

#SAMPANN (System for Accounting and Management of Pension) Project

-It was launched in 2018. It is a seamless online pension processing and payment system for Department of Telecommunications pensioners.

-It provides direct credit of pension into the bank accounts of pensioners.

-It is an ambitious project being implemented by the Ministry of Communications.

-It has helped the Department in faster settlement of pension cases, improved reconciliation/auditing and ease of accounting.

IUCN declares 36 species as extinct in 2020

✓ 15 freshwater fish species endemic to Lake Lanao and its outlet in the Philippines

✓ Three Central American frog species

✓ Lost Shark (listed as critically endangered / possibly extinct)

✓ Three Macadamia species of protea (a genus of South African flowering plants) family

✓ Nine Asian oak species.

✓ All five freshwater dolphins species — Ganga, Amazon, Indus, Irrawaddy and Tucuxi

#prelims

#species

☀ CROPPING PATTERNS

✓ Cropping pattern refers to the yearly sequence and spatial arrangements of crops and fallow on a given area. The cropping pattern used on a farm along with its interactions with farm resources, other farm enterprises, and available technology determine their makeup.

1. Multiple cropping: Growing more than two crops in a piece of land in a year in an orderly succession.
2. Double cropping: Growing two crops in a piece of land in a year in sequence.
3. Monoculture: Repetitive growing of the same sole crop in the same land.
4. Sequential cropping: Growing two or more crops in a sequence on the same field in a year

where succeeding crop is planted after the preceding crop has been harvested.

5. Relay cropping: Sowing of the next crop immediately before the harvest of the standing crops.

6. Ratoon cropping: Raising a crop with regrowth coming out of roots of the harvested crops.

7. Intercropping: Growing two or more crops simultaneously with distinct row arrangement on the same field at the same time.

◆ Alley cropping is a variant of intercropping in which food crops are grown in alleys formed by hedge rows of trees or shrubs.

◆ Relay intercropping refers to growing two sets of inter-crops one after another.

◆ Intercropping offers several advantages like:

1. Suppression of weeds.

2. Reduction in the incidence of pests and diseases.

3. Improvement of soil health due to better use of growth resources like light, nutrients, and water.

4. Yield stability is achieved and even if one crop fails due to unforeseen situations, another crop will yield and provide secure income. Also, intercropping gives higher yield and cropping intensity.

8. Mixed cropping: Growing two or more crops simultaneously intermingled without row arrangement. The main objective of mixed cropping is insurance against crop failure, and it is a type of subsistence farming.

#revision_notes

#agriculture

#prelims

☀️ GOOD GOVERNANCE INDEX 2021

✓ Why in news: Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation, Mr Amit Shah released the Good Governance Index 2021 prepared by DARPG on Good Governance Day.

✔ Good Governance Index, GGI 2021 Framework covered ten sectors and 58 indicators.

✔ The sectors of GGI 2020-21 are

- 1) Agriculture and Allied Sectors,
- 2) Commerce & Industries,
- 3) Human Resource Development,
- 4) Public Health,
- 5.) Public Infrastructure & Utilities,
- 6) Economic Governance,
- 7) Social Welfare & Development,
- 8) Judicial & Public Security,
- 9) Environment, and
- 10) Citizen-Centric Governance.

✔ The GGI 2020-21 categorises States and UTs into four categories, i.e.,

- (i) Other States – Group A;
- (ii) Other States – Group B;
- (iii) North-East and Hill States; and
- (iv) Union Territories.

✔ Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa top the composite rank score covering 10 sectors.

✔ Rajasthan has topped the Other States (Group B) category in Judiciary and Public Safety, Environment & Citizen Centric Governance.

✔ In the North-East and Hill States category, Mizoram and Jammu and Kashmir have registered an overall increase of 10.4% and 3.7% respectively over GGI

✔ In the Union Territories category, Delhi tops the composite rank registering a 14 percent increase over the GGI 2019 indicators.

