

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS MAGAZINE for



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Success is born of action...

Topic 1. JAN SHIKSHAN SANSTHAN

Importance for Prelims: Governance



The Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), a Union government initiative for skill development in rural areas, has brought high speed internet to some of the remotest tribal hamlets deep inside the Nilambur jungle in Kerala.

- Jan Shikshan Sansthan (formerly referred to as Shramik Vidyaapeeth) offer line of work skills to non-literate, neo-literates additionally as college drop-outs by distinctive skills that have a market within the region of their institution.
- The theme of Jan Shikshan Sansthan has been transferred from Ministry of Human Resource Development to Ministry of talent Development and Entrepreneurship in July-2018.
- Target Group Socio-economically backward and educationally disadvantaged groups of rural/urban population.
- Main target embody non-literate, neo-literates, person education up

to eighth normal, college drop-outs, within the cohort of 15-35 years.

- Priority given to ladies, SC, ST, OBC and Minorities in rural areas and concrete slums.
- **The scope of labor of Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSSs) includes the following:** Develop/Source applicable program and coaching modules covering line of work components, general awareness and life enrichment elements.
- JSS's are inspired to undertake coaching courses designed by the board of directors of class, National Institute of Open Schooling and Director General, Employment & coaching.
- Provide training to a pool of resource persons and master trainers for conducting training.
- Administer simple tests and award certificates.
- Network with employers and industries for trainees to urge appropriate placement.

Topic 2. SWATANTRATA SAINIK SAMMAN PENSION SCHEME

(SSSPS)

Importance for Prelims: Governance



The city supreme court has reiterated that the unmarried girl of a late subverter is entitled to the advantage of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension theme (SSSPS) as a dependent.

- This is a Central Scheme for the grant of pension to freedom fighters and their families from the Central Revenues.
- It was introduced by the govt. of Asian country.
- The theme provides for the grant of pension to living freedom fighters and their families, if they're no a lot of alive, and to the families or martyrs
- The theme provides for a monthly Samman Pension to freedom fighters, as a token of respect for his or her contribution within the national freedom struggle and on their dying, to their eligible dependents viz. spouses and thenceforth, widowed and dismissed daughters and dependent oldsters, as per prescribed eligibility norms and procedure.

Topic 3. NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

ACT 1985

Importance for Prelims: Legislations

The Delhi High Court has observed that the menace of drug abuse was on the rise in the country and its consequences “can be experienced across the board from causing economic issues to societal disintegration”.

- The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act is an Act of the Parliament of India that prohibits a person to produce/manufacture/cultivate, possess, sell, purchase, transport, store, and/or consume any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.
- As per the NDPS Act, narcotic drugs include coca leaf, cannabis (hemp), opium and poppy straw.
- Psychotropic substance means any natural or synthetic material or any salt or preparation covered under the 1971 convention on Psychotropic substances.
- The following conventions various forms of control to limit the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances
- The international organisation Single Convention on Narcotics medicine 1961 The Convention on mind-altering Substances, 1971 The Convention on Illicit Traffic in Narcotic medicine and mind-altering Substances, 1988 Asian nation may be a human to any or all these 3.
- NDPS Act has created tight provisions for the management and regulation of operations with reference to narcotic medicine and mind-altering substances.
- As per the NDPS Act, the minimum sentence for coping with medicine is ten years rigorous imprisonment including a fine of Rs. 1 lakh. No bail is granted for those persons reserved underneath this act.

- In addition, no relief will be obtained by the drug convicts through suspension, remission and commutation of sentences passed.
- NDPS Act prescribes even though the offence cannot be called as a heinous crime. Narcotics Control Bureau
- It was constituted by the Government of India in 1986 under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.
- It is the apex coordinating agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The National Policy on Narcotic medicine and mind-altering Substances relies on Article forty seven of the Indian Constitution that directs the State to endeavour to achieve prohibition of the consumption, apart from healthful functions, of intoxicating medicine injurious to health.
- Drug abuse management is that the responsibility of the central government.

Topic 4. KARTARPUR SAHIB GURDWARA

Importance for Prelims: IR



Pakistan has determined to permit totally immunised Sikh pilgrims to go to Gurdwara Darbar European, Kartarpur from next month with strict COVID nineteen protocols.

- Gurdwara Kartarpur European, additionally called the Gurdwara Darbar European, is found in Pakistan's Narowal district across stream Ravi.
- It is one in all the foremost vital historical and non secular places for Sikhs. in line with historians, the primary Sikh Guru (Guru Guru Nanak Dev) had arrived in Kartarpur between 1520 and 1522, and spent the last eighteen years of his life there.
- It was in Kartarpur where he laid the foundations of a Sikh religion.
- The Kartarpur corridor connects the Darbar Sahib Gurdwara in Narowal district of Pakistan with the Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district Punjab, India.
- The agreement facilitates visa-free movement of Indian pilgrims who

would only need a permit to cross over to Pakistan.

Topic 5. MALABAR NAVAL EXERCISE

Importance for Prelims: Security

PHASE 2
17 to 20 November, 2020

India:

- Aircraft Carrier (INS Vikramaditya)
- Guided Missile Destroyer (INS Chennai & INS Kolkata)
- Guided Missile Stealth Frigate (INS Tipu)
- Tanker (INS Deepak)
- Submarine (INS Khanderi)
- FSB and IL-78

US:

- Aircraft Carrier (USS Nimitz)
- Guided Missile Cruiser (USS Princeton)
- Guided Missile Destroyer (USS Sherman)
- FSB

Australia: Long Range Frigate (HMAS Ballarat)

Japan: Destroyer (JMSDF Murasame)

PHASE 1
03 to 06 November, 2020

India:

- Destroyer (INS Ranvijay)
- Stealth Frigate (INS Shivalik)
- Offshore Patrolling Vessel (INS Sukanya)
- Tanker (INS Shakti)
- Submarine (INS Sindhura)
- Dornier MPA
- AUT Hawk and PB

US: Guided Missile Destroyer (USS John S McCain)

Australia: Long Range Frigate (HMAS Ballarat)

Japan: Destroyer (JMSDF Onami)

First Two-phase -Two-coast version

Not been held in the Arabian Sea since 2010

2nd instance of Quad countries exercising jointly

25 frontline assets participated in this edition

Since 2002, India has deployed an aircraft carrier on four occasions, while U.S. Navy on 10 occasions. USS Nimitz participating in this year's edition was its fourth appearance at Malabar. Commissioned in 1975, USS Nimitz is the oldest operational aircraft carrier in the world

India Navy maintains high operational tempo

16 frontline assets deployed by India in this edition - the highest ever

Maiden participation of indigenously manufactured submarine Khanderi

Different ships, submarines and aircrafts deployed by India at the eastern and western fronts

GATEWAY HOUSE
INDIAN COUNCIL FOR GLOBAL RELATIONS

MALABAR 2020

The Quad countries — Asian nation, the U.S., Australia and Japan — can do following edition of the Malabar armed service exercise from August twenty six to twenty nine off the coast of Guam amid mounting world issues over China's growing military muscle-flexing within the Indo Pacific region.

- Malabar exercise is Associate in Nursing annual armed service exercise between the navies of Asian nation, Japan, Australia and therefore the USA.
- It is control alternately within the ocean and Pacific.
- It began as a bilateral armed service exercise between Asian nation and therefore the USA in 1992 and was swollen into a trilateral format with the inclusion of Japan in 2015.

- The Exercise is aimed to support free, open and comprehensive Indo-Pacific and stay committed to a rules primarily based international order.

Topic 6. BUBBLE

Importance for Prelims: Economy

Bubbles occur once assets become by artificial means dear, driven by a fallacy called a thought. There are unit identifiers that may facilitate spot potential, irrational exuberance within the market.

Here are seven of them:

- Entry of latest investors— concerning one.42 large integer new demat accounts were ascititious in FY21, that is concerning threefold quite that seen in FY20.
- Leverage play – Leverage refers to the act of borrowing money to speculate in the market; this is generally funded by the broker or by an NBFC.
- **High risk appetite** – Investors are willing to allocate more capital than they would otherwise, towards asset classes which have done exceedingly well in recent times.
- **Big-ticket IPOs** – an added sign of a possible bubble is giant IPOs commencing to hit the market and obtaining sold.
- **Predictive power** – Another sign of market exuberance is to check the degree of confidence among market participants on future prediction.
- **Small-cap trades** – within the previous few months, the increase in listed volume of little - cap stocks is way above for stocks with giant capitalisation, additional liquidity and a wider capitalist base.
- Sudden rise in valuations- In every market cycle, a few sectors or a few types of stocks get all the attention.

Topic 7. NON-DELIVERABLE FORWARD (NDF) MARKETS

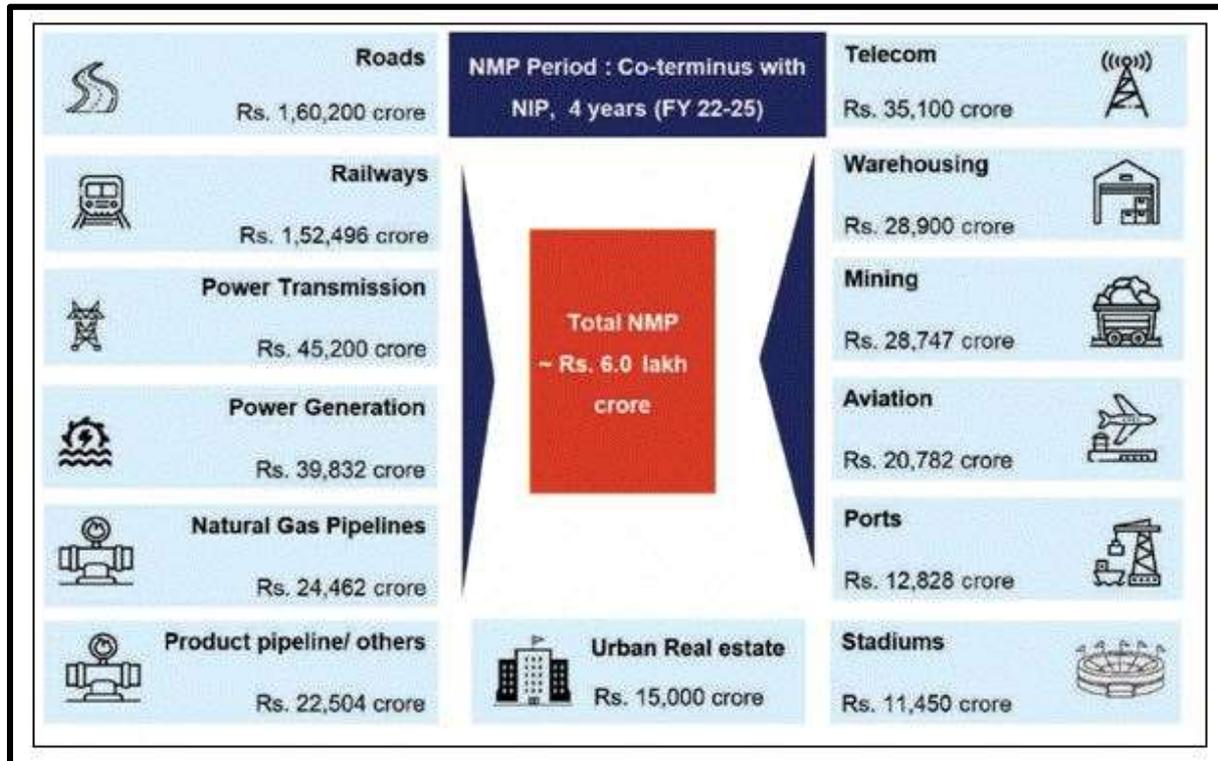
Importance for Prelims: Economy

The off shore NDF market for the rupee remains a challenge, despite RBI's attempts to curb its influence.

- NDFs square measure exchange by-product instruments on non-convertible or restricted currencies listed over the counter (OTC) primarily at offshore centres outside the direct jurisdiction of the individual national authorities.
- NDF may be a exchange derivatives contract whereby 2 parties conform to exchange money at a given spot rate on a future date.
- The contract is settled in a widely traded currency, such as the US dollar, rather than the original currency
- The Task Force on Offshore Rupee Markets, found out by the run batted in (chaired by Usha Thorat, former Deputy Governor, RBI) had projected that Indian banks shouldn't be allowable to deal within the offshore rupee by-product market — or the NDF market — for the current because the draw back of allowing them to deal during this market outweighs the benefits.
- However, The banking company of Asian country|Bharat|Asian country|Asian nation} (RBI) has determined to allow banks in India, that operate International money Services Centre Banking Units (IBUs), to participate within the non-deliverable forward (NDF) market with result from June one, 2020.
- [‘Onshore’ currencies merely mean shopping for the currencies regionally, whereas ‘offshore’ currencies mean shopping for the currencies outside the national boundaries].

Topic 8. NATIONAL MONETISATION PIPELINE

Importance for Prelims: Economy



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman can launch the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) tomorrow at Indian capital.

- The objective of the monetisation programme is to unlock the worth of investment created in public assets that haven't yielded acceptable or potential returns up to now.
- NMP comprises a four-year pipeline of the Central Government's brownfield infrastructure assets.
- Besides providing visibility to investors, the NMP also will function as a medium-term roadmap for the monetisation initiative of the govt..
- The pipeline has been prepared in consultation with Niti-Aayog, the government think-tank.
- The NMP is a component of the FY22 Budget announcement. Monetising operational public infrastructure assets could be

- a vital funding choice for brand spanking new infrastructure construction.
- Asset substantiation dashboard also will be created for pursuit the progress and to produce visibility to investors.
 - **Some vital measures within the direction of substantiation** – InvIT (Infrastructure Investment Trust) every sponsored by the National Highways Authority of Asian nation (NHAI) and facility (PGCIL) that may attract international and domestic institutional investors. Railways can legitimise the assets of the Dedicated Freight Corridors for operations and maintenance, when empowerment.
 - **Other core infrastructure assets that will be rolled out under the Asset Monetisation Programme are:** NHAI operational toll roads; transmission assets of PGCIL; oil and gas pipelines of GAIL, IOCL and HPCL; AAI airports in Tier-II and -III cities; other railway infrastructure assets; warehousing assets of CPSEs (Central Public Sector Enterprises) such as Central Warehousing Corporation and NAFED; and sports stadiums.

