facing a lot of hardships.

After getting information of the whole issue, Government immediately transferred district magistrate of Indore and send you to take charge of the district and solve the problems.

- (a) Discuss the different ethical issues involved in the case.
- (b) What would be your course of action?

Answer (a) In the given case study I have been just appointed District Magistrate of Indore. I have to ensure availability of MSP to farmers and restore normalcy. Values like integrity, impartiality, compassion and justice are involved in the case.

Ethical Issues :

Given case study highlight the plight of farmers. Government has hiked the MSP to help farmers but brokers, employees of procurement centres and businessmen formed a nexus to cheat farmers.

After independence Government took many steps in the interest of farmers. Due to green-revolution, application of technology and hardwork of farmers. Per-hectare production of cereals increased manifold but farmers are still poor. Even bumper crops and MSP not help them. On the other hand chemical fertilizers, weedicides, pesticides and mechanization of agriculture have increased their cost.

Happy and satisfied farmers, who are backbone of our economy, agitating just for payments of their pro-

duce. Such agitgation also harm business and disturb life of cities. If not addressed properly agitation can turn violent.

Poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere. Declaration of MSP is not enough. We must develop a fair system to ensure availability of MSP to farmers.

Answer (b) Course of action :

I will immediately raid procurement centre with necessary force and arrest all brokers and businessmen present there. We will also cease their vehicles and onions. I will take all related documents in my custody and stop payments of onions purchased in this season till completion of enquiry. I will issue new guidelines to purchase onions only from farmers after verifying their identity and ban purchase of last year's onions. Then we will start purchasing of farmer's onion with new guide lines. I will convince procurement centre to open more counters for speedy purchase and introduce token system to save farmer's time and money. New guide lines will permit payment only through bank accounts. Keeping records of farmers and their vehicles will be mandatory.

Next I will form a committee under a SDM to verify the allegations of farmers and role of employees of procurement centre with in 5 days.

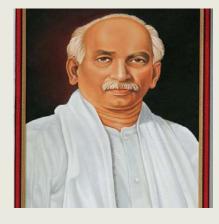
After that I will meet farmers and announce compensation for onion, spoiled at procurement centre in rain. I will provide them telephone number of my office and promise them necessary help in future also. It will ensure their trust in administration. Now I will convince them to open road and visit procurement centre to sell their produce.

Once SDM will submit his report, I will take disciplinary action against guilty employees. It will ensure justice for farmers and work as deterrent for future.









Pattabhi Sitaramayya was a thinker, writer, freedom fighter, one of the constitution-makers and an enlightened administrator who is known as the

official historian of the Congress before the country's independence. Pattabhi Sitaramayya was the chairman of the House Committee of one of the 17 committees constituted by the Constituent Assembly and recommended not to accept the demand for the reorganization of states on a linguistic basis in India. His full name was Bhogaraju Pattabhi Sitaramayya. He was born on November 24, 1888. After completing medical education, he started medical practice in the year 1906. In 1912-13, he advocated the formation of a state on linguistic basis. He started emphasizing in The Hindu and other newspapers for the need for the creation of a separate Andhra Pradesh for the Telugu speaking people. During that period, Sitaramayya wrote many articles advocating the formation of states on linguistic basis. In the Lucknow session of Congress in 1916, Pattabhi Sitaramaiah demanded the formation of a separate Regional Congress Committee for the Andhra circle of Madras state. This was opposed by Mahatma Gandhi himself and many other delegates then but Bal Gangadhar Tilak supported Sitaramayya. However, over the next few months, the voice of protest subsided and in 1918 a regional Congress Committee was formed for the Andhra circle. Sitaramayya himself was its president during the period of 1937-40. Pattabhi Sitaramayya started Andhra Bank on 28 November 1923, so that the benefits of banking services could be reached to the common people.

