PERFECT 7

FORTNIGHTLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

November : 2021/Issue-1

- INDIA BATTLING THE CHALLENGES OF MALNUTRITION
- SMALL FINANCE BANKS AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION
- ROAD SAFETY
- CHINA-BHUTAN BORDER AGREEMENT AND ITS MEANING FOR INDIA
- INDIA AND THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS
- INDIA AND THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS
- HOW IMPORTANT IS A STRONG CENTRE IN INDIAN FEDERALISM ?
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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, 7 Model Question &answer, 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 asking in Medieval India will also be part of Perfect 7 Magazine.

Brain boosters and 7 themes based graphics are being presented in a concise form to enhance the conceptual understanding of thestudents. 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.We are starting a new section named Global Institutions Tracker, which will comprises the news related to all the international institutions like UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, FAO, ILO, IUCN, IPCC, UNFCCC etc. because 2 to 3 questions in civil services exam from this section are always asked in form of global initiatives and campaigns.

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 be welcome.

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PERFECT 7
CURRENT AFFAIRS

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‘India battling the challenge of malnutrition’

- Why in news
- Background
- Global Hunger Index-2021
- Issues related to India in the ranking
- Reasons for India’s poor ranking in the Global Hunger Index
- Efforts of the Government of India
- Sustainable Development Goals and Hunger
- The way forward

Why in News?

India has been ranked 101 out of 116 countries in the recently published Global Hunger Index.

Background:

US President John F. Kennedy said, ‘The fight against hunger is the real fight for the freedom of humanity. This means that starvation violates the natural and fundamental rights of human beings. Despite having enough food in the world, on average, one among the nine people in the world is hungry. Two-third of these hungry people live in Asia. Although the number of undernourished people in developing and underdeveloped countries has decreased from 23.3% in 1990-92 to 12.9% in 2014-16 but even today about 80 crore people are undernourished.

Global Hunger Index-2021-

The ‘Global Hunger Index- 2021’ has been jointly released by Ireland’s ‘Concern Worldwide’ and Germany’s ‘Wealth Hunger Hills’ organization. This index is released every year in October (16th annual edition) since 2006. The objective of releasing this index is to comprehensively measure and track hunger at the global, regional and country level.

The Global Hunger Index ranking is based on four parameters –

- Undernourishment,
- Child wasting,
- Child stunting
- Child mortality

The index measures hunger on a 100-point scale where 0 (zero hunger) is considered the best and 100 is the worst.

1. What is undernutrition?

Insufficient calorie intake capacity is called undernutrition.

2. What is Child Wasting? Children under the age of five whose weight is less than the ratio of their height is called child wasting. This indicates acute malnutrition.

3. What is Child Stunting ? A child under the age of five who is less tall than his age, is called child stunting.

4. Child Mortality: the mortality rate of children under the age of five.

Issues related to India in the ranking-

Undernutrition data for this index is provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Due to covid 19, this time FAO did not conduct the survey physically but collected the data over the telephone.
The Ministry of Women and Child Development, of India, has questioned this index and said that the survey methodology of FAO is unscientific.

Status of India-
India's ranking in 2021 was 101 out of 116 countries while India was 93 in 2020, 102 in 2019 and 103 in 2018 whereas the other neighboring countries of India, Pakistan - 92, Nepal and Bangladesh - 76 and Sri Lanka is at 65th place. That is, India is behind with its neighbors.
India is also at the bottom in the BRICS countries.
Only 9.6% of children aged 6 to 23 months in India get a minimum nutritious diet.

Reasons for India's poor ranking in the Global Hunger Index

According to the "World Children Report" published by UNICEF – every second Indian child suffers from malnutrition. About 8.82 lakh children under the age of 5 die due to malnutrition in India, which is the highest in the world.
In this UNICEF report, about 35% of children were stunted, 17% of children were underweight for their height.
According to the World Food Organization, 194.4 million people in India are undernourished.

Causes of malnutrition in India-
Despite achieving relatively fast economic growth after the year 2000, India has failed to curb hunger. Reduced production of traditional cereals, fruits and other vegetables has led to a decrease in their consumption.
The lack of diversity in food consumption and the shift away from traditional cereals (millets-jowar-ragi) are the main reasons behind malnutrition. Challenges arising from economic inequality, climate change and the covid 19 pandemic also played an important role in increasing malnutrition.
According to the Burden of Disease Study 2019 released by the University of Washington, malnutrition is one of the main causes of death and disability in India.

Efforts of the Government of India
A) POSHAN Abhiyaan – In March 2018, the POSHAN Abhiyaan program was launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development from Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.
Objective-While meeting the nutritional needs of pregnant women and children, to reduce malnutrition and low weight at the time of birth by 2 per cent per annum and anemia by 3 per cent per annum.
B) PradhanMantri Matru VandanaYojana – Under this scheme, the government will provide financial assistance of Rs 6000 to pregnant women and lactating women for the birth of the first live child so that women and infants can get nutritious food.
C) Food fortification- To improve their nutrition by including necessary vitamins and minerals such as iron, iodine, zinc, vitamins A and D in staple foods like rice, milk and salt.

D) National Food Security Act - In 2013, the "National Food Security Act" was passed by the Parliament. Under this, food grains are provided to 75% of rural and 50% of urban population at cheap rates.

E) Eat Right India Movement – This initiative was started by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to motivate citizens to include proper food items in the diet.

F) Nutritious food is being provided through schemes like Anganwadi, Mid Day Meal.

Sustainable Development Goals and Hunger-
The goal of 'Zero Hunger' works with various other goals such as poverty alleviation (SDG-1), hunger (SDG2), better health and welfare (SDG-3) and clean drinking water (SDG-6).

The Way Forward-
1. In its survey, while highlighting the shortcomings in the policies related to dealing with malnutrition in India, Nandi Foundation said-
The malnutrition policy of India targets pregnant women. The Indian government should also target malnourished adolescent girls. This will give 2 to 4 years' time to tackle malnutrition, which will be sufficient.
2. Proper implementation of integrated child development services

and public distribution system should be ensured.
3. There is a need to identify malnourished families and provide them nutritional security.
4. To arrange suitable equipment and adequate number of beds in nutrition rehabilitation centers and health centers.
5. To spread public awareness to wards the inclusion of coarse cereals, pulses, green vegetables in the food habit.
6. There must be an improvement in the condition of education and a ban on child marriage because becoming a mother at an early age has a negative impact on the health of both mother and child. If the mother is malnourished, the child is at risk of malnutrition.

Small Finance Banks and Financial Inclusion

- Background
- Objectives of Small Finance Bank
- Small Finance Bank
- Success of SFB
- Needs of Universal Banking
- Benefits
- Government Efforts for Financial Inclusion
- Benefits of Financial Inclusion
- Challenges
- The way forward

Background:

To achieve the goal of financial inclusion, the committee headed by NachiketaMor was formed in the year 2013. This committee in its report had presented the concept of payment bank and small finance bank to achieve the goal of financial inclusion. The process of linking the people of the country to the financial system is called Financial Inclusion.

Objectives of Small Finance Bank (SFB) -

1. To bring non-banking institutions under the banking system
2. To provide banking services to small and marginal farmers and micro and small scale industries.
3. To connect the people who are deprived of banking services in the country with the institutional banking system.

Small Finance Bank (SFB) :

Its objective is to provide facilities of financial inclusion to small business units, small and marginal farmers, micro and small scale industries and institutions in the unorganized sector.

Small Financial Bank is registered as a Public Limited Company under the Companies Act 2013.

Small finance banks cannot borrow funds from the Reserve Bank of India, unlike any other scheduled bank.

There are 10 small finance institutions operating in India. Capital Small Finance Bank was the first bank that started its operations on 24 April 2016 with 47 branches.

8 out of 10 small finance banks have worked as microfinance NBFCs while the other two have also worked as NBFCs for more than 10 years.

Success of SFB:

1. 80 percent of people in India have access to a bank account or institutional finance. SFBs have an important role in the direction of financial inclusion.
2. SFB has been successful in attracting depositors by offering a higher rate of interest (8 percent). During the lockdown, AUSFB registered an increase of 34 percent in total deposits, while SBI is providing an interest rate of 5.9 percent and HDFC Bank 6.15 percent.
3. According to the ICRA (Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency of India Limited) report-

Besides reducing business risks, through diversification, small finance banks are increasing assets by providing better returns on management, deposits and equity.

4. The NPAs of SFBs have come down to 5-8 percent in December 2018 which indicates improvement in the asset quality of these banks.

5. In the event of economic challenges arising out due to the Covid 19 pandemic, SFBs can play an important role in promoting the MSME sector and the rural economy.

Needs for Universal Banking:

Universal banking is a system in which banks provide a wide range of financial services according to retail, commercial and investment services. Universal banking is very popular in European countries.

Benefits:

1. Provide high economic efficiency in the form of lower cost, higher output and better products.

2. These institutions take advantage of their vast branch networks to provide a variety of servicesby using their single brand.

Government Efforts for Financial Inclusion:

1. After independence, on 19 July 1969, the process of nationalization of banks was adopted. Prior to this, a limited number of upper-class people had accounts in private banks.
2. Establishment of Regional Rural Banks was started in 1975.
3. NABARD was established in 1982 on the recommendation of Sivaraman Committee.
4. In 1998, on the recommendation of the RV Gupta Committee, the Kisan Credit Card was arranged, through which loans could be made available to the farmers at low interest rates for the purpose of agriculture.
5. Under the Jan DhanYojana, the bank account of the weaker sections of the society has been opened on zero deposit. More than 31 crore people are the beneficiaries of this scheme.
6. Promoting digital payment is helpful in digital economy as well as financial inclusion.

Benefits of Financial Inclusion:

According to the Financial Inclusion Database (Global Findex Report 2017) of the World Bank, 80 percent of Indians currently have a bank account, compared to approximately 53 percent of Indians in 2014.

Financial inclusion has the following benefits-

1. Helpful in increasing the rate of capital formation, which enhances economic activities by increasing the flow of money in the economy.
2. Financial inclusion has an important role in making the Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme (DBT) a success. Which has controlled corruption and subsidy leakage.
3. Facilities like institutional credit, banking and insuarance have become mosre accessible to the people of weaker sections, females. SC,and STafter they have gain access to banks and financial institutions.

Challenges:

1. Still not all Indians have access to the bank. After China, India ranks second in terms of non-banking population. Still, about 19 crore people do not have a bank account.
2. The digital divide and gender gap have hindered the goal of financial inclusion.
3. Digital illiteracy and digital fraud have led to increased financial risks.

Way ahead:

1. Along with digitization for financial inclusion, there is a need to strengthen the cyber security and data security system in the country.
2. Adequate capital should be provided to SFBs so that SFBs can focus more on their social development responsibility and not on creating assets by investing capital.

Road Safety

- Why in News
- Background
- Situation of India
- Reasons for road accident
- Salient Features of the Act
- Suggestions for Road Safety

Why in News?

There has been a rapid increase in the number of road accidents across the country in recent times. A few days ago, 14 passengers were killed when a van met with an accident in the Coonoor district of Andhra Pradesh whereas in February, 51 passengers were killed when a bus full of passengers met with an accident in Madhya Pradesh.

Background-

According to the report presented by the "World Health Organization" during the Global Road Safety Week – Globally in the year 2019, more than 1.35 million people die in road accidents every year and more than 50 million people are seriously injured and become disabled too. According to the report, most of the deaths are recorded in the age group of 5 to 29 years.

According to the World Road Statistics 2018, India ranks third after the United States and Japan in terms of road accidents, while India ranks-first among a total of 199 countries in terms of accidental deaths.

To promote awareness on road safety, the United Nations has declared 2010-2020 as the Decade of Action for Road Safety.

Situation of India –

1.5 lakh people die in road accidents every year in India, which is 11% of the road accident deaths in the world. That is, every day 415 people die in road accidents in India.

According to a study by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways study, 1,51,113 people died in road accidents in 2019. While 4,51,361 people were seriously injured. National Highways and State Highways, which are only 5% of the country's total length, 61% of the total road accidents take place here. While the total length of national highways is only 2% and 35606 deaths have taken place on national highways.

Reasons for road accident-

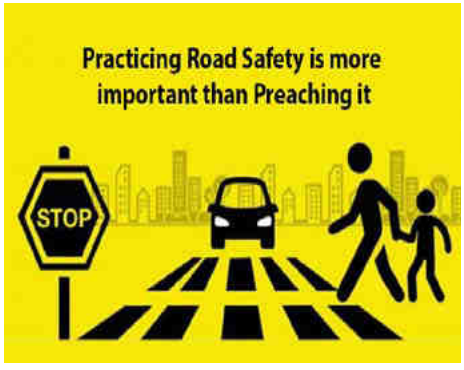
The major reasons for the increasing number of road accidents in India are – the rapid growth rate of urbanization, lack of adequate safety measures, delay in implementing the rules, driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol, blind turns on the roads, increasing encroachment on the roads, lack of awareness of traffic rules, habit to violate rules like not wearing helmet and seatbelt while driving at high speed etc.

Road safety model of Tamil Nadu-

Tamil Nadu presented a model for ensuring road safety. Under this model, the hotspots of road accidents were identified by dividing the road into a grid of 2 km. Thereafter, ambulances were deployed in road accident-prone areas so that the injured could be provided treatment at the earliest. This model has shown positive results and the number of road accidents have been reduced by 38% while the number of deaths ha been reduced by 54%.

The motor vehicle amendment act-

In the 'Motor Vehicle Amendment Act' 1988 strict provisions have been added through the amendment in 2019, to reduce road accidents .



Salient Features of the Act –

1. Special emphasis on the Golden Hour –

a. The central government will also develop a scheme to provide cashless treatment to road accident victims during the 'Golden Hour'.

What is the golden hour?

The 'golden hour' is the first one hour following a fatal injury when immediate medical care is most likely to prevent death.

Providing convenience to the person (Samaritan) who assists or helps in providing emergency medical care to the injured person at the time of the accident, a provision has been made in the Act that even if the victim dies while assisting, the Good Samaritan will not be liable for any action.

1. To avoid legal proceedings people used to avoid providing medical aid to the injured in road accidents. Due to which the risk of death of the injured in the accident increases.
2. The Central Government will compulsorily set up a Motor Vehicle Accident Fund to provide insurance cover to all Indian road users.
3. The punishment for various offenses has been increased in the Act.

a. Driving a vehicle after consuming alcohol and drugs, the maximum penalty has been increased from Rs 2,000 to Rs 10,000.

b. In the case of driving without a license, or the vehicle is not insured, making the rules stricter, the penalty has been increased up to 10 times.

c. If the vehicle manufacturer fails to comply with the norms for manufacturing or maintenance, the punishment may be a penalty of a maximum of Rs 100 crore or one-year imprisonment or both.

d. If the contractor does not comply with the norms or standards of the design of the road, he may have to pay a fine of up to one lakh rupees.

e. Also, as mentioned in the Act, the central government can increase the fine by 10 percent every year.

Most of the states including BJP-ruled Gujarat showed unwillingness in implementing the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019. following factors were responsible for it –

1. Motor vehicle is a subject of Concurrent List. On which both the center and the state can make laws. According to the provision of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019, there is no pressure on the state governments to implement it, but if they implement it, the central government will cooperate.
2. Another aspect is states governed by opposition parties are concerned about the loss in the effectiveness of their powers due to the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act.
3. Due to the heavy fine, there has been displeasure among the public about the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act. This was seen by experts as a corruption-increasing move, which would provide the police with a systematic mechanism for money laundering.
4. Some states have implemented the Motor Vehicle Amendment Act in a modified form, such as Gujarat has drastically reduced the provision of fines keeping in view the public sentiments. West Bengal has also refused to impose heavy monetary penalties. Karnataka and Kerala are studying the possibility of easing the provisions while other states are adopting similar preventive measures.