Topic 9. COMPETITION COMMISSION OF INDIA

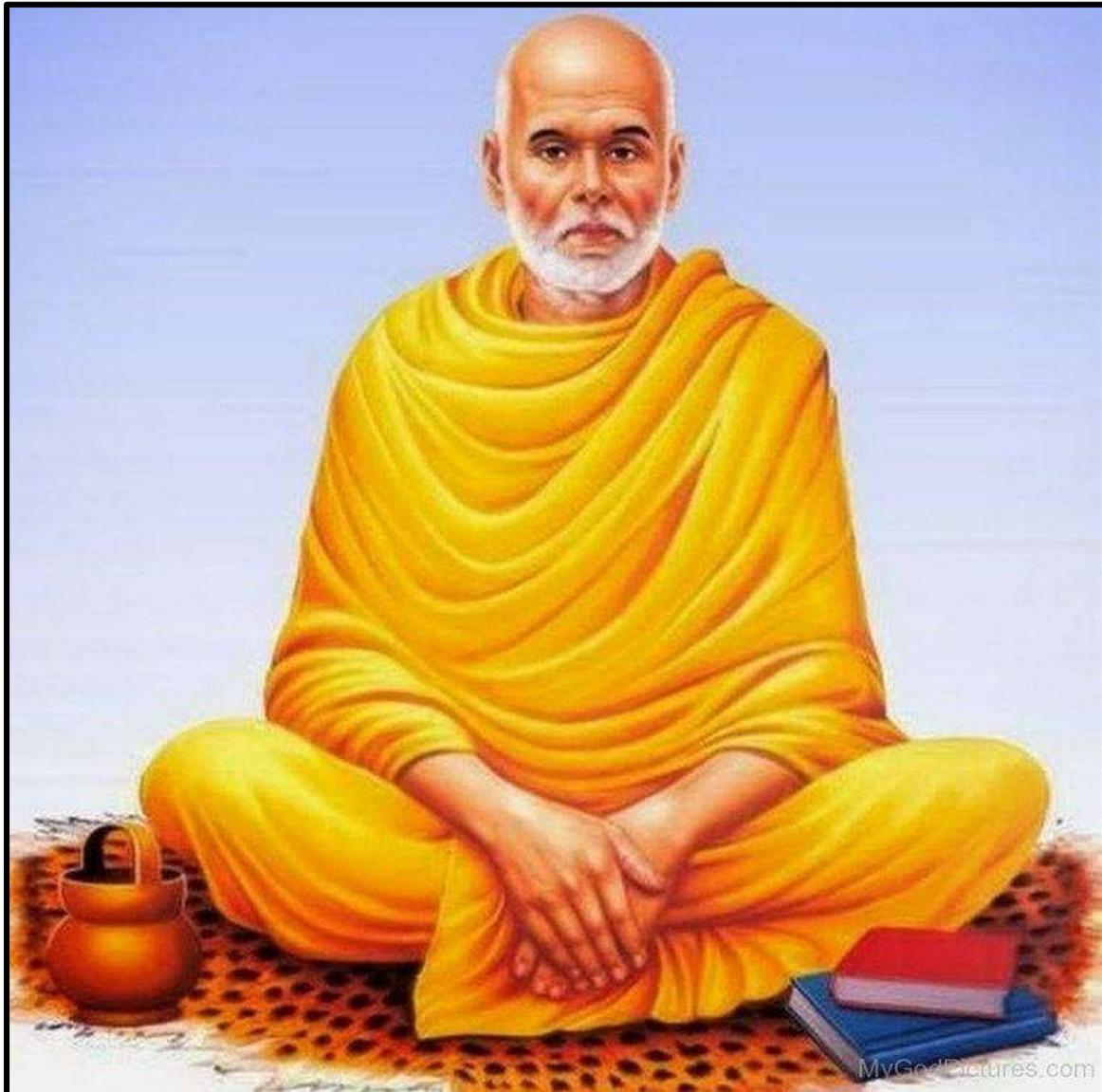
Importance for Prelims: Governance

CCI fines Maruti Suzuki ₹200 crore

- Competition Commission of India is a statutory body responsible for enforcing the objectives of the Competition Act, 2002.
- CCI was established by the Central Government with effect from 14 October 2003, but it became fully functional on 20 May, 2009.
- **Composition** – A Chairperson and 6 Members appointed by the Central Government.
- **Formation of CCI:** The CCI was established below the provisions of the Competition act 2002: The Competition Act, 2007, was enacted when amending Competition Act, 2002, that semiconductor diode to the institution of the CCI and also the Competition legal proceeding assembly.
- The government replaced the Competition legal proceeding assembly (COMPAT) with the National Company Law legal proceeding assembly (NCLAT) in 2017.
- Function of CCI – To eliminate practices having adverse effects on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.

Topic 10. SREE NARAYANA GURU

Importance for Prelims: History



Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on weekday aforesaid the powerful current of humanism that animated the teachings of nineteenth century social reformer Sree Narayana Guru may be a cure-all for the globe riven by communal and racial conflicts.

- Narayana Guru (1856 – 1928) was a social reformer.
- He has been attributable with remodeling the social material of kerala and dynamical the beliefs of keralites in ways that unthinkable at that time in time.

- His family belonged to the Ezhava caste and was thought of ‘avarna’ in keeping with the social mores of the time.
- From AN early age, he was drawn towards asceticism. He lived as a hermit in an exceedingly forest for eight years.
- He learned Vedas, Upanishads, literature, logical rhetoric of Sanskrit, Hatha Yoga and other philosophies.
- He gave the famous slogan “One Caste, One Religion, One God for All” (Oru Jathi, Oru Matham, Oru Daivam, Manushyanu).
- In 1888, he engineered a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva at Aruvippuram that was against the caste-based restrictions of the time.
- In one temple he consecrated at Kalavancode, he unbroken mirrors rather than idols.
- This symbolised his message that the divine was among every individual. Narayana Guru organized AN All-Region Conference in 1923 at Alwaye Advaita Ashram, that was reported to be the primary such event in India.
- This was an endeavor to counter the spiritual conversions Ezhava community was prone to.
- Sree Narayana Guru became one amongst the best proponents and re-evaluators of Advaita Vedanta, the principle of non-duality proposes by Adi Shankara.
- He wrote numerous books in numerous languages. Few of them are: Advaita Deepika, Asrama, The varappathinkangal, etc. Contribution to National Movement: a noteworthy social reformer, he was within the forefront of the movement for universal temple entry and against the social ills just like the social discrimination of untouchables.
- Narayana Gurudev provided the impetus for Vaikom agitation which was aimed at temple entry in Travancore for the lower castes.
- It histrion nationwide attention and appreciation from spiritual leader.

Sree Narayana Gurudev's Adyaropa darsanam (Darsanamala) explains the creation of the universe.

- Daivadasakam and Atmopadesa satakam square measure many samples of however the mystic reflections and insights closely match recent advances in physics.

Topic 11. E-EMERGENCY X-MISC

Importance for Prelims: IR

A lot of open, liberalised visa policy, and swifter process of the recently launched special “e Emergency X Misc” visas would reassure each Afghans and also the international community that India’s exit from Afghanistan isn't permanent, and it'll retain its ancient and historic interests within the country and its individuals, despite adverse events there.

- The Indian government has introduced a special category of electronic visa — the ‘e-Emergency X-Misc Visa’ — to facilitate and fast-track urgent applications for entry to India.
- The new visa provision has been introduced particularly for Afghans because the state of affairs worsens within the war-worn nation condemned by the religious movement.
- Then e-Emergency X-Misc Visa is granted to foreigners WHO aren't lined within the accessible classes of visa however ought to visit India desperately thanks to a family emergency.
- Such a single-entry visa is issued by Indian Missions/Posts for associate degree acceptable amount of your time.
- According to the older document, Afghans weren't lined below the class and had to physically gift themselves at the Embassy to induce the visa.
- However, given the current situation in Kabul, which has forced to shut down the embassy as well, all Afghans have been permitted to open e-visa with no religion-based priority.
- The facility is available to all Afghans irrespective of their religion.
- The (initial) validity of this visa would be six months.

Topic 12. UJJWALA SCHEME

Importance for Prelims: Government Schemes



In India, many ladies in poor households World Health Organization use fuel or dung cakes for change of state pay long hours assembling fuel and creating dung cakes. this is often labour.

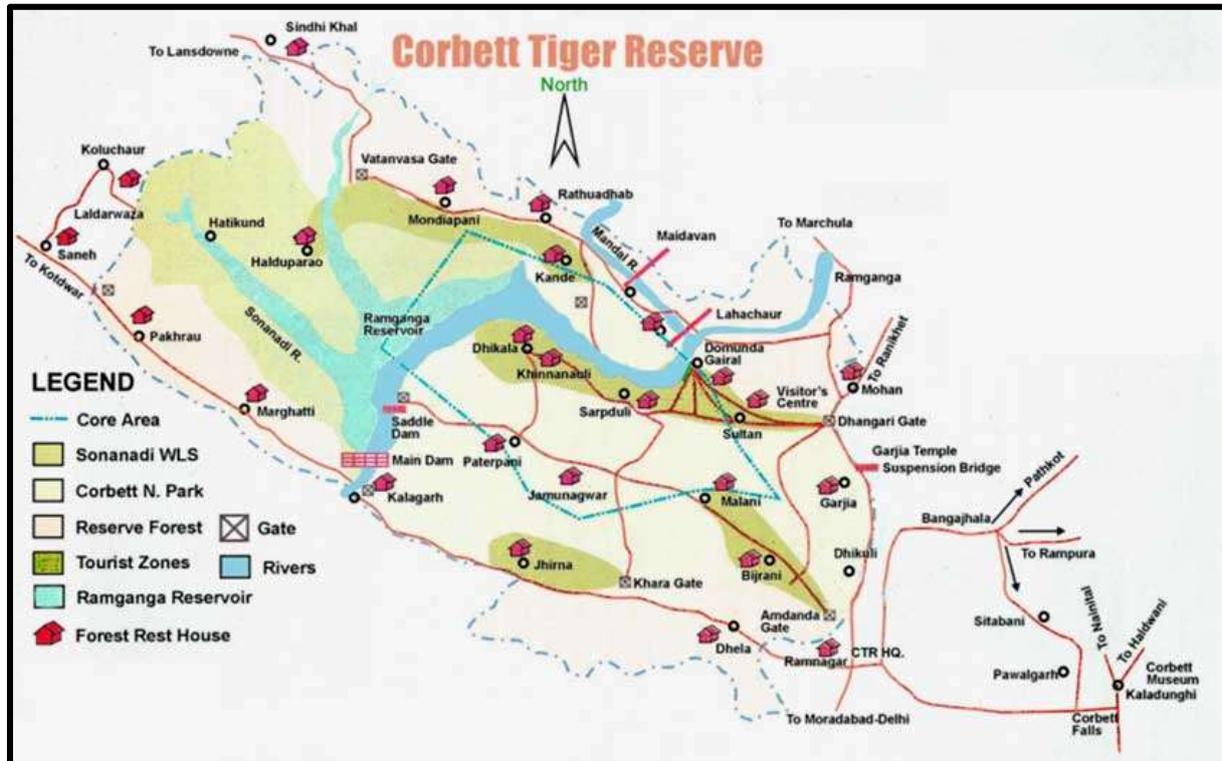
- Prime Minister launched the second phase of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) or Ujjwala 2.0 Scheme.
- PMUY-I: Launched in night 2016 to supply LPG (liquefied fossil oil gas) connections to poor households.
- **PMUY-II:** It is aimed to provide maximum benefit to the migrants who live in other states and find it difficult to submit address proof.
- Now they will only have to give “Self Declaration” to avail the benefit.
- The scheme provides a financial support of Rs 1600 for each LPG connection to the BPL households.
- Along with a deposit-free LPG association, Ujjwala 2.0 can give the primary refill and a kitchen appliance freed from value to the beneficiaries.
- Under Ujjwala 2.0, an additional 10 million LPG connections will be

provided to the beneficiaries.

- Government has conjointly mounted a target of providing piped gas to twenty one large integer homes in fifty districts.
- Nodal Ministry – Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

Topic 13. CORBETT TIGER RESERVE

Importance for Prelims: Environment



The city judicature on Mon asked the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) to think about as illustration a petition to prevent the alleged misappropriated construction of bridges and walls inside tiger breeding environs of the Corbett Tiger Reserve.

- Jim Corbett park is that the oldest park in Bharat and was established in 1936 as Hailey park to guard the vulnerable tiger.
- It is found in Nainital district and Pauri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand and was named when hunter and naturalist Corbett.
- The Park was the primary to come back underneath the Project Tiger initiative.
- The Park encompasses the Patli Dun depression shaped by the Ramganga stream.
- Ramganga, Sonanadi, Mandal, Palain and Kosi are the major rivers flowing through the Corbett National Park.

- The national park is a protected area covered by the World Wide Fund (WWF) for Nature under their Terai Arc Landscape Program.
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) may be a statutory body underneath the Ministry of surroundings, Forests and global climate change.
- It was established in 2005 following the recommendations of the Tiger Task Force.
- It was deep-rooted underneath sanctionative provisions of the life (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation, as per powers and functions assigned thereto.

Topic 14. URBAN CO-OPERATIVE BANKS

Importance for Prelims: Economy

A Reserve Bank appointed committee has suggested a four-tier structure for the urban cooperative banks (UCBs).

- Co-operative Banks, which are distinct from commercial banks, were born out of the concept of co-operative credit societies where members from a community group together to extend loans to each other, at favourable terms.
- Co-operative Banks square measure broadly speaking classified into Urban and Rural co-operative banks supported their region of operation.
- Like other banks, the cooperative banks are founded by collecting funds through shares, accept deposits and grant loans.
- The history of Indian cooperative banking started with the passing of Cooperative Societies Act in 1904.
- A Co-operative bank could be a money entity that belongs to its members, World Health Organization square measure at a similar time the homeowners and therefore the customers of their bank.
- Co-operative banks in India are registered under the States Cooperative Societies Act.
- The Co-operative banks also are regulated by the bank of India (RBI) and ruled by the Banking laws Act 1949 Banking Laws (Co-operative Societies) Act, 1955.
- **Democratic Member management** – democratically elect a board of administrators. Members typically have equal pick rights, in line with the cooperative principle of “one person, one vote”.
- Urban Co-operative Banks (aka Primary Cooperative Banks) square measure regulated and supervised by State Registrars of Co-operative Societies (RCS) just {in case} of single-State co-operative banks and

Central Registrar of Co-operative Societies (CRCS) in case of multi-State co-operative banks and by the tally.