Pattabhi Sitaramayya was a member of the All India Congress Committee from 1916 to 1952. From the year 1919, he started publishing the English weekly Janmabhoomi. He was also a member of Annie Besant's Home Rule League. In 1936, he was elected the President of the All India Native States People's Council (All India Indigenous Rajya Praja Parishad). He was a member of the Executive Committee of the All India Congress Committee in the years 1929-30, 1931, 1934, 1936, 1938, 1939 and 1940-46 and 1948. Pattabhi Sitaramayya was

Eminent Personality : Pattabhi Sitaramayya

a Congress candidate supported by Mahatma Gandhi in a the election of Congress President in the Tripuri session of 1939 but was defeated by Subhash Chandra Bose. In ther, the Tripuri session of 1939, Subhash Chandra Bose became the President of Congress by defeating Pattabhi and Sitaramayya by 199 votes, but Subhash Chandra Bose had to resign on 30 April 1939 due to Gandhiji's strong opposition. Before the elections, Bapu had said, "Sitaramaiah's defeat will be my defeat". In this election, Jawaharlal Nehru refused to contest and Maulana Abul Kalam n of Azad withdrew his name.

> In 1948, a three-member committee was formed on the issue of reorganization of linguistic states. It was named JVP Committee. Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and Congress President Pattabhi Sitaramayya were On this committee. This committee clearly said in its recommendation that 'the demand for the formation of states on the linguistic basis is unreasonable and it will not be accepted. States will be formed on the administrative convenience.

> At the same time, Pattabhi Sitaramayya was also a member of the Constituent Assembly from 1946 to 1949. He was also a member of the Interim Parliament of India. Between 1948 and 1950, he was elected Congress President at the National Conclave in Jaipur and defeated Purushottam Das Tandon.

> Pattabhi Sitaramayya was a learned man, He wrote many important books. The main are:

• History of the Indian National Congress. This book is in two volumes

- National Education 1912
- Indian Nationalism-1933
- Redistribution of Indian Provinces on Language Basis 1916
- Economic Conquest of India
- Constitution of the World
- Gandhi, Gandhism and Socialism

After the independence of India, in 1952, he was appointed as the Governor of old Madhya Pradesh and from 1st November 1956 to 13th June 1957 he was appointed as the first Governor of the new Madhya Pradesh.



POLITY TERMINOLOGY

FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES - CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

Following are the Fundamental Duties under the Constitution of India which is given in Part IV-A Article 51A of the Constitution of India which was inserted by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976

It shall be the duty of every citizens of India-

a) To abide by the constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem- It is the duty of every citizen to respect the ideals, which include liberty, justice, equality, fraternity and institutions namely, executive, the legislature and the judiciary.

b) To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom-The citizens of India must cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired the national struggle for freedom. These ideals were those of building a just society and a united nation with freedom, equality, nonviolence, brotherhood and world peace.

c) To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India- it is one of the preeminent national obligations of all the citizens of the India.

d) To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so – it is the duty of every citizen to defend our country against external enemies.

e) To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women

f) To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture. our cultural heritage is one of the noblest and richest, it is also part of the heritage of the earth. Hence it is our duty to protect it. India is also one of the most ancient civilizations of the world. Our contributions towards art, science, literature is well known to the world, also this land is birth place of Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

g) To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and to have compassion for living creatures – these natural reserves are the most valued assets of our country hence it is the duty of every citizen to protect it.

h) To develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform – It is a known fact that it is necessary to learn from the experiences and developments around the world for our own development. It is duty of every citizen to protect and promote scientific temper and spirit of inquiry to keep pace with fast changing world.

i) To safeguard public property and to abjure violence

j) To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement

k) To provide opportunities for education to child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years –86th Constitutional amendment Act, 2002 however provided for free and compulsory education as a legally enforceable fundamental right for all children between 6 to 14 years of age.

The Fundamental duties have been incorporated in the constitution to remind every citizen that they should not only be conscious of their rights but also of their duties. The concept of Fundamental Duties was taken from the constitution of USSR along with the concept of Five Year Plan. Part IV-A of the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, in accordance with the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee in order to bring out Constitution in line with Article 29 (1) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 and the Constitutions of countries like Japan, China, U.S.S.R. etc.

Achievers of Dhyeya IAS who made us proud.



Since inception, Dhyeya IAS has produced over 1650 central and over 2500 state civil servants.



