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Topic 1. LANDMARK DEAL AT CLIMATE TALK ON FUND FOR DAMAGE

Important for subject: Environment

Experts in India welcomed Sunday's UN climate summit, which took place in Egypt. It was a testimony to the resilience of climate-vulnerable nations and a warning shot for polluters about the consequences of climate destruction.

Establishment and operation of a Transitional committee

- The governments also agreed to create a "transitional committee" to provide recommendations on how to operate both the new funding arrangements and the fund at the COP28 next.
 - The first meeting is scheduled to take place before March 2023.
 - Santiago Network for Loss and Damage -Vision aims to provide technical assistance for developing countries most at risk from the negative effects of climate change.
1. CoP 25, Chile (held at Madrid in 2019). Parties created the Santiago network under the Warsaw International Mechanism.
 2. CoP 26 Glasgow, U.K. -Parties voted on the functions for the Santiago Network and issued a call to submit.
 3. CoP 27 Sharm- El Sheikh (Egypt), Parties negotiated the institutional arrangements for the operation of the Santiago Network.
- Unresolved Concerns
 - Definition of loss and damage
 - Criteria for countries that are vulnerable (which country should receive the fund)
 - Mechanism for funding
 - Developed countries versus major economies

What is the difference between loss and damage?

- Two definitions of 'loss' and 'damage' are provided by the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change.
- It is a term that refers to economic and non-economic damages caused by climate change. It's used to describe the economic and financial impacts on developing countries, which are especially vulnerable to the negative effects of climate. It is

irreversible and destructive and cannot be reversed by adaptation or mitigation measures.

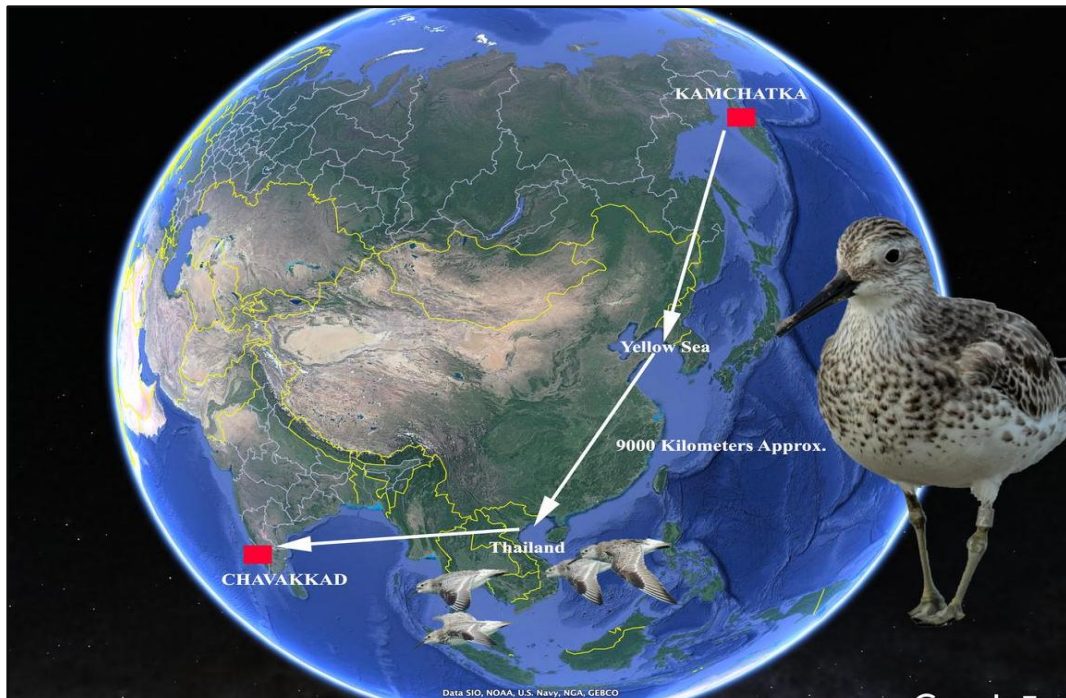
- Loss & Damage (uppercase), refers to a "political discussion under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change following establishment of the Warsaw Mechanism on L&D (2013)" to discuss damages and losses.
- When the intensity and frequency of climate impacts increases to such an extent that communities and countries are not able to cope, loss and damage can occur.
- You are equipped to deal with it.
- They are no longer able to plan, cope, recover from disasters, rebuild, or recoup their capabilities.

From where did the term "L&D" originate?

- Vanuatu, an island nation that was a member of the Alliance of Small Island States was the one to bring up L&D in 1991.
- This demand was not met after 31 years and 26 COPs.
- According to The Cost of Delay (an October 2022 report by L&D Collaboration, climate advocacy group L&D Collaboration), approximately 189 million people have been affected by extreme weather-related events in developing nations every year.
- At the COP26 in Glasgow the G77, a coalition 134 countries and China proposed the Loss and Damage Finance Facility, which is a stream of finance that specifically addresses losses and damages.
- It was finally approved by CoP 27 at Sherm-Al- Sheikh in Egypt.

Topic 2. GREAT KNOT

Important for subject: Environment



A great knot from Russia has made its way to Kerala's coast and flown over 9,000km for a winter stay.

- Many juvenile great knots were recently tagged in Eastern Russia's Kamchatka peninsula with MOSKVA rings.

The Great Knot:

- The Great Knot is an international, migratory wading bird that travels great distances between its breeding grounds in the northern hemisphere and its summer feeding grounds in the southern hemisphere.
- The Great Knot is a medium-sized shorebird that has a straight, narrow bill and a neck with heavy streaking.

IUCN Red List of Endangered Species:

- Scientific name: *Calidris tenuirostris*
- Species author: (Horsfield, 1821)

Distribution:

- During the summer, Great Knots can be found around coast areas of many parts Australia.
- They are found in eastern Siberia and migrate to the coasts of East and South East Asia when they breed.

Habitat:

- Great Knots inhabit intertidal mudflats in Australia and sandflats on sheltered coasts.
- They eat moist mud and often rest on beaches.

Wading birds

- The small and long-legged Waders can be found along beaches and mudflats.
- The Ciconiiformes order includes the Wader Birds. They are distinguished by their long legs.
- Wading birds have evolved physical and behavioral adaptations to survive near or on water.
- Wading birds also depend on water for water supply.
- The group includes cranes and herons as well as spoonbills, spoonbills, egrets and ibises.

Topic 3. WHAT IS CARBON BORDER TAX, WHICH INDIA OPPOSED AT COP27

Important for subject: Environment

A group of countries, including India, have opposed the carbon frontier taxes policy at Sharm El Sheikh's COP27. They claim it could cause market distortion.

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).

- The Carbon Border Adjustment Method (EU) is a plan to tax carbon-intensive goods such as iron, steel, cement, fertiliser and aluminium starting in 2026.
- The CBAM will even out the price of carbon among domestic products and imports, and ensure that EU's climate goals are not compromised by production moving to less ambitious countries.

What is the carbon border tax?

- The carbon frontier tax imposes an import duty on products manufactured in countries with less stringent climate rules than those buying them.
- Carbon leakage: Why tax was needed Some developed countries, in an effort to reduce emissions, impose large costs on carbon-intensive companies in their own country.
- This can be avoided by businesses moving production to a country that has less stringent regulations, which is known as carbon leakage.
- Companies with a base in the EU may be able to move their carbon-intensive production overseas to take advantage of low standards. Or, EU products could be replaced with more carbon-intensive imports.

Topic 4. SMUGGLERS TRAFFICKING RHINO HORNS WITH IMPUNITY: REPORT

Important for subject: Environment

The seizure of rhino horns by their weight has increased following 2017 despite a decrease in poaching, according to a global risk assessment report, presented at a convention for conservation agencies in Panama City.

Report on Rhino trafficking -

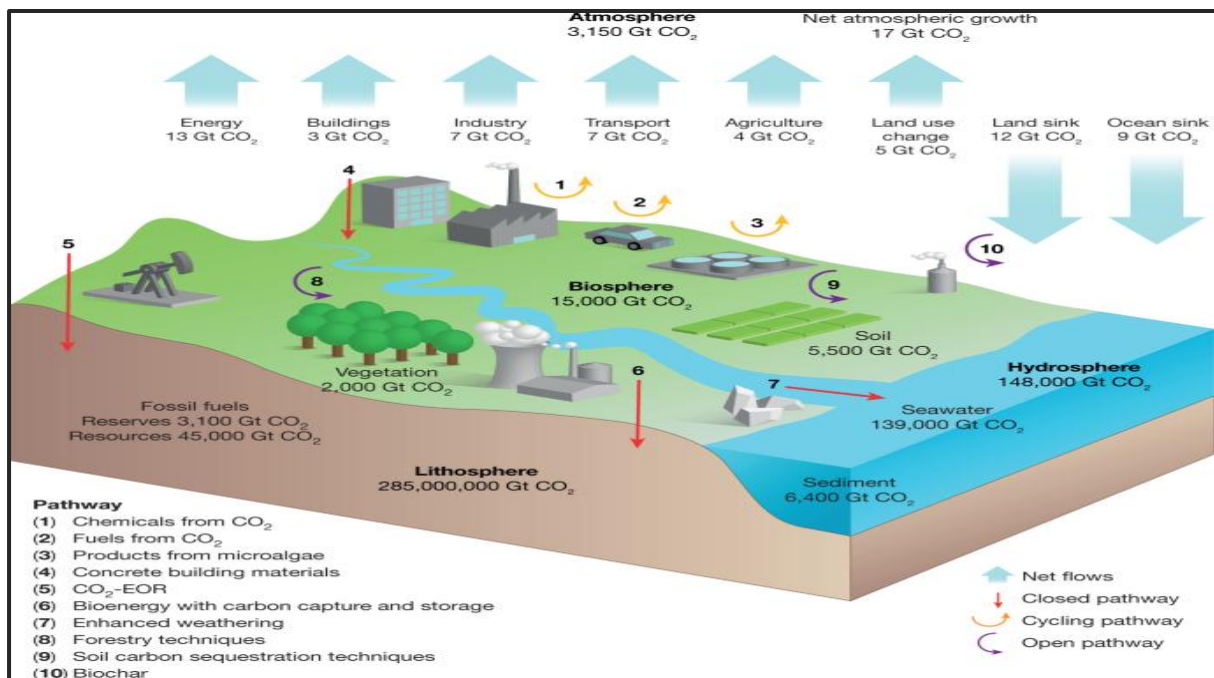
- Wildlife Justice Commission has prepared the document titled 'Executive Summary Of Rhino Horn Trafficking As A Form of Transnational
- Organized Crime 2012-2021: 2022 Global Threat Assessment" with support from 'World Wildlife Fund for Nature'. The report was presented at the Conference of Parties organized by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
- The threat assessment was created from an analysis of 674 rhino-horn seizures that occurred worldwide during the decade. It also included seven years of criminal Intelligence and findings from the WJC investigations on rhino horn trafficking.
- The report contains the most important findings.
- Although six countries and territories dominated rhino horn trafficking routes between the source and destination locations, more than 50 countries or territories were

involved in transnational crime.

- These were South Africa and Mozambique as well as Malaysia, South Africa, Mozambique Special Administrative Region, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Vietnam and China.
- The investigation led to the "prolific" Vietnamese as well as the Chinese criminal network that drove the trafficking in horns across the supply chain.
- The use of social media platforms and instant message app has significantly increased to become the main channel through which rhino horn is illegally traded.

Topic 5. COP27: Experts flag proposals to include carbon removals in UN trading mechanism

Important for subject: Environment



There have been many concerns raised about carbon removal being included in carbon-trading mechanism under United Nations. According to civil society groups, carbon removals are not compatible with the Paris Agreement's 1.5-degree goal.

Carbon Removal-

- "Carbon Removal" means removing carbon dioxide from our atmosphere.
- It could be land-based.
- Reforestation and afforestation

- Direct air capture (where large machines sucking CO₂)
- Soil carbon sequestration by no-till and other methods
- sequestering carbon in biofuel

Ocean-based removals-

- Pumping CO₂ in the ocean through iron fertilization
- Pumping nutrient rich waters from depths to the surface, and pumping
- Surface waters can transport carbon from the ocean floor downwards.
- Carbon removal under Paris Climate deal 2015-
- Article 2.1 of 2015 Paris Agreement states that increasing temperatures should be kept below "well below 2degC" above pre-industrial levels, while "pursuing efforts to reach the more ambitious limit" of 1.5degC.
- Article 6.4 creates a UN mechanism that allows countries to cooperate in order to achieve their climate targets.
- The supervisory board is responsible framing recommendations about the types (methodologies), allowed under 6.4, and how they should to be verified.
- It also has the responsibility of making recommendations regarding carbon removals and including monitoring, monitoring, and addressing concerns about technology and its social impacts.
- These recommendations will be endorsed by the Conference of the Parties, which serves as the meeting of the Parties of the Paris Agreement (CMA).
- After approval, a developer is a country, business or individual who can issue UN-recognized credit to a project. This requires approval from both the host country as well as the supervisory body.

Oceans are Carbon sinks

- The oceans hold a huge potential for naturally storing carbon dioxide.
- Photosynthesis can be increased by phytoplankton using iron, which in turn incorporates carbon into their systems.
- The carbon is locked up by the remaining unaten planktons, which sink to the bottom.

