

PERFECT 7

**Weekly
Current Affairs**

An Initiative of Dhyeya IAS



1 Rainwater Harvesting in India

Needs Promotion

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DHYEYA IAS : AN INTRODUCTION



Vinay Kumar Singh
Founder & CEO

The guiding philosophy of the institute, throughout, has been creation of knowledge base. Dhyeya IAS inculcates human values and professional ethics in the students, which help them make decisions and create path that are good not only for them, but also for the society, for the nation, and for the world as whole. To fulfill its mission in new and powerful ways, each student is motivated to strive towards achieving excellence in every endeavor. It is done by making continuous improvements in curricula and pedagogical tools.

The rigorous syllabi not only instills in them, a passion for knowledge but also attempts to teach them how to apply that knowledge in real-life situations. The programmes lay emphasis on well-rounded personality development of the students and also in inculcating the values of honesty and integrity in them.



Q.H. Khan
Managing Director

Dhyeya IAS is an institution that aims at the complete development of the student. Our faculty are hand-picked and highly qualified to ensure that the students are given every possible support in all their academic endeavors. It is a multi-disciplinary institution which ensures that the students have ready access to a wide range of academic material. Our brand of education has broad horizons as we believe in exposure. Our students are encouraged to widen their knowledge base and study beyond the confinements of the syllabus. We aim to lend a gentle guiding hand to make our students recognize their inner potential and grow on their own accord into stalwarts of tomorrow's society.

PERFECT 7 : AN INTRODUCTION



Kurban Ali
Chief Editor

With immense pleasure I would like to inform you that the new version of 'Perfect 7', from the Dhyeya IAS, is coming with more information in a very attractive manner. Heartily congratulations to the editorial team. The 'Perfect 7' invites a wider readership in the Institute. The name and fame of an institute depends on the caliber and achievements of the students and teachers. The role of the teacher is to nurture the skills and talents of the students as a facilitator. This magazine is going to showcase the strength of our Institute. Let this be a forum to exhibit the potential of faculties, eminent writers, authors and students with their literary skills and innovative ideas.

Please do visit our website www.dhyeyaias.com and our youtube channel for regular and updated information on current affairs.



Ashutosh Singh
Managing Editor

We have not only given the name 'Perfect 7' to our magazine, but also left no stone unturned to keep it 'near to perfect'. We all know that beginning of a task is most vital and full of challenges. So we met the same fate.

Publishing 'Perfect 7' provided us various challenges because from the beginning itself we kept our bar too high to ensure the quality. Right from the very first issue we had a daunting task to save aspirants from the 'misinformation' or 'overdose of information'. Focussing on civil services examination 'Perfect 7' embodies in itself perfect friend and guide in your preparation. This weapon is built to be precise yet comprehensive. It is not about bombardment of mindless facts, rather an analysis of various facets of the issues, selected in a systematic manner. We adopted the 'Multi Filter' and 'Six Sigma' approach, in which a subject or an issue is selected after diligent discussion on various levels so that the questions in the examination could be covered with high probability.

Being a weekly magazine there is a constant challenge to provide qualitative study material in a time bound approach. It is our humble achievement that we feel proud to make delivered our promise of quality consistently without missing any issue since its inception.

Your suggestions and popular demands always motivate us and keep our morale high.

May this version of 'Perfect 7' instill a new energy and a new spirit in you. We wish that the bond of affection between you and Dhyeya IAS reaches at a new height.



Send us your suggestions, comment, views and feedback for guiding us on

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PREFACE



Dhyeya family has decided to bring a new colourful and vibrant version of **'Perfect 7'** – a panacea for current affairs, which will add positive and dynamic energy in your preparation.

'Perfect7' is an outstanding compilation of current affairs topics as per the new pattern of Civil Services Examination (CSE). It presents weekly analysis of information and issues (national and international) in the form of Articles, News Analysis, Brain Boosters, PIB Highlights and Graphical Information, which helps to understand and retain the information comprehensively. Hence, **'Perfect 7'** will build in-depth understanding of various issues in different facets.

'Perfect7' is our genuine effort to provide correct, concise and concrete information, which helps students to crack the CSE. This magazine is the result of the efforts of the eminent scholars and the experts from different fields. **'Perfect 7'** is surely a force multiplier in your effort and plugs the loopholes in the preparation.

We believe in environment of continuous improvement and learning. Your constructive suggestions and comments are always welcome, which could guide us in further revision of this magazine.

Omveer Singh Chaudhary

Editor
Dhyeya IAS

As a proud jewel of Dhyeya IAS, **'Perfect 7'** now comes in a new coloured avatar. **'Perfect 7'** is a quintessential part of your preparation strategy for Civil Services Examination. A regular and manageable dose of current affairs will now reach you in new format, making it more reader friendly. Our humble attempt to serve you is surely rewarded by your appreciations. It encourages us to innovate and provide the best as per our ability.

A dedicated team of experts at Dhyeya IAS toils night and day to make your dream of Civil Services come true. I heartily thank and express my gratitude to the esteemed readers and all the people involved in making this magazine a shining star in the galaxy of Dhyeya IAS.

Rajat Jhingan

Editor
Dhyeya IAS

PERFECT 7

Weekly Current Affairs

An Initiative of Dhyeya IAS

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(Ex. Editor Rajya Sabha, TV) & by Team Dhyeya IAS
(Broadcasted on YouTube & Dhyeya-TV)

7 IMPORTANT ISSUES

01

Rainwater Harvesting in India : Needs Promotion

Why in News?

- ◆ In Ludhiana, taking a crucial step to overcome the woes related to accumulated rainwater across the station premises after heavy rainfall during the monsoon season, Northern Railway authorities will begin maintenance of work of rainwater harvesting system, which is lying non-functional at the city railway station due to lack of proper maintenance.
- ◆ Till three years ago, shortage of drinking water was a perennial problem at the Agricultural College in Karekere of Hassan district. But now, the college is handling not only all of its drinking water requirements, but also the agricultural needs. With intensive rainwater harvesting on about 20 acres of land they harvested nearly 85% of the rainwater
- ◆ Residents can utilise the lockdown to clean rainwater harvesting (RWH) structures in their houses. With effective rainwater harvesting, maximum rainwater can be harnessed during Southwest monsoon.

Background

- ◆ According to the Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) report released by the NITI Aayog in 2018, 21 major cities (Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad and others) are racing to reach zero groundwater

levels by 2020, affecting access for 100 million people.

- ◆ However, 12 per cent of India's population is already living the 'Day Zero' scenario, thanks to excessive groundwater pumping, an inefficient and wasteful water management system and years of deficient rains. The CWMI report also states that by 2030, the country's water demand is projected to be twice the available supply, implying severe water scarcity for hundreds of millions of people and an eventual six per cent loss in the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- ◆ The Union government formed a new Jal Shakti (water) ministry, which aims at tackling water issues with a holistic and integrated perspective on the subject. Jal Shakti, which will be the umbrella ministry in which all water-related ministries will be integrated. The ministry has announced an ambitious plan to provide piped water connections to every household in India by 2024.
- ◆ The ministry has set a tough target at a time when hundreds of millions don't have access to clean water. Aiming at laying huge pipeline networks for water supply means that yet again, we are giving more preference to infrastructure. Also, the moot questions are: what

will happen if there is no water to supply? What will happen to all the wastewater that gets generated?

- ◆ This indicates that there is a clear disconnect between water, society and economy. Currently, we are interested in laying large networks, constructing huge storage dams, fetching water from 150 kilometres and above, which involves a huge carbon footprint.

Rains and Rainwater

- ◆ As much as 97% of the world's total water is in oceans, 2% is locked in the polar caps and only the balance 1% is fresh water. Of this 1%, India's share is 4% whereas our population share is 18% of the world's population.
- ◆ Over 85 percent of the cultivated area in India is either directly dependent on rain or depends on rain to recharge its groundwater. Seasonal rain provides water for irrigation, drinking, and household needs. It provides water to livestock and is necessary to grow fodder for animals.
- ◆ Harvesting rainwater is a great way of lessening your carbon footprint and becoming self-sufficient in your water needs. Harvested water can tide you through dry periods and can be used for a variety of household needs.

- ♦ Rainwater harvesting is a viable and affordable technology in an urban setting to ensure water self-sufficiency. It allows you to take control of your water supply and replace all or at least a substantial portion of your water needs for a significant part of the year with the water you collect and store.

Potential of Rains

- ♦ Rainfall is quite erratic and non-uniform across the length and breadth of the country. About 80–90% of the total rainfall is received during the summer monsoons (i.e. July to September) while rest of the period goes dry. Another serious repercussion of the problem is that every year almost 90 districts become drought affected and 40 million hectares in 83 districts get flooded.
- ♦ Rainwater harvesting in India has a very good potential. States like Maharashtra, for example, often suffer from droughts in the dry seasons. Nevertheless, researchers show that the minimum annual rainfall in Maharashtra is more or less 400mm. This indicates that every square kilometre of Maharashtra receives four lakh cubic metres, or 400 million litres of rainwater every year. Considering the population density and the types of usages of water, specialists assert that for a population density as high as 10000 persons per square kilometre, the demand of water will be about 180-185 million litres. This is less than even the half of the annual rainfall.
- ♦ From this calculation, we can clearly assert that availability of water in India is not a problem. The problem is actually the lack of enterprise

to collect, store and utilise water. Hence, if properly implemented and utilised, rainwater harvesting in India can offer a steady as well as easy solution from the drought problems. Rainwater harvesting in India is not a theoretical problem. The only thing we need for a successful implementation of rainwater harvesting in India is an enthusiastic enterprise, both in governmental and non-governmental levels, to encourage and sustain effective rainwater harvesting in India.

Promoting Rain-water Harvesting

- ♦ There is not a uniform legalisation for rainwater harvesting, though many states and municipal boards have issues guidelines and resolutions. But rainwater harvesting systems are not functional or operational at many government offices. These systems are broken due to the use of poor quality material and ignorance of officials regarding the maintenance of rainwater harvesting systems.
- ♦ Some measures that can be taken to overcome the present water crisis include:
 - ♦ Financial support for RWH: The material for installing RWH systems should be available at subsidized rates. MLAs, MPs and non-government organizations (NGOs) should fund RWH systems in their area. RWH projects should be initiated at public places like schools, health centres and gram panchayats.
 - ♦ Citizen awareness campaigns educating the public about the potential & benefits of RWH systems to improve the falling water table.

- ♦ Strict implementation of RWH policies by local bodies.
- ♦ Training of local officials on RWH systems & testing before issuing NOCs to new buildings as well as old buildings.
- ♦ Mandating that borewells are to be dug only with permission from the local government and approved only if it is combined with an undertaking to recharge water levels using RWH systems.
- ♦ Planned replacement of old water pipes to reduce leakage in a phased manner.
- ♦ Policy-level progress on water conservation issues.
- ♦ Encouraging all homes to build a RWH system.

Way Forward

- ♦ Rainwater harvesting is undoubtedly a promising technology which is also the need of the present time. Although there are a number of legislations but their implementation has often been seen to be lacking. There are many residential and commercial buildings where there is no provision of rainwater harvesting till date.
- ♦ It is not just a part of reducing the carbon footprint but also a part of making sustainable cities.
- ♦ Monsoon can be a resource for India only when we take rain water harvesting seriously. 

General Studies Paper- 3

Topic:

- Science and Technology-developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.

Q. Discuss the concept of rainwater harvesting and how can it help India tide over its water crises?

02

A Steep Decline in Maternal Mortality Ratio in India

Why in News?

- India has successfully brought down maternal mortality ratio (MMR) by 9 points in one year, as per data released by the Registrar General of India. Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are among the states that have shown most decline.

Introduction

- As per World Health Organization (WHO), "Maternal death is the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes".
 - MMR is the ratio of the number of maternal deaths during a given time period per 1,00,000 live births during the same time period.
- India's MMR has dropped by 7.4 per cent in 2016-18, but it is still almost double the Sustainable Development Goal target set by the WHO.
- According to the Sample Registration System's (SRS) estimate released by the Registrar General of India in July 2020, India has been witnessing a progressive reduction in MMR from 167 in 2011-2013, 130 in 2014-2016, 122 in 2015-17 to 113 in 2016-18.

- However, with a maternal mortality ratio of 113, India has missed the 2017 National Health Policy's target of reducing the MMR to 100.
- WHO's Sustainable Development Goal is to reduce the global MMR to less than 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030.
- Timely access to healthcare, skilled care during childbirth and antenatal care in pregnancy are some of the ways in maternal deaths can be prevented.

Mandate of Data Collection

- The Office of the Registrar General, India under the Ministry of Home Affairs, apart from conducting Population Census and monitoring the implementation of Registration of Births and Deaths Act in the country, has been giving estimates on fertility and mortality using the SRS.
- SRS is the largest demographic sample survey in the country that among other indicators provide direct estimates of maternal mortality through a nationally representative sample.
- Verbal Autopsy (VA) instruments are administered for the deaths reported under the SRS on a regular basis to yield cause-specific mortality profile in the country.
- The key statistics prepared in this regard are:
 - Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR): This is derived as

the proportion of maternal deaths per 1,00,000 live births, reported under the SRS.