Brasilia Declaration-

In 2015, India adopted the United Nations Brasilia Declaration on Road Safety, under which India committed to halving road accidents and deaths by 2020. By amending its policy, India has extended this target till 2025.

Suggestions for Road Safety

1. Limiting the minimum speed -

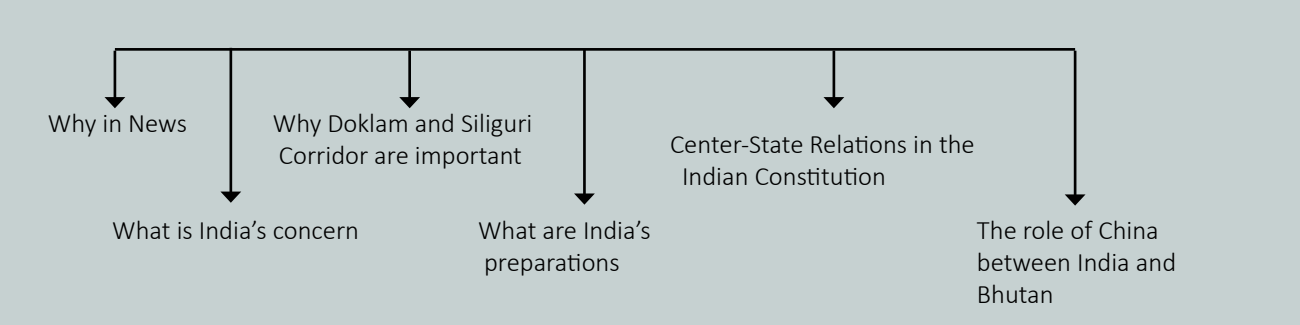
eOn 6 August 2018, the central government issued a notification about increasing the minimum speed limit on expressways and highways to 120 km/h and 100 km/h. Later which was stayed by the Madras High Court. The court said that 67% of the total road accidents registered in 2017, 55.73% in 2018, and 64.4% in 2019 were due to high speeding.

2. Emphasis should be on increasing visibility -

The 'Accident Research Cell' set up by the Delhi Traffic Police has found that the reason behind the death of former cabinet minister GopinathMunde in a road accident was reduced visibility due to bushes. So, road accidents can be reduced by increasing visibility by eliminating illegal encroachments, hoardings, bushes, trees, and blind turns on the roads.

3. Strict compliance of traffic rules should be ensured.
4. Awareness should be created among the citizens regarding road safety.
5. Improvement in road infrastructure (repair, maintenance of road, availability of health services at 10 km). Road safety innovations should be promoted. The maximum speed limit in vehicles should be controlled.
6. Identify the accident-prone areas and provide medical services like Tamil Nadu.

China-Bhutan Border Agreement and its meaning for India



Why in News?

Recently, Bhutan and China have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of a 'Three-Step Roadmap' to resolve the several years-long border disputes. More than 20 rounds of talks have taken place since 1984 to end the border dispute between China and Bhutan. In recent times, Bhutan needed to talk with China to resolve the border dispute, which can be understood with an example.Last year, at the 58th meeting of the Global Environment Facility Council when a decision was taken to finance a wildlife sanctuary in Bhutan by the Global Financial Facility, China opposed the deal and marked Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary in Bhutan as disputed. Along with this, claiming its right, China also opposed the funding for this project. Bhutan strongly opposed the action of China at that time and said that we want to make it clear that this land is an integral part of our country. The reality is that there has been no dispute between China and Bhutan regarding the land of this wildlife sanctuary. The boundaries between the two countries are still not determined and China was trying to take advantage of that.

What is India's concern?

Such a claim of China had become a matter of concern for India as well. Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary is a 650 sq km national park in the North Eastern region of Bhutan bordering Arunachal Pradesh and 17 km from Sela Pass in Arunachal. Information had also come last year that China has even established its villages in Bhutan. It is clear from these things that there was pressure on Bhutan to negotiate with China on the issue of border dispute and as a result of that Bhutan, which had so far kept its distance from China on the strategic, diplomatic, economic front, now, is trying to resolve the border dispute.Bhutan shares a border of more than 400 km with China. The two areas over which there are main dispute between China and Bhutan,One of them covers an area of 269 square kilometers near the India-China-Bhutan tri junction and the other is 495 square kilometers north of Bhutan in the Jakarlung and Pasamlung valleys. There are border disputes between Bhutan and China over an area of 269 square kilometers in western Bhutan which **include:** Doklam, Sinchulung, Dramana and Shakhatoe. Regarding these, China had proposed to settle the dispute with Bhutan in 1996 and proposed a package deal, in which China offered to renounce its claims over the Pasamlung and Jakarlung valleys in northern Bhutan if Bhutan ceded the Doklam region to China.

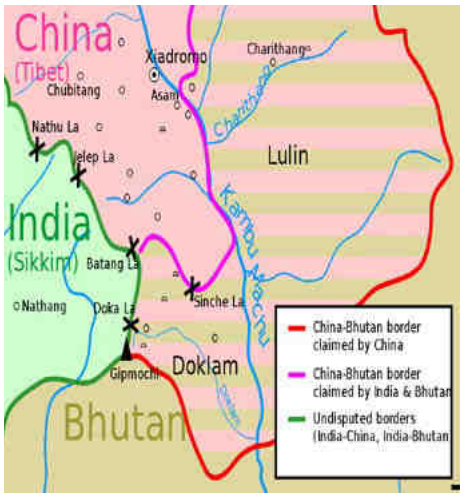
Why Doklam and Siliguri Corridor are important?

If Bhutan thinks again about the proposal of China in order to resolve the border dispute and consider ceding Doklam to China, then the security of India's North-Eastern region would be in danger. This is because the Doklam plateau is located at the triangular point of the Indian state of Sikkim, the Haa Valley of Bhutan and the Chumbi Valley of Tibet. The Doklam area that China wants from Bhutan under the package deal is close to the Siliguri Corridor of India. The distance from Doklam to the Siliguri corridor is just 80 km. The Siliguri Corridor, also known as Chicken's Neck, is very important for India because it is the main route to reach the northeastern states. If China

comes close to the Siliguri Corridor, it may become a threat to the connectivity with the Northeast states of India. Apart from this, Chicken's Neck also has an important role in India's energy security and energy trade. The chicken neck is the area that is very important for a country from a strategic point of view and weak on the basis of structure.
Siliguri is one such area.The distance from Doklam to Siliguri is just 80 kms. 200 km long and 60 km wide corridor is very important for the security of the country.

What are India's preparations?

After the recent tension with China, the central government has intensified its construction work on the Siliguri Corridor that is the Chicken Neck of India. A bridge is being constructed over the Teesta river near Jalpaiguri. The construction of a national highway from Bangrakot to Gangtok (Sikkim) has been speeded up with the planning of a new bridge over the Teesta river. Officials of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways stated that the construction of the second bridge (National Highway No-27) on the Teesta river near Jalpaiguri is in the final stage. Three years ago, there was a dispute between China and India over the construction of a road in Doklam, Bhutan. If China would have succeeded in building a road in Doklam, it would have easy access to the Siliguri Corridor (Chicken Neck). India's connectivity with the northeastern states would have been hampered completely. It is a very important area from a



strategic point of view, so the Indian government is strongly against the construction of a road in Doklam.

The role of China between India and Bhutan-

China keeps trying to disturb the strong bilateral relations between India and Bhutan. Bhutan does not support the expansionist policies of China. It never supported the One Belt One Road Initiative. Bhutan does not maintain any diplomatic relations with China and China does not have a permanent embassy or consulate office in Bhutan. Now in this situation, China wants Bhutan to take financial assistance from it in the form of loans, make partners in its infrastructure development so that pressure can be put on India. The point is that Bhutan has always given priority to India as its biggest trade partner and development partner, and this hurts China. India's high-impact development projects in Bhutan are viewed with trust, while any Chinese proposals are viewed with suspicion or bargaining.

Strong relations between India and Bhutan-

A country with a population of eight million, the economy of Bhutan is very small. It is largely dependent on exports from India. Between 2000 and 2017, Bhutan received about $4.7 billion in aid from India, which was the largest share of India's total foreign aid. In the year 1961, Project Dantak which was started by the Border Roads Organization of India is the biggest project undertaken for nation building on a foreign land. With the Indian assistance Bhutan's third king, Jigme DorjiWangchuck, had laid the foundation of the Bhutan Planning Commission and since then India has been providing financial assistance for the plans going on in Bhutan so that the development of Bhutan does not stop due to lack of resources. So far, the Government of India has supported the construction of three hydroelectric projects totaling 1416 MW in Bhutan and these projects are operational and exporting electricity to India. India is the largest trading partner of Bhutan. In the year 2018, the total bilateral trade between the two countries was Rs 9228 crore. In this, the export from India to Bhutan was recorded at Rs.6011 crore and the export from Bhutan to India was Rs.3217 crore.The current bilateral annual trade between India and Bhutan is $1144 million (FY 2019-20 fiscal year) which is more than 85 percent of Bhutan's total trade.

India and the Conservation of migratory birds

- Why in News
- India's Efforts towards Migratory Birds
- Why do birds migrate
- India's stand on conservation of migratory birds
- What is Flyway
- Migratory birds who come to India

Why in News?

World Migratory Bird Day was observed on 9 October. This time the United Nations decided the theme of this day with great sensitivity. The theme is "Sing, Fly, Sour Like a Bird!". It is a day to know the condition of migratory birds and review the work being done in the direction of their conservation. That is why the campaign chosen for the conservation of migratory birds this year has focused on bird songs and bird flights.

India's Efforts towards Migratory Birds-

India has become very conscious in recent years to conserve biodiversity. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India has made a strategy to work towards its conservation, whether it is the native natural habitat of India or migratory animals and birds. Principal Indian environmental NGOs have also played an important role in this direction. These through independent research, studies, reports, have warned the government and society about the great dangers on animals. India has also become sensitive towards the crisis faced by migratory birds and their solutions.

Why do birds migrate?

Everyone likes the original habitat or native place, no one likes to migrate. But whether it is a person or an animal or a bird when the needs are not fulfilled in original habitat, then it has to migrate. The factors which make the birds migratory are harsh climatic or environmental conditions. These conditions create difficulty for the birds to adapt or survive, so they migrate. Also, searching for the availability of food and ideal habitats to have children, birds have to migrate.Birds and animals have to face many difficulties during migration; they have to fly thousands of miles across seas, oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, mountains, deserts, forests, storms of wind to reach their destination.

Migratory birds promote tourism-

When the migratory bird Amur Falcon travels the longest distance of 22000 kilometers and reaches the Wokha Naga Pangti villages of Nagaland, then there is a different scene of tourism. Within half an hour, millions of Amur falcons reach these villages of Northeast India who come from Siberia, northern China and Mongolia in the winter.Siberian Crane birds come to India during winters. These cranes are omnivores and native to the arctic tundra of Russia and Siberia. The Siberian Crane or Snow Crane is known to be a critically endangered species of migratory birds in the Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, India. About one of five of the world's 11,000 bird species migrate, some of which cover large distances. The conservation of these migratory birds requires cooperation and coordination along the entire flight route between countries and national borders. Some of the major migratory birds that visit India include Bar-headed Goose, Steppe Eagle, Eurasian Curlew, White Wagtail, Great Crested Grabe, Common Greenshank and Eurasian Coot.

India's stand on conservation of migratory birds-

Emphasising on the importance of conservation of migratory birds, during the inaugural function of the 13th Conference of Parties Conference on Migratory Species (CMS COP13) held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat in February 2020, the Prime Minister of India,ShriNarendra Modi said that India is keen to take theconservation of migratory birds to a new paradigm with the active cooperation of all countries of Central Asian flyway range and India would be happy to facilitate the preparation of action plans of

other countries for the conservation of migratory birds on the Central Asian flight route. The Prime Minister also said that India has four biodiversity hotspots – Eastern Himalayas, Western Ghats, Indo-Myanmar region and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which are habitats of 500 species of migratory birds from all over the world. The main theme of this conference was "Migratory species connect the planet and together we welcome them home''.

What is Flyway?

The Central Asian Flyway (CAF) covers a large area of Eurasia between the Arctic and the Indian Oceans. This Flyway includes several important migration routes of birds. Including India, 30 countries are covered under the Central Asian flight route. According to the Zoological Survey of India, there are three flyways of migratory birds in India: first, the Central Asian Flyway, the East Asian Flyway and third, the East Asian-Australian Flyway. The Indian subcontinent is considered an important part of the network of migratory birds in Central Asia. This region of Central Asia extends from the Arctic to the Indian Ocean. There are about 297 habitats of 182 migratory sea birds in this area. These species also include 29 endangered species of the world.The Indian subcontinent is considered an important part of the network of migratory birds in Central Asia. This region of Central Asia extends from the Arctic to the Indian Ocean. There are about 297 habitats of 182 migratory sea birds in this area. These species also include 29 endangered species of the world.

According to the Convention of Migratory Species (also known as the Bonn Convention) if we look at the latest statistics related to the migratory fauna of India, then the share of birds in it is 83 percent. It is noteworthy that the data of COP-13 (Gandhinagar) related to migratory species says that the number of migratory bird species has now reached 380 in India.

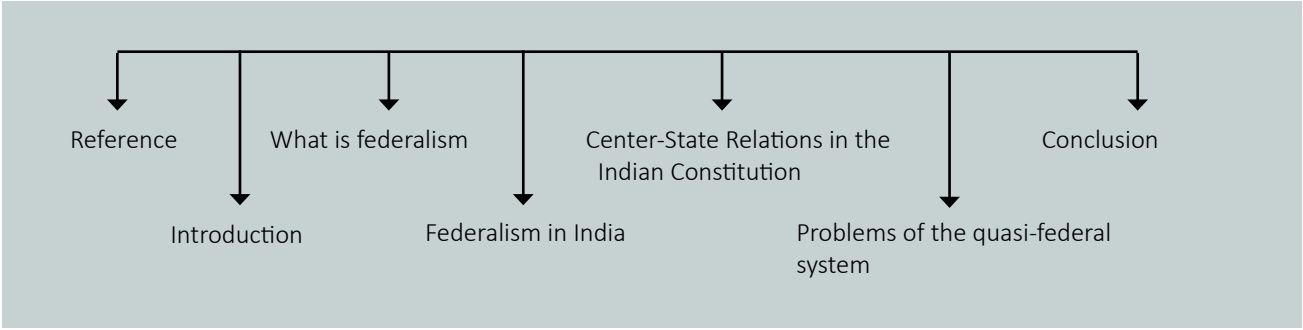
Migratory birds who come to India-

The largest number of migratory species of bird belong to the Muscicapidae family. The second group with the largest number of migratory birds are raptors or birds of prey such as owls, vultures and eagles of the class Accipitridae. Another group of birds that migrate in large numbers is the waders or waterfowl. The number of these migratory bird species in India is 41, followed by ducks belonging to the class Anatidae which are 38 in number.

India had signed the CMS Convention in 1983. The Government of India is taking all necessary steps for the conservation of the species of migratory sea birds. Under the conservation plan, two species of dugong, whale shark and sea turtle have also been identified.

India is a natural habitat for a variety of migratory wildlife such as snow leopard, Amur falcons, bar-headed geese, black-necked stork, sea turtles, dugongs, and humpback whales. India has signed MoUs with CMS for Conservation for Siberian Cranes in 1998, for Sea Turtles in 2007, for Dugongs in 2008 and for the Raptors in 2016. Migratory birds are valuable asset of the world environment. They give the message that in the most difficult situations and inaccessible paths, hope should not be given up. There is need to free the global fly path of migratory birds from obstructions. The environment ministries of different countries should make mutual agreements for migratory birds and work towards their conservations.

How important is a strong center in Indian federalism?



Reference:-

Recently, President of Andhra Pradesh's main opposition party Telugu Desam Party, Chandra Babu Naidu has accused the Andhra Pradesh government of state-sponsored terrorism and demanded imposition of emergency by the Center using Article 356. This has once again shown the need for a strong center in Indian federalism.