Risk involved

- Ocean acidification
- Poor afforestation practices can lead to human rights violations.
- The threat to the livelihoods of coastal communities

Topic 6. THE CLIMATE GROUP

Important for subject: Environment

It is a non-profit organization that works with government and business leaders worldwide to address the problem of climate change.

- It has programs that aim to increase renewable energy and lower greenhouse gas emissions.
- The organisation was founded in 2004 and has offices worldwide in the UK, the United States, India, and elsewhere.
- It serves as the Secretariat of the Under2 Coalition
- The We Mean Business coalition runs the organisation's business ventures "RE100", HTML100, and "EV100".
- These efforts, which are part of the We Mean Business alliance, aim to increase corporate demand for electric transport and renewable energy.
- They also support leading businesses in reducing carbon emissions, being more resilient, and increasing returns.

Topic 7. UNDER 2 COALITION

Important for subject: Environment

The Under2 Coalition, a group of subnational governments, aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- This memorandum was created just before the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP 21 (or Paris Agreement).
- It was signed on May 19, 2015 by 12 founding jurisdictions in Sacramento, California.
- It was originally called the Under2 MoU, but it became the Under2 Coalition in 2017.
- The signatories numbered 270 countries, representing over 1.75 billion people worldwide and half of the global economy.

- The partnership between California and Baden-Wurttemberg was the inspiration behind the Under2 MOU.
- The Climate Group acts as the secretariat.

Purpose

- Each signator of the memorandum has to attain the intent.
- Greenhouse gas emission reductions consistent with a trajectory of 80 to 95 percent below 1990 levels by 2050 and/or achieving a per capita annual emission goal of less than 2 metric tons by 2050.
- The Under2 MOU permits subnational governments, such as counties and states, to highlight their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Topic 8. RACE TO ZERO CAMPAIGN

Important for subject: Environment

Race To Zero is an global campaign that rallies support from cities, regions and investors in favour of a healthy and resilient, zero-carbon recovery that will prevent future threats and create decent jobs and enable inclusive, sustainable growth.

- It mobilizes a coalition leading net zero initiatives, representing 11309 non
- State actors, including 8,307 companies and 595 financial institutions. 1,136 cities.
- 52 States and Regions, 1,125 Educational Institutions and 65 Healthcare Institutions (as at September 2022).
- The objective to build momentum around the transition to a decarbonized economic ahead COP26, where government contributions must be increased to the Paris Agreement.
- This will send a clear signal to governments that investors, cities, and regions are all united in achieving the Paris goals and creating an inclusive and resilient economy.

Topic 9. RE100

Important for subject: Environment

RE100 is a global corporate initiative to bring together renewable energy.

- Many ambitious and large businesses have committed to 100% Renewable electricity.
- RE100 was launched at Climate Week NYC 2014. Now with 73 members. RE100 believes that shifting the private sector's energy consumption to renewables, which makes up about half the world's electricity demand, will accelerate the global energy market transformation and help transition to a low-carbon economy.
- Apple INC was recently established. a member of the RE100.
- Infosys was the first Indian company to join the RE100 Renewable Energy Campaign.
- Infosys was a part of some of the most important companies in the world, such as IKEA and Swiss.
- Re and BT, Formula E. H&M. KPN. Mars, Nestle. Philips. are just a few of the many organizations that are making bold moves to bring about the necessary transformation to power a clean energy revolution.

Topic 10. EP100

Important for subject: Environment

EP100 was a global initiative started in 2016, and led by an international non-profit

- Climate Group is a group of over 120 energy-smart businesses that are committed to reporting and measuring energy efficiency improvements.
- Energy efficiency is vital as it can achieve more 40% reduction in energy-related emissions that are needed to reach global climate goals.

Purpose:

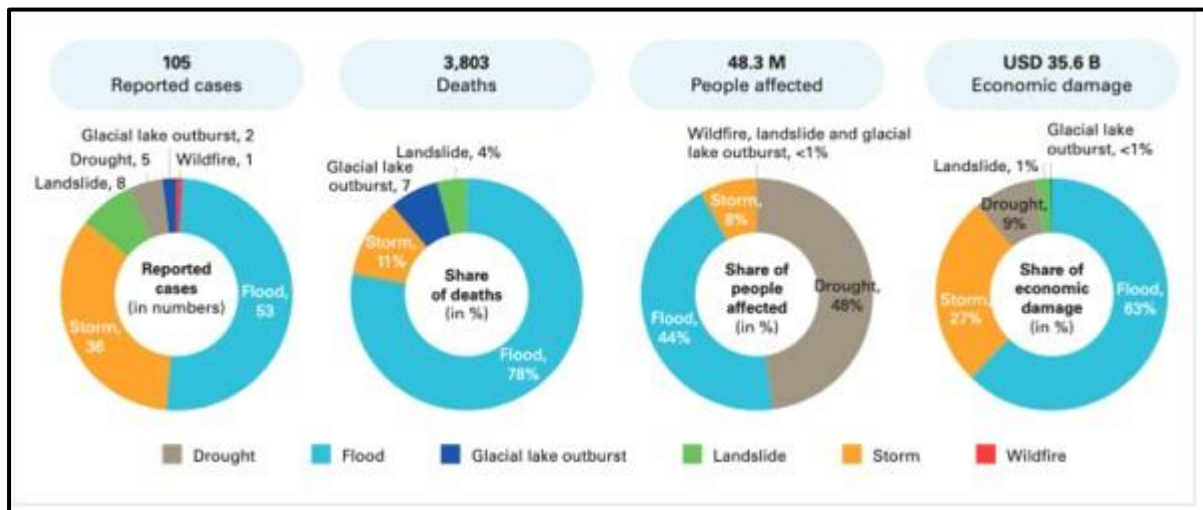
- The Climate group's global EP100 initiative in collaboration with the Alliance to Save Energy brings together an increasing number of energy-smart businesses that are committed to using energy more efficiently, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and to accelerating a clean economy.

EV100 campaign:

- Climate Group has launched the EV100 campaign. This is an international non-profit organisation.
- This campaign aims to make electric transport the new norm by 2030.
- It will encourage companies to convert from fossil fuel-powered vehicles to electric cars and to install charging infrastructure.
- Maharashtra was the first state to join this campaign.

Topic 11. EXTREME WEATHER HITS ECONOMIES, HURTS ASIA MOST: WMO REPORT

Important for subject: Environment



Economic losses suffered by Asian nations as a result of natural catastrophes have increased dramatically since climate change has made such events more common.

- 2021 minimum 48.3 Million people Asia were impacted by more than 100 natural.
- Hazards, which claimed at most 3803 lives according to the State Climate in Asia 2021.
- The economic impact of extreme weather events on the economy was \$35.5 billion.
- These events include droughts, extreme temperatures, floods.

Scenario in Asia

- Floods in Asia have had the greatest impact, causing the most human deaths and economic destruction.

The most affected region was.

- According to the report, Losses caused by Landslides increased by 147 percent in comparison to the 20 year average from 2001 to 2020 .
- During that time, drought losses increased by 63% and flood 23%.
- The report was jointly produced by the World Meteorological Organization.
- (WMO) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, (ESCAP) were presented at the 27th Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt).
- WMO revealed earlier this month its plans to create a global early warning system that can be used for extreme weather events.
- Floods are the most expensive disaster
- Floods are the most costly disaster in Asia, including India and China.
- China suffered \$18.4 Billion flooding, followed by India (\$3.2 Billion) and
- Thailand (\$0.6 million)
- India lost \$4.4B due to storms. China was next at \$3B and Japan at \$2B.
- Over 80 percent of extreme events in 2021 were flooding and storms.
- The highest number of deaths was caused by floods in India, China, and Afghanistan. This highlights the vulnerability of Asia, particularly to flooding.
- In India, about 1300 people died from flash floods and heavy rains during monsoon season.
- Data on damage is more important than ever because funding for damage & loss has been included in the COP27 agenda, which is the first time that this topic has ever been discussed at UN climate negotiations.
- A realistic estimate of the country's extreme weather events can still be made.

Impact of extreme weather on SDGs

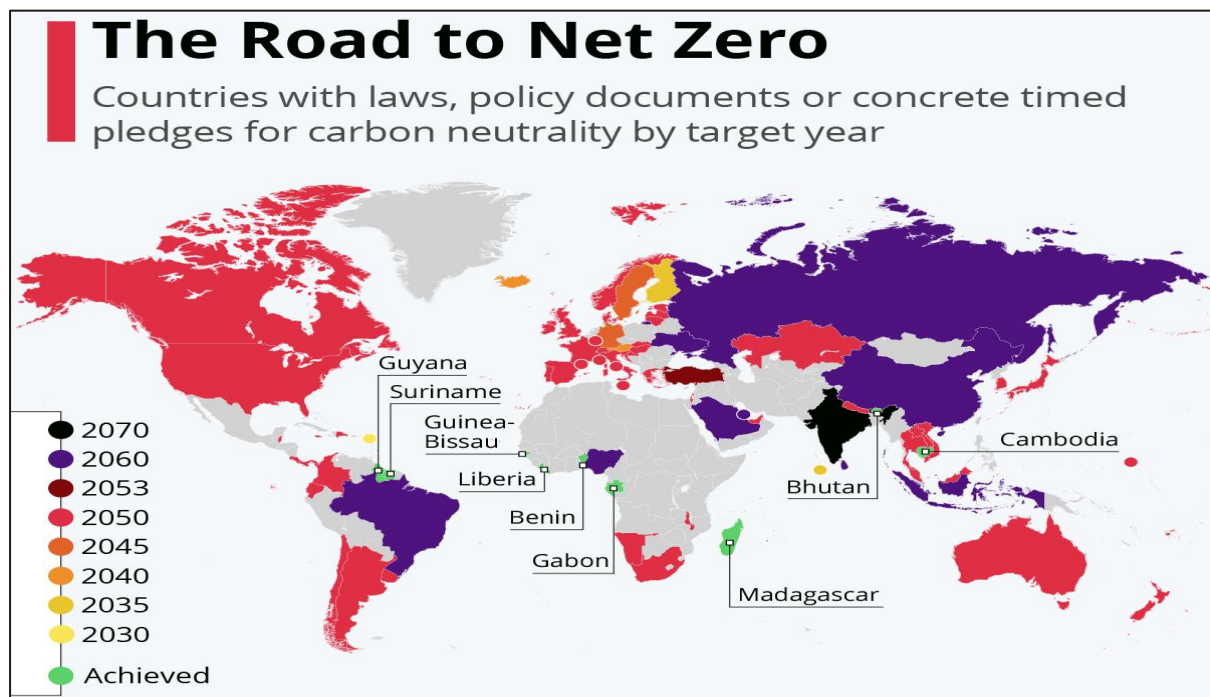
- These events will have an impact on food security, poverty, inequality, and the global goals of sustainable development.

SDG13 for Climate Action has suffered from a global lack of participation:

- Insufficient progress has been made in achieving targets 13.1.1 for the number of directly affected persons, deaths, and missing persons due to disasters, and 13.1.2 for the adoption and implementation national disaster risk reduction strategies.
- SDG 13 and other SDGs can be achieved by early warning systems, such as Goal 1 (No Poverty), Go 2 (Zero Hunger), Go 3 (Good Health and Well-being), and Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

Topic 12. ROAD TO NET-ZERO STATUS

Subject: Environment



India's strategy for achieving Net-Zero status

- One year after it announced its intention to attain a net zero emission status by
- 2070 India Monday announced to the world that it would reach there.
- India listed 121 pages of measures it would take to reach net-zero in the next decade

in a document.

- The context According to the 2015 Paris Agreement countries must prepare and submit two types of climate action plans: one for the short-term and one for the long term.

Short-term climate- action plans (NDCs)-

- Also known as Nationally Determined Contributions, (NDCs),
- must be submitted once every five years. with specific actions taken over 5- and 10-year periods.
- The NDCs should be achieved by 2030.
- NDCs for developed countries must set specific emission reduction targets by 2030.
- Each subsequent NDC - the next is due in 2025 - must be a progression of the current NDC.
- India's NDC has set three major targets for 2030.
- A 45 percent reduction of emission intensity (emissions per unit GDP) since 2005.
- A 50% share of renewables for electricity generation.
- Creation of 5-3 billion tonnes of additional carbon sink through forests.

Long Term Low Emissions Development Strategy (LT-LEDS).

- there is no specific timeframe within which these long term strategies must be prepared.
- At COP26, held in Glasgow countries set target years to achieve netzero status.
- The target year for net-zero was set by most developed countries
- Status2050.China set 2060 as the target year, while India set 2070.
- India's strategy to reach the net zero destination
- India plans large-scale interventions across five sectors: energy and electricity; transport; urban design; industries and forestry.
- The long term strategy document lists priority areas and specific intervention India has already taken or plans to take in each of these priority sector.
- For example, in the energy sector, decarbonisation would be achieved mainly by increasing the share of renewable energies and rationalising the utilisation fossil fuels. It also requires a focus on demand-side management.