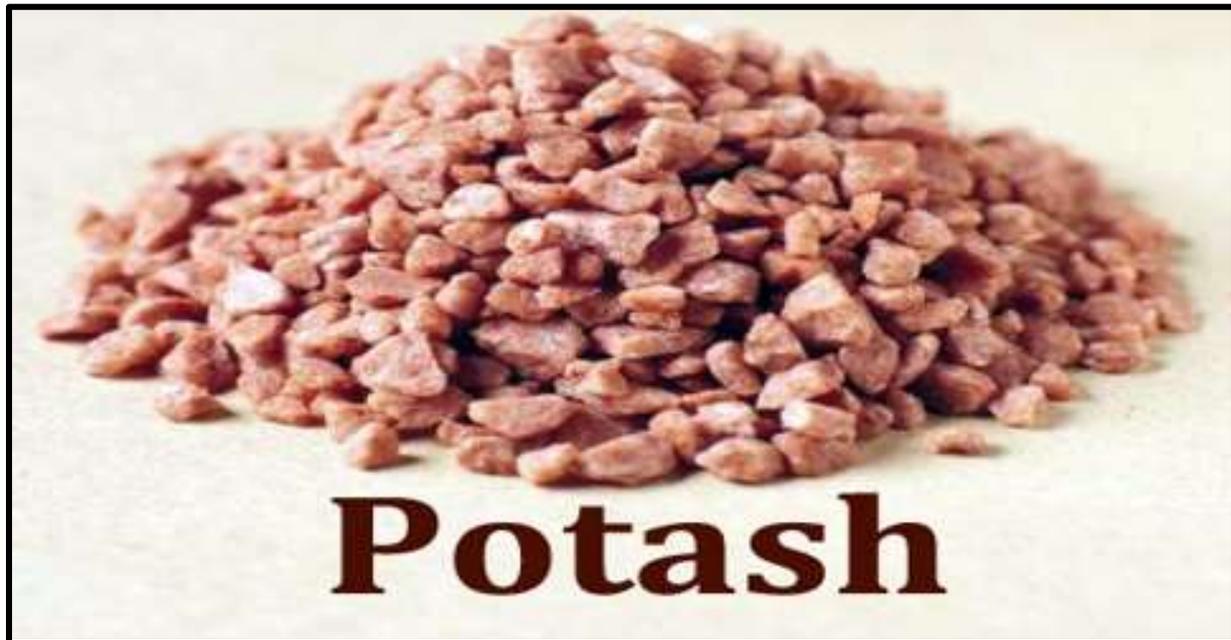
- The banking connected functions like issue of license to begin new banks/branches, matters regarding interest rates, loan policies, investments and prudent exposure norms square measure regulated and supervised by the bank beneath the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- Reserve Bank of India is both the controlling and inspecting authority for the Primary Cooperative Banks.
- NABARD provides refinance support and takes care of inspection of StCBs and DCCBs.
- Difference between UCBs and Commercial Banks Regulation: Unlike commercial banks, UCBs are only partly regulated by the RBI.
- Their banking operations square measure regulated by the tally, that lays down their capital adequacy, risk management and disposition norms.
- However, their management and backbone within the case of distress is regulated by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies either beneath the State or Central government.
- Borrower will be a Shareholder: generally for an advertisement bank, there's a transparent distinction between its shareholders and its borrowers whereas in an exceedingly UCB, borrowers will even double up as shareholders.
- All-inclusive directions (AID) The committee, headed by NS Vishwanathan, a former Deputy Governor of the tally, emphatic that all-embracing directions (AID) ought to be treated on a par with moratorium beneath Section forty five of the Banking Regulation Act.
- If AID is obligatory, a bank mustn't continue under that on the far side the time allowable to stay a bank beneath moratorium — 3 months long by

a most of another 3 months. Some UCBs (about fifty UCBs) are beneath AID for several years.

- A Stage III UCB is one wherever its capital to risk-weighted assets ratio/CRAR is a smaller amount than four.5 per cent and/or web non-performing assets/NNPAs is larger than twelve per cent.

Topic 15. POTASH

Importance for Prelims: Agriculture



EID Parry (India) Ltd., one in all the most important sugar makers within the South, has undertaken a pilot study to determine the extraction of hydroxide from ash created in distilleries.

- Potash includes various mined and manufactured salts that contain potassium in water-soluble form.
- The name derives from pot ash, which refers to plant ashes or wood ash soaked in water in a pot, which was the primary means of manufacturing the product before the Industrial Era.
- Potash is produced worldwide in amounts exceeding 90 million tonnes (40 million tonnes K O equivalent) per year, mostly for use in fertilizer.
- Potassium was first derived in 1807 by electrolysis of caustic potash (potassium hydroxide).
- Most of the world's potash comes from Canada, with the largest deposits located in Saskatchewan and New Brunswick.
- Four countries (Canada, Belarus, Russia and China) accounted for 80% of

the world's potash production in 2019.

- Today, hydroxide comes from either underground or resolution mining. In India, few deposits of hydroxide mineral area unit according from Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh, Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh, Kaimur district of state and Sawai Madhopur and Karauli districts of Rajasthan.
- It is in the form of Glauconitic (a potassium bearing green mica) sandstone.
- Potassium is a vital component of the human diet because it is important for growth and also the maintenance of tissues, muscles and organs, still because the electrical activity of the center.

Topic 16. CABINET MINISTER ARREST PROCEDURE IN INDIA

Importance for Prelims: Polity

Three FIRs are registered against Union Minister and Rajya Sabha member Narayan Rane, and also the geographical area Police has sent a team to arrest him.

- If Parliament isn't in session, a cupboard minister is in remission by a enforcement agency just in case of a criminal case registered against him.
- As per Section twenty two A of the foundations of Procedures and Conduct of Business of the Rajya Sabha, the Police, choose or functionary would, however, ought to intimate the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha concerning the rationale for the arrest, the place of detention or imprisonment in Associate in Nursing acceptable type.
- The Chairman is predicted to tell the Council if it's sitting concerning the arrest.
- If the council isn't sitting, he/she is predicted to publish it within the bulletin for the data of the members.
- Privileges of the Rajya Sabha members vis-a-vis arrests as per the most privileges of Parliament, in civil cases, they need freedom from arrest throughout the continuance of the House and forty days before its commencement and forty days when its conclusion, as per section one hundred thirty five of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- The privilege of freedom from arrest doesn't touch criminal offences or cases of detention below preventive detention.

Can someone be in remission from the precincts of the House?

- No arrest, whether of a member or of a stranger, can be made within the precincts of the House without the prior permission of the

Chairman/Speaker and that too in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Home Ministry in this regard.

- Similarly no legal method, civil or criminal, is served among the precincts of the House while not getting the previous permission of the Chairman/Speaker whether or not the home is in Session or not.

Topic 17. GURU GRANTH SAHIB

Importance for Prelims: Art and Culture

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and others have carried on their heads saroops of the Guru Granth Sahib flown in from Afghanistan.

- Saroop is a physical copy of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, also called Bir in Punjabi.
- Every Bir has one,430 pages, that square measure remarked as home reserve. The verses on each page stay identical.
- The Sikhs take into account the saroop of Guru religious writing a living guru and treat it with utmost respect.
- They believe that each one the ten Gurus were identical spirit in numerous bodies, and therefore the Guru religious writing is their eternal physical and religious type.
- It was the fifth Sikh master, Guru Arjan Dev, WHO compiled the primary Bir of the Guru religious writing in 1604, and put in it at the Golden Temple in Amritsar.
- Later, the tenth Sikh master, Guru Gobind Singh, added verses fenced in by the ninth master, his father Guru Tegh Bahadur, and compiled the Bir for the second and last time.
- It was in 1708 that Guru Gobind Singh declared the Guru religious writing the living Guru of the Sikhs. “Guru religious writing may be a compendium of hymns written by six Sikh gurus, 15 saints, as well as BhagatKabir, BhagatRavidas, Arab chief Farid and BhagatNamdev, eleven Bhatts (balladeers) and 4 Sikhs. The verses square measure composed in thirty one ragas.”
- The installation and transportation of Guru religious writing is ruled by a strict code of conduct known as rehatmaryada. below ideal circumstances, 5 baptized Sikhs square measure needed to transfer the

Guru religious writing from one place to a different.

- As a mark of respect, the Bir of the Guru sacred text is carried on the top, and also the person walks barefoot.
- Whenever a devout sees the Bir of Guru sacred text passing by, he removes her shoes and bows.
- Gurdwaras have a separate resting place for the Saroop, known as 'SukhAsanSthan' or 'Sachkhand' wherever the Guru rests in the dead of night.
- This takes place at the top of the day once the holy book is ceremonially shut and untired.
- In the morning, the saroop is once more put in in an exceedingly ceremony known as 'prakash'.

wherever square measure copies of the Guru sacred text published?

- There was a convention among Punjabis, each Sikhs and Hindus, to repeat the Guru sacred text by hand and turn out multiple copies.
- The Udasi and Nirmla sects additionally vie a job in creating written copies of the Birs till land introduced the press.
- The British additionally revealed many tiny copies of the Guru sacred text for his or her Sikh troopers so they might carry these with them within the tract.
- Nowadays, the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) has the only rights to publish the Birs of the Guru sacred text, and this is often done at Amritsar.

What is through with recent Birs?

- Old and worn Birs of the Guru Adi Granth|sacred text|sacred writing|religious writing|religious text} square measure delivered to Goindwal Sahib in lake Taran district, wherever they're cremated.
- These days, solely written Birs square measure cremated because

the SGPC and different Sikh bodies are attempting to guard the few written Biras that stay.

Topic 18. E-SHRAM PORTAL

Importance for Prelims: Economy

The image is a promotional graphic for the e-SHRAM Portal. At the top left is the Government of India emblem and the text 'श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय Ministry of Labour & Employment भारत सरकार (Government of India)'. At the top right is the 'my GOV' logo with 'मेशी सरकार' below it. The main title is 'e-SHRAM Portal' in large blue and orange letters, followed by 'National Database of Unorganized Workers' in blue. Below this is a purple rounded rectangle containing the text 'Category of Unorganized Workers covered'. To the left of a circular diagram is a list of worker categories with corresponding colored squares: Construction Worker (purple), Migrant Worker (blue), Gig & Platform Worker (yellow), Street Vendor (red), Domestic Worker (teal), Agriculture Worker (orange), and Other Unorganized Workers (grey). The circular diagram features icons for each category around a central computer monitor displaying 'e-SHRAM Portal'.

The government can launch the e-Shram portal, a information of unorganised sector staff.

- The government aims to register 38 crore unorganised workers, such as construction labourers, migrant workforce, street vendors and domestic workers, among others.
- The staff are going to be issued associate degree e-Shram card containing a twelve digit distinctive range, which, going ahead, can facilitate in as well as them in Social Security schemes.
- The registration of staff on the portal are going to be coordinated by the Labour Ministry, state governments, trade unions and CSCs.
- A national toll free range — 14434 — will be launched to help and address the queries of staff seeking registration on the portal.

- A employee will register on the portal exploitation his/her Aadhaar card range and checking account details, excluding filling alternative necessary details like date of birth, home town, mobile range and social class.

Topic 19. BRICS

Importance for Prelims: IR

Modi, statesman discuss Afghanistan; India flags terror concern at BRICS.

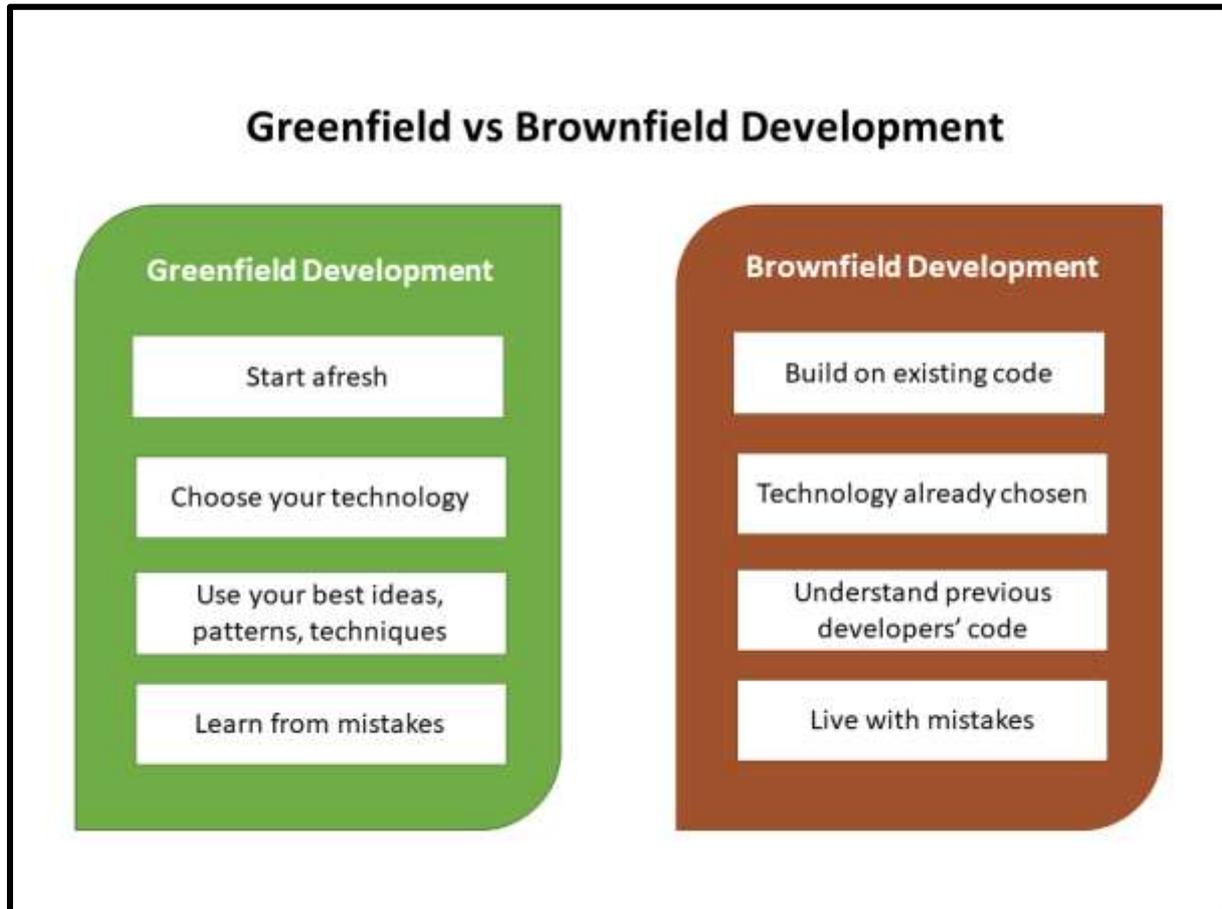
- BRICS is associate descriptor for the grouping of the world's leading rising economies, specifically Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- The BRICS Leaders' Summit is convened annually.
- BRICS does not exist in form of organization, but it is an annual summit between the supreme leaders of five nations.
- The Chairmanship of the forum is rotated annually among the members, in accordance with the acronym B-R-I-C-S.
- Together, BRICS accounts for concerning four-hundredth of the world's population and concerning half-hour of the gross domestic product (Gross Domestic Product), creating it a essential economic engine.
- The descriptor "BRICS" was at first developed in 2001 by economic expert Jim O'Neill, of nihilist Sachs, in an exceedingly report on growth prospects for the economies of Brazil, Russia, India and China – that along depicted a major share of the world's production and population.
- The initial BRIC Summit happened in 2009 within the country and centered on problems like reform of the worldwide money design.
- South Africa was invited to affix BRIC in December 2010, when that the cluster adopted the descriptor BRICS.
- South Africa after attended the Third BRICS Summit in Sanya, China, in March 2011.
- During the Sixth BRICS Summit in Fortaleza (2014) the leaders signed the Agreement establishing the New Development Bank (NDB),

headquartered in Shanghai.

