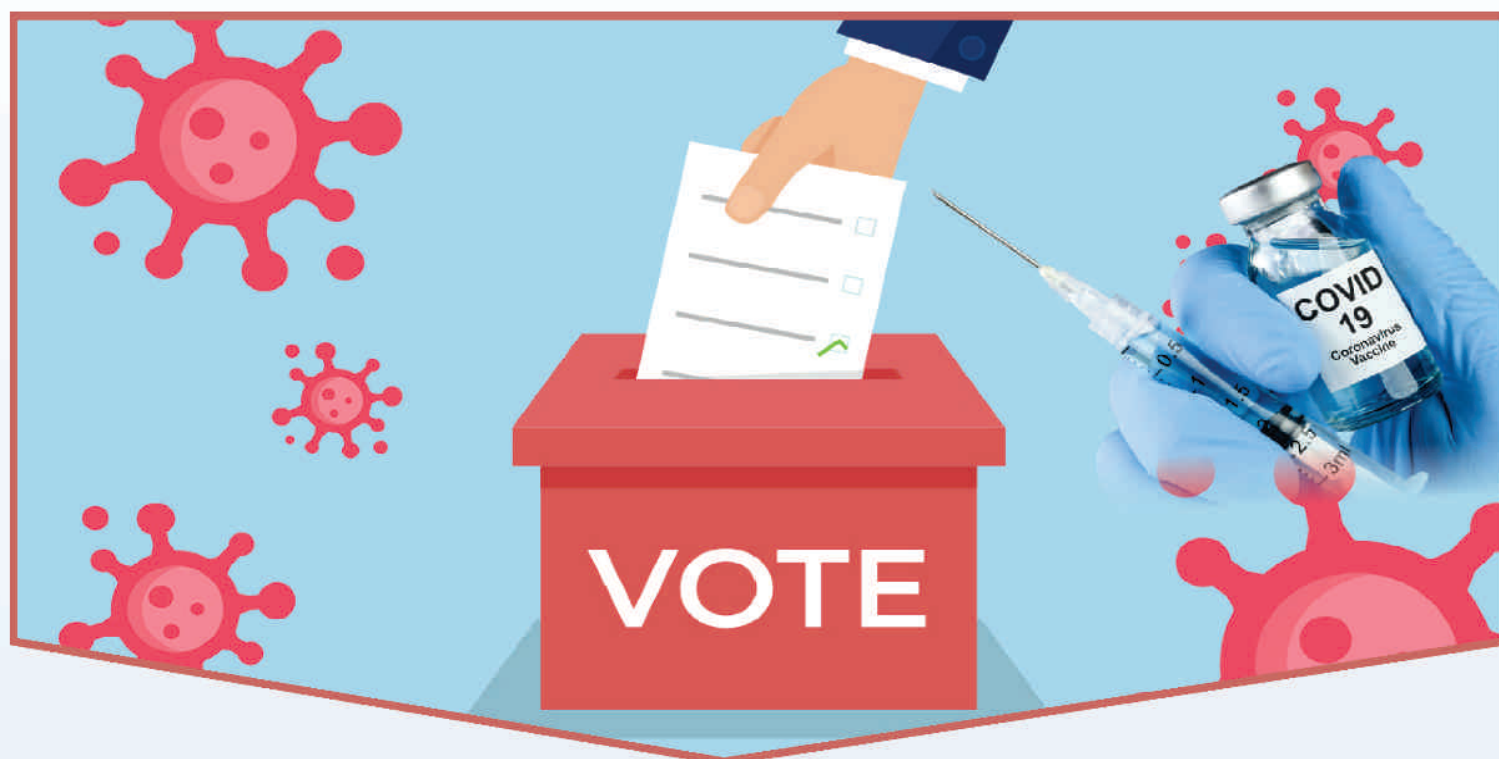


PERFECT 7

Weekly Current Affairs

An Initiative of Dhyeya IAS



1 Successful Elections During Pandemic

Victory of Democracy

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 Simplifying Law for the Common Man | 5 New U.S. President and Climate Change: New Approach |
| 3 Modern India Needs A Modern Police Force | 6 China's Debt Trap in Central Asia: Economic Colonialism |
| 4 The Conundrum of Chabahar Project | 7 An Opportune Moment to Attract FDI |

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

OUR TEAM

Founder & CEO	➤ Vinay Kumar Singh
Managing Director	➤ Q. H. Khan
Chief Editor	➤ Qurban Ali
Managing Editor	➤ Ashutosh Singh
Editors	➤ Omveer Singh Chaudhary ➤ Rajat Jhingan ➤ Jeet Singh ➤ Avaneesh Pandey
Editorial Support	➤ Prof. R. Kumar
Lead Authors	➤ Swati Yadav ➤ Anshuman Tiwari ➤ Ajay Singh ➤ Ahamad Ali
Authors	➤ Ashraf Ali ➤ Girraj Singh ➤ Hariom Singh ➤ Sneha Tiwari
Reviewers	➤ Ranjeet Singh ➤ Ramyash Agnihotri
Design & Development	➤ Sanjeev Kumar Jha ➤ Punish Jain
Promotion & Advertisement	➤ Gufran Khan ➤ Rahul Kumar
Graphics	➤ Krishna Kumar ➤ Krishna Kant Mandal ➤ Mukund Patel
Office Assistants	➤ Hari Ram ➤ Raju Yadav

Content Office



DHYEYA IAS
most trusted since 2003

DHYEYA IAS
302, A-10/11, Bhandari House,
Near Chawla Restaurants,
Dr. Mukherjee Nagar,
Delhi-110009



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

7 IMPORTANT ISSUES

01 Successful Elections During Pandemic: Victory of Democracy

Why in News?

- ♦ Elections in a demographically large democracy like India demands vibrant — at times chaotic — political interaction, and mass mobilisation on a large scale. The pandemic makes the situation immensely challenging.
- ♦ After facing some serious questions during the general elections in 2019, that affected its image, the Bihar elections were an opportunity for the Election Commission of India (ECI) to prove its efficiency and even-handedness to every sceptic. And ECI proved its mettle once again being a strong constitutional body with an effective machinery.

Background

- ♦ The sudden spread of the Covid-19 pandemic all across the world has disrupted every aspect of public life. More importantly, the threat of the virus is unlikely to end any soon, as the surge of fresh cases continues in many parts of the world and the confirmed news of a reliable vaccine is yet to come by.
- ♦ Under such circumstances, with the resumption of economic and other essential services, public life is slowly moving towards the “new normal” where routine activities in life are again being undertaken. However, the process of restoring “normalcy” is being done largely by

following precautionary measures as the threat of the virus looms large. One such routine activity is the conduct of elections in democracies across the world.

- ♦ Democratic elections, by the very nature of it, is extremely challenging to be held amidst the spread of an infectious disease like Covid-19. As elections require intense public interaction and mass communication, the apprehension was that the precautionary norms like social distancing and avoidance of crowded gatherings will essentially impede the hassle-free conduct of elections.
- ♦ As the pandemic continues to persist, putting elections, which is the most perceptible hallmark

of a vibrant working democracy, at abeyance is detrimental for accountable governance that democracy seeks to establish.

- ♦ According to S Y Quraishi, former Chief Election Commissioner of India and a distinguished Fellow at Ashoka University, “after facing some serious questions during the general elections in 2019, that affected its image, the Bihar elections were an opportunity for the ECI to prove its efficiency and even-handedness to every sceptic”.
- ♦ In his view, “at a time, when all countries are looking at each other for lessons, Bihar could be a leading example of successful election management — and the ECI of a leading election management agency”.

Democracy Defies Covid

- For the polling process, a number of special measures were taken. The number of polling personal as well as polling booths were increased than before.
- The limit for maximum number of voters in each polling booth was reduced for avoiding overcrowding.
- Provisions for thermal scanning of all voters and availability of gloves for the electorates before accessing the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) for casting the votes, was ensured.
- Adequate supply of hand sanitisers, soap, water and other necessary measures for ensuring health safety both for the polling personnel as well as the voters was also be made available as per the guidelines.
- Even special provisions of secluded voting in the last hour of the day for the quarantined and Covid-19 positive patients was arranged with adequate caution.
- The provision of postal voting was made available for the vulnerable voters like the elderly and handicap people.

ECI's Performance on Bihar Elections

- ◆ The election to the Bihar legislative assembly was unprecedented in several ways. First, in view of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was apprehension whether the polls would be possible at all. Later, several political parties clamoured for postponing the elections.
- ◆ ECI after initial doubts, was inspired by the successful experiences of many countries, especially South Korea, which conducted its national elections in the midst of the pandemic with great success — and the highest-ever turnout. As many as 34 countries have conducted elections to their national assembly or presidential post while being engaged in the battle against the novel coronavirus.
- ◆ To leave nothing to chance, the ECI consulted its counterparts in several countries and asked them to share their experiences before deciding to overrule all objections and go ahead with the elections. It did well to test the ground with Rajya Sabha polls as well as legislative council elections in various states under COVID-specific guidelines.

ECI: Modus Operandi

- ◆ Equipped with such knowledge as well as its own experiences, the ECI issued COVID guidelines in August for the Bihar assembly polls.
- ◆ Besides the usual norms related to sanitising and social distancing, these guidelines included a reduction in the limit of electors per polling booth to 1,000, from the current 1,500, in order to prevent overcrowding.

- ◆ The consequent addition of nearly 40,000 extra polling stations meant as many additional EVMs. To avoid crowding at the counting centres, the counting tables were reduced to seven per hall from 14.
- ◆ Door-to-door canvassing was restricted to groups of five persons. Convoys of vehicles were to be broken after every five vehicles, instead of 10. The number of participants at the public meetings were restricted to that prescribed by the disaster management authority. Online facilities were provided for nominations, filing of affidavits and security deposits.
- ◆ Opposition parties highlighted the possibility of voter turnout going down due to the pandemic. The ECI's answer to this was the decision to extend the postal ballot option to senior citizens over the age of 80, Covid-positive patients, persons with disabilities and voters employed in essential services, along with making use of its now famous SVEEP (Systematic Voter Education for Electoral Participation) programme. A satisfactory voter turnout proved the commission right.
- ◆ The commission faced other challenges as well — fake news and hate propaganda. The ECI has been proactive in dealing with both. It had drafted a Voluntary Code of Ethics in collaboration with social media platforms, allowing direct engagement between the two over problematic posts during an election season.
- ◆ One unprecedented development on the counting day was the ECI holding press conferences, not

once or twice but four times, to answer all possible doubts and quell apprehensions and suspicions that arise when the margin of victory is low.

Way Forward

- ◆ It is undeniably true that the uninterrupted conduct of elections, even in the wake of the pandemic, is essential for democracies to sustain and thrive. As suspension of elections citing health emergency can pave the possibility of authoritarian tendencies and unaccountable governance, democratic elections are of paramount importance especially in times of such unprecedented life and livelihood crisis.
- ◆ Convincing the electorates to participate in the elections enthusiastically, despite the Covid-19 threat, depended on the confidence-building measures to be taken by the election conducting body, the Election Commission of India.



General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

Q. Comment on the Election Commissions' performance on conducting elections in Bihar and the lessons learnt for conducting elections during pandemic.

02

Simplifying Law for the Common Man

Why in News?

- ◆ Subhash Vijayran (a Delhi based lawyer) has recently filed a PIL in Supreme Court (Subhash Vijayran vs Union of India). He wants the legislature and executive to use plain English in drafting laws, the Bar Council to introduce plain English in law curricula and the Supreme Court to only allow concise and precise pleadings.