Introduction:-

- Recently, President of Andhra Pradesh's main opposition party Telugu Desam Party, Chandra Babu Naidu has demanded a CBI inquiry into the attacks on the Telugu Desam Party's office accusing the Andhra Pradesh government of state-sponsored terrorism. During this, Chandrababu Naidu has accused the Andhra Pradesh government of encroaching on the interests of opposition parties, farmers, and constitutional institutions like election commission and courts. Along with this, he has demanded the imposition of an emergency using Article 356 and requesting central intervention for the restoration of law and order in the state. This reinforces the concept of a strong center in Indian federalism.
- Instead of this, there have been many issues like emergency in states (rest while Jammu and Kashmir state), duties of governor in many states (Maharashtra, West Bengal, etc.), activities of lieutenant governor in union territories (Delhi and Pondicherry), citizenship laws, and compensation for GST, in which center-state dispute had occurred.

What is federalism?

Federalism is derived from the Latin word 'Foedus' which means a kind of agreement. Federalism is mainly concerned with the sharing of power. Federalism is a form of government in which at least two levels of government exist within the country. The concept of federalism is derived from the Constitution of the United States of America.

There are two types of federal systems in the present world.

1. Holding Together Federation: - In this type of method, units are formed by the federation. Here the power mainly leans towards the centre. E.g. India, Spain, Belgium, etc.

2. Coming Together Federation:- In this method of federalism, independent units join together to form a federation. Here the power is tilted towards the units and the units are more autonomous.

Federalism in India:-

As per Article 1 of the Indian Constitution

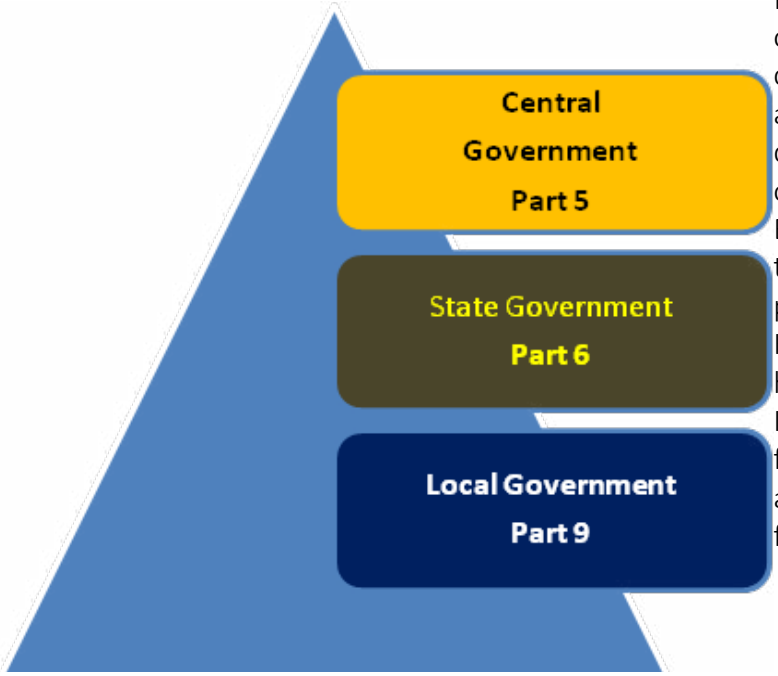
1(1) India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.

[(2) The States and their territories shall be such as are specified in the First Schedule.]

So it is clear that the states in India have been created by the Centre.

There is three-tier federalism in India. Here the central government, state government, and local governments have constitutional recognition. However, in practice, only two-tier federalism is accepted because the local governments have more financial and administrative dependence on the state governments.

The Center has been given more power in the Indian Constitution, due to which it is also called Quasi-federal.



Center-State Relations in the Indian Constitution:-

In the constitution, the powers of the center and the states have been divided into legislative, administrative, and financial relations.

- Legislative Relations - Articles 245 to 255 of the Constitution discuss the Centre-State legislative relations.
- Administrative relations- In Articles 256 to 263 of the Constitution, the center-state administrative relations have been discussed.
- Financial relations - In Articles 268 to 293 of the Constitution, the center-state financial relations have been discussed.

Specific provisions of Indian federalism:-

Primarily, the Constitution of India has all the essential features of a federal constitution. But there are some specific provisions in the Indian federal constitution, which have been included keeping in view the difficulties arising out of the functioning of other constitutions and the development of India. Because of these special provisions, K.C. Wheare has likened Indian federalism to a quasi-federal.

Single Constitution:

Generally, there is a provision of the dual constitution in federal governments but Indian federalism has adopted only one constitution.

States in India are not allowed to have a separate constitution, although the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir had a separate constitution until 2019 (until the abrogation of specific provisions of Article 370) as an exception.

Formation of State:-

The Indian Constitution is not a "Federation of State" but a "Union of State" (Article 1). That is, the states have been created by the Indian Union, and not the union has been created by the states. The existence of states in India is dependent on the Centre.

Existence of Strong Center:-

The central government has been given more powers than the state governments and has been made stronger. Example - By Articles 2, 3, the existence of the states has been done under the central power, during the emergency provision the constitution gave more to the center, important subjects to be kept in the union list.

Single Citizenship:

There is no separate citizenship for the Union and the States in India and all powers concerning citizenship are vested in the Center according to Article 11 (Provision of single citizenship under Part II of the Constitution). Whereas there is a provision of dual citizenship in America, the citizen there is a resident of America as well as its affiliated states.

Institutions:-

In India, democratic institutions like All India Services, Election Commission, Public Service Commission are controlled by the center.

NOTES

Problems of the quasi-federal system: Are changes inevitable in federalism?

Frequent use of emergency powers:-

- Due to the system of the multi-party parliamentary system and political ambition in the country, many times the state legislatures are dissolved by the Central Governments, often by misusing Article 356 of the Constitution. This is not only an insult to the mandate of the state but frequent elections also add to the financial burden on the exchequer.

Article 356 of the Indian Constitution:-

- It provides in case of failure of the constitutional machinery in the states, it is also known as President's rule. This power of the President is based on the advice of the Cabinet.
- This article was first used on 31 July 1957, when the Communist government of Kerala, elected by democratic election, was dismissed.

Article 356 is used in the following circumstances-

- When the constitutional machinery of the state fails completely.
- State government Do not follow the instructions given by the Center (Article 365)
- Due to some reason the elections could not be held in the state.
- The government is unable to establish law and order in the state.

Effects of Article 356:-

- During the President's rule, the State Council of Ministers is dissolved by the President. During this, the Governor of the state runs the administration of the state with the help of the Secretary of State in the name of the President.
- The President can dissolve or suspend the Legislative Assembly of the said state. During this time, Parliament can give the right to make laws for the state to the President or any other authority specified by the President.

Suspicious role of Governor:-

- According to Article 154 of the Indian Constitution, all the executive powers of the state are vested in the Governor.
- The Governor plays a dual role as the constitutional head of the state and the agent of the President, due to which the situation becomes very difficult.
- Some time ago, there was a dispute between the Raj Bhavan (the governor's residence) and the ruling party in West Bengal for the swearing-in of three MLAs, including Mamata Banerjee (Trinamool Congress's chief ministerial candidate). Often this has been seen in many cases.
- In such a situation, the tension between the Governor and the Chief Minister hinders the development of the state.

Central infiltration in the state list:-

- Since the implementation of the Constitution, the subjects of the Central List and the Concurrent List are increasing continuously and the subjects of the State List are decreasing. By putting a subject like education in the concurrent list from the state list and also by the rapid increase in centrally sponsored schemes, the central government is being seen as an incrocher into the state list and the powers of the state.
- Recently 3 Acts have been enacted by the Union Parliament to improve agriculture while agriculture is a state subject.

Unbalanced Financial Powers:-

- Important taxes like income tax, corporation tax are with the center. The Constitutional Body (Finance Commission) available for distribution of taxes is created by the Central Government (President).
- Along with this, there is a discriminatory attitude of the Central Government in other grants given to the states including the grants given by the erstwhile Planning Commission In such a situation, this issue also gives rise to controversy.

Recent disputes:

- On the issue of the Citizenship Amendment Act, the Center and some states like Kerala, Punjab passed resolutions against the Parliament from their legislatures.
- States suffered losses in GST due to loss in consumption due to Corona. But the Center did not want to give this compensation.
- States needed more resources during Corona. And the center shifted the responsibility to the states.

Despite the above circumstances, many issues in India prove the relevance of a strong centre.

Benefit from the quasi-federal system: or why the strong center is necessary :-

The discussion of Constituent Assembly:-

When this form of federalism was being discussed in the Constituent Assembly, it was argued by the Constituent Assembly that "Since India is in the state of a nascent republic country, a strong central government may be needed to take hard decisions for the fast and all pervading development and growth of the country"

Establishment of National Unity-

- Elements of regionalism are still there in India e.g. Gorkhaland demand in 2017, Telangana-Andhra Pradesh dispute, Madhya Pradesh reserved government jobs for local students, Haryana reserved over 75% jobs in the private sector for locals.
- The North-Eastern region of India is prone to separatism. These incidents block national unity. It is well known that without a strong centre, the emotional integration of Jammu and Kashmir would not have been possible.
- Along with this, there are also problems like communalism, inequality, class struggle, for which the strength of the centre is necessary.

To establish political ideals:

- For the social, economic, political justice, fraternity, and rights-based system mentioned in the constitution, it is necessary to apply various laws equally throughout the nation.
- If there was no concept of a strong centre, the equality could not have been established by abolishing the privy purse and the royal titles.

Good Governance with Cooperation:-

- A quasi-federal structure allows the Center to simultaneously sponsor national-level programs like the 'Pulse Polio Programme' across the nation.
- Allocation of oxygen to different states as per their requirement during Covid-19 was possible only due to a central authority. It is because of a strong center that the concept of cooperative federalism has come about.

Common Economy:-

- The concept of a single economy has been possible only through the quasi-federal system, otherwise, India would also have to face problems like Brexit. The GST framework in India represents a single economy.

Control over the state government:-

- If in reality the state government becomes autocratic and starts disregarding democratic rules, in this situation only a strong center can restore law and order in the state. For example, the ground for suspending the government of Uttar Pradesh in 1992 was a deviation from the secular character of the state which was also considered by the Supreme Court.

Judiciary in the context of Indian federalism:-

- The Supreme Court in Karnataka v. Union of India and West Bengal v. Union of India has held the Constitution to be quasi-federal.
- In the Kesavananda Bharti and S.R.Bommai case, the Supreme Court has recognized federalism as a part of the basic structure.

What should be done?

- The concept of the GST Council should be adopted for the subjects of the Concurrent List in India. The number of institutions with a federal character like NITI Aayog should be increased.
- The office of the governor has to be protected so that he can discharge his duties as the constitutional head of the state.
- Legal guarantee should be provided for the gradual expansion of the fiscal capacity of the states.

Conclusion:-

The objective of the center and state should be citizen-centered governance. Therefore, there is a need for practical changes both at the center and the state so that the goal of citizen-centered governance and rights-based governance can be fulfilled.

NOTES

The Growing Importance Of The Indo-Pacific Region At The Global Level

Reference
Introduction
Why do birds migrate
Indo-Pacific region and its importance
The impact of the activities of global powers on the Indo-Pacific region
Conclusion

Reference:-

The importance of the Indo-Pacific region is increasing continuously in the current global scenario. On the one hand, while the United States continues to increase its presence in the region through organizations such as 'Quad and AUKUS', on the other hand, a detailed strategic consultation paper has been issued for the region by the European Union, which is an indicator of the growing importance of the region.

Introduction:-

In the present world, a rising trend of new partnerships and new alliances have been seen because of the rise of regional powers at the international level, the loss of US credibility as a world leader, the economic rise and aggressive ideology of China, and changes in the global map, etc. Global Power balance and growth have been shifted from the Euro-Atlantic region the Asia-Pacific region. According to international experts, in the twenty-first century, the Indo-Pacific region (from the eastern part of Africa to the western part of the Pacific Ocean) will be the center of global power. Therefore, all the powers at the global level want to keep their strategic, political, and economic to edge in the Indo-Pacific region.

Indo-Pacific region and its importance:-

The Indo-Pacific region includes the regions from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. This region has taken an important place in the current global system due to the following reasons-

- According to the Indo-Pacific Business Summit the region represents 64% of the global population and 62% of the global GDP.
- More than 50% of the current global trade passes through this maritime zone. And the ports of this region are some of the busiest ports in the world.
- Countries of the Indo-Pacific region such as India, South Korea, Japan, Australia, Vietnam, Bangladesh have immense potential for economic investment, economic powers like the United States and China are also present in this region.
- The Indo-Pacific region also includes the world's busiest sea route and the strategically important "Strait of Malacca" from where trade with Africa, Europe, China, and Arab countries takes place.
- This region is also important from the energy point of view because important energy consumers and producing countries are located in this region.
- The entire region is connected by sea, due to which the logistics system in this region is also advanced.

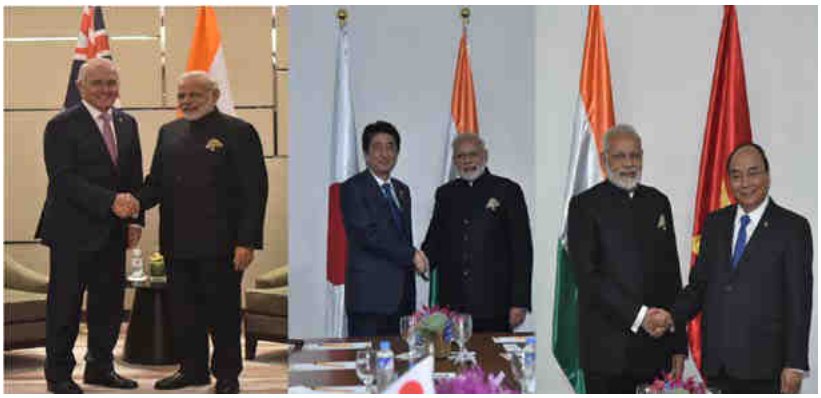
Activities of Global Powers in the Indo-Pacific Region:-

China in the Indo Pacific:-

- Over the past several years, China has been trying to make strategic advances in the Indian Pacific region through encroachment into the South China Sea, port development programs in countries such as Australia, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.
- In this direction, the concept of neo-economic colonialism was accepted by China, in which China gave a large amount of credit to the subsidiary countries such as Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Australia, etc. Those countries got trapped in the debt trap of China.
- An aggressive policy was also resorted to by China along with this debt trap. In this aggressive policy, China tried to establish its dominance in the South China Sea. Therefore, China's dispute with ASEAN countries including Vietnam increased in the south china sea

region.

- China also made access to the Indo-Pacific region through infrastructural projects under the ambitious Belt and Road Initiative plan.
- In this area, the sovereignty of other countries, the laws of the sea, and the laws of biodiversity have been continuously denied by China.



United States of America in the Indo-Pacific-

For the past several years, the Indo-Pacific region has been an important part of American policies. America has been a supporter of "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" to keep the region 'free and independent. For this purpose, several activities have been taken by the US in this area. To balance China's aggressive strategic edge, the formation of an organization called "Quad" was laid by the US with India, Japan and Australia. More recently, America, along with Australia and Britain, has established an organization called AUKUS, whose activities will be concentrated in the Indo-Pacific region.

AUKUS is a tripartite security agreement between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, announced on 15 September 2021 for the Indo-Pacific region.

Key Provisions of AUKUS:-

- AUKUS is a military treaty, under which the US and Britain will give Australia the technology to build a nuclear submarine. Australia will build eight nuclear-powered submarines.
- Apart from this, the US will also provide Australia with technology to manufacture artificial intelligence- powered weapons, underwater surveillance, quantum technology, and cyber technology.
- Intelligence agencies of the US and Australia will share information.
- Thus America is continuously increasing cooperation with other countries to establish its lead in this area.