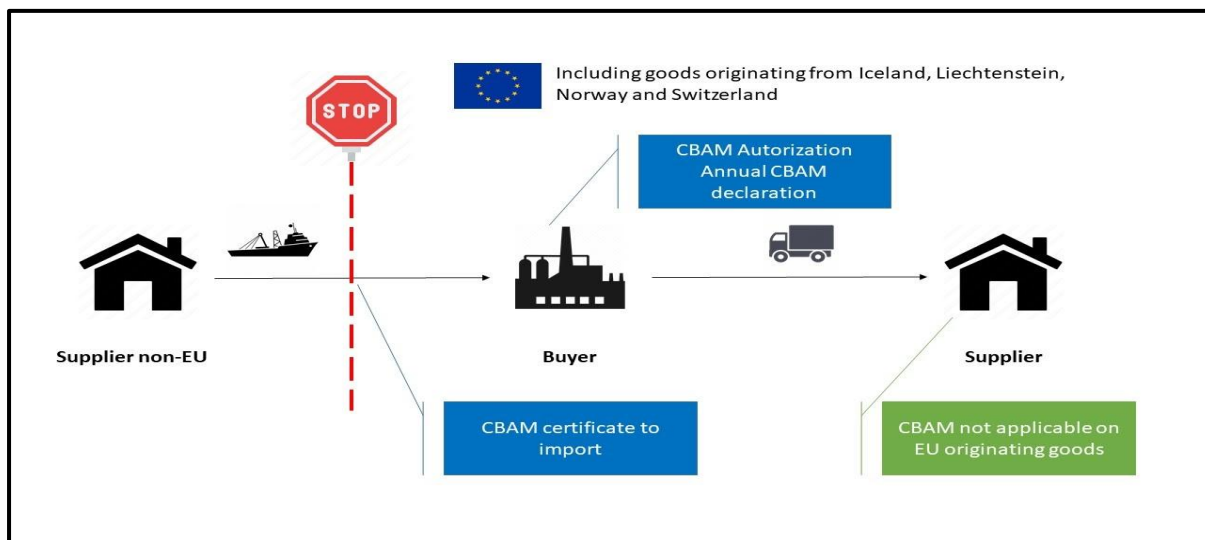
- The transport sector will see low carbon development mainly through the electrification and phased transition to cleaner fuels and the introduction of intelligent traffic systems.
- There are no indicative paths or mid-term goals.
- The 60+ countries that have submitted their long term strategies haven't offered any mid-term targets or paths. However, some, such as the UK or the US have provided sectoral projections with milestones they expect to reach.

Agriculture missing

- India's long-term strategy has neglected agriculture as a sector that is most responsible for methane emission.
- Methane, the second-most common greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide, is .
- Because methane has the potential to cause global heating, it is much more dangerous than carbon dioxide.
- This means that methane reduction offers more benefits than carbon dioxide, from molecule to molecular level.
- Methane, unlike carbon dioxide, is a largely sectoral gas. Therefore, its decrease does not have economic-wide repercussions like carbon dioxide.
- Carbon Removal Technologies
- Only when greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by forest absorption or by futuristic technology, can net zero be achieved.
- It is possible to reduce emissions but not bring them down to zero.
- The balance would need to be off set through different types of carbon capture and storage technologies (CCS).
- India will heavily rely on CSS and Negative Emission Technologies in order to reach this goal and to offset the emissions from difficult and hard-to-abate sector.
- R&D India has identified many climate-specific technologies in CSS, smart grids and solar photovoltaics. Energy storage, and other technologies, too.

Topic 13. CARBON BORDER ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM

Important for subject: Environment



India, Brazil, India and China opposed the 'carbon border tax' proposed by the European Union at the 27th Conference of Parties in Sharm El Sheikh.

- The Carbon Border policy has been proposed by the European Union.
- Adjustment Method -- To tax carbon-intensive products like cement and steel, effective from 2026.
- BASIC is a group that includes Brazil, India and South Africa and has reiterated its right to continue using fossil fuels in the interim as their countries transition to cleaner energy sources.

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

- This is a duty that imports are Important for subject to based on the carbon emissions from the product being imported. It discourages carbon emissions by setting a price for carbon. It is a trade-related measure that affects production as well as exports.
- The European Commission's European Green Deal proposes a carbon border tax. This is part of an effort to make Europe the first continent that is climate neutral by 2050.
- It could become a protectionist tool, shielding local industries against foreign competition through so-called "green protectionism".
- Implementation as planned will require EU importers to purchase carbon

certificates that correspond to the EU carbon price if the goods were produced locally.

- The auction prices on the EU carbon credit market would determine the price of the certificates.
- The quantity of goods and embedded emissions in goods imported into the EU would determine the number of certificates that are required each year.

India's Impact :

- India is third in trade with the EU. This tax, which would increase the price of Indian-made goods in the EU could make Indian goods less appealing to buyers and reduce demand.
- The tax would present significant near-term problems for companies with a larger greenhouse gas footprint.

Topic 14. APPELLATE BODY

Important for subject: Economy

A public sector bank was penalized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), for not complying with certain provisions of Reserve Bank of India.

Details:

- The orders were released with minimal information about violations.
- It has been criticized by many quarters, and there is a call to set up an appellate court such as the Securities Appellate Tribunal.
- Justice BN Sri Krishna, the head of the Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission [FSLRC], had previously recommended a financial sector appellate Tribunal for all regulators, including the RBI.

Transparency-RBI

- Customers and investors of banks have limited access to information about non-compliance with RBI directives by banks.
- Contrary to other financial regulators' orders, RBI usually refers to specific clauses or sub clauses when they pass orders for irregularities at banks.
- The RBI does not provide details beyond what the sanctioned entity is for.
- Sebi- has passed 'speaking orders' which are lengthy, informative, and provide details

about all aspects of the matter. However, the party can challenge the Sebi.

- Security Appellate Tribunal.
- The RBI is currently the only regulatory body without an appellate body.

Some important appellate body:

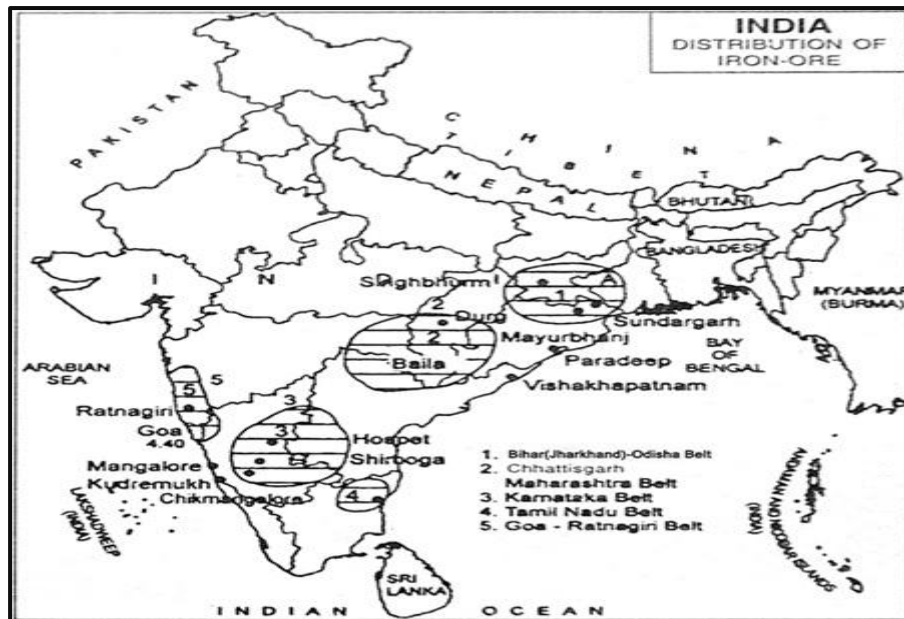
- The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal under Section 410 of Act 2013.
- This tribunal hears appeals against the National Company Law Tribunal's orders
- Appeal from Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India orders under Section 202 and Section 211 of IBC are also heard by the tribunal.
- It can also hear appeals from any direction, decision, or order issued by the Competition Commission of India, National Financial Reporting Authority, (NFRA) or Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunal-orders are Important for subject to appeal before the Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunal.

Securities Appellate Tribunal considers appeals against these orders:

- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India, (IRDAI).
- Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, (PFRDA).
- Securities and Exchange Board of India
- The Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal hears appeals from orders and decisions made under the Customs Act, 1992 and Central Excise Act, 44.
- It has also appellate jurisdiction in Anti Dumping cases.
- India's Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) serves as the second appellate authority for direct taxes, and the first independent forum within its appellate hierarchy.
- Armed Forces Tribunal - Any appeal from court-martial sentences, findings or orders.
- Appellate Tribunal for Electricity- was established under the Electricity Act 2003 as a statutory and independent body to hear appeals, original petitions, or complaints against orders of the State Regulatory Commission (Central Regulatory Commission), Joint Commission or Adjudicating Officer.

Topic 15. CENTRE SCRAPS EXPORT TAX ON IRON ORE AND STEEL

Important for subject: Economy



India scrapped export taxes for low grade iron ore, and some intermediate products starting 19 November 2022. This was after months of complaints by miners and steel producers about losing foreign sales opportunities.

Tax imposed

- Notification was issued to reverse the May imposition of a 50% tax for exports of iron-ore lumps or fines with less than 58% iron content.
- The government reversed an increase in May export tax on iron ore concentrate so roasted Iron Pyrites. This tax has returned to 30% from 50%.

Why was the tax imposed?

- To increase domestic supply of Iron Ore, a basic ingredient in making steel
- To keep inflation down.
- India exported half the amount of steel it produced in the seven months from October compared to a year ago.

The consequences of imposing tax

- India's iron ore exports dropped to "nearly nothing" in October earlier this month. This was due to lower demand for the product from China.

- Indian producers of low grade ore rely heavily on foreign markets because most domestic steel producers use iron ore.
- Iron ore can be found in the following four types:

Magnetite:

- This is the best and most valuable type of iron ore.
- It has 72% of metallic iron. It can be found in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Hematite:

- It has about 60 to 70% metallic iron.
- It has a reddish-brown colour.
- It can be found in Odisha and Jharkhand.

Limonite:

- It has 30-40 percent metallic iron. It is mostly yellow. Low-grade iron ore.

Siderite:

- It contains more impurities.
- It has 48 per cent metallic iron content.
- It has a brown colour.
- It is a mixture of carbon and iron. It is low grade iron ore. It self-flushes due to the presence lime.

Distribution of iron ore

- About 95% of total iron ore reserves are located in the States Odisha and Jharkhand.
- Odisha is India's largest producer of iron ore. This is followed closely by Chhattisgarh, which produces almost 17%. Karnataka and Jharkhand produce 14% and 11%, respectively.
- Iron ore export from India
- India is the fifth-largest exporter of iron ore worldwide.
- Our total iron ore production is exported to about 50-60 percent of countries such as Japan, Korea, Europe, and recently to the Gulf countries. Japan accounts for

approximately three-quarters of all our total exports.

- Vishakhapatnam and Paradip are the major ports that handle iron ore exports.

Topic 16. ANDAMAN SEEKS GI TAG FOR NICOBARI HODI

Important for subject: Economy

Tribal Development Council, Andaman & Nicobar Islands Is looking for the Geographical Indication (GI), tag For the Nicobari hodi boat.

- This is the initial application from Union Territory looking for a tag to one of its products.

About Nicobari Hodi

- The Nicobari tribe's traditional crafts include the hodi.
- It is an outrigger kayak, which is used a lot in the Nicobar Islands.
- The native knowledge inherited from their forefathers by the Nicobarese is what gives rise to the technical skills required for building a hodi.
- The hodi can be built from locally-available trees, or from nearby islands. Its design is slightly different from island to island.
- Be aware of the length for the finished canoe, which must be 12x its width. The length of the undressed tree trunk should be 15x this width.
- Hodis can be used to transport people and goods between islands, for sending coconuts or for racing and fishing purposes.
- The hodi is considered an asset by the tuhet (a group of families that are under one headman).
- Hodi Races are held between villages and islands.

Tag Geographical Indication (GI).