Introduction

- ◆ On 15th October, the Supreme Court heard an unusual petition, filed by Delhi-based lawyer Subhash Vijayran. He wanted the court to examine the issues within the judicial system.
- ◆ The PIL said:
 - ◆ “The writing of most lawyers is: (1) wordy, (2) unclear, (3) pompous and (4) dull,” it began. “We use eight words to say what can be said in two. We use arcane phrases to express commonplace ideas. Seeking to be precise, we become redundant. Seeking to be cautious, we become verbose. Our writing is teemed with legal jargon & legalese. And the story goes on.”
- ◆ Vijayran sought a few simple directions:
 - ◆ Wherever possible, simplify the language in legal and government communication.

- ◆ Set a page limit for pleading and a time limit for oral submissions.
- ◆ Introduce “Legal Writing in Plain English” as a mandatory subject in LLB courses, in order to create a batch of lawyers skilled in communicating with the common man. “For whom are the Constitution, Law and Legal System? For the lawyers? Or the judges? Or—most important, but often neglected—The Common Man?”
- ◆ The apex court was sympathetic. “You should also say, if this isn’t done, people will stop reading the laws and judgements,” Vijayan recalls the bench, led by Chief Justice S.A. Bobde, telling him. The judges then issued a notice to the government. It is to be heard in December.

Legal Colonial Legacy

- ◆ Legalese in India has a colonial legacy. It borrows heavily from Latin (ab initio, ex parte, in personam) and French (plaintiff, covenant, larceny) and mixes this with terms rarely used outside courtrooms: from “aforesaid”, “forthwith”, “henceforth” and “thenceforth”, to the many, many siblings of “here” (herein, herewith), “where” (wherein, whereof) and “there” (thereon, thereto).
- ◆ The origins of legalese in India go back to the 19th century. The British introduced it for their own benefit, and for a few Indians who were educated and could act as intermediaries between the state and the people.
- ◆ The practice continued after independence. It is integral to the Constitution, Indian Penal Code,

Words Not Reaching the Masses

- A classic example is a 2016 judgement on a landlord-tenant dispute, delivered by the Himachal Pradesh high court. Here’s an excerpt: “However, the learned counsel...cannot derive the fullest succour from the aforesaid acquiescence...given its sinew suffering partial dissipation from an imminent display occurring in the impugned pronouncement hereat wherewithin unravelments are held qua the rendition recorded by the learned Rent Controller...”
- In April 2017, the apex court sent this back for redrafting, saying, “We will have to set it aside because one cannot understand this.”
- Amitabh Rawat, an additional sessions judge in Delhi, granted bail to an accused in the Delhi riots case in verse. A memorable bit reads:

Stop! Stop! Stop! Stop;
I have heard, heard a lot.
Mind is clear, with claims tall;
It’s my time to take a call.

court communication and often, the laws passed by Parliament. Quite often, the translations to Indian languages are as complex.

- ◆ There's an unwillingness to reform, partly because it benefits those within the system. When you create jargon which isn't understood, you prevent larger participation. It helps create an aura, sanctity around an institution. It helps keep it above criticism.

Poetry and Judiciary

- ◆ Another quirk is ornamental language and literary references, especially in landmark cases.
- ◆ Some lawyers say V.R. Krishna Iyer, a Supreme Court judge from 1973-80, was known to write with "literary flair". Sample this: "The art of statutory construction seeks aid from connective tissues as it were of complementary enactments. This mode offers a penological synthesis Parliament legislatively intended." His style is said to have "inspired" countless judges, often with results that were sometimes amusing, sometimes embarrassing.
- ◆ The recent Supreme Court verdict on passive euthanasia falls in the "literary" league. The verdict, by a five-judge bench in March 2018, recognised a terminally-ill patient's right to refuse medical treatment. It spans 538 pages and has references to, and quotes from, Indian figures such as Swami Vivekananda and Charvaka, Greek thinkers like Epicurus, Plato and Hippocrates, writers William Shakespeare and Ernest Hemingway and poets

Alfred Tennyson, John Locke, John Dryden and John Donne. There are also lines from a Bollywood song, Rote Hue Aate Hain Sab, from Muqadar Ka Sikandar.

Case Study: Section 35 of Indian Transfer of Property Act, 1882

- ◆ The Act says: "Where a person professes to transfer property which he has no right to transfer, and as part of the same transaction confers any benefit on the owner of the property, such owner must elect either to confirm such transfer or to dissent from it; and in the latter case he shall relinquish the benefit so conferred, and the benefit so relinquished shall revert to the transferor or his representative as if it had not been disposed of, subject nevertheless, where the transfer is gratuitous, and the transferor has, before the election, died or otherwise become incapable of making a fresh transfer, and in all cases where the transfer is for consideration, to the charge of making good to the disappointed transferee the amount or value of the property attempted to be transferred to him."
- ◆ When section was shown to lawyers and law students who have not had the displeasure of encountering it before, almost always and immediately, they take on themselves the unkind task of interpreting it as quickly as possible. Some take a minute or two; many take a lot more time. All of them, however, go about this task with a strange smugness, the kind that only specialisation can bestow.

- ◆ On the other hand, the non-lawyers on reading Section 35 almost always have three common questions:

- ◆ Where are the full-stops in this thing?
- ◆ Why is this entire section one large amorphous sentence?
- ◆ Do they want people to understand it?
- ◆ The Flesch-Kincaid index is a readability test that indicates the comprehensibility of a document. In this test, higher scores indicate higher readability and lower scores indicate lower readability. Usually, scores range from 0 to 100. Scores between 90 and 100 indicate that most sixth standard students can comprehend the document. Scores between 60 and 70 indicate that most tenth standard students can comprehend the document. And scores between 0-30 indicate that university graduates would be best suited to understanding the document. The Harvard Law Review generally records a readability score of 30-35.
- ◆ Section 35 of the Transfer of Property Act registers a score of -63 on the Flesch-Kincaid index. In other words, it is utterly and completely incomprehensible. Granted, a readability formula is a primitive tool to determine how readable a document actually is. However, at least it lets one frame one's bewilderment at the sheer density of statutes such as Section 35 in numerical terms.



Way Forward

While the endeavour of clarifying the language of the law cannot by any means be a replacement for the substantive changes to be made in the law, it is still an urgent and important task. By making legal language easier to comprehend, the substance of the law becomes clearer, easier to communicate, easier to translate across languages and more open to debate, deliberation and potential reform.

It is dangerous not to interrogate why legal codes that apply to everyone – and that everyone is expected to understand – are so obscure.

Easy Language: A norm not Exception

- A skeptical inquiry into the form of legal language might be especially important in the Indian context. Our laws are drafted in a language that the majority of us do not read or write. Most of us who understand the language find the language of the law inaccessible. Most of our laws were drafted in the late 1800s and early 1900s by colonial rulers.
- In Australia, a report called 'Clearer Commonwealth Law' giving recommendations about how to make "laws, particularly Commonwealth laws, easier to

understand" was published in 1993. Many of the 46 recommendations given in the report were adopted within two years. Australia's 'Social Security Act, 1991' was drafted in plain language and contains a 'Reader's Guide', notes, 'method statements' and examples to help readers find, read and use information.

- The South African experience with plain language is linked to its efforts to foster democratic values. The primary motivation behind drafting the South African constitution in clear language (in consultation with plain language experts from around the world) was to ensure access to its "soul"

General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

Q. Legalese is intimidating for the masses and blocks real and effective reforms. It keeps judiciary and law on an artificially higher pedestal, away from the common man. Discuss.

03

Modern India Needs A Modern Police Force

Why in News?

- ◆ Indian Police Foundation (IPF) a multi-disciplinary think tank, has said neither Centre nor state governments have shown interest in police reforms, and therefore Supreme Court should monitor its implementation.
- ◆ Discussing how police reforms still remain a distant dream even after the 2006 Supreme Court judgment on it, members of the Indian Police Foundation (IPF), made an appeal to implement these reforms at the earliest.
- ◆ On the flip side, given the atrocities that have been carried out by the police towards citizens, especially the minorities. There are calls for reforms from the civil society too.

Introduction

- ◆ Delivering the IPF Foundation Day lecture on how reforms in police and criminal justice are crucial to safeguarding democratic rights of citizens, Justice Madan B. Lokur, former Supreme Court judge, said that unless the police is reformed in line with the top court directions, there will be instances wherein FIRs (First Information Report) are not lodged, investigations carried out are shoddy and justice is delayed. These complaints, he said, are because the police are overworked. He, however, added that “this cannot be used as an excuse”.



- ◆ Citing figures, Lokur said that in 2019, Delhi reported three lakh cases of crime, including one rape case every four hours.
- ◆ He further stated that there is a massive “trust deficit” in policemen. “There are reports suggesting that 29 per cent of respondents trust police, 55 per cent believe they are corrupt and custodial deaths are a concern which needs to be dealt with,” he said.
- ◆ The appeal by the foundation stated that it was “very unfortunate” that none of the major political parties of the country have shown interest in police reforms.
- ◆ The appeal also said that police reforms are directly linked with the progress of the country.

Police Machinery and Governance

- ◆ Police forces of the various states are governed by their state laws and regulations. Some states have modelled their laws on the basis of a central law, the Police Act, 1861. States also have their police manuals detailing how police of the state is organised, their roles and responsibilities, records that must be maintained, etc.
- ◆ State police forces generally have two arms: civil and armed police.
 - ◆ The civil police is responsible for day-to-day law and order and crime control. Armed police is kept in reserve, till additional support is required in situations like riots.

- ◆ Civil police forces broadly adhere to the hierarchical structure. Every state is divided into various field units for the purpose of effective policing: zones, ranges, districts, sub-divisions or circles, police stations and outposts. For instance, a state will comprise of two or more zones, each zone will comprise two or more ranges, and ranges will be sub-divided into the other field units in a similar manner. The key field units in this setup are the police district and the police station.
- ◆ The state government exercises control and superintendence over the state police forces. At the district level, the District Magistrate (DM) may also give directions to the SP and supervise police administration. This is called the dual system of control (as authority is vested in both the DM and SP) at the district level.
- ◆ In some metropolitan cities and urban areas, however, the dual system has been replaced by the Commissionerate system to allow for quicker decision-making in response to complex law and order situations.

Judicial Intervention-Landmark Judgement on Police Reforms

- ◆ In 2006, the Hon'ble SC gave a landmark judgement in the Prakash Singh case with seven directions (six for the state government and one for the Union) for setting up of state Security Commission to lay down broad policies and give directions for preventive tasks and service and constituted the Soli Sorabjee Committee which suggested a Model Police Act.
- ◆ The Court directed the setting up of three institutions, namely:
 - ◆ State Security Commission which would lay down the broad policies and give directions for the performance of the preventive tasks and service oriented functions of the police;
 - ◆ Police Establishment Board comprising the Director General of Police and four other senior officers of the Department which shall decide transfers, postings, promotions and other service related matters of departmental officers and men; and
 - ◆ Police Complaints Authority at the district and state levels with a view to inquiring into allegations of serious misconduct by the police personnel.
- ◆ Besides, the Court ordered that the Director General of Police shall be selected by the state government from amongst the three senior-most officers of the Department who have been empanelled for promotion to that rank by the UPSC, and that he shall have a prescribed minimum tenure of two years.
- ◆ Police officers on operational duties in the field like the IG Zone, DIG Range, SP i/c District and SHO i/c Police Station would also have a minimum tenure of two years.
- ◆ The Court also ordered the separation of investigating police from the law and order police to ensure speedier investigation, better expertise and improved rapport with the people.
- ◆ The Union Government was asked to set up a National Security Commission for the selection and placement of heads of Central Police Organizations, upgrading the effectiveness of these forces and improving the service conditions of its personnel.