European Union in the Indo-Pacific:

For a long time, the European Union displayed apathy towards the fulfillment of its economic interests and strategic issues in the Indo-Pacific region. But recently there has been an attempt by the European Union to establish its strategic edge in this area. It was made clear by the President of the European Union that the EU would have to build relationships with new partners to enhance its global role.

In this statement, he was pointing out towards new relations with the Indo-Pacific region. Taking a step in this direction, the European Union has released a detailed strategic instrument for the region. In which the following have been pointed out

- The EU seeks to develop the concept of sustainable development by increasing cooperation with the members of the region.
- While on the one hand the European Union wants to stop China's aggressive policy, it also expects cooperation with China on the issue of climate.
- The EU wants to strengthen ties in this area with countries of its common ideology (democracy, maritime sector, data security, global cooperation, cooperation against climate change).
- The European Union expects cooperation from the Quad countries (USA, Japan, Australia, India) to stop China's aggression.
- The EU aims to strengthen previous partnerships and forget new partnerships in the region.
- The European Union proposes the creation of a Global Gateway as an alternative to the BRI proposed by China.
- The European Union is striving for new digital partnerships with Japan, South Korea, and Singapore, where it believes that it can become an ally of these countries in the inter-operability of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.
- EU Wants to implement trade

agreements with Australia,Indonesia, and New Zealand. The European Union sees India as a strong ally.

- Relations between the European Union and ASEAN have also strengthened. Recently ASEAN has given the status of Dialogue Partner to the European Union.

Although there are some challenges before the European Union in gaining a strategic edge in this area-

- The EU is dependent on NATO for security, so EU policy may be subsidiary to that of the US.
- Many countries of the Indo-Pacific region have a trust deficit with European countries as a result of historical reasons (colonialism).
- There is a lack of unanimity among the EU countries regarding the strategy towards China. 10 members, including France, have considered China's encroachment as a challenge, while 13 member countries have seen the Indo-Pacific concept only by linking it to economic interests. This contradiction is a major crisis in favor of a clear policy.

But after being inactive for years, the EU becoming active in the region shows the growing importance of the Indo-Pacific region.

Along with these countries, like India, South Korea Japan, ASEAN have their interests which increase the strategic importance of this region.

The impact of the activities of global powers on the Indo-Pacific region:-

Towards multipolarity:
After America, China, the European Union, Japan, ASEAN and India have become active in this area, the area has moved towards multipolarity. This multipolarity will help establish the balance of power. With the coming of many powers, the establishment of peace in the region can also be possible.

Area Development:-
With the increase in the activity of global powers in this region, economic development will also increase here. Island countries and Oceanian countries (which are most vulnerable to climate change) will receive green finance, infrastructure development, technological benefits from the US and the European Union.

Impact on Biodiversity:
The European Union accepts positive policy in the context of climate change. Therefore, it will try to increase biodiversity in this region and reduce global warming. But the use of nuclear submarines in this area, the increase in e-waste due to the advancement of technology, etc. can be a crisis for biodiversity, for example - the crisis of the Great Barrier Reef, Australia.

India and the Indo-Pacific Region-

- India occupies an important role in the Indian Ocean region due to its strategic location and strong military capability. USA, European Union, ASEAN, and other countries including China accept the importance of India. India was acknowledged as an important ally by the Trump administration. ASEAN countries see India as a net security provider against China's aggressive attitude, which puts India in the role of a regional leader.
- The Indian Navy can control the Strait of Malacca. Due to the importance of this area, India has established an unified tri-service command of the indian armed forces at the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- India is an important member of the Quad. Along with this, India has better relations with the big countries of this region (eg USA Australia, Japan) as well as smaller countries.
- America and the European Union want to strengthen India more so that India will get technology, weapons, finance, infrastructure technology, etc. easily.
- With the arrival of the European Union, India will get an option in the event of a policy shift of America (not including India in place of India in the AUKUS is considered a policy deviation of America)
- It is also possible that after these activities, China may become more active in the South China Sea for this it can initiate peace initiatives on the border dispute with India.
- With this, India will also have to check the increasing influence of any other country in the Indian Ocean because, in the long run, it will create a situation of conflict of interests against India.

Conclusion:
At present, almost all the important powers of the world are active in the Indo-Pacific region. This has the potential to develop the area. All the countries of this region will be affected by the activities of these powers, including many very small countries.

POCSO Act

Why in News?

The Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court acquitted an accused in a POCSO case, has ruled that groping the parts of a minor without 'skin to skin' touch cannot be sexual assault. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses Act (POCSO Act), 2012 is a comprehensive law to provide protection to children from the offenses of sexual assault, pornography and sexual harassment.

Major Provisions:

1. The Act defines the minor (under 18 years of age) as a child and prohibits his/her from engaging in illegal sexual activities against him.
2. It is a gender-neutral law.

Under this protection has been given to girls as well as boys (all persons below 18 years of age) against illegal sexual activities.

3. It also provides for the establishment of special courts for speedy trials of such offences.

India is a party in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, under which India has a legal obligation to protect all children from all forms of sexual exploitation.

Child sexual abuse is not limited to rape or serious sexual trauma, but showing sexual acts intentionally to children (pornography), inappropriate touching, forcible sexual acts and doing pornography, etc. comes under child sexual abuse.

Status of child sexual abuse in India:

a) According to the data of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), about 33000 cases of child sexual abuse have been reported in India in 2011.

b) According to a study conducted by UNICEF between 2005-13 on adolescent girls, 10 percent of girls in the age group of 10-14 years and 30 percent of girls aged 15 to 19 years faced sexual abuse.

There is a strict provision like capital punishment under the POCSO (post-amendment) act but justice is delayed because of there are fewer special courts (fast track courts), the orthodox or traditional thinking in the police-administration-society (not understanding the sensitivity of the subject) and a sluggish process of courts .

NOTES

UAPA

Why in discussion?

The Guwahati High Court granted bail to 15 people arrested under UAPA sections. These people were accused of writing posts on social media in support of the Taliban rule in Afghanistan.

Background-

UAPA was enacted in 1967 to effectively control illegal activities in the country. UAPA covers action taken by any individual or association aimed at disrupting the integrity and sovereignty of India.

Challenges of external security (such as cross-border terrorism, insurgency in the Northeast) and internal security (such as naxalism, organized crime) exist in India, so the need of tough law like UAPA was felt to instill fear of law in the minds of criminals. After amendments in UAPA in 2004, 2008 and 2012, the scope of the law has been broadened to cover activities such as threatening the National security economic security (financial and monetary security, food, livelihood, energy, ecological and environmental security). This law also imposes reasonable restrictions on the freedom of speech and expression, the right to assemble without arms and the right to form associations, provided by Article 19 of the Constitution.

Features of UAPA-

According to the provision of this law, if the central government considers any activity to be illegal, then by announcing it through the official gazette, it can be brought under the category of an offense in the Act. It has provisions for the death penalty and life imprisonment as the maximum punishment.

Investigating agencies can file a charge sheet against the arrested person within 180 days. This law applies to Indians as well as foreign nationals. The offense may be committed in India or outside India, action can be taken under sections of UAPA.

Issues related to UAPA-

Since, there is a provision of harsh punishment under UAPA so it is a matter of violation of the rights to personal liberty and dissent.

The government can misuse this law to suppress dissent against itself.

There is delay in hearing in UAPA cases. About 95% of the cases are still pending. The rate of proving the criminal case is very low.It violates federal provisions.

Karbong tribe and its language

The Karbong, a sub-tribe of the Halam tribe in Tripura in North Eastern India, is reported to be in the final stages of extinction. In a report, tribal experts from Northeast India state that there are only 250 people of this tribe, who live in West Tripura and Dhalai districts. An expert of the sub-tribe Harihar Debnath says that, 'The Manikya rulers tried to educate the Karbong people and arrange teachers for them, but they did not get successful. Hardly 250 people are left from 60 to 70 families.

Despite of being a separate language from all other tribes the Karbong are considered a sub-tribe. So the Census of India does not count them separately as tribe community. As per the Gazette notification of 1940, there are 19 tribal groups in Tripura, in which the Karbong community has been included in the Halam.

The endangered 'Karbong' differentiate themselves from other indigenous tribal groups through their language. Kokborok language is different from the language of most of the tribal groups of Tripura and all of them follow Hinduism.

The Karbong tribe community recently came into the news when the High Court of Tripura on October 18 asked the central and state government to form a team of experts to assess the current situation of the Karbong tribal community and

submit an affidavit on or before November 9.

The language spoken by the Karbong people is also endangered. According to the classification of languages by UNESCO, any language spoken by less than 10,000 people is considered 'potentially endangered'.

Collecting leaves and tubers from the forests is the traditional activity of the Karbong tribe. Apart from this, hunting wild animals and birds, catching fish are also their main occupation. All these occupations show the food gathreing habit of the Karbong tribe. This tribe also does jhum farming.

INTER-NATIONAL

North Stream Gas Pipeline

Why in News?

The construction of the NS2 gas pipeline between Russia and Germany passing through the Baltic Sea has been completed.

Germany and Russia had agreed in mid-2015 over the NS2 gas pipeline project.

Special Fact – 1200 km long gas pipeline built with an investment of $ 11 billion and It has the capacity to supply 55 billion cubic meters of gas per year.

Significance of the project-

1. It is economically as well as strategically important for Russia because Western Europe is U.S. dominated region.
2. Russia is seeing this project as an opportunity to expand its influence in the region. So, Other European countries, including Germany, will be able to ensure energy security.

Opposition of NS2 gas pipeline-

From the very beginning, the US has been opposing this gas pipeline project. The US believes that this project will increase the energy dependence of Western European countries on Russia. Most of the Western European countries are US allies in NATO, thats why US always opposes its allies' to making of close relations with Russia. Eastern European country Ukraine is also opposing this gas pipeline project because by-passing the gas pipeline of Ukraine, Russia can establish its dominance in the energy market of Western Europe, which could cost an economic loss of 3 billion dollars per year to Ukraine.

Bordering Countries of the Baltic Sea-

• Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany and Denmark.

Also know about TAPI Gas Pipeline-

TAPI gas project is proposed between Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. This project will supply 3.2 billion cubic feet of natural gas annually to the four countries. The project is being financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

This gas pipeline will start from Galkynysh oil Field (Turkmenistan) and will go through Herat and Kandahar (Afghanistan) and Quetta and Multan (Pakistan) to the Punjab province of India. The total length of this pipeline is 1700 km.

Significance – The energy needs of India, Pakistan and Afghanistan will be fulfilled. Gas supply to India's power plants will be ensured.

Challenges -

1. Tensed relations between India and Pakistan may hamper the implementation of this project.
2. Terrorist activities are the biggest hindrance in planning and implementation.
3. Many countries including India has not recognized Taliban rule in Afghanistan. The instability in Afghanistan could also affect the TAPI project.

Emissions Gap Report 2021

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) released the Emissions Gap Report 2021 titled 'The heat is on' on 26 October 2021.The United Nations Environment Program has said in its report that the revised resolutions have not been able to achieve the goals of the Paris climate agreement. The report states that the global temperature will increase by at least 2.7 degrees Celsius in this century. The report also pointed out that the revised national climate action plan by countries would reduce annual greenhouse gas emissions by only 7.5 percent compared to previous resolutions.

In this report, the United Nations Environment Program has expressed concern that the efforts being made by various countries to tackle the problem of climate change in the coming decade will prove to be insufficient but the report hopes that dozens of countries have declared their goal of achieving "zero" carbon emissions by 2050, and the results could be positive if they implement seriously. The report predicts that even if all countries achieve their new climate goals, the world's temperature could rise by about 2.7 degrees Celsius by the year 2100. In such a situation, there is a possibility of an instant increase in heatwaves, drought and floods all over the world. United Nations (UN) General Secretary Antonio Guterres has said that global efforts on climate change are being affected due to a lack of leadership at the global level.

The report estimated that if the net-zero targets are fully implemented, the increase in global temperature could be limited to 2.2 °C.UNEP's Emissions Gap Report 2021 also raises concerns that the national commitments of countries do not match the commitment to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2030.

16th East Asia Summit

Prime Minister Shri NarendraModi participated in the 16th East Asia Summit on 27th October,2021 via videoconference. Brunei hosted the 16th East Asia Summit as EAS and ASEAN Chair. Leaders from Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, Russia, USA, India and ASEAN countries participated in the summit. India has been an active participant of EAS.

Speaking at the summit , PM Modi reaffirmed the importance of EAS as the premier leaders-led forum in Indo-Pacific, bringing together nations to discuss important strategic issues. PrimeMinister highlighted India's efforts to fight the Covid-19 pandemic through vaccines and medical supplies.

Prime Minister also highlighted the importance of "Atmanirbhar Bharat" Campaign for post-pandemic recovery and in ensuring resilient global value chains. He stressed on establishing a balance between economy and ecology and climate sustainable lifestyle.

Important regional and international issues including Indo-Pacifc, South China Sea, UNCLOS, terrorism, and situation in Korean Peninsula and Myanmar were also discussed. PM reaffirmed "ASEAN centrality" in the Indo-Pacific and highlighted the synergies between ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI). Three Statements, on Mental Health, Economic recovery through Tourism and Sustainable Recovery, which have been co-sponsored by India were adopted by the EAS leaders.

NOTES

ENVIRONMENT

DeeporBeel

Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate has notified DeeporBeel Wildlife Sanctuary, located on the south-western edge of Guwahati, as an eco-sensitive zone.

DeeporBeel:

- DeeporBeel is a lake of fresh water, where its area is continuously decreasing due to encroachment.
- DeeporBeel is a Ramsar site in Assam that is famous as an important bird area.

Eco-Sensitive Zone:

- The area up to 10 km around the protected area is known as Eco-sensitive Zone.
- Eco-sensitive areas are declared under the Environment Protection Act 1986.
- The purpose of declaring eco-sensitive areas is to regulate the activities around the protected areas and reduce the potential risk.
- Ecologically sensitive area, acts as a 'shock absorber' in the protected area.
- Species such as Siberian Crane, Spot Bill Pelican, Dhenuk Bird, Asian Elephant, Wild Cat, Sambhar etc. are found in DeeporBeel.

Flower scorpionfish

Recently, a unique fish species "flower scorpionfish" which was till now found only in the Pacific Ocean region, the same fish has been found in Digha coast of West Bengal of India and Paradip in Odisha and this has raised the possibility that this fish is also found in the Indian Ocean region. It also reveals the rich biodiversity of the Bay of Bengal.

The scientific name of Flower Scorpionfish is Hoplosebastes Armatus, and it belongs to the order of ray-finned fish which is also known as Scorpaeniforme.

Hoplosebastes Armatus was first discovered in the Pacific Ocean region of Japan in the year 1929. So far it was not found in the Indian Ocean. But on October 13, Indian scientists have collected 22 species of flower scorpionfish in the waters of Paradip area in Jagatsinghpur, Odisha.

Scientists of the Zoological Survey of India have carried out this discovery. Scientists have now concluded that the geographical extent of this fish is from the Northwest Pacific to the Indian Ocean.

The flower scorpionfish is between 75 and 127 mm in length while its body width is 14 to 22 mm. Its head is bigger than its body. It is found in large numbers in the water area associated with the East China Sea of Japan.

All scorpionfish are carnivores and feed on small fish and shrimps.

Rockfish, stonefish, lionfish, turkey fish, fire fish, etc. are examples of scorpionfish. Unlike the flower scorpionfish, the common scorpionfish is also found in the western Atlantic Ocean, Florida, Bermuda, Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean Sea.

Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

Why in News?

A man-eating tiger, who fled from the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, has been caught by the rescue team after 22 days.

Background-

Mudumalai Tiger Reserve is located in the Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu, which is located on the junction of three states (Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu). It is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve of India (India's first Biosphere Reserve) declared in the year 1986. It was declared as a Tiger Reserve in 2007 due to the declining number of tigers.