- Maternal Mortality Rate: This is calculated as maternal deaths to women in the ages 15-49 per lakh of women in that age group, reported under SRS.
- The life time risk is defined as the probability that at least one women of reproductive age (15-49) will die due to child birth or puerperium assuming that chance of death is uniformly distributed across the entire reproductive span.

Performance of States

- The number of states which have achieved the SDG target has now risen from three to five. These five states are Kerala (43), Maharashtra (46) Tamil Nadu (60), Telangana (63) and Andhra Pradesh (65).
- There are 11 states that have achieved the target of MMR set by the National Health Policy (NHP) which includes the five states and Jharkhand (71), Gujarat (75), Haryana (91), Karnataka (92), West Bengal (98) and Uttarakhand (99).
- Three states - Punjab (129), Bihar (149) and Odisha (150) -- have maternal mortality ratio in between 100-150, while for five states, Chhattisgarh (159), Rajasthan (164), Madhya Pradesh (173), Uttar Pradesh (197) and Assam (215), the MMR is above 150.

- ♦ Rajasthan, has shown the maximum decline of 22 points in MMR, Uttar Pradesh 19 points, Odisha 18, Bihar 16 points and Madhya Pradesh 15 points.
- ♦ Telangana and Maharashtra have shown more than 15 per cent decline in MMR, while Odisha, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Gujarat have shown a decline between 10-15 per cent.
- ♦ Karnataka, Assam, Jharkhand, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have witnessed a decline in maternal mortality ratio between 5-10 per cent.

India's Effort to Protect Mothers

RMNCH+A Framework

- ♦ Government of India adopted the Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A) framework in 2013, It essentially aims to address the major causes of mortality and morbidity among women and children. This framework also helps to understand the delays in accessing and utilizing health care services
- ♦ Based on the framework, comprehensive care is provided to women and children through five pillars or thematic areas of reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health. The programmes and strategies developed by various divisions are guided by central tenets of equity, universal care, entitlement, and accountability to provide 'continuum of care' ensuring equal focus on various life stages.

Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan

- ♦ The Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan has been launched by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW).
- ♦ This scheme envisages improvement in the quality and coverage of Antenatal Care (ANC) including diagnostics and counselling services as part of the Reproductive Maternal Neonatal Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A) Strategy.
- ♦ The program aims to provide assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care, free of cost, universally to all pregnant women on the 9th of every month.
- ♦ PMSMA guarantees a minimum package of antenatal care services to women in their 2nd / 3rd trimesters of pregnancy at designated government health facilities.
- ♦ Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN)
- ♦ Aiming zero preventable maternal and newborn deaths in India, the central government has launched the Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN) scheme, under which pregnant women, mothers up to 6 months after delivery, and all sick newborns will be able to avail free healthcare benefits.
- ♦ Under the scheme, the beneficiaries visiting public health facilities are entitled to several free services. These include at least four ante natal check-ups that also includes one checkup during the

1st trimester, at least one checkup under Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan, Iron Folic Acid supplementation, Tetanus diphtheria injection and other components of comprehensive ANC package and six home-based newborn care visits.

- ♦ Under the scheme there will be zero expense access to identification and management of complications during and after the pregnancy. The government will also provide free transport from home to health institutions.

Janani Suraksha Yojana

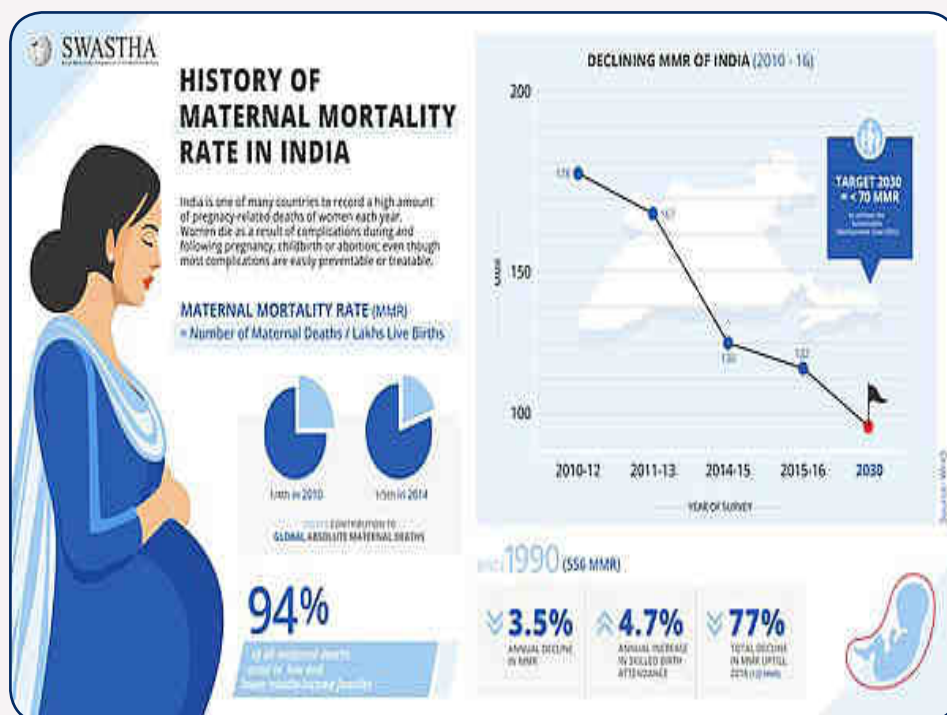
- ♦ Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) is a safe motherhood intervention under the National Health Mission. It is being implemented with the objective of reducing maternal and neonatal mortality by promoting institutional delivery among poor pregnant women.
- ♦ The scheme, launched on 12 April 2005 is under implementation in all states and Union Territories (UTs), with a special focus on Low Performing States (LPS).
- ♦ JSY is a centrally sponsored scheme, which integrates cash assistance with delivery and post-delivery care. The Yojana has identified Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) as an effective link between the government and pregnant women.

LaQshya

- ♦ LaQshya is an initiative to improve the quality of care (QoC) in the Labour Rooms (LRs), Operation

theatres (OTs) and other mother and child services areas in public health facilities across the country. The program aims to reduce complications and deaths of mothers and babies around the period of child birth which contributes to highest proportion of maternal and newborn deaths.

- ♦ LaQshya brings together Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Improvement (QI) approaches and strives to provide a better Experience of care to the beneficiaries by integrating the concept of respectful maternity and newborn care.



Way Forward

Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK)

- ♦ Ministry of health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has taken a major initiative to ensure better facilities for women and child health services. It is an initiative to provide completely free and cashless services to pregnant women including normal deliveries and caesarean operations and sick new born (up to 30 days after birth) in Government health institutions in both rural & urban areas.
- ♦ Government of India has launched Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) on 1st June, 2011.
- ♦ India with its huge population pressure and crumbling health sector has a lot to catch up in providing basic care to its citizens. Though the efforts of the government are laudable amid so many issues and budget crunches. Pressured to ramp up security and infrastructure many times take a high seat, but health and education sector are also important to ensure better quality life for its citizens. Maternal mortality rate needs to be tackled at a priority basis along with child mortality and malnutrition. It's the healthy population that builds a nation.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

Topic:

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

Q. In the light of the recent report highlighting that the maternal mortality rate for 2016-18 being 113, discuss India's programmes and efforts to contain MMR.

03 The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World : An Overview

Why in News?

- ◆ The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report 2020, released by United Nations, said that there were less stunted children but more obese adults in India.
- ◆ The number of undernourished people in India has declined by 60 million, from 21.7 per cent in 2004-06 to 14 per cent in 2017-19.

Key Highlights of the Report

- ◆ Current estimates are that nearly 690 million people are hungry, or 8.9 percent of the world population – up by 10 million people in one year and by nearly 60 million in five years. The number of people affected by severe food insecurity, which is another measure that approximates hunger, shows a similar upward trend. In 2019, close to 750 million – or nearly one in ten people in the world – were exposed to severe levels of food insecurity.

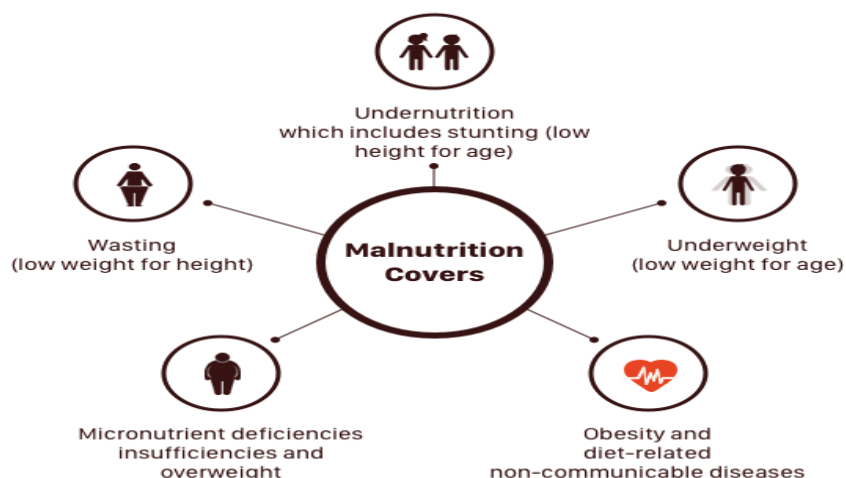
- ◆ Considering the total affected by moderate or severe food insecurity, an estimated 2 billion people in the world did not have regular access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food in 2019.
- ◆ The world is not on track to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030. If recent trends continue, the number of people affected by hunger would surpass 840 million by 2030.
- ◆ A preliminary assessment suggests that the COVID-19 pandemic may add between 83 and 132 million people to the total number of undernourished in the world in 2020 depending on the economic growth scenario.
- ◆ Globally, the burden of malnutrition in all its forms remains a challenge. According to current estimates, in 2019, 21.3 percent (144.0 million) of children under 5 years of age were stunted, 6.9 percent (47.0 million) wasted and 5.6 percent (38.3 million) overweight.

- ◆ The world is making progress but is not on track to achieve the 2025 and 2030 targets for child stunting and low birthweight, and for exclusive breastfeeding, is on track only for the 2025 target. The prevalence of wasting is notably above the targets. Most regions are not on track to achieve the targets for child overweight. Adult obesity is on the rise in all regions. Urgent action is needed to reverse these upward trends.

Global Scenario

- ◆ Across the planet, the report forecasts, that the COVID-19 pandemic could push over 130 million more people into chronic hunger by the end of 2020.
- ◆ In percentage terms, Africa is the hardest hit region and becoming more so, with 19.1 per cent of its people undernourished.
- ◆ At the current trends, by 2030, Africa will be home to more than half of the world's chronically hungry.
- ◆ The COVID-19 is intensifying the vulnerabilities and inadequacies of global food systems - understood as all the activities and processes affecting the production, distribution and consumption of food.
- ◆ The latest estimates are that a staggering three billion people or more cannot afford a healthy diet.
- ◆ In sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia, this is the case for 57 per

WHAT IS MALNUTRITION?



cent of the population - though no region, including North America and Europe, is spared.

- ◆ In 2019, 191 million children under five were stunted or wasted - too short or too thin. Another 38 million under-fives were overweight.
- ◆ Among adults, meanwhile, obesity has become a global pandemic in its own right.

Asian State of Affairs

- ◆ Asia is home to more than half of the total number of undernourished people in the world – an estimated 381 million people in 2019. Yet, the PoU (Prevalence of Undernutrition) in the region is 8.3 percent of the total population, below the world average (8.9 percent), and less than half of that of Africa
- ◆ The two subregions showing reductions in undernourishment – Eastern and Southern Asia – are dominated by the two largest economies of the continent – China and India. Despite very different conditions, histories and rates of progress, the reduction in hunger in both countries stems from long-term economic growth, reduced inequality, and improved access to basic goods and services. Average Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rates were 8.6 percent and 4.5 percent in China and India, respectively, in the last 25 years. In Southern Asia, significant progress was also made in reducing hunger in the last ten years in countries like Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, owing largely to improved economic conditions.

- ◆ Conflicts and instability are the primary drivers behind the rise in hunger seen in Western Asia. In particular, conflicts in Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen have increased undernourishment.
- ◆ The projections for Asia in 2030 show that significant progress has been made in reducing undernourishment in all subregions, with the exception of Western Asia.

Indian Statistics

- ◆ The number of undernourished people in India declined from 249.4 million in 2004–06 to 189.2 million in 2017–19.
- ◆ The prevalence of stunting in children under 5 years of age in India declined from 47.8 per cent in 2012 to 34.7 per cent in 2019 or from 62 million in 2012 to 40.3 million in 2019.
- ◆ More Indian adults became obese between 2012-16. The number of adults (18 years and older) who are obese grew from 25.2 million in 2012 to 34.3 million in 2016, from 3.1 per cent to 3.9 per cent.
- ◆ The number of women of reproductive age (15–49) affected by anaemia grew from 165.6 million in 2012 to 175.6 million in 2016.
- ◆ The number of infants 0–5 months of age exclusively breastfed grew from 11.2 million in 2012 to 13.9 million in 2019.

What Worked for India?

