

LATE CITY, 22 PAGES, MUMBAI ₹5.00 • FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018 • WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM • REG. NO. MC/S/06/72018 - 20
DAILY FROM: AHMEDABAD, CHANDIGARH, DELHI, JAIPUR, KOLKATA, LUCKNOW, MUMBAI, NAGPUR, PUNE, VADODARA

The Indian EXPRESS

mint

HINDU

THE

ANALOG IAS INSTITUTE

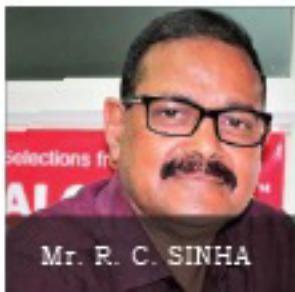
सांस्किक्षा

Comprehensive **NEWS** Analysis

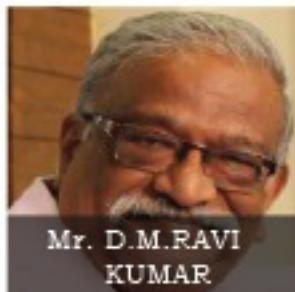
14-01-2019
To
20-01-2019
JANUARY
Week - 03

OUR TEAM

GENERAL STUDIES



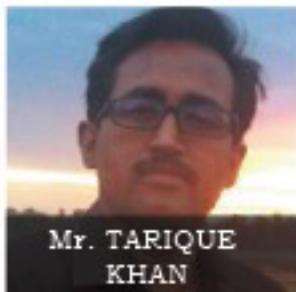
Mr. R. C. SINHA



Mr. D.M.RAVI KUMAR



Mr. SAROJ SAMAL



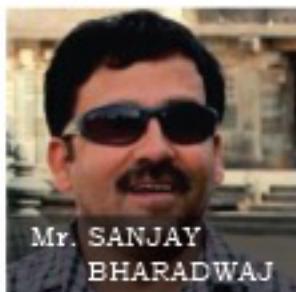
Mr. TARIQUE KHAN



Mr. PRIYESH SINGH SENGAR



Mr. SATYANARAYANA



Mr. SANJAY BHARADWAJ



Dr. ATUL TRIPATHI

Mr. KOUSHIK

Mr. PRANAY AGARWAL

Mr. CHETAN PRAKASH

Mr. NIHIL SAREEN

Mr. RAVI TEJA

Mr. UDAY SIMHA

Mr. SIVA KUMAR

Mr. VIJAY

OPTIONALS



SOCIOLOGY

Mr. SAROJ SAMAL

Public Administration



Mr. R.C. SINHA



Mr. D.M.RAVI KUMAR



MATHEMATICS

Mr. VINNAKOTA SRIKANTH



GEOGRAPHY

Mr. PRIYESH SINGH SENGAR

OTHER OPTIONALS

ANTHROPOLOGY

POLITICAL SCIENCE

TELUGU LITERATURE

HISTORY

Contents

Topic	Page No
Polity and Governance	1 - 18
1. Explained: Why Bengal has withdrawn from Centre's flagship health scheme PMJAY	
2. It is not a nod for Mekedatu: Centre	
3. 36 years after law, girls still forced into devadasi custom	
4. Waterway projects to boost N-E connectivity	
5. Centre to award UDAN-III routes soon	
6. Helping build urban houses faster, cheaper	
7. From July, quota in higher education across all private institutions: Govt	
8. The collegium system isn't foolproof	
9. The Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018:	
10. Facebook to tighten political ad rules for 2019 elections	
11. Elderly Rights	
International Relations	19 - 23
12. India seeks better flight connectivity with Central Asia	
13. India for Afghan-led peace talks	
14. Brexit: Uk parliament rejected Brexit deal, May wins no-confidence vote	
Economy	24 - 32
15. GST will improve our competitiveness	
16. Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), 2018	
17. Universal Basic Income	
18. A million migrations: Journeys in search of jobs	
Geography and Environment	33 - 38
19. Panel pulls up government for diverting coal cess	
20. Global Risks Report 2019	
21. Food production needs to be more eco-friendly	

22. Water desalination plants harm environment: UN

Science and Technology

39 - 42

23. The business case for 5G

24. UNNATI Programme

25. ISRO developing technology to reuse first & second stages of rocket

26. Antarctica ice melting increased by 280% in last 16 years, says study

Miscellaneous

43 - 44

27. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

28. Deocha Pachami

29. Govt names winners of Gandhi Peace Prize

30. Cut red meat, sugar by 50%: Lancet's diet plan for the world

Polity and Governance

1. Explained: Why Bengal has withdrawn from Centre's flagship health scheme PMJAY

Why in news?

Bengal has withdrawn from Centre's flagship health scheme Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojna (PMJAY)

Important Facts:

West Bengal has withdrawn from flagship programme PMJAY, joining 3 other states.

Why has West Bengal exited?

- **Branding Dispute** – The letter sent to beneficiaries has photos of Prime Minister; the West Bengal government feels that given the 60:40 partnership in the scheme, the state government should get similar space on documents.
- **Name of the scheme** – West Bengal government wanted to call the scheme Jan Arogya Yojana rather than Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- **Beneficiaries issues** – Kolkata being the preferred destination for many people from the Northeast and from states such as Bihar, it fear it could impact more people than just the beneficiaries in West Bengal.

Why have three other states stayed out?

- **Odisha** – Government announced the launch of Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) about 40 days before the launch of PMJAY. BSKY aimed to provide insurance cover up to Rs 5 lakh per eligible family and Rs 7 lakh for treatment of female members.
- **Delhi** – Government of NCT of Delhi has approved Mukhyamantri Aam Aad(m)i Swasthya Bima Yojana Ayushman Bharat for implementation in Delhi.
- **Telangana** – Telangana already has one of the oldest functioning tertiary care health schemes in the country. A community health insurance scheme, Arogyashri provides financial protection to families living below the poverty line up to Rs 2 lakh in a year for the treatment of serious ailments requiring hospitalization and surgery

Additional Facts:

- **West Bengal's Swasthyasathi scheme** – Launched in 2016 provides a basic health cover for secondary and tertiary care up to Rs 5 lakh per annum per family, the same as PMJAY

2. It is not a nod for Mekedatu: Centre

Why in news?

Centre has given conditional clearance to Karnataka for preparing a detailed project report (DPR) on Mekedatu balancing reservoir-cum-drinking water project.

Important Facts:

- According to Government, the conditional clearance is only meant for preparing the detailed project report and it no way conveys clearance by the Government for construction of the project.
- Nod of the Cauvery Water Management Authority would be a “prerequisite” for consideration of the DPR for techno-economic approval by the advisory committee of the ministry.
- As far as Mekedatu project was concerned, the conditional clearance for preparation of DPR was subject to project authority (Karnataka) resolving inter-state matters amicably by due consultation with co-Basin States of Cauvery basin.

What is the Mekedatu project?

- Mekedatu, is a deep gorge situated at the confluence of the rivers Cauvery and Arkavathi, about 100 km from Bengaluru, at the Kanakapura taluk in Karnataka's Ramanagara district.
- In 2013, then Karnataka announced the construction of a multi-purpose balancing reservoir project over the Mekedatu with aims to alleviate the drinking water problems of Bengaluru and Ramanagara district. It is also expected to generate hydro-electricity to meet the power needs of the state.

Why does Tamil Nadu object?

- Soon after the project was announced in 2013, then Tamil Nadu Government raised the objection over dam because it will affect the natural flow of the river Cauvery considerably and will severely affect the irrigation in Tamil Nadu.
- Tamil Nadu stated that the construction of a reservoir would be against the principles of federalism because in a federal structure, no upper riparian State can unilaterally interfere with the natural flow of an inter State river without the consent and concurrence of the lower riparian State.
- Tamil Nadu's stand was that the project would not only impede the water available to farmers in the state but it would also go against the mandate that the total quantity of water must be for consumptive use, as prescribed by the Tribunal.

Recent Development:

- In December 2018: Tamil Nadu moves contempt petition in the Supreme Court against the CWC, Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Limited for ‘willful disobedience’ of the SC order on Cauvery water sharing.

- Tamil Nadu Assembly also passes unanimous resolution seeking to stop Karnataka's plans to construct the Mekedatu dam and calling for Central intervention in the matter.

3. 36 years after law, girls still forced into devadasi custom

Why in news?

- More than thirty-six years after the Karnataka Devadasis (Prohibition of Dedication) Act of 1982 was passed, the State government is yet to issue the rules for administering the law.
- Meanwhile the practice of dedicating young girls to temples as an offering to appease the gods persists not just in Karnataka, but has also spread to neighbouring **Goa**.

Devadasi System –

Devadasi system is a religious practice in parts of southern India, including Andhra Pradesh, whereby parents marry a daughter to a deity or a temple. The marriage usually occurs before the girl reaches puberty and requires the girl to become a prostitute for upper-caste community members. Such girls are known as jogini. They are forbidden to enter into a real marriage.

Reasons for its prevalence in India:

- **Social Factors:**
 - Special children, with physical or mental disabilities, are more vulnerable.
 - Girls from Socio-economically marginalized communities are forced into the commercial sex rackets through Devadasi system.
 - No facilities are there for counselling as well as provision of proper medical care for the victims.
 - There has also been no awareness programmes on HIV/STD prevention in areas which practice devadasi system.

Issues with Legal Framework

- Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act 2012, and Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act of 2015 does not recognize this practice as a form of sexual exploitation of children.
- Proposed Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill 2018, also do not recognise these dedicated girls as victims of trafficking for sexual purposes.
- Children are also not explicitly recognised as children in need of care and protection under JJ Act.
- No framework for rehabilitation and state's failure to enhance the livelihood of weaker section of society are also responsible.
- Low reporting of cases has been one of the reasons behind its prevalence in Karnataka (only four cases filed between 2011 and 2017).

Recommendation towards curbing the social evil of devadasi system:

- Since members of this community belong to low caste, Government should come up with alternative income generation programmes which the devadasis can take up and support themselves.
- Frequent anti-dedication campaigns and rallies should be arranged in the area where the practice is popular.
- Legal action within the purview of the Karnataka Devadasi (Prohibition of Dedication) Act, 1982 and Suppression of Immoral Traffic on Women Act, 1935 should be strictly enforced.
- It is necessary that rehabilitation and correctional centers be located in rural areas where the practice is prevalent with a high rate.
- There is a long felt need to conduct a systematic survey covering the whole state of Karnataka to ascertain the exact population of devadasis in Karnataka

4. Waterway projects to boost N-E connectivity

Why in news?

The Centre is working on developing a network of waterway projects in the North-East and neighbouring countries like Bangladesh to enhance connectivity to the region as part of its Act East policy.

Important facts

Current scenario of connectivity in North-East

The north-eastern states of India are dependent on a narrow stretch of about 22-kilometre land (popularly known as the Chicken neck) in West Bengal's Siliguri for connectivity to the rest of India

Proposed International Waterway Projects

India and Bangladesh:

- 309-kilometre Ashuganj-Zakiganj stretch of the Kushiyara River
- 146-kilometre Sirajganj-Daikhowa of Jamuna River

Note: India-Bangladesh Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade (PIWTT), renewed in 2015 allows Indian and Bangladeshi vessels to use identified waterways in the two countries. The protocol is an agreement between the two governments for the transportation of goods and keeping their respective waterways navigable while providing infrastructure facilities

India and Myanmar: Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project: It connects Kolkata to Sittwe port by sea from there to Paletwa through river Kaladan and finally to Zorinpui at Mizoram border by road.