The Mudumalai Tiger Reserve is bordered on the western side by the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala, on the northern border by the Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka, on the southeast by the Niligiri North Division and on the southwest by the Gudalur Forest Division which forms a large conservation area for major species like the tiger and the Asian elephant. The Moyar River flows through the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, which forms the natural boundary between Mudumalai and Bandipur Sanctuary.

Major Species–This is a biodiversity-rich area where different species of flora and fauna are found.

Fauna-

Tiger, Elephant, Panther, Barking Deer, Malabar Giant Squirrel, Indian Gaur and Hyena are the main fauna found in this area.

Vegetation - The Mudumalai Tiger Reserve has tall grass, which is commonly called 'Elephant Grass'. Valuable tree species like bamboo, teak, rosewood are also found here.

Major National Parks of Tamil Nadu –

1. Mudumalai National Park
2. Guindy National Park, Chennai
3. Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park
4. Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park
5. Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiris

Conservation of Bengal Florican Bird

In a recent letter, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has requested to the Chief Minister of Assam that the Kokilabari Seed Farm in Assam, which is a paradise for Bengal Florican birds, should be protected. IUCN has said that Kokilabari Seed Farm should be declared as a Community Reserve by the Government of Assam. This seed farm is near the Manas National Park and here the state government has decided to build a university along development works, due to which the Bengal Florican bird will be endangered. The Kokilabari Seed Farm spread over an area of just 9 square kilometers has 25 Bengal Florican and in Manas National Park spread over an area of 850 square kilometers has 33 Bengal Florican. Manas-Kokilabari with a total no. of 58 Bengal Floricans ranks as the 3rd largest hotspot of Bengal Florican bird in the world. Apart from this, there are 100 such birds in D' Ering Sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh and 100 such birds in KoshiTappu of Nepal.Recently, many Bengal Florican birds have been seen in the D' Ering Wildlife Sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh. This is significant event because the IUCN has listed the Bengal Florican as critically endangered in its Red Data List. According to the Bombay Natural History Society, there are about 100 Bengal Floricans in this sanctuary.

The Bengal Florican has been declared as a Schedule One species under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. It is world famous for its "Mating Dance". It is a grassland species found mainly in Dudhwa, Kishanpur and Pilibhit Reserves of Uttar Pradesh, Manas, Orang and Kaziranga Reserves of Assam and D' Ering Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh and Jaldapara National Park in West Bengal.In the Indian subcontinent, it is found only in India and Nepal and Vietnam and Cambodia in Southeast Asia.

SCIENCE-TECH

Future Tech 2021

Recently, Rajeev Chandra sekhar, Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics & IT, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship inaugurated the "Future Tech 2021" conference virtually. "Future Tech 2021" is an international conference and exhibition on digital technologies, organized by CII (The Confederation of Indian Industry). In this conference entrepreneurs, industry personalities and government officials interacted with each other. There was a talk on how digital technology can be best used in the economy.The theme of the International Conference was "Driving technologies for building the future, we all can trust". The theme focuses on five key points –Strategy, Growth, Resilience, Inclusiveness, and Trust.

Such a format of economic system in which most of the financial transactions are done through credit cards, debit cards, net banking, mobile payments and other digital means, is called digital economy.

In the 21st-century economy, digital

services have become very important. When the demonization and Corona lockdown was going on the traditional modes of commercial transactions were severely disrupted. We all realized the importance of digital services at that time. Several steps have been taken by the government at the policy level to promote the digital economy, such as setting up Gujarat International FinanceTech City, promoting digital transactions, digital census and e-NYAY. However, there is a need for efforts at many levels in this direction in the country. According to a report by RedSeer, in the year 2020, the number of online shopping customers in India was estimated at just 185 million. This means that many people who use the Internet are still far from the digital economy. Experts believe the main reason for this is the weak infrastructure of the digital economy in the country.

The basic need of digital economy- Computers and the Internet are still out of reach for most people. There is a lack of awareness among a large number of people about digital payment technologies. There is no adequate availability of electricity in remote areas or in small villages. Also, the country is still far behind in terms of mobile broadband speed. Due to the increasing incidents of online fraud, a large number of people are not able to trust online transactions. All these problems need to be solved.

NOTES

Meta, the new name of Facebook

Facebook has changed its name to Meta in an annual connect conference. Facebook is looking to shift its focus to Metaverse technology and that is why it has changed its name. Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has already discussed that his company will not only remain a social media platform but it will become a 'metaverse' company in the future.

What is Metaverse?

American author Neil Stephenson wrote a novel called 'Snow Crash' in the year 1992, which was based on science fiction, in this novel he used the word 'metaverse' for the first time. In this novel, real people live in the virtual world. Words like virtual reality, digital currency have been written in the novel.

In simple language, the metaverse will be a kind of virtual world. With this technology, we will be able to enter virtually into the digital world.A parallel world where we will have a different identity. In this parallel world, we will be able to meet our friends and relatives, travel and buy things. It works on a combination of many technologies like Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Machine Learning, Blockchain technology and artificial intelligence.

Understand the metaverse with an example-

Suppose you are walking on the side of a road in a virtual world. You saw a TV in a shop and you liked it. You bought that TV by paying digital currency. Now this TV will be delivered to your given address. In this way, you will get the experience of virtual shopping, but the purchase will actually happen. When you are talking to someone on the Internet, it will seem as you are sitting opposite each other.

Why did Facebook changed its name?

we all know Google, but do we know what is the name of its parent company? The name of its parent company is Alphabet and under this, its other companies are running. Facebook is also trying to do the same. In the coming time, Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and other platforms of its company will come under a parent company. This change is being made to focus on the metaverse. Apart from Facebook, Google, Apple, Snapchat and Epic Games are all other big companies that have been working on the metaverse for many years. It is estimated that by the year 2035, Metaverse will become an industry of Rs 74.8 lakh crore.

Before the coming of the Metaverse platform, different types of debates have started about it. The biggest issue in this is digital privacy. Experts say that the platforms on which the Metaverse is being built if the proprietor have more control

over them,then they can start to use personal data or private conversations for their purpose which will be a threat to privacy. However, its real advantage and disadvantage will be known only after it start functioning.

NOTES

DRDO developed 'Advance chaff Technology'

Why in News?

DRDO has developed Advanced Chaff Technology for Indian Air Force / Naval Ships.

What is Chaff Technology:

Chaff technology is used to protect naval ships and aircraft from radio frequency-based enemy radars.

- Naval ships are attacked by radio-frequency-based radars. Chaff technology protects naval ships by passive jamming against radio frequencies.
- Chaff is made from aluminum/ plastic or metalized glass fiber.

Important Points:

1. DRDO's Defense Laboratory Jodhpur and Pune-based High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) have jointly developed this technology.
2. The security of naval ships is ensured by using the Counter Major Dispensing System (CMDS).

This technology provides passive jamming against infrared and radar threats.

Why is Chaff Technology Important:

The safety of fighter aircraft is a major concern in today's electronic warfare due to the advancement of modern radar. To ensure the safety of the aircraft, Counter Major Dispensing System (CMDS) is used which provides passive jamming against infra-red and radar threats. Chaff is an important defense technique used to protect fighter aircraft from hostile radar threats. The importance of this technology is that the small amount of chaff material deployed in the air to deflect enemy missiles from their path to ensure the safety of fighter aircraft.

Agni 5 successfully test-fired

India achieved a major milestone in the defense sector on October 27, 2021 when the surface-to-surface ballistic missile Agni-5 was successfully test-fired.

Key points of the test-

The missile was test fired from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast. The missile, which uses a three-stage solid fuelled engine, is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000km with a very high degree of accuracy. The successful test-fire of the Agni-5 missile is in line with India's policy of "minimum deterrence". This policy underlines the

commitment to 'No First Use'. The Agni-5 missile was first test-fired in April 2012. The last test was done three years ago in 2018.

Key Features of Agni 5-

Agni-5 is an Indigenous nuclear capable intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). It was developed by the Defense Research and Development Organization. The range of this missile is about 5000 to 8000 km.

Agni 5 has been used to enhance India's nuclear deterrence against China. Earlier, the longest range missile in India was Agni-3, which had a range of 3000-3500 km. Agni 3 was not sufficient to reach the target of the eastern and north-eastern region of China. DRDO was working on an improved version of Agni-5 missile since 2007.

United Nations Day observed on 24 October

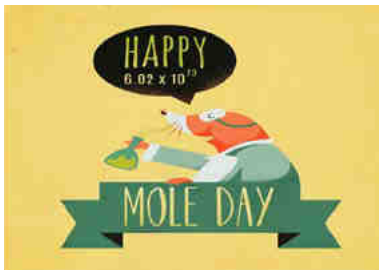
United Nations Day is celebrated every year on 24 October. The United Nations came into existence on 24 October 1945. United Nations Day was first celebrated on 24 October 1948. The primary function of the United Nations is to maintain peace and security in the world.

Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award

Hungarian film director Istvan Szabo and US's Martin Scorsese will be honored with Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India to be held in Goa. This 52nd International Film Festival of India will be organized from 20 November to 28 November.

Mole Day 2021 was celebrated on 23 October

Mole Day, was celebrated on 23 October to honour the avogadro's number To define the number of particles present in one mole of a substance, the Avogadro number is expressed as 6.02×10^{23}. The mole is a basic measurement unit for atoms and molecules, which was discovered by the 18th century Italian scientist Amedeo Avogadro.



Alexey Navalny won the Sakharov Prize

The Sakharov Prize, given by the European Parliament, will be given this year to Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny. The Sakharov Prize is given for exposing corruption and fighting for human rights. Navalny will be presented with the award during the plenary session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg in December.

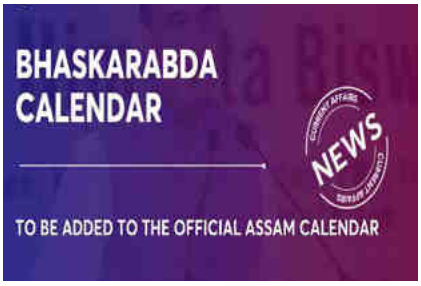
Sakharov Prize : This award is named in the honor of Soviet physicist Andrei Sakharov. It is given to individuals or groups who have dedicated their lives to the defense of human rights and freedom of thoughts.

Barbados elected first president

Even today, there are some countries where even after the independence; their head of state is Queen Elizabeth of Britain. Barbados is also one of them. But now Barbados has elected Dame Sandra Mason as its first president. Dame Sandra Mason, 72, will take the oath on November 30.

DRDO conducts successful flight test of 'Abhyas'

Recently DRDO has successfully flight tested a High-Speed Expandable Aerial Target (HEAT) named Abhyas from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur. The Abhyas will be used as an aerial target for various missile evaluations. The Abhyas has been designed and developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru.



'Bhaskarabada' will be the official calendar of Assam

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma declared a luni-solar calendar 'Bhaskarbara' as the official calendar of the state. Currently, the Saka and Gregorian calendars are the official calendars of the Government of Assam. It is to be remembered that there is a difference of 593 years between Bhaskarbada and Gregorian calendar. This calendar is calculated from the date of the ascension of Bhaskaravarman, the 7th century ruler of Kamrup.

Note: The Gregorian calendar is the most widely used calendar in the world. It was announced by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582. It is a solar-based calendar. It consists of 365 days in a normal year divided into 12 months.

US test-fired hypersonic missile

After China and Russia, America also tested hypersonic missile technology. The United States will deploy its first hypersonic missile by 2025.

Earlier China had tested a nuclear-capable hypersonic missile. Whereas Russia recently test-fired a hypersonic missile 'Zircon' from a submarine.

What is Hypersonic Missile:

- It can travel five times faster than the speed of sound.
- This type of missile reaches its target with the help of high-speed jet engine.
- Hypersonic missiles come in two types; Hypersonic cruise missile and hypersonic glide.

Tunnel construction near Nechiphu Pass in Arunachal Pradesh

A tunnel is being constructed by BRO at an altitude of 5600 feet near Nechiphu Pass in Arunachal Pradesh. The length of this tunnel is 500 meters. The purpose of this tunnel is to cut down the travel time of vehicles going towards the China border. After the construction of this tunnel, the military vehicles will have to cover a distance of 6 km less and the time of 20 minutes will also be saved.

Shakib Al Hasan became the highest wicket-taker in T20 International cricket

Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan became the highest wicket-taker in T20 International cricket. Earlier this record was in the name of LasithMalinga of Sri Lanka. Shakib has taken 108 wickets in 89 T20 Internationals. Shakib also holds the record of taking 100 wickets and scoring more than 1000 runs in T20 format.

Harbhajan Singh and Javagal Srinath get Life Membership of MCC

Harbhajan Singh and JavagalSrinath get Life Membership of Marylebone Cricket Club. MCC is the body which makes new rules of cricket. The ICC implements any new rule in the game of cricket only on the basis of the recommendations of the MCC. Harbhajan Singh and JavagalSrinath are among 18 cricketers who were given honorary life memberships by the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) this year.

India ranks 71st in global food security index

India has been ranked 71 out of 113 countries in the Global Food Security Index 2021 released by Economist Impact and CortevaAgriscience. The report states that India has performed well compared to its neighbors Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh with an overall score of 57.2. Not only this, in addition to the availability, quality and security of food, India has also performed better than these countries in terms of protecting natural resources for food production. India's score in the Global Food Security Index 2021 has improved by only 2.7 points while China's score has improved by 9.6 points. In this index, Ireland, Australia, UK, Finland, Switzerland, Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and America are on top with 77.8 and 80 points.

China won the Uber Cup 2021

China defeated Japan by 3-1 in the Uber Cup to win the Uber Cup trophy. In the semi-finals, Japan defeated South Korea by 3–1 and China beat Thailand by 3–0. China's Chen Qing Chen and JiaYifan defeated the Japanese pair in the doubles match, which was the longest match in the history of the Uber Cup. The tournament is named Uber Cup after British badminton player Betty Uber.

Imtiaz Ali appointed as Ambassador of Russian Film Festival in India

Hindi film director-producer Imtiaz Ali has been appointed as the ambassador of Russian Film Festival in India. The festival Held from October 16 to November 27, will give Indian audiences an opportunity to watch ten selected Russian films on Disney PlusHotstar. This is the first time that the Russian Film Festival will be organized online in India. The first such festival was organized in 2020.

India Internet Governance Forum to be held in November 2021

India Internet Governance Forum will be held from 8 to 11 November 2021. This year the theme of the event will be 'Empower India through Power of Internet'. This year the Ministry of Electronics and IT and National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) will jointly organize IIGF.

Fencer Bhavani Devi won the Charleville competition

Fencer Bhavani Devi has won the Charleville national competition in France in the individual women's saber event. Bhavani Devi is the first female Olympic fencer from India who participated in fencing at the Tokyo Olympics. She is currently ranked 50th in the world and top ranked fencer in India.

South Korea's first indigenous rocket launched

South Korea launched its first indigenous rocket Nuri into space. The rocket was launched from the Naro Space Center in Goheung. This rocket will be used to place satellites in low orbit (600-800 km) around the Earth. Before this, South Korea has launched many rockets, but this is the first time that South Korea has launched a fully indigenous rocket.

Nagaland to host the next South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships

The 2022 South Asian Federation Cross Country Championships will be held in Kohima, Nagaland. This championship will be the biggest ever international event to be held in Nagaland. Nepal, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan and India will participate in this championship. Nagaland will also host the 56th National Cross Country Championship.

SCO & Interests of India

Why in News?

- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) got its 9th member in 21st SCO summit held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- The meeting focused on the ground situation on Afghanistan and its global repercussions

About SCO:

- SCO was created in 2001. It is permanent international organization.
- It works in maintaining peace, security and stability in the region.
- It's a Eurasian political, economic and military alliance.
- It is seen as counterweight to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
- It is an economic and security block.
- It has emerged as one of the largest trans-regional and international organization

Official language:

- Chinese
- Russian

Chairmanship:

- Among member States in rotation for a year.