- ◆ Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) represents the largest

social protection programme in the world, reaching 800 million people with subsidized cereals that can be purchased from more than 500 000 fair price shops across the country. Evidence of the impact of the programme on dietary diversity and nutrition is mixed, although it showed some positive impact on the intake of macronutrients

- ◆ India has achieved larger-scale commercial production with the use of improved breeds, feed, housing and vaccinations have seen marked declines in the prices of eggs and poultry products, even in the face of rising demand
- ◆ In India, rural business hubs have facilitated linking smallholder farmers to rapidly growing urban markets. Apart from procuring food products from the farmers, these hubs provide services such as farm inputs and equipment, as well as access to credit. Having food processing, packaging and cooling facilities at the same location allows consumers to benefit from economies of agglomeration and, on the whole, reduce transaction costs throughout the food supply chain. This model in India has given rise to rural supermarkets that provide cheaper staple foods.

Scope and Suggestions

- ◆ The report — considered the most authoritative global study tracking progress towards ending hunger and malnutrition.
- ◆ This joint report is issued annually by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United

THREE FACES OF MALNUTRITION



Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, UNICEF, the World Food Programme and the World Health Organization.

- It presents the latest estimates on food insecurity, hunger and malnutrition at the global and regional levels.
- High costs and low affordability mean billions cannot eat healthily or nutritiously. As progress in fighting hunger stalls, the COVID-19 pandemic is intensifying the vulnerabilities and inadequacies of global food systems. While it is too early to assess the full impact of the lockdowns and other containment measures, at least another 83 million to 132 million people may go hungry in 2020. If recent trends continue, the Zero Hunger target of the Sustainable Development Goals will not be achieved by 2030.
- The report urges the transformation of food systems to reduce the cost of nutritious foods and increase

the affordability of healthy diets. The study calls on governments to:

- Mainstream nutrition in their approaches to agriculture.
- Work to cut cost-escalating factors in the production, storage, transport, distribution and marketing of food, including reducing inefficiencies, and food loss and waste.
- Support local small-scale producers to grow and sell more nutritious foods, and secure their access to markets.
- Prioritize children's nutrition as the category in greatest need.
- Foster behaviour change through education and communication.
- Embed nutrition in national social protection systems and investment strategies.

Way Forward

- Across the planet, the report forecasts, that the COVID-19 pandemic could push over 130

million more people into chronic hunger by the end of 2020. The latest estimates are that a staggering three billion people or more cannot afford a healthy diet. In sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia, this is the case for 57% of the population - though no region, including North America and Europe, is spared. It seems that India has no time to celebrate its gains, but to protect the achievements from the pandemic and should strive to meet its SDG targets.



General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

Topic:

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

Topic:

- Issues relating to poverty and hunger.

Q. Despite gains on undernourishment, India has lot to catch up to meet its SDG goals as COVID-19 can reverse many achievements on this front so far. Discuss the state of undernourishment in India in the light of above given statement.

04

India and EU Relations : Strategic and Economic Convergence

Why in News?

- Recently, a high-level trade and investment dialogue was held between India and the European Union (EU). The convergence on economic initiatives was significant in the context of sluggish world growth in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and India and EU seeing the need for a closer embrace that includes shared strategic goals.

Summit Outcomes

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi headed the Indian side while the EU was represented by Charles Michel, President of the European Council, and Ursula von der Leyen, President, European Commission (EC).
- Both parties recognized that the post-Covid economic recovery priorities offer the opportunity to

unleash the full potential of India-EU economic ties.

- Indian PM invited European businesses to utilise the opportunities in India and conveyed that Atmabirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) is aimed at integrating domestic production with global supply chains
- In a joint statement, the two sides also agreed upon a five-year roadmap to further strengthen their broad-based strategic partnership and decided to set up a high-level dialogue to address "trade irritants" to boost economic ties between the two sides and foster progress on the long-pending free trade agreement.
- With India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Europol launching negotiations to combat organised crime and terrorism, the two sides decided to intensify cooperation to tackle terror and its financing, radicalisation and abuse of the internet for such activities.
- Data protection, artificial intelligence and clean energy were other areas that the EU was looking at deepening cooperation with India.
- The two sides also agreed to work together in the areas of climate change and sustainable energy. They agreed to jointly tackle water issues, air pollution, plastic and marine litter.

India and EU Relations

- India and EU are natural partners because of shared values such as democracy, respect for international institutions and multilateralism, at a time when there are different types of pressures on the rules-based international order.
- The European leadership noted that while the 27-member bloc is India's largest trade and investment partner, India represented only 2% of EU's total trade. India's annual trade in goods and services with the EU is worth \$140 billion, and European firms have invested more than \$91 billion in the country.
- The two sides have recently welcomed the signing of a civil nuclear cooperation agreement whereby the Department of Atomic Energy and Euratom will cooperate in civilian nuclear applications in agriculture, healthcare and industry, radioactive waste management and nuclear security. The EU also welcomed India's proposal to build a connectivity partnership that is open, sustainable and rules-based.
- There is also a measure of trade in services; and Indian professionals are finding work in many EU countries. It is disappointing though that the two sides have not succeeded in finalising a free trade agreement though negotiations have been ongoing for over a decade.
- The two sides launched negotiations on a bilateral trade and investment agreement (BTIA) in 2007, talks stalled in 2013 over differences on market access and movement of professionals.
- The EU should have shown a greater understanding of India's constraints and sensitivities in freely allowing agricultural products at low tariffs for getting an agreement. It did not, and now the mood in India about such free trade agreements has turned negative. Hence, it is unlikely that one would be concluded anytime soon.
- India-EU partnership can play a key role in post-covid-19 economic reconstruction and human-centric globalisation.
- Relations between Europe and China are tense after the EU directly criticized Beijing over the Hong Kong security law, while India and China saw deadly border clashes during the first half of 2020.

Greater Cohesion

- ◆ In geopolitical terms, India finds itself facing increasingly restive, powerful rivals. The Indo-Pacific region is increasingly the focus of attention, so India should capitalise on its geopolitical leverage there.
- ◆ Stronger cooperation with like-minded, democratic powers can support this effort, especially towards assertive competitors like China. Even India's strongest bilateral relations with individual EU member states do not come close to the potential of dealing effectively with the EU as a whole. New Delhi must learn how to maximise benefit from this strategic partnership.
- ◆ The EU champions the rules-based international order, which is being increasingly challenged by the proliferation of exceptionalism. The EU and India must join forces to promote sustainable reform of multilateral institutions.
- ◆ On climate change, the EU is building on its ambitious target to render the continent carbon-emission neutral by 2050, through its new industrial strategy, the Green Deal. India has an opportunity to not just gain experience by participating in this venture but also benefits in terms of technology transfer and know-how about scaling up of environmental efforts.
- ◆ The EU and India have much in common. Both aim to enhance strategic autonomy and their global standing. Diversifying strategic value chains is also a common



interest, as is the urgent need to address climate change. The EU and India can support each other in these endeavours.

Global Chess Moves

- ◆ At a time when the principal global contestation is between the US and China, India and other emerging states as well as European countries need to come together so that they are not completely marginalised in the world order.
- ◆ President Donald Trump has particularly shown disdain for Europe. He has treated European countries as 'spongers' of American largesse and demanded that they should pay their fair share of maintaining the world order.
- ◆ At the same time China's aggression will ultimately damage

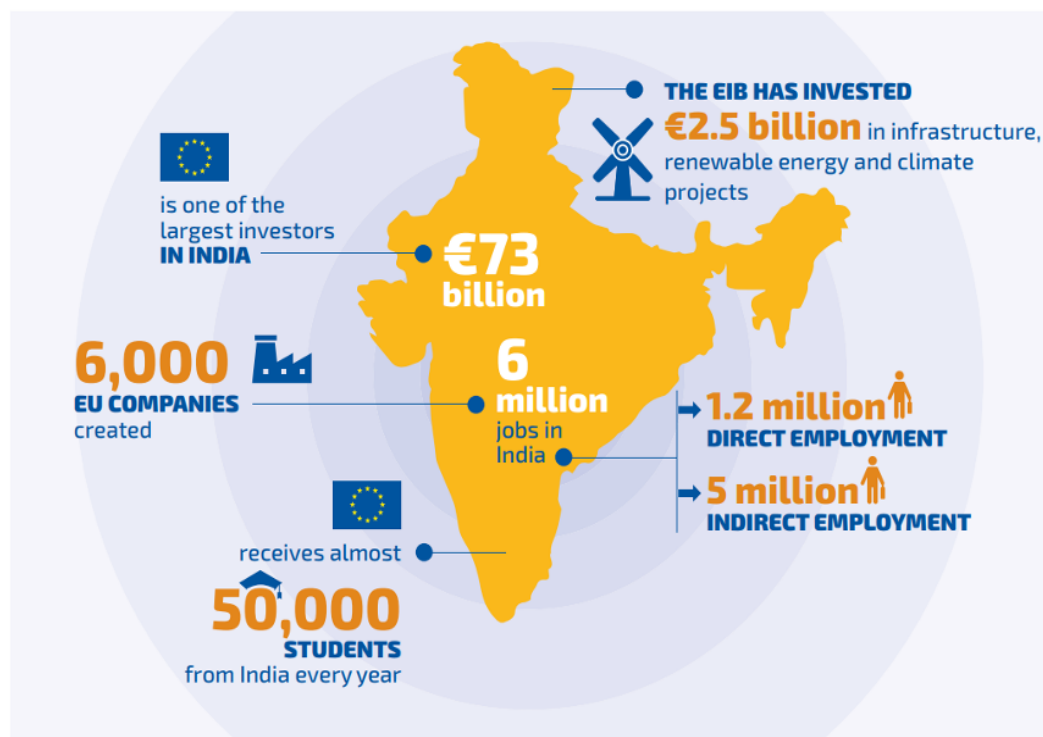
European interests too. Thus, the time is ripe for the EU to look at the big picture and seek closer ties with India.

- ◆ The liberal, democratic values that India and EU have traditionally valued are also under pressure all over the world. At such time it would be worthwhile for civil societies of both sides to be in intensive contact to keep the torch of liberalism burning bright. This is because through the adherence of liberal values that respect for civil rights can be assured and a correct understanding of nationalism be adopted and projected.

German Angle

- ◆ Germany, which holds the current six-month EU Presidency, is optimistic that mechanisms created at India-EU Summit will

WHAT IS THE EU DOING WITH INDIA?



Way Forward

◆ India and EU partnership is a necessity in the post-covid world. India being a fastest growing economy and EU being one of the richest blocks, is finding less places for safe investment. The convergence is not just economic but also strategic. While China is surely threatening the world order, India sees itself culturally and economically being closer to EU than to China. Being a

semi-capitalist economy with the hangover of a colonial empire, India has much to gain from EU than from an aggressive and land-grabber China. <<<

enable it to conclude trade and investment pacts opening a new era of business partnership between India and the EU.

- ◆ Germany as the biggest economy of Europe will give impetus to the recent decisions to create mechanisms to push India-EU trade and investment deals. The two sides will hold stock taking. India and the EU have populations which complement each other. There is a huge potential between the two entities to take economic partnership to the next level.

- ◆ Germany is India's largest trading partner in Europe. Bilateral trade grew from Euro 15.96 billion to Euro 20.41 bn in 2018. In the period January to November 2019, total bilateral trade stood at Euro 19.35 bn. Germany is the 7th largest foreign direct investor in India since April 2000. Germany's total FDI in India from April 2000 until June 2019 amounted to US\$ 11.9 billion. A Fast-Track System for German companies has been operating in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) since March 2016.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

Q. India and EU partnership in the post-Covid world is necessary to act as a stabiliser in the wobbling world order. Discuss.

05

India's Re-engagement with NAM

Why in News?

- ♦ On May 4, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in a virtual summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Contact Group under the chairmanship of President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev. This was the first time Modi had participated in a NAM meeting since the beginning of his tenure in 2014.

Background

- ♦ The NAM was formed during the Cold War, largely on the initiative of then-Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, as an organization of States that did not seek to formally align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union, but sought to remain independent or neutral.
- ♦ The basic concept for the group originated in 1955 during discussions that took place at the Asia-Africa Bandung Conference held in Indonesia. Subsequently, a preparatory meeting for the First NAM Summit Conference was held in Cairo, Egypt from 5-12 June 1961.
- ♦ NAM has sought to "create an independent path in world politics that would not result in member States becoming pawns in the struggles between the major powers." It identifies the right of independent judgment, the struggle against imperialism and neo-colonialism, and the use of moderation in relations with all big

powers as the three basic elements that have influenced its approach. At present, an additional goal is facilitating a restructuring of the international economic order.

- ♦ NAM does not have a formal constitution or permanent secretariat, and its administration is non-hierarchical and rotational. Decisions are made by consensus, which requires substantial agreement, but not unanimity.

From Irrelevance to Pragmatic NAM

- ♦ Modi had skipped the two NAM summits during his term so far in 2016 and 2019, making this his first participation in the grouping's summitry. And this has generated some curious reactions about how Modi might now be recognising the relevance of NAM and its importance for India.
- ♦ This is, however, a serious misreading of why Modi decided to address the virtual NAM summit. NAM's contemporary irrelevance has nothing to do with Modi's lack of interest in NAM. The grouping is increasingly irrelevant because the world has changed dramatically from the time it was conceived. It is his natural inclination is towards pragmatism when it comes to foreign policy.
- ♦ In the virtual summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged the issues of "terrorism" and "fake news", calling them "deadly viruses" at a time when the world fights the novel coronavirus.