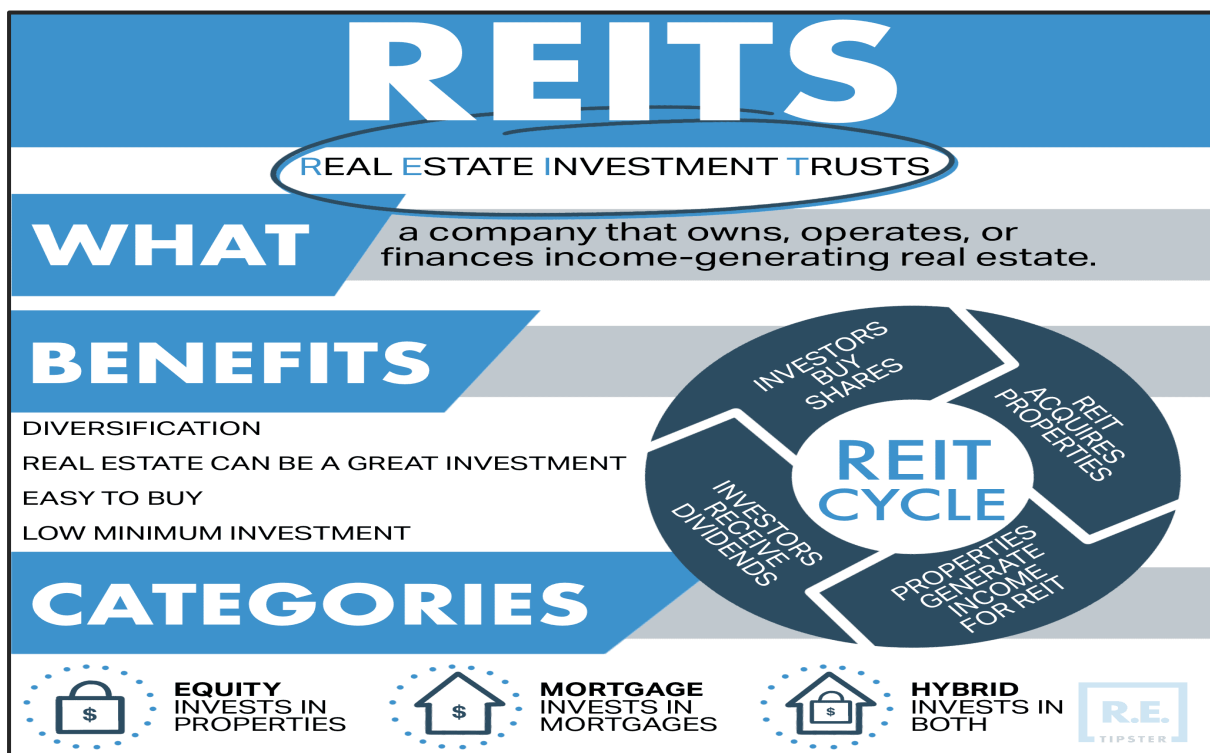
- Geographical Indication (GI), is an indication that identifies goods with special characteristics originating in a specific geographical territory.
- The Geographical Indices of Goods (Registration & Protection Act, 1999 aims to allow registration and better protection for geographical indications that relate to goods in India.
- It is governed by the WTO Agreement. On Trade-Related Aspects Of Intellectual

Property Rights (TRIPS).

- It was also decided that the protection of industrial Property as well as Geographical Indication is part of Intellectual Property.
- It is primarily an natural, or an manufactured product.
- The tag can be renewed after a period 10 years.

Topic 17. REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST (REIT)

Important for subject: Economy



Nexus Select Trust has filed the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with the SEBI to issue India's first public retail REIT in the first half 2023.

- There are currently three REITs listed on Indian stock exchanges: Mind space Business Parks REIT, Embassy Office Parks REIT and Brookfield India Real Estate Trust. However, all of these REITs are leased office assets.
- Nexus Select Trust is the first REIT to have rent-yielding assets in retail real estate.

What is a Real Estate Investment Trust?

- REITs, or Real Estate Investment Trusts, are funds that invest in income-producing commercial and industrial properties.

- REITs can be compared to Mutual Funds in that multiple investors can pool their assets and assets are professionally managed.
- REITs are primarily made up of Real Estate Holdings and loans secured by Real Estate.

Structure:

- A Real Estate Company forms a Real Estate Investment Trust. It becomes the Sponsor and appoints the Trustee.
- The Trustee is responsible for the Trust's Real Estate Assets. These assets are not controlled directly by the Sponsor.
- The Trustee appoints a manager to manage and make investment decisions.
- The REIT is then registered and raised money by selling units publicly or privately to investors.
- Investors can buy even one share of REITs for the listed price. They can also sell them on the exchange at the current market price.
- An investor can earn income through interest, dividends and amortisation SPV.
- REIT Investment is the ownership of Real Estate Assets owned by the Trust. This entitles unit holders to a portion of the REIT's income.

Different Types Of REITs

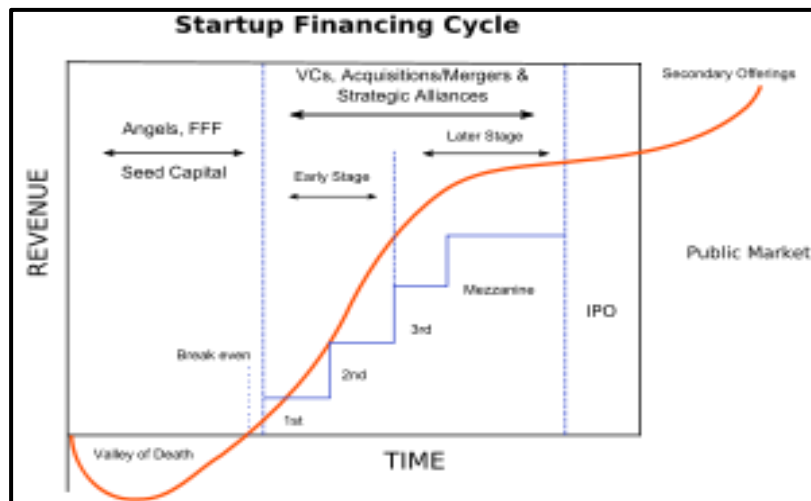
- Retail REITs These REITs must invest at least 24% in commercial retail, such as shopping centers and freestanding retail shops.
- Residential REITs - These are Real Estate Investment Trusts which own and manage manufactured housing, as well as rental apartments.
- Healthcare REITs These trusts invest primarily in and operate healthcare-focused Real Estates like hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes, and medical centres.
- Office REITs These are primarily invested in and operate office spaces. This type of REIT's main source of income is rental revenue from long-term tenants.
- Mortgage REITs an estimated 10% of investment are made in mortgages rather than physical Real Estate.
- There are three other types of REIT: equity REITs that purchase, own, and manage income-generating assets; mortgage REITs that lend money directly to real estate

owners; and hybrid REITs.

- The current SEBI guidelines for REITs in India have been approved by the Indian government in September 2014.
- A REIT must invest at least 80% in commercial properties that are rentable to generate income. Rest of the trust assets (up to 20%) can be held as stocks, bonds, cash or under-construction commercial properties.
- The REIT must distribute at least 90% of its rental income to unitholders in the form of dividends or interest.
- REITs must be listed on the stock market

Topic 18. SEED FUNDING

Important for subject: Economy



To grow faster, India's deep-tech start-ups require more seed and early stage funding.

- Only 11 percent of India's total technology-related funding goes to deep tech.
- Deep tech, or deep tech start-ups, are companies that work in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), quantum, blockchains, Internet of Things, drones, and augmented reality.

Seed financing

- Seed funding is an investment made to help a company grow.
- Many times, seed funding is provided by angel investors or family members and friends of the founders.
- Seed funding is used for the start-up of the company. It is a high-risk investment

because the company is still new to the market.

- Seed funding provides capital for a team to explore a particular idea or market and prove that the concept works.
- The seed funding, or initial investment it's followed by several rounds known as Series A, C, and D.

Types Of Seed Funding For Start-ups

- Crowd funding is the process of raising funds from large numbers of people, usually via the internet.
- Corporate seed money- These corporate seed funds are a great source of funding for start-ups. This fund is a huge source of profit for these companies and other large companies.
- Incubators-Incubators help entrepreneurs solve some of the problems commonly associated with running a start-up by providing workspace, seed funding, mentoring, and training.
- Accelerators Private start-up accelerators provide funding.
- The money helps to cover expenses early in the business cycle, as well as travel and living expenses during the three-month residency at one-on-one start-up accelerators.
- In exchange for training and funding, start-up accelerators typically take between 5% to 10% of your equity.
- Angel investors-an individual who is looking to diversify his investment portfolio and back exciting start-ups. Angel investors are able to help start-ups with capital funding when they have difficulties in their early stages.
- Personal Savings- In this type of funding, the founders use their savings and wealth as seed capital.
- Debt funding- Usually, money that is provided by banks or other financial institutions such as loans is considered debt financing.
- Convertible Securities - Depending on the growth or progress of the company, loans provided in seed rounds can be converted to equity.

Angel Funds / Angel Networks –

- Many investors pool together to invest in the initial stages of a financing round. Angle

networks is the formation of investors.

- Venture Capital Funding- Based on the following parameters, venture capitalists offer funds.

Topic 19. CENTRAL DEPOSITORY SERVICES LTD

Important for subject: Economy

Friday's delay in settlement at Central Depository Services Ltd was due to malware detection.

Depository

- It's a place where financial securities can be held in dematerialised form.
- Depository accounts work in the same way as bank accounts. A depository acts in the same way as a bank account. It allows you to store securities in your Demat account.
- It is responsible to maintain ownership records and facilitate trading in dematerialized securities.

In India, there are two depositories that are functional -

- National Securities Depository Ltd. (NSDL) – NSDL, India's oldest and most important depository, is NSDL. It was founded on 12 December 1995, and began its operations in Mumbai in 1996. It was the first to offer electronic trading services.
- Central Securities Depository Ltd. (CDSL) -CDSL was established in February 1999 after NSDL. Its mission is to offer secure, reliable and convenient depository services. CDSL was the first to reach five million Demat accounts.
- Offers a variety of services, including the ones mentioned above.
- Dematerialisation services
- Re-materialisation services
- Transfers between depositories
- Transfers off-market
- Securities lending
- Nomination services
- Security collateral and securities mortgages

They will be responsible for the safekeeping of these financial securities in electronic format.

- Stocks
- Bonds
- Debentures
- Commercial papers
- Mutual Funds

The difference between NSDL & CDSL:

- There is no major difference between a Demat account and a DP that has been registered with NSDL/CDSL.
- Both offer similar investing and trading services and are both regulated by SEBI.
- The only distinction between the depositories are their operating markets.
- While NSDL's primary operating market is the National Stock Exchange (NSE), CDSL's primary market for CDSL is the Bombay Stock Exchange [BSE].

What is the secret to their success?

- Depository works with clients and investors via its agents, known as Depository Participants (or DPs).
- To avail of the services offered by the Depository, any client or investor must open a Depository account (known as Demat A/c) with one of the DPs.
- A DP is an entity that is registered with SEBI as such under sub section 1A, Section 12 of the SEBI Act. A certificate of registration from SEBI is required for a DP to offer depository-related services.
- An agreement between the Depositories Act and the DPs governs the relationship between them.
- Demat account or dematerialised
- It converts shares from a paper form to an electronic format. These are very similar to the pass books that banks offer. You can use your Demat account to buy and sell shares in different companies.

Topic 20. INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

Important for subject: Economy

Global India must preserve the integrity of international arbitration proceedings-CJI stated in relation to the Amazon arbitration case.

- International arbitration between individuals or companies in different countries, often by adding a clause for future disputes to a contract.
- Arbitration allows parties to bypass local court procedures.
- Arbitration agreements and arbitral awards can be enforced by the United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards of 1959 (the "New York Convention")
- The New York Convention provides for the enforcement and recognition of foreign arbitration decisions by courts.
- However, no treaty has been created to internationalize court decisions with large members and no treaty has been developed for international recognition of settlements reached in mediation or conciliation.
- Article III states that courts in contracting countries must recognize arbitral international awards as binding and enforce them.
- Article V outlines seven grounds that a court may use to deny enforcement of an award.
- The International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes also handles arbitration, however it is restricted to investor-state dispute resolution.

Many international institutions and rule-making bodies have established rules and appointed arbitrators.

- International Court of Arbitration
- London Court of International Arbitration
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre
- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre
- Arbitration Institute of Stockholm Chamber of Commerce
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
- American Arbitration Association (International Center for Dispute Resolution).

- Center for Arbitration and Mediation of the Chamber of Commerce Brazil
- Specialist ADRbodies are also available, such as WIPO's arbitration and mediation center and panel of international neutrals specialised in technology and intellectual property related disputes.

Topic 21. REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Important for subject: Economy

SEBI will soon release guidelines for financial influencers. These are often referred to by fin-fluencers, who offer stock advice via social media platforms.

- SEBI will require social media influencers who are not registered to be registered to follow the same norms as financial advisors.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India is a financial institution in India.

Services regulator and market regulator

- Investment advisors registered with SEBI cannot provide financial advice to clients or investors with respect to different financial products.

Who is required to register as an Investment Advisor?

- Individuals, partnerships, companies, and corporate bodies can apply to become Registered Investment Advisors (RIA) in India.
- An advisor must register with SEBI if the client list exceeds 150. The following are exempt from SEBI

registration:

- Register as an insurance agent or broker with IRDAI
- Register pension advisors with PFRDA
- AMFI has registered mutual fund distributors who can offer basic advice
- Distribution activity may involve clients
- Institute of Company Secretaries of India and Institute of Cost and Management Members
- Works Accountants of India and Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
- They can offer advice to clients as an additional service.