Significance of the Projects

1. Proposed Sirajganj-Daikhowa waterway will facilitate connectivity between National Waterway-1 (the Ganga) and National Waterway-2 (the Brahmaputra)

2. It will also enable movement of larger vessels from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh to Assam's Sadiya, via Bangladesh.
3. Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project is expected to contribute to North-East's economic development by opening up the sea route to it.
4. The Kaladan project will also reduce pressure on the Siliguri Corridor

5. Centre to award UDAN-III routes soon

Why in news?

The Union Ministry of Civil Aviation will award new regional connectivity routes under UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagarik) III

Important facts

UDAN and Its Phases

1. UDAN scheme was launched in 2016 to make air travel affordable through subsidised tickets and to provide access to smaller towns.
2. It aims to connect major cities with tier-II and tier-III cities at a price of Rs 2,500 per one-hour flight.
3. In its first phase in 2017, 5 airlines were mandated to fly on 128 regional routes
4. In the second phase in 2018 15 airlines on 325 regional routes including those having chopper operations were mandated.
5. The third round of bidding under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN for domestic routes concluded recently and 15 airlines had bid for a total 111 routes.

Setback to the scheme: Air Odisha and Air Deccan despite getting regional connectivity routes, could not launch many flights due to lack of resources. This has been a major setback for the scheme.

Vision 2040:

1. The government is also set to launch a Vision 2040 for the aviation sector. Vision 2040 is an effort to formulate a clear strategy for India's growth in the aviation sector.
2. The policy will focus on manufacturing aircraft in India, on technology, finance and areas of growth in order to leverage the most from the aviation sector

6. Helping build urban houses faster, cheaper

Why in news?

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs recently launched the Global Housing Technology Challenge, an initiative under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban (PMAY-U)

Global Housing Technology Challenge

1. The aims of the initiative is to introduce best technologies to fast-track the construction of affordable housing and meet the target of constructing 1.2 crore houses by 2022.
2. The challenge has been conceptualized to enable the paradigm shift required in the construction sector in India. The paradigm shift encompasses use of alternative, innovative and fast-track technologies which aims at:
 - conservation of natural resources;
 - bringing speed in construction;
 - utilization of industrial and construction demolition waste;
 - reduction in air and noise pollution;
 - optimum use of water;
 - increased labour productivity;
 - cost reduction;
 - safe and disaster resilient houses;
 - all weather site execution
3. The Challenge has **3 components:**
 - i) Conduct of Grand Expo-cum-Conference where stakeholders will showcase their best technologies to construct houses
 - ii) Identifying Proven Demonstrable Technologies from across the world
 - iii) Promoting Potential Technologies through setting up incubation centres at selected IITs and organizing accelerator workshops under the Affordable Sustainable Housing Accelerators- India (ASHA-India) Program.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban (PMAY-U)

1. It aims to construct 1.2 crore houses and ensure “Housing for All by 2022” by providing financial assistance to the beneficiaries.
2. The PMAY-U mission has four components
 - In-situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR),
 - Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP),
 - Beneficiary-led Individual house construction or Enhancement (BLC),
 - Credit-Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS).

7. From July, quota in higher education across all private institutions: Govt

Why in news?

Ministry of Human Resources proposed 10% upper caste quota and increase around 25 percent seats in higher educational institutions and universities across the country.

Important Facts:

- The quota will be applicable to all higher education institutions – private and government
- 25 percent seats will ensure that the reservation does not disturb the existing quota for SC, ST and other categories.
- According to HRD Ministry, the existing quota for the SC/ST and OBC will not be affected by the implementation of the new quota bill.
- Institutions run by the Centre will have to increase their student strength by almost 25 per cent in order to accommodate the EWS reservation.
- Currently, it is not mandatory under a central law to provide reservation to students in Private institutions.
- All states except, Rajasthan and West Bengal made it mandatory to provide reservation to SC/ST and OBC candidates in technical institutes and colleges
- To provide mandatory reservation in Private institution, the central and state government will have to pass a law.
- Minority educational institutions will not be bound to reserve seats for the economically backward

Constitutional Obligation:

- The Constitution (124 Amendment) Bill, 2019, provides for reservation for economically weaker section of the society in higher educational institutions, whether aided or unaided by the state other than the minority educational institutions referred to in Article 30 of the Constitution

Implications:

- The bill may open the avenues for caste based reservation in private institutions and colleges.
- Without the federal funding structure, the Private institution argues that the mandatory reservation will harm their profit.

8. The collegium system isn't foolproof

Context:

Recently SC recommended names of two judges to the government, for appointment as Supreme Court judges, by superseding three senior judges of Delhi High Court. The recommendation raises several doubts about the validity of collegium system as:

- Two judges whose names have been superseded were recommended by collegium in December, 2018.
- One of the judges recommended now, Justice Maheshwari, was earlier overlooked by the collegium in October 2018, hence bringing arbitrariness in decision making.

- The supersession is done without any valid reasons and is termed arbitrary and whimsical because all of the three proposed to be superseded are fine judges and neither lack integrity nor judicial competence.
- It tramples upon the long established convention of seniority in appointments.

Similar instances of arbitrary supersession happened earlier:

- Erstwhile CJI T.S.Thakur refused to recommend the name of one of the finest judges, Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, to SC because of personal vendetta.
- Justice AP Shah was kept out of the Supreme Court because CJI SH Kapadia did not prefer him.

Supersession is inconsistent with the view of the Supreme Court in the Second Judge's case, 1993, where it laid that:

- Seniority amongst Judges in their High Courts and on all India basis is significant and should be given due weight while making appointments from amongst High Court Judges to the Supreme Court.
- Unless there be any strong cogent reason to justify a departure, that order of seniority must be maintained between them while making their appointment to the Supreme Court.
- Supersession, as a rule, must never be encouraged unless there are grave and compelling circumstances. Although the NJAC Act, 2014, meant to replace the collegium system of judges, was struck down by SC in 2015, but the subjectivity and the inconsistency of the collegium system mandates a relook at the process of appointment of judges and the NJAC should be re-introduced in some form or the other.

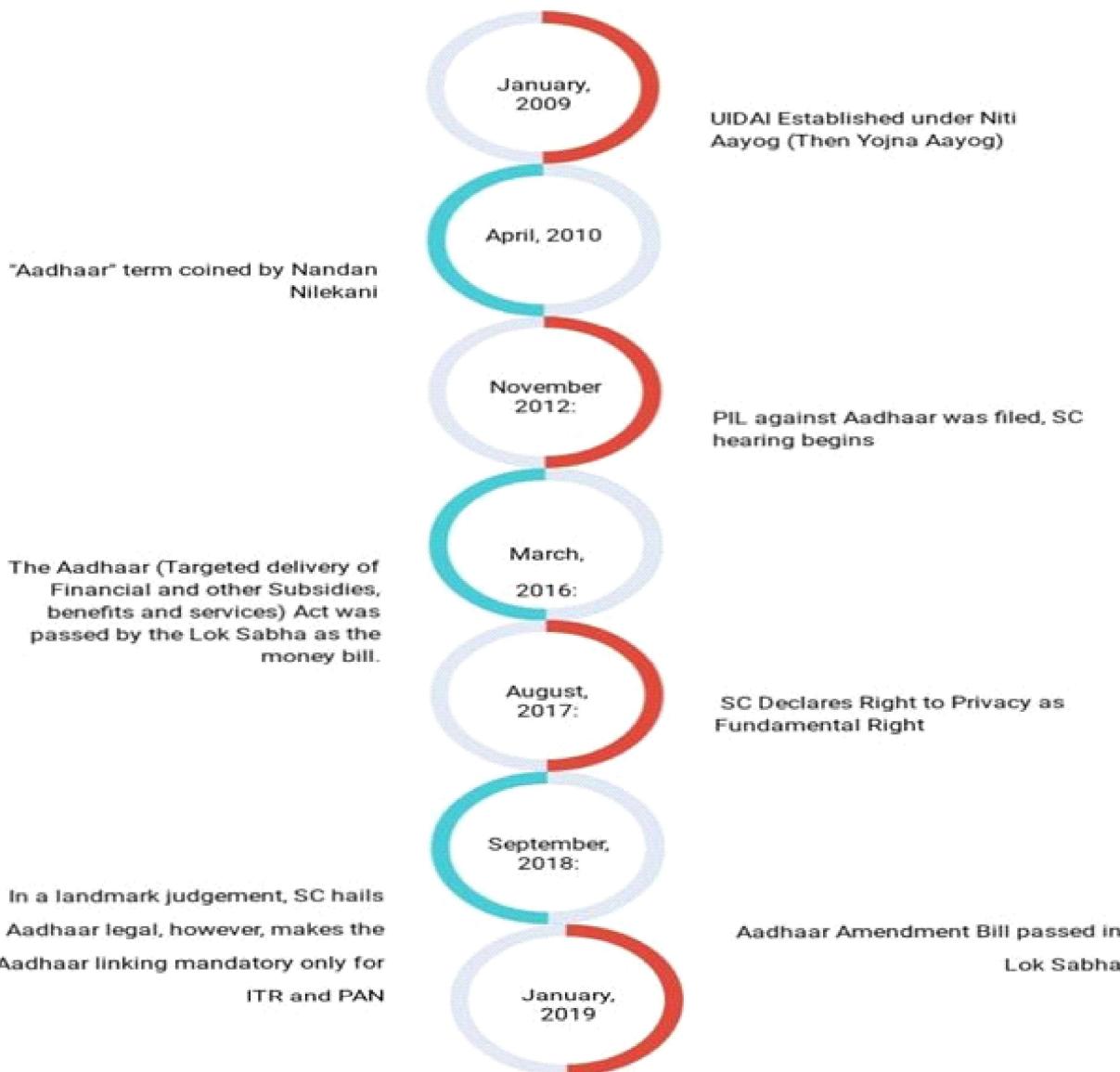
Collegium system:

- Collegium system in India is the system by which the judges are appointed by the judges only also referred to as "Judges- selecting-Judges".
- It is the system of appointment and transfer of judges that has evolved through judgments of the Supreme Court, and not by an Act of Parliament or by a provision of the Constitution.
- The Supreme Court collegium is headed by the Chief Justice of India and comprises four other senior most judges of the court. A High Court collegium is led by its Chief Justice and four other senior most judges of that court.
- Names recommended for appointment by a High Court collegium reaches the government only after approval by the CJI and the Supreme Court collegium.
- The government is bound to appoint a person as a Supreme Court judge if the collegium reiterates its recommendation.

9. The Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018:

Context:

The Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018 has recently been passed in Lok Sabha



Background

- The Aadhaar is the brand name of the Unique Identification Number that the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) issues to every resident of India. It is a twelve-digit number which is linked with the resident's demographic and biometric information
- The Aadhaar scheme was conceptualised in the year 2006 and launched in the year 2009 with the creation of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)
- The objective of the project is to issue a unique identification number which can be authenticated and verified online. This would ensure effective enforcement of individual rights- a clear registration and recognition of the individual identity with the state to implement their rights, to employment, education, food etc.

Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services):

- Passed as a money bill, the Act serves as a legal backing to the Aadhaar Project.
- It provides that the Aadhaar number can be used to validate a person's identity, but it cannot be used as a proof of citizenship.
- The Act also enabled the government to make it mandatory for a person to authenticate her/his identity using Aadhaar number before receiving any government subsidy, benefit, or service for which expenditure was incurred from the Consolidated Fund of India.

Issues and Concerns over Aadhaar Act, 2016:

1. Passing of Aadhaar Act as Money Bill:

- The critics have argued that the Aadhaar Act is unconstitutional as it was passed as a money bill despite not satisfying the requirements set out in Article 110 of the Constitution to be certified a Money Bill.
- Introducing the Aadhaar Act as a money bill deprived the Rajya Sabha of its power to reject or amend the Bill. Critics argue that passing of a Bill as a Money Bill, when it does not qualify for it, damages the delicate balance of bicameralism which is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution.