Model Police Act, 2006

- ◆ The Supreme Court has observed that there is a need to have an independent complaints authority to inquire into complaints of police misconduct; the Model Police Act, 2006 requires each state to set up an authority (akin to the Civilian Complaint Review Board in New York City) with five members: a retired High Court Judge, a retired police officer of the rank of DGP from another state cadre, a retired officer with public administration experience from another state, a civil society member, and a person with at least 10 years of experience as a judicial officer or lawyer or legal academic.
- ◆ The Ministry of Home Affairs set up an Expert Committee, Chaired by Dr. Soli Sorabjee, to draft a new Model Police Act in

September 2005. The Committee submitted a Model Police Act on 30 October 2006 after extensive consultations. A copy of the same was sent to State Governments on 31 October 2006 with the request to frame a new State Police Act or amend the existing Act on the basis of the Model Police Act, 2006.

- ♦ “Police” is a State subject falling in List-II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to formulate new Police Act or amend their existing Act on the lines of draft Model Police Act prepared by the Central Government.
- ♦ 17 states (Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand) passed new laws or amended their existing laws in light of this new model law.

Suggestive Measures

- ♦ The internal reforms that we need are: a change in the attitude of the police towards complainants, quick registration of FIRs, and swift response against crimes.
- ♦ But revamping the police training academies should be the top priority. Officers who are not wanted in the police force are transferred to these police training

SEVEN DIRECTIVES OF SUPREME COURT

- 1 **Constitute a State Security Commission**
- 2 **Fixed two-year tenure for DGP**
- 3 **Two-year term for SPs & SHOs**
- 4 **Separate Investigation and L&O functions**
- 5 **Set up Police Establishment Board**
- 6 **Set up Police Complaints Authorities at State & Dist levels**
- 7 **Set up National Security Commission at Centre level**



institutes. Such officers fail to inspire the young trainees.

- ♦ Coming to external reforms, the most important directive that needs to be implemented, and which has been mandated by the Supreme Court too, is to ensure there is no outside pressure on the police.
- ♦ There should not be any browbeating, lobbying or any political interference of any kind. There needs to be an autonomy in matters of investigation.
- ♦ A police officer should be able to feel that if he or she is enforcing the rule of law, then nobody can punish them for taking the right step. Currently, there is a fear of transfer and punishment among police officers. That's why this is the most crucial area that needs to be urgently looked at.

Way Forward

- ♦ There are often “extraneous factors” on the police to bring

down crime rate, leading to shoddy investigations and non-registration of cases. Cost of an incompetent police is higher crime rate, bad internal security situation, and increase in incidents of terrorism and insurgency.

- ♦ The police are the central pillar of the criminal justice system and if that is not improved other organs of the system will not be able to work efficiently. It must be revived, strengthened, restructured, reformed.



General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

Q. Discuss the importance of police reforms and how long pending reforms leading to a decayed policing system.

04

The Conundrum of Chabahar Project

Why in News?

- India is not a part of the Chabahar-Zahedan railway at present, but as Iran begins the second phase of the 628-km project, Tehran hopes New Delhi will help it procure equipment to run the rail line from the Chabahar port to the Afghan border.

Background

- Looking at the whole aspects of relations between Iran and India, when it comes to politics, there has been a great common understanding and shared interests. There have been exchanges of delegations between the two countries at the highest level.
- But when it comes to economic and trade relations, it has been subject to some limits and restrictions, which has been imposed by third parties (USA).
- In July 2020, 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 US.
- Delays due to US sanctions have also taken a toll on the Indian interest in developing the Farzad-B gas field, where ONGC Videsh made a discovery in 2008.

- 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).
- According to a senior Iranian diplomat, Iran's Port and Maritime Organisation (PMO) recently conveyed to India a request for cranes, tracks, switches and signalling equipment, as well as locomotives that it has had difficulty in procuring them directly due to the U.S.-imposed sanctions. Iran has also asked to activate a \$150 million credit line that had been offered by India during Iranian President Rouhani's visit to Delhi in 2018 to pay for the purchases.

Significance of Chabahar for India

- 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 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.

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 Damman 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.

Iran Trying Bring India into Perspective

- ◆ "We think that we should look at the future instead of digging into the past, where there have been some sources of bitterness," said Iranian diplomat Masoud Rezvanian, clarifying that Indian companies played "no role at present" in the railway project. In contrast, the Chabahar port Shahid Beheshti Terminal, operated jointly by India and Iran, had been running smoothly, and had processed more than 12 lakh tonnes of bulk cargo and 8200 containers, according to the MEA.
- ◆ In the U.S. elections the victory of Joe Biden has increased the possibility that sanctions on Iran might ease, allowing India to increase its engagement with its traditional partner who used to be a major supplier of oil before the Trump administration forced India to "zero out" imports.
- ◆ New Delhi is also watching negotiations on a 25-year strategic cooperation agreement between China and Iran believed to be worth \$400 billion, which could fund other parts of the Chabahar development, including a free trade zone along the Makran coast, and oil infrastructure projects.
- ◆ Iranian diplomat cited that the door is open for all, but we are considering a priority for Indian companies. Even once in 2014 or 2015 a proposal was put forward by Fertiliser Ministry of India for

establishing a "Reverse SEZ" in Chabahar but it was never officially discussed and followed with us. The Iranian diplomat stressed that no country waits so long for a specific country and finally first come, first serve would be the ruling principle.

Way Forward

- ◆ Iran is still hopeful that the pledge for the line of credit India made in 2018 might now pave the way for Indian contribution to the development of this railway line. India may positively respond to the request in an expedited manner but Iran's counter balancing with China can make New Delhi uncomfortable.
- ◆ Though Iran welcomes Indian government and Indian companies to join somehow in this project between Chabahar-Zahedan and the other one which connects Zahedan to Mashhad-Sarakhs on the border with Turkmenistan and other Central Asian countries, and but it is on New Delhi to decide this time and Iran is also not willing to wait longer.



General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

- India and its neighborhood-relations.

Topic:

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

Q. Discuss Iran using China to counter-balance India on Chabahar project and impact of US sanctions of India's dealing with Iran.

05

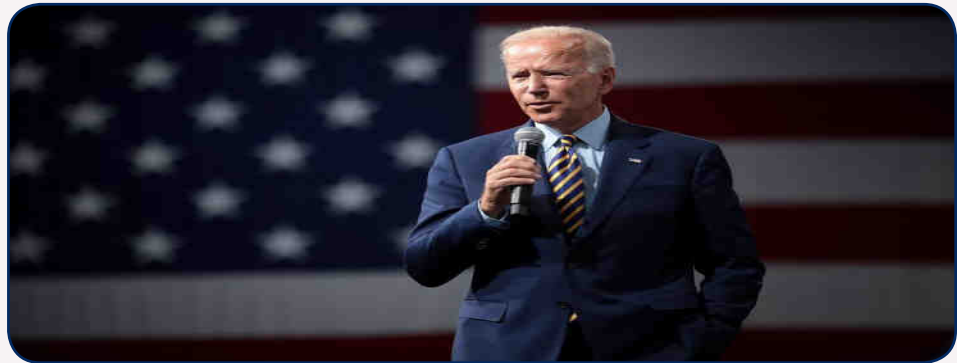
New U.S. President and Climate Change: New Approach

Why in News?

- ◆ Joe Biden, America's president elect is expected to restore dozens of environmental safeguards that President Trump had abolished. Also, Biden may launch the boldest climate change plan of any president in history. While some of Biden's most sweeping programs will encounter stiff resistance from Senate Republicans and conservative attorneys general, the United States is poised to make a 180-degree turn on climate change and conservation policy.

Background

- ◆ Much will be made about Joe Biden's pledge to re-join the Paris climate agreement, the international pact designed to avoid dangerous warming of the Earth.
- ◆ President Trump pulled out of the deal after the Obama administration had signed up in 2016, and during the drawn-out election count, Mr Biden confirmed that reversing the decision would be one of his first acts as president.
- ◆ The election of Joe Biden as the president of the United States is good news for the environment. In his victory speech on 7 November 2020, he identified the climate crisis as one of his top priorities, saying Americans must marshal the "forces of science" in the "battle to save our planet."
- ◆ In the run-up to the elections, Mr Biden, rightly, called, Donald Trump's position on climate as reckless, irresponsible and unacceptable, and outlined his policy plan:
 - ◆ Rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement.
 - ◆ Invest \$1.7 trillion to ensure



- that by 2050 the country will be a 100% clean energy economy with net zero emission, with an enforcement mechanism in place to achieve the goal.
- ◆ Invest in clean technologies.
- ◆ Stop investments in business that affect the climate and the environment.
- ◆ Bring the world with the US to fast pace climate action.
- ◆ He wants to spend heavily on public transport, to invest in electric vehicle manufacturing and charging points and give consumers financial incentives to trade up to cleaner cars.
- ◆ All of these options have one additional component apart from cutting carbon: they put people back to work.
- ◆ Biden's team already has plans on how it will restrict oil and gas drilling on public lands and waters; ratchet up federal mileage standards for cars and SUVs; block pipelines that transport fossil fuels across the country; provide federal incentives to develop renewable power; and mobilize other nations to make deeper cuts in their own carbon emissions.
- clarified how much of a difference it would make to limit the rise to 1.5C.
- ◆ The 1.5C target could prevent small island states from sinking beneath the waves, it could ensure that millions of people avoid the disasters of extreme weather, it could limit the chances of an ice-free Arctic in the Summer.
- ◆ Scientists say that Mr Biden's goal of reaching net zero emissions by mid-century could have significant implications for the 1.5C target.
- ◆ There will be a Democrat in the White House, but the Republican party currently controls the US Senate and has so far shown a marked reluctance to spend money on stimulating the economy, despite the pandemic.
- ◆ While President Trump has taken a strident anti-climate approach, there has been a softening of rhetoric from some Republicans in the last couple of years.
- ◆ Joe Biden also knows better than many how to navigate the upper house; he was elected to the senate six times before serving as vice-president under Barack Obama.

American Political Will and Climate Change

- ◆ The Paris deal sought to keep global temperatures "well below" 2.0 C (3.6F), but in 2018 UN scientists

India Fares Better on Climate Performance

- ◆ Mr Biden's commitment to battling the climate crisis will work in favour of India, a country that is vulnerable

to the phenomenon. The impact of a changing climate is a barrier to achieving its development outcomes.

- ◆ Yet despite its low per capita emissions, India has made significant commitments in its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution as part of the Paris Agreement.
- ◆ The country is doing as best as it can with the resources (finance and technology) it has along with meeting its growth challenges, but at the same time, it has, rightly held that the developed world must pay for the clean-up (based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities).
- ◆ India's emission share is 6% and the country needs help to grow, but by adopting a cleaner path. The new US administration must not disappoint, as it gears up to rejoin the Paris Agreement.

Challenges for Biden

- ◆ But some of Biden's most ambitious environmental pledges will be difficult to fulfill. His climate plan calls for "banning new oil and gas permitting on public lands and waters," something no administration has ever done on a permanent basis.
- ◆ Biden's pledge to achieve a carbon-free U.S. power sector within 15 years would mean the closing or revamping of nearly every coal- and gas-fired power plant around the country, and the construction of an unprecedented number of new wind turbines and solar farms. On top of that, engineers still need to devise a better way of storing energy when the sun is not shining or the wind is not blowing.

About Paris Deal

- ◆ At COP 21 in Paris, on 12 December 2015, Parties to the UNFCCC reached a landmark agreement to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future.
- ◆ The Paris Agreement builds upon the Convention and – for the first time – brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so. As such, it charts a new course in the global climate effort.
- ◆ The Paris Agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- ◆ Additionally, the agreement aims to increase the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change, and at making finance flows consistent with a low GHG emissions and climate-resilient pathway. To reach these ambitious goals, appropriate mobilization and provision of financial resources, a new technology framework and enhanced capacity-building is to be put in place, thus supporting action by developing countries and the most vulnerable countries, in line with their own national objectives.
- ◆ The Agreement also provides for an enhanced transparency framework for action and support.
- ◆ The Paris Agreement requires all Parties to put forward their

best efforts through "nationally determined contributions" (NDCs) and to strengthen these efforts in the years ahead. This includes requirements that all Parties report regularly on their emissions and on their implementation efforts. There will also be a global stocktake every 5 years to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the agreement and to inform further individual actions by Parties.