- ♦ Indian PM suggested for developing a platform for NAM countries to pool their experiences, best practices, crisis-management protocols, research, and resources. Also suggested that NAM should call upon the international community and the WHO to focus on building health-capacity in developing countries. And should ensure equitable, affordable and timely access to health products and technologies for all.

- ♦ The NAM leaders announced creation of a task force to identify requirements of member countries through a common database reflecting their basic medical, social and humanitarian needs in the fight against COVID-19.
- ♦ Simultaneously, the Modi government undertook a proactive approach in its foreign policy with the initiation of a virtual South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Summit on March 15. While it is well-known that SAARC hasn't been able to catalyze significant regional integration since its initiation in 1985, it nevertheless remained a priority under Modi government 1.0 until the Uri Attack of 2016. Since then, New Delhi has repeatedly asserted that "terror and talks cannot go together" in an attempt to corner Islamabad, thus not letting SAARC function normally. The virtual summit, which witnessed the creation of a COVID-19 Emergency Fund with India pledging a \$10 million

contribution, signalled a tactical revival in India's foreign policy, especially in its neighbourhood.

- ◆ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in an online interaction with strategic affairs has said, "that non-alignment was for a specific era and added that India is no longer a bystander as it has a contribution to make in key issues, including connectivity, maritime security, terrorism, climate change."

New Rationale for NAM

- ◆ One, those who say the NAM is a relic of the Cold War must also acknowledge that a new Cold War is beginning to unfold, this time between the US and China. As the conflict between the world's two most important powers envelops all dimensions of international society, India has every reason to try and preserve some political space in between the two.
- ◆ Second, in the last few years, Delhi paid lip-service to the NAM but devoted a lot of diplomatic energy to forums like BRICS. Given the Russian and Chinese leadership of BRICS, Delhi inevitably began to tamely echo the international positions of Moscow and Beijing rather than represent voices of the Global South.
- ◆ Finally, as a nation seeking to become an independent pole in global affairs, India could do more with forums like the NAM in mobilising support on issues of interest to Delhi. An independent Indian line backed by strong support within the NAM can make a big difference to the outcomes of

the impending contentions at the World Health Assembly later this month on reviewing the WHO's performance during the COVID crisis.

India Needs NAM

- ◆ Among the 120 permanent members of the NAM, India is perfectly positioned to emerge as the group's leader owing to its democratic values and the size of its population and economy. Further, India's credentials as one of the three founding countries of the NAM, alongside Egypt and erstwhile Yugoslavia, also act in its favour.
- ◆ For Modi and India, leading the NAM has a dual advantage.
 - ◆ It is strategically important for Modi to counter his authoritarian and nationalist image on the international platform. Taking a leadership role in the world's largest multilateral organization will significantly distinguish him from the likes of President Trump and President Bolsonaro, who have actively pushed back against multilateralism.
 - ◆ Second, as the world expects the emergence of a new global order in the aftermath of COVID-19, emerging middle powers like India are set to play an important role. This is something Modi identified during his NAM intervention, in which he acknowledged the "limitations of the existing international system" and pitched a "new template of globalization, based on fairness, equality, and humanity." Further, he also insisted on the need for international

institutions "to promote human welfare" alongside economic growth, and highlighted India's "championing" of such initiatives through the International Day of Yoga, the International Solar Alliance, and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

- ◆ Further, the rhetoric of a "new cold war" between the United States and China is gaining momentum. In the likelihood of such a scenario, the focus will be back on the NAM — a core collective of middle powers of the world — to play a balancing role. In all likelihood, New Delhi with its current position in the global world order would be keen to lead this middle power balancing through leadership of the NAM within the ambit of South-South cooperation.

Way Forward

- ◆ New Delhi's diplomacy during the ongoing pandemic suggests that it has been quick to recognize the changing global dynamics. Prime Minister Modi's attempt to revive SAARC and go back to the Nehruvian NAM is a clear case of changing approaches during changing circumstances. < > >

General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

Q. "There has been phases of relevant and non-relevant NAM. In post-Covid world where multilateralism is gaining momentum, NAM can offer some advantages to Indian foreign policy." Discuss.

06

Chabahar Port : India's Lost Opportunity

Why in News?

- ♦ Iran has gone ahead with the construction of the Chabahar rail project on its own without India's assistance citing funding delay from New Delhi. Interestingly, the development comes close on heels of China finalising a 25-year, \$400 billion strategic partnership with Iran, facing sanctions from the United States (US).
- ♦ Without India's funding, Iranian Railways have used about \$400 million from Iranian National Development Fund. The move is seen as a setback for India for whom Chabahar was its strategic response to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Background

- ♦ Chabahar is the only seaport Iran has in its energy-rich Sistan-Balochistan province by the Gulf of Oman and consists of two ports with five berths each. The port is a counter to Pakistan's Gwadar port which is being developed with the Chinese investment.
- ♦ In the historic 'New Delhi Declaration' signed on January 25, 2003, both countries had decided to jointly develop the Chabahar Port complex and Chabahar-Fahranj-Bam railway link.
- ♦ Since then, the Chabahar project, along with the Farzad-B (Gas project) block deal, has been something that forced India to play a balancing act between the US and Iran. In 2020, however, both projects appear to be out of India's hands
- ♦ The port, inaugurated in December 2017, has opened a new strategic route connecting Iran with India

and Afghanistan bypassing Pakistan.

- ♦ In December 2017, India took over the operations of port and commissioned the second port this January, marking the country's maritime entry into a foreign land.
- ♦ The port, in which India has a large role in developing one terminal, is of strategic importance to the country. It helps India reach not just Afghanistan, but also gives it access to all Central Asian nations. It has been envisaged as part of the ambitious multi-mode International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC), linking Russia, Armenia, Iran, India, several central Asian countries and Europe.
- ♦ India's land access to Central Asia gets thwarted because of unfriendly relations with Pakistan. In fact, in the past, there have been occasions when supplies of fruit from Afghanistan to India's markets have rotted at the Pakistan border for lack of clearance. India also runs air cargo connections to Afghanistan that was inaugurated a couple of years ago to bypass the road connectivity issues.
- ♦ According to experts, India's exports to Central Asia, the Caucasus and even Russia through the port of Chabahar saves about a third of the cost and time of transporting goods to these countries, and this factor can play a role in lowering the prices of the Indian goods

China Pushing India Out from Iran

- ♦ China has struck a \$400 billion economic and security strategic partnership deal with Iran.
- ♦ Once it is signed, Iran will open its doors for Chinese investment not

just in one or two sectors but across the Iranian economy. The Chinese presence in Iran would expand in banking, telecommunications, ports and railways, also more than a dozen projects will go to Chinese companies.

- ♦ Beijing hopes to get cheap oil in return. China will walk away with a steady supply of Iranian oil at a heavily discounted rate for 25 years. The deal also has a military dimension. There will be reportedly joint training and exercises, joint research and weapons development, even intelligence sharing as part of the agreement.
- ♦ The deal will fundamentally change Iran's relationship with China. It will put Tehran in Beijing's corner and India could see its influence diminish overtime.
- ♦ Initial reports in Iran have suggested China will deploy 5,000 security personnel to protect its projects in Iran. Some reports suggest Kish Island in the Persian Gulf, located at the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz, may be "sold" to China. Iranian officials have denied this.
- ♦ With a growing Chinese presence in Iran, India is concerned about its strategic stakes around the Chabahar port project that it has been developing, and for which it committed Rs 100 crore in the last Budget. The port is close to Gwadar port in Pakistan, which is being developed by China as part of its China-Pakistan Economic Corridor that links it to the Indian Ocean through BRI.

US Support at a Cost of Iran

- ◆ People in the know said the Indian firm could not move ahead with the project because of US sanctions on Iran. In addition, Iran's growing proximity to China may have also played a part.
- ◆ Even when US sanctions were on a high, India had kept the project on the discussion table. However, strengthening Indo-US relations under Donald Trump forced India to go slow on Iran projects. A prime example was the halt in oil imports from Iran following the recent US sanctions. Earlier in 2006, India and Iran had conducted a joint naval exercise prior to then President George Bush's visit to India.
- ◆ Now, India finds itself caught in the geopolitical rivalry between the US and China over Iran. While India got a waiver from US sanctions for development of the port — on the grounds that it will help access Afghanistan bypassing Pakistan — it is still not clear whether railway and other projects are exempt from sanctions.
- ◆ Iran has started laying the tracks for a 628-km railway link between the provincial capital of Zahedan with Chabahar. The government faces elections in 2021, and plans to complete the railway's initial 150km section by March 2021, and the full length by March 2022.
- ◆ India has committed to supplying tracks and rakes. Since steel is not exempted, New Delhi feels it

will wait for Washington to make a concession before it decides to provide tracks and rakes.

- ◆ India's dilemma also stems from the fact that robust support from the US is essential when it is locked in a border stand-off with China. India may want to wait for the results of the November US election. If Joe Biden comes back to power, there may be no threat of sanctions; but if Trump is re-elected, India may prefer a long-term, strategic decision before continuing with the railway project.

Importance of Chabahar for Iran

- ◆ A simple, yet highly important reason, is that the development of Chabahar port will make it the first deep-water port in Iran.
- ◆ Deep-water ports are the result of a revolution in shipping industries, which has allowed huge cargo ships to carry and transfer hundreds of containers at a very low cost. It is not possible to load or unload these ships in any other type of port, and it requires special equipment.
- ◆ Iran currently does not have a deep-water port. That's why one way for Iran to get access to international trade is for these ships to enter the Persian Gulf and then unload their cargo in the United Arab Emirates. The port of Jebel Ali in the UAE is one of the two ports in the Persian Gulf with this feature (Saudi Arabia's Dammam port is also a deep-water port).
- ◆ Ultimately, the construction and development of the port of Chabahar will eliminate the need for relying on the UAE for

international trade. Furthermore, Chabahar, contrary to Bandar Abbas, is located outside the troubled region of the Persian Gulf and out of the reach of Iran's regional and global enemies. The port of Chabahar is the only port in Iran that has direct access to the Indian Ocean.

Way Ahead

- ◆ While Iran claims it will fund the railway using its own resources, it seems to have embarked on the Chabahar-Zahedan project with a confidence borne from an imminent deal with China for a 25-year, \$400 billion strategic partnership on infrastructure, connectivity and energy projects. In a world where connectivity is seen as the new currency, India's loss could well become China's gain, and New Delhi must watch this space, created by its exit, closely.
- ◆ While many people has asserted that India cannot be out of the Chabahar port project, but the presence of China with a fat purse is more than threatening to Indian interests and it can surely neutralise strategic gains made by India.



General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

Topic:

- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.

Q. India being left out of Chabahar deal is a victory into the hands of China causing India a loss of traditional ally and strengthening China's supply lines increasing the importance of BRI. Discuss.

07

Recent Trends in World Population

Why in News?

- ◆ According to the study, which was published in The Lancet journal, the world's population will peak at 9.73 billion in 2064, after which it will shrink to 8.79 billion in 2100. The projections set the population peak at about 2 billion lower than the United Nations (UN) Population Division's estimate of 10.9 billion at the end of the century.
- ◆ Both China and India, the world's two most populous nations, will register population peaks before 2050, following which they will post sharp declines. In 2100, China's population will be 51.1% of its peak population, and India's will be down to 68.1% of its peak.
- ◆ Governments need long-term scenarios to understand potential environmental, military, geopolitical, and other risks and to implement prevention or mitigation strategies.
- ◆ Population scenarios are equally important for businesses that are engaged in investments with long-term returns, such as those in the pharmaceutical industry and in industries connected to heavy infrastructure projects.
- ◆ Global population forecasts appear to depend primarily on two key issues: the pace of fertility decline, and what happens to countries when fertility levels drop below a total fertility rate (TFR) of 2.1, traditionally considered the minimum rate necessary for generational replacement of the population (the replacement level).

Introduction

- ◆ Understanding potential patterns in future population levels is crucial for anticipating and planning for changing age structures, resource and health-care needs, and environmental and economic landscapes.
- ◆ Population forecasts and scenarios are an important planning and risk management tool for governments, businesses, non-governmental organisations, and individuals.
- ◆ Governments need short-term and mid-term scenarios to estimate need for schools, hospitals, and other public services; to help inform infrastructure investments with long-term benefits; to plan for the necessary skills and knowledge

for the future workforce; and to invest wisely in health research and development resources.

- ◆ Governments need long-term scenarios to understand potential environmental, military, geopolitical, and other risks and to implement prevention or mitigation strategies.
- ◆ Population scenarios are equally important for businesses that are engaged in investments with long-term returns, such as those in the pharmaceutical industry and in industries connected to heavy infrastructure projects.
- ◆ Global population forecasts appear to depend primarily on two key issues: the pace of fertility decline, and what happens to countries when fertility levels drop below a total fertility rate (TFR) of 2.1, traditionally considered the minimum rate necessary for generational replacement of the population (the replacement level).