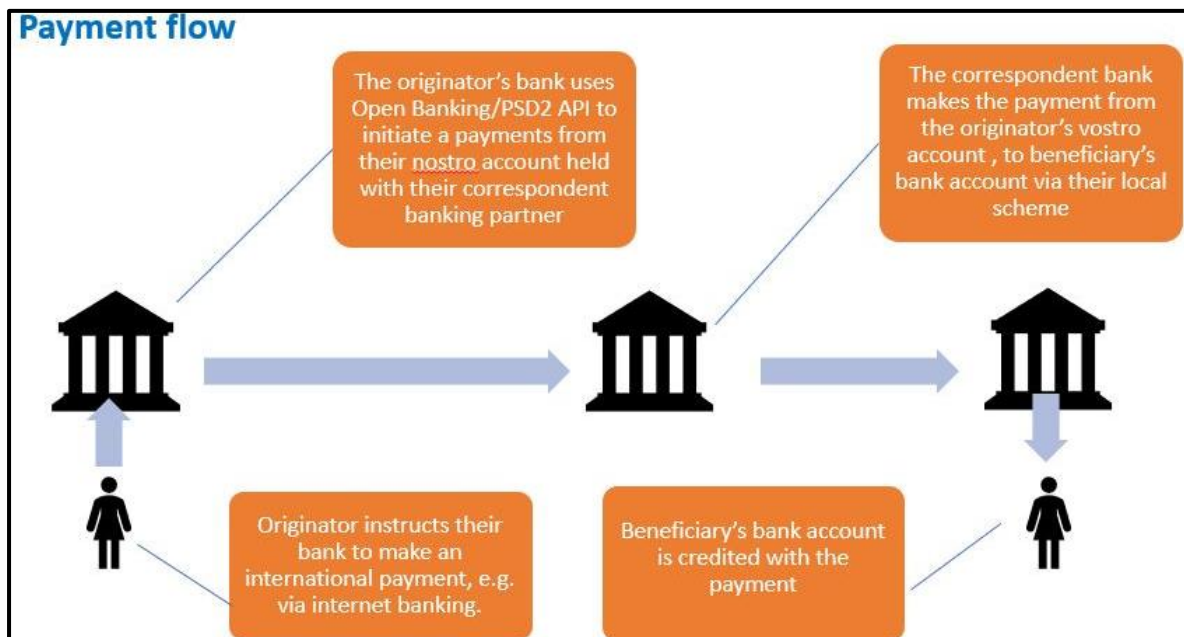
- SEBI Investment Advisors Regulation, 2013 Regulates investment advisors
- India.
- Eligibility criteria
- Individual RIAs, partnerships firms, companies, and LLPs must meet the net worth requirements to become investment advisors.
- The net worth requirement for an individual is INR 5 Lakhs. The net worth requirement for an individual was INR 1 lakh before the amendment.
- A partnership company must have a net worth requirement in excess of INR 50 Lakhs. Before the amendment, the net wealth requirements were INR 15,000
- The net worth requirement for companies, bodies corporate, and LLPs is INR 50 Lakhs. It was previously INR 25 Lakhs.

Qualification

- With five years experience, professional qualification, postgraduate degree, or postgraduate diploma, in finance, business administration, banking, capital markets, accounting, commerce, economics or insurance.
- Have a NISM Level 2 certification.
- What's the difference between a financial advisor and an RIA?
- A Registered Investment Advisor manages the portfolios of high-net worth individuals.
- SEBI requires that RIAs be registered.
- Investment advisors are individuals who provide advice for investors on tax planning, investment, and retirement planning.
- They're not different from RIAs. They offer broader services than RIAs, however.
- Financial advisors can include stockbrokers, financial planners, and insurance agents. Although they do not have a fiduciary duty, they are expected to act in the best interests of their clients and make informed decisions that will be beneficial for them.

Topic 22. VOSTRO ACCOUNT

Important for subject: Economy



After RBI approval, the government has opened nine Vostro special accounts with two Indian banks.

- In the aftermath of Russian sanctions, it aims to promote trade in rupee.

Vostro account?

- Vostro accounts are accounts that a local bank has for a foreign account in its currency---- rupee.
- For trade with Russia, rupee payments for export and import will be made to these Vostro accounts.
- A vostro account is a bank account that allows a foreign correspondent bank to act as an agent or provide services as an intermediary to a domestic bank.
- These money's owners and beneficiaries will be both the importers and exporters of the respective countries.
- The bank will keep a record of all money transferred.
- Vostro account services include wire transfers, foreign exchange transactions and enabling deposits or withdrawals.
- If a Spanish insurance company contacts a U.S. bank for funds management, the

account will be deemed by the bank as a vostro bank.

Nostro account?

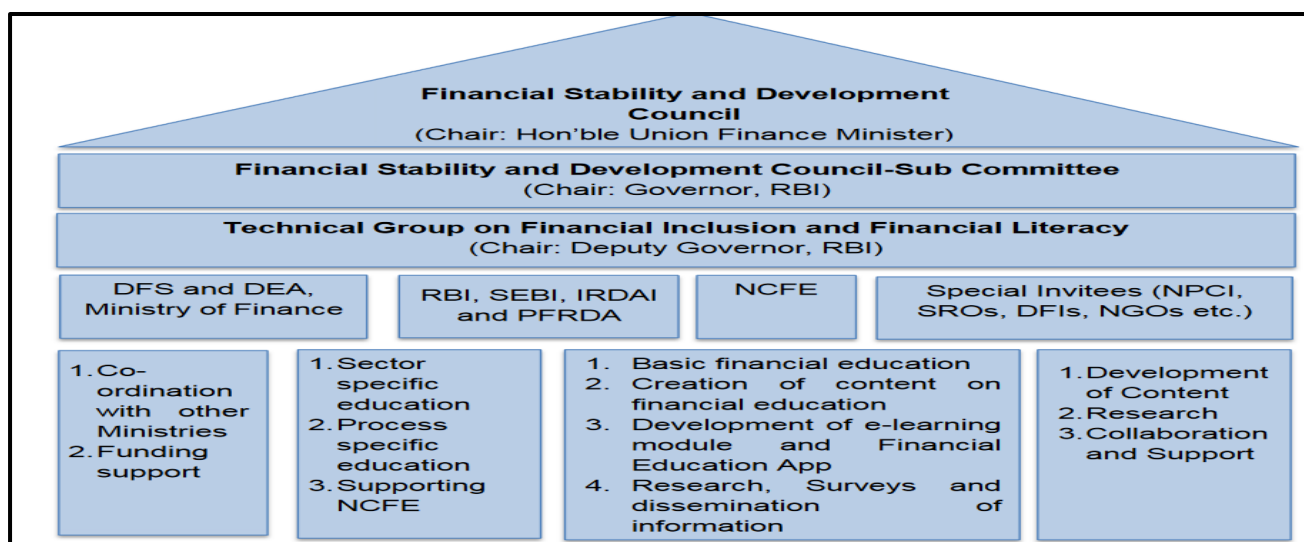
- Vostro and Nostro technically are the same type account. The difference is who opened the account and where.
- If an Indian bank, such as the SBI, wants to open a US account, it will contact a US bank. This bank will open a Nostro bank account and accept SBI payments in dollars.
- The account will be a Nostro account at the Indian bank. For the US bank it will be a Vostro account.
- Latin words Vostro and Nostro mean 'ours', while Vostro is 'yours'.

What was the inspiration for the Vostro accounts being created?

- Recently, the RBI created a mechanism for international trade in rupees to promote growth in global trade and exports of India in the rupee.
- According to which, for settlement of trade in rupees with any country,
- An Authorized Dealer Bank in India may open Special Rupee Vostro accounts for correspondent banks from the partner trading country.

Topic 23. SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE FINANCIAL STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Important for subject: Economy



The Sub-Committee on the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC-SC), members resolved to be vigilant and proactive in order to ensure financial markets and financial institutions remain resilient.

Financial Stability and Development Council

- It is a non-statutory advisory council, established by an Executive Order in 2010.
- It was established to deal with all aspects of macro-prudential financial regulation in India's entire financial sector.
- The Raghuram Rajan Committee (2008) focusing on reforms in the financial sector first suggested the creation of FSDC.

Composition for FSDC:

- Chairperson The Union Financial Minister of India.
- Members FSDC include Heads Financial Sector Regulators
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority
- Securities and Exchange Board of India

Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, (PFRDA).

- Additional members are Finance Secretary, Secretary of Department of Financial Services (DFS) and Chief Economic Advisor.
- The government re-constituted FSDC to include these Members
- Council: Minister of state responsible for the Department of Economic Affairs, (DEA),
- Secretary of Department of Electronics and Information Technology
- Chairperson of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India.

The Revenue Secretary.

- If necessary, experts can be invited to the Council's meetings.
- Objectives and Aims:
- To institutionalize and strengthen the mechanism for maintaining macroeconomic and financial stability.

- To improve inter-regulatory coordination, and to promote the development of the financial sector.
- It also emphasizes financial literacy and financial inclusion.
- Coordinating India's international interface to financial sector bodies like the Financial Action Task Force and Financial Stability Board.

Functions:

- To institutionalize and strengthen the mechanism to maintain financial stability by promoting financial sector growth and inter-regulatory coordination.
- Monitor macro-prudential supervision. It evaluates the performance of large financial conglomerates.

FSDC Subcommittee (FSDC–SC)

- A Sub-Committee (FSDC-SC) supports the FSDC, chaired and headed by the RBI governor.
- Except for the Chair of FSDC, the MoS (Finance) and the Chair, all members of FSDC are members of the Subcommittee.
- The sub-committee also includes all four RBI deputy governors (DG), and the secretary (FSDC).
- The Financial Stability Report acts as a communication tool for the central bank to limit instability by pointing out key risks and vulnerabilities that may have systemic consequences to policy makers, market participants, and the general public.
- It reflects a collective assessment by the Sub-Committee on the Financial Stability and Development Council on financial stability and resilience in the context contemporaneous issues relating development and regulation.
- Various technical groups/working groups under the aegis FSDC
- In September 2011, the Inter-Regulatory Technical Group was established for inter-regulatory coordination between financial sector regulators.
- In November 2011, the Technical Group on Financial Inclusion and Financial Literacy was established.
- Inter Regulatory Forum to monitor Financial Conglomerates (IRFFC) was established in August 2012.

- In June 2012, the FSDC Sub-Committee established the Early Warning Group.
- The Macro Financial Monitoring Group was established in May 2012. It meets regularly at DEA to discuss any emergent issues.

Topic 24. ISRO TO ATTEMPT 200TH LAUNCH OF RH 200

Important for subject: Science & technology

On Wednesday, the Indian Space Research Organization will launch the 200th consecutively successful Rohini RH200 sounding rocket from Thumba.

- RH-200, a two stage rocket capable climbing to a height 70 km carrying scientific payloads.
- The first & second stages are powered by solid motors.
- It stands 5 m tall and is used for atmospheric research by the ISRO.
- The name '200' refers to the rocket's diameter in millimeters.
- Other Rohini variants that are operational include RH300 MkII and HTML560 MkIII.
- The rocket has been used as a platform for experimentation and testing new technologies over the years.

Rohini

- Rohini is one of the sounding rockets that were developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). It's used for atmospheric and meteorological stud.
- These rockets can carry payloads of up to 200 kg at altitudes between 100 and 500 kms.

Sounding Rockets

- Sounding rockets are one- or two-stage solid propellant rockets that can be used to probe the upper atmosphere and for space exploration.
- Sounding rockets get their name from the nautical term "to hear," which is a reference to taking measurements.
- These are affordable platforms that can be used to test and prove prototypes for new components or subsystems designed for launch vehicles or satellites.
- ISRO was founded in 1965 with the launch of sounding rockets built by indigenous people.

- In 1967, the ISRO introduced its own version, Rohini RH 75 - which was launched in 1967.
- All sounding rocket activities fell under the Rohini Sounding Rockets (RSR) Program in 1975.
- The sounding rockets can be called Rohini, with RH 200 to 300 and RH 560 being most important.

Topic 25. DRAFT DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION BILL 2022

Important for subject: Science and Technology

The Ministry of Electronics and IT has released the draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill 2022.

Seven principles:

- Legal-Organisations must use personal data in a legal, fair and transparent manner. Purposeful limitation -Personal information must be only for the purposes for.
- It was Data minimisation - Bare Minimum and only the necessary data should ever be collected in order to fulfil a purpose.
- Data accuracy at the time collection.
- Storage -personal information that has been collected should not be stored "permanently by default" and should be kept for a specified period.
- Security - Ensuring that personal data is not collected or processed without authorization
- Accountability- The person responsible for the processing of personal information should be held accountable.

The bill key features

- Data Principal and Data Fiduciary
- "Data Principal" refers to the individual who is collecting data.
- Children - any user under 18 years old - will have their parents or legal guardians considered their "Data Principals."
- Data Fiduciary is an entity that decides what data will be processed. It can be an individual, a company, firm or state.

Data Collection & Processing

- Any data that can be used to identify an individual is called personal data. .
- Consent must be given by individuals before any data is processed. Each individual should have access to the personal data they are responsible for.
- Fiduciary would like to collect and the purpose for such collection and other processing.
- Processing refers to "the whole cycle of operations that can possibly be performed in relation to personal data."
- The bill guarantees that individuals should be able to "access basic info" in the languages specified in Schedule 8 of the Indian Constitution
- It is important that the notice of data collection be clear and understandable.
- Individuals have the right of withdrawing consent from Data Fiduciaries.

Significant Data Fiduciaries

- "Significant Data Fiduciaries" deals with large volumes of personal data.
- The Central government has designated based upon factors that include the volume of personal data processed, the risk of harm and the impact on India's sovereignty and integrity.
- To allow greater scrutiny of its practices, it must fulfill additional obligations.
- These entities will have to appoint a Data protection officer -point of contact for grievance resolution. They will also need to appoint an independent Data auditor who will evaluate their compliance with this act.