Way Forward

- ◆ The United States under President Trump filed its intent to withdraw at the earliest possible date, on November 4, 2019. After the one-year period, on November 4, 2020, the U.S. formally withdrew from the Agreement, coincidentally on the day following the 2020 U.S. presidential election.
- ◆ A month after the Biden administration informs the United Nations of its decision to re-join, the US will once again be part of the global effort to curb climate change - much to the delight of climate diplomats.
- ◆ With China, Japan and South Korea having set long-term goals to cut carbon, expectations are rising that the UN's COP26 climate summit, which convenes in Glasgow (UK) in November 2021, may turn out to be a success. 

General Studies Paper- 3

Topic

- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

Q. Discuss the impact of Joe Biden's being elected on the issue relating to climate change in general and Paris Agreement in Particular.

06

China's Debt Trap in Central Asia: Economic Colonialism

Why in News?

- Chinese debt has dire consequences for the low-income countries of Central Asia. Chinese companies have acquired mining rights in both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan because of these countries' inability to repay debts. Central Asia is one of the critical areas for China to secure its western borders using economic expansion.

Introduction

- Since the turn of the 21st century, China's initiatives in Eurasia have been driven by its global ambitions, and domestic economic and political concerns. The powerful Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has had a defined strategy to overtake the United States (US) as the world's dominant economic power by 2049.
- Domestically, China has seen an excess production of iron, steel, cement, aluminium and other building materials, which, officials have said, could be turned "into an opportunity by 'moving out' this overcapacity on the basis of [China's] development strategy abroad and foreign policy".
- In 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping unveiled the One Belt One Road initiative—later rechristened the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)—an infrastructure development strategy to encourage Chinese firms to invest in foreign countries using loans from Chinese state-owned banks.
- Most of the infrastructural development work in these

countries is done by Chinese workers and firms that would have otherwise been idle, given the oversaturated domestic market.

- About 89 percent of all contracts for BRI projects have gone to Chinese construction companies, 7.6 percent to locals, and 3.7 percent to other foreign companies.
- So far, China has invested over US\$100 billion in such infrastructure projects, and the estimated cost of the 70 BRI economic corridors is US\$575 billion.
- The BRI encompasses 125 countries and aspires to improve the socio-economic fabric of more than two-thirds of the global population. Since 2013, the BRI has become the centrepiece of Xi's ambitious drive to make China a global hegemon, and it was integrated into the CCP charter at its 19th Congress in 2017.

Xinjiang and Eurasia

- Besides its global ambitions, China hopes to achieve an additional agenda through the BRI—consolidate its territorial aspirations and minimise the security threats in Xinjiang, the country's most volatile and highly militarised western province.
- Xinjiang was conquered by Chinese rulers in the 19th century and was incorporated into the empire as a province in 1878.
- Xinjiang has experienced intermittent phases of autonomy and occasional independence, with the Chinese imperial powers having full control for only about 425 years.

- Even on the eve of the Communist revolution in 1949, Xinjiang was independently ruled under the East Turkestan state. This long history of discord between the indigenous ethnic Uyghurs and the CCP authorities was reinforced after Beijing moved millions of Han people to the strategic and resource-rich parts of the province.
- Xinjiang is now known for repressive Sinicisation, hi-tech surveillance, re-education camps and the socio-economic exploitation of the indigenous Uyghur population.
- The influx of the Han led to the further alienation of the Uyghurs, breeding militant separatism and even leading to some Uyghur youth joining global terror groups. China's policy in Xinjiang over the past 70 years has seen a successful suppression of the ethnic Uyghurs, destruction of the region's demography through the migration of the Han people, and the exploitation of the land's resources and its geostrategic location.
- In exchange for Chinese investments and loans, the neighbouring Eurasian countries have banned Uyghur organisations and several Central Asian countries have intensified surveillance of their Uyghur populations. Furthermore, in the enhanced security environment, Beijing has successfully exported tools of political repression throughout its immediate neighbourhood, especially in the debt-trapped countries of Eurasia.
- BRI helps to secure its north-western region of Xinjiang, which shares a direct border with three Central Asian countries; Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

China's Model of Economic Aggression

- Typically, China starts as an economic partner of another country, only to gradually become its economic master. In fact, the more desperate a borrower country's situation, the higher the interest rates it will likely pay on Chinese loans.
- China has a record of exploiting the vulnerability of small, strategically located countries that borrow big. One such example is the Maldives, where Beijing converted big credits into political influence, including acquiring a couple of islets cheaply in that Indian Ocean archipelago.

Laos – Latest Victim to Fall in Chinese Debt Trap

- China's debt-trap diplomacy, redolent of colonial-era practices, has claimed its latest victim -- the small, resource-rich nation of Laos.
- Struggling to pay back Chinese loans, Laos has handed China majority control of its national electric grid at a time when its state-owned electricity company's debt has spiraled to 26% of its gross domestic product.

- China's strategic use of debt to hold vulnerable states captive to its wishes may seem to mesh well with its vaunted focus on the long run. But the wider pushback against its imperial overreach, coupled with the corruption and malpractice in many of its Belt and Road projects, suggests that Beijing could be securing near-term advantages at the expense of its long-term goals.

China's Economic Colonialism

- BRI was lauded to revitalize growth and development; however, its sluggish progress reflects a conflicting trend. To make its debt trap score, China uses concessional loans that often come at commercial interest rates and long repayment dates.
- Tajikistan, whose borrowing binge from 2006 was followed by its ceding of 1,158 sq. kilometers of the Pamir mountains to China and then granting Chinese companies rights to mine gold, silver and other mineral ores, recently asked Beijing for debt relief.
- Another country heavily in debt to China, neighboring Kyrgyzstan, also sought relief from Beijing last month before it plunged into political chaos. In Africa, a long list of states wanting suspension of their debt repayments to Beijing during the coronavirus pandemic includes Angola, Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique and Zambia.
- There is a growing concern over the escalating debt owed to China among the general public in Central Asia, mainly in Kyrgyzstan, which has moderate limitations on media freedom. China is accounted for 45.3% of Kyrgyzstan's external debt (May 2019).
- Only Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have been able to sustain BRI debt thanks to returns from hydrocarbons and uranium exports.

Way Forward

- Recently, China's state-controlled media has published articles that made territorial claims in

Debt Trap Diplomacy

- The Indian geostrategist Brahma Chellaney is frequently credited with coining the term "debt trap diplomacy" in 2017. Chellaney asserted that the aim of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was to saddle small nations with debt that they could not hope to repay, "leaving them even more firmly under China's thumb."
- The spectre of debt-trap diplomacy has also been widely used by world leaders. For example, a bipartisan group of 16 U.S. senators in August 2018 expressed apprehensions about the BRI by citing "the dangers of China's debt-trap diplomacy."

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. These articles mentioned that due to their incapability to repay Chinese loans, countries like Tajikistan had ceded 1100 sq km territory to China in 2011. And it may happen again seeing the rising amount of Chinese debt to these countries.

- Reports about China having a military base in the Pamir region of Tajikistan suggest another ramification of the debt trap. Chinese malpractices in Central Asia are notably visible.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic:

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

Q. China's economic expansion in the Central Asia is backed by territorial aggression and can affect the sovereignty of many nations in Central Asia. Discuss.

07

An Opportune Moment to Attract FDI

Why in News?

- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is keen to attract foreign investment to modernize India's urban centers as the world's second-most-populous nation rebuilds its economy after the coronavirus pandemic halted activity.

Background

- ◆ India is banking on infrastructure to become a growth driver for the economy that is headed for a double-digit contraction in 2020-21
- ◆ To attract these funds to invest in India, it has already announced tax exemptions in this year's budget to these long-term funds investing in infrastructure, making their income exempt from long-term capital gains, interest and dividend tax.
- ◆ After stagnating for three years around the \$60 billion level, FDI inflows into India rose sharply in 2019-20 to \$73.4 billion. The inflows have been steady this fiscal as well, despite the Covid-19 pandemic. In the April-August period, India received \$35.7 billion of inflows, according to data with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Industrial Trade.

Timing

- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with the heads of global funds to woo foreign investments was aptly timed. With the finances of the government strained due to the decline in tax revenues and increase in pandemic-related spends, it is logical to invite global funds to bridge the gap in public infrastructure and other capital expenditure.

- ◆ The strong foreign portfolio as well as FDI flows into the country are an offshoot of the stimulus unrolled by global central banks to fight the pandemic.
- ◆ The outcome of the US Presidential election may not yet be certain but the liquidity conditions in global markets are unlikely to be affected.
- ◆ With global growth likely to be tepid until 2022, it may not be easy to commence monetary tightening anytime soon, and further rounds of stimulus may also be required in the coming months.
- ◆ India's equity market has witnessed net foreign portfolio inflows of more than Rs. 95,000 crore so far in FY21. This surge of money comes after a tepid Rs. 6,153 crore of net inflow in FY20 and net outflow of Rs. 88 crore in FY19.
- ◆ It is clear that the resurgence in the Federal Reserve's liquidity boosting measures has had a large part to play in the strong FPI inflows this year; empirical data show that flows into India have a strong linkage with Fed's actions.
- ◆ The new US President will have to continue the current policies for some more time at least until employment revives and businesses move back to the pre-Covid growth rates.
- ◆ It is notable that foreign portfolio investors have preferred to invest in equities of only India and China in FY20, even as they have withdrawn money out of most other emerging markets. It is clear that these investors still believe in the demographic superiority of India and its long-term growth prospects. FDI flows so far this year are 56 per cent higher compared to the same period last year.

Need for Investments in Urban Areas

- ◆ India plans to continue raising funds in areas including urban technology and transport, he added. The country will have to develop up to 800 million square meters each year till 2030 with more than 40% of population expected to live in cities, according to Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- ◆ The South Asian nation has completed work on two-thirds of its planned \$30-billion worth of projects on building a 100 smart cities.
- ◆ While 31% of India's 1.3 billion people currently live in cities, migration from rural areas in search of jobs has strained already creaky public amenities, posing challenges for policy makers. Investments in urban infrastructure can help shore up Asia's third-largest economy which has slipped into an unprecedented recession after its Covid lockdown, according to a Reserve Bank of India report.
- ◆ To address the growing urbanization, Modi's government has introduced programs to build houses for poor, improve infrastructure, boost public transport and provide clean drinking water. The initiatives have also brought investment opportunities and need for new technology.
- ◆ India is planning an affordable rental housing initiative as part of its post-Covid rebuilding, the prime minister said, and will also complete construction of 10 million urban homes in the next couple of years. Around 1,000 kms of railway lines that are part of project to build suburban train systems in 27 cities is also expected to be completed before 2022

India Attracting FDI Inflows

- ◆ India received USD 51 billion in foreign investment in 2019 and was the world's 9th largest recipient of foreign direct investments (FDI) in 2019, according to a report by the UN's trade body.
- ◆ The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has said in a report that a lower but positive economic growth in India in the post-COVID-19 pandemic period and India's large market will continue to attract market-seeking investments to the country.
- ◆ The World Investment Report 2020 by the UNCTAD said that India was the 9th largest recipient of FDI in 2019, with 51 billion dollars of inflows during the year, an increase from the 42 billion dollars of FDI received in 2018, when India ranked 12 among the top 20 host economies in the world.
- ◆ In the developing Asia region, India was among the top five host economies for FDI.
- ◆ The report said that global FDI flows are forecast to decrease by up to 40 per cent in 2020, from their 2019 value of USD 1.54 trillion.
- ◆ In India, the biggest FDI host in the subregion, with more than 70 per cent of inward stock, the number of greenfield investment announcements declined by four per cent in the first quarter, and Merger & Acquisitions contracted by 58 per cent.
- ◆ However, the country's economy could prove the most resilient in the region. FDI to India has been on a long-term growth trend. Positive,

albeit lower, economic growth in the post-pandemic period and India's large market will continue to attract market-seeking investments to the country, the report said.