- Fortaleza Declaration stressed that the NDB can strengthen cooperation among BRICS and can supplement the efforts of many-sided and regional money establishments for world development so contributory to property and balanced growth.
- Considering the increasing instances of worldwide money crisis, BRICS nations signed BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) in 2014 as a part of Fortaleza Declaration at Sixth BRICS summit.
- The BRICS CRA aims to provide short-term liquidity support to the members through currency swaps to help mitigating BOP crisis situation and further strengthen financial stability.
- The initial total committed resources of the CRA shall be one hundred billion dollars of the United States of America (USD 100 billion).

Topic 20. BROWNFIELDED VS GREENFIELD PROJECTS

Importance for Prelims: Economy



The government undraped a four-year National Substantiation Pipeline (NMP) price associate calculable Rs six 100000 large integer. It aims to unlock price in brownfield comes by partaking the personal sector, transferring to them revenue rights and not possession within the comes, and victimisation the funds thus generated for infrastructure creation across the country.

- Greenfield and brownfield investments ar 2 sorts of foreign direct investment.
- With Greenfield investment, a corporation can build its own, new facilities from the bottom up.
- Brownfield investment happens once a corporation purchases or

leases associate existing

Topic 21. UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

Importance for Prelims: IR and Environment



- Climate crisis golf stroke a billion youngsters at ‘extremely high risk,’ warns new world organisation report.
- UNICEF is a special program of the United Nations (UN) devoted to aiding national efforts to improve the health, nutrition, education, and general welfare of children.
- History UNICEF was created in 1946as International Children’s Emergency Fund (ICEF) by UN relief Rehabilitation Administration to help children affected by World War II.
- UNICEF became a permanent part of the United Nations in 1953.
- The name was shortened to United Nations youngsters Fund however it's still remarked as United Nations Children's Fund.
- It is remitted by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children’s rights, to assist meet their basic wants and to

expand their opportunities to achieve their full potential.

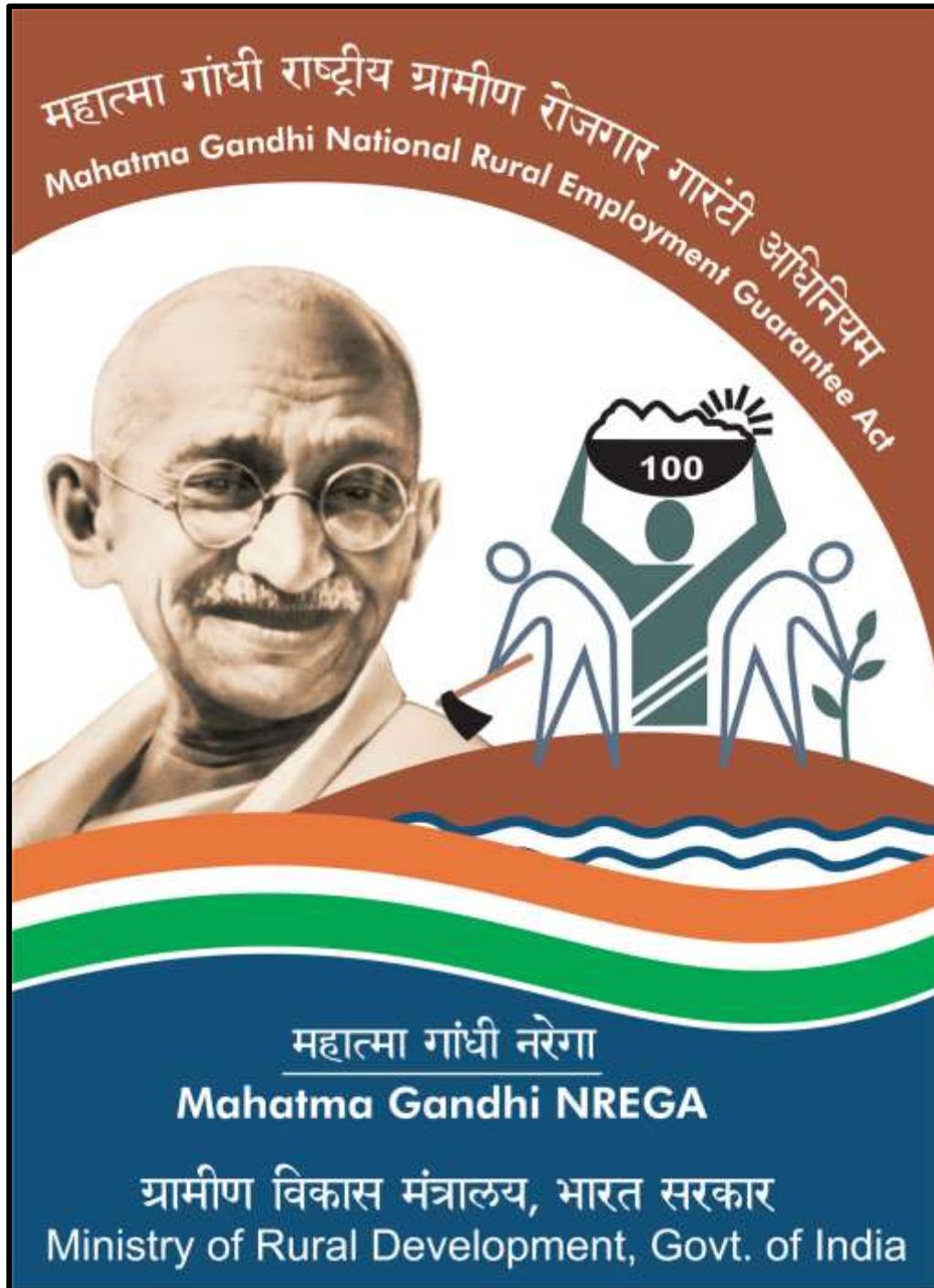
- UNICEF is target-hunting by the Convention on the Rights of the kid, 1989.
- It strives to ascertain youngsters's rights as enduring moral principles and international standards of behaviour towards children.
- Awarded the Nobel prize for Peace in 1965 for "promotion of brotherhood among the nations".
- **Headquarters:** big apple town It works in over a hundred ninety countries and territories with seven **regional offices**.
- UNICEF is governed by an Executive Board consisting of 36 members that are elected to terms of three years by the United Nations' Economic and Social Council.
- Fridays for Future (FFF) FFF may be a dynamic world student movement pushing for immediate action on temperature change through active drive and advocacy? The movement was galvanized by Swedish adolescent Greta Thunberg, World Health Organization Sabbatum in protest ahead of the Swedish parliament for 3 weeks in 2018 to draw attention to the climate emergency. Greta Thunberg was recently awarded the proper keep Award-2019, conjointly called Sweden's various honor.
- The FFF movement was chosen as Champion of the planet award for inspiration and action attributable to its role in highlight the devastating effects of temperature change.
- "The Climate Crisis may be a kid Rights Crisis" Report is free by UN agency 1st climate report back to mix high-resolution geographic maps description world environmental Associate in Nursing climate impacts with maps that show regions wherever kids area unit vulnerable because of an array of stressors, as well as poorness and

lack of access to education, health care or clean water. Pakistan, Bangladesh, Islamic State of Afghanistan and Bharat area unit among four South Asian countries wherever kids area unit at very high risk of the impacts of the climate crisis, with a ranking of ordinal, 15th, twenty fifth and twenty sixth severally.

- The report introduces the new Children’s Climate Risk Index (CCRI), a composite index that ranks nations supported children’s exposure to climate shocks, providing the primary comprehensive look into however precisely kids area unit littered with the climate crisis, providing a road map for policymakers seeking to prioritize action supported people who area unit most in danger.
- Index has placed Bharat among one among the thirty three very insecure countries wherever flooding and pollution area unit continual environmental shocks.
- Such shocks result in the socio-economic adverse consequences for ladies and kids.

Topic 22. MGNREGA

Importance for Prelims: Governance



T.N. launches ₹100 chromium. urban employment theme. Like MGNREGS, it offers a living for urban poor.

- MGNREGA is one amongst the biggest work guarantee programmes within the world.

- The primary objective of the theme is to ensure one hundred days of employment in each twelvemonth to adult members of any rural menage willing to try to to public work-related unskilled manual work.
- Legal Right to Work: in contrast to earlier employment guarantee schemes, the act aims at addressing the causes of chronic impoverishment through a rights-based framework.
- At least third of beneficiaries got to be girls. Wages should be paid in line with the statutory minimum wages such for agricultural labourers within the state below the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.
- Demand-Driven Scheme: the foremost necessary a part of MGNREGA's style is its legally-backed guarantee for any rural adult to induce work at intervals fifteen days of exigent it, failing that associate 'unemployment allowance' should incline.
- Decentralised coming up with: there's a stress on strengthening the method of decentralization by giving a big role in Panchayati rule establishments (PRIs) in planning and implementing these works.
- The act mandates Gram sabhas to advocate the works that area unit to be undertaken and a minimum of five hundredth of the works should be dead by them. Bhuvan Portal Indian house analysis Organisation (ISRO) associated MapmyIndia have partnered to come back up with an indigenious geospatial portal referred to as 'Bhuvan'.
- It may be a form of internet portal wont to realize and access geographic data (geospatial information) and associated geographic services (display, editing, analysis, etc.) via the net.
- MapmyIndia's database will be connected with ISRO's high-end satellite

catalogue and earth observation data, which it generates through a constellation of its satellites.

Topic 23. MEKEDATU PROJECT

Importance for Prelims: Geography

In Cauvery basin, Karnataka, reservoir capacity is **124tmcft**

It also has more than **11,700 tanks**

PROPOSED DAM BY KARNATAKA

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Karnataka claims that a reservoir across river Cauvery near Makedatu will help meet drinking water needs of Bengaluru city, rural and Ramanagara. But TN contends that additional storage is only for unauthorized schemes

Reservoir capacity	Cost	Height of dam	Length of dam
67.16tmcft	₹5,912 crore	99m	674.5m

TAMIL NADU'S CONTENTION

- ▶ Cauvery is a **deficit basin** and therefore no new project should be permitted
- ▶ Karnataka did **not keep up with the schedule of releases** at Biligundulu, especially after 1974
- ▶ Cauvery tribunal stated the existing storage capacity is **adequate for storing and distributing water of the basin**
- ▶ In February, Supreme Court held that Karnataka should not take any action to affect the water delivery to **lower riparian states of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry**
- ▶ Court provided an additional 4.75tmcft to Bengaluru and additional allocation of 10tmcft to Karnataka. **There were no changes made to tribunal award**

Central Water Commission conditions

- ▶ Points raised by TN chief secretary to **Union water resources ministry** should be considered by Karnataka
- ▶ **Acceptance of Cauvery Water Management Authority** a prerequisite for consideration of the Makedatu report

Plan also to set up a **hydel power plant of 400MW capacity**

Tamil Nadu has been opposing the Makedatu project and nem con passed a

resolution urging the Union government to not accord permission to Karnataka to construct the reservoir.

- The Mekedatu multi-purpose project involves building a balancing reservoir across the Cauvery River near Kanakapura in Ramanagaram district.
- It envisages supply drink to Bengaluru and Ramanagaram districts, besides generation of power. The project was planned in 2013 and in 2017, the Karnataka state cupboard set to implement it.
- The project, however, suddenly met an argument once province opposed it on the grounds that the project violates the Cauvery Water Disputes court award.
- The Cauvery stream The Cauvery stream (Kaveri) is selected because the 'Dakshina Ganga' or 'the Ganga of the South'. The Cauvery stream rises at Associate in Nursing elevation of one,341 m at Talakaveri on the Brahmagiri vary close to Cherangala village of Kodagu (Coorg) district of Karnataka.
- The total length of the stream from origin to Associate in Nursing way out is 800 kilometre.
- It flows during a southeasterly direction for 705 kilometre through the states of Karnataka and province and descends the japanese Ghats during a series of Great Falls.
- Left Bank: the Harangi, the Hemavati, the Shimsha, and therefore the Arkavati.
- Right Bank: Lakshmantirtha, the Kabbani, the Suvarnavati, the Bhavani, the Noyil, and therefore the Amaravati joins from the correct.
- At Hogenekkal Falls, it takes a Southerly direction and enters the Mettur Reservoir.
- A tributary known as Bhavani joins Cauvery on the

correct bank regarding forty five Kms below Mettur Reservoir.