Rights

- Data principals will be able to request the correction and erasure of data collected from the data fiduciary.
- They will also be able to nominate an individual to exercise these rights in case of death or incapacitation of the data principal.
- In the event that they don't receive a satisfactory answer from the company, the bill gives consumers the right of filing a complaint against a Data Fiduciary with the Data Protection Board.

Cross-border data transfer

- The bill permits cross-border storage of and transfer of data to "certain countries and territories" after an assessment by the Central Government.

Financial penalties

- The Bill imposes severe penalties on businesses who are Important for subject to data breaches or fail notify users when they occur.
- Companies that fail to implement "reasonable security precautions" to protect personal data will face a Rs 250 crore fine

Exemptions

- On the basis of certain user numbers and personal data processed by an entity for national interests, the government could exempt some entities from the Bill's provisions.

Data Protection Board

- If a person is found not to be complying with the law, the government can create a new regulatory body.
- Data protection laws for other geographies:

EU MODEL-General Data Protection Regulation (or GDPR)

- The European Charter of Fundamental Rights recognizes the right of privacy and the right of protection of personal data. It is supported by a comprehensive data security framework
- The GDPR is focused on a comprehensive data protection law.
- Processing of personal data
- It covers all processing of personal data, regardless of its medium or purpose. This includes processing by government agencies and private companies. Some exceptions are made, such as for national security, defence, and public security.

US MODEL

- Privacy protection can be described as "liberty Protection" which is focused on protecting the individual's privacy from the government.
- It allows the collection of personal data, provided that the individual is aware of its use and consents to it.
- The US does not have a comprehensive set of privacy rights and principles that is comparable to the EU's GDPR.
- There is limited sector specific regulation. The approach to data protection for both the private and public sectors is different. It is sufficiently well-defined and addressed with broad legislation, such as the Privacy Act and the Electronic Communications Privacy Act.

CHINA MODEL- multiple laws

- The Personal Information Protection Law gives Chinese data principals new rights in order to prevent misuse of personal data.
- China's PIPL is compared to the EU's GDPR. It gives Chinese consumers access to their personal data gathered from businesses. However, it has a significant impact on offshore data processors.
- This law imposes severe penalties. Fines up to RMB 50,000,000 or 5% of the company's previous financial year's turnover are possible. Businesses could also be ordered to suspend operations until they comply.
- The Data Security Law requires that business data be classified by their importance and places new restrictions on cross-border transfer.
- Companies that misuse data under the DSL are Important for subject to severe penalties.

Topic 26. USFDA NOD FOR FIRST TREATMENT TO DELAY TYPE-1 DIABETES

Subject: Science and Technology



A Biologic therapy That Type1 Diabetes is delayed the approval was granted US Food and Drug Administration.

- It is the first treatment approved to prevent type 1 diabetes.
- The treatment- T zield
- Intravenous infusion is the only way to administer monoclonal antibody Teplizumab from Prevention Bio or Sanofi.
- The estimated cost of the therapy for a complete course is \$194,000
- Tzield is approved for use by people 8 or older who have reached stage 2 in their type diabetes.
- The treatment is offered in a single, 14-day course with infusions lasting 30 to 60 minutes each. Side effects of the treatment - Low white blood cells, lymphocytes, rash, and headache were the most common side effects.
- First option to prevent type 1
- Type 1 diabetes, also known as Juvenile Diabetes, is a condition in which the immune

system attacks beta cells of the pancreas, cells that make insulin. Insulin is a hormone that regulates blood sugar levels and helps them enter cells where they can use it for energy.

- An attack may occur years before symptoms of diabetes are apparent.
- Blood sugar without insulin can build up and cause muscle and fat to be broken down.
- It is more severe than type 2.
- type 2 diabetic can be avoided with lifestyle changes such as losing weight and exercising. type1, however, is a gene-related disease without any known prevention.
- Tzield prevents the symptoms from appearing by stopping the progression of the autoimmune disease and the destruction of beta cells.
- The treatment basically reboots the immune system and preserves beta cell function.
- Type-1 Diabetes is rare
- India has the highest percentage of type 1 diabetic children and adolescents, with 10lakh worldwide.
- 2.5 million people with type 1 diabetes live in India. 90,000.1 lakh to 1 lakh are under 14 years.
- Only 22% out of all diabetes cases in hospitals across the country are Type 1. However, this condition is becoming more common.

What factors can worsen the condition?

- Genetic Factors: This plays a major role in determining if a person will develop type-1 diabetes.
- Prevalence of certain Genes: This is strongly linked to the disease. Type 1 diabetics have a 30-40% prevalence rate of the genes DR3-DQ2 (and DR4-DQ8), compared to 2.4% for the general population.
- DQ2, DR4–DQ8 means that the patient is allowed to have celiac disorder.

Topic 27. COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMINOLOGY***Important for subject: Science & technology***

A website and an app created by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology to update technical terminology in Indian language languages, in line with the National Education Policy which encourages teaching in the mother tongue and in local languages.

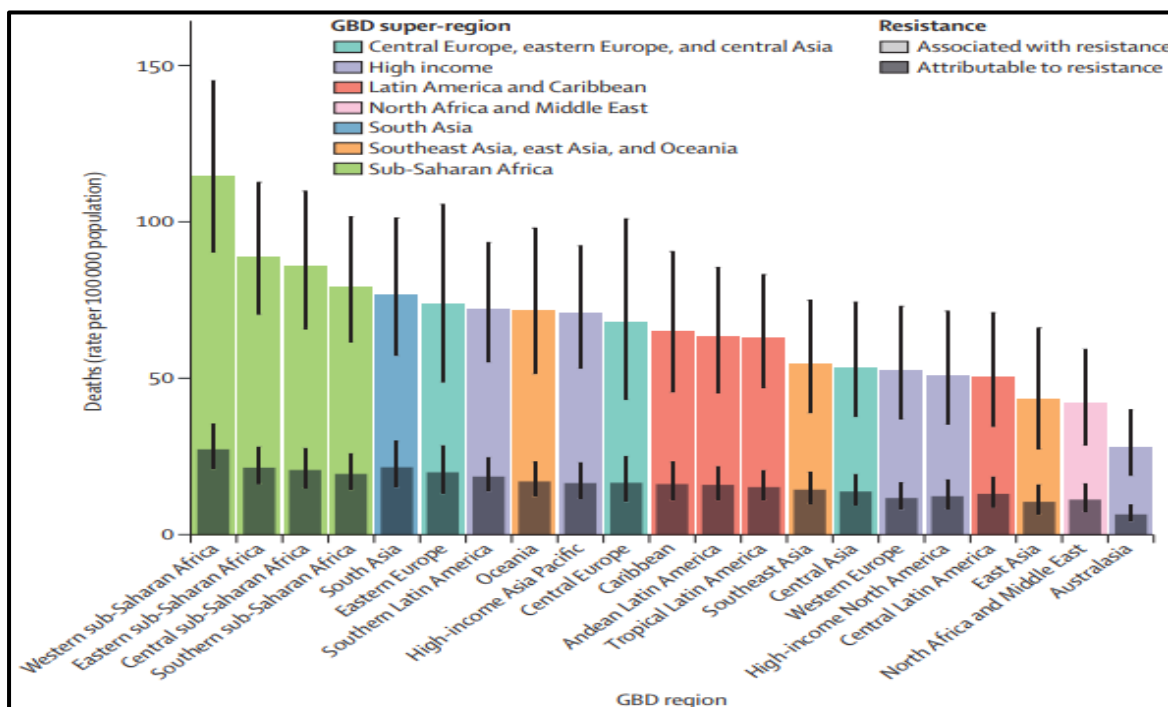
- Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology will soon launch Shabd Shala. This website is intended to solicit suggestions for translating words that have been added to the English language.
- Technical terms from disciplines like Linguistics, Public Policy, Finance, Agriculture and Engineering will also be available on the website -- shabd.education.gov.nic -- and will be launched as an app, too.
- The domain name for the website was registered. It is expected that it will be operational by the beginning of the next academic session.

Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT)

- CSTT was created by a Government of India resolution in December 1960 under provision Article 344(4) of the Constitution. CSTT currently functions under the Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education, Government of India, with its headquarters in New Delhi.
- It is our main goal to develop standard terminology and spread it widely.
- The commission has been mandated to work with State governments and universities, as well as regional textbook Boards and State 'Granth Academies, which are nodal entities responsible for providing translations of English textbooks into local languages for institutions of higher learning.
- Eighteen states were required to have Granth Academies.

Topic 28. BACTERIAL RESISTANCE TO ANTIBIOTICS CAUSES 1.27 MILLION DEATHS PER YEAR: WHO OFFICIAL

Important for subject: Science and Technology



According to Dr H Getahun (Director of Global Coordination and Partnership on Antimicrobial Resistance - World Health Organisation), Bacterial resistance directly causes 1.27Million annual deaths worldwide and indirectly contributes or is associated to an additional 4.95million deaths each year.

Antimicrobial resistance

- A 2017 World Bank Report states that antimicrobial resistant could lead to US\$1.2 trillion more in health care costs by 2050 and cause extreme poverty for up to 24millions more people, especially those living in low-income countries.
- Antimicrobial Resistance is when bacteria, viruses, and fungi change over time and cease to respond to medicine. This makes it more difficult to treat infections and increases the risk of severe illness and even death.
- Drug resistance renders antibiotics ineffective, making it more difficult or impossible for infections to be treated.
- Sometimes, microorganisms with antimicrobial resistance are called "superbugs".

- AMR has been identified by the World Health Organization as one of the top ten threats to global health.
- Researchers have estimated that AMR bacteria was responsible for 1.27 million deaths in 2019.

AMR India

- India is characterized by a large and growing population, rising incomes, easy access to antibiotics, high levels of infection, and ease-of-over-the-counter purchase.
- Counter access to antibiotics is an important locus to generate resistance genes. These genes are essential for bacteria to survive when exposed to antibiotics.
- The multi-drug resistance determinant, New Delhi Metallo-beta-lactamase-1 (NDM-1), emerged from this region to spread globally.
- Multi-drug resistant Typhoid from South Asia has also affected Africa, Europe, and other parts Asia.
- India more 56,000 deaths per year from sepsis
- Organisms that are resistant first-line antibiotics

Global Measures

- World Antimicrobial Awareness Week:
- WAAW has been held annually since 2015. It aims to raise awareness about antimicrobial resistance around the world and encourage best practices between the general public and health professionals to reduce the spread of drug-resistant infections.
- Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System, (GLASS),
- WHO created the GLASS in 2015 in order to fill knowledge gaps and inform strategies at all levels.
- GLASS was designed to gradually incorporate data from surveillance and monitoring of AMR in humans and antimicrobial use in the environment.

Topic 29. THE VIKRAM-S LAUNCH OPENS EXCITING POSSIBILITIES FOR SPACE EXPLORATION IN INDIA

Important for subject: Science and Technology

Friday marked a significant moment in the history of India's private space program when India's first -built rocket took off from Sriharikota's ISRO launch pad.

Mission Prarambh, and the Vikram S rocket

- Mission, 'Prarambh will see Vikram S carry three customer satellites on a sub-orbital flight.
- The Vikram S rocket, a single-stage suborbital launch vehicle that will transport three customer payloads, and help validate and test technologies in the Vikram space launch vehicles.
- This mission will allow the company to test its systems in space.
- Three Vikram rockets are being designed by the company. They will carry payloads of between 290 and 560 kilograms to sun synchronous orbits.
- India's PSLV, a reliable and trusted launch vehicle for India, can carry 1,750kg to an orbit of this magnitude. The new small satellite launch vehicle (designed to carry smaller commercial satellites) can carry 300 kg to a sun-synchronous orbit.

What's a sub-orbital orbital flight?

- Suborbital flight, similar to the ones taken by Jeff Bezos or Richard
- Branson, vehicles that travel slower than orbital velocity mean they are fast enough to reach outer space but slow enough to orbit the Earth.

Private participation within the Space sector

- According to industry data India is home to more than 350 space-related private companies, making it the fifth largest country in this sector after the USA, UK, Canada, and Germany.
- However, the country has a mere 3 percent share of the global space economy.
- This figure will be increased to 10% by 2030, according to the government.

Space sector start ups

- June 2020 approved participation by private players in all areas of space activity. Previously, they were only vendors or suppliers.
- To allow private companies to be independent, it also established the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre.
- Skyroot and Agnikul cosmos are start-ups within this sector.
- Agnikul Cosmos is a Chennai-based start-up and plans to launch a commercial version.
- Its rocket Agnibaan during the first quarter next year.
- The company tested-fired its first rocket motor last week from the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center in Thiruvananthapuram. This is unlike traditional engines that require thousands of components.
- Skyroot, Agnikool both promise innovation and cost efficiency.

Topic 30. THE WORLD'S COSTLIEST CLIMATE CHANGE DISASTER

Important for subject: Geography

Pakistan floods: The worst in the country's recent history

Pakistan saw 62% less than the normal March rainfall, and the warmest April before the monsoon season.

- These heat waves caused melting glaciers, which in turn led to rivers swelling.
- Extreme rain worsened the situation.
- More than 1,500 people were murdered, with millions of people being displaced and suffering from serious health problems like skin infections, malaria, and diarrhoea.
- The nation suffered total losses of \$30 billion.
- At COP27, Pakistan requested debt relief and compensation as part of "loss or damage" funds to aid disaster-stricken countries.