#polity

#prelims

#ENVIRONMENT

■ Mekedatu Issue-

✓ Tamil Nadu takes advantage of every occasion to state its views on the Mekedatu project.

✓ The state government has been fighting the project along its border with Karnataka, even going so far as to petition the Supreme Court to protect its rights over the Cauvery waters.

✓ Karnataka, on the other hand, is adamant that the project would help them tackle Bengaluru's water problems.

✓ The Opposition Congress party in Karnataka is also gaining traction by starting on a 90-kilometer padayatra to drum up support for the development of the Mekedatu reservoir in Ramanagara district.

● Why the Delay?

✓ Tamil Nadu has criticized Karnataka's plan to create a reservoir at Mekedatu on the Cauvery River.

✓ Karnataka's plan to use 4.75 tmc as drinking water from a reservoir with a storage capacity of 67tmc feet is "unacceptable" to the state.

✓ The Karnataka government, on the other hand, has stated that there is no "compromise" on the Mekedatu project and that the state intends to proceed with it.

● Water sharing between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu:

✓ The water flowing downstream of the Kabini River, the catchment regions of the Krishnarajasagar reservoir, the sub-basins of the Shimshal, Arkavathi, and Suvarnavathi rivers, and the water from lesser rivers are just a few examples.

✓ Second, water from the Kabini dam is discharged.

✓ Water discharged from the Krishnarajasagar dam is the third source.

✓ Water is provided to TN from the second and third sources, which are under Karnataka's authority, only after adequate water has been stored for their usage.

✓ Since there is no dam at the initial point of entry, water from these locations has been freely

flowing into Tennessee.

✓ However, the state government of Tamil Nadu now believes that Karnataka is ""conspiring"" to block this source as well, via the Mekedatu dam.

✓ The Mekedatu zone was the last uncontrolled place where Cauvery water from upstream Karnataka flowed into the downstream state of TN.

● What Can be done?

✓ The initiative, according to the Centre, needed the consent of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA).

✓ Karnataka's Detail Project Report (DPR) was brought before the CWMA multiple times for approval, but owing to a lack of unanimity among party states Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, no debate on the topic could take place.

✓ Acceptance of the CWMA would also be a need for the Jal Shakti Ministry to examine the DPR, according to the final judgment of the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal, which was amended by the Supreme Court.

✓ Since the project would cross an interstate river, consent from the lower riparian state(s) was necessary under the interstate water dispute act.

● Mekedatu Project:

✓ Mekedatu is a project with several purposes (drinking and electricity generation).

✓ It entails the construction of a balancing reservoir at Kanakapura in Karnataka's Ramanagara district.

✓ Once finished, the project would provide drinking water to Bengaluru and surrounding regions (4.75 TMC) as well as produce 400 MW of electricity.

✓ The project is expected to cost Rs 9,000 crore.

● Reason for Tamilnadu's Opposition:

✓ The CWDT and the SC decided that current storage facilities in the Cauvery basin were adequate for storing and distributing water. hence Karnataka's plan is ex-facie (on the surface) unworkable and should be rejected outright, according to the report.

✓ It has also been determined that the reservoir is being built not merely for drinking water, but also to expand agriculture, which is clearly in contravention of the Cauvery Water Disputes

Award.

● Award by the tribunal and supreme court:

✓✓The tribunal was established in 1990 and issued its final decision in 2007, awarding 419 million cubic feet of water to Tamil Nadu, 270 million cubic feet to Karnataka, 30 million cubic feet to Kerala, and 7 million cubic feet to Puducherry.

✓✓The revised allotment for Tamil Nadu was 404.25 tmcft, but Karnataka's portion was increased to 284.75 tmcft. Kerala's and Puducherry's shares remained unchanged.

SOURCE - THE HINDU

National Population Register (NPR)

The first phase of the census and collection of details to update the National Population Register (NPR) have been postponed till further notice.

Here's the detailed information about it.