Forecasts

- ◆ The present world population is 7.8 billion. This number is projected to reach a peak of 9.7 billion in 2064, after which it will decline to 8.8 billion by the end of the century. Last year, the United Nations had estimated that the world population would reach at least 10.9 billion in 2100.
- ◆ The population of sub-Saharan Africa will triple from an estimated 1.03 billion in 2017 to 3.07 billion

in 2100. North and the Middle East is the only other region forecast to host a larger population in 2100 than in 2017, with Asia and Eastern Europe recording the steepest declines. The populations of at least 23 countries, including Japan, Thailand, Italy, Spain, Portugal and South Korea, could decline at least 50%.

- ◆ Reasons for falling TFR:

- ◆ Continued trends in female educational attainment and access to contraception will hasten declines in fertility and slow population growth.
- ◆ Another reason is urbanisation. When women move from rural to city life, many things change that reduce birth rates. In the countryside a child can help by working on the land, but in a city a child is an economic liability. Also, cultural pressures to have more children recede in cities while access to media, schools and contraception increase.
- ◆ The study said India would be the most populous country by 2100, followed by Nigeria - both surpassing China, which has the highest population at present.
- ◆ India's TFR was already below 2.1 in 2019. The TFR is projected to have a continue a steep decline until about 2040, reaching 1.29 in 2100.
- ◆ The number of working-age adults (20–64 years) in India is projected to fall from around 748 million in

2017 to around 578 million in 2100. However, this will be the largest working-age population in the world by 2100.

- ◆ From 2017 to 2100, India is projected to rise up the list of countries with the largest Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 7th to 3rd.
- ◆ Among the 10 countries with the largest populations in 2017 or 2100, India is projected to have one of the lowest life expectancies (79.3 years in 2100, up from 69.1 in 2017).

UN's World Population Prospects 2019

- ◆ The global fertility rate is expected to be 1.9 births per woman by 2100, down from 2.5 today.
- ◆ The world's median age is expected to increase to 42 in 2100, up from the current 31 – and from 24 in 1950.
- ◆ Africa is the only world region projected to have strong population growth for the rest of this century.
- ◆ Europe and Latin America are both expected to have declining populations by 2100.
- ◆ The population of Asia is expected to increase from 4.6 billion in 2020 to 5.3 billion in 2055, then start to decline.
- ◆ In the Northern America region, migration from the rest of the world is expected to be the primary driver of continued population growth.
- ◆ Six countries are projected to account for more than half of the world's population growth through

the end of this century, and five are in Africa.

- ◆ India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country by 2027.
- ◆ Between 2020 and 2100, 90 countries are expected to lose population.
- ◆ Africa is projected to overtake Asia in births by 2060.
- ◆ The Latin America and Caribbean region is expected to have the oldest population of any world region by 2100, a reversal from the 20th century.

Impact of Demographic Change

- ◆ Fewer people on the planet in every year between now and 2100 than the number forecasted by the UNPD would mean less carbon emission, less stress on global food systems, and less likelihood of transgressing planetary boundaries.
- ◆ These population shifts have economic and fiscal consequences that will be extremely challenging. With all other things being equal, the decline in the numbers of working-aged adults alone will reduce GDP growth rates.
- ◆ Having fewer individuals in the age group of 15 to 64, might reduce innovation in economies, and fewer workers in general might reduce domestic markets for consumer goods, because many retirees are less likely to purchase consumer durables than middle aged and young adults. Developments such as advancements in robotics could substantially change the trajectory of GDP per working-age adult,

reducing the effect of the age structure on GDP growth. However, these effects are very difficult to model at this stage. Furthermore, the impact of robotics might have complex effects on countries for which the trajectory for economic growth might be through low-cost labour supply.

- ◆ In countries with slower economic growth and with rising shares of the population who are retired compared with those who are still working, the fiscal sustainability of national health insurance and social security programmes will be challenged. In 2100, if labour force participation by age and sex does not change, the ratio of the non-working adult population to the working population might reach 1•16 globally, up from 0•80 in 2017.

Desperate Steps

- ◆ Several governments have pursued explicit policies to increase fertility rates. Some, such as Sweden, Singapore, and Taiwan (province of China), have tried to create positive environments that facilitate females choosing to have more children. These programmes include paid maternity and paternity leave, protection of re-employment rights, child care, and financial incentives for more children. Sweden has seen an increase in its TFR from 1•5 in the late 1990s to 1•9 in 2019.
- ◆ Unfortunately, some countries have in the past sought to increase the total fertility rate by restricting access to reproductive health

services, such as the banning of abortion in Romania in 1966 and in the Soviet Union from 1936 to 1955.

- ◆ A very real danger exists that, in the face of declining population, some states might consider adopting policies that restrict female reproductive health rights and access to services. Low fertility in these settings might become a major challenge to progress for females' freedom and rights.

Possible Solutions

- ◆ Incentives to increase TFR, and using artificial intelligence as a path towards self-sufficiency.
- ◆ Wealthy countries such as the UK and the USA could counteract the impact of these changes through net migration of working-age adults from the countries with growing populations.
- ◆ Migration, rather liberal migration policies could be a solution but not permanent. However, what is more important is to look to invest in technological advancements that can compensate for the human shortages.
- ◆ The effect of fertility decline on women's reproductive health rights has to be accompanied by greater economic independence. This would allow women to negotiate with the system on their own terms and for better support services as well.
- ◆ A short-term solution to declining working-age populations is to increase labour force participation.



Case for Migration

- ◆ Japan, Hungary, Slovakia, the Baltic States, and others are facing substantial declines in population but have not adopted immigration as a compensating strategy. In these societies, so far, the desire to maintain a linguistic and culturally homogeneous society has outweighed the economic, fiscal, and geopolitical risks of declining populations.
- ◆ If pronatalist policies do not yield sufficient increases in birth rates, these choices will probably have to be revisited.
- ◆ While a steady supply of individuals willing to migrate exists nowadays, this might change in the future as countries supplying migrants today increase education access and quality and the standard of living at home. Continued emigration supplying working-age adults to high-income economies with liberal migration policies can also have profound adverse effects on some economies through selective migration of more skilled workers.

Way Forward

- ◆ Policies that countries pursue today can alter the trajectory for

fertility, mortality, and migration. Population size and composition are not exogenous factors for countries to account for in their planning, but rather outcomes that they can help direct.

- ◆ Within the declining total world population some countries will sustain their populations through liberal immigration policies and social policies more supportive of females working and achieving their desired family size. These countries are likely to have larger overall GDP than other countries, with the various economic, social, and geopolitical benefits that come with stable working-age populations.



General Studies Paper- I

Topic:

- Role of women and women's organizations, Population and associated issues, Poverty and developmental issues, Urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

Q. World population is expected to rise and then shrink reflecting a major demographic change. Discuss its reasons, impact and corrective measures.

7

IMPORTANT BRAIN BOOSTERS

01

NISHTHA Programme

1. Why in News?

- The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched a national mission to improve learning outcomes at the elementary level through an integrated teacher training Programme called 'NISHTHA' under the centrally sponsored scheme of 'Samagra Shiksha' in 2019-20.
- 'Samagra Shiksha' is a sector-wide development programme which subsumes the then existing centrally sponsored schemes of 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' (SSA), 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan' (RMSA) and 'Teacher Education' (TE) to help harmonising the implementation mechanisms and transaction costs at all levels, particularly in using state, district and sub-district level systems and resources, besides envisaging one comprehensive strategic plan for development of school education at the district level.

2. About Programme

- NISHTHA is a capacity building programme for "Improving Quality of School Education through Integrated Teacher Training".
- It aims to build competencies among all the teachers and school principals at the elementary stage.
- The functionaries (at the state, district, block, cluster level) shall be trained in an integrated manner on learning outcomes, school-based assessment, learner – centred pedagogy, new initiatives in education, addressing diverse needs of children through multiple pedagogies, etc. This is being organized by constituting National Resource Groups (NRGs) and State Resource Groups (SRGs) at the national and the state level who will be training 42 lakhs teachers subsequently.
- A robust portal/Management Information System (MIS) for delivery of the training, monitoring and support mechanism has been infused with this capacity building initiative.
- Keeping in view the COVID-19 pandemic situation, it is now planned to organise SRG and teachers training in online mode.



3. Expected Outcomes

- Improvement in learning outcomes of the students.
- Creation of an enabling and enriching inclusive classroom environment.
- Teachers become alert and responsive to the social, emotional and psychological needs of students as first level counselors.
- Teachers are trained to use Art as pedagogy leading to increased creativity and innovation among students.
- Teachers are trained to develop and strengthen personal-social qualities of students for their holistic development. Creation of healthy and safe school environment.
- Integration of ICT in teaching learning and assessment.
- Developing stress free School based assessment focused on development of learning competencies.
- Teachers adopt activity based learning and move away from rote learning to competency-based learning.
- Teachers and school heads become aware of new initiatives in school education.
- Transformation of the heads of schools into providing academic and administrative leadership for the schools for fostering new initiatives.

4. Quality Control

- This programme will be conducted in customized cascade mode, in which national resource group of experts will train Key resource persons or KRPs (identified by the state/ UT for further teacher training) and state resource persons or SRPs (identified by the state/ UT for further training of school principals and other functionaries). These KRPs and SRPs will directly train teachers and school principals.
- The KRPs will help in the mentoring through NISHTHA portal and training will include text modules and videos along with live sessions by National Level Resource persons on #SwayamPrabha TV channels.
- National Resource Persons (NRPs) are educationists, Subject-Experts and teacher educators drawn from national level institutions such as NCERT, NIEPA, etc. Key resource person (KRPs) are faculty members of SCERTs, DIETs, IASEs, CTEs and teachers from senior secondary schools identified by the states/UTs.

02 Padmanabhawamy Temple Case

1. Why in News?

- Reversing the 2011 Kerala High Court decision, the Supreme Court has upheld the right of the Travancore royal family to manage the property of deity at Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram (Sri Marthanda Varma vs. State of Kerala).



4. Temple History

- The Padmanabhaswamy temple is located in Thiruvananthapuram (The City of Lord Ananta), the capital of Kerala. It was built by Raja Marthanda Varma (Ruler of Travancore) in 1731.
- The temple is built in an intricate fusion of the Chera style and the Dravidian style of architecture, featuring high walls, and a 16th-century gopura.
- Temple is one of 108 Divya Desams (holy abodes of Vishnu) - principal centres of worship of the deity in Vaishnavism.
- The main deity in the Shree Padmanabhaswamy Temple is of Lord Vishnu in the 'Anantha Shayana' posture (reclined posture of eternal yoga) on Adi Shesha or king of all serpents.

2. The Case

- The central legal question was whether Utradam Thirunal Marthanda Varma, the younger brother of Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma, the last Ruler of Travancore, could claim to be the "Ruler of Travancore" after the death of the ruler in 1991.
 - The court examined this claim within the limited meaning of that term according to the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, 1950 (TCHRI Act) to claim ownership, control and management of the ancient Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple.
- The Supreme Court, in Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple case, has dealt with the effect of the Constitution (Twenty Sixth Amendment) Act, 1971 - which abolished privy purses- on the term 'Ruler of Travancore' in provision to Section 18(2) of TCHRI Act.
 - The court held that the constitutional abolition, did not in any way impact or affect the administration of the Temple, Sri Pandaravaga properties and the properties of the Temple, which continued to be under the control and supervision of the Ruler of Travancore.
- All the temples which were under the control and management of the erstwhile Princely States of Travancore and Cochin were under the control of the Travancore and Cochin Devaswom Boards before 1947.
- However, as per the Instrument of Accession signed between the princely states and the Government of India, since 1949, the administration of the Padmanabhaswamy Temple was "vested in trust" in the Ruler of Travancore. The state of Kerala was carved out in 1956 but the temple continued to be managed by the erstwhile royals.
- This appeal was against the 2011 judgment of the Kerala High Court, which directed the state government to take over the management of the Padmanabhaswamy temple on the grounds that the Travancore ex-royals lost control over its management after the death of the last ruler in 1991.

3. Abolition of Privy Purses

- By the Constitution 26th Amendment Act, 1971, the privy purses, privileges and other special rights of the erstwhile rulers of Indian states were abolished by deleting Articles 291 and 362 and by incorporating Article 366(22) in the Constitution. The challenge against it was repelled by the Supreme Court vide judgment rendered by the constitution bench on February 4, 1993 in Raghunathrao Ganapatrao v Union of India.
- The Kerala government maintained before the Supreme Court that with the abolition of the concept of Ruler by the Constitution (26th Amendment) Act, 1971, the shebaitship of the royal family ceased to have any effect.
- The 26th Amendment Act deleted Articles 291 and 362 and inserted Article 363A which expressly stipulates inter alia that any person who was recognised to be the ruler of an Indian state or his successor, shall, cease to be recognised as such ruler or successor, and all rights, liabilities and obligations in respect of privy purses stand extinguished.
- Despite the 26th Amendment Act, 1971, the private properties of the ruler would continue to be available for normal succession and devolution in accordance with the law and custom, the Supreme Court held. But the court also accepted the royal family's claim that it no longer considered the temple as its private property, and that it only sought shebaitship. Thus, temple is not the private property of the Royal family, they are just trusted with their management.

03

HOPE: UAE's First Mission to Mars

1. Why in News?

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has launched a spacecraft to Mars, "HOPE" and "Al-Amal" in Arabic, making it the first Arab country to do so.
- A Japanese rocket launched the United Arab Emirates' first mission to Mars July 19, an orbiter that will study the planet's weather while demonstrating the country's growing space capabilities.