- Thereafter it enters the plains of province.
- Two a lot of tributaries Noyil and Amaravathi be a part of on the correct bank and here the stream widens with a sandy bed and flows as 'Akhand' Cauvery several comes were completed during this basin including Krishnarajasagar in Karnataka, Mettur dam and Cauvery delta system in province.
- Lower Bhavani, Hemavati, Harangi, Kabini are important projects completed during the plan period.

Topic 24. AUTOMATED FACIAL RECOGNITION SYSTEM

Importance for Prelims: Defence

AFRS are going to be a mobile and net application hosted in NCRB's (which manages information for police) information center in metropolis however employed by all police stations within the country.

- AFRS works by comparison the new image of associate degree unidentified person typically taken from CCTV footage with the present info (AFRS maintains a info with photos and videos of people's faces) to search out a match and determine the person. the factitious intelligence technology used for pattern-finding and matching is termed "neural networks".
- National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has discharged asking proposal for an automatic identity verification System (AFRS) to be employed by law enforcement officials across the country.
- Automated identity verification System will play a awfully very important role in crime interference and criminal identification and verification (identifying criminals, missing folks, and unidentified dead bodies) by facilitating simple recording, analysis, retrieval and sharing of data between completely different organizations.

Topic 25. ARCTIC COUNCIL

Importance for Prelims: IR



The Arctic Council is that the leading intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, Arctic autochthonous communities and different Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic problems, specifically on problems with property development and environmental protection within the Arctic.

- The Arctic Council works as a consensus-based body to modify problems like the modification in variety, melting ocean ice, plastic pollution and black carbon.
- The Arctic Council may be a high-level intergovernmental

body established in 1996 by the Ottawa declaration to push cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States alongside the autochthonous communities and different Arctic inhabitants.

- The Council has the eight circumpolar countries as member states and is remitted to safeguard the Arctic setting and promote the economies and social and cultural well-being of the autochthonous folks whose organizations are permanent participants within the council.
- **Arctic Council Secretariat:** The standing Arctic Council Secretariat formally became operational in 2013 in Tromsø, Norway.
- The Council has members, ad hoc observer countries and “permanent participants” **Members of the Arctic Council:** Ottawa Declaration declares Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America as a member of the Arctic Council.
- Denmark represents Greenland and the Faroe Islands.
- **Permanent participants:** In 1998, the amount of Permanent Participants doubled to form up the current six, as, the Aleut International Association (AIA), and then, in 2000, the Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC) and therefore the Gwich’in Council International (GCI) were appointed Permanent Participants.

Observer status:

- It is receptive non-Arctic states, together with inter-governmental, inter-parliamentary, global, regional and non-governmental organizations that the Council determines will contribute to its work.
- It is approved by the Council at the Ministerial Meetings that occur once every two years

Topic 26. CHINA'S MISSILE SILOS

Importance for Prelims: IR

Satellite pictures have unconcealed that China is building a minimum of 3 missile silo fields in Yumen in Gansu province, close to Hami in Xinjiang province, and at Hanggin Banner, Ordos City, in Nei Monggol.

- On completion of the continued work, China may have 250-270 new missile silos, over ten times the amount it had maintained for many decades.

Why is China building missile silos?

- **FIRST**, some Chinese political scientists believe this might be China's conceive to move towards a launch-on-warning (LOW) nuclear posture.
- **LOW** refers to a launch at an adversary on detection of an incoming missile before the adversary's missile hits its target.
- **SECOND**, it enables China to achieve its goal of increasing its nuclear warhead The
- **THIRD** guess is that China could use these silos as decoys.

Topic 27. DR GAIL OMVEDT

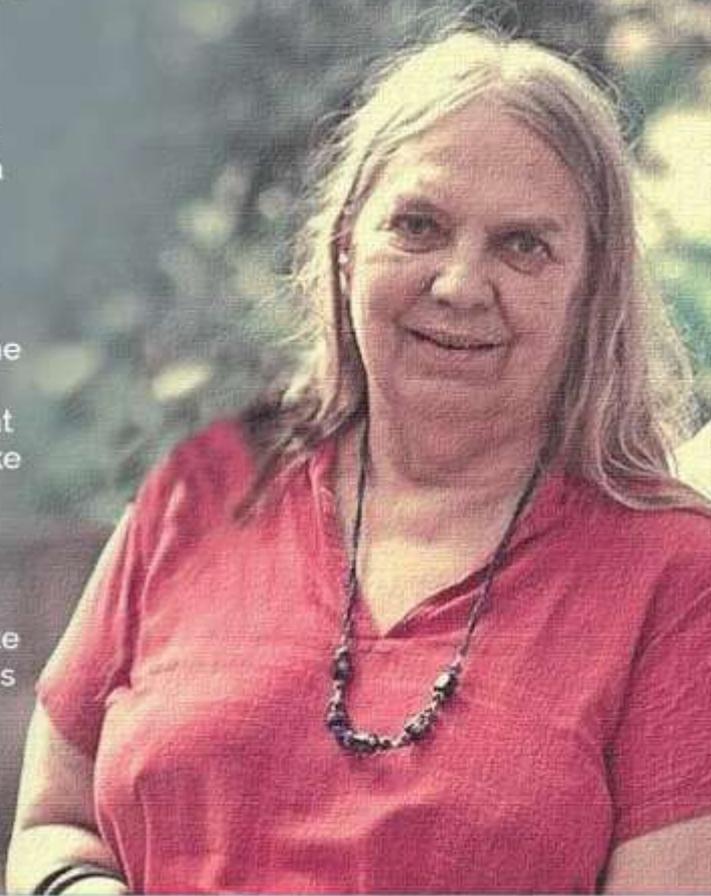
Importance for Prelims: History

In Memory

Dr. Gail Omvedt

Well-known human rights activist and writer Dr. Gail Omvedt has passed away at the age of 80. Omvedt was a prominent sociologist and authored several books on Dalit rights and women and gender issues. With her husband Bharat Patankar, she co-founded the Shramik Mukti Dal in Maharashtra that worked on farmers issues like droughts, dam and project evictions and caste oppression.

Video Volunteers pays tribute to Dr. Omvedt and celebrates her life and work towards uplifting the marginalised.



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ONE of India's foremost caste students, in addition as noted author and activist, Dr Gail Omvedt passed on to the great beyond Wednesday when a short health problem at her residence in Kasegaon in Maharashtra's Sangli.

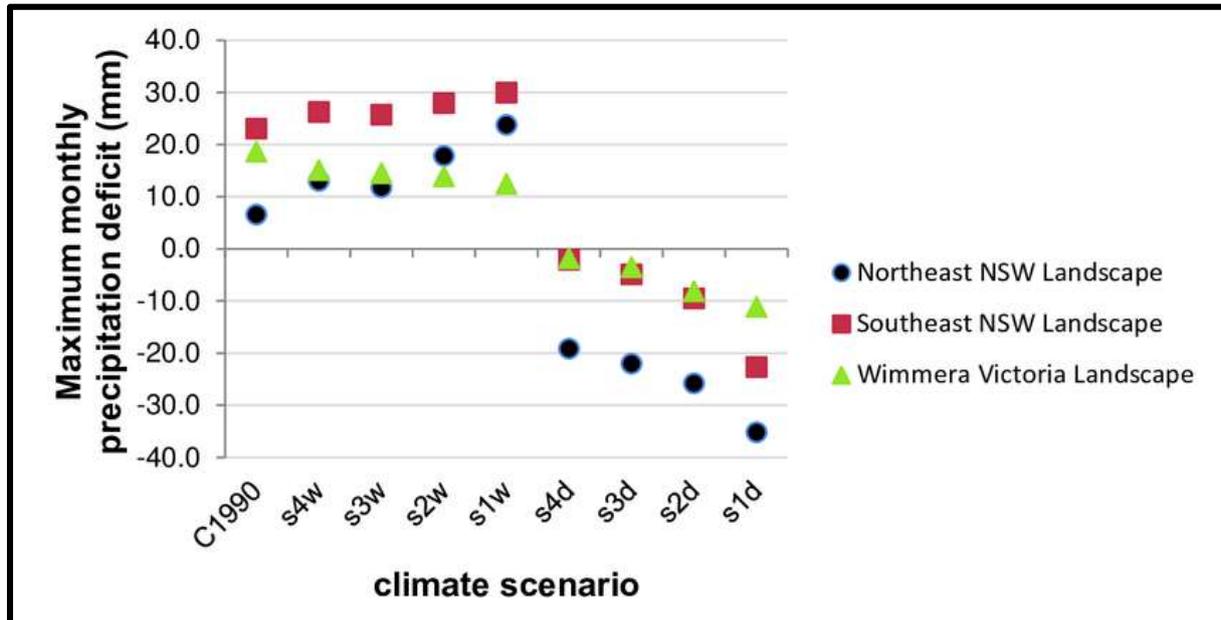
- The 81-year-old United Nations agency was born in MN within the United States of America however created Bharat her home had authored books on Dalit politics, women's struggles and anti-caste

movements and co-founded the ShramikMukti decaliter together with her husband, activist Asian nation Patankar.

- Liberty, equality and community square measure the 3 most vital elements of a personality's vision for the new millennium,” Omvedt had aforesaid.
- Throughout her life, she and Patankar worked to alleviate the conditions of the marginalised and also the exploited, as well as tribals, Dalits, peasants, labourers and girls, putting in the ShramikMukti decaliter within the '80s.
- She came to {india|India|Republic of Bharat|Bharat|Asian country|Asian nation} for analysis as a part of her academic degree thesis on non-Brahmin movements in western India, and met here the celebrated Maharashtrian meliorist and social activist, IndumatiPatankar, whose son Asian nation she would later marry. She took Indian citizenship in 1983.
- It was Omvedt United Nations agency initial studied the political implication of Jyotiba Phule's Satyashodhak Samaj, that diode to new analysis in it.

Topic 28. DEFICIT RAINFALL

Importance for Prelims: Geography



Monsoon 2021: A month before season's finish, over tierce of districts deficit in downfall.

- When downfall is 20-59 per cent below the conventional average, it's termed 'deficit', per the IMD.
- When it's sixty per cent below traditional, it's termed as 'large deficit'.
- Eleven of India's thirty seven states / Union territories (UT) have rumored that quite fifty per cent of their districts are either deficit or massive deficit in downfall by August twenty five.
- Some 234 of the 694 districts in India have reported deficit rainfall while 16 are in the large deficient category.
- All the 33 districts in Gujarat have reported deficit or large deficit rainfall.

Topic 29. LUMPY SKIN DISEASE (LSD)

Importance for Prelims: Science and Tech

Gujarat is that the latest victim of the rising infectious agent malady irruption in bovine, Lumpy disease of the skin (LSD), that has already been reportable in a minimum of twelve different States within the country.

- Lumpy disease of the skin (LSD) has been infecting India's bovines.
- The LSD is caused by infection of bovine or Asiatic buffalo with the animal virus Lumpy disease of the skin virus (LSDV).
- The virus is one of three closely related species within the genus capripox virus, the other two species being Sheeppox virus and Goatpox virus.
- **Symptoms** – It appears as nodules of two to five centimetre diameter all over the body, particularly around the head, neck, limbs, udder (mammary gland of female cattle) and genitals.
- Other clinical signs embrace general unease, ocular and nasal discharge, fever, and fast decrease in milk production.
- According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) the morbidity is a smaller amount than 100 percent.
- **Vectors** – it spreads through mosquitoes, flies and ticks and conjointly through spittle and contaminated water and food.
- Control and prevention of lumpy skin disease relies on four tactics – movement control (quarantine), vaccination, slaughter campaigns and management strategies.
- There is no treatment for the virus, so prevention by vaccination is the most effective means of control.
- Secondary infections within the skin {may be|could conjointly be|is also} treated with Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatories (NSAIDs) and also antibiotics once acceptable.

- **Global Spread:** LSD is endemic to Africa and components of West Asia, wherever it absolutely was initial discovered in 1929.
- In geographic region the primary case of LSD was reportable in People's Republic of Bangladesh in Gregorian calendar month 2019.
- In India, that has the world's highest 303 million heads of bovine, the malady has unfold to fifteen states inside sixteen months.
- In India it absolutely was initial reportable from Mayurbhanj, Odisha in August 2019.

Topic 30. SUJALAM CAMPAIGN

Importance for Prelims: Governance



SUJALAM Campaign may be a a hundred days campaign launched as a neighborhood of the Azadi Hindu deity Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

- This campaign seeks to form a lot of ODF and villages by enterprise waste water management across villages in Republic of India.
- During the campaign, 10 100000 Soak-pits are created.
- The Jal Sakti Ministry has launched a campaign to form 1,000,000 soak pits in villages across the country over subsequent a hundred days, to assist manage gray water and forestall the impeding of water bodies.
- The Swachh India Mission's 1st section was to attain open voiding free (ODF) standing by constructing a bathroom in each rural unit and

persuading all villagers to use it.

- The second phase, termed ODF+, aims to sustain and extend these sanitation gains by focusing on solid and liquid waste management. Second phase has required a more nuanced approach.
- A dashboard would be made public within the next two weeks to enable proper monitoring of ODF+ work.

Topic 31. FAIR AND REMUNERATIVE PRICES FOR SUGARCANE

Importance for Prelims: Agriculture

FAIR & REMUNERATIVE PRICE OF SUGARCANE FOR 2019-20 SEASON

- To fix Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) of Sugar at **₹275 per quintal for basic recovery rate of 10%**
- To provide a premium of ₹2.75/quintal for every **0.1% increase above 10% in the recovery**
- To reduce FRP proportionately by ₹2.75/quintal for every **0.1% decrease in recovery between 10% to 9.5%**
- To fix FRP for mills with recovery of **9.5% or less at ₹261.25/quintal**

CABINET DECISIONS
24 JULY 2019

The Union government has increased the minimum price that sugar mills must pay to sugar cane farmers by ₹5 a quintal, setting the fair and remunerative price (FRP) at ₹290 a quintal for the 2021 -22 sugar season, which runs from October to September.

- Sugar industry is an important agro-based industry that impacts rural livelihood of about 50 million sugarcane farmers and around 5 lakh workers directly employed in sugar mills.