Timeline:

- **1996:** China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan formed Shanghai Five Group.
- **2001:** Uzbekistan joined. Group renamed as Shanghai Cooperation Organization.
- **2003:** Charter signed in 2002. Entered into force in 2003. Charter focused on trade, connectivity and counter-terrorism.
- **2017:** India and Pakistan joined.
- **2021:** Iran joined.

Bodies of SCO:

- Secretariat in Beijing.
- Executive Committee of Regional Anti-terrorist Structure (RATS) in Tashkent

Trade:

In the financial year 2020-21, India's imports from China were $ 65.21 billion and exports were $ 21.18 billion. Imports from Russia were $5.48 billion and exports were $2.60 billion. The total imports from all other member states were $1.1 billion and exports were $2.30 billion. Thus this group `provides us a platform to increase bilateral trade with all member states.

India's interests:

- SCO provides India greater visibility in the affairs of strategically important Eurasian region.
- SCO enables India, as in integral part of Eurasian security grouping, to neutralize forces arising from religious extremism and terrorism.
- Cooperation in 3 critical areas:

o Building trade and transportation links,

o Dealing with traditional and non-traditional security threats,

o Energy

can be achieved through SCO mechanism.

- Greater say on Afghanistan, with the like minded countries.

The 2nd QUAD

Why in News:

The meeting of the Foreign Ministers of India, the U.S.A., Israel and the U.A.E. took place virtually. It's a strong manifestation of the changes in West Asian geopolitics.

India's Approach:

This four nation meeting points to India's strategic desire to adopt a regional foreign policy strategy towards West Asia, transcending its bilateralism.

Caution for India:

India should be careful that it does not get sucked into the many conflicts of West Asia. These conflicts may get intensified among growing regional rivalries.

The Motive:

India, U.S., Israel and U.A.E have decided to form a forum for future economic cooperation. They also decided to explore possibilities of joint infrastructure in the fields of:

- Transportation
- Technology
- Maritime security
- Economics
- Trade
- Fighting climate change

Benefits for India;-

Benefits of this second Quad can be immense for India.

- It ties India into another alliance with the US, which is imperative to counter China's belligerence.
- India already has a lot of soft power in the Middle East combined with a huge Indian diaspora of nearly 8 million. However, hitherto it was reluctant to officially join alliances given regional political complexities. But with the US reorienting its focus to the Indo-Pacific and powerful Arab states viewing Israel in a new light, the time is right for India to step up. In fact, the Middle East is already an important foreign market for Indian exporters, which can grow further given the region's youth-dominated demography.
- With Israel's high-tech economy and the Gulf Arab nations' bid to diversify away from oil, there is much that can be done in Big Data, AI, quantum computing and other technologies of the future.

India's West Asia Policy:

In the past, India divided it's West Asia Policy in 3 parts:

- The Sunni Gulf monarchies
- Israel
- Iran

Indian trade: -

In the financial year 2020-21, India's imports from UAE were $ 26.6 billion and exports were $ 16.6 billion. Imports from the United States were $28.8 billion and exports were $51.6 billion. Imports from Israel were $1.96 billion and exports were $2.7 billion. The United Arab Emirates and the United States of America are important trading partners of India, while Israel is India's important defence partner.

The Facilitator:

The Abraham Accords have helped in narrowing down the gulf between Israel and other Sunni Gulf monarchies.

PM GatiShakti- National Master Plan

PM NarendraModi on 13th October 2021 launched PM GatiShakti National Master Plan for infrastructure development aimed at boosting multimodal connectivity and reducing logistics cost.

Aim of PM GatiShakti ;-

- The PM GatiShakti is intended to break Departmental Silos.
- It intends to bring in more holistic and integrated planning and execution of projects with a view of addressing the issues of multi-modal connectivity and last-mile connectivity.

Planners and Mandate;-

- An Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) headed by the Cabinet Secretary and secretaries of 18 ministries as members, will be set up.
- Head of the Logistics Division of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry will serve as the Member Convenor of the group.
- The EGOS has been mandated to review and monitor the implementation of the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP) to ensure logistics efficiency. It is empowered to prescribe framework and norms for undertaking any subsequent amendments to the NMP.

Efficient policy making :-

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has also approved the formation, composition and terms of reference for Network Planning Group (NPG) consisting of heads of Network Planning wing of respective infrastructure ministries and it will assist the EGOS.The NPG will be supported by a technical support unit (TSU) located in the Logistics Division.

The main pillars of the plan are:-

1. Comprehensiveness: It will include all the existing and planned initiatives of various Ministries and Departments with one centralized portal. Each and every Department will now have visibility of each other's activities providing critical data while planning & execution of projects in a comprehensive manner.

2. Prioritization: Through this, different Departments will be able to prioritize their projects through cross–sectoral interactions.

3. Optimization: The National Master Plan will assist different ministries in planning for projects after identification of critical gaps. For the transportation of the goods from one place to another, the plan will help in selecting the most optimum route in terms of time and cost.

4. Synchronization: Individual Ministries and Departments often work in silos. There is lack of coordination in planning and implementation of the project resulting in delays. PM GatiShakti will help in synchronizing the activities of each department, as well as of different layers of governance, in a holistic manner by ensuring coordination of work between them.

5. Analytical: The plan will provide the entire data at one place with GIS based spatial planning and analytical tools having 200+ layers, enabling better visibility to the executing agency.

6. Dynamic: All Ministries and Departments will now be able to visualize, review and monitor the progress of cross-sectoral projects, through the GIS platform, as the satellite imagery will give on-ground progress periodically and progress of the projects will be updated on a regular basis on the portal. It will help in identifying the vital interventions for enhancing and updating the master plan.

Nobel prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021

The Award:-

The Nobel Assembly has decided to award the 2021 Nobel prize in physiology or medicine jointly to David Julius and ArdemPatapoutianof USA "for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch".

1990, Professor Julius started a project to identify a nerve receptor for capsaicin. He looked for a gene that could induce a response to capsaicin in cells that usually wouldn't react to it. He found a novel ion channel protein, called TRPV1.

TRP- transient receptor potential
VR1- Vanilloid receptor 1

It was found that TRPV1 got activated above 40 degree centigrade, which is close to the body's pain threshold.

Importance of their work

Our ability to sense heat, cold and touch is essential for survival and support our interactions with the world around us. These researchers have discovered the molecular mechanism by which our body senses touch and temperature. This has opened the field for a lot of practical chemistry through which individual cells and pathways can be activated or tweaked to pacify pain or sensation.

Prior to the discoveries by David Julius and ArdemPatapoutian, understanding of our nervous system was contained by:- how temperature and mechanical stimuli are converted into to electrical impulses in the nervous system?

Work of ArdemPatapoutian

Patapoutian was working on how pressure and force affects cells. Patapoutian and Julius's approach was similar. Of the 72 genes identified, Piezo1 was able to trigger sensitivity to mechanical force. Via Piezo1, a second gene, Piezo2 was discovered.

Piezo1 and Piezo2 areion channels that are directly activated by the exertion of pressure on cell membranes.

Piezo2 played a key role in physiology; regulate blood pressure respiration and urinary bladder control.

Work of David Julius

Capsaicin(8-methyl-N-Vanillyl-6-noneamide), is the active component of chili peppers. It generates the burning sensation when we eat spicy food. When capsaicin acts on sensory nerves it induces ionic currents along a membrane. In the late

Relevance of these discoveries

These discoveries have allowed insight into the structure of these pain and temperature sensors. Now the challenge for pain relieving drugs is to precisely target the region without disturbing other regions.

Evolution of Indian Constitution- I

Indian constitution is the lengthiest written constitution in the world. The development of the Indian constitution has its roots in the British rule.

In the year 1600, East India Company from Britain came to India for trading. In the year 1765, the company became a territorial power by obtaining the "diwani" rights of Bengal,
Bihar and Orissa.

The 'Sepoy Mutiny' of 1858 gave the crown perfect opportunity to assume direct responsibility for the governance of India.

The development is divided into 2 phases:-

1. The Company Rule (1773-1858)

2. The crown Rule (1858-1947

1.Regulating Act of 1773:

- Firststep taken by British Parliament to control & regulate the affairs of East India Company in Indian subcontinent.
- Governor of Bengal was designated as the Governor-General of Bengal.
- Executive Council (four members) was created for providing assistance to Governor General.
- Presidency of Bengal become superior to those of Bombay and Madras.
- Supreme Court at Calcutta established in 1774, comprising Chief Justice and three other judges.

2.Pitt's India Act of 1784:

- Company's commercial and political functions separated.
- A "Board of Control"consisting of six members was appointed for handling political affairs.
- "Court of Directors" were allowed to manage commercial affairs.

3.Charter Act of 1813

- Monopoly of East India Company abolished.
- Christian missionaries were allowed to work in India.

4.Charter Act of 1833:

- Governor General of Bengal became Governor General of India.
- Beginning of Central legislature for India. Act took away legislative powers of Bombay and Madras provinces.
- East India Company became a purely administrative body. Companies' activities as commercial body ended.

5.Charter Act of 1853:

- Legislative and executive functions of the Governor General's Council separated.
- 6 members in Indian (Central) legislative council. 4 were appointed by provincial governments.

Indian Space Association

Prime minister NarendraModi on October 11 2021 launched Indian Space Association, the premier industrial association of space and satellite companies.

Building blocks of the organisation:-

- ISpA will have leading domestic and global corporations having advanced capabilities in satellite and space technologies. Its founding members include Bharti Airtel, Larson and Toubro, Nalco (Tata group), OneWeb, MapmyIndia, Godrej, Hughes India, BEL, Centum Electronics, Maxar India.

Some helping organisations:-

NSIL:- The government announced about setting up of New Space India limited (NSIL) in the budget of 2019.
It would be a public sector company serving as a marketing arm of Indian space research organisation (ISRO)
The NSIL would work in the field of marketing the technologies developed by ISRO. It will also bring clients for ISRO who would need space based services.

IN-Space:- Indian national space promotion and authorization centre (IN-Space) was approved in 2020. It will provide a level playing field for private companies to use Indian space infrastructure.

Why inception of ISpA important

- Freedom of innovation to the private sector
- Role of government as an enabler
- Preparing youth for the future
- To see the space sector as a resource for the progress of the common man

Aim of ISpA:-

- ISpA aims to contribute towards the accelerated development of India's space industry and making the country a leading player in the segment.
- It will also work towards building it will also work towards building global linkages for the Indian space industry to bring in critical technology and investment into the country to create more high skill jobs.

- Space based communication network to provide high speed and affordable internet connectivity has taken off with the presence of SpaceX'sStarlink, Sunil Bharti Mittal'sOneWeb, Amazon's Project Kuiper, US satellite maker Hughes Communication etc.

Importance of satellite based internet in India:-

- Internet in India is crucial for the governments Digital India Mission.
- Although government has started Bharat net but internet connectivity in hilly areas and far-flung basis of North East India still challenge.
- To overcome this satellite internet will be essential for or broadband inclusion in in sparsely populated and far flung locations.

OFBs dissolved and Seven new DPSUs

About OFB:

Ordinance Factory Board (OFB), consisted of Indian Ordinance Factories was an organization, under the department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, Government of India

OFBs consisted of:

- 41 ordinance factories
- 9 training institutes
- 3 regional marketing centres
- 5 regional controllers of safety

Why Revamped:

3 major issues:

1. Poor quality of equipment and ammunition delivered, which has led to loss of confidence by the user and a lowering of moral of the troops on the ground,
2. High cost of the orders placed, as the organization was getting these orders without any competitive bidding,
3. Lack of respecting the timelines by OFBs was a huge concern, as it has an cascading effect on the combat readiness of the Armed forces

New Working Order

41 factories would be converted into 7 government owned corporate entities. They are:

1. Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited	
Headquarters	Kanpur
Production Units (P.U.)	**8**
Expertise	Rifles, Naval guns, Armoured vehicle gun systems, Rocket launchers, machine guns, Shot guns, Grenade launchers, Carbines, Mortar, Sniperrifles

2. Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited	
Headquarters	Chennai
Production Units (P.U.)	**5**
Expertise	Defence mobility & combat vehicles such as MBT, UCV, TRAWLs, MPV and engines

3.Munitions India Limited	
Headquarters	Pune
Production Units (P.U.)	**12**
Expertise	Small and large arms ammunition, explosives, Detonators, Projectiles, Propellants, Specialized chemicals, Grenades, charges and Bombs

4. Yanta India Limited	
Headquarters	Nagpur
Production Units (P.U.)	**8**
Expertise	Components for medium & large calibre ammunition, Components for armoured vehicles, Artillery guns and Main battle tanks, Glass composites etc.

5. Gliders India Limited	
Headquarters	Kanpur
Production Units (P.U.)	**1**
Expertise	Parachutes such as: tactical assault troop parachutes, Aircraft brake parachutes, man carrying parachutes, Supply-drop parachutes, Pilot parachutes

6. Troop Comforts Limited	
Headquarters	Kanpur
Production Units (P.U.)	**4**
Expertise	Uniforms, Tents, jackets, Shoes and boot crampons

7.India Optel Limited	
Headquarters	Dehradun
Production Units (P.U.)	**3**
Expertise	Optical sights, optical devices, Components for night-vision devices, Laser sighting devices, wires and cables, assemblies and rifle scopes.

POLITY TERMS

1. JUDICIAL ACTIVISM AND SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (SLP)

- A judiciary is an independent body that is evenhanded, unbiased, and unprejudiced. It functions within the framework of the constitution, defined under the concept of the separation of powers. It interprets the consti tution which is supreme and at times needed, supports the rule of law and the standards laid down in the constitution. The Supreme Court of India is considered the sentinel qui vie and protects the fundamental and constitutional rights of the people.
- Judicial Activism means the rulings of the court based on political and personal rational and prudence of the Judges presiding over the issue. It is a legal term referring to court rulings based, in part or in full, on the political or personal factors of the Judge, rather than current or existing legislation.
- According to **Black's Law Dictionary** judicial activism is a philosophy of judicial decision-making whereby judges allow their personal views about public policy, among other factors, to guide their decisions.
- **Judicial activism in India** implies the authority of the Supreme Court and the high courts, but not the subordinate courts, to declare the regulations unconstitutional and void if they breach or if the legislation is incompatible with one or more of the constitutional clauses.
- According to SP Sathe , a court giving a new meaning to the provision to suit the changing social or economic conditions or expanding the horizons of the rights of the individual is said to be an activist court.
- The Supreme Court of India in its initial years was more a technocratic court but slowly began to become more active through constitutional interpretation. The court became an activist through its involvement and interpretation of law and statutes but the whole transformation took years and it was a gradual process. The origins of Judicial activism can be seen in the court's premature and early assertion regarding the essence and nature of Judicial Review.
- **India's Judicial activism can be positive as well as negative:**
  - A court engaged in altering the power relations to make them more equitable is said to be positively activist and
  - A court using its ingenuity to maintain the status quo in power relations is said to be negatively activist.
- **Course of Judicial activism**
  - After the independence, judicial activism was almost silent for the first decade; the executive and legislative organs of the government actively dominated and intervened in the working of the judiciary. It was in 70's the Apex court started viewing the judicial and structural view of the constitution.
  - In the landmark KeshwanandaBharti case, just two years before the emergency declaration the apex court of India declared that theexecutive had no right to intercede and tamper the basic structure of the constitution. Though the exigency imposed by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi could not be prevented by the Judiciary, the concept of judicial activism started gaining more power from there.
  - In I. C. Golaknath&Orsvs State Of Punjab &Anrs. the Supreme Court declared that Fundamental Rights enshrined in Part 3 are immune and cannot be amended by the legislative assembly.
- **Landmark cases of Judicial Activism**
  - In HussainaraKhatoon (I) v. State of Bihar, the inhuman and barbaric conditions of the undertrial prisoners reflected through the articles published in the newspaper. Many prisoners who were under trial had already served the maximum persecution without being charged for the offense. A writ petition was filed by an advocate under article 21 of the Indian Constitution. The apex court accepted it and held that right to speedy trial is a fundamental right and directed the state authorities to provide free legal facilities to the under-trial inmates so that they could get justice, bail, or final release.