5. Atmosphere of Mars

- Mars is very thin, consisting of mostly carbon dioxide with no breathable oxygen, making it difficult for astronauts to survive there.
- Further, the landscape of Mars is freezing, with no protection from the Sun's radiation or passing dust storms.
- Therefore, more research, technology and testing is required to be able to send humans to Mars.

2. About HOPE

- The spacecraft itself, however, is not Japanese. It was designed and managed by the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) in the United Arab Emirates.
- Relying on existing technology but placed in a unique equatorial orbit, the spacecraft should give scientists the data they need to piece together how weather on Mars changes over the course of a day and of a year at every spot on the globe, and how the planet is losing its atmosphere.
- NASA is also supporting the mission by providing Hope access to the Deep Space Network for communications

3. Objectives in Sight

- HOPE, which is about the size of an SUV, carries three instruments. One is an imager, which will capture photographs in optical and ultraviolet light. The other two are spectrometers, which split light into the specific wavelengths present, one working on ultraviolet and one on infrared light.
- As a team, the three instruments will allow Hope to study the thin, carbon-dioxide-rich atmosphere of Mars in order to better understand the Red Planet's weather and how it loses its atmosphere out to space.
- While the mission's instruments build on existing technology, the Hope spacecraft will use a unique tactic to gather its science data: traveling in an orbit around Mars no probe has taken before. Every 55 hours, the spacecraft will complete a loop around the planet's equator, flying between 12,000 to 27,000 miles (20,000 to 43,000 kilometers) above the Martian surface.
- Hope will capture the ebbs and flows of weather on Mars to a degree that wasn't possible before.
- Hope's arrival in February 2021 is set to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the UAE's formation.

4. Why Mars?

- The possibility that the atmosphere of Mars was once warm enough to allow water to flow through its surface, which could mean life existed there too.
- The curiosity about existence of life on Mars because of the possible presence of liquid water on it, either in the past or preserved in its subsurface. This question makes the planet more intriguing for scientists since "almost everywhere we find water on Earth, we find life".
- Further, if Mars harboured a warmer atmosphere enabling water to flow in its ancient past (3.5-3.8 billion years ago), and if microbial life existed on it, it is possible that it exists in "special regions" even today. But regardless of life having existed on Mars or not, there is the idea that humans themselves might be able to inhabit the planet one day.

04

Pandemic is Shifting to Rural Areas

1. Why in News?

- After overwhelming India's megacities, the coronavirus is now moving through the country's vast hinterland.
- Home to nearly 70% of India's 1.3 billion population, the nation's villages have little access to health care and are struggling to support themselves through the country's prolonged economic slowdown.



2. Covid Making Rural Inroads

- Initially isolated from the epidemic that has swamped the Indian cities, rural areas were exposed when millions of migrant workers who lost their jobs in the cities when the government implemented a strict nationwide lockdown.
- The states of Bihar, Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh received the most number of returning labourers — now they are also witnessing the sharpest rise in new cases.
- Unlike the metros with their disproportionately high concentration of super speciality hospitals and doctors, the number of healthcare infrastructure and health providers in the rural regions is abysmally low.
- The National Health Profile, 2019, created by the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence estimates the total number of doctors in the most populous State of Uttar Pradesh to be around 77,549. In Bihar, the third most populous State, this number is 72,016.
- The contrast with Karnataka with 1,20,261 doctors and Tamil Nadu with 1,33,918 and a smaller State such as Kerala with 59,353 doctors is among the many variables that explain the far healthier Human Development Indices in the southern States.
- The statistics are similar for the number of nurses, midwives, pharmacists, beds and intensive care facilities.

3. Scope of Danger

- About 5.7 million migrants have been shifted to various destinations across the country by special trains and a further 4.1 million by road transport, according to a government filing in the country's top court.
- Infections have now spread to 98 of the country's 112 poorest rural districts, up from 34 on April 15, according to the report from NITI Aayog. Nearly 2,250 new cases were added in those districts.
- Rural death rates for nearly all infectious conditions are considerably higher than in urban areas.

5. What to Do?

- The trends are clear and policy focus needs a similar shift.
- The Centre needs to transfer funds and resources. Technology should be deployed to coordinate activities across regions.
- The Railways, with immediate access to 3,637 doctors that includes specialists and surgeons, can be roped in as can the nurses and paramedical staff in central hospitals. Time is of the essence here.

4. Defying Urban-Rural Binary

- Covid crisis has proved that there is not much difference in urban and rural India when it comes to health care systems and basic amenities. Both has failed the citizens.
- This congestion is most evident in slums in large cities and poses a grave health and environmental challenge.
- The health systems in megacities like Delhi and Mumbai are also overburdened and face a shortage of hospital staff and beds.
- The urban support under the National Health Mission is just three per cent of the total allocation, while 97 per cent of the funds are set aside for rural areas.
- The return of migrant workers from large cities to smaller towns has signalled the significance of the latter. These towns are now forced to provide not just healthcare but also some form of livelihood to those arriving from the big cities.
- Oversimplified notions of the rural-urban binary have influenced policy formulation and created huge disparities in the allocation of public resources.

05

Report on Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

1. Why in News?

- Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), an autonomous organisation under the Department of Science & Technology has brought out a report titled, 'Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients- Status, Issues, Technology Readiness, and Challenges.
- It was released along with a white paper on 'Focused Interventions for 'Make in India': Post COVID 19' which brought out the strengths, market trends, and opportunities in five sectors, including healthcare.



2. Major Recommendations

- Focus on engineering and scale aspect of technology development.
- Need for mission mode chemical engineering with defined targets for uninterrupted synthesis of molecules and to create mega drug manufacturing clusters with common infrastructure in India and the technology platform to be developed for biocatalysis towards reducing process steps for cost optimization and for fluorination
- Investment on priority in fermentation sector of large capacity and scale supporting techno-economic feasibility, attention to technologies like hazardous reactions, flow chemistry, cryogenic reactions, and membrane technology.
- The report further suggested chiral building blocks through biocatalysis for production of niche intermediates involving enzymatic reactions or fermentation as an area of potential exploitation for Indian Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) industry and focus on antiviral drugs, which require nucleic acid building blocks - Thymidine/ Cytosine Adenine/ Guanine none of which are manufactured in India because of lack of cyanation plants.
- Government encouragement of Indian companies working in chemical segments such as steroids, amino acids, carbohydrates, nucleosides, etc., to collaborate for technology development or quick technology transfer as well as the need for closer academia-industry interaction for technology development and commercialization.

4. Dependence on China

- India, the world's third-largest drug producer by volume, imports 70% of the APIs, used by its drug makers, from China. For some APIs, especially antibiotics, the dependence is more than 90%.
- Indian firms including Lupin, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Glenmark, Mankind, Dr Reddy's and Torrent are dependent on imports from China. According to data from Pharmexcil, India imported Rs. 17,400 crore worth of APIs from China in 2018-19.
- China has experienced rapid growth in the pharmaceutical market, moving from the 9th largest market in the world in 2007 to the second largest at present, next only to the US.
- China is predicted to overcome the US as the number one pharmaceutical market by 2020. In 2018, Chinese pharmaceutical market was USD 137.0 and this is estimated to grow to USD 161.8 billion by 2023, with 30% share of global market.

3. API Situation

- API means the active ingredient which is contained in medicine.
- The pharmaceutical industry in India is third largest in the world, in terms of volume, behind China and Italy, and fourteenth largest in terms of value.
- Despite a very strong base, due to low-profit margins and non-lucrative industry, domestic pharmaceutical companies have gradually stopped manufacturing APIs and started importing APIs:
 - ☛ The imports from China works out to be cheaper and cost effective for the pharmaceutical companies.
 - ☛ Uncertainty of price fluctuations of APIs from other producers like US, Italy, Singapore etc.
 - ☛ Lack of suitable policies and incentives to boost indigenous development and production of essential APIs in the country.
 - ☛ Lack of time consuming environmental clearance norms in the country.
 - ☛ The major groups of products (either as active ingredient, or intermediate chemicals) that are imported are antibiotics, steroids & hormones (key starting materials (KSM), vitamins, statins, enzymes and other fermentation-based intermediates and APIs.

06

Non-Personal Data Governance Framework

1. Why in News?

- The government has invited feedback from the public on a draft report prepared by an expert panel set up under Infosys co-founder and angel investor Kris Gopalakrishnan to deliberate on framing rules for non-personal data governance. The panel has submitted the draft report to the government now.



5. Criticism

- Non-personal data often constitutes protected trade secrets and often raises significant privacy concerns. The paper proposes the nebulous concept of community data while failing to adequately provide for community rights.
- Other experts also believe that the final draft of the non-personal data governance framework must clearly define the roles for all participants, such as the data principal, the data custodian, and data trustees.
- Regulation must be clear, and concise to provide certainty to its market participants, and must demarcate roles and responsibilities of participants in the regulatory framework. The report is unclear on these counts, and requires public consultation and more deliberation.

2. Background

- The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) constituted an eight member Committee of Experts to deliberate on a Data Governance Framework.
- While the Personal Data Protection Bill is still in process, the Gopalakrishnan-led panel in its report has defined non-personal data
- The government has fixed August 13 as the last date for submission of the feedback.

3. Define Non-Personal Data

- The Committee has defined three categories of Non-Personal Data –
 - ☛ Public Non-Personal Data;
 - ☛ Community Non-Personal Data; and
 - ☛ Private Non-Personal Data.
- The Committee has also defined a new concept of 'sensitivity of Non-Personal Data', as even non-personal data could be sensitive from the following perspectives –
 - ☛ It relates to national security or strategic interests;
 - ☛ It is business sensitive or confidential information; and
 - ☛ It is anonymised data that bears a risk of re-identification.
- The Committee recommends that the data principal should also provide consent for anonymisation and usage of this anonymized data while providing consent for collection and usage of his/her personal data.
- Public non-personal data means non-personal data collected or generated by the governments, or by any agency of the governments, and includes data collected or generated in the course of execution of all publicly funded works.
- Community non-personal data means non-personal data, including anonymised personal data, and non-personal data about inanimate and animate things or phenomena – whether natural, social or artefactual, whose source or subject pertains to a community of natural persons. Provided that such data shall not include private non-personal data.
- Private non-personal data, means non-personal data collected or produced by persons or entities other than the governments.

4. Sensitivity of Non-personal Data

- Unlike personal data, non-personal data is more likely to be in an anonymised form. However, in certain categories such as data related to national security or strategic interests such as locations of government laboratories or research facilities, even if provided in anonymised form can be dangerous.
- Similarly, even if the data is about the health of a community or a group of communities, though it may be in anonymised form, it can still be dangerous.

07

Speaker's Decision and Judicial Review

1. Why in News?

- The question of Speaker's powers to disqualify members and the extent to which courts can interfere with it have been a legal minefield, with contrasting judgements delivered in High Courts (HCs) and Supreme Court (SC).
- The Kihoto Hollohan judgment is significant in the case of ousted Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot and other 18 MLAs, who were issued notice under the anti-defection law after the ruling Congress sought their disqualification.



2. About Tenth Schedule

- The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution of India (anti-defection law) contains provisions relating to disqualification of lawmakers for defection. It provides two grounds to disqualify a lawmaker for defection.
 - First, voluntarily giving up membership of the political party on whose ticket the lawmaker was elected [para 2(1)(a)].
 - Second, voting or abstaining from voting in the house contrary to the directions issued by the party, that is violating the party whip in the house [para 2 (1)(b)].
- Tenth Schedule originally gave unquestionable powers to speakers of Parliament and State Assemblies with regard to disqualification under this law. But this was challenged in Kihoto Hollohan Case in 1992 and Supreme Court ruled that, since the role of speaker is akin to a tribunal and exercises a judicial function, thus their decisions are subject to judicial scrutiny by HCs and SC.
- Anti-Defection law applies to both Parliament and state assemblies.

3. Voluntarily Gives up His Membership

- The phrase 'Voluntarily gives up his membership' has a wider connotation than resignation.
- The law provides for a member to be disqualified if he 'voluntarily gives up his membership'. However, the SC has interpreted that in the absence of a formal resignation by the member, the giving up of membership can be inferred by his conduct.
- In other judgments, members who have publicly expressed opposition to their party or support for another party were deemed to have resigned.
- In recent case of Sachin Pilot and team, they have approached the Rajasthan High Court challenging the constitutionality of Paragraph 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule which makes "voluntarily giving up membership of a political party" liable for disqualification. The MLAs have said the provision infringes into their right to express dissent and is a violation of their fundamental right to free speech as a legislator.
- The Constitution Bench had upheld the anti-defection law saying "a political party functions on the strength of shared beliefs. Its own political stability and social utility depends on such shared beliefs and concerted action of its members in furtherance of those commonly held principles. Intra-party debates are of course a different thing. But a public image of disparate stands by members of the same political party is not looked upon, in political tradition, as a desirable state of things."