2. Privacy and Security Concerns: Critics advocate that the Aadhaar project is a violation of the fundamental Right to Privacy. Various privacy concerns include:

- a) Data security:** Concerns have been raised over security of singular mega-database of sensitive data. Leaking of sensitive personal data would breach individual's privacy.

Examples of Aadhaar Data Leak:

April, 2018- Aadhaar data leak of 1.34 Lakh people from Andhra Pradesh Government Website: Personal data of nearly 1.34 lakh people from Andhra Pradesh were leaked via Andhra Pradesh State Housing Corporation website. Details including caste, religion, account number, IFSC code, bank branch, mobile number etc. were made on the site publicly.

- b) Identity Theft:** Aadhaar-enabled Payments System (AePS), has created a vulnerability to identity fraud and identity theft.

- c) Personal Integrity:** another privacy concern is undermining of personal integrity arising from the discomfort from information about our lives being available to people or institutions with whom one does not wish to share it.

- d) Bodily Integrity:** A major issue highlighted by critics is that the Aadhaar project gathers biometric information and violates bodily integrity.

- e) Surveillance:** Critics have raised concerns that Aadhaar can lead to a surveillance state where each individual can be kept under surveillance

by creating his/her life profile and movement as well on his/her use of Aadhaar.

f) Personal data economy: Critics argue that Aadhaar would lead to the creation of a personal data economy and commercial exploitation. It is a serious concern in the absence adequate digital and legal literacy and data protection measures.

3. Reduction of Constitutional Identities: Critics such as Justice Chandrachud observes that constitution recognizes multitude of identities through the plethora of rights that it safeguards. However, the technology deployed in the Aadhaar scheme reduces different constitutional identities into a single identity of a 12-digit number thus undermining individual right to identify herself/himself through a chosen means.

4. Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act:

- Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act empowers the Centre to make it mandatory for the purposes of availing subsidies, social welfare benefits, services etc. Critics argue that exclusion of people caused as a result of mandatory Aadhaar is a violation of Article 14 (Right to Equality) of the Indian Constitution.
- Further, there is violation of the right to life and liberty (Article 21) due to this exclusion as many vulnerable sections of the society might not be able to avail several services which are essential for the survival. This is also a violation of human rights.

5. Violation of right to dignity: Mandatory Aadhaar also undermines a person's constitutional right to dignity by treating people to be impersonators merely due to their lack of an Aadhaar card or the failure to successfully authenticate via Aadhaar.

6. Role of UIDAI:

- UIDAI carries out all the functions related to Aadhaar project-administrative, providing framework to address grievances, adjudicatory, investigative, or monitoring of the project. Critics argue that making the authority administering a project, also responsible for providing for the framework to address grievances arising from the project, severely compromises the independence of the grievance redressal body.
- Further, the Aadhaar Act does not confer institutional accountability upon UIDAI to protect the database of people's personal information.

The Aadhaar case and Supreme Court Judgement:

Background:

- The Aadhaar project has been controversial and a slew of petitions have been filed in the Supreme Court against the project. In 2012, Retired Justice KS Puttaswamy and others filed pleas in Supreme Court challenging validity of Aadhaar.

- In 2017, Former Union minister and Congress leader Jairam Ramesh moved to Supreme Court challenging the centre's decision to treat Aadhaar bill as a money bill.
- The Aadhaar case gained momentum particularly after declaration of Right to Privacy as a fundamental right by the Supreme Court in August 2017

AADHAAR IS...

NOW NOT NEEDED FOR

- Employee pension
- Admission to school
- Taking CBSE, NEET, JEE, UGC exams
- Re-verification of mobile number
- Bank accounts
- Mutual fund investments
- Insurance policies
- Credit cards
- New/existing post office schemes
- New/existing NSC accounts
- New/existing PPF accounts
- New/existing Kisan Vikas Patra accounts

STILL NEEDED FOR

- PAN card
- National Child Labour Project (NCLP)
- Scholarships for school students, such as National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme, National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education, Inclusive Education of the Disabled at Secondary Stage

- Mid-day Meal for children
- Assistance/scholarship given by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
- Supplementary Nutrition Programme under ICDS Scheme
- Payment of honorarium to AWWs & AWHs under ICDS Scheme
- ICDS Training Programme
- Supplementary Nutrition for children offered at creche centres
- Honorarium to creche workers and creche helpers
- Maternity Benefit Programme
- Scheme for Adolescent Girls
- National Mission for Empowerment of Women
- Ujjwala Scheme
- Swadhar Scheme
- Integrated Child Protection Scheme
- STEP programme
- Rashtriya Mahila Kosh
- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vanana Yojana
- Painting, essay contests under IEC component of human resource development and capacity building

SC's Observations:

The Supreme Court upheld the Aadhaar scheme as **constitutionally valid**. The key takeaways from Aadhaar judgement are:

1. The Supreme Court upheld the validity of Aadhaar saying sufficient security measures are taken to protect data and it is difficult to launch surveillance on citizens on the basis of Aadhaar
2. The SC ruled that Aadhaar is mandatory for filing of income tax returns (ITR) and allotment of Permanent Account Number (PAN).

3. The SC said Aadhaar cannot be made mandatory for openings of a bank account and for getting mobile connections.
4. Students of CBSE, NEET, and UGC also do not require Aadhaar number to appear in exams. Even schools cannot seek Aadhaar card for admissions.
5. Aadhaar card is however must for availing facilities of welfare schemes and government as it empowers the poor and marginalised. Exception for children- no child can be denied benefits of any scheme if he or she doesn't have Aadhaar card.
6. SC struck down Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act as “unconstitutional”. This means that no company or private entity can seek Aadhaar identification
7. SC also struck down the provision in Aadhaar law allowing sharing of data on the ground of national security.

The Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018

- The Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill has been introduced by the Centre to accommodate the directions and recommendations of Supreme Court in privacy and aadhar case.
- The Bill amends the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. The key amendments made are as follows:

1. Offline verification of Aadhaar number holder: The bill allows offline verification of an individual's identity, without authentication (submission of biometric or demographic information to data servers) through modes specified by UIDAI by regulations.

2. Voluntary use of Aadhaar to verify identity:

- According to the bill, an individual may voluntarily use his Aadhaar number to establish his identity, by authentication or offline verification.
- The Bill further states that authentication of an individual's identity via Aadhaar, for the provision of any service, may be made mandatory only by a law of Parliament.

3. Amendment to Telegraph and PMLA Act:

- Telecom companies, banks and financial institutions may verify the identity of their clients by authentication or offline verification of Aadhaar, or passport, or any other documents notified by the central government.
- The person has the choice to use either mode to verify his identity and no person shall be denied any service for not having an Aadhaar number.

4. Deletion of Section 57: Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act, which enabled private authentication, has been deleted.

5. Aadhaar number of children: The bill provides an option to children who are Aadhaar number holders to “cancel their Aadhaar number on attaining the age of eighteen years”.

6. Complaints: The original Act did not allow courts to accept complaints filed by individuals, only permitting the UIDAI or officers authorised by it to make complaints in case of violations. According to the new amendment, individuals will be able to register complaints in certain cases, which can include impersonation, or if their Aadhaar information is disclosed without their consent.

7. UIDAI's powers:

- UIDAI has been given the power to issue directions to entities in the Aadhaar ecosystem.
- The penalties to be decided by an adjudicating officer appointed by UIDAI for violations of the laws by any entity in the Aadhaar ecosystem.
- The Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal has been made the Appellate Tribunal for such cases.

8. Use of Virtual IDs: Provision for use of virtual IDs to conceal the actual Aadhaar number of an individual has been provided.

9. Disclosure of information in certain cases:

- The Bill provides disclosure of information in certain cases only for orders by High Courts (or above).
- Previously, an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary could issue directions for disclosing information in the interest of national security. The Bill amends this to allow such disclosure on directions of officers not below the rank of a Secretary.

Criticism of the Bill:

1. Making Aadhaar voluntary: Critics argue that the bill doesn't commit itself to making sure Aadhaar is purely voluntary as it still enables the government to make Aadhaar mandatory for “provision of any service” if it is “required by a law made by parliament”.

2. Amendment to Telegraph and PMLA Act: The bill seeks to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, to provide for the voluntary use of Aadhaar authentication. Critics argue that this is a violation of SC order to strike down Section 57 and completely prohibit private players to use Aadhaar numbers and poses risk of Aadhaar related frauds and thefts.

3. Disclosure of Information:

- The SC had declared Section 33(2) of Aadhaar Act which allowed disclosure of information in the interest of national security, as unconstitutional. However, the bill has put forward a refurbished form of the section thus violating SC order.
- Further, the SC had ordered for a judicial officer to be associated with

the process of disclosure. However, the Bill only substitutes the words “Joint Secretary” with “Secretary” in Section 33(2), completely disregarding the Supreme Court’s order demanding inquiry by a judge.

4. Privacy and Security concerns inadequately addressed: Though the bill has taken steps to ensure privacy by regulating entities in Aadhaar ecosystem, the critics argue that it's not adequate to tackle the problem of Aadhaar-related fraud.

5. Allowing children to delete their Aadhaar number: Though the bill has made provisions to allow children to opt out of Aadhaar once they are adults, it overlooks the fact that Aadhaar is de facto mandatory for all adults as it still required to be linked to one's PAN card.

Conclusion:

The Aadhaar has been acknowledged as an inclusive tool that effectively delivers social welfare programmes to the poor. However, it is also riddled with highly problematic privacy issues and other challenges. The privacy concerns and data security around the Aadhaar identity number are a high priority to address and necessitates a robust data protection regime and privacy protection legislation in India. The Aadhaar project should also have a transparent mandate and no ensure no citizen is left behind while delivering social benefits.

10. Facebook to tighten political ad rules for 2019 elections

Why in news?

Facebook tightens political advertising rules in 2019 election year.

Important Facts:

- Facebook will tighten the rules for political ads in countries where the elections are scheduled in the first half of the year to avoid any scandals.
- The rule for Political ads are already underway in US, Britain and Brazil.
- Under the new rule, person has to confirm his identity and location before they can run political ads on Facebook.
- By confirming the identity, news organizations, regulators, watchdog groups and people can easily track advertisers and make the election process more accountable.
- In India, the network will launch an Ad Library in a searchable database in an effort to increase transparency, and would verify the identities of people buying political ads.

What are Political Ads:

- Any ad that references political figures, parties, elections, and legislation that are in the news will automatically be classed as a political ad.

Need for new rule:

- Facebook has come under intense scrutiny, when the platform was a

used for a large amount of election meddling in U.S traced to Russia.

- Any candidate using Facebook can put a campaign message promising one thing in front of one group of voters while simultaneously running an ad with a completely opposite message in front of a different group of voters.
- Advertising exposure can influence a voter's evaluations of the candidates, either in a positive or negative direction.
- It is currently hard for voters to see how political parties and other groups target particular individuals or groups through online advertising. A library of ads will allow the media and public to scrutinize political messages and the intent behind them.
- Social media has become very important in political messaging, making it possible to message larger groups of constituents with very little physical effort or expense

Best Practice:

- In the European Union, many countries do not permit paid-for TV or radio advertising for fear that wealthy groups will gain control and distort the political debate in the process.
- In both the United Kingdom and Ireland, paid advertisements are forbidden, though political parties are allowed a small number of party political broadcasts in the run up to election time.
- The United States has a very free market for broadcast political messaging. Canada allows paid-for political broadcasts but requires equitable access to the radio frequency.
- In countries such as Nigeria and Ukraine no foreign electoral ads will be accepted.