- ◆ It added that the magnitude of the logistical challenges during both the lockdown and the recovery remain a big downside risk for FDI in the medium term for India.
- ◆ This would be for the first time since 2005 that global FDI falls below the USD 1 trillion mark.

Money Flows Coming to India

- ◆ Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows into India in the first five months of 2020-21 have hit a record high, despite a sharp 60% contraction in the first quarter, with July and August raking in over \$20 billion of equity FDI.
- ◆ Total FDI inflows surged from \$11.51 billion between April and June to \$35.73 billion by the end of August. Equity FDI more than quadrupled from \$6.5 billion between April and June, to \$27.1 billion by August — 16% higher than the first five months of 2019-20. To put that in context, India received about \$50 billion in equity FDI in 2019-20.
- ◆ Both, total FDI and equity FDI viewed in isolation, were the highest ever for the five month period, the Commerce and Industry Ministry has reported. The increased FDI is a result of FDI policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business, the Ministry said.

- ◆ Total FDI flows include fresh equity investments as well as re-invested earnings of foreign investors and other forms of investment capital such as debt.

Way Forward

- ◆ Just ahead of PM Modi's visit to the US last year, his government had announced a massive reduction in corporate tax rates to make India competitive vis-a-vis other Southeast Asian economies. The rates were brought down to as low as 15 per cent (effective tax rate of around 17 per cent) for new companies in the manufacturing sector.
- ◆ Speaking at the India Global Week in July this year, Modi had urged investors to invest in India, pointing out that the country was reforming and remained one of the most open economies in the world. He had added that the government is rolling out a red carpet to investors.
- ◆ With the threat of virus looming large, India needs to gather momentum in attracting FDI with a huge boost from faster economic recovery.



General Studies Paper- III

Topic:

- Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.

Topic:

- Investment models.

Q. India is on a right track in attracting FDI, while the economy is making strides in improvement. Comment.

7

IMPORTANT BRAIN BOOSTERS

01

Biodiversity in Ganga

1. Why in News?

- With celebrations of the Ganga Utsav—to mark the 12th anniversary of declaring the Ganga as a national river — having come to an end, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) conducted the second phase of its survey of the entire main stem of the Ganga river (the main river without its tributaries).



2. About the Survey

- The survey has found that 49 per cent of the river has high biodiversity and that biodiversity sightings including of the Gangetic Dolphin and otters, have increased in the river.
- The study was initiated by WII on behalf of the National Mission for Clean Ganga, one of the flagship projects undertaken by the Ministry of Jalshakti, and the first phase of the survey was carried out between 2017-2019.
- This is the first study ever done in the country on the entire river, and the first also of all its biodiversity.

3. About River Ganga

- The Ganga and its tributaries flow through 11 states and cover 26.3 per cent of the country's total geographical area. But its main stem flows through five states — Uttarakhand, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.
- The high biodiversity stretches of the river have been divided into six zones – Devprayag to Rishikesh (61 km), Makdumpur to Narora (147 km), Bhitaura to Ghazipur (454 km), Chhapra to Kahalgaon (296 km), Sahibganj to Rajmahal (34 km) and Baharampur to Barackpore (246 km).
- Ten per cent of the high biodiversity areas fall alongside national parks and sanctuaries such as Rajaji national park in Uttarakhand, Hastinapur wildlife sanctuary in UP and Vikramshilagangetic Dolphin sanctuary in Bihar.

6. Threats to River Ganga

- Rapid biodiversity of the Ganga had revealed that the distribution and density of key aquatic species such as the Gangetic Dolphin, the gharial and the mugger had in earlier years, significantly reduced due to loss of suitable habitat conditions,
- Change in the river's morphology due to the construction of dams and barrages, bank alteration, agriculture and sand mining led to the decline in river Ganga biodiversity.
- In the early 19th century, 10,000 Gangetic dolphins were estimated which reduced to 3,526 by early 2000, disappearing entirely in Haridwar and most of the Yamuna and becoming extinct in smaller tributaries.

4. Biodiversity Conservation in the Region: Reasons

- Freshwater ecosystems account for 0.01% of the earth's surface water but 10% of species.
- According to the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), decline in diversity of freshwater species is the highest, and surpasses losses in marine and terrestrial species.
- Globally 20% of all known freshwater fish, 44% waterbirds and 42% amphibian species are under threat of extinction. The highest loss of freshwater biodiversity has been reported from the Indian subcontinent, specifically the Gangetic plains.

5. Signs of Biodiversity Improvement

- Through some key aquatic and semi-aquatic species such as the Gangetic dolphins, gharials, otters, turtles and various species of water birds.
- Many species that used to be found in the main stem and had disappeared, are now coming back.
- Nesting colonies of the Indian Skimmer.
- Seibold's, a species of water snake, disappeared 80 years ago and has now resurfaced.
- Found new distributions of the puffer fish.

02

National Agricultural Education Policy

1. Why in News?

- India's first National Agricultural Education Policy is set to bring academic credit banks and degree programmes with multiple entry and exit options to the 74 universities focussed on crop sciences, fisheries, veterinary and dairy training and research.



2. Policy Formulation

- The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has formed a six-member committee headed by Dr Tej Pratap, Vice Chancellor of the G B Pant University of Agriculture in Uttarakhand to suggest ways in which agricultural institutions can be nurtured in the spirit of the NEP (National Education Policy).
- Courses offered by agriculture varsities will have a more flexible structure and these institutions will be encouraged to become inter-disciplinary as the ICAR is working to bring farm education in line with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) unveiled by the centre.
- Agricultural education is a state subject. Therefore, the recommendations and roadmap will be prepared in view of this. The aim is to bring agricultural education to a zone where it can address contemporary and future needs.

3. Aligning with NEP

- The NEP also envisages that the professional councils, such as the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) will act as Professional Standard Setting Bodies (PSSBs) and shall be member of the General Education Council (GEC) to frame expected learning outcomes for higher education.
- The ICAR-Agricultural University (AU) system through its network of 74 universities offers degree courses at the undergraduate level in 11 disciplines. The PG programmes in 96 disciplines and Ph.D. programmes in 73 disciplines make it multi-disciplinary as desired by NEP.
- In many ways, agricultural education is ahead of its time, and already aligned with the NEP. The NEP wants a shift to four-year undergraduate degrees, and all agricultural degrees are already four-year programmes. Similarly, the NEP mentions experiential education, and they are already mandated since 2016.

4. New Universities

- Universities have been modelled on the land grant pattern, with a focus on research and extension, and deep community connections, driven by the philosophy that farmers need holistic solutions to their problems.
- In recent years, several domain specific universities in horticulture, veterinary science and fisheries sciences have come up.
- Challenge is to incorporate humanities and social sciences into these settings.

5. National Education Policy

- An NEP is a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in the country.
- The NEP only provides a broad direction and is not mandatory to follow. Since education is a concurrent subject (both the centre and the state governments can make laws on it), the reforms proposed can only be implemented collaboratively by the centre and the states.
- The policy envisages broad based, multi-disciplinary, holistic Under Graduate education with flexible curricula, creative combinations of subjects, integration of vocational education and multiple entry and exit points with appropriate certification. UG education can be of 3 or 4 years with multiple exit options and appropriate certification within this period.
- Academic Bank of Credits to be established to facilitate transfer of credits.
- The National Research Foundation will be created as an apex body for fostering a strong research culture and building research capacity across higher education.
- Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) will be set up as a single overarching umbrella body for entire higher education, excluding medical and legal education.
- HECI will have four independent regulators-
 - ☛ National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC) for regulation,
 - ☛ General Education Council (GEC) for standard setting,
 - ☛ Higher Education Grants Council for funding and
 - ☛ National Accreditation Council for accreditation.

03 Saffron Cultivation in Sikkim

1. Why in News?

- The Ministry of Science and Technology, through the Department of Science and Technology (DST), is now looking at extending the cultivation of Saffron to some states in the northeast.
- So far, the cultivation of saffron – the most expensive spice – in India has been limited to a few areas in Jammu and Kashmir.



2. Implementing Bodies

- North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR), an autonomous body under the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India supported a pilot project to explore the feasibility of growing saffron in North East region of India, with the same quality and higher quantity.
- The Botany and Horticulture department of Sikkim Central University carried out tests to understand the soil and actual pH conditions of Yangyang of Sikkim and found it comparable to saffron growing places of Kashmir.

3. Saffron Cultivation Project: Sikkim

- Saffron seed/corms were purchased and air transported from Kashmir to Yangyang site by the department.
- One saffron grower was engaged and stationed to look after the complete growing process, along with the faculty of the university.
- Saffron needs to remain underground for about 45 days at sub-zero temperatures. It also requires adequate rain, especially if sown in August.
- It was grown across 1,000 square metres. Once the quality of the saffron is assessed, this will be scaled up ten times in Sikkim itself.
- The corms were irrigated during the month of September and October, which ensured timely corm sprouting and good flower yields. The matching of climatic and geographical conditions between Pampore (Kashmir) and Yangyang (Sikkim) led to the successful sample farming of Saffron in Yangyang.
- The project also focused on post-harvest management and value addition of saffron so that quality saffron drying and efficient post-harvest processing can improve saffron recovery, thereby improving its production.
- Further, detailed analysis and testing of all parameters, including soil testing, quality, quantity, and possible value addition are planned, for immediate results and extrapolation of the project to other parts of the North East Region along with Micro Food Enterprises.

4. Saffron Cultivation in India

- Saffron cultivation has long been restricted to a limited geographical area in J&K, mainly Pampore, followed by Budgam, Srinagar and Kishtwar districts.
- India cultivates about 6 to 7 tonne of saffron annually, but in order to meet the 100 tonne demand, saffron is imported. A kilo of saffron grown here costs anywhere between Rs 1.5 to Rs 2 lakh.
- The soil in Yangyang (Sikkim) is similar to the soil in areas of Kashmir where saffron is grown.

04 Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace Deal

1. Why in News?

- Recently, Russia brokered a new peace deal between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the two countries that have been in a military conflict for over six weeks over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh in the South Caucasus.



2. Background

- Modern-day Armenia and Azerbaijan both became part of the Soviet Union when it was formed in the 1920s. Nagorno-Karabakh was an ethnic-majority Armenian region, but the Soviets gave control over the area to Azerbaijan authorities.
- The Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh made several calls to be transferred to Armenian authority control in the following decades. But it was only as the Soviet Union began to collapse in the late 1980s that Nagorno-Karabakh's regional parliament officially voted to become part of Armenia.
- Azerbaijan sought to suppress the separatist movement, while Armenia backed it. This led to ethnic clashes, and - after Armenia and Azerbaijan declared independence from Moscow - a full-scale war started.
- Years of clashes followed between Azerbaijan forces and Armenian separatists. The violence lasted into the 1990s, leaving tens and thousands dead and displacing hundreds of thousands.
- In 1994, Russia brokered a ceasefire, by which time ethnic Armenians had taken control of the region.

3. Role of Ethnicity

- The Caucasus are a strategically important mountainous region in south-east Europe. For centuries, different powers in the region - both Christian and Muslim - have vied for control there.
- Armenia is majority Christian while oil-rich Azerbaijan is majority Muslim.
- While the Azeris claim that the disputed region was under their control in known history, Armenians maintain that Karabakh was a part of the Armenian kingdom.
- Turkey (a member of NATO) has close ties to Azerbaijan, while Russia is allied with Armenia - although it also has good relations with Azerbaijan.