- India is that the world's second largest sugar producer once Brazil and conjointly the biggest client.
- FRP is that the minimum worth that the sugar mills ought to pay to farmers.
- It is meant to signal to farmers the requirement to plant a lot of or less cane for the approaching year.
- Sugarcane costs ar determined by: federal authorities
- The Federal/Central Government announces truthful and Remunerative costs that ar determined on the advice of the Commission for Agricultural prices and costs (CACP) and ar declared by the cupboard Committee on Economic Affairs, that is chaired by Prime Minister.
- The State Advised Prices (SAP) are announced by key sugarcane producing states which are generally higher than FRP.

Topic 32. FUKUSHIMA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Importance for Prelims: IR

Fukushima nuclear water to be discharged via subsurface tunnel.

- Fukushima nuclear energy Plant is found within the city of Okuma, Japan. The reactor is found on the country's geographical region.
- It is concerning 220 klick north-east of the capital Tokio.
- The 2011 Earthquake, destroyed the Fukushima nuclear energy Plant's electricity and cooling capability.
- Since then, Japan is scuffling with the piling-up of contaminated water from the nuclear plant.
- Japan is attending to unleash the contaminated water containing hydrogen (a radioactive atom of hydrogen) into the ocean.
- Tritium considered to be relatively harmless because it does not emit enough energy to penetrate human skin.
- But when ingested tritium can create cancer risks.
- The operator of the destroyed Fukushima nuclear energy plant same it plans to make Associate in Nursing subsurface tunnel so large amounts of treated however still radioactive water are often discharged into the ocean concerning one klick off from the plant to avoid interference with native fishing.
- For additional data on nuclear energy Plant, please visit this.
- **Terms associated with nuclear Plant Core:** The central a part of a apparatus containing the fuel parts and any moderator.
- **Coolant:** The liquid or gas accustomed transfer heat from the reactor core to the steam generators or on to the turbines.
- **Critical mass:** the tiniest mass of fissile material that may support a independent chain reaction below fixed conditions.
- **Criticality:** Condition of being able to sustain a nuclear chain reaction.

- **Enriched uranium:** Uranium in which the proportion of U-235 (to U-238) has been increased above the natural 0.7%. Reactor-grade uranium is usually enriched to about 3.5% U-235, weapons-grade uranium is more than 90% U-235.
- **Enrichment:** Physical method of skyrocketing the proportion of U-235 to U-238.
- **Fission:** The rending of a significant nucleus into 2, in the middle of the discharge of a comparatively great amount of energy and frequently one or additional neutrons.
- It could also be spontaneous however typically is because of a nucleus gripping a nucleon and therefore turning into unstable.
- **Half-life:** the amount needed for half the atoms of a specific hot atom to decay associated become an atom of another part.
- **Heavy water:** Water containing an elevated concentration of molecules with deuterium (“heavy hydrogen”) atoms.
- **High-enriched uranium (HEU):** Uranium enriched to 20% U-235 or more
- **Ionising radiation:** Radiation (including alpha particles) capable of breaking chemical bonds, thus causing ionisation of the matter through which it passes and damage to living tissue.
- **Radioactivity:** The spontaneous decay of an unstable atomic nucleus, giving rise to the emission of radiation. Uranium (U): A mildly radioactive element with two isotopes which are fissile (U-235 and U-233) and two which are fertile (U-238 and U-234).
- Uranium is that the basic fuel of energy.
- **Vitrification:** The incorporation of high-level wastes into salt glass, to form up regarding Bastille Day of it by mass.
- It is meant to immobilise radionuclides in associate insoluble matrix prepared for disposal.

Topic 33. BLUE DOT NETWORK

Importance for Prelims: IR



The BDN was formally declared on four Nov, 2019 at the Indo-Pacific Business Forum in national capital, Thailand. It'll be crystal rectifier by the North American country at the side of Japan and Australia. It is a multi-stakeholder initiative to compile governments, the personal sector and civil society to push high-quality, sure standards for international infrastructure development. It is expected to function a globally recognized analysis and certification system for roads, ports and bridges with a spotlight on the Indo-Pacific region. It looks to be planned as an instantaneous counter to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). However, not like the BRI, the BDN wouldn't provide public funds or loans for the project. BDN can function a globally recognized seal of approval for major infrastructure comes, property individuals apprehend that comes ar property and not exploitative.

The new Blue Dot Network, therefore, is best seen as a part of the U.S.A.'s

strategy of making an attempt to steer developing countries in Asia-Pacific not accept Chinese funds for infrastructure.

Topic 34. E-WASTE MANAGEMENT IN INDIA

Importance for Prelims: Environment



India is that the third-largest producer of e-waste once China and also the us. quite ninety fifth of this waste is handled by informal sector.

- The International Telecommunication Union defines e-waste as all things of electrical and equipment (EEE) and its elements that are discarded by its owner as waste while not the intent of re-use.
- This waste is classed into six categories: Cooling and phase change instrumentality like refrigerators, electric refrigerator different instrumentality like televisions, monitors, laptops, notebooks and tablets.

- It conjointly contains fluorescent lamps and different giant and tiny instrumentality like laundry machines, garments dryers, dish-washing machines, vacuum cleaners and microwaves.
- The e-waste stream contains numerous materials — most conspicuously venturesome substances like lead, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polybrominated biphenyls (PBBs), mercury, polybrominated biphenyl ethers (PBDEs), brominated flame retardants (BFRs), and valuable substances like iron, steel, copper, metallic element and plastics.
- Decomposing e-waste is an expensive process and only a few developed countries can afford to do so.
- Laws to manage e-waste are in situ in Republic of India since 2011, mandating that solely approved dismantlers and recyclers collect e-waste.
- E-waste (Management) Rules, 2016 was enacted in 2017. India's 1st e-waste clinic for segregating, process and disposal of waste from home and industrial units has been be set-up in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- E-Waste Management Rules, 2016 The Ministry of setting, Forest and global climate change notified the E-Waste Management Rules, 2016 in replacing of the E-waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2011.
- Over twenty one merchandise (Schedule-I) were enclosed below the orbit of the rule.
- It enclosed Compact lamp (CFL) and different mercury containing lamps, yet as different such instrumentality. For the primary time, the foundations brought the producers below Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), at the side of targets.
- Producers are created chargeable for the gathering of E-waste and for its exchange.

- Various producers will have a separate Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) and guarantee assortment of E-waste, yet as its disposal in AN environmentally sound manner.
- Deposit Refund theme has been introduced as a further economic instrument whereby the producer charges a further quantity as a deposit at the time of sale of the electrical and equipment and returns it to the patron at the side of interest once the end-of-life electrical and equipment is came back.
- The role of State Governments has been also introduced to ensure safety, health and skill development of the workers involved in dismantling and recycling operations.
- A provision of penalty for violation of rules has conjointly been introduced. Urban native Bodies (Municipal Committee/Council/Corporation) are assigned the duty to gather and channelize the orphan merchandise to approved dismantlers or recyclers.
- Allocation of proper space to existing and upcoming industrial units for ewaste dismantling and recycling.

Topic 35. ORGANIC FARMING

Importance for Prelims: Agriculture



Organic farming may be a sort of agriculture or farming that avoids the utilization of artificial fertilizers, pesticides, growth regulators, & stock feed additives.

- Organic farming in Republic of India ranks first in range of organic farmers and ninth in terms of space beneath organic farming. Sikkim became the primary State within the world to become totally organic in 2016.
- North East Indies has historically been organic and also the consumption of chemicals is way but the remainder of the country.
- The top three states — Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, & Maharashtra —

account for about half the area under organic cultivation.

- Government Initiatives to Promote Organic Farming Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCD) Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCDNER) is a Central Sector Scheme, a sub-mission under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)
- The theme aims to develop certified organic production in a very price chain mode to link growers with customers and to support the event of the whole price chain.
- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, launched in 2015 is Associate in Nursing careful part of Soil Health Management (SHM) of major project National Mission of property Agriculture (NMSA). Under PKVY, Organic farming is promoted through adoption of organic villages by cluster approach and democratic Guarantee System (PGS) certification.
- Certification Schemes Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is the food regulator in the country and is also responsible for regulating organic food in the domestic market and imports.
- **Participatory Guarantee System (PGS):** PGS is a process of certifying organic products, which ensures that their production takes place in accordance with laid down quality standards.
- PGS inexperienced is given to chemical free manufacture beneath transition to 'organic' that takes three years.
- It is especially for domestic purpose.
- National Program for Organic Production (NPOP): NPOP grants organic farming certification through a method of third party certification for export functions.
- Soil Health Card theme has LED to a decline of 8-10% within the use of

chemical fertilizers and additionally raised productivity by 5-6%.

- Organic Farming in different countries the most important adoption of conservation agriculture is seen in North and South America, followed by Australia and New island, Asia, Russia, Ukraine, Europe and Africa, the researchers noted.
- Organic farming is in a nascent stage in India (2 per cent of the net sown area) and states need to step up their act to increase organic farming coverage.

Topic 36. PM – CARES

Importance for Prelims: Governance

The Supreme Court on weekday asked the Union government if it will straightaway unleash cash from the PM-Cares Fund for the education of youngsters WHO are unparented or have lost legal guardians or either of their oldsters throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The government has come upon the Prime Minister's subject help and Relief in Emergency things Fund (PM-CARES Fund) to affect any reasonably emergency or distress scenario like expose by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Fund could be a public trust with the Prime Minister as its Chairman. different Members embody Defence Minister, Home Minister and minister.
- The Fund allows micro-donations as a results of that an oversized variety of individuals are going to be able to contribute with the littlest of denominations.
- The Fund can strengthen disaster management capacities and encourage analysis on protective voters.
- The Ministry of company Affairs has processed that contributions by firms towards the PM-CARES Fund can count towards necessary company Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure.
- It will avail donations from the foreign contribution and donations to fund may avail 100 percent tax exemption.
- PMNRF (Prime Minister National Relief Fund) PM CARES Fund (Prime Minister's subject help and Relief in Emergency things Fund) PMNRF (Prime Minister National Relief Fund) was established in Jan 1948.
- PM CARES Fund was established on twenty seventh March 2020.

PMNRF was established by the primary Prime Minister of Asian country, solon.

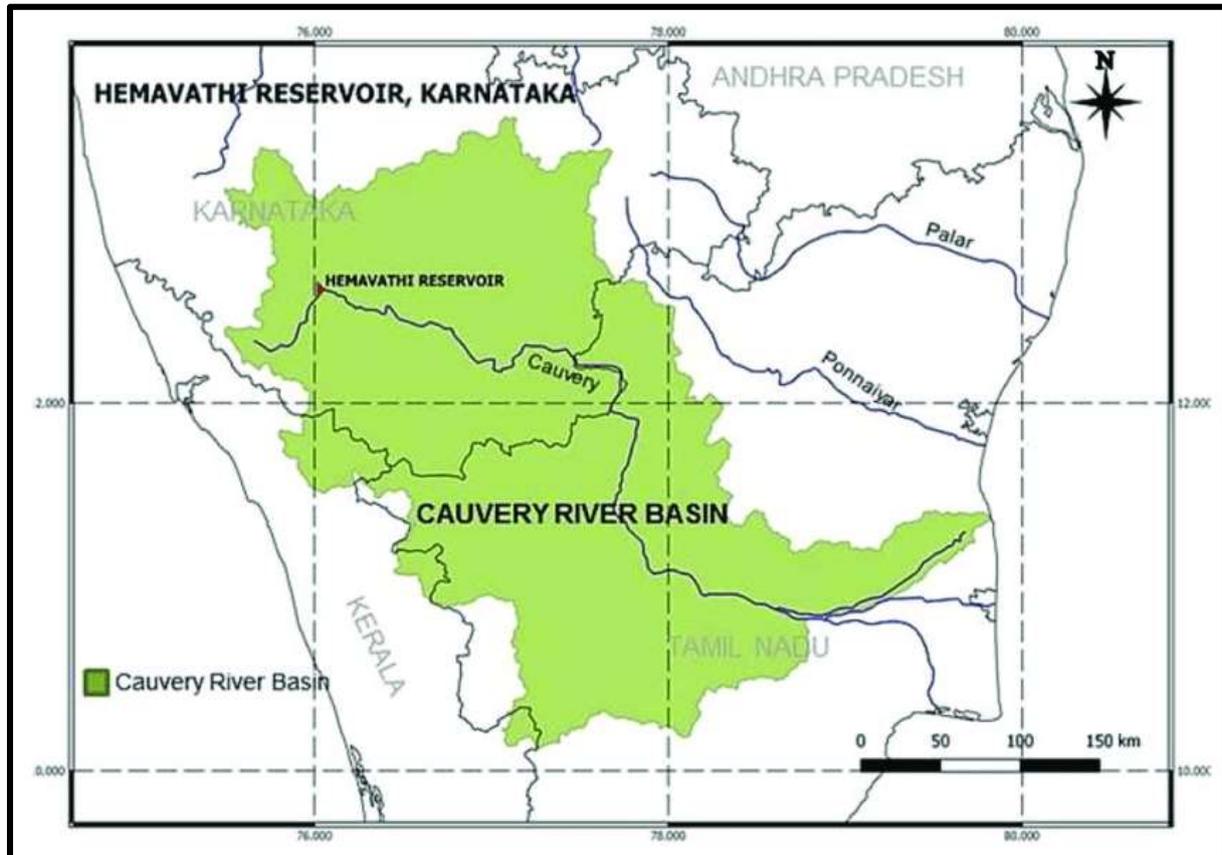
- The PM CARES Fund was established by the current Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi.
- The initial purpose of establishing PMNRF (Prime Minister National Relief Fund) was to help the people displaced due to partition of India and Pakistan.
- The PM CARES Fund was established by the current Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi.
- PMNRF focuses on all types of natural disasters and calamities like Cyclones, Earthquakes, Floods, and Tsunamis etc.
- The PM CARES fund was established with the objective of helping people affected by COVID-19 pandemic.
- PM CARES fund is completely used for COVID-19 functions. Chairman of the Prime Minister National Relief Fund (PMNRF) is that the Prime Minister of Asian nation.
- Other members ar from Tata Trusts, representatives of FICCI, Congress President. Chairman of the PM-CARES fund is that the Prime Minister of Asian nation. The Prime Minister has the ability to nominate members.
- The different members of the PM CARES Fund ar the Defence Minister, Home Minister and minister of finance.
- The minimum quantity one will give within the Prime Minister National Relief Fund (PMNRF) is Rs a hundred.
- PM CARES Fund permits possibility for small donation, one will give as low as Rs ten within the PM CARES Fund.
- Similarities between PMNRF and PM-CARES Fund disbursal from each the PM CARES Fund and PMNRF doesn't need approval from Parliament. Donations

to each PMNRF and PM CARES Fund are going to be exempted from revenue enhancement beneath Section 80G.