Hurricane Ian in America:

- The most expensive climate-induced catastrophe of the year
- Warm ocean waters from the Gulf of Mexico fuel Hurricane Ian towards the end of September. It was one of the strongest hurricanes to hit this country.

- 101 people lost their lives, and monetary damages were more than 100 billion.
- The escalation caused severe flooding, unrelenting rains, and strong winds in south western Florida.
- "La Nina" has created favourable conditions for hurricanes in North Atlantic over the last three years.

European droughts - Likely to be the 'worst in 500year'

- Europe was hit by two extreme heat waves in June, July.
- About 16,000 people died in heat waves.
- Many European regions experienced severe droughts as a result of the summer heat.
- The Water Levels in Europe's Biggest Rivers - Rhine and Po, Loire and Danube. Shrunk and dry conditions still prevail in different regions of the continent.
- Global Drought Observatory (GDO), a report from the European Commission's research arm, said that 47% of continent was in "warning" condition, while 17% remained alert.
- High temperatures and human-caused climate change have increased the probability of soil moisture droughts.
- North America, China and other parts of the Northern Hemisphere were also important for subject to extreme heat conditions in the summer 2022.

Spain and Portugal: The hottest climate in 1200 years

- Azores high is an atmospheric high-pressure system that causes dry air to descend on subtropical areas in the Northern Hemisphere during winter/spring seasons. It has the ability to block out wet weather outlets.
- It caused dry conditions in Iberian Peninsula in southwest Europe and the Mediterranean Region.
- Spain and Portugal faced the driest climate in 1,200year, together with wildfires.
- The climate crisis that caused the most common Azores highs could have only been responsible for these Azores highs. Humanity's carbon emissions are to blame.
- The region's rainfall is expected to fall by between 10-20% and 2100, which will severely impact food production.

India experienced almost daily natural disasters in 2022

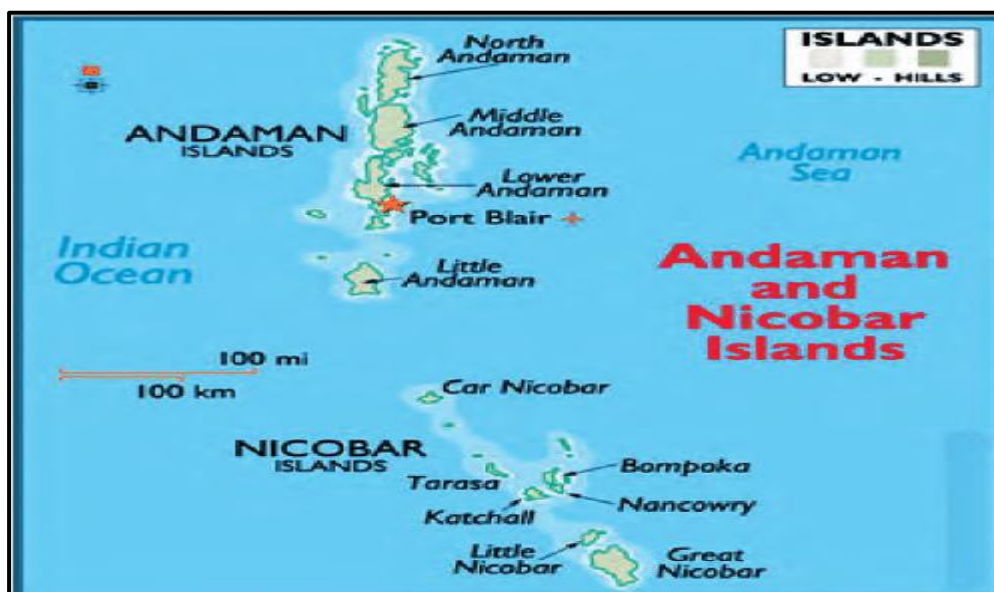
- A report from the Centre for Science and Environment India showed that extreme weather events occurred on 241 out of 273 days during the first nine month of the calendar year.
- These months saw thunderstorms, persistent rains and cyclones as well as droughts, heat waves and heat waves.
- The highest death toll was recorded in Himachal Pradesh (359), followed closely by Assam (359) and Madhya Pradesh (22).
- These disasters resulted in 2,755 deaths, 1.8 million ha of crop area was affected, over 416.667 houses were destroyed, and close to 70,000 animals were killed.

Australian bushfires 2019-20

- Nearly 11 months of fires afflicted 80% Australians, and killed or displaced more than 3 billion animals.
- Total Loss\$110 Billions
- Deaths:34

Topic 31. THE STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS OF DEVELOPING GREAT NICOBAR

Important for subject: Geography



The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change granted environmental clearance

last month for the ambitious development project worth Rs 72,000 crore on Great Nicobar Island.

- The project will be implemented in three stages over the next 30 years.
- This proposal includes
- In the 1970s, Great Nicobar was proposed for development.
- A green field with an International Container Transport Terminal (ICTT),
- An international airport with green field, A power plant
- The township will be used by the staff will carry out the project.
- The port is under the control of the Indian Navy,
- The airport will serve dual military-civilian purposes.
- Tourists are served by roads, public transport, water supply, waste management, and several hotels.
- Nearly 130 km of forests were approved for diversion. 9.64 million trees are expected to be felled.

Information about the Great Nicobar Island

- Location
- Great Nicobar is the southernmost of all the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It covers 910 km².
- A group of 836 islands, the eastern Bay of Bengal's Andaman and Nicobar Islands is home to the Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands.
- These two groups are separated by the 150-km-wide Ten Degree Channel.
- Indira Point, located at the southern tip on Great Nicobar Island, is India's most southern point. It lies less than 150 kilo meters from the northernmost island.
- Indonesian archipelago.

Biological diversity

- Great Nicobar is home to two national parks, Galathea National Park and Campbell Bay National Parks, and a biosphere preserve (Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve).
- There are 14 species of mammals on the island. There are also 71 species birds and 26 reptiles.

Tribals of the island and settlers

- There are the Shompen, Nicobarese tribe peoples and ex-servicemen from Punjab, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, who settled on the island in 2004.
- The Shompen hunter/gatherers that rely on forests and marine resources for their sustenance are the Shompen.
- After the 2004 tsunami, the majority of the Nicobarese who lived on the west coast of the island were relocated.
- A total of 237 Shompen, and 1,094 Nicobarese people now reside in a 751 km tribal reserve, some 84.1 sq km. It is being proposed to denotified.
- Around 8,000 people live on the island and are involved in farming, horticulture, fishing, and other activities.

Climate

- The Great Nicobar Island is home to tropical evergreen rainforests.
- The purpose and scope of the project
- Take advantage of the island's potential tourism.
- Profit from the geographical advantage of the island to your strategic and economic benefit.
- Great Nicobar lies between Colombo to its southwest and Port Klang to the southeast. It is also close to the East West international shipping corridor through which much of the world's trade passes.
- The ICTT could potentially be a hub for cargo ships travelling on this route.

The concerns are

- Infrastructural development in an ecologically fragile and important region. The felling almost a million trees
- Reduced tree cover will lead to more runoff and sediment deposits, which in turn will have an impact on the coral reefs.
- Mangroves are disappearing.
- India has moved a coral reef from Gulf of Mamnar to Gulf of Kutch.
- A conservation plan for the leatherback turtle is also in place.
- The project site is not within the eco-sensitive areas of Campbell Bay or Galathea

National Park.

Topic 32. INCOIS KEEPS AN EYE ON BARREN ISLAND VOLCANO

Important for subject: Geography

The Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre of the Andaman & Nick Islands (ITEWC), is closely monitoring the volcano on Barren Island to look for signs of an eruption that could cause a tsunami or a massive undersea landslide similar to what happened in Indonesia in 2018.

Volcano emitting smoke

- Although the volcano is located about 140km northeast of Port Blair, it has been producing smoke. It is not capable to cause major destruction, but it could trigger a tsunami.
- Track movements with early warning system
- The organisation has seven tide gauges located in the Indian Ocean. There is also a plan for a seismic sensor as well as a tide gauge to capture any underwater movement.
- Recent tsunamis, including one that struck Tonga in this year's earthquake, have highlighted the problem of tsunamis caused by non-earthquake source like submarine landslides or volcanic eruptions.

Tsunami

- The long wave series, Tsunamis, are very long wavelengths caused by large and sudden displacements of the oceans due to earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.
- These natural forces are often referred to as seismic waves. They are powerful and can be very destructive.
- Tsunamis can reach speeds of 800 kmph in deep seas and 30 kmph near shore. Wave heights range from less than one metre to nine meter when they reach shoreline.
- Although the December 2004 tsunami that devastated India has long been forgotten, ITEWC is still on high alert for unusual sea events and will continue to provide advance warnings to all 25 countries.
- Causes and Effects of Tsunami
 1. Earthquake
 2. Underwater explosion

3. Volcanic eruption
 4. Landslide
 5. Meteorite Impacts
 6. Tsunamigenic earthquake
- Scientists calculated that it would take more than 6.5 Richter scale magnitude for a tsunamigenic earthquake to strike the Indian coast. Travel time to the A&N islands is 20-30 minutes, and the mainland takes two to three hours.
 - It could be found off India's west coast at the Arabian Sea.
 - When an earthquake measuring more than 6.5 on Richter scale occurs in the Indian Ocean, or above 8 on Richter scale elsewhere, timely and accurate tsunami bulletins will be generated.

Topic 33. RABI CROPS

Important for subject: Geography

KHARIF	RABI	ZAID
Monsoon crop (High water requirement)	Winter crop	Summer crop
July - October	October - February	March - June
Rice, Maize, Jowar, Bajra, Soyabean, Cotton, Groundnut, Jute, Urad Dal, Moong Dal, Tur Dal	Wheat, Barley, Gram, Peas, Mustard	Watermelon, Muskmelon, Cucumber, Vegetables and Fodder crops
  	 	  

Total area increased by 7% with the addition of mustard and wheat to the coverage of rabi crops.

Details about rabi cropping:

- The target government has set for foodgrains production in 2022-23 (both Kharif and Rabi), which is almost 4% higher than the actual production of 2021-22.
- Wheat acreage has increased by 15% in November 2022 compared to the year-ago. Haryana is not included. It is also higher in all major wheat-growing States - Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

- Nearly 70% of the rabi food grains are made up of wheat
- In oilseeds-rapeseed acreage has increased by 14.7 percent
- The acreage of course and pulses has decreased.
- The area of winter-grown paddy has been increased to 11.5 percent
- The government has set a goal of producing 18.5 million tonnes of rice in the rabi season.
- The production of kharif rice is estimated at 104.99mt, against an 112mt target.

Major Cropping season Kharif Crops

- Kharif crops can also be called monsoon or autumn crops.
- Kharif crops are typically sown in the early rains of the south-west monsoon, and harvested at the end monsoon season (October to November).
- These crops depend on rainwater quantity and timing.
- The most important Kharif crop in India is rice.
- Other examples kharif crops include Jowar, Maize, Corn, Millet and Cotton.

Rabi Crops

- Rabi crops are agricultural crops that are sown in winter and harvested in the spring.
- Rabi crops are usually sown in mid-November, after the monsoon rains have ended, and harvested in April / May.
- Rainwater is used to water the crops or irrigation. Winter rains can cause damage to rabi crops, but it is beneficial for kharif crops.
- India's most important rabi crop is wheat.
- Other examples rabi crops include Oats, Pulses and Mustard, Linseed, Bajra, Bajra, Bajra, Bajra, Linseed, Linseed, Linseed, Linseed, Bajra, etc.

Zaid crops

- Zaid crops can be used as summer crops.
- They tend to grow over a long time, mainly between March and June.
- They need warm, dry weather for major growth and longer days to flower.
- Between the Rabi- and Kharif-crop seasons, Zaid is the Zaid crop season.
- These crops also mature earlier.

- Watermelon, cucumbers, muskmelon and vegetables are some of the crops that were grown during 'zaid.
- States - The majority of the north-western and northern states.
- Currents in Production:
- According to 2nd Advance Estimates the production of major crops is estimated at:
- Foodgrains-316.06Million Tons. (record)-
- The 2021-22 production is 25.35 Mt more than the five previous years' (2016-17 to 2020-21).
- Rice-127.93Million Tonnes. (record)
- It is 11.49 Mt higher than the average production of 116.2Million tonnes over the five previous years.
- Wheat-111.32Million Tonnes. (record)
- It is 7.44 million tonnes higher than the average wheat production of 103.88 millions tonnes.
- Nutri/ Coarse Cereals-49.86Million Tonnes- Higher by 3.28 Mt than the average production.
- Maize-32.42millions tonnes. (record)-
- Pulses -26.96millions tonnes. (record)- Higher by 3.14Million Tonnes than the average production of 23.82millions tonnes in the past five years.
- Gram - 13.12Million Tonnes. (record)
- Oil Seeds -37.15 Million tonnes- Higher by 4.46 MILLION tonnes than the average oil seed production.
- Mustard and Rapeseed -11.46 Million Tonnes. (record)
- Sugarcane 414.04Million Tonnes. (record)- Higher by 40.59 Mt than the average sugarcane output of 373.46Million tonnes.
- Cotton-34.06Million Bales (each 170 kg).
- Jute & Mesta -9.57Million Bales (each 180kg).