4. New Peace Deal

- The deal, which is meant to end the conflict between the two nations, was signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Azerbaijani president Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.
- As per the new peace deal, both sides will now maintain positions in the areas that they currently hold, which will mean a significant gain for Azerbaijan as it has reclaimed over 15-20 per cent of its lost territory during the recent conflict.
- Further, under this agreement, all military operations are suspended, Russian peacekeepers will be deployed along the line of contact in Nagorno-Karabakh and along the Lachin corridor that connects the region to Armenia.
- These Russian peacekeepers with a force of roughly 2,000 will be deployed in the area for a period of five years.
- Refugees and internally displaced persons will return to the region and the adjacent territories and the two sides will also exchange prisoners of wars and bodies.
- Significantly, a new corridor will be opened from Nakhchivan to Azerbaijan, which will be under Russian control.

4. Earlier Ceasefire Agreements

- Even after the 1994 peace deal, the region has been marked by regular exchanges of fire.
- In 2016, the region saw a four day war before Russia mediated peace.
- The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group, chaired by France, Russia and the US, has tried to get the two countries to reach a peace agreement for several years.
- In October 2020 also, both countries agreed to a ceasefire agreement, which was also brokered by Russia but was unsuccessful.

5. Current Status

- While the area remains in Azerbaijan, it is today governed by separatist Armenians who have declared it a republic called the "Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast".
- While the Armenian government does not recognise Nagorno-Karabakh as independent, it supports the region politically and militarily.
- Russia's role in the conflict has been somewhat opaque since it supplies arms to both countries and is in a military alliance with Armenia called the Collective Security Treaty Organisation.
- Russia has always taken a balanced position on the matter and has traditionally good relations with both countries.

05 Thirty Meter Telescope

1. Context?

- 2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Andrea Ghez had worked closely with Indian astronomers on the design of backend instruments and possible science prospects of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project being installed at Maunakea in Hawaii, which can revolutionise the understanding of the universe and the enigmas in it.



2. Thirty Meter Telescope(TMT) Project

- The Thirty Meter Telescope is a new class of Extremely Large Telescopes (ELT) that will allow us to see deeper into space and observe cosmic objects with unprecedented sensitivity.
- With its 30 m prime mirror diameter, TMT will be three times as wide, with nine times more area, than the largest currently existing visible-light telescope in the world.
- This will provide unparalleled resolution with TMT images more than 12 times sharper than those from the Hubble Space Telescope.

3. Who is building TMT?

- The Thirty-meter telescope (TMT) project is an international partnership between CalTech, Universities of California, Canada, Japan, China, and India; through the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).
- The Thirty Meter Telescope, which seeks to advance scientific knowledge while fostering connection among the partner countries and their citizens, is expected to provide facilities with even greater capabilities to gather the observations needed to answer new and emerging questions in astronomy and physics in general.

4. What will TMT Explore?

- Its adaptive optics and spectroscopic capabilities will allow astronomers to explore the mysterious period in the life of the universe when the first stars and galaxies were formed, providing information about the nature of "first-light" objects and their effects on the universe's evolution.
- TMT will also observe the formation and development of the large-scale structures by looking at faint distant galaxies and the intergalactic medium, providing information on the physics of the early universe and the nature of dark matter that are inaccessible using any other techniques.
- TMT's high resolution will extend scientists' capability to detect and investigate black holes that reside in the center of many distant galaxies, as well as study in detail the black hole in the center of our own Milky Way.
- TMT will also play a very important role in advancing our knowledge of the physical processes that lead to star and planet formation.
- TMT will be able to characterize and study the properties of exoplanets leading us closer to finding out if life exists beyond the Earth.
- Finally, the advanced capabilities of the TMT will very likely lead to discoveries that we cannot anticipate and scientific impact far beyond what we envision today.

06

Panna Tiger Reserve & UNESCO

1. Why in News?

- Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Madhya Pradesh (MP) is included in the global network of biosphere reserves by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).



2. About Panna Tiger Reserve

- The Panna 'National Park' was initially set up in 1981. It only received the status of a tiger reserve in the early 1990s under "Project Tiger."
- Once it had been converted into a tiger reserve, the population of tigers started to bloom.
- Panna Tiger Reserve spans 576 kilometers in Panna and Chhatarpur districts of Madhya Pradesh.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) declared Panna Tiger Reserve as a Biosphere Reserve in 2011.
- The thick deciduous forest of the Panna National Reserve is the natural habitat of sloth, Indian wolf, Bear Pangolin, Leopard, Gharial, Indian fox and a lot more. While visiting the park, tourists also get to witness stone carvings that date back to the Neolithic era.
- Report by the All India Tiger Estimation made Madhya Pradesh the state with the highest number of tigers.
- The state had a total of 526 big cats according to 2018 census. After Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttarakhand have the highest number of tigers.

5. Biosphere Reserves

- According to the United Nations (UN), a biosphere reserve is where the international agency tries to reconcile the differences between human activity and the preservation of biodiversity.
- Every year UNESCO designates new Biosphere reserves and remove others to promote the conservation of biodiversity and resolve man-animal conflict at that site and enable sustainable use of natural resources.
- There are currently 701 biosphere reserves across the world, located in 124 countries, which form the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

3. From Zero to 54

- By the early 2000s, the biosphere reserve managed to nurture and grow 40 tigers.
- As a result of the 2009 crisis, the Madhya Pradesh government then set up a committee to investigate the matter and recommended transferring every forest official at the reserve.
- However, in a drastic change of events, the tiger population suddenly started to dwindle with hunters and poachers scouring the grounds.
- In 2009, Panna Tiger Reserve sent shockwaves across the country when it revealed that there were no tigers left within its territory — only two tigresses.
- Within a year, the first litter of cubs was born in Panna Tiger Reserve after they translocated both tiger and tigress from a national park.
- Ten years down the line, the Panna Tiger Reserve is home to 54 tigers.

4. UNESCO on Panna Biosphere Reserve

- UNESCO's recognition mentioned Panna Tiger Reserve as a critical tiger habitat.
- It stated that the area has undergone substantial ecosystem restoration in the buffer zone.
- With only three urban centres and over 300 villages, agriculture is the main source of income here, together with horticulture, forestry and cultural and eco-tourism.

07

Educational Freedom in India

1. Why in News?

- Global Public Policy Institute has released, Academic Freedom Index which has ranked India very low in educational freedom.
- The key disappointment the index has highlighted is that the real problem plaguing the educational system in the country and the higher education system, the erosion of academic freedom.



5. Rent-seeking Culture

- Most universities in the country are subjected to unsolicited interference from governments in both academic and non-academic issues.
- It is common knowledge by now that a majority of appointments, especially to top-ranking posts like that of vice-chancellors, pro vice-chancellors and registrars, have been highly politicised.
- Such political appointments not only choke academic and creative freedom, but also lead to corrupt practices, including those in licensing and accreditation, thus promoting unhealthy favouritism and nepotism in staff appointments and student admissions. This reflects a 'rent-seeking culture' within the academic community.
- At present, many educational institutions and regulatory bodies, both at the Central and State levels, are headed by bureaucrats. However, the NEP 2020 aims to de-bureaucratise the education system by giving governance powers to academicians. It also talks about giving autonomy to higher education institutions by handing over their administration to a board comprising academicians. This may help de-bureaucratise the education system and reduce political interference to an extent.

2. Academic Freedom Index (AFI)

- The index proposes a score for each country to help determine the level of academic freedom its universities and academic centres really enjoy, and which the researchers behind the idea say could be used to understand a university's attractiveness in addition to its infrastructure, research output, etc.
- Specifically, the index and accompanying report try to quantify the freedom of university scholars to debate politically and culturally controversial topics without fearing for their safety or studies, and without any external influence on the institutions' affairs, based on a combination of factual data and the assessments of 1,800 academicians worldwide.
- The authors, affiliated with the Global Public Policy Institute, the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität (FAU) Erlangen-Nürnberg, the Scholars At Risk Network and the V-Dem Project at the University of Gothenburg, have thus prepared what they call an academic freedom index (AFI). The index has a maximum value of 1.
- The AFI has cited the 'Free to Think: Report of the Scholars at Risk Academic Freedom Monitoring Project', to suggest that the political tensions in India may have something to do with declining 'academic freedom'.

3. Key Highlights of the Index

- India has scored considerably low in the international Academic Freedom Index (AFI) with a score of 0.352, which is closely followed by Saudi Arabia (0.278) and Libya (0.238).
- In the last five years, the AFI of India has dipped by 0.1 points.
- Surprisingly, countries like Malaysia (0.582), Pakistan (0.554), Brazil (0.466), Somalia (0.436) and Ukraine (0.422) have scored better than India.
- Uruguay and Portugal top the AFI, with scores of 0.971 each, followed closely by Latvia (0.964) and Germany (0.960).
- This index has mainly taken into highlight the controversial issues and highlights and has not covered any other area regarding research quality and relevance.

4. AFI Components for Evaluation

- The AFI has eight components. Three are based on factual data and the remaining five are 'expert-coded': they're based on the 1,810 scholars' assessments "integrated in a Bayesian measurement model". The components are:
 - ☛ Freedom to research and teach
 - ☛ Freedom of academic exchange and dissemination
 - ☛ Institutional autonomy
 - ☛ Campus integrity
 - ☛ Freedom of academic and cultural expression
 - ☛ Constitutional protection of academic freedom
 - ☛ International legal commitment to academic freedom under the the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - ☛ Existence of universities
- The answers to questions pertaining to the first five considerations is a degree. For example, the options for the first question are 'completely restricted', 'severely restricted', 'moderately restricted', 'mostly free' and 'fully free'.

7 MCQ's WITH EXPLANATORY ANSWERS

(Based on Brain Boosters)

01 Biodiversity in Ganga

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. Ganga Utsav is celebrated to mark the 12th anniversary of declaring the Ganga as a national river.
2. Wildlife Institute of India (WII) conducted the second phase of its survey of the entire main stem of the Ganga river (the main river without its tributaries). The survey has found that 49 per cent of the river has high biodiversity and that biodiversity sightings including of the Gangetic Dolphin and otters, have increased in the river.
3. The biodiversity in the river Ganga is increasing due to the enabling environment and minimal to no threats to the wildlife.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 b) 2 and 3
c) 1 and 3 d) All of the above

Answer: (a)

Explanation. Statement 1 and 2 are correct. With celebrations of the Ganga Utsav — to mark the 12th anniversary of declaring the Ganga as a national river — having come to an end, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) conducted the second phase of its survey of the entire main stem of the Ganga river (the main river without its tributaries).

The study was initiated by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) on behalf of the National Mission for Clean Ganga, one of the flagship projects undertaken by the Ministry of Jalshakti, and the first phase of the survey was carried out between 2017-2019. The survey has found that 49 per cent of the river has high biodiversity and that biodiversity sightings including of the Gangetic Dolphin and otters, have increased in the river. The high biodiversity stretches of the river have been divided into six zones – Devprayag to Rishikesh (61 km), Makdumpur to Narora (147 km), Bhitaura to Ghazipur (454 km), Chhapra to Kahalgau (296 km), Sahibganj to Rajmahal (34 km) and Baharampur to Barackpore (246 km).

Statement 3 is incorrect. Change in the river's morphology due to the construction of dams and barrages, bank alteration, agriculture and sand mining led to the decline in river Ganga biodiversity.



02 National Agricultural Education Policy

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. National Agricultural Education Policy is set to align agricultural education with National Education Policy and it is being drafted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
2. Education is a state subject and all laws made by the centre will have to be adopted by the state legislatures for implementation.
3. National Education Policy has strong emphasis on research and aims to create a dedicated body to foster research in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 b) 1 and 3
c) 2 and 3 d) None of the above

Answer: (b)

Explanation. Statement 1 is correct. The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has formed a six-member committee headed by Dr Tej Pratap, Vice Chancellor of the G B Pant University of Agriculture in Uttarakhand to suggest ways in which agricultural institutions can be nurtured in the spirit of the NEP (National Education Policy). Courses offered by agriculture varities will have a more flexible structure and these institutions will be encouraged to become inter-disciplinary as the ICAR is working to bring farm education in line with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) unveiled by the Centre.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The NEP only provides a broad direction and is not mandatory to follow. Since education is a concurrent subject (both the Centre and the state governments can make laws on it), the reforms proposed can only be implemented collaboratively by the Centre and the states. Agricultural education is a state subject.