- Another important case SheelaBarse v. State of Maharashtra, a letter written by a Journalist was addressed to the Supreme Court avouching the custodial violence of women prisoners in Jail. The court treated that letter as a writ petition and took cognizance of that matter and issued the apposite guidelines to the concerned authorities of the state.
- Some instances when the mechanism of Judicial Activism turned to the Judicial overreach. The parliament of India has held responsible or accused the Judiciary for intervening and overreaching its constitutional powers.
- In the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association v. Union of India, the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, and the constitutional amendment was declared unconstitutional by the Apex court and the judgment was delivered with the majority of 4:1. The act was declared unconstitutional as it was violating the judicial independence. And the existing collegium system pertaining to transfer and appointment of judges again came in the operation. Justice Khehar said, the absolute independence of judiciary, from other organs of governance, protects the rights of the people.

- In Christian Medical College, Vellore & Others versus Union of India and Others, The Supreme Court barred the states from conducting separate entrance exams for medical courses and ruled that undergraduate admissions to medical courses can only be done through the NEET.
- The rulings of the Supreme Court on the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET), i.e., the single exam for admission to medical colleges, the reformation of the Board of Cricket Council in India (BCCI), the filing of the post of judge, etc. were regarded by the government to be the Judicial Intervention.

2. FEDERALISM

Federalism is a system of government in which the power is divided between a central authority and various constituent units of the country. Usually, a federation has two levels of government. One is the government for the entire country that is usually responsible for a few subjects of common national interest. The others are governments at the level of provinces or states that look after much of the day-to-day administering of their state. Both these levels of governments enjoy their power independent of the other.

- **Indian Federalism**

- Article 1 of the Constitution mentions that India that is Bharat shall be a Union of States. It means that states do not have power or right to secede away from the Union of India. Also unlike USA, in India, different states have not formed because of an agreement among the states.
- Article 3 of the Constitution empowers Parliament to create new States. It allows the federation to evolve, grow and respond to regional aspirations.
- When a new state is formed, Schedule I and Schedule IV of the Constitution shall be amended.
- Schedule I – contains list of States and Union Territories
- Schedule IV – provides for allocation of seats in RajyaSabha. The allocation of seats in RajyaSabha is made on the basis of the population of each State.
- Constitution of India effectively establishes a system where the Union Government functions at the Centre and respective State governments functions at the provinces.
- The Constitution has demarcated each level of government by devising an elaborate scheme of distribution of legislative, administrative and financial powers between the Centre and the States.
- In this respect, Article 246 of the Indian Constitution clearly enumerates the Federal character of the Indian Constitution. It empowers
- Parliament to make law under Union List
- States to make law under State List and
- both the Parliament and States to make law under Concurrent List.
- Independent judiciary is another essential feature of Indian Constitution.

- B.R. Ambedkar responded to the question as to why India is a "Union" and not a "Federation of States": "The Drafting Committee wanted to make it clear that though India was to be a federation, the federation was not the result of an agreement by the States to join in a federation and that the federation not being the result of an agreement no State has the right to secede from it. The Federation is a Union because it is indestructible."

3. PARDONING POWER OF PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR

Power of pardon under Article 73 and 161 by the Constitution is different from judicial power as the governor or the President can grant pardon or reduce the sentence of the court even if a minimum is prescribed. Hence, there is no doubt that the President or governor can grant pardon/reduce the sentence. For example, in the case of Commander Nanavati who was held guilty of murder, the governor gave him pardon although the minimum sentence for murder is life sentence.

PARDONING POWER OF PRESIDENT OF INDIA: ARTICLE 72:

The President shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence -

- in all cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial;
- in all cases where the punishment or sentence is for an offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the Union extends;
- in all cases where the sentence is a sentence of death.

Thus, Article 72 empowers the President to grant pardons etc. and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases.

PARDONING POWER OF GOVERNOR: UNDER ARTICLE 161:

Power of Governor to grant pardons, etc, and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases The Governor of a State shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the State extends.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PARDONING POWERS OF PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR:

The scope of the pardoning power of the President under Article 72 is wider than the pardoning power of the Governor under Article 161. The power differs in the following two ways:

- The power of the President to grant pardon extends in cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial but Article 161 does not provide any such power to the Governor.
- The President can grant pardon in all cases where the sentence given is sentence of death but pardoning power of Governor does not extend to death sentence cases.
- President's pardoning powers are granted for the cases where the convict has committed an offence against a Union law. Governor's pardoning powers are granted for the cases where the convict has committed an offence against a state law.

4. POWERS OF LOK SABHA AND RAJYA SABHA

LokSabha is commonly known as the House of People that passes bills and laws in India. According to some reports, the people of India have elected seventeen LokSabhas. The main function of LokSabha is to ensure that the government is performing their functions along with passing bills and laws. It is interesting to note that LokSabha has the upper hand in deciding about financial matters

On the other hand, RajyaSabha is called the Upper House of parliament. RajyaSabha is responsible for protecting the rights of a state in response to the union legislature. RajyaSabha is the permanent house. Well, there are many points of contrast in LokSabha and RajyaSabha. So, let us look at a few of them.

- **LOK SABHA**
  - LokSabha is defined as the house of people wherein several bills and laws are passed for a better running of the nation.
  - The LokSabha is not a permanent House. It is dissolved after the expiry of its term of five years. But it can be dissolved before the period of five years by the President on the advice of the Council of Ministers. New LokSabha is elected and constituted within a period of 6 months from the date of its dissolution.
  - The members of the LokSabha are elected by the people directly on the basis of the secret vote and universal franchise. For the purpose of the election, the population is divided into various constituencies.
  - The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the LokSabha are the members of the House and are elected by the members of the LokSabha themselves.
  - The Money Bills can be introduced only in the LokSabha. The LokSabha is not bound to accept the recommen dations of the RajyaSabha with respect to Money Bills. The LokSabha has the real and final authority in respect of Money Bills.
  - The Council of Ministers is in fact, responsible to the LokSabha. It can remove a government from office by passing a resolution of no-confidence.
  - The LokSabha does not have any such power to declare a subject of the State List of national importance.
  - The LokSabha does not enjoy any such power to create new All India Services.
  - The LokSabha does' not get this opportunity as the RajyaSabha is not subject to dissolution.
  - LokSabha either approves or rejects such proposal to remove the Vice-President but it cannot initiate such a proposal.
- **RAJYA SABHA**
- On the other hand, RajyaSabha is defined as the upper house of the parliament that protects the rights of several states.
- The Council of States or RajyaSabha is a permanent House and it is not subject to dissolution. After every two years, one-third of its members retire and its same numbers of seats are filled up by new members.
- The members of the RajyaSabha are elected by the Legislative Assemblies of the respective States on the basis of proportional representation.
- The Chairman of the RajyaSabha is not a member of this House. The Vice-President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of the RajyaSabha. But the Deputy-Chairman of the RajyaSabha is elected by the members of the RajyaSabha from amongst its members.
- The Money Bills cannot be introduced in the RajyaSabha. With respect to Money Bills, the RajyaSabha can make only recommendations which may or may not be accepted by the LokSabha. The RajyaSabha is given 14 days time to consider the Money Bills and if it fails to do anything within that period, the Bill is deemed to have been passed in the manner it was passed by the LokSabha.
- The Council of Ministers is not responsible to the RajyaSabha. Therefore, a no-confidence motion cannot be introduced in the RajyaSabha.
- But the RajyaSabha exercises certain powers which are not available to the LokSabha. It can declare a subject included in the State List as a subject of national importance by passing a resolution supported by not less than two-third members present and voting. If a subject of State List is declared of national importance, Parliament gets the power to legislate upon such a subject.
- The RajyaSabha has the power to create new All India Services by passing a resolution supported by not less than two-third members present and voting.
  If and when the LokSabha is dissolved and the declaration of Emergency is in force, the RajyaSabha approves such declaration of Emergency.
- The proposal to remove the Vice-President is initiated only in the RajyaSabha, not in the LokSabha.

5. **POWERS OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS**

- The Legislative Assembly is the popularly elected chamber and is the real Centre of power in a State. Owing to changes introduced since the inauguration of the Constitution, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 169, the States having two Houses are Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh.

- **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES (VIDHAN SABHA)**

- Legislative Assembly refers to the lower house of the State Legislature. It is a temporary body.
- Direct election is the mode of electing members of Legislative Assembly.
- Members of the Legislative Assembly are directly elected by the people.
- Legislative Assembly members are elected by for a term of 5 years.
- Maximum number of members is 500 and the minimum members are 60.
- The State Legislature has got the power of making laws on the subjects of the State List and the Concurrent List. In this connection the real law-making powers are in the hands of the Legislative Assembly. Ordinary bills can be introduced in either of the two Houses and these become laws only when passed by the two Houses and signed by the Governor.
- The Legislative Assembly controls the finances of the State. A Money Bill originates only in it. After having been passed by it, the money bill goes to the Legislative Council which has to act within fourteen days.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS (VIDHAN PARISHAD)

- Legislative Council is the upper house of the State Legislature. It is a permanent body.
- The indirect election is the mode of electing members of Legislative Council.
- Members of Legislative Council are elected by state legislative assembly, local bodies etc.
- Legislative Council members are elected for a term of 6 years.
- The number of members should be one-third of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly.
- The number of members should not be less than 40.
- The Legislative Council can only delay the passing of an ordinary bill by a maximum of 4 months.
- After 14 days, irrespective of the fact whether it has been passed or rejected by the Legislative Council, the money bill is considered to have been finally passed.

NOTES

MCQs RELATED TO POLITY

1. Who is a parent or guardians to provide opportunities for education to his child, or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six to fourteen years", The above duty of the citizens of India was inserted by which Constitution Amendment Act?

(a) 42nd Amendment Act

(b) 46th Amendment Act

(c) 86th Amendment Act

(d) 44th Amendment Act

2. Which one of the following is not a Fundamental Duty under the Article 51A of the Constitution of India?

(a) To render national service when called upon to do so.

(b) To cast vote in the election

(c) To strive to wards excellence

(d) To develop scientific temper

3. What is/are not included in the key features of federal government?

1. Dual System of government
2. States role in Constitution amendment
3. Single citizenship
4. Division of powers

Code :

(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2

(c) Only 3 (d) Only 4

4. Which of the following comprise "the executive power of the Union" vested in the President of India under Article 53 of the Constitution of India?

1. The determination as well as the executive of policy.
2. The initiation of legislation
3. The recognition or derecognition of a ruler
4. The carrying on of trading operations

Code :

(a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3

(c) 3 and 4 (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

5. The authority to declare war or peace under the Indian Constitution is vested in?

(a) Prime Minister

(b) Defence Minister

(c) Parliament

(d) President

6. Articles related to the election of the President are

1. Article 54 and Article 55
2. Article 57 and Article 58
3. Article 66 and Article 68
4. Article 62 and Article 71

Code :

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4 (b) 2 and 4

(c) 1, 2 and 4 (d) 1 and 2

7. In the functions of Public Service Commissions are included :

1. To present yearly report to President or governor by union or state commissions respectively about the work done by them.
2. Give advise on the subjects directed by President or governor.
3. Conduct exams for appointments in union and state governments.

Code :

(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 2 and 3
(c) Only 1 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

8. Consider the following statements :

1. The Union Executive consists of the President and the Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister as the head.
2. The President may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Vice-President, resign his office.
3. Executive power of the Union is vested in the Prime Minister.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 (b) 2 and 3
(c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 2

9. Which one of the following statements about the executive powers of the Indian President is incorrect?

(a) All important appointments are made by the President on the advice of the Council of Ministers.
(b) The Prime Minister and all Union Ministers are appointed by the President.
(c) The President has the absolute power to appoint and remove the chairmen and the members of statutory bodies at his discretion.
(d) The President is the supreme commander of the Armed forces.

10. Which one of the following is not correct regarding the executive powers of the Indian President?

(a) He must be kept informed by the Prime Minister of all decisions of the Cabinet.
(b) He presides over the meetings of the Council of Ministers when he deems fit.
(c) He can ask the Prime Minster to submit a decison of any minister fo tthe consideration of the Council of Minsters.
(d) He must be supplied with such other information about the administration of the country as he asks for it.

11. Who are appointed by the President of India by warrant under his hand and seal?

1. Comptroller and Auditor General of India
2. Supreme Court/High Court Judges
3. Governor
4. Attorney General of India

Code :

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

12. The President of India is elected by an electoral college consisting of:

(a) Elected members of the Council of State and the House of the People
(b) Elected members of both the House of the Parliament and the State Assemblies
(c) Member of the Council of State, the State Legislative Councils and Members of the Union Territorial Assemblies
(d) Members of municipalities, local bodies and panchayats, graduates of three years standing,

teacher of higher educational institutions and members of state assemblies.

13. The Union Executive of India consists of-

(a) The President, Vice-President, Lok Sabha Speaker and the Council of Ministers
(b) The President, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha Speaker and the PrimeMinister
(c) The President and the Council of Ministers only
(d) The President, Vice-President and the Council of Ministers only

14. In Articles 54 and 55 the word, "State" includes
1. National Capital Territory of Delhi
2. Chandigarh
3. Pondicherry
4. Daman and Diu

Code :
(a) 1 and 2 (b) 3 and 4
(c) 1 and 4 (d) 1 and 3

5. In law making process in Indian Parliament what is done in second read?
(a) It is introduction phase of the bill in the house.
(b) Bill is discussed in detail and amendments are also introduced to it.
(c) No fundamental amendment is proposed except linguistic amendments.
(d) None of them

16. Who among the following does not participate in the election of the President of India?
(a) Elected Membes of the Rajya Sabha
(b) Elected Members of the Lok Sabha
(c) Elected Members of the Vidhan Sabha
(d) Elected Members of the Vidhan Parishad

17. Which of the following constitutional amendments has provided that the President is bound to give his assent to the Constitutional Amendment Bills?
(a) 24th Amendment
(b) 32nd Amendment
(c) 42nd Amendment
(d) 44th Amendment

18. In which case it was decided that freedom of speech and expression also include freedom of keeping silence?
(a) Indira Sawhney vs. Union of India
(b) Balaji vs. Mysore State
(c) Devasan vs. Union of India
(d) Emanuel vs. Kerala State

19. The constitution provides the basis for-
(a) Punishment of Criminals
(b) Relationship between citizens
(c) Governance of a country
(d) Trade realtion

20. The constituent Assembly of India was composed of members-
1. Nominated by British government
2. Nominated by Political Parties
3. Elected by Provincial Assemblies
4. Nomines of they princely states
5. Elected by people only

Select the correct option-
(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 3 and 4
(c) Only 1 and 4 (d) Only 5

21. Which of the following terms were added in the Preamble by 42nd Amendment Act?
1. Socialist 2. Secular
3. Justice 4. Integrity
(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 1, 2 and 3
(c) Only 1, 2 and 4 (d) Only 1, 3 and 4

22. How many Articles were there in the original Indian Constitution?
(a) 495
(b) 395
(c) 295
(d) 695

23. Who acts as the President when neither the President nor the Vice-President is available?
(a) The Prime Minister
(b) The Chief Justice of India
(c) The Chief Election Commissioner
(d) The Speaker of Lok Sabha

24. The term of office of the Vice-President of India is-
(a) Three years
(b) Four years
(c) Five years
(d) Six years

25. Who is the Supreme Commander of India's armed forces?
(a) President
(b) Vice President
(c) Prime Minister
(d) CAG

26. What can be the maximum strength of Rajya Sabha?
(a) 200
(b) 340
(c) 250
(d) 550

27. What is the minimum age for becoming a member of Lok Sabha?
(a) 25 years
(b) 30 years
(c) 18 years
(d) 20 years

28. Who among the following appoint the Judges of Supreme court?
(a) President
(b) Prime Minister
(c) Law Minister
(d) Chief Justice of India

29. Which of the following provisions of the Constitution can be amended by a simple majority?
1. Creation of Legislative council
2. Creation of cabinet for UTs.
3. Deciding of Parliamentary privileges
4. Division of Legislative powers between Union and state.
(a) Only 1 and 2 (b) Only 1, 2 and 3
(c) Only 2, 3 and 4 (d) Only 3 and 4

30. When did the constituent Assembly unanimously pass the objectives resolution ?
(a) 13 December 1946
(b) 22 January 1947
(c) 30 June 1947
(d) 26 November 1949

31. Which one of the following rights was described by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar as the heart and soul of the Constitution?
(a) Right to freedom of religion
(b) Right to property
(c) Right to equality
(d) Right to constitutional remedies

32. Under Article 32, for the enforcement of any of the Fundamental rights, the Supreme Court shall have power to issue
1. Directions
2. Orders
3. Writs
Code :
(a) All of above (b) Only 3
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 3

33. Consider the following statements.
1. In case of any violation of a Fundamental Right, the aggrieved person can go to High Court or Supreme Court for remedy.
2. In the case of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) the aggrieved person or group of persosn can approach Supreme Court only.
Which of the above statement(s) is/are not correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

34. What is the purpose of Directive Principles of State Policy?
(a) To lay down positive instructions which would guide State Policy at all levels
(b) To implement Gandhiji's Idea for a decentralized state
(c) To check the use of arbitrary powers by the government.
(d) To promote welfare of the backward sections of the society.