Topic 34. INDONESIA

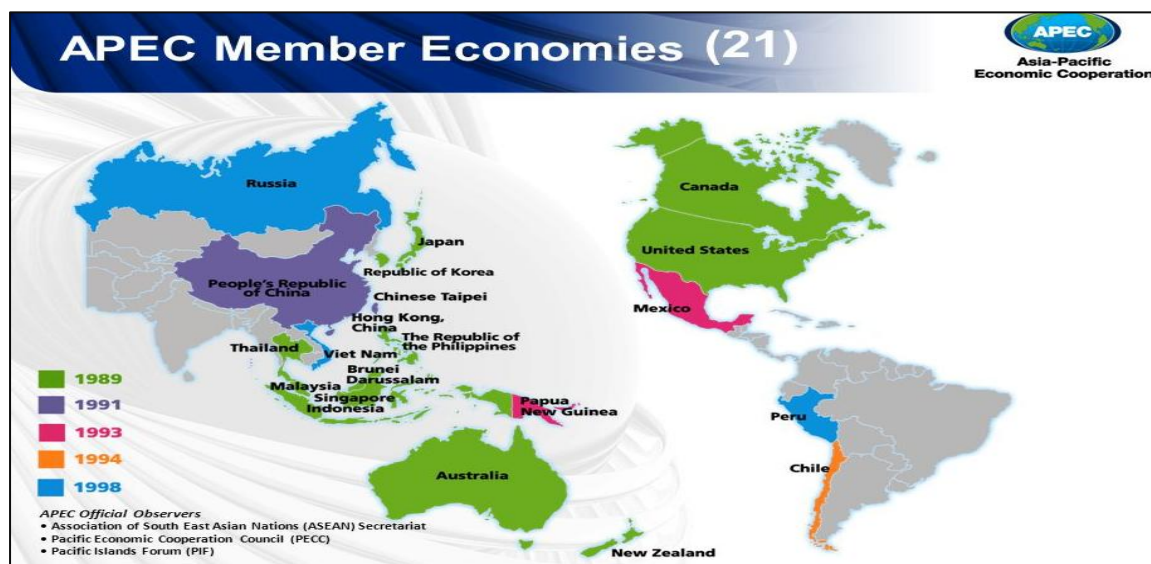
Important for subject: International Relation

The main island of Indonesia was struck by a powerful earthquake.

- Learn more about Indonesia:
- Indonesia is a country located in Southeast Asia, and Oceania between the Indian and Pacific Oceans.
- It is made up of more than 17,000 islands.
- Indonesia is the largest archipelagic country in the world and the 14th largest by area.
- The fourth most populous country in the world and the country with the largest Muslim-majority population is Indonesia.
- Java is the most populous island in the world. Houses more than half the country's inhabitants.
- The capital of the country, Jakarta is the second-most populous city in the world.
- Indonesia shares land boundaries with Papua New Guinea and East Timor, as well maritime border with Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand, Australia, Palau, and India.

Topic 35. ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC)

Important for subject: International Relations



While heading to Bangkok for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit, US Vice President Kamala Harris briefly spoke with Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

- APEC, an intergovernmental forum that brings together 21 Pacific Rim member economies to promote free trade in the Asia-Pacific region, is a forum for 21 countries.
- APEC was established in 1989. is a response to growing interdependence between Asia-Pacific economies.
- APEC member countries are home to over 2.9 billion people, and account for more than 60% of global GDP.
- More than 75% of Australia's total trade with APEC partners are done through APEC.
- APEC was created to promote a growing and prospering regional economy.
- The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2030, is the guiding document for APEC's activities. It is for an open, vibrant, resilient, peaceful and secure Asia-Pacific region by 2040. It will be possible by pursuing three economic factors: trade and investment innovation, and digitalisation that promotes strong, balanced and secure growth.
- APEC decisions can only be reached through consensus, and all commitments are made on a non-binding basis.
- APEC is accompanied by three official observers: the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Secretariat and the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council.
- Hosting APEC - Each year, a different member country hosts the major APEC gatherings. These are the future and current hosting economies.
- 2022 - Thailand
- 2023 - United States of America

APEC members

- Australia, Brunei. Canada. Chile. China. Hong Kong. Indonesia. Japan. South Korea. Malaysia. Mexico. Peru. Philippines. Russia. Singapore. Chinese Taipei. Thailand. Vietnam.
- India is not a member.

Topic 36. MOSCOW FORMAT CONSULTATIONS ON AFGHANISTAN

Important for subject: International Relations

India was present at the fourth Meeting of the Moscow Format Consultations about Afghanistan. It took place in Moscow on November 16.

- The meeting was attended by special envoys from Russia and high-ranking officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and China.
- Participants discussed Afghanistan issues during the meeting. These included the current humanitarian situation, ongoing efforts by various stakeholders to assist, intra-Afghan negotiations, formation of an inclusive government, counterterrorism efforts, and regional security.

Moscow Format:

- It was established in 2017 on the base of the six-party mechanism to consult special representatives from Russia Afghanistan, China Pakistan, Iran, Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan.
- The main purpose of the Moscow format meeting is to facilitate Afghan national reconciliation and ensure that Afghanistan has peace as soon as possible.
- This meeting features a group consisting of 10 countries, including India, China and Pakistan as well as the Central Asian republics with Taliban officials.

Topic 37. GOVERNMENT UNVEILS FRAMEWORK TO CURB FAKE REVIEWS ON E-COMMERCE SITE

Important for subject: Polity

Recently, the Central government unveiled the Indian Standard (IS 19000:2022) on Online Consumer Reviews and Ratings. It was prepared by the Bureau of Indian Standards.

What's the problem?

- All e-commerce platforms, travel and ticketing portals, and online food delivery platforms, will soon have to disclose all paid and sponsored reviews in order to combat fraudulent and deceptive product or service reviews.
- India will become the first country to receive the standard notification.

Learn more about the framework:

- The BIS now defines reviews as solicited or unsolicited, per the new standard.
- The review administrator is the person who handles the review within an organisation.
- Reviewers can now withdraw their reviews using the option in the new standard.
- The new standard will apply to independent third-party entities that post reviews on any online platform.
- The focus is sufficient disclosure, because online platforms must specify the time period during which the reviews were collected to ensure consumers aren't misled.
- All major players, such as Google and Meta, were represented in the committee that created the final standard. High compliance is to be expected since fake reviews can also harm the industry.
- Unfair trade practices are those that violate the BIS standard. Entities may be Important for subject to legal action under the Consumer Protection Act.
- The BIS will create a conformity assessment scheme for to certify websites that host such reviews. These certifications will be displayed on the websites for information to consumers.

What's The Bureau of Indian Standards?

- It is the National Standards Body of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India.
- Initially established as a society under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act 2016, the BIS became a statutory entity with its headquarters in New Delhi.
- It includes 25 members from the Central or State Governments, industry and scientific and research institutions, and consumer organizations.
- It can also be used as an Agreement to Technical Barriers Trade (TBT) inquiry point for India.
- The Agreement to Technical Barriers to Trade is an international treaty that is binding for all WTO members managed by the World Trade Organisation

Topic 38. ARMED FORCE TRIBUNAL

Important for subject: Polity

The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet approved 23 vacancies in the Armed Forces Tribunal.

What is Armed Force Tribunal?

- It is a Military Tribunal with the power to adjudicate or hear disputes and complaints relating to commissions, appointments, and conditions of service.
- It was created by the Armed Forces Tribunal Act 2007 in August 2009.

- The Principal Bench is located in New Delhi. The Armed Force Tribunal also has 10.
- Regional Benches, i.e. Regional Benches at Chandigarh Lucknow, Kolkata and
- Guwahati , Chennai, Kochi , Mumbai, Jabalpur , Srinagar, Srinagar, Jaipur

What is the Armed Force Tribunal's composition:

- The Tribunal includes both Administrative and Judicial members.
- Retired High Court Judges are the Judicial Members.
- Administrative members are retired Armed Forces Members who held the rank or equivalent of Major General/ equivalent for three years or more, or the Judge Advocate General with at least one year of experience.
- The chairperson of Armed Force Tribunal has to have been either a retired judge from the Supreme Court or an Retired

What is the power and jurisdiction of the Armed force tribunal?

- The Tribunal is empowered to hear appeals against any decision, finding, or sentence passed in a court-martial, or related matter.
- It can also give bail to an accused in military custody.
- The power of the Tribunal to replace the court findings may be available.
- You can remit the entire sentence or any part, with or without conditions.
- Reduce the punishment
- You can either reduce the punishment or increase the sentence imposed by a court martial.
- Armed Forces Tribunal has Original and Appellate Jurisdiction
- The Armed Forces Tribunal Procedure (Procedure) governs the operation of the Tribunal rules, 2008.
- All proceedings are conducted in English.
- The Tribunal follows the procedures used in High Courts.

What are the exceptions in relation to Armed Forces Tribunal?

- The tribunal does not have jurisdiction over paramilitary forces, such as the Coast Guard and Assam Rifles.
- Armed Forces Tribunal can be considered a criminal court in terms of the Indian

Penal Code or Code of Criminal Procedure.

- Only the Supreme Court can hear appeals against decisions of the Armed Forces Tribunal.
- High Courts cannot entertain appeals from.

Topic 39. WOMEN RECEIVE A PERMANENT COMMISSION.

Important for subject: Polity

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court directed the Centre of Indian Air Force and the Centre to grant Permanent Commission to 32 women who served as Short Service Commission officers. This was based on their suitability for the purpose to provide them with pensionary benefits.

What's the problem?

- In exercise of its power under Article 142, the Supreme Court directed the Indian Air Force to consider 32 women Short Service Commission Officers during the current batch of appeals. They were then released from service.
- December 2006, and were not eligible for the grant of Permanent Commission for Grant of One-Time Pensionary Benefits, as they have served 20 years.
- According to the logic of the Apex Court's judgment in Secretary, Ministry of Defence against Babita Poonia, the relief was granted.
- The IAF will grant permanent commission to female officers if they are found eligible. They will then be entitled for one-time pensionary benefit starting at the date when they have completed 20 years of service.

What is a Permanent Commission?

- Permanent Commission is a career in the military that lasts until retirement.
- Permanent Commission, Entry is via National Defence Academy (NDA), Pune and Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun.
- Short Service Commission lasts for 10 years. You can opt for Permanent Commission or leave after 10 years.
- An officer who doesn't have a Permanent Commission can opt for a four year extension.

Entry of Women in Armed Forces

- Induction of women into officer cadre was done by the Officers Training Academy in 1992.
- They were commissioned for five years in selected streams like Army Education Corps and Corps of Signals, Intelligence Corps and Corps of Engineers.
- Women Special Entry Scheme (WSES) recruits had a shorter training period before being commissioned than their male counterparts under the Short Service Commission.
- The WSES scheme was replaced by the SSC scheme in 2006. This scheme was extended to women officers. They were appointed for a 10-year period, which could be extended up to 14 years.
- Officers who were serving in the WSES had the choice of moving to the SSC scheme or continuing under the WSES.
- However, they were limited to roles in streams that were exempted combat arms, such as infantry or armoured corps.

What was the earlier Supreme Court verdict?

- The landmark verdict of February 17, 2020 saw the highest court order that Army women officers be given permanent commission. This was in response to Centre's position on their "physiological limits" were based on "sex stereotypes and gender discrimination against females".
- The Supreme Court ordered that all SSC women officers in service be considered for permanent commission within three months, regardless of whether they have completed 14 years of 20 years.

Topic 40. PATAN PATOLA

Important for subject: Art and Culture

Recently, PM Narendra Modi gave 'Patan Patola Dupata' to the Italian PM Giorgia Meloni.

What's Patan Patola?

- The ancient art of double ikat , or Patola, woven in pure Silk, dates back to the 11th Century. Patola fabrics have an equal colour intensity and design both sides.
- This unique quality is a result of a complicated and hard technique of dyeing or knitting, also known as 'bandhani,' on the warp, weft, and before weaving.
- The Salvi family, North Gujarat is one of the most prominent practitioners of this dying art form.
- A Patola saree made in Patan weave costs Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 6 lakh.

What's the weaving process?

- Patola is made using primitive, hand-operated harness machines made out of bamboo strips.
- The loom is located on a slant.
- Rajkot Patola is another popular Patola that's woven on a flat-loom.
- The weaving uses warp and weft threads of silk that are tied with cotton thread at designated areas.
- This is the tied section that remains unexposed to dyes while being dyed. The next step is to tie, untie, and redye different shades.

PIONEER ACADEMY

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THANE



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Chendani, Thane (W) - 400 601
Mob : 75060 10635

DADAR



DADAR Address :
306/7/8, 3rd Flr., Blue Pearl Society, Senapati Bapat Road, Plot No. 14, Near
Janata Cloth Market, Near Dadar Railway Station, Dadar (W), Mumbai - 400 028
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ANDHERI



ANDHERI Address :
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Better Home Hotel, Opp. Andheri (E) - 400 601
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KALYAN



KALYAN Address :
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Kalyan (W) - 421 301
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PIMPRI-CHINCHWAD



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