- Funds from each PM Cares and PMNRF can not be used while not the directions of the Prime Minister.
- M/S SARC Associates leased Accountants, capital of India ar the auditors of each PMNRF and PM CARE's fund. Donations by firms to each PMNRF and PM CARES Fund ar classified as company Social Responsibility (CSR) beneath firms Act 2013.
- Both PMNRF and PM CARES don't receive monetary fund support. each PMNRF and PM CARES ar established as trusts.
- Both PM CARES and PMNRF will receive foreign contributions.
- They ar exempted from the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA).
- Both PM CARES and PMNRF are not audited by Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).
- Both PM CARES and PMNRF does not come under the Right to Information (RTI).

Topic 37. HEMAVATI RIVER

Importance for Prelims: Geography



Decades when dam on Hemavati, scam emerges.

- The Hemavati watercourse starts within the Western Ghats at an elevation of concerning one,219 metres close to Balur in Mudigere taluk of Chikmagalur District of the state of state, in southern Republic of India.
- It flows through Hassan District wherever it's joined by its chief tributary, the Yagachi watercourse, then into Mandya district before connexion the Kaveri close to Krishnarajasagara.
- It is a crucial tributary of the Kaveri watercourse.
- A dam across the Hemavati was completed in 1979, on top of Gorur in Hassan district, and downstream from the Yagachi confluence.
- The Cauvery River The Cauvery River (Kaveri) is designated as the

‘Dakshina Ganga’ or ‘the Ganga of the South’.

- The Cauvery River rises at an elevation of 1,341 m at Talakaveri on the Brahmagiri range near Cherangala village of Kodagu (Coorg) district of Karnataka.
- The total length of the river from origin to an outfall is 800 km.
- It flows in a south-easterly direction for 705 km through the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and descends the Eastern Ghats in a series of great falls.
- **Left Bank:** the Harangi, the Hemavati, the Shimsha, and therefore the Arkavati.
- **Right Bank:** Lakshmantirtha, the Kabbani, the Suvarnavati, the Bhavani, the Noyil, and therefore the Amaravati joins from the proper.
- At Hogennekkal Falls, it takes a Southerly direction and enters the Mettur Reservoir.
- A tributary referred to as Bhavani joins Cauvery on the proper bank regarding forty five Kms below Mettur Reservoir.
- Thereafter it enters the plains of Madras.
- Two additional tributaries Noyil and Amaravathi be a part of on the proper bank and here the watercourse widens with a sandy bed and flows as ‘Akhandu Cauvery several comes were completed during this basin including Krishnarajasagar in province, Mettur dam and Cauvery delta system in Madras.
- Lower Bhavani, Hemavati, Harangi, Kabini area unit vital comes completed during the set up amount.

Topic 38. FIRST-PAST-THE-POST SYSTEM

Importance for Prelims: Polity

The first-past-the-post (FPTP) system is additionally referred to as the straightforward majority system. During this vote methodology, the candidate with the best variety of votes in a very body is asserted the winner.

- This system is employed in India in direct elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
- While FPTP is comparatively straightforward, it doesn't continually leave a very representative mandate, because the candidate may win despite securing but 0.5 the votes in a very contest.
- Proportional illustration (PR) representation (PR) could be a thought during which the amount of seats won by a celebration or cluster of candidates is proportionate to the amount of votes received. India isn't new PR system; in our country, the subsequent elections area unit stayed the premise of proportional representation:
- President vice chairman Members of Rajya Sabha Members of state law-makers First-Past-the-Post System representation (PR) The country is split into little geographical units known as constituencies or districts giant geographical area unitas are demarcated as constituencies.
- The entire country can be constituency.
- Every constituency elect one representative More than one elected representative can be elected from one constituency.
- Voters vote for the candidate Voter votes for the party A party can get more seats than the proportion of votes Every party gets seat in the legislature proportion to the votes it get in the election Candidate who wins the election may not get majority (50%) of votes Candidate who

wins the election gets the majority (50%) of the votes

- **Example:** UK, India Example: Israel, Netherland

Topic 39. UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

Importance for Prelims: IR



UN bans British stamps in Chagos Island.

- A specialised agency of UN that coordinates communication policies among member nations, additionally to worldwide communication system.
- Established in 1874 and is second oldest world organisation worldwide once International Telecommunication Union (ITU) that was established in 1865.
- Headquartered in European country|national capital}, Switzerland.
- Has 192 member countries.
- It is primary forum for cooperation between communication sector players among member countries.
- UPU has four units: the Congress, the Council of Administration, the International Bureau, and also the communication Operations Council.

- Regulates forty 100000 communication shops worldwide.
- India joined the UPU on legal holiday,
- It frames rules for international mail exchange and fixes rates for International communication services.
- It helps to ensure a truly universal network of up-to-date products and services.
- UPU provides recommendations for growth in mail, parcel and financial services and to improve the customer's quality of service.

Topic 40. CONVICTION OF MPS AND MLAS

Importance for Prelims: Polity

The Supreme Court has set to listen to “at length” a plea that condemned parliamentarians and State legislators, former and sitting, ought to be disqualified and illegal for all times from contesting elections to Parliament or Assemblies.

- The RPA, 1951 lays down sure rules for disqualification of MPs and MLAs.
- Section eight (3) of the Act states that if associate MP or MLA is condemned for the other crime and is shipped to jail for two years or a lot of, he/ she is going to be disqualified for six years from the time of unharness.
- Even if an individual is on bail when the conviction and his charm is unfinished for disposal, he's disqualified from contesting associate election.
- Section 8(4) allowed condemned MPs, MLAs and MLCs to continue in their posts, provided they appealed against their conviction/sentence in higher courts inside three months of the date of judgment by the tribunal.
- The Supreme Court in liliaceous plant Thomas Case, 2013 smitten down section 8(4) of the RPA, 1951 and declared it ultra vires and command that the disqualification takes place from the date of conviction.
- Recently, the CJI Bench more aforementioned a lot of special Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) courts required to be originated in places wherever quite a hundred cases were unfinished “to guarantee simple accessibility to the witnesses and decongestion of existing special/CBI courts”.

Topic 41. HARI SINGH NALWA

Importance for Prelims: History



Hari Singh Nalwa, a legendary Sikh commander, tamed the turbulent forces at play in Asian country and attained the name of the foremost feared Sikh mortal there.

- He was one in every of the most and most trustworthy commanders of maharajah Ranjit Singh's force.
- He remained Governor of Cashmere, Hazara and metropolis.
- He defeated varied Afghans and established management over varied regions on the boundary of Asian country and prevented Afghans from getting into geographic region through mountain pass, that was the most route to enter Republic of India by the foreign invaders from a thousand AD until early nineteenth century.
- When Afghans were repeatedly returning to geographic

region and city, maharajah Ranjit Singh determined to own a secure empire and he had fashioned 2 kinds of armies one organized by using French, German, Italian, Russians Greeks etc. with trendy sort of weapons etc. and different army was beneath Hari Singh Nalwa, WHO was biggest strengths of maharajah Ranjit Singh and WHO had defeated thousands of Hazars, a tribe of Asian country, with but 3 times their strength.

- For his bravery and wildness, the govt. of Republic of India free a stamp on the name of Nalwa in 2013.
- Hari Singh Nalwa participated in varied battles against Afghans as a result of that Afghans lost their management over varied Afghan-held territories and most of those battles were fought beneath the command of Hari Singh Nalwa. Like in 1807, at the age of sixteen, he participated within the battle of Kasur (now in Pakistan) and defeated Afghani ruler Kutab-ud-din Khan.
- In the Battle of Attock (in 1813) Nalwa together with different commanders won against Azim Khan and his brother Dost prophet Khan, WHO fought on behalf of sovereign Mahmud of national capital and this was the primary major conclusion of the Sikhs over the Durrani Pathans.
- In 1818, Sikh army beneath Nalwa won the Battle of metropolis and Nalwa asked to be stationed there. Nalwa took management over Jamrud in 1837, a fort at the entrance to Asian country through mountain pass.
- Historians aforementioned that within the battle of Jamrud, wherever Hari Singh Nalwa had died, Dost Muhammad Khan together with his 5 sons participated against Sikh army that was restricted in range (around 600) with restricted provides.
- He was additionally known as ‘Bagh Maar’ (killer of tiger) once associate

degree attack by a tiger on him throughout a expedition.

- Then maharajah Ranjit Singh once hearing this incident known as him 'Wah Mere Raja Nal Wah'.
- 'Nal' was a king within the epic Mahabharat WHO was noted for his bravery.
- His father Gurdial Singh died once he was simply seven in 1798 and his maternal uncle had raised him.

Topic 42. PRADHAN MANTRI JAN-DHAN YOJANA (PMJDY)

Importance for Prelims: Government Schemes

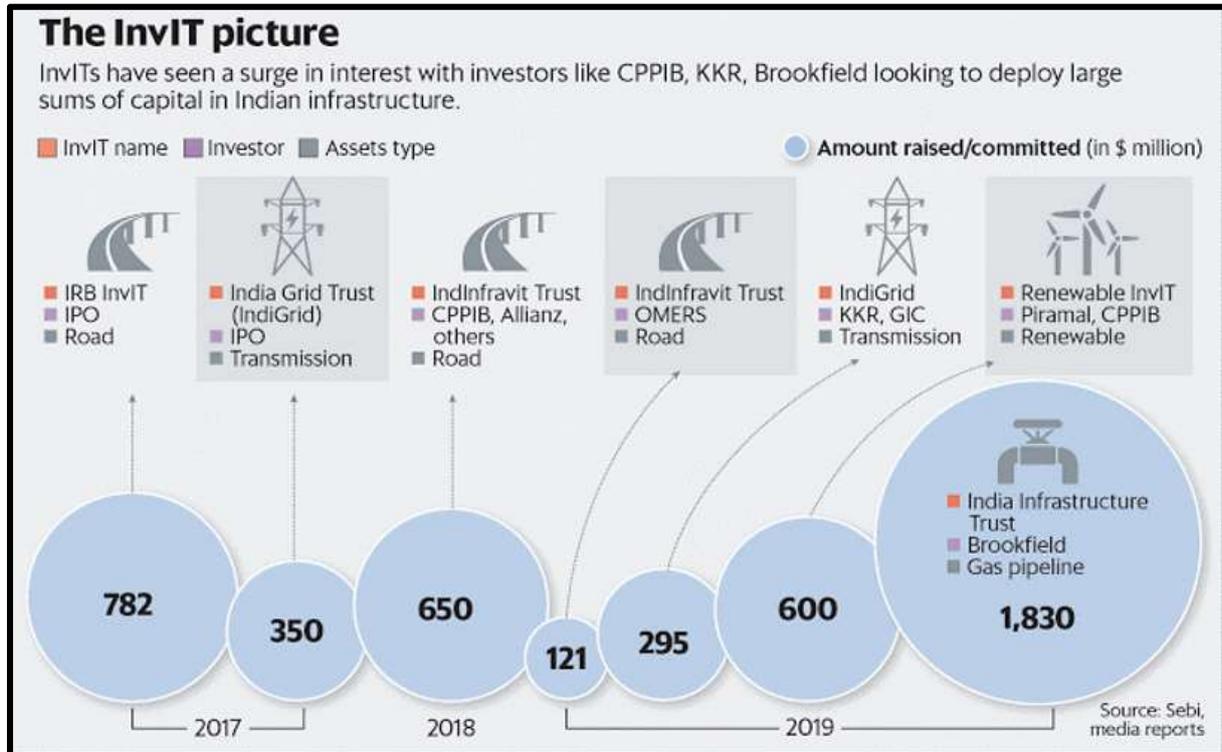
The average quantity deposited within the PM Gregorian calendar month Dhan (PMJDY) account has surged to Rs 3398 from Rs 1279 between 2015 and 2021. The whole deposits beneath these accounts registered an increase of half dozen.38 times.

- Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is National Mission for money Inclusion to guarantee access to money services, namely, Banking/Savings & Deposit Accounts, Remittance, Credit, Insurance, Pension in a reasonable manner.
- Objectives: guarantee access of monetary merchandise & services at a reasonable price.
- Use of technology to lower price & widen reach. Basic tenets of the theme Banking the unbanked – gap of basic savings deposit (BSBD) account with tokenish work, relaxed KYC, e-KYC, account gap in camp mode, zero balance & zero charges.
- Securing the unsecured – Issuance of autochthonic Debit cards for money withdrawals & payments at bourgeois locations, with free accident amount of money of Rs. 2 lakhs.
- Funding the unfunded – Other money merchandise like micro-insurance, order of payment for consumption, micro-pension & micro-credit. options Universal access to banking services – Branch and Banking Correspondents
- Basic savings bank accounts with order of payment facility of Rs. 10,000/- to each home.
- Financial attainment Program – Promoting savings, use of ATMs, preparing for credit, availing insurance and pensions, mistreatment basic mobile phones for banking.

- Creation of Credit Guarantee Fund –To give banks some guarantee against defaults.
- Insurance –Accident cover to Rs. 1,00,000 and life cover of Rs. 30,000 on account opened between fifteen Aug 2014 to thirty one Jan 2015.
- Pension scheme for Unorganized sector.
- There isn't any obligation to maintain minimum balance in these accounts.
- Extension of PMJDY with New features: Focus shift from each home to each Unbanked Adult.
- RuPay Card Insurance – Free accidental insurance cover on RuPay cards raised from Rs. one hundred thousand to Rs. a pair of lakhs for PMJDY accounts opened when twenty eight.8.2018.
- Enhancement in overdraft facilities – OD limit doubled from Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000; OD upto Rs 2,000 (without conditions).
- Increase in upper age limit for OD from 60 to 65 years.

Topic 43. INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT TRUSTS (INVITS)

Importance for Prelims: Economy



Union minister of finance Nirmala Sitharaman can shortly chair a gathering of the money Stability and Development Council (FSDC) to nudge money regulators to relax and harmonise investment norms for instruments like Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) to be accustomed legitimise public assets like highways, gas pipelines and railway tracks.