4. Court Interventions

- Stage of Intervention
 - Constitutional courts cannot judicially review disqualification proceedings under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution until the Speaker or Chairman makes a final decision on merits.
 - A 28-year-old judgment of the Supreme Court in the Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillu and Others has said that "judicial review cannot be available at a stage prior to the making of a decision by the Speaker/Chairman and a quia timet action would not be permissible. Nor would interference be permissible at an interlocutory stage of the proceedings."
- Time limit for Speakers
 - In Keisham Meghachandra Singh Vs. Honble Speaker Manipur Legislative Assembly (2020) case, three-judge bench said that the Speakers of both the state assemblies and the Parliament have to decide on disqualification petitions for members within three months except for the existence of an extraordinary circumstance. It also held that courts have the powers to intervene if the proceedings are delayed.
 - Court recommended to Parliament that it strongly considers removing the Speakers' disqualification powers and forming an independent tribunal to take up these petitions. The rationale for this suggestion is that Speakers invariably come from the ruling parties and act in a partisan manner.

7 MCQ's WITH EXPLANATORY ANSWERS

(Based on Brain Boosters)

01 NISHTHA Programme

Q. With reference to the 'NISHTHA Programme', consider the following statements:

1. It has been launched to improve enrolment ratio at the elementary level under the 'SamagraShiksha'.
2. It aims to achieve the 90% enrolment ration at the elementary level by 2025.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Both statements are incorrect. NISHTHA is a capacity building programme for "Improving Quality of School Education through Integrated Teacher Training". It aims to build competencies among all the teachers and school principals at the elementary stage.



02 Padmanabhaswamy Temple Case

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple':

1. Recently, the Supreme Court has upheld the right of the Kerala government to manage the property of deity at SreePadmanabhaSwamy Temple.
2. This temple was built by Raja Ravi Varma(Ruler of Travancore) in 1731.
3. The temple is built in an intricate fusion of the Chera style and the Dravidian style of architecture, featuring high walls, and a 16th-century gopura.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect reversing the 2011 Kerala High Court decision, the Supreme Court has upheld the right of the Travancore royal family to manage the property of deity at SreePadmanabhaSwamy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram (Sri Marthanda Varma vs. State of Kerala).

Statement 2 is also incorrect the Padmanabhaswamy temple is located in Thiruvananthapuram (The City of Lord Ananta), the capital of Kerala. It was built by Raja Marthanda Varma(Ruler of Travancore) in 1731.

Statement 3 is correct the temple is built in an intricate fusion of the Chera style and the Dravidian style of architecture, featuring high walls, and a 16th-century gopura.



03 HOPE: UAE's First Mission to Mars

Q. With reference to the 'HOPE Mission', consider the following statements:

1. It has been launched by the Saudi Arabia to the Mars.
2. With this launch Saudi Arabia became the first Arab country to do so.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Both statements are incorrect. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has launched a spacecraft to Mars, "HOPE" and "Al-Amal" in Arabic, making it the first Arab country to do so.

The spacecraft will orbit Mars to study the Martian atmosphere and its interaction with outer space and solar winds. Hope will collect data on Martian climate dynamics, which should help scientists understand why Mars' atmosphere is decaying into space. 

04 Pandemic is Shifting to Rural Areas

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. The total number of doctors in Uttar Pradesh to be around 77,549, while in contrast the number of doctors in Karnataka is 1,20,261.
2. The states of Bihar, Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh received the most number of returning labourers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Both statements are correct. The National Health Profile, 2019, created by the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence estimates the total number of doctors in the most populous State of Uttar Pradesh to be around 77,549. In Bihar, the third most populous State, this number is 72,016. The contrast with Karnataka with 1,20,261 doctors and Tamil Nadu with 1,33,918 and a smaller State such as Kerala with 59,353 doctors.

The states of Bihar, Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh received the most number of returning labourers — now they are also witnessing the sharpest rise in new cases. 

05 Report on Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. The pharmaceutical industry in India is second largest in the world, in terms of volume, behind China and Italy.

2. India imports nearly 90% of the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), used by its drug makers, from China.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Both Statement are incorrect API means the active ingredient which is contained in medicine. The pharmaceutical industry in India is third largest in the world, in terms of volume, behind China and Italy, and fourteenth largest in terms of value.

India, the world's third-largest drug producer by volume, imports 70% of the APIs, used by its drug makers, from China. For some APIs, especially antibiotics, the dependence is more than 90%. 

06 Non-Personal Data Governance Framework

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'non-personal data governance framework':

1. The framework has classified non-personal data into three main categories, namely public non-personal data, community non-personal data and private non-personal data.
2. Private non-personal data can be defined as those which are produced by individuals which can be derived from application of proprietary software or knowledge.
3. Any data identifiers about a set of people who have either the same geographic location, religion, job, or other common social interests will form the community non-personal data.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation: All statements are correct. The government committee, which submitted its report has classified non-personal data into three main categories, namely

public non-personal data, community non-personal data and private non-personal data.

Private non-personal data can be defined as those which are produced by individuals which can be derived from application of proprietary software or knowledge.

Any data identifiers about a set of people who have either the same geographic location, religion, job, or other common social interests will form the community non-personal data.



07 Speaker's Decision and Judicial Review

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution of India (anti-defection law) contains provisions relating to disqualification of lawmakers for defection.
2. Anti-Defection law applies to both Parliament and state assemblies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Both statements are correct. The Tenth Schedule of the Constitution of India (anti-defection law) contains provisions relating to disqualification of lawmakers for defection. It provides two grounds to disqualify a lawmaker for defection. First, voluntarily giving up membership of the political party on whose ticket the lawmaker was elected [para 2(1)(a)]. Second, voting or abstaining from voting in the house contrary to the directions issued by the party, that is violating the party whip in the house [para 2 (1)(b)].

Anti-Defection law applies to both Parliament and state assemblies.



7 IMPORTANT NEWS

01

Global Tiger Day 2020

- ◆ Union Environment Minister has released the detailed report of Tiger Census on the eve of Global Tiger Day. It is celebrated on 29th July every year across the world.
- ◆ The aim of the day is to create awareness and help promote a worldwide system whereby we are dedicated to conserving & protecting tigers and their natural habitats.
- ◆ 29th July acts as a reminder of agreement signed by countries at Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit in Russia in 2010 to double tiger's population by 2022.

Key Highlights

- ◆ The detailed report assessed the status of tigers in terms of spatial occupancy and density of individual populations across India.
- ◆ It also compared information obtained from the earlier three surveys (2006, 2010, and 2014) with data obtained from the 2018-19 survey to estimate population trends at country level.
- ◆ The report also evaluate the status of habitat corridors connecting major tiger populations and



highlights vulnerable areas that require conservation attention for each landscape.

Conservation Efforts

- ◆ The Heads of the Governments of Tiger Range countries at St. Petersburg, Russia, had resolved to double tiger numbers across their global range by 2022 by signing the St. Petersburg declaration on tiger conservation.
- ◆ According to the All India Tiger Estimation Report 2018, there are some 2,967 tigers in India. With this, India has achieved the target set in 2010 St Petersburg Declaration of doubling tiger population by 2022.
- ◆ With the presence of nearly 30 percent of India's tigers outside tiger reserves, India had embarked upon assessing management interventions through the globally developed Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards (CA|TS) framework, which will now be extended to all fifty tiger reserves across the country.
- ◆ The government is also working on a programme in which efforts would be made to provide water and fodder to animals in the forest itself to deal with the challenge of human-animal conflict which is causing deaths of animals. For this LIDAR based survey technology will be used for the first time. Lidar is a method for measuring distances by illuminating the target with laser light and measuring the reflection with a sensor.

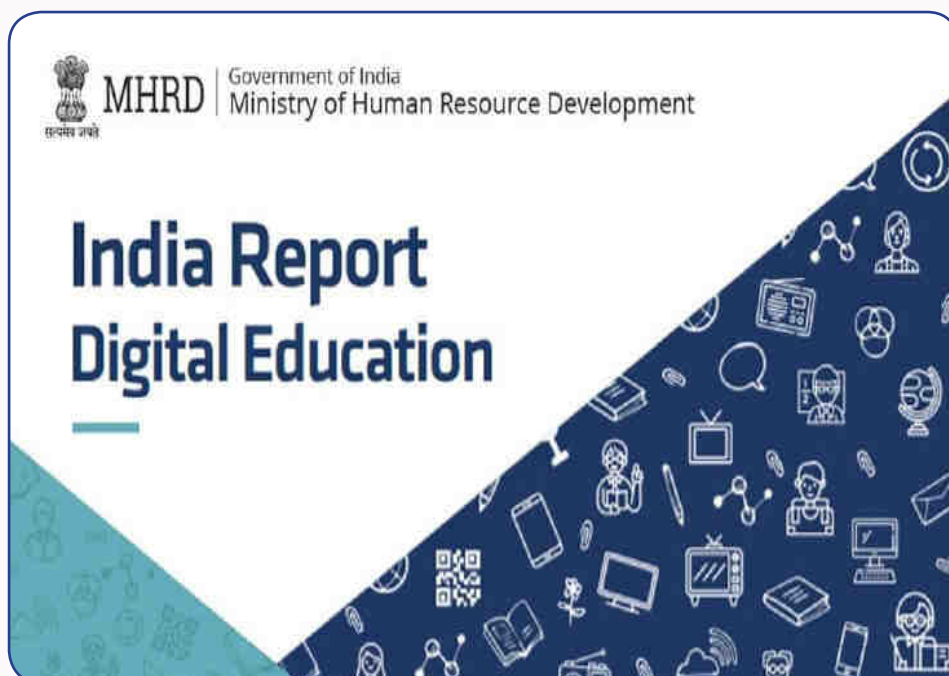
02

India Report- Digital Education 2020

- ◆ Union Ministry for Human Resource and Development (MHRD) has launched India Report on Digital Education, 2020.

Key Highlights

- ◆ The report has been prepared by Digital Education Division of MHRD in consultation with Education Departments of States and Union Territories (UTs).
- ◆ The report elaborated on the innovative methods adopted by Ministry of HRD, Education Departments of States and UTs for ensuring accessible and inclusive education to children at home and reducing learning gaps.
- ◆ School Education is envisaged as a comprehensive and convergent programme committed to universalize digital education across the wide spectrum of schools from pre-nursery to higher secondary classes. The quality digital education has acquired a new urgency in the present context of globalization.
- ◆ MHRD has initiated many projects to assist teachers, scholars and students in their pursuit of learning like DIKSHA platform, Swayam Prabha TV Channel, Online MOOC courses, On Air – Shiksha Vani, DAISY by NIOS for differently-abled, e-PathShala, National Repository of Open Educational Resources (NROER) to develop e-content and energized books, telecast through TV channels, E-learning portals, webinars, chat groups, distribution of books and other digital initiatives along with State/ UT Governments.
- ◆ Some of the major digital initiatives by State Governments



are SMILE (Social Media Interface for Learning Engagement) in Rajasthan, Project Home Classes in Jammu, Padhai Tunhar duvaar (Education at your doorstep) in Chhattisgarh, Unnayan Initiatives in Bihar through portal and mobile application, Mission Buniyaad in NCT of Delhi, Kerala's own educational TV channel (Hi-Tech school programme), E-scholar portal as well as free online courses for teachers in Meghalaya. Telangana has online certificate programs for teachers on 'Management of mental well-being during COVID.

- ◆ To ensure inclusive learning in remote areas where internet connectivity and electricity is poor and sporadic, States and UTs have also distributed textbooks at children's doorsteps. Some of the states that have taken this initiative to reach students are Odisha, Madhya Pradesh (under Dakshata Unnayan Programme), Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman

& Diu, etc. Lakshadweep has distributed tablets equipped with e-contents to students. Nagaland has distributed study material through DVD/Pen drive to students at nominal cost. Jammu & Kashmir has distributed free tabs to students, along with laptops & Braille tactile readers for visually impaired learners.

- ◆ Digital education initiatives are also enabling enhanced support for students preparing for competitive exams. Goa has partnered with Embibe, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered online platform for learning, practicing, and testing, for students preparing for entrance exams in the State. Karnataka has launched Pariksha Vani, an exam preparation program through Doordarshan, and an SSLC Exam Readiness Program. Online Practice tests with detailed analysis are available for Government and Government Aided Students of Tamil Nadu preparing for NEET exam. 📱📺📖

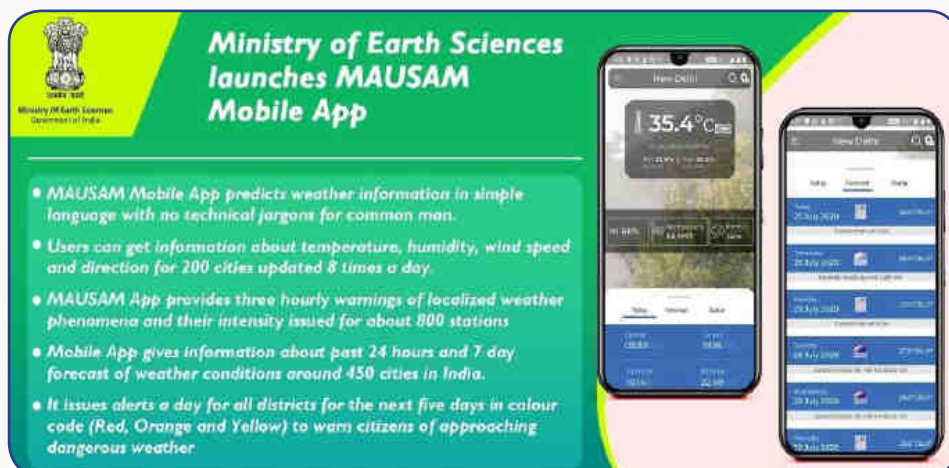
03

'Mausam' Mobile App

- India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences has launched the mobile App 'Mausam'. The 'Mausam' mobile app will be an important tool for dissemination of weather information and warnings in an attractive and user friendly manner which will meet the requirements of public. The mobile app has been designed and developed jointly by ICRISAT's Digital Agriculture & Youth (DAY) team, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune and India Meteorological Department.