35. Which among the following subjects are included in 11th schedule?
1. Poverty Alleviation Program
2. Technological Training and Vocational Education
3. Family Planning
4. Public Distribution System
5. Rural Electrification
Code :
(a) Only 1, 2 and 3
(b) Only 2, 4 and 5
(c) Only 1, 3, 4 and 5
(d) All of the above

36. The Directive Principle of Equal justice and free legal aid was inserted into the Constitution under which of the Constitutional Amendment Act?
(a) 40th
(b) 42nd
(c) 43rd
(d) 44th

37. Under Art. 41, the State shall within the limits of it economic capacity and development make effective provision for securing the
1. right to work
2. right to eduction
3. right to public assistance
Code :
(a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3
(c) All (d) 1 and 3

38. Which one of the following statements is correct?
(a) The constitution of India contains a directive principle about uniform civil code
(b) The Constitution of India imposes a duty on every citizen to support uniform civil code
(c) The Constitution of India contains a fundamental right assuring the citizens that the state shall bring about uniform civil code.
(d) None of the above statement is correct.

39. In which list of the constitution, 'preventive detention' is placed?
(a) Union list
(b) State list
(c) Concurrent list
(d) None of these

40. Which of the following are the principles of the Punchsheel?
1. Peaceful co-existence
2. Mutual protection of the environment
3. Mutual protection of indigenous population
4. Mutual non-aggression
Select the correct answer using the codes given below :
(a) 2 and 3 (b) 1 and 2
(c) 1, 2 and 4 (d) 1 and 4

41. In the Indian Constitution, the Right to Equality is granted by five Articles. They are
(a) Article 16 to Article 20
(b) Article 15 to Article 19
(c) Article 14 to Article 18
(d) Article 13 to Article 17

42. Regarding equality before law, the Indian Constitution makes exceptions in the case of
1. The President
2. Governors
3. Foreign Sovereigners
4. Diplomats
Code :
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

43. The right to 'equality before the law' contained in Article 14 of the Constitution of India is available to :
(a) Natural persons only
(b) Legal perosns only
(c) Citizens of India
(d) All persons whether natural or legal

44. No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them, be subject to any disability, liablity, restriction or condition regards to
1. Access to shop
2. Public restaurants
3. Hotels and places of public entertainment
4. Club
Code :
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

45. For which of the following can special provisons be made under Article 15 of the Constitution of India?
1. Women and Children
2. Scheduled Tribes
3. Economically backward classes
4. Socially backward classes
Select the correct answer using the codes given below :
(a) 1, 2 and 4 (b) 1 and 3
(c) 2, 3 and 4 (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

46. Article-17 provides for-
1. Abolition of Untouchability
2. Forbiding the practice untouchability in any form
3. The enforcement of any disability arising out of Untouchability to be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

Code :
(a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

47. The Bharat Ratna and Padam Shri awards have been constituted by the government under which article?
(a) Article 17
(b) Article 18
(c) Article 22
(d) Article 24

48. The Supreme Court has held that hoisting the national flag at the top of the private buildings is a fundamental right of every citizen under :
(a) Article 14 of the Constitution
(b) Article 19 of the Constitution
(c) Article 21 of the Constitution
(d) Article 25 of the Constitution

49. Freedom of the press in India is
(a) Available to the people under the law of the Parliament
(b) Specifically provided in the Constitution
(c) Implied in the right of freedom of expression
(d) Available to the people of India under executive order

50. Right to Information in India is a-
(a) Fundamental Right
(b) Legal Right
(c) Both Fundamental and Legal Rights
(d) Neither Fundamental nor Legal Rights

NOTES

MCQs for Current Affairs

Q1 : Which of the following statements is/are not false-
1. The POCSO Act covers all persons (girls-boys-transgender) above the age of 18.
2. Foreign children (below 18 years of age) residing in India are also covered under POCSO.
a) only 2
b) only 1
c) none of the above
d) Both
Answer: d

2. Which of the following statements is/are true –
a) UAPA is a law focused only on matters related to terrorism.
a) The term terrorist is not clearly defined under UAPA.
Code –
A) Only b
B) Only a
C) None
D) Both
Answer – A

Q3. What is the scientific name of the Flower Scorpion fish found in the Pacific Ocean, now found in the Indian Ocean?
a) Carassius auratus
b) Hoplocebustes armatus
c) clupea harengus
d) Argyrosomus japonicus
Answer: b

4. Which of the following statements is/are true –
a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate has notified Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary, located on the south-western edge of Guwahati, as an eco-sensitive zone.
b) Deepor Beel is a Ramsar site in Assam that is famous as an important bird sanctuary.
a) only 1
b) only 2
c) Both 1 and 2 are true
d) Both 1 and 2 are false
Answer- C

Q5 What is false about the Global Hunger Index
1. The Global Hunger Index is released by the World Food Organization.
2. The Global Hunger index ranking is based on four parameters .
a) Only 1 is false.
b) Only 2 is false.
c) Both 1 and 2 are false.
d) Both statements are true.
Answer: a

Q6. What is true about the Karbong tribe?
1. This tribe is found in the northern region of Manipur state.
2. The Manikya rulers made a successful attempt to educate the Karbong people.
3.Today the Karbong tribes are in the last stage of extinction.
a) Only 1 is true. b) Only 3 is true.
c) Only 1 and 2 are true. d) All the statements are true.
Answer: b

Q7. Bhavani Devi is related to which sport?
a) Archery
b) Fencing
c) wrestling
d) badminton
Answer: b

Q8. Who will be honored with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India to be held in Goa?
a) Szabo Istvan
b) Martin Scorsese
c) Boris Khlebnikov
d) both a and b
Answer: d

Q9. When is the United Nations Day observed?
a) 22 October
b) 23 October
c) 24 October
d) 25 October
Answer- c

Q10. What is true about 'Advanced cheff Technology' developed by DRDO
1.Chaff technology is used to protect naval ships and aircraft from radio frequency-based enemy radars.
2. DRDO's Defense Laboratory Jodhpur and Pune-based High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) have jointly developed this technology.
3. This technology provides passive jamming against infrared and radar threats.
a) Only 1 is true.
b) Only 3 is true.
c) Only 1 and 2 are true.
d) All the three statements are true.
Answer- d

Birthday Special: Matangini Hazra,known as 'Old Lady Gandhi'

The nation celebrated the 151st birth anniversary of freedom fighter MatanginiHazra on 19 October. During the freedom movement in India, many such women came forward who gave a new direction to the freedom movement. Some women contributed by following the path of non-violence and some followed the revolutionary path.Among them was a great lady, Matangini Hazra.

On 19 October 1870, Matangini Hazra was born in an ordinary family in Hogla Medinipur district, near Tamluk city. Due to extreme poverty, she was married only at the age of 12 to 62-year-old widower TrilochanHazra.

In the Swadeshi movement of 1905, the nationalist character of Matangini came to the light. During the period of boycott and passive resistance, she had complete faith in the Gandhian method of work. She set up an example in front of the Indian women of that time by spinning wheel and wearing Khadi clothes.

Matangini Hazra also actively participated in Gandhi's 'Salt Satyagraha'. In 1932, a procession took place in her village. There was no woman in it. Seeing this, Matangini joined the procession. She was also an active female participant of Gandhiji's civil disobedience movement.

On 17 January 1933, when the then Governor of Bengal, Anderson, came to Tamluk to suppress the 'Karbandi Movement', there was a protest against him. Matangini Hazra stood at the front with the black flag and she also showed the black flag with complete fearlessness. She was jailed with rigorous imprisonment for six months in Murshidabad jail.

Her role was unprecedented even during the Quit India Movement. On 29 September 1942, a procession was taken out against the British government , in which more than 6000 protesters were present. Mostly women were involved in this. 71-year-old Matangini Hazra was leading this procession.

The protesters had planned to storm the Tamluk police station. Their motive was to capture the police station. As soon as the procession reached the city, the British police ordered them to stop under Section 144 of the Indian Penal Code. Due to this, the crowd got scattered. In such a situation, Matangini moved forward with the tricolor in her hands. She was raising the slogans of Vande Mataram. Even after being hit by three bullets, she held the tricolor high.

MCQ RELATED TO POLITY ANSWERS

1.(c)	2.(b)	3.(c)
4.(a)	5.(c)	6.(c)
7.(d)	8.(d)	9.(c)
10.(b)	11.(d)	12.(b)
13.(d)	14.(d)	15.(b)
16.(d)	17.(a)	18.(d)
19.(c)	20.(c)	21.(b)
22.(b)	23.(b)	24.(c)
25.(a)	26.(c)	27.(a)
28.(a)	29.(b)	30.(b)
31.(d)	32.(a)	33.(b)
34.(a)	35.(d)	36.(b)
37.(c)	38.(a)	39.(c)
40.(c)	41.(c)	42.(b)
43.(d)	44.(a)	45.(a)
46.(d)	47.(b)	48.(b)
49.(c)	50.(b)	

Case Study1

You are recently posted as district development officer of a district. Shortly thereafter you found that there is considerable tension in the rural areas of your district on the issue of sending girls to schools.

The elders of the village feel that many problems have come up because girls are being educated and they are stepping out of the safe environment of the household. They are the view that the girls should be quickly married off with minimum education. The girls are also competing for jobs after education, which have traditionally remained in boys' exclusive domain, adding to unemployment amongst male population.

The younger generation feels that in the present era, girls should have equal opportunities for education and employment, and other means of livelihood. The entire locality is divided between sexes in both generations. You come to know that in Panchayat or in other local bodies or even in busy crosswords, the issue is being acrimoniously debated.

One day you are informed that an unpleasant incident has taken place. Some girls were molested, when they were en route to school. The incident led to clashes between several groups and a law and order problem has arisen. The elder after heated discussion have taken a joint decision not to allow girls to go to school and to socially boycott all such families, which do not follow their dictate.

a. What steps would you take to ensure girls' safety without disrupting their education?

b. How would you manage and mould patriarchic attitude of the village elders to ensure harmony in the inter- generational relations?

Ans (a) I am the District Development Officer in the given case study. I have to ensure equal opportunities of education for girls by restoring law and order. Values such as gender equality, responsibility, impartiality, objectivity, freedom and justice are implicit in this case.

- First of all I will ensure the arrest of the culprits by registering FIR against them. I would get the people arrested of different groups involved in mass quarrels and requesting the District Magistrzate to impose Section 144 in the area. This will restore law and order.
- I would contact to all girl's schools in the area and would provide the necessary security.
- Police would increase patrolling in the respective routes at the time of opening and closing of schools.
- Helpline no. would get be issued and ensure immediate assistance on receiving a complaint.
- I would motivate girls to use the main road and move in groups.
- By liaising with the management of girls' schools and with the help of women constables, girls would be ensured for ATM security.

This would ensure the safety of the girls.

Answer (b) Tomould the attitude of the elderly people

- I would contact the Principal of the schools and agree to felicitate them along with the senior members of the family if the girls achieve in any field.
- I would promote the achievements of local women through social media and local print media.
- With the help of self-help groups , a campaign for gender equality and girls' education would be conducted.
- With the help of young girls, boys and elderly women, we would do door to door campaign. By showing moral requests, social pressure, social boycott and fear of the law to the elders, they would agree to the education of girls. Still, if some people do not agree, would ask the police for necessary action.

Case Study-2

You are a young, aspiring and sincere employee in a Government office working as an assistant to the director of your department. Since you have joined recently, you need to lean and progress. Luckily your superior is very kind and ready to train you for your job. He is a very intelligent and well-informed person having knowledge of various departments. In short, you respect your boss and are looking forward to lean a lot from him. Since you have good tuning with the boss, he started depending on you. One day due to ill health he invited you at his place for finishing some urgent work.

You reached his house and before you could ring the bell you heard shouting noises. You waited for a while. After entering the house the boss greeted you and explained the work. But you were constantly disturbed by the crying of a woman. At last, you inquired with the boss but his answer did not satisfy you.

Next day, you were compelled to inquire further in the office and found out that his behavior is very bad at home with his wife. He also beats up bit wife. His wife is not well educated and is a simple woman in comparison to her husband. you see that though your boss is a nice person in the office, he is engaged in domestic violence at home.

In such a situation, you are left with the following options. Analyse each option with its consequences.

a. Just ignore thinking about it because it is their personal matter.

b. Repost the case to the appropriate authority.

c. Your own innovative approach towards the situation.

Answer: In the given case study, I am a newly recruited young employee. I have to solve the problem of domestic violence which is being done by my superior officer. Values like empathy, compassion, objectivity, impartiality, responsibility, gender equality and justice are implicit in this case.

Answers of options with explanation-

(a) Just ignore thinking about it because it is their personal matter.

To do so would be compromising on our social responsibility. The woman is neither enough educated nor financially self-sufficient. Therefore, getting frustrated with the constant domestic violence, she may take a step like suicide in future. As a result of this, the senior officer may also face consequences and I would be feeling guilty

(b) refer the matter to the above authority

On coming to the notice of the appropriate authority, a departmental enquiry be constituted and the matter would be investigated. This committee would investigate the involvement of the senior officer in domestic violence. As a result, he would be suspended from the-job. he would also be punished after registration of an FIR in the local police station.

In such a situation, senior officer would go to jail, but in reality it would have more impact on his wife. The wife is not educated enough and is not self-reliant. As such, she would not get financial support and would also have to vacate the government accommodation. The department would lose an honest and efficient officer. It would be a personal loss too as I would lose a kind, knowledgeable and helpful officer.

(c) Own innovative approach towards the situation.

(My officer is a kind and understanding person so he should get a chance to improve)

I would first approach an NGO working for women's rehabilitation and empowerment that has enough experience and expertise in this field. With the help of the experts of this institution, my senior officer and his wife would be advised. They would explain to the senior officer based on ethical request and legal consequences.

Moral request: Daily violence at home would harm their efficiency and health. His Wife would be in disappointment, which will affect the upbringing of the children. Violence against women is an indecent act. His happiness lies in the happiness of the family.

Fear of law: If a complaint is made, his crime would easily prove in the investigation, as a result, he may lose his job and maybe imprisoned.

Pension and gratuity can also be forfeited. Even after coming out of jail, he may not get a job.

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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.

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