11. Elderly Rights

Context:

A petition was filed in SC by the former Union Law Minister Ashwani Kumar, which expressed shock on the meagre amount of pension paid to the senior citizen and the fall in welfare measures to the senior citizens in the recent past.

Why a concern?

The Centre noted that there had been a steady rise in the population of senior citizens in India. It submitted in court that the number of elderly persons had increased from 1.98 crore in 1951 to 7.6 crore in 2001 and 10.38 crore in 2011. It is projected that the number of 60+ in India would increase to 14.3 crore in 2021 and 17.3 crore in 2026. Due to pressure on the exchequer is growing, which has forced government to spend less on senior citizen welfare. SC observation on this issue: Terming the rights of the rising elderly population of the country an "emerging situation" not envisaged even in the Constitution, the Supreme Court said the government

could not tighten its purse strings in the name of “economic budgeting” to explain the inadequate welfare provided to senior citizens and the aged.

The court said it was a statutory right of every aged person under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act of 2007 to be provided dignity, health and shelter. All the three are important components which make the fundamental right to life under Article 21.

The court directed that the Centre should prepare a plan of action for giving publicity to the provisions of Senior citizens 2007 Act and ensure that the State governments carry out and execute the provisions of the law.

Welfare measures for senior citizens:

Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007

- It is a legislation enacted in 2007, aims to provide more effective provision for maintenance and welfare of parents and senior citizens.
- This Act makes it a legal obligation for children and heirs to provide maintenance to senior citizens and parents, by monthly allowance. This Act also provides simple, speedy and inexpensive mechanism for the protection of life and property of the older persons.

Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP)

- This programme is run by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Under this programme, grants are given for running and maintenance old age homes, day care centers, mobile Medicare units, multi-facility care centre for older widows, etc.
- The main objective of the scheme is to improve the quality of life of older persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities, etc.

Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)

- This scheme is also run by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. This is a central sector scheme funded from the Senior Citizens’ Welfare Fund. The fund was notified in the year 2016. All unclaimed amounts from small savings accounts, PPF and EPF are to be transferred to this fund.
- Under the RVY scheme, aids and assistive living devices are provided to senior citizens belonging to BPL category who suffer from age-related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth and locomotors disabilities. The aids and assistive devices, viz walking sticks, elbow crutches, walkers/crutches, tripods/quadpods, hearing aids, wheelchairs, artificial dentures and spectacles are provided to eligible beneficiaries.

Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)

- The Ministry of Rural Development runs the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) that extends social assistance for poor households-for the aged, widows, disabled, and in cases of death where the breadwinner has passed away.

- This is in addition to the benefits that the state governments extend to these people. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to person of 60 years and above and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India.
- Central assistance of Rs 200 per month is provided to person in the age group of 60-79 years and Rs 500 per month to persons of 80 years and above.

Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana (VPBY)

- This scheme is run by the Ministry of Finance. It is a social security schemes for senior citizens intended to give an assured minimum pension on a guaranteed minimum return on the subscription amount.
- The scheme is implemented through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India, which is paid the difference between the actual yield earned by the LIC on the funds invested under the scheme and the assured return of 9 percent committed by the government.

The Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PNVVY)

- It was launched in May 2017 to provide social security during old age. This is a simplified version of the VPBY and will be implemented by the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India.
- Under the scheme, on payment of an initial lump sum amount ranging from Rs 1,50,000 for a minimum pension of Rs 1000 per month to a maximum of Rs 7,50,000/- for a maximum pension of Rs 5,000 per month, subscribers will get an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8% per annum payable monthly/quarterly/half yearly/annually.

National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE)

- The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had launched the 'National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly' (NPHCE) during 2010-11 to address various health related problems of elderly people.
- The major objectives under district level activities of the NPHCE are to provide dedicated health facilities in district hospitals, community health centres (CHC), primary health centres (PHC) and sub-centres (SC) levels through State Health Society.
- The healthcare facilities, being provided under this programme, are either free or highly subsidised.

Way Forward:

Economic growth cannot come at the cost of the lives of fellow citizens especially the senior citizens who had worked hard throughout their lifetime. Innovative measures like Atal Pension Yojana, National Pension Scheme(NPS) where the Government and individual shares the funding burden can be brought to protect the senior citizens.

International Relations

12. India seeks better flight connectivity with Central Asia

Why in news?

External Affairs minister proposed a dialogue on air corridors with Central Asian countries to boost trade.

Important facts:

- Minister took part in the first India-Central Asia Dialogue in Uzbekistan.
- To boost India- Central Asia trade, languishing below \$2 billion for years lack of overland access to landlocked Central Asia for this, India stressed on exploring air corridors between India and Central Asian Republics.
- India proposed to organize a ‘dialogue on air corridors’ with the participation of civil aviation authorities, air freight and aviation companies of India and Central Asia so that goods, including perishable items, can be transported efficiently and swiftly.
- India already has opened air corridors for the transport of goods and perishables between India and several Afghan cities to circumvent Pakistan’s veto over India-Afghanistan trade passing overland through its territory.
- India also called on the Central Asia Republics to participate in the Chabahar Port project, jointly undertaken by India and Iran to move Indian goods to landlocked Afghanistan and potentially to Central Asia.



- India suggested development partnership between India and Central Asia by taking up concrete development projects using India's Lines of Credit and Buyers' Credit, and through shared expertise.

Importance of Central Asia for India:

- Abundance of oil and natural reserves and vast mineral and natural resources.
- Nation/state-building and modernization process within Central Asia provides vast opportunities for infrastructure building and economic cooperation between India and regional members.
- Access to Central Asian markets and further with better accessibility to East European and Russian markets.
- Convergence of interests between India and the Central Asian republics could be beneficial for:
- Dealing with the multi-polar world dominated by few powerful states.
- Tackling the menace of religious fundamentalism and trans-border terrorism.

13. India for Afghan-led peace talks

Why in news?

India advocated any peace negotiation should be Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled at Samarkand meet.

Important Facts:

Highlights of Samarkand Meeting:

- Discussion was held between foreign ministers at the India-Central Asia Dialogue at Samarkand, Uzbekistan
- India provided supports to build a united, sovereign, democratic, peaceful, stable, prosperous and inclusive Afghanistan
- India supports all efforts for peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan which are inclusive and Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled
- Such statement was in contrary to General Bipin Rawat, chief of army staff who urged India to begin talks with the Taliban in Afghanistan
- Meeting described Afghanistan as a “land link” in the region that will help in connectivity between India and Central Asian nations
- Meeting also discussed opportunities for Afghanistan people through this platform and asked

Afghanistan for participation in such dialogue

India-Afghanistan-Central Asia Connectivity Projects: International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is multi modal transportation cooperation between member states

India-Afghanistan-Central Asian nations Common Forum: Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is an intergovernmental organization where India and Central Asian nations (except Turkmenistan) are permanent members and Afghanistan has observer status

14. Brexit: Uk parliament rejected Brexit deal, May wins no-confidence vote

Context:

- British Prime Minister Theresa May suffered a crushing defeat in the Parliament on January 15, 2019 when over 100 lawmakers of May's Conservative party - both Brexiteers and Remainers, voted against the Brexit deal.
- The lawmakers overwhelmingly rejected Britain's withdrawal deal by a vote of 432 to 202, a majority of 230 votes, with just 73 days to go until Britain is scheduled to leave the European Union.
- The withdrawal agreement had been negotiated between Prime Minister Theresa May and the European Union. Britain is scheduled to leave the EU on March 29, 2019.

Impact:

- Theresa May's defeat is the biggest-ever defeat suffered by a British premier in modern history. The only other comparable party split and parliamentary defeat happened in 1886, when Prime Minister William Gladstone's support for Irish home rule cut the Liberal Party in two.
- The crushing defeat marks the collapse of May's two-year strategy of forging an amicable exit with close ties to the EU. The rejection has also complicated and increased doubts about how or whether Britain will leave the European Union on March 29.

May wins no-confidence vote

- May's minority government on January 16, 2019 won the no-confidence motion, which was tabled by opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn following the rejection of the Brexit deal, with 325 votes in favour of her government and 306 against, by a majority of 19 votes.
- After the results were declared, May called on the MPs to put self-interest aside and work constructively together to find a way forward for Brexit. She told them that she would continue to work on the promise made to the people of the country on the result of the referendum and leaving the EU.
- Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn during a six-hour debate on his motion said that his party has not ruled out tabling further no-confidence motions. May had previously survived a no-confidence vote by her Conservative Party in December 2018.

What Happens Next?

- Theresa May had called Brexit vote in Parliament as the most important

in a generation. She told the lawmakers that the choice was plain, either support her compromise deal - the only one that Europe will abide, as the EU refused to go over the deal again or face the idea of a no-deal Brexit.

- The vote against her deal was decisive. Moments after the result came in, May said, “the government has heard what the House has said tonight.”
- Despite the huge defeat, May has said she still wants to fulfil her duty to deliver on Britain’s 2016 vote for leaving the EU.

With the defeat of the Brexit deal, three key options lay before the British Government now:

1. Re-negotiate with EU for a new deal

- May, who now has three days to bring a revised plan back to parliament, will now most likely seek concessions from the EU, then put her deal to parliament a second time.
- However, the EU has said it will not negotiate the deal again. Now, with the margin of her defeat, it is more unlikely that EU would give May more concessions.
- The British government and EU leaders have said that their agreement is the best compromise available. However, the members of her Conservative party argue that the deal keeps Britain too close to the EU, while opposition parties say that it fails to protect economic ties with the bloc.
- The two sides also oppose the plan of keeping the Irish border open, which could see Britain indefinitely follow European rules on trade. May’s agreement was meant to keep trade rules between the world’s fifth-biggest economy and its largest export market almost unchanged for a transition period running to the end of 2020.
- However, there is nothing that can stop the government from bringing the same deal back again to the House of Commons until either MPs accept it or seek to remove May.

2. No-deal Brexit

- This is the most likely scenario that the United Kingdom is heading towards currently. Critics claim the situation to be economically disastrous for both UK and EU, saying that it threatens to trigger a recession in Britain and markedly slow EU’s economic growth.
- However, if the deal is re-introduced in the parliament and is defeated again then there would probably be no other solution than this before March 29.

3. New Brexit Referendum

- EU supporters have been calling for another vote ever since the “Leave EU” campaign won the 2016 referendum.

- Though, there is no law keeping Britain from doing the referendum all over again, many questions on whether the move would be democratic. It also threatens to be just as divisive, with opinion polls showing the country is still split over the issue.
- Despite the huge defeat, May has said she still wants to fulfil her duty to deliver on Britain's 2016 vote for leaving the EU.

EU reaction to Brexit vote

In a statement following May's defeat, Juncker said he "regretted" the result of the vote."The risk of disorderly withdrawal of the United Kingdom has increased with the vote," Juncker said.

Background:

- The Brexit vote was initially scheduled to be held on December 11 but was postponed by May when it became clear to her that she faced a certain defeat.
- Prior to the vote, May had warned the British legislators that if the plan was rejected, a catastrophe would follow.
- The United Kingdom is set to leave the European Union on March 29, 2019, two years after the Brexit referendum in June 2016 that triggered Article 50, the exit clause in the EU's constitution and kick-started arduous negotiations with European leaders over a divorce deal.
- The EU deal was finally reached in November 2018. However, since reaching a deal in November, the agreement has come under fire from across the political spectrum, with opponents of the EU seeking a cleaner break and pro-European legislators pressing for a second vote on membership in the bloc.
- A second referendum, however, has been opposed by both May and main opposition leader Corbyn. It has, however, won the support of many Labour MPs, who say that the decision should be put back to the people for a final say, in a public vote, with the option to stay and keep the Brexit deal.