Statement 3 is correct. The National Research Foundation will be created as an apex body for fostering a strong research culture and building research capacity across higher education. Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) will be set up as a single overarching umbrella body for entire higher education, excluding medical and legal education.



03 Saffron Cultivation in Sikkim

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. Saffron which has been grown in India only in Pampore, Budgam, Srinagar and Kishtwar districts of Kashmir, could now be grown in Sikkim too.
2. In saffron cultivation, it is needed to be underground for 45 days at sub-zero temperature and needs irrigation in the month of September and October.

Which of the following 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 the statements are correct. Saffron cultivation has long been restricted to a limited geographical area in J&K, mainly Pampore, followed by Budgam, Srinagar and Kishtwar districts. The Botany and Horticulture department of Sikkim Central University carried out tests to understand the soil and actual pH conditions of Yangyang of Sikkim and found it comparable to saffron growing places of Kashmir. Saffron was grown across 1,000 square metres. Once the quality of the saffron is assessed, this will be scaled up ten times in Sikkim itself.

Saffron needs to remain underground for about 45 days at sub-zero temperatures. It also requires adequate rain, especially if sown in August. The corms are irrigated during the month of September and October, which ensured timely corm sprouting and good flower yields.

04 Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace Deal

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the new peace deal between Armenia and Azerbaijan:

1. The peace deal between Armenia and Azerbaijan is brokered by Russia. The deal is signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Azerbaijani president Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.
2. As per the new peace deal, both sides will now maintain positions in the areas that they currently hold, which will mean a significant gain for Azerbaijan as it has reclaimed over 15-20 per cent of its lost territory during the recent conflict.
3. Russia will be acting as the buffer zone between Armenia and Azerbaijan and will also govern the disputed territory.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 1 and 3
- c) 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: (a)

Explanation. Statement 1 and 2 are correct. The deal, which is meant to end the conflict between the two nations, was signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, Azerbaijani president Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. As per the new peace deal, both sides will now maintain positions in the areas that they currently hold, which will mean a significant gain for Azerbaijan as it has reclaimed over 15-20 per cent of its lost territory during the recent conflict. Russia's role in the conflict has been somewhat opaque since it supplies arms to both countries and is in a military alliance with Armenia called the Collective Security Treaty Organisation. Russia has always taken a balanced position on the matter and has traditionally good relations with both countries.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Russian peacekeepers will be deployed along the line of contact in Nagorno-Karabakh and along the Lachin corridor that connects the region to Armenia. These Russian peacekeepers with a force of roughly 2,000 will be deployed in the area for a period of five years. While the area remains in Azerbaijan, it is today governed by separatist Armenians who have declared it a republic called the "Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast". While the Armenian government does not recognise Nagorno-Karabakh as independent, it supports the region politically and militarily.

05 Thirty Meter Telescope

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) is a new class of Extremely Large Telescopes (ELT) to see deeper into space and observe cosmic objects with unprecedented sensitivity.
2. One of the objectives of TMT is to explore the mysterious period in the life of the universe when the first stars and galaxies were formed, providing information about the nature of "first-light" objects and their effects on the universe's evolution.
3. India has been recently granted observer status in the TMT project and is now eligible to access some of its scientific data.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Answer: (a)

Explanation. Statement 1 and 2 are correct. 2020 Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Andrea Ghez had worked closely with Indian astronomers on the design of backend instruments and possible science prospects of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project being installed at Maunakea in Hawaii, which can revolutionized the understanding of the universe and the enigmas in it. The TMT is a new class of Extremely Large

Telescopes (ELT) that will allow us to see deeper into space and observe cosmic objects with unprecedented sensitivity. It will allow astronomers to explore the mysterious period in the life of the universe when the first stars and galaxies were formed, providing information about the nature of "first-light" objects and their effects on the universe's evolution. TMT will also observe the formation and development of the large-scale structures by looking at faint distant galaxies and the intergalactic medium, providing information on the physics of the early universe and the nature of dark matter that are inaccessible using any other techniques. It will also help to detect and investigate black holes that reside in the center of many distant galaxies, as well as study in detail the black hole in the center of our own Milky Way.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Thirty-meter telescope (TMT) project is an international partnership between CalTech, Universities of California, Canada, Japan, China, and India; through the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).



06 Panna Tiger Reserve & UNESCO

Q. With reference to the Panna Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:

1. Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Madhya Pradesh (MP) is included in the global network of biosphere reserves by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).
2. As per United Nations, the biosphere reserves are the regions where there is an effort to reconcile the differences between humans and biodiversity and where biodiversity is preserved.

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 the statements are correct. Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Madhya Pradesh (MP) is included in the global network of biosphere reserves by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). Panna Tiger Reserve spans 576 kilometers in Panna and Chhatarpur districts of Madhya Pradesh. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) declared Panna Tiger Reserve as a Biosphere Reserve in 2011. Report by the All India Tiger Estimation made Madhya Pradesh the state with the highest number of tigers. The state had a total of 526 big cats according to 2018 census. After Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttarakhand have the highest number of tigers.

According to the United Nations (UN), a biosphere reserve is where the international agency tries to reconcile the differences between human activity and the preservation

of biodiversity. Every year UNESCO designates new Biosphere reserves and remove others to promote the conservation of biodiversity and resolve man-animal conflict at that site and enable sustainable use of natural resources.



07 Educational Freedom in India

Q. With reference to Academic Freedom Index, consider the following statements:

1. India's low score on Academic Freedom Index is due to the fact of political and bureaucratic interference in universities.
2. NEP 2020 aims to solve this problem by giving higher autonomy and reducing the large number of regulatory bodies.

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 the statements are correct. India has scored considerably low in the international Academic Freedom Index (AFI) with a score of 0.352, which is closely followed by Saudi Arabia (0.278) and Libya (0.238). Specifically, the index and accompanying report try to quantify the freedom of university scholars to debate politically and culturally controversial topics without fearing for their safety or studies, and without any external influence on the institutions' affairs, based on a combination of factual data and the assessments of 1,800 academicians worldwide.

Most universities in the country are subjected to unsolicited interference from governments in both academic and non-academic issues. It is common knowledge by now that a majority of appointments, especially to top-ranking posts like that of vice-chancellors, pro vice-chancellors and registrars, have been highly politicised. Such political appointments not only choke academic and creative freedom, but also lead to corrupt practices, including those in licensing and accreditation, thus promoting unhealthy favouritism and nepotism in staff appointments and student admissions. This reflects a 'rent-seeking culture' within the academic community. At present, many educational institutions and regulatory bodies, both at the Central and State levels, are headed by bureaucrats. However, the NEP 2020 aims to de-bureaucratise the education system by giving governance powers to academicians. It also talks about giving autonomy to higher education institutions by handing over their administration to a board comprising academicians. This may help de-bureaucratise the education system and reduce political interference to an extent.



7 IMPORTANT NEWS

01

Global Bribery Risk Matrix, 2020

- ◆ In a global list that measures business bribery risks of 2020, India is at 77th position with a score of 45.

Key Highlights

- ◆ In 2019, India's rank stood at 78th position with a score of 48 while in 2020 the country was ranked 77 with a score of 45.
- ◆ According to this year's data, North Korea, Turkmenistan, South Sudan, Venezuela and Eritrea present the highest commercial bribery risk, while Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand present the lowest.
- ◆ India fared better than its neighbours - Pakistan, China, Nepal and Bangladesh. Bhutan, meanwhile, secured 48th rank with a score of 37, the data showed.
- ◆ Apart from India, Peru, Jordan, North Macedonia, Colombia and Montenegro also have a score of 45 in the matrix.
- ◆ Somalia moved out of the bottom ranking, which it held from 2017 to 2019, and is now ranked 187th out of 194.



TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix

- ◆ The list by TRACE, an anti-bribery standard setting organisation, measures business bribery risk in 194 countries, territories, and autonomous and semi-autonomous regions.
- ◆ It was originally published in 2014 to meet a need in the business community for more reliable, nuanced information about the risks of commercial bribery worldwide.
- ◆ The score is based on four factors -- business interactions with government, anti-bribery deterrence and enforcement,

government and civil service transparency, and capacity for civil society oversight, including the role of the media.

- ◆ The matrix aggregates relevant data obtained from leading public interest and international organisations, including the United Nations, World Bank, V-Dem Institute at the University of Gothenburg and World Economic Forum.
- ◆ This data helps companies to assess the likely risk of bribe demands in each country and to design compliance and due diligence programs tailored to that risk.



02

Regional Rapid Transit System Project (RRTS)

- ◆ A \$500-million loan agreement was signed between the Union government, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, National Capital Region Transport Corporation Limited and the New Development Bank (NDB) for the 'Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System Project' to provide fast, reliable, safe and comfortable public transport system in the NCR.

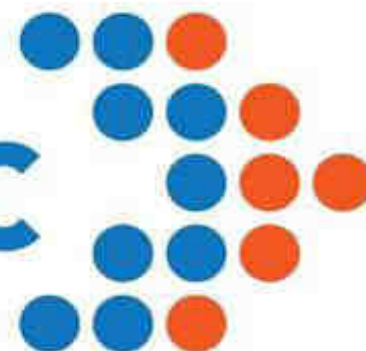
Financial Support

- ◆ The total project cost is estimated at \$3,749 million, which will be financed by the NDB (US\$ 500 million), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (US\$ 500 million), Asian Development Bank (US\$ 1,049 million), Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (US\$ 3 million), government and other sources (US\$ 1,707 million).

Fund Utilisation

- ◆ The funding would be provided to finance rolling stock for modern design, energy efficient operations and interoperability across corridors.

ncrtc
national capital region
transport corporation



- ◆ The NDB funds will also be utilised for procuring signalling, telecommunication and train control system with advanced features such as automatic train operation, automatic train protection, automatic train supervision and integration with platform screen doors.
- ◆ The project can serve as a demonstration for developing high-capacity rapid urban transit corridors in other urban areas of India.
- ◆ The loan has a tenure of 25 years with an eight-year grace period.

Importance

- ◆ The seamless high-speed connectivity will result in balanced economic development across the region, leading to economic benefits to all strata of society and many nodes of development rather than all economic activity happening at one place.
- ◆ The environment-friendly and low emission RRTS will carry many times more people at high speed (average speed 100 kmph) while occupying just 3-metre space on land, thus, reducing traffic congestion. Overall, it will significantly reduce the total emissions from the transport sector in NCR.



03

Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996

- ◆ The Chhattisgarh government has started the process to frame the rules to implement the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 or PESA Act.
- ◆ The Chhattisgarh Panchayat and Rural Development Minister

held the first meeting with tribal leaders and other representatives of panchayats in Kanker district to discuss the framing of rules for the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 or PESA Act.

- ◆ Since the PESA Act was passed, six states – Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat – have



made rules while Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand have yet to do so for implementation of the Act.

Scope

- ◆ The rules will focus on empowering gram sabhas. The idea is to strengthen gram sabhas through these rules.

- ◆ Secondly, their 'cultural identity' will be protected through these rules.
- ◆ The management of gram sabha for mining consultation etc will also be taken under consideration.

About PESA Act, 1996

- ◆ The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas)

Act, 1996 or PESA is a law enacted by the Government of India for ensuring self governance through traditional Gram Sabhas for people living in the Scheduled Areas of India.