The MAUSAM mobile App has the following 5 services:

- Current Weather -Current temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction for 200 cities updated 8 times a day. Information on Sunrise/ sunset and moonrise/ moonset are also given.



- Nowcast- Three hourly warnings of localized weather phenomena and their intensity issued for about 800 stations, and districts of India by State Meteorological Centres of IMD. In case of severe weather, its impact also is included in the warning.
- City Forecast – Past 24 hours and 7 day forecast of weather conditions around 450 cities in India.
- Warnings- Alerts issued twice a

day for all districts for the next five days in colour code (Red, Orange and Yellow) to warn citizens of approaching dangerous weather. The colour code Red is the most severe category urging authorities to take action, Orange code prompts authorities and public to be alert and Yellow code prompts authorities and public to keep themselves updated.

- Radar products: Latest Station wise radar products updated every 10 minutes.



04

Mobile App 'BIS-Care'

- Union Ministry for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution has launched the Bureau of Indian Standard's (BIS) Mobile App 'BIS-Care' and three portals – the Standardization, Conformity Assessment and Training Portals of e-BIS.

Key Highlights

- BIS is strengthening its capacity of enforcement by implementation of e-BIS, an integrated portal covering all its functions, enlisting the services of outside agencies for factory and market surveillance



and development of mobile app-based and AI-enabled surveillance methods. It is also important to

ensure that consumers are aware of the standards and quality products and become a part of our efforts

to eliminate the supply of sub-standard products. Further, the portal on Consumer Engagement will facilitate the online registration of Consumer Groups, submission of proposals and approval thereof, and complaint management.

- ◆ The government is also planning about to implement One Nation, One Standard, and for that BIS has formulated a scheme for the recognition of other Standard Development Organizations in the country with the objective of harmonization of standard formulation. It is under examination and will be launched soon.

◆ In order to achieve the objectives of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan and protect the interests of consumers, BIS had to further strengthen its efforts to formulate standards in the areas important for boosting our exports and regulating the import of cheap and sub-standard products. The Department of Consumer Affairs has approved the Standard National Action Plan and identified the important sectors of economy for development of standards.

About BIS

- ◆ Bureau of Indian Standards through the National Institute of Standardization at Noida has been imparting training to various stakeholders, as training plays an important role in the promotion and implementation of standards. Through it has now formulated a comprehensive training policy and chalked out an action plan to reach out to industry, consumer organizations, and government officials in a big way through online and offline courses. 

05

Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana

- ◆ Seeking to empower and associate the marginalized potters' community with India's quest to become "Aatmanirbhar", Union Home Minister has distributed 100 electric potter wheels to 100 trained artisans under Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).



remote areas in states like Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, J&K, Haryana, West Bengal,

Key Highlights

- ◆ As per KVIC data, more than 17,000 electric chaaks have so far been distributed across the country benefiting nearly 70,000 people of the potters' community. This has impacted the lives of potters in a big way. With electric chaaks, the production of clay items has increased by manifold. At present, nearly 2 crore kulhars are made every day across the country. Potters are successfully selling these kulhars at 400 railway stations which is a perfect marketing platform for them.

◆ Several regions of Gujarat, particularly Kutch and Saurashtra, are well-known for the traditional pottery art.

- ◆ Besides training them in pottery making, KVIC has also distributed them with electric potter wheels and other equipment like blunger machines for mixing of clay. This has eliminated drudgery from the process of pottery making and also resulted in increasing the production and higher income of potters by 3-4 times.

About Yojana

- ◆ The KVIC has launched Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana in several

Assam, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Telangana and Bihar. In Rajasthan, more than a dozen districts including Jaipur, Kota, Jhalawar and Sri Ganganagar have been benefited by the program.

- ◆ Under the scheme, the KVIC also provides equipment like blunger and pug mills for mixing clay for making pottery products. The machines have eliminated drudgery from the process of pottery making and resulted in higher income of potters by 7 to 8 times. 

06

Green-Ag Project in Mizoram

- ◆ The government has launched the 'Green-Ag Project' in Mizoram, to reduce emissions from agriculture and ensure sustainable agricultural practices. Mizoram is one of the five states where the project will be implemented. Other states include Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Uttarakhand.

Key Highlights

- ◆ The Green-Ag Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility, while the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation, and Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW) is the national executing agency. Other key players involved in its implementation are Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
- ◆ The project is designed to achieve multiple global environmental benefits in at least 1.8 million hectares (ha) of land in five landscapes, with mixed land



use systems. It aims to bring at least 104,070 ha of farms under sustainable land and water management.

- ◆ The project will also ensure 49 million Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂eq) sequestered or reduced through sustainable land use and agricultural practices.
- ◆ The pilot project is supposed to end on March 31, 2026, in all states, including Mizoram, where the project covers 145,670 ha of land in two districts — Lunglei and Mamit. It aims to cover 35 villages and includes two protected areas

— the Dampa Tiger Reserve and the Thorangtlang Wildlife Sanctuary.

Significance

- ◆ The Green-Ag project would help local people take advantage of the rich agro-biodiversity present in their landscape for sustainability of agriculture and livestock production practices, promotion of secondary agriculture, establishment of green value chains and thereby enhancing their incomes.



07

Tillari Forest as Conservation Reserve

- ◆ The Maharashtra government has declared the Tillari forest area in the Dodamarg and Sawantwadi range in coastal Sindhudurg district as a conservation reserve area.

Key Highlights

- ◆ The total area of this forest reserve will be 29.53 square km, and it will be the 13th such reserve in the western ghats. The area covering nine villages in the forest range is known to serve as a corridor and

even as a habitat for the population of tigers and elephants moving between the three states of Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

- ◆ The 38-km-long Dodamarg wildlife corridor that connects Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary in Maharashtra to Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka frequently witnesses elephant and tiger movement.
- ◆ Tillari will be the seventh corridor in the state to be declared as a 'conservation reserve.'

- ◆ It has semi-evergreen forest, tropical moist deciduous forests, and a number of unique trees, butterflies, and flowers.

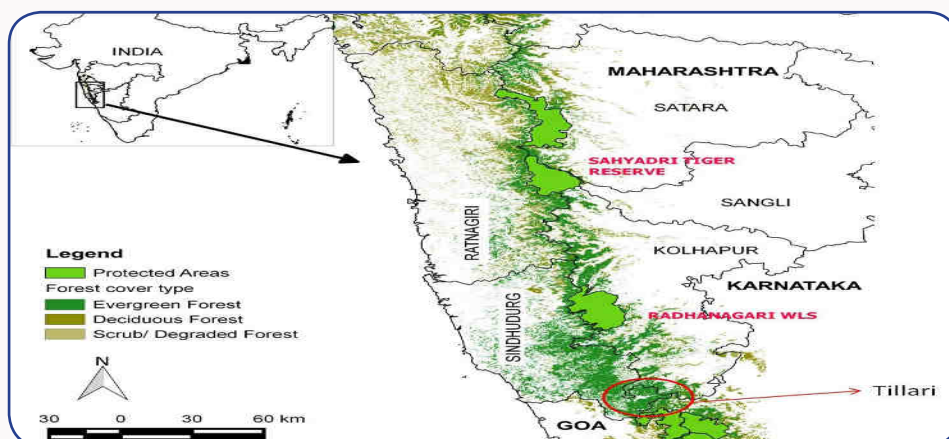
- ◆ Maharashtra has 62 conservation reserves, of which 13 are in the western ghats. Tillari reserve has semi-evergreen forest, tropical moist deciduous forests, and a number of unique trees, butterflies, and flowers.

About Conservation Reserves

- ◆ Conservation reserve denotes protected areas which typically act

as buffer zones to or connectors and migration corridors between established national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and reserved and protected forests. Such areas are designated as conservation areas if they are uninhabited and completely owned by the Government of India but used for subsistence by communities if part of the lands are privately owned.

- ◆ These protected area categories were introduced in the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002 to protect in and around

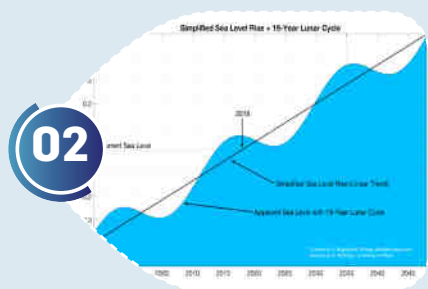


existing or proposed protected areas due to private ownership of land and land use.

- ◆ As of July 2019, there were 88 conservation reserves and 127 community reserves in India. <><

7

IMPORTANT PRACTICE QUESTIONS (For Mains)



- 01 What is the BeiDou navigation system? What does this mean for China and the world? Discuss.
- 02 Sea-level rise (SLR) is a "well accepted" consequence of climate change and could impact millions of people. Elaborate.
- 03 Discuss the key features of new National Education Policy 2020.
- 04 What is a 'smog tower'? Critically discuss how effective are smog towers for creation of clean air zones?
- 05 The government has identified 109 busy routes across India to run 151 private trains for 35 years. Why private firms are being invited to run trains in India, and how the model will work? Discuss.
- 06 What do you understand by aerial seeding? How aerial seeding is helping plantation in hard-to-access Aravalli regions? Discuss.
- 07 Recently, high levels of ammonia has detected in the Yamuna River water. What is ammonia and what are its long term effects? Discuss.

7

IMPORTANT FACTS (For Prelims)



01



03



05

01

Which country has recently withdrew itself from 'Istanbul Convention'?

Poland

02

What is the acceptable maximum limit of ammonia in drinking water, as per the Bureau of Indian Standards?

0.5 ppm (parts per million)

03

Who is the author of 'Burnt Sugar' book?

Avni Doshi

04

Which Indian institute has signed an MoU with CSIR and Vijnana Bharati for the adoption of CSIR technologies for rural development?

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-IIT Delhi

05

Who was the chairman of the committee that recommended the new 'National Education Policy 2020 (NEP)'?

Dr K Kasturirangan

06

In which country the Rafale fighters took a night halt before arriving to India?

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

07

Which country has banned wildlife trade over corona pandemic risk?

Vietnam

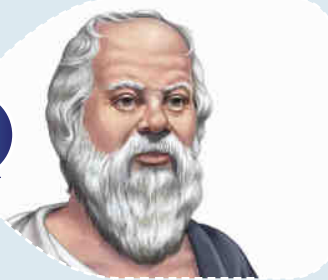
7

IMPORTANT QUOTES (For Essay and Answer Writing)

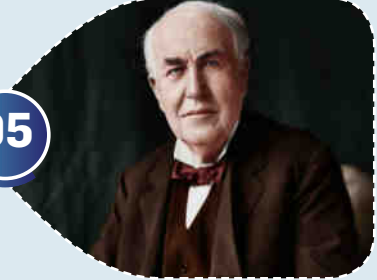
01



03



05



01

"Never look back unless you are planning to go that way."

Henry David Thoreau

02

"A man may die, nations may rise and fall, but an idea lives on. Ideas have endurance without death."

John F. Kennedy

03

"The unexamined life is not worth living."

Socrates

04

"Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark."

Rabindranath Tagore

05

"Good fortune happens when opportunity meets preparation."

Thomas A Edison

06

"A gender-equal society would be one where the word 'gender' does not exist: where everyone can be themselves."

Gloria Steinem

07

"We may have different religions, different languages, different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race."

Kofi Annan

AN INTRODUCTION

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

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 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. Coaching 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 individual's 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.

DSDL Prepare yourself from distance

Distance learning Programme, DSDL, primarily caters the need for those who are unable to come to metros for economic or family reason but have ardent desire to become a civil servant. Simultaneously, it also suits to the need of working professionals, who are unable to join regular classes due to increase in work load or places of their posting. The principal characteristic of our distance learning is that the student does not need to be present in a classroom in order to participate in the instruction. It aims to create and provide access to learning when the source of information and the learners are separated by time and distance. Realizing the difficulties faced by aspirants of distant areas, especially working candidates, in making use of the institute's classroom guidance programme, distance learning system is being provided in General Studies. The distance learning material is comprehensive, concise and exam-oriented in nature. Its aim is to make available almost all the relevant material on a subject at one place. Materials on all topics of General Studies have been prepared in such a way that, not even a single point will be missing. In other words, you will get all points, which are otherwise to be taken from 6-10 books available in the market / library. That means, DSDL study material is undoubtedly the most comprehensive and that will definitely give you added advantage in your Preliminary as well as Main Examination. These materials are not available in any book store or library. These materials have been prepared exclusively for the use of our students. We believe in our quality and commitment towards making these notes indispensable for any student preparing for Civil Services Examination. We adhere all pillars of Distance education.

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