Brexit Referendum

- On June 23, 2016, people of the United Kingdom (UK) were asked to vote to decide if they wanted Britain to remain as a member of the European Union or to leave the bloc. The vote was popularly referred to as a vote to leave or remain!
- The referendum resulted in a close vote, with 51.9 per cent of voters casting votes in favour of the UK leaving the EU, while 48.11 per cent voted to remain.

Although legally the referendum was non-binding, the government of that time had promised to implement the result and it initiated the official EU withdrawal process on March 29, 2017, which put the UK on course to leave the EU by 30 March 2019, after a period of Brexit negotiations

Economy

15. GST will improve our competitiveness

Why in news?

- Once again, the GST Council has made important modifications to the GST regime that will reinforce its growth potency. By raising thresholds, lowering frequency of returns and including services under the composition scheme, the Council has boosted 'ease of doing business' for small enterprises.
- India's reform journey took a huge leap forward with introduction of the GST. Bringing together Central and State governments and integrating numerous indirect taxes, GST is a far-reaching tax system and, as such, it is only to be expected that its full rollout would require an adjustment period.

Benefits of GST regime:

- GST has for the first time brought manufactured goods and services on the same tax platform and all products and services are subject to the same tax rates throughout the country.
- It has resulted into expansion of tax base and formalization of the economy.
- Average monthly revenues have been on the uptrend over the last 18 months.
- The number of returns filed has gone up from 3.76 million for August 2017 to 7.2 million in December 2018.
- Manufacturers and traders who had remained out of the tax net now become part of the formal supply chain under GST
- New 1.8 million enterprises have been registered under the composition scheme where smaller enterprises pay as per fixed tax rates
- Simplified new return filing model have brought in efficiency in the system.
- GST dismantled inter-State tax barriers for seamless transportation
- Input tax credit refunds are generally quick and regular, streamlining the whole supply chain.

Benefits for consumer

- Tax rates have been reduced on key items, currently most mass consumption goods in the lower categories of tax structure
- Consumer protection through anti-profiteering provisions has ensured that the benefits of input tax credit or reduction in tax rates are passed on to the consumers.

What needs to be done:

- Petroleum products, alcohol, electricity and real estate may be brought under GST ambit for providing seamless input tax credit across sectors.
- The number of rates too can be reduced to just three slabs, standard rates on items of mass consumption, demerit goods in the highest tax category, and certain items at a lower slab.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

Why in news?

AIIB needs to diversify project areas as it completes three year of its functioning

Important Facts:

- AIIB is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia
- AIIB currently has 93 members countries and Beijing acts as AIIB headquarter
- India has most benefitted from AIIB as about 25% of approved projects belongs to India
- India along with China has permanent seats on the AIIB board of directors

Analysis of 3 years AIIB functioning:

- Critics View: considered AIIB as an attempt to supplant international financing institution
- Counter View: AIIB has devised innovative finance mechanism, uphold best practices and many projects are co-financed by World Bank, Asian Development Bank
- Critics View: raised issue of effective governance and inadequate environmental and social safeguards in projects approved
- Counter View: AIIB projects had been socially and environmentally conscious leading to AAA rating by International rating agencies

Way Forwards:

- Need to widen portfolio of projects in areas such as smart cities, renewable energy, urban transport, clean coal technology, solid waste management and urban water supply
- Faster loan appraisal procedure and lean organizational structure to lower cost of loans
- Diversifying financing instruments including local currency financing
- Flexible procedures for responding to project clients needs
- To leverage its “special fund mechanism” to crowd in infrastructure financing from external sources

16. Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), 2018

Context:

Recently ASER, 2018 report was released by NGO Pratham.

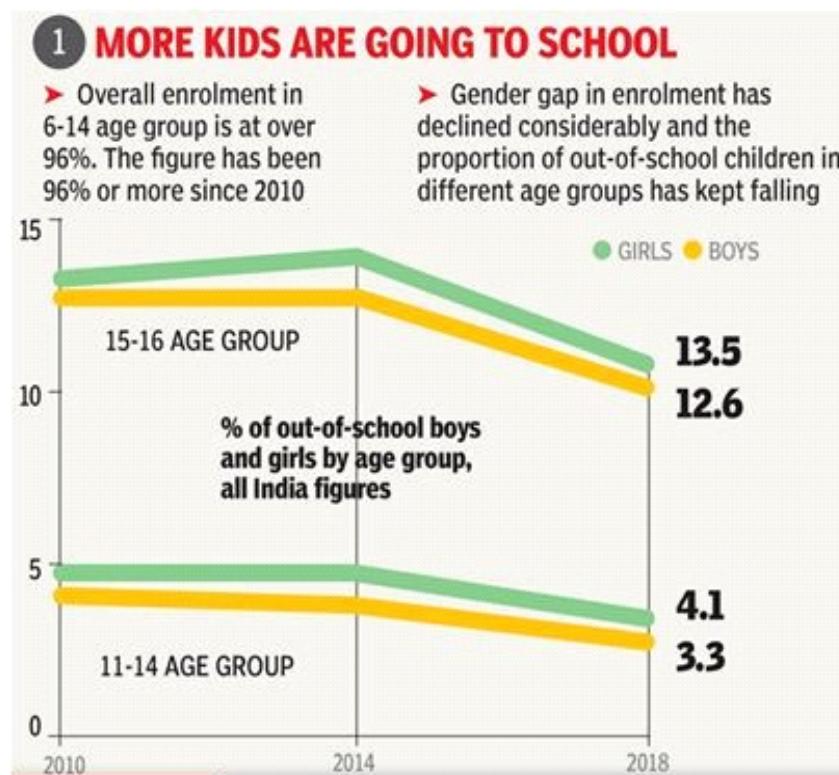
Report findings:

Quality of education:

- Only 65% class 5 students studying in private schools can read class 2 level text and 44.2% in government schools, which is 2.5% more than 2016. Due to the poor reading ability in class 5 the overall ability to deal with textbooks in higher standards has lowered.
- Class 2 children are expected to be able to read a simple text fluently and do basic maths like subtraction. But 72% students in Class V can't do division at all and 70% of Class III student aren't able to do any subtraction.
- For class 8, which is the last year of compulsory education under RTE, one in every four children is without basic reading skills. This number has not changed since 2016.
- In 2018, the highest reading abilities across the country have been reported from Himachal Pradesh at 74.5% followed by Kerala at 73.1% and the lowest is from Jharkhand with only 29.4%.

Enrollment:

- The proportion of children (age 6-14) who are not enrolled in school has fallen below 3% for the first time in 2018 and stands at 2.8%.
- In terms of gender-specific enrolment too, percentage of girls outside of school has fallen to 4.1%, a drop of over two percentage points.



Gender differences:

- Girls are behind boys in basic arithmetic knowledge: only 44% of all girls could solve division problems compared with 50% of the boys. But girls are doing better in states like Himachal, Punjab, Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

- For the age group 14 to 16, the proportion of girls who can read at least a class 2 level text outperforms boys in many states like Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, West Bengal, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.

Inference from the findings:

- RTE has been successful in raising enrolments in schools in rural India (above 95% since 2007), and out of school numbers is also declining and the gender gap is shrinking.
- Reading abilities of children have also shown gradual improvement and arithmetic abilities are stagnant.
- Overall 'quality of education in India', or learning outcomes, is the worst performer in school education and needs immediate attention.



Reasons for slow improvement in quality of education in Indian schools:

- Underfunded primary education:** Government funding for education was meager 2.4% in 2016 and out of total expenditure on education, primary education receives around 28% share.
- Low teacher effectiveness:** Teacher effectiveness is low in India due to:
 - Low time for classroom instruction preparation by teacher who are mostly involved in administrative and non-academic duties by the government.
 - Low quality and diversity of teaching material (only used in 10% classrooms in India) e. lack of props like maps, posters and physical models, make teaching a boring and difficult task for students, which is a result of lack of funds for these props by schools.
 - Indifferent attitude of teachers who due to cultural barriers between students and teachers.
 - Lack of incentives for teachers and low teacher-pupil ratio.

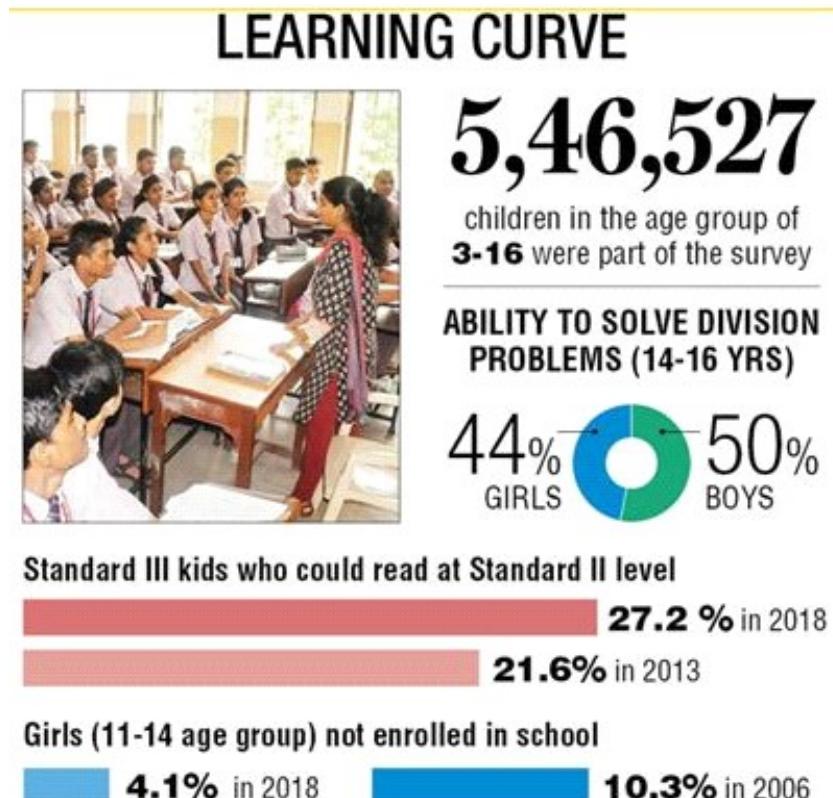
Fragmented teacher training in states:

- The teacher training is decentralized to states for preparation of training calendar, but there is lack of ownership and well-defined responsibilities in states, which deteriorates quality of learning.

- 90% of the teacher training institutes lie in the private sector, where standards of training are low and there exists rampant commercialization and corruption.
- **Low use of technology in schools:** Computers are hardly used in schools in India and if used, are restricted to audio/visual displays. They are not used for advanced learning purposes like lesson planning, student assessment etc.
- **High drop-out rates:** The dropout rate peaks at the secondary level (class IX-X) at 17%, as compared to 4% in elementary school (class I-VIII) and 2% in upper secondary school (class XI-XII). Females usually drop out due to domestic constraints, while males face economic hardships and financial constraints.
- **High enrollment but low access to school education and low attendance:** Although the enrollment ratio has improved but schools are not available in close vicinity which leads to low attendance.
- **Poor curriculum and syllabus:** Lack of regular updation of syllabus lowers quality. At least 40% of CBSE learning is obsolete, as the syllabus was last revised in 2005. Students, in their school years are made to study complex topics beyond their age, increasing the burden on them.