KANISHAK KATARIA RANK1



JUNAID AHMED RANK 3



SAUMYA PANDEY RANK 4



LOK BANDHU RANK 7



SURYAPAL GANGWAR **RANK 8**

ADESH TITARMARE

RANK 21



MAURYA

RANK 9

NEHA PRAKASH

RANK 22



MAHESH KUMAR RANK 14

ANURAJ JAIN

RANK 24



SHIVANI GOYAL RANK 15



AJIT **RANK 26**



SHWETA SINGHAL

RANK 17

DIBYA JYOTI PARIDA **RANK 26**





SRIMAN SHUKLA

RANK 18

KARMVEER SHARMA **RANK 28**



PRIYANKA

NIRANJAN

RANK 20

ANJNAY KUMAR SINGH **RANK 29**





POOJA GUPTA RANK 42

DIVYANSHU NIGAM RANK 44



RANK 34

ASHWIN MUDGAL RANK 45



GAURAV KUMAR

RANK 34

SAURABH GAHARWAR RANK 46



KANCHAN

RANK 35

DEEPAK KUMAR DUBEY RANK 46



BRAHMADEV

TIWARI

ABHISHEK SINGH **RANK 48**



RENJINA MARY V. RANK 49

SHAILENDRA SINGH

RANK 38



RANGASHREE RANK 50



ILA TRIPATHI **RANK 51**



ASHISH MISHRA **RANK 52**



1st RANK

Vaibhav Mishra





1st RANK Abhinav R. Shriwastava







1st RANK Sampada Saraf

BPSC TOPPER



1st RANK Sanjeev Kumar Sajjan



PARI BISHNOI **RANK 30**











AN INTRODUCTION



DhyeyalAS, one and half decade old institution, was founded by Mr.Vinay Singh and Mr. Q. H. Khan. Ever since its emergence it has unparallel 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.



Face to Face Centres

North Delhi : A 12, 13, Ansal 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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You can also join Telegram Channel through our website

www.dhyeyaias.com

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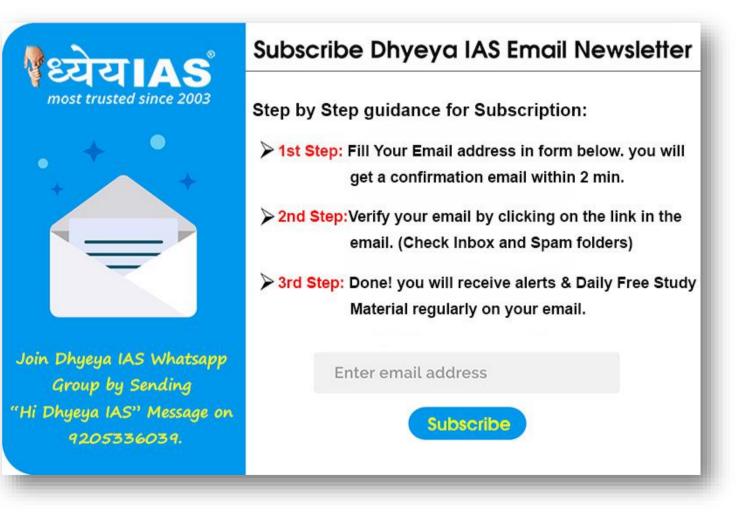


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जो विद्यार्थी ध्येय IAS के <u>व्हाट्सएप ग्रुप</u> (Whatsapp Group) से जुड़े हुये हैं और उनको दैनिक अध्ययन सामग्री प्राप्त होने में समस्या हो रही है | तो आप हमार<u>ेईमेल लिंक Subscribe</u> कर ले इससे आपको प्रतिदिन अध्ययन सामग्री का लिंक मेल में प्राप्त होता रहेगा | **ईमेल से Subscribe करने के बाद मेल में प्राप्त लिंक को क्लिक करके पुष्टि (Verify) जरूर करें** अन्यथा आपको प्रतिदिन मेल में अध्ययन सामग्री प्राप्त नहीं होगी |

<mark>नोट (Note):</mark> अगर आपको हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों माध्यम में अध्ययन सामग्री प्राप्त करनी है, तो आपको दोनों में अपनी ईमेल से Subscribe करना पड़ेगा | आप दोनों माध्यम के लिए एक ही ईमेल से जुड़ सकते हैं |





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