- Scheduled Areas are areas identified by the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India. <>>

04

Study on Status of Radicalisation

- ◆ The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has, for the first time, approved a research study on "status of radicalisation in India."
- ◆ The study would attempt to legally define "radicalisation" and suggest amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).
- ◆ G.S. Bajpai, Director of the Centre for Criminology and Victimology, National Law University (NLU), Delhi, will conduct the research on radicalisation.

Probing Radicalisation

- ◆ The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), the police think tank of the MHA, had invited research proposals from academicians and legal experts in the year 2018. It received 75 proposals, and two topics - "Status of Radicalization in India: An Exploratory Study of Prevention and Remedies" and "Functioning and Impact of Open Prisons on Rehabilitation of Prisoners" were shortlisted by the MHA in September.
- ◆ The study will be religion-neutral and will go by facts and the



reported cases. Radicalisation is yet to be defined legally, this leads to misuse by the police. It should be defined and necessary amendments will be made to the UAPA.

- ◆ Aggressive policing measures could be counter-productive as the youth who were radicalised were "misguided" and not the culprits.

Case History

- ◆ The United Nations' 26th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team concerning the IS (Islamic State), al-Qaeda and associated individuals and entities had pointed out "significant numbers"

of the IS and al-Qaeda members in Kerala and Karnataka. The report said, "One-member State reported that the ISIL Indian affiliate (Hind Wilayah), which was announced on May 10, 2019, has between 180 and 200 members".

- ◆ On September 16, Minister of State for Home, G. Kishan Reddy informed the Lok Sabha that the information was "not factually correct". The House was told that the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has registered 17 cases related to the presence of the IS in Telangana, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and arrested 122 accused persons. <>>

05

Covid-19 Impacted Refugee Resettlement Globally

- ◆ The United Nations warned that 2020 could witness the fewest resettled refugees in almost two decades, in part due to the global pandemic. UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, said the coronavirus outbreak and a low quota to begin with had combined to strike "a blow for refugee protection".

Fate of Refugees

- ◆ "We are dealing with a disappointingly low resettlement ceiling to begin with - a quota of less than 50,000 for the entire year - and this was further impacted by COVID-19 delaying departures and pausing some states' resettlement programs," said UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, Gillian Triggs.
- ◆ According to latest UNHCR data, only 15,425 refugees were resettled from January to the end of September this year, compared to 50,086 over the same period last year.



- ◆ "Current rates point to one of the lowest levels of resettlement witnessed in almost two decades. This is a blow for refugee protection and for the ability to save lives and protect those most at risk," said Triggs.
- ◆ UNHCR is urging states to resettle as many refugees as possible in 2020 in order not to lose those resettlement opportunities for refugees, and to maintain resettlement quotas for 2021.

Efforts in Upswing

- ◆ One of the key objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees is to better protect refugees and to support countries hosting large refugee populations, including through increased resettlement and complementary pathways.
- ◆ Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNHCR resettlement operations have been working to identify and process cases throughout the year, submitting resettlement files for more than 31,000 refugees.

06

China on Moon: Chang'e 5 Mission

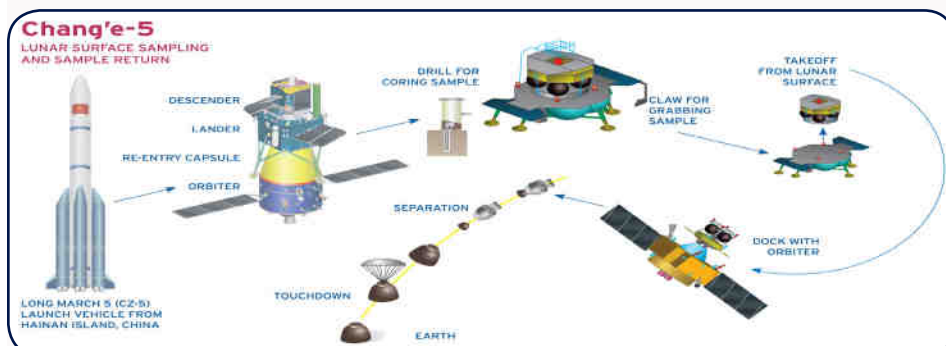
- ◆ China's Chang'e-5 lunar exploration mission blasted off on 24th November, the first step of

what Chinese space scientists call a "very long and even perilous march" to land on the moon and

bring back samples from the lunar surface.

Goal of Chang'e 5

- ◆ The goal of the mission is to land in the Mons Rumker region of the moon, where it will operate for one lunar day, which is two weeks long and return a 2 kg sample of the lunar rock possibly by digging about 2 metres deep into the surface of the Moon. The mission comprises a lunar orbiter, a lander



and an ascent probe that will lift the lunar samples back into orbit and return them back to Earth.

- ◆ The mission, named after the ancient Chinese goddess of the moon, will seek to collect lunar material to help scientists understand more about the moon's origin and formation.

Race for Space Supremacy

- ◆ CCTV and other state media outlets lost no time in claiming

that, with the smooth lift-off atop a Long March-5 heavy transport rocket, China has joined the elite ranks of the former Soviet Union and the United States as a "space superpower" capable of returning extra-terrestrial objects back to earth.

- ◆ Chinese Communist Party mouthpiece has added that the current 810,000-kilometer round trip would test the reliability of all systems from landing on the

moon to re-entry into earth's atmosphere for future manned programs as well as deep space exploration, including China's Mars projects.

Early Mission

- ◆ Early in 2019, China's Chang'e-4 probe had successfully transmitted images from the far side of the Moon, also referred to as the dark side. This was the first probe to land in this portion of the Moon.



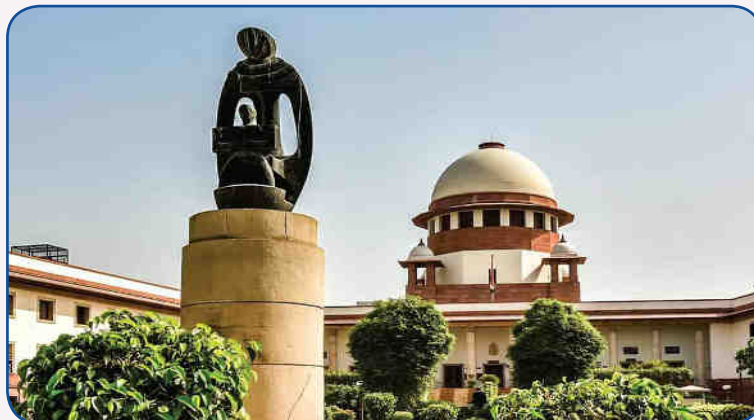
07

Supreme Court: Right to Property a Valuable Right

- ◆ The Supreme Court has ruled that the centre and state governments cannot have an "indefinite or overriding right" to continue occupying citizens' properties after acquiring them on any pretext and permitting such an act would be "no less than condoning lawlessness".

Case

- ◆ Apex court has observed that although Right to Property is not a fundamental right protected under Part III of the Constitution of India, it remains a valuable constitutional right. The verdict was delivered in the matter in which the top court directed the centre to return within three months over four acres land in Byppanahalli, Bangalore, to the legal heirs of one BM Krishnamurthy nearly 57 years of their acquisition.
- ◆ Referring to recent judgements, the verdict, penned by Justice



Bhat said that the right to property is a "valuable right ensuring guaranteed freedoms and economic liberty".

Right to Property a Human Right

- ◆ In another verdict in January 2020, the Supreme Court has opined that a citizen's right to own private property is a human right. The state cannot take possession of it without following due procedure and authority of law.
- ◆ The state cannot trespass into the private property of a citizen

and then claim ownership of the land in the name of 'adverse possession', the court said. Grabbing private land and then claiming it as its own makes

the state an encroacher.

Right to Property

- ◆ After the Indian Independence, when the Constitution of India came into force on 26th January, 1950, the right to property was included as a 'fundamental right' under Article 19(1)(f) and Article 31 in Part III, making it an enforceable right. Parliament passed the 44th Constitution Amendment which made right to property an ordinary legal right under Article 300-A.



7

IMPORTANT PRACTICE QUESTIONS (For Mains)



02



04



06

01

Article 131 of the Constitution of India has been used time and again by the apex court in India. Write a short note on Article 131 and highlight recent Supreme Court observations regarding Article 131.

02

Public accounts should be handled on the principles of transparency, accountability and financial propriety. Discuss the given statement and highlight the provisions laid down in the constitution to ensure financial accountability.

03

Higher education in India is facing severe constraints. Discuss some of the constraints and suggest measures to address the lacunae in the higher education sector.

04

Write a short note on Drone-a-thon. Discuss the applicability of drones in other sectors of the economy ranging from health, law-enforcement to agriculture and supply chain management.

05

What is Online Dispute Resolution? Discuss its scope and viability in Indian judicial system.

06

Discuss how R.T.I. Act has led to effective accountability and transparency in governance. Also highlight the evolving scope and any limitations in recent context.

07

How had Bhakti and Sufi movement contributed to the development of literature and spiritual diversity in India?

7

IMPORTANT FACTS (For Prelims)



01



03



05

01 Which state has India's first Moss Garden that was inaugurated by Rajendra Singh, a Ramon Magsaysay awardee?

Nainital, Uttarakhand

02 Which Indian state has constituted "gau cabinet" (cow cabinet), for the conservation and welfare of cows?

Madhya Pradesh

03 Which union ministry has recently launched a national portal for Transgender Persons and Garima Greh, a shelter home for Transgender Persons?

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

04 What is the name of the dam, which India has announced to build in Afghanistan?

Shahtoot Dam

05 Which state government has launched, 'Him Suraksha Abhiyan' to sensitise people regarding Covid-19?

Himachal Pradesh

06 Which union minister has recently inaugurated 46 AICTE Training and Learning (ATAL) Academy Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs)?

Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'

07 Which union ministry has launched 'Sahakar Pragya' scheme, to impart training to primary cooperative societies in rural areas.?

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

7

IMPORTANT QUOTES (For Essay and Answer Writing)



01

01

"A 'yes man' is a dangerous man. He is a menace. He will go very far. He can become a minister, a secretary or a Field Marshal but he can never become a leader nor, ever be respected."

Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw

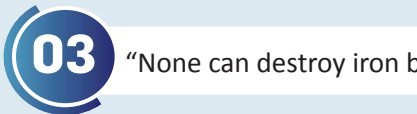


03

02

"We are what our thoughts have made us; so take care about what you think. Words are secondary. Thoughts live; they travel far. "

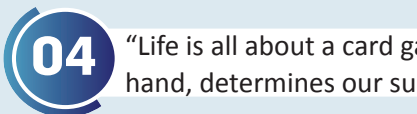
Swami Vivekananda



03

"None can destroy iron but it's own rust can. Likewise, none can destroy a person, but his own mindset can. "

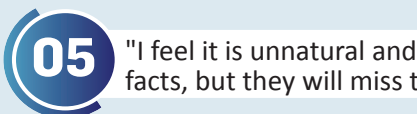
Ratan Tata



04

"Life is all about a card game. Choosing the right cards is not in our hand. But playing well with the cards in hand, determines our success."

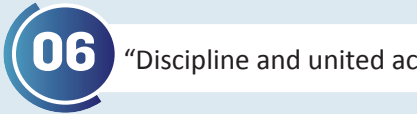
Bal Gangadhar Tilak



05

"I feel it is unnatural and immoral to try to teach science to children in a foreign language They will know facts, but they will miss the spirit."

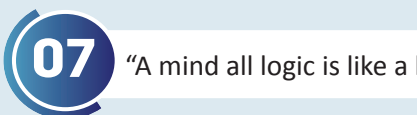
C. V. Raman



06

"Discipline and united action are the real source of strength for the nation."

Lal Bahadur Shastri



07

"A mind all logic is like a knife all blade. It makes the hand bleed that uses it."

Rabindranath Tagore

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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