Suggestions:

- **School development plans and teacher competency benchmarks:** Interventions, both at school level and teacher level, should be introduced:
- **School development plans:** Each school must include well-defined output based parameters in their school development plans and periodically monitor progress against it. Monitoring should be assigned to an external task force.
- **Teacher competency benchmarks:** Government needs to define teacher teaching benchmarks (or Key Result Areas, as followed in



Corporates) against which teacher's performance must be assessed in order to plan teaching improvements.

- **Integrate teacher training with performance management:** Apart from monetary incentives teachers should be positively incentivized to undertake training and professional development through pathways towards career advancement which is an intrinsic motivation.
- **Customized student support through use of technology:** Teachers should use technology within the classroom for designing and implementing real time assessments. This will help teachers in providing customized support to students.
- **Focused efforts on reading and arithmetic:** In order to improve reading ability, ASER suggests, efforts to improve reading ability should be continued even after class 5. For arithmetic's, more use of props and models should be used for schools kids.

Arresting drop-out rates:

- Central Advisory Board of Education sub-committee recommended extending Kasturba Gandhi Vidyalayas (residential schools for girls) till class XII for retaining girls.
- Mechanisms for dialogue with parents and community should be initiated to change social norms towards girls' education.
- To address distance challenges, initiatives like distribution of bicycles to children can be taken up.

Regulation of teacher training:

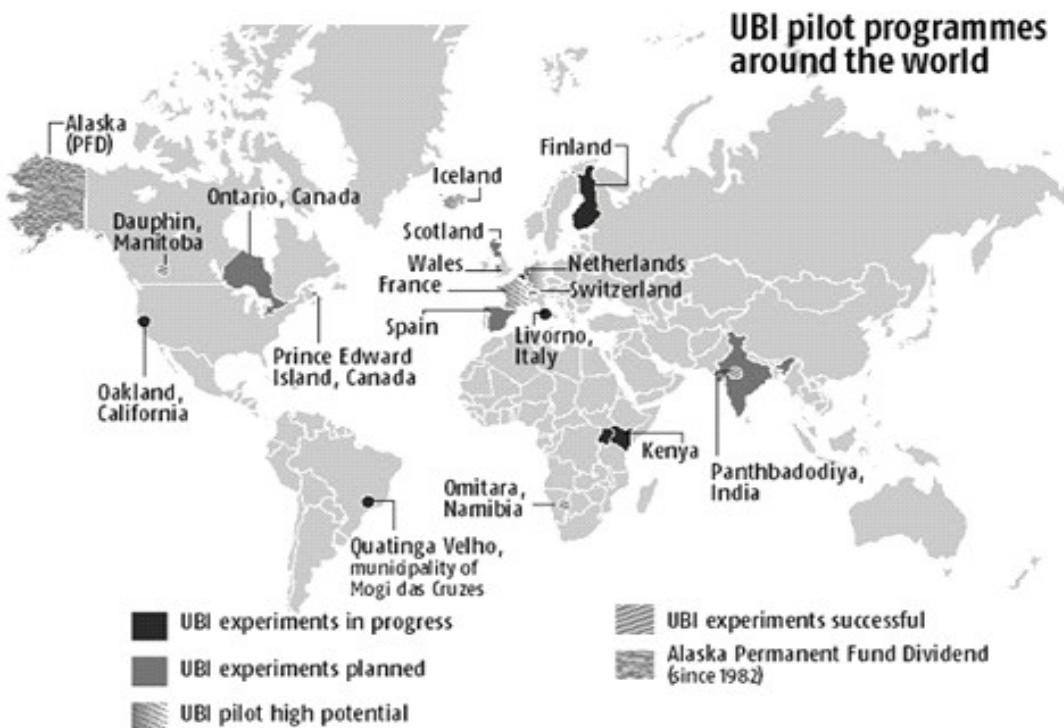
- Unregulated field of teacher training should be reined in by the government through stricter accreditation guidelines and control over agencies issuing licences to control corruption.
- National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) is working and will soon put out a **ranking mechanism for teacher training institutes** using a new framework – **TeachR** which will divide them in four categories – A, B, C and D. The institutes falling in D category will be asked to shut down with immediate effect and those falling in C category will have to make and meet changes within 12 months or face shut down.

Separation of teachers from non-academic work: Teaching duties should take preference for a teacher and their involvement in government administrative work should be minimal.

17. Universal Basic Income

Context:

There were reports that the ruling party in Sikkim has announced UBIS in its election manifesto, and, also, the Centre is considering such a measure "for people below the Poverty Line"



What is Universal Basic Income (UBI)?

- Universal Basic Income is a periodic, unconditional cash transfer to every citizen in the country. Here, social or economic positions of the individual are not taken into consideration. The concept of universal basic income has three main features. They are as following:
- UBI is universal in nature. It means UBI is not targeted.
- The second feature of UBI is cash transfer instead of in-kind transfer.
- The third feature is that UBI is unconditional. That means one need not prove his or her unemployment status or socio-economic identity to be eligible for UBI.

Why UBI?

A Universal Basic Income (UBI) will be an efficient substitute for a plethora of existing welfare schemes and subsidies, according to the annual Economic Survey. In a chapter 'Universal Basic Income: A Conversation With and Within the Mahatma,' the Survey dwelt at length on the pros and cons of introducing UBI in India before concluding that it was "a powerful idea whose time even if not ripe for implementation is ripe for serious discussion."

The report justified the introduction of UBI citing several reasons such as promoting social justice, reducing poverty and an unconditional cash transfer that lets the beneficiary decide how she uses the money and generating employment by promoting labor flexibility since it allows "individuals to have partial or calibrated engagements with the labor market without fear of losing benefits."

It also said the move would bring in administrative efficiency as a direct cash transfer through a JAM (Jan Dhan-Aadhar-Mobile) platform would be more efficient compared to the "existing welfare schemes which are riddled with misallocation, leakages and exclusion of the poor."

Pointing out that the Budget for 2016-17 had about 950 central sector and centrally-sponsored schemes (CSS) that accounted for about 5% of the GDP, the Survey suggested that “considerable gains could be achieved in terms of bureaucratic costs and time by replacing many of these with a UBI.”

Challenges:

- There are some practicalities of UBIS any policy-maker has to consider. One, how do you reach everybody in India when many people still do not have bank accounts or access to banking agents (although once such a programme starts, banking agents are likely to be induced to expand their operations, as fixed costs are spread out over larger numbers)?
- Two, Aadhar or some other form of identification will be necessary, but the horror stories one has heard about the poor being denied PDS because of the lack of Aadhar authentication make one wary of bureaucratic callousness in this respect.
- Three, UBIS needs to be transparently linked right from the beginning to some cost of living index — this is particularly important because of the callous way Indian governments have let their contribution under the National Old Age Pensions Scheme stagnate at a measly Rs 200 per month per pensioner for the last 12 years.
- Four, UBIS could be different for adults and children, but one probably should not go that way because in the absence of proper age records it may give an opportunity to some corrupt officials.
- Five, how should the grant money be allocated between the Centre and the states? The state governments have to be part of the active negotiations. Different states may have different fiscal capacities and also different kinds of logistical capabilities in reaching out to people particularly in remote areas.

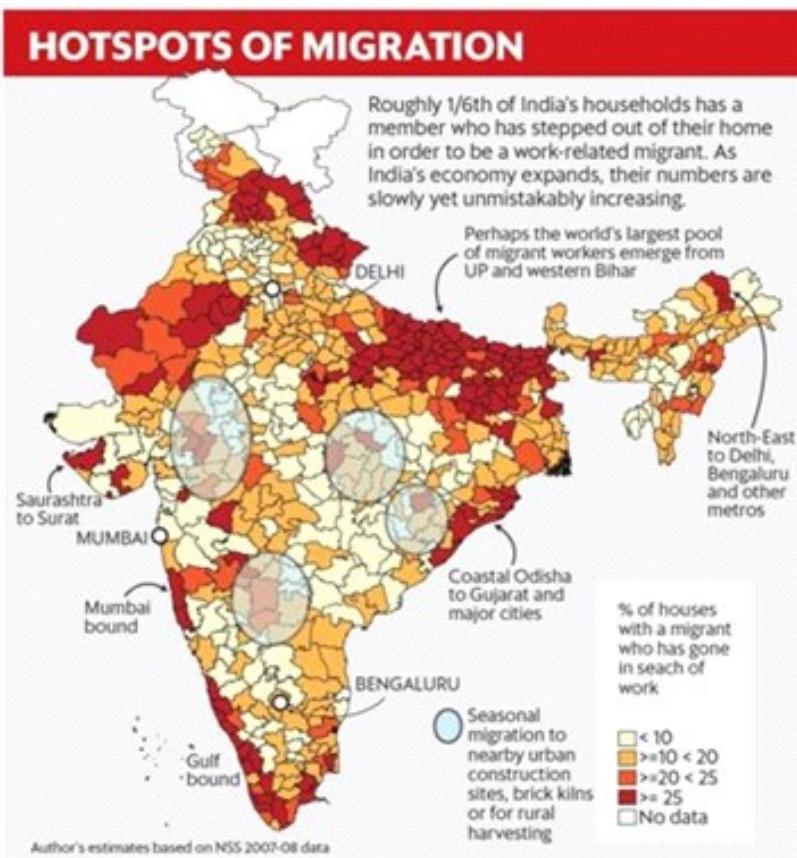
In the estimate for subsidies to the better-off, state-level subsidies have been included. In the beginning, however, the central government may have to bear most of the cost, and the Finance Commission may have to work out the eventual modalities of allocation of the burden between the Centre and the state.

18. A million migrations: Journeys in search of jobs

According to Economic Survey (2016-17), there are more than 100 million migrants in India

Characteristics of migration for work in India:

- Migration for work within India is highly circular. Circular migration is temporary and recurrent movement of people working in multiple destinations during their lifetimes, and retiring in their native places.
- Indian migration is semi-permanent, male-dominated, and remittance-based migration



- Apart from circular migration due to work, other reasons for migration include marriage, education, job transfers, and involuntary displacements

- Migration was east-bound in the 19th century towards Bengal, Burma, and Southeast Asia; west-bound in the 20th towards the arc between Punjab and Maharashtra; and primarily south-bound in the 21st century.

- Previously migration was directed towards commercial hubs and metros such as Kolkata and Mumbai. However, at present smaller

cities like Surat have emerged as lucrative destinations for migration.

- Coastal belt below Mumbai, till kanyakumari is one of India's major hotspots of outmigration with migration primarily directed towards the Gulf countries.

Positive Impact:

- Circular migrants gaps in demand for and supply of labour; and efficiently allocates skilled and unskilled labour; cheap labour.
- Migration for work provides remittances to households in the areas of origin; increases consumer expenditure and investment in health, education and assets formation
- Migration leads to intermixing of people from different cultures which brings up a composite culture among the people

Concerns:

- Migration has changed the characteristics of the population in regions of out migration and in-migration-the proportion of old, children and females increases due to out-migration in source region (example-Ratagiri) and proportion of males increase in regions of in-migration (example-Surat)
- According to the Economic Survey 2017-18, with growing rural to urban migration by men, there has been 'feminisation' of agriculture sector
- Lack of access to social security benefits among migrant workers

Geography and Environment

19. Panel pulls up government for diverting coal cess

Why in news?

The 42nd standing committee on energy report pulled up government for not using coal cess for reviving stressed gas-based power plants rather using it for post GST compensation to states

Important Facts:

Status of Gas-based Power Plants:

- Out of India's total installed power capacity of 345MW, the share of Gas-based power in capacity is 7.2% and in generation only 3.8% mainly because due to non-availability of domestic gas and unaffordability of imported gas
- Because of such state large assets have turned into non-performing asset

Status of Coal Cess collection and utilization:

- Coal Cess (Rs 400/tonne) collected has to be transferred to National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) for clean energy projects
- But according to report, only 18% of total cess collected had been utilized for projects under NCEF
- Inter Ministerial Group chaired by the Finance Secretary was constituted to approve the project/schemes eligible for financing under NCEF.