- An Infrastructure fund (InvITs) is sort of a open-end investment company, that allows direct investment of little amounts of cash from attainable individual/institutional investors in infrastructure to earn alittle portion of the financial gain as come.
- InvITs work like mutual funds or land investment trusts (REITs) in options.
- InvITs may be treated because the changed version of REITs designed to suit the particular circumstances of the infrastructure sector.

- SEBI notified the SEBI (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) rules, 2014 providing for registration and regulation of InvITs in Republic of India.
- The purpose of InvITs is to change Infrastructure firms to repay their debt obligation quickly and effectively.
- Since infrastructure-oriented projects tend to take time to generate substantial cash flow, InvITs come in handy for paying off loan interests and other expenses conveniently.

Topic 44. KRISHNA RAJA SAGAR DAM

Importance for Prelims: Geography



The National Multi category Youth Sailing Championship began within the backwaters of Krishnaraja Sagar dam in Mandya district on Fri. this can be the primary sailing championship of national magnitude to be command at the KRS.

- The Krishna Raja Sagar Dam was engineered across watercourse Kaveri for the Mysore and Mandya districts in Karnatakain 1932.
- The dam is known as for the then ruler of the Mysore Kingdom, Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV.
- The Dam is that the creation of 1 of the best engineers that India had created, Sir M. Vishweshwaraiah.
- His birthday, fifteen Sept is widely known as Engineers day.
- The reservoir is additionally the most supply of drinkable for all of Mysore town and nearly the entire of metropolis.

- The water discharged from this dam is any used as a vital supply of water within the state of Tamil Nadu, and is hold on in Mettur dam within the Salem district.
- Type: it's a sort of Gravity Dam.
- Location: The dam is found below the confluence of watercourse Kaveri with its tributaries Hemavati and Lakshmana Tirtha, within the district of Mandya in Mysore.
- Brindavan Gardens, a decorative garden, is connected to the dam.

Topic 45. ANIMAL DISCOVERIES 2020

Importance for Prelims: Environment

India more 557 new species to faunal wealth in 2020, says ZSI.

- India has more 557 new species to its fauna, which has 407 new species and one hundred fifty new records, reveals Animal Discoveries 2020, a document printed recently by the Zoological Survey of Asian nation (ZSI).
- The variety of faunal species in Asian nation has climbed to one, 02,718 species with the invention of the new species.
- Among the new species, some attention-grabbing species discovered in 2020 are **Trimeresurus salazar**, a inexperienced viper discovered in Arunachal Pradesh; **Lycodon deccanensis**, the Deccan wolf snake discovered in Karnataka; and **Sphaerotheca Bengaluru**, a burrowing frog named when the town of Bengaluru.
- The list conjointly includes **Xyrias anjaalai**, a trouble species of snake eel from Kerala; **Glyptothorax giudikyensis**, a species of catfish from Manipur; and irrigation **galateansis**, a species of Scarabaeus sacer beetle from the good Nicobar part.

Topic 46. BH-SERIES

Importance for Prelims: Governance



‘BH’ vehicle registration series notified.

- To guarantee seamless transfer of non-public vehicles across States, the Road Transport Ministry has come back up with Bharat Series (BH-series), a brand new registration mark for brand spanking new vehicles.
- It is new vehicle registration regime that may avoid vehicle homeowners from reregistration method after they shift from one State/Union Territory to a different.
- This vehicle registration facility are offered on voluntary basis to defense personnel, workers of central government/ State government/ central/ State public sector undertakings and personal sector companies/ organizations, that have their offices in four or additional states/union territories.
- An IT-based answer for vehicle registration is one such effort as “one of the pain points within the vehicle registration method that required attention was re-registration of a vehicle whereas moving to a different State”.

- Earlier, beneath section forty seven of the cars Act, 1988, an individual is allowed to stay the vehicle for less than twelve months in any state aside from the state wherever the vehicle is registered.

Topic 47. NATIONAL BANK FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (NABARD)

Importance for Prelims: Economy



Encourage entrepreneurship in agriculture: NABARD chief

- NABARD may be a development bank direction totally on the agricultural sector of the country.
- It is that the apex banking establishment to produce finance for Agriculture and rural development.
- Its headquarter is found in Mumbai, the country's money capital.
- It is to blame for the event of the tiny industries, bungalow industries, and the other such village or rural comes.
- It may be a statutory body established in 1982 underneath Parliamentary act- full service bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981.
- It provides finance support for building rural infrastructure. It prepares district level credit plans to guiding and motivating the industry in achieving these targets.

- It supervises Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and serving to them develop sound banking practices and integrate them to the CBS (Core Banking Solution) platform.
- It provides coaching to handicraft artisans and helps them in developing a promoting platform for mercantilism these articles.
- NABARD has varied international partnerships together with leading international organizations and World Bank-affiliated establishments that area unit breaking new ground within the fields of rural development additionally as agriculture.
- Reserve Bank of India is that the financial organization of the country with sole right to control the industry and supervise the assorted institutions/banks that conjointly embrace NABARD outlined underneath Banking Regulation Act of 1949.
- NABARD provides recommendations to order Bank of Asian country on issue of licenses to Cooperative Banks, gap of latest branches by State Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).
- **The NABARD (Amendment) Bill, 2017** passed in 2018: Increase in capital of NABARD: beneath the 1981 Act, NABARD could have a capital of Rs a hundred large integer.
- This capital are often any augmented to Rs five,000 large integer by the central government in consultation with the bank of Asian country (RBI).
- The Bill permits the central government to extend this capital to Rs thirty,000 crore. Transfer of the RBI's share to the central government: beneath the 1981 Act, the central government and therefore the run batted in along should hold a minimum of fifty one of the share capital of NABARD.
- The Bill provides that the central government alone should hold a

minimum of fifty one of the share capital of NABARD.

- The Bill transfers the share capital command by the run batted in and valued at Rs twenty large integer to the central government.
- The central government will give an equal amount to the RBI.
- **Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME):** Under the 1981 Act, NABARD was responsible for providing credit and other facilities to industries having an investment of up to Rs 20 lakh in machinery and plant.
- The Bill extends this to use to enterprises with investment upto Rs ten large integer within the producing sector and Rs 5 large integer within the services sector.

Topic 48. TAIWAN STRAIT

Importance for Prelims: Geography



U.S. Navy ships in Taiwan Strait cause threat: China

- The Taiwan Strait could be a 180-kilometer (110 mi)-wide strait separating the island of Taiwan and continental Asia.
- The strait is an element of the South China ocean and connects to the East China ocean to the north.
- Former names of the Taiwan Strait embody the island Strait or Strait of island, from a dated name for Taiwan; the Strait of Fokien or Fujian, from the Chinese province forming the strait's western shore; and also the Black Ditch, a saying of the strait's name in Hokkien and Chinese.

Topic 49. WEST ASIA

Importance for Prelims: IR



Afghanistan overshadows town Asia summit.

- Western Asia, West Asia, or Southwest Asia, is that the west sub region of the continent of Asia.
- It is entirely a section of the bigger geographical area and virtually entirely a section of the center East, and includes Anatolia, the peninsula, Iran, Mesopotamia, the Levant, the island of Cyprus, the Sinai, and partially Transcaucasia.
- The region is taken into account to be separated from continent by the Isthmus of urban center in Egypt, and separated from Europe by the

waterways of the Turkish Straits and therefore the watershed of the bigger Caucasus.

- Central Asia lies to its northeast, whereas South Asia lies to its east.
- Eight seas surround the region (clockwise): the sea, the sea, the Caspian Sea, the gulf, the sea, the Gulf of city, the Red Sea, and therefore the Mediterranean.

Topic 50. INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING (IPO)

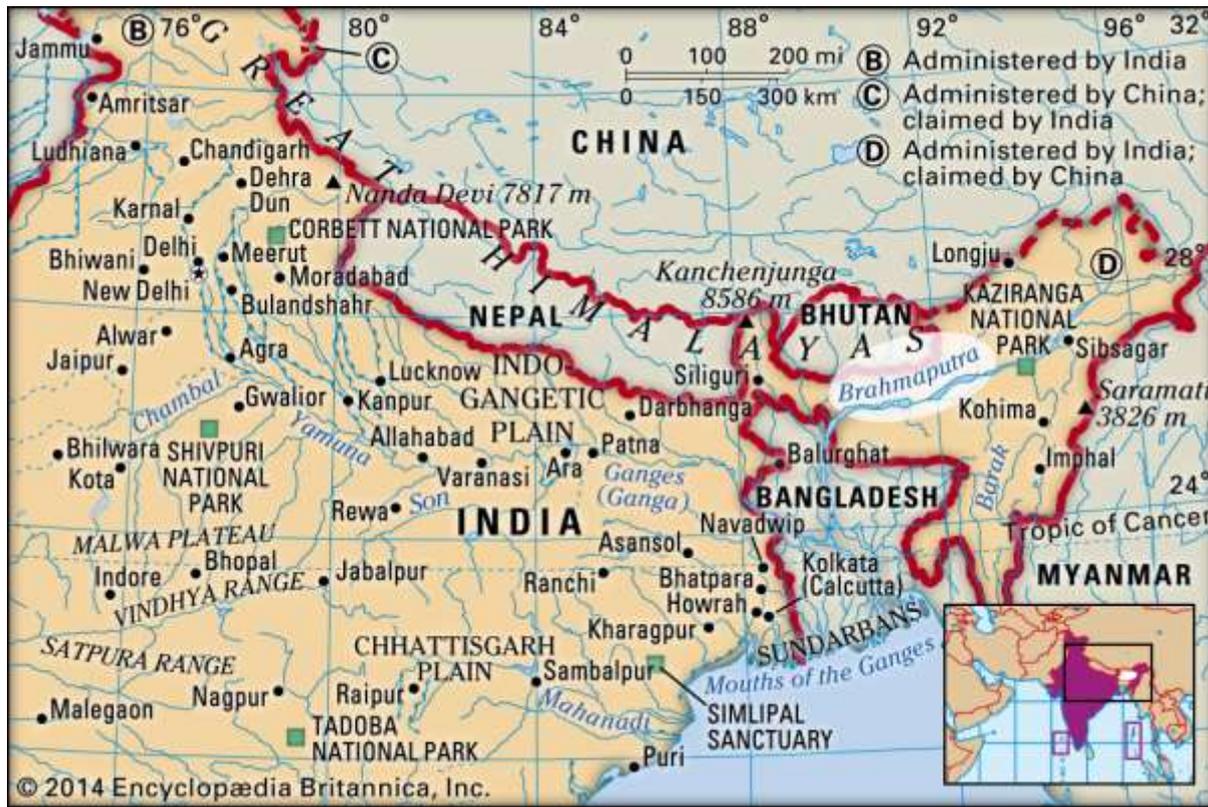
Importance for Prelims: Economy

The Centre is about to list India's largest insurance underwriter, state-owned insurance Corporation of Asian country, on the stock exchanges to assist meet withdrawal targets for the year

- IPO is that the marketing of securities to the general public within the primary market. Primary market deals with new securities being issued for the primary time. it's additionally referred to as the new problems market.
- It is completely different from secondary market wherever existing securities square measure bought and sold .
- It is also known as the stock market or stock exchange.
- It is when an unlisted company makes either a fresh issue of securities or an offer for sale of its existing securities or both for the first time to the public.
- It is mostly utilized by new and medium-sized corporations that square measure searching for funds to grow and expand their business.

Topic 51. BRAHMAPUTRA

Importance for Prelims: Geography



Assam floods hit a pair of.25 large integer individuals

- It originates beneath the name of Siang or Dihang, from the Chemayungdung ice mass of the Kailash vary close to the Mansarovar Lake.
- It enters Asian nation west of Sadiya city in Arunachal Pradesh. Tributaries: Dibang, Lohit, Siang, Burhi Dihing, Tista, and Dhansari.
- It may be a perennial watercourse and has many peculiar characteristics because of its Geographic's and prevailing weather conditions.
- It is flooded doubly annually.
- One flood is caused by the melting of the mountain range snow in summer and also the alternative because of the monsoon flows.
- These cause a priority for the population and food security within

the lower bank states of Asian nation and Bangladesh.

- The watercourse is in itself dynamic as frequent landslides and geologic activity force it to vary course fairly often.
- The world's largest riverine island, Majuli Island is on the Brahmaputra River within the state of Assam.
- The Brahmaputra drains into the Bay of geographic region before forming a large delta in conjunction with the Ganga.

Topic 52. STRAIT OF MALACCA

Importance for Prelims: IR



Straits of Malacca may be a slim stretch of water, 580 mi (930 km) long, between the peninsula (Peninsular Malaysia) and also the Indonesian island of island.

- As the most shipping channel between the Indian Ocean and also the ocean, it's one in all the foremost necessary shipping lanes within the world.
- It is called once the Malacca state that dominated over the dry land between 1400 and 1511, the middle of administration of that was set within the contemporary state of Malacca, Malaysia.
- From AN economic and strategic perspective, the Strait of Malacca is one in all the foremost necessary shipping lanes within the world.

Topic 53. NANO-TECHNOLOGY

Importance for Prelims: Science and Tech

Nanotech unveil job choices in an exceedingly kind of industries.

- Nanotechnology primarily refers to the employment and creation of particles that are smaller than one hundred nano metre.
- The Government of India launched the Nano Mission in 2007 as an umbrella capacity-building programme.
- As a result of the efforts led by the Nano Mission, today, India is amongst the highest Iroquois League within the world in terms of scientific publications in Nano science and technology.
- Scope of application of technology within the development method of the country: Agriculture: technology may be utilized in agriculture and food production within the style of Nano sensors for observation crop growth and tormentor management by early identification of plant diseases.
- Medical applications: Development of newer drug delivery systems supported technology ways is being tried for conditions like cancer, diabetes, plant infections, and infective agent infections and in sequence medical care. technology has additionally found its use in diagnostic drugs as distinction agents, fluorescent dyes and magnetic nanoparticles.
- Electronics: The semiconductor business has been ready to improve the performance of electronic systems for quite four decades by downscaling silicon-based devices.
- Textiles and Clothing: technology has shown an enormous potential within the textile and article of clothing business that is often terribly ancient.
- Coating may be a common technique accustomed apply Nano-particles

onto textiles.

- The success of technology in textile applications lies in areas of sturdiness, flexibility, wash ability and softness.
- **Energy equipment:** Nano scales and nanoporous membranes are being used to facilitate production of biomass fuel.
- Energy transmission could potentially be made much more efficient by using engineered nano materials.