What are observations and recommendations of Committee?

- Diversion of funds for unrelated activities shows lack of commitment of government of clean energy projects
- To provide financial support to the stressed gas-based power projects in the country from National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF)

Benefits of revival of Gas-based power plants:

- could be used as peak based plants as demand for electricity increasing on account of government effort to electrify all households
- to meet Paris agreement INDC target of installing 40% of power capacity from renewable energy by 2030

20. Global Risks Report 2019

Context:

The Global Risks Report 2019 has been released by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Global Risks Report and its significance:

- Based on the work of the Global Risk Network, the report describes changes occurring in the global risks landscape from year to year and identifies global catastrophic risks.
- The report explores the interconnectedness of risks, and is intended to raise awareness about the need for a multi-stakeholder approach to the mitigation of global risk.

Top 10 risks by likelihood as per the latest report:

1. Extreme weather events.
2. Failure of climate change mitigation and adaption.
3. Major natural disasters.
4. Massive incident of data fraud/theft.
5. Large scale cyberattacks.
6. Man-made environmental damage and disasters.
7. Large-scale involuntary migration.
8. Major Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse.
9. Water crises.
10. Asset bubbles in a major economy.

Analysis of the report and key takeaways:

- Environmental risks dominate the global risks landscape in terms of impact and likelihood for the third year in a row. This includes extreme weather events and failure of climate mitigation and adaptation. Only 12 years left to stay beneath 1.5C. However, there is a lack of political will to set more stretching targets to cut emissions. The report finds that business leaders are more concerned about climate in the long term. This disconnect will need to be tackled.
- Global risks are intensifying, but our capacity to respond to them is declining. Power is moving towards more nationalist, authoritarian states and they are becoming more inwards-looking. With greater geopolitical friction, our ability to cooperate to solve challenges such as cyber risks and climate change has become more challenging.
- Geopolitics and geo-economic factors, such as uncertainty and nationalism are fuelling risks. Innovation is also outpacing our ability to manage it and there are growing concerns around technology misuse.
- Shorter-term fears are around geopolitical and cyber threats. For top business leaders, cyber risk concern is rising globally and is the highest ranked threat. Other concerns also exist including fiscal crises, unemployment, energy price shocks, national governance failure, interstate conflict and natural disasters.
- There is a significant financing gap (US\$18 trillion) in infrastructure capital with only US\$79 trillion currently planned between now and

2040. This means 20% more financing is needed than we are putting in today. Furthermore, infrastructure needs to be resilient to extreme weather events. Business, with its reliance on public sector infrastructure, will be impacted and need to work with government on solutions.

21. Food production needs to be more eco-friendly

Why in news?

A recently published Lancet Report by EAT-Lancet Commission on Food, Planet and Health advocates the need for sustainable food production to curb the growing adverse impact of food production on environment.

Effect of food Production on Environment

- Deforestation- conversion of forest land to arable land. Agriculture occupies around 40% of the global land.
- Conversion of natural ecosystem to croplands and pastures pose largest threat to extinction of species
- Food production is responsible for 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions
- Agriculture puts strain on water resources- it accounts for 70% of the freshwater use
- Overuse and misuse of nitrogen and phosphorus (from fertilizers and pesticides) causes contamination of water, eutrophication and dead zones in lakes and coastal zones.

Steps to be taken (Lancet Report recommendations)

Greenhouse gas expansions from agricultural expansion and land use will have to be reduced from 5 gigatone of CO₂ equivalent per year to -10 gigatone of CO₂ per year by 2100

Food production to sustain 10 billion people should-

- Use no additional land
- Save existing biodiversity- Biodiversity loss must be decelerated from 100 to between 1 to 80 extinctions per million species annually
- Reduce freshwater consumption
- Substantially reduce nitrogen and phosphorus pollution- Phosphorus use must be reduced from current usage of 17.9 teragram to between 6-16 teragram

At least 75% reduction in yield gaps (difference between potential yield and actual farm yield under the same environment)

Best Practice in India

1. Organic farming in Sikkim- Sikkim won the Future Policy Award 2018 of the Food and Agricultural Organisation for its sustainable farming practices.

2. Zero-Budget Natural Farming in Andhra Pradesh

22. Water desalination plants harm environment: UN

Context:

- Prevailing drinking water crisis in India and the prospect of desalination technology in India.
- Availability and access to improved source of drinking water is a basic indicator for human development and bears direct relevance to health and well-being of individuals.

Availability of drinking water in India is falling:

- Between 2001 and 2011, there has been a significant decrease in use of wells (22.0 %), as a major drinking water source, indicating fall in ground water tables.
- Per capita annual availability of water in the country is expected to fall from 1860 metre cube a year in 2001 to 1140 metre cube a year by 2050.
- Niti Aayog report warns that 21 cities are likely to run out of groundwater by 2020. Report estimates that demand will be twice the availability by 2030 and water scarcity would account for a 6% loss in India's gross domestic product (GDP).
- Rural areas also cannot rely on groundwater due to erratic rains and the fact that the groundwater is increasingly used for farming when monsoon rains are delayed or insufficient.

Considering above problems, using seawater, that most coastal states have access to, can be an effective solution. India's National Water Mission identifies desalination as a major tool to make sea water and brackish water accessible and usable for the people. India already has desalination plants but to bring uniformity in the field of water desalination in the country the Union government is working on a new mission on desalination.

Desalination:

Desalination essentially means removing salt and other minerals to make water fit for drinking or other purposes. The filtration of saline water can be done through Thermal Desalination Technology or Membrane Technology like Reverse Osmosis (RO).

Australia, Caribbean Islands, the Middle East, South Africa, USA, etc are some other countries that have established large desalination plants for domestic use. Israel now gets 55 percent of its domestic water from desalination and is helping India to set up desalination plants.

Gujarat and Tamil Nadu have the highest installed capacity of desalination in India. Chennai's one-third water demand is met by two desalination plants of Minjur and Nemmeli, churning out 200 million litres of water per day (MLD).

Challenges posed by desalination plants:

- **Environmental and human rights issues:** the discharge from desalination plants i.e. brine comprises about 5% salt whereas global seawater has 3.5% salt.
- The brine reject tends to create a sort of niche microhabitat with higher levels of salinity around areas where they are let out.
- Brine can cut levels of oxygen in seawater near desalination plants with “profound impacts” on shellfish, crabs and other creatures on the seabed.
- Brine water often contains toxins like chlorine and copper used in desalination.
- Brine reject from the plant is often let out directly onto the beaches and near coastlines, thus eroding the coastline and the livelihoods of locals, in addition to turning the groundwater salty.
- **Less efficient:** As per a UN study, desalination plants pump out 142 million cubic metres of salty brine every day, to produce 95 million cubic metres of fresh water, thus increasing the overall salinity of the oceans.
- **High energy cost:** Desalination plants are highly energy-intensive and capital intensive. Using coal to heat saline water means thousands of tonnes of carbon dioxide is produced in a 100 MLD plant.
- **Lack of monitoring of plants:** India does not have standards for governing the brine concentration entering the sea, nor the EIA process is followed during planning a plant, which allows companies running desalination plants to escape responsibility.

Following steps may help in increasing the viability of desalination in India:

- **Using alternate energy sources:** Using cheaper forms of energy other than electricity like solar power, wind energy etc. Big ponds of saltwater can use solar heating directly for desalination as done in regions in the Middle East.
- **Salt extraction:** Brine is rich in salt content which can be harnessed for extraction of salt by setting up adequate infrastructure near desalination plants.
- **Pumping brine underground:** Instead of flushing brine near coastal areas, it can be channelized and stored underground or piped deep into ocean.
- **Alternate technologies:** Setting small viable plants catering to small areas like individual villages using a different desalination technology called electro dialysis, powered by solar panels, could provide enough clean, palatable drinking water to supply the needs of a typical village.

- **Legal framework:** Harnessing of sea water resources should be included in the draft National Water Policy framework released in 2016, with legal safeguards and provisions for management of desalination plants.
- **Exploring other options:** Water rich states like Tamil Nadu receive ample rainfall from the monsoons and might not need large scale desalination plants. To meet drinking water needs of cities, conserving and protecting lakes and wetlands is a cheaper and environmentally better option than desalination.

Science and Technology

23. The business case for 5G

About 5G Technologies – 5G is the next generation mobile Internet connectivity that would offer much faster and more reliable networks, which would form the backbone for the emerging era of Internet of Things (IoT).

Penetration of 4G – As per Mobile Broadband Index released

- Due to launch of 4G service, India witnessed 82 % growth in mobile traffic.
- Mobile data traffic consumption driven by video contributed to 65-67 %.
- Average monthly data usage has been increased by 11 GB which is on par with developed market.
- In terms of connectivity India stands at 109th position in a list of 124 countries which is lower than Pakistan, Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Low connectivity leads to congestion and poor internet speed and it's getting worse when number of users is increasing.

Argument in Favor of 5G:

- 5G technology is capable to provide 10 times more speed than 4G technology.
- Main advantage claimed is that 5G can resolve the issue of congestion especially when large number of users is concentrated at a single place. This means user can stream videos regardless of how many people are streaming at the same time.
- From Industries perspective 5G can bring evolution when Internet of Things (IoT) concept, will gain momentum. Industries involved into manufacturing, energy and utilities will have ample of opportunity.
- Latency is very less say about 1-millisecond
- Up to 100x number of connected devices per unit area (compared with 4G LTE)
- 99.9% availability.
- 90% reduction in network energy usage
- Up to 10-year battery life for low power IoT devices

Argument against 5G in India and Globally:

- **Investment** – Implementation will require enormous and unjustifiable capital investments.
- **Lack of Regulatory bodies in India's Telecom sector** – 5G needs a proper strategy for its implementation and with lack of regulatory bodies, it seems impossible for India to achieve in near future.

- **India lacks in Fibre Infrastructure** – Optical Fibre plays a key role in the implementation of any new generation of network. Due to lack of Fibre infrastructure, India faces poor quality of service and call drop issues which indicate towards country's low investment in Fibre and backhaul infrastructure.

24. UNNATI Programme

Context:

National space agency, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched the UNNATI (UNispace Nano-satellite Assembly and Training by ISRO) programme at the U R Rao Satellite Centre, Bengaluru. UNNATI is a capacity building programme on nanosatellite development.

UNNATI Programme:

The UNNATI Programme is to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50).

UNNATI programme is planned to be conducted by U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC) of ISRO for 3 years in 3 batches and will target to benefit 90 officials from 45 countries.

The primary objectives of the programme are:

- To offer a simplified and increased exposure to satellite fabrication technologies, as part of the UNISPACE initiative.
- To provide theoretical course on satellite technology.
- To provide hands-on training to assemble, integrate and test a low cost, modular nano satellite.

25. ISRO developing technology to reuse first & second stages of rocket

Context:

ISRO is working on reusable launch vehicle technology for using the first and second stages of a rocket multiple times.

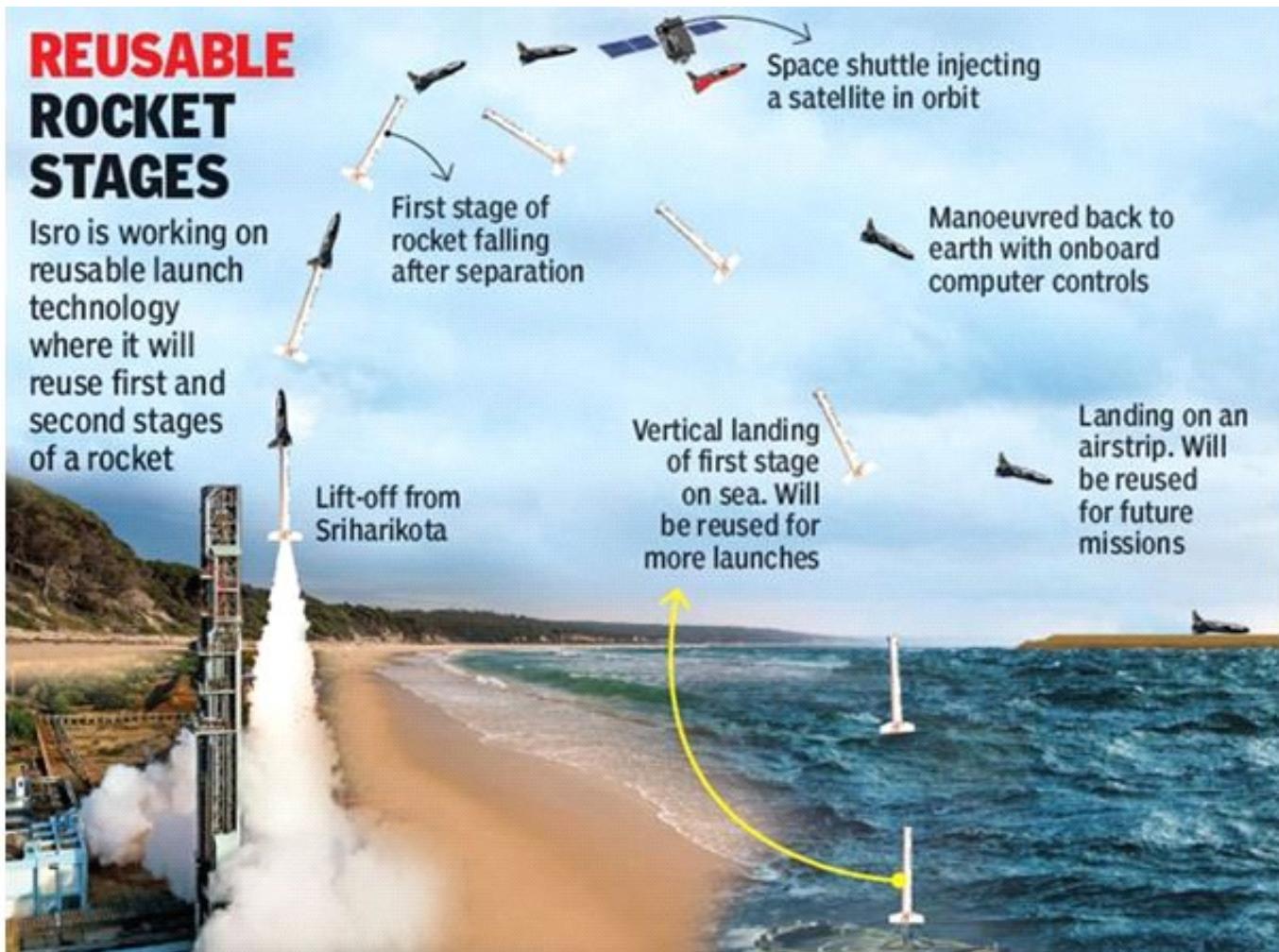
1. ISRO has successfully developed a scaled down (1:5) technology demonstration version of Reusable Launch Vehicle – Technology Demonstrator (RLV-TD) vehicle and carried out the first experimental mission in 2016
2. ISRO plans to conduct an advanced version of the reusable launch technology in June-July 2019

What is Reusable Launch Vehicle Technology Demonstrator (RLV TD)?

1. The RLV TD is a hybrid vehicle that combines the technologies of an aircraft and launch vehicle, one on top of the other
2. The main objectives of the RLV TD are to reduce cost of launch by increasing reusability and to increase reliability by achieving a Two Stage to Orbit (TSTO) capability.

Global Market

- At present, SpaceX dominates the global market of satellite launches and has more than 50% share primarily because of its reusable technology where it uses first stage rocket multiple times
- However, ISRO's share in the global market is only 0.6%. Mastering RLV technology is expected to increase ISRO's share significantly



26. Antarctica ice melting increased by 280% in last 16 years, says study

Study observation:

- In 1980s, Rate of Ice loss was 40 billion metric tons/ year which has increased to 252 billion metric tons/year since 2009
- Rate of Ice melting is 15% higher than last year
- Antarctica Ice coverage studied in three parts: Eastern, Western and Peninsular Antarctica
- Rate of Ice Melting in West Antarctica and Antarctica Peninsula accounts for 4/5th of total Antarctica ice loss
- “Eastern Antarctica” which had been considered Stable (little or no ice loss/gain) is now losing ice at rate of 51 billion metric tons/year

Study Warning:

- Observed Ice melting in East Antarctica along with Western and Peninsular Antarctica could lead to sea level rise more than 10 feet in next 100 year
- Increased rate of Ice melting is key indicator of Human-Induced Climate Change

Consequences of Sea Level Rise:

- Inundation of small islands developing states raising issue of climate refugees
- Saline water intrusion into fresh water aquifers
- Change in ocean linked atmospheric circulation impacting precipitation pattern across globe Indian Monsoon

India's Concern and Effort:

- Concern: India is vulnerable to coastal inundation (7500km coastline) and erratic monsoon led precipitation
- Effort: India has two research bases Maitri and Bharati (under National Center for Polar and Ocean Research) in Antarctica for multi-disciplinary studies

Miscellaneous

27. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

Who is he?

- A writer, poet and journalist who composed Vande Mataram, the National Song of India
- A key figure in literary renaissance of Bengal
- Authored Anandmath, which is set in the background of the Sannyasi Rebellion in the late 18th century.

Why in news?

BJP in Bengal are viewing him as their icon.

28. Deocha Pachami

What is it?

- It is the world's 2nd largest coal block, and India's largest coal block.
- It is located in Birbhum district of West Bengal.

Why in News?

The block has been allocated to the West Bengal Government after a struggle with the central government for over 3 years.

Coal block vs. Coal mine

- Coal Block means the length of layer of coal beneath the surface of earth.
- Generally, it is denoted in square kilometres
- The point at which coal extraction is done is called coal mine.

Significance of the allocation

The block can produce 30-40 million tonnes of coal a year and create around 1 lakh jobs.

29. Govt names winners of Gandhi Peace Prize

News:

Govt Announces Gandhi Peace Prize Winner For 2015-18 After 4-Year Gap

Facts:

- The prize was last conferred to the Indian Space Research Organisation in 2014.

About Gandhi Peace Prize

- It is given to individuals and institutions for their contribution towards social, economic and political transformation through non-violence and other Gandhian methods.
- The award was instituted in 1995 during the commemoration of 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and is to be given annually.
- The award was jointly given in 2000 to Nelson Mandela and Grameen Bank of Bangladesh.

- In 2018 the prize was given to Yohei Sasakawa, for effort towards Leprosy Elimination.
- For 2017, the award is given to Ekai Abhiyan Trust for their contribution to education for rural and tribal children.

30. Cut red meat, sugar by 50%: Lancet's diet plan for the world

News

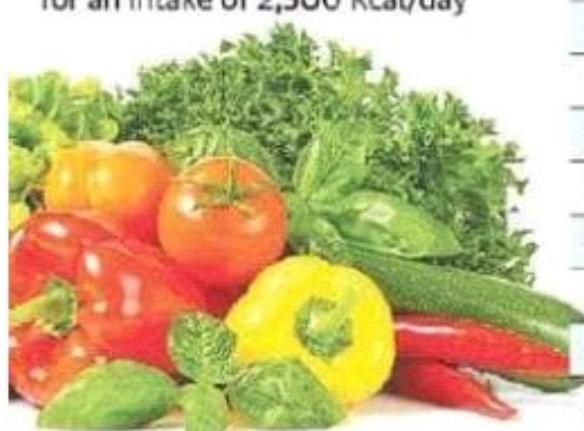
A recent Lancet report by EAT-Lancet Commission has provided a nutritious and sustainable diet plan

Highlights from the report

1. According to the report, over the past 50 years, dominant diets have become nutritionally suboptimal, which calls for a global transformation of the food system.
2. The study has recommended a diet plan which could potentially avert between 10.9 million and 11.6 million premature deaths globally per year, reducing adult deaths by 19-23.6%.
3. The Commission recommended that the average adult, whose daily requirement is about 2,500 calories, must strive to source around 800 calories from whole grain, 204 calories from fruits and vegetables, and not more than 30 calories from red meat.
4. It also suggested that the ideal diet should have no “added sugar” or unhealthy saturated fats

Suggestions:

1. Introduction of policies to encourage people to choose healthy diets
2. improving availability and access to healthy food through improved logistics and storage
3. moving from high volumes of crops to producing varied nutrient-rich crops



Food	Macronutrient intake (gm/day)	Caloric intake (kcal/day)
Whole grains	232	811
Tubers	50	39
All vegetables	300	78
Fruits	200	126
Dairy foods	250	153
Beef, lamb, pork	14	30
Chicken	29	62
Eggs	13	19
Fish	28	40
Legumes	75	284
All sugars	31	120



The Right Strategy To Succeed

+91 991 244 1138

Abhyasa Program Structure

	Multiple Choice Questions (PRELIMS)	Descriptive Questions (MAINS)	Total Marks
Daily Test	10 (10*1 = 10 marks)	1 (1*10= 10 Marks)	20
Weekly Test	20 (20*1 = 20 marks)	2 (2*10= 20 Marks)	40
Fortnightly Test	30 (30*1 = 30 marks)	3 (3*10= 30 Marks)	60
Monthly Test	50 (50*1 = 50 marks)	5 (5*10= 50 Marks)	100
3 Months Test	100 (100*1 = 100 marks)	10 (10*10= 100 Marks)	200
Total Questions	4250+	500+	

RIGHT STRATEGY TO CRACK CIVILS IN FIRST ATTEMPT



Mr. Srikanth Vinayaka
Cleared IAS 2016 & 2017

ABHYASA

To know more, scan this QR Code
and watch video.



Subscribe to our youtube channel
www.youtube.com/analogiasacademy

OUR BRANCHES

Hyderabad : Indira Park

Domalguda
Ph: 040-27620440, +91 991 244 1137
Email: ias.analog@gmail.com

Hyderabad : Madhapur

100 Ft Road, Ayyappa Society,
Ph: 040-48522831, +91 990 856 4438
Email : ias.analog@gmail.com

Vizag : Dwaraka Nagar

Office-3, 3rd Floor, GK Towers,
Ph: 0891- 2546686, +91 998 513 6789
Email : ias.analogvizag@gmail.com

Hyderabad : Ashok Nagar

Above OBC Bank
Ph: 8121046686, +91 991 244 1138
Email : ias.analog@gmail.com

New Delhi : Old Rajinder Nagar

57/12, Third Floor,
Ph : 011- 49785868, +91 880 028 3132
Email : ias.analog.delhi@gmail.com

Guntur : Arundalpet

2nd Floor, Eluri Mansion 2/1,
Ph: +91 996 335 6789
Email : ias.analog.guntur@gmail.com

OUR RESULTS - 2017

62



Fathima Zeba
HT No : 786820

83



Srivastava
HT No : 29379

100



Mourya
HT No : 255748

105



Mishra
HT No : 262146

144



149



187



295



296



360



412



417



474



480



548



614



673



713



726



758



761



765



768



769



828



832



872



886

