

CURRENT SHOTS 365 YEARLY MAGAZINE



SUSPENSION OF INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY

Section 10A has been
introduced

NATIONAL COMMODITY AND DERIVATIVES EXCHANGE AGRIDEX

SOCIAL STOCK EXCHANGES

an electronic fundraising
platform

10TH SCHEDULE OF THE CONSTITUTION ANTI DEFECTION LAW

CORONAVIRUS VACCINE BEING DEVELOPED BY OXFORD UNIVERSITY AND ASTRAZENECA SET FOR TRIALS

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

UNCLOS divides marine areas
into five main zones

A Comprehensive Current Affairs Revision Magazine for Civil Services - EPFO - RRB - SSC - NDA - CDS and All Other Competitive Exams.



POLITY

01

INDIAN UNSC NON-PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP

India has been elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

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MISSION KARMAYOGI

National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB). The Programme will be delivered by setting up an Integrated Government Online Training-iGOT.

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NATIONAL RECRUITMENT AGENCY[NRA]

NRA will conduct the Common Eligibility Test (CET) for recruitment to non-gazetted posts.

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VIRTUAL EXHIBITION ON BUDDHIST HERITAGE OF THE SCO

A virtual exhibition on the shared Buddhist heritage of SCO.

POLITY, GOVERNANCE AND IR

INDIAN UNSC NON-PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP:

- India has been elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for a two-year term and **this is the 8th time**.
- India is the only candidate from Asia-Pacific States, **won 184 votes** out of the 192 ballots. Along with India, Ireland, Mexico and Norway also won non-permanent membership.
- **India will be guided by the five priorities** under the overarching theme of **NORMS: New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System** and will pursue these priorities through a **Five-S approach**.
- **Five-S approach:** Samman (Respect), Samvad (Dialogue), Sahyog (Cooperation), Shanti (Peace) and Samriddhi (Prosperity).

INDIA BHUTAN HYDROPOWER PROJECT:

- 600 MW **Kholongchhu project** is part of four projects agreed in 2008, other three being **Bunakha, Wangchhu** and **Chamkharchhu**.
- **Kholongchhu** is a **50:50 Joint Venture** between Sutlej Jal Vidyut Nigam, Himachal Pradesh PSU and Bhutanese Druk Green Power Corporation.
- Other Key projects include, **Tala hydropower project** (1,020 MW) and **Dorjilung hydropower project** (1,125 MW) (trilateral cooperation between Bhutan, India and Bangladesh).

ONLINE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ODR) – A VOLUNTARY ADR:

- It is a form of **Alternative dispute redressal mechanism (ADR)** which is voluntary.
- Once opted, its mandatory to enter into mediation for at least one session, later parties can opt out if not interested.

VIRTUAL SUMMIT:

- **India Australia virtual summit** held recently which is first of its kind.
- Other recent summits which held virtually, **Extraordinary virtual G20 Leaders' Summit, SAARC virtual summit, Non-Aligned Movement Summit**.

ECONOMY



INDIAN GAS EXCHANGE [IGX]

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First gas exchange of India which was launched recently as wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Energy Exchange

BUILD-OPERATE AND TRANSFER (BOT) TOLL MODEL

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BOT toll model accounted for almost 96% of NHAI's all project awards in 2011-12 which forced NHAI to shift to Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) and Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM).

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NATIONAL LAND MANAGEMENT CORPORATION [NLMC]

NLMC would pursue land lease or concessions as a primary mode of commercial exploitation.

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LIQUIDITY TRAP

A liquidity trap is a contradictory economic situation in which interest rates are very low and savings rates are high

ECONOMY

SOCIAL STOCK EXCHANGES [SSE]:

- Expert panel setup by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has prepared draft norms for Social Stock Exchanges (SSE).
- **Social Stock Exchange (SSE)** is an **electronic fundraising platform** that allows investors to buy shares in a **social enterprise** provided by the exchange.
- **It's a revenue-generating business** whose primary objective is to achieve a social objective such as providing healthcare or clean energy.

MONETIZATION OF DEFICIT:

- If the expenditure of the government exceeds its income, the government is said to have **incurred a fiscal deficit**. This **deficit financing** has to be done either by **borrowing from the market** or **monetisation of deficit through RBI**.
- In simple words, **monetization of fiscal deficits** involves the financing of such extra expenses **with money, instead of debt** to be repaid at some future dates. So, it is a form of "**non-debt financing**". As a result, under monetization, there is no increase in net (not gross) public debt.

It can occur only through one of two modalities:

- **Direct Monetization (DM):** Under this method, RBI prints new currency and purchases government bonds directly from the primary market (from the government) using this currency. As a result, this supports the spending needs of the government.
- **Indirect monetization (IM):** In this method, deficits are monetized as the government issues bonds in the primary market and the RBI purchases an equivalent amount of government bonds from the secondary market in the form of Open Market Operations (OMOs).

INDIAN GAS EXCHANGE [IGX]:

- The Indian Gas Exchange (IGX), first gas exchange of India was launched recently as wholly owned subsidiary of **Indian Energy Exchange**.
- It is a digital trading platform that will allow buyers and sellers of natural gas to trade **both in the spot market and in the forward market for imported**



SOCIETY & SECURITY

39 **NON-PERSONAL DATA [NPD] GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK**

The draft report defines non-personal data as any set of data which does not contain personally identifiable information

44 **SPACE WARFARE**

Space warfare is combat that takes place in outer space.

48 **HUMAN CAPITAL INDEX 2020**

World Bank has released the report titled 'The Human Capital Index 2020 Update: Human Capital in the Time of COVID-19'

52 **BIO-TERRORISM:**

Action plan includes strengthening disease surveillance, training, capacity building, strengthening research and surveillance activities

SOCIETY AND SECURITY

FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE [FATF]:

- The **FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog**. The inter- governmental body sets international standards that aim to prevent these illegal activities and the harm they cause to society.
- It currently **comprises 37 member countries (including India)** and 2 regional organizations-European Commission and Gulf Co-operation Council.
- It was established in July 1989 by a **Group of Seven (G-7) Summit in Paris**, initially to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering.
- Pakistan is likely to remain on the grey list of the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** for failing to comply with its deadline to prosecute and penalise terrorist financing in the country

ADDITIONAL MILITARY FORCES TO ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR:

- Government plans for basing additional military forces, including facilities for additional warships, aircraft, missile batteries and infantry soldiers at the strategically located Andaman Islands.
- Runways at Naval air stations **INS Kohassa in Shibpur** and **INS Baaz in Campbell Bay** are being extended to support operations by large aircraft.
- Indian strategic commentators are even recommending to permit friendly foreign navies access to the ANI's military bases.
- These islands dominate the Bay of Bengal which contains important sea lines of communication. More than 30 percent of the world's seaborne trade passes through this narrow region. They comprise **30 per cent of India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)**.
- These Islands act as a **buffer zone** between India and rest of the nations present in IOR.

SAHIYAS:

- The **ASHAs in Jharkhand, known as "Sahiyas"**, have been supporting delivery of health care services to the last
- ASHAs are a community-based functionary under **National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)**.



ENVIRONMENT

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MANGROVES AS NATURAL BARRIER TO CYCLONES

West Bengal launched a project to plant 5 crore mangrove trees in cyclone-hit Sundarbans.

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INDIA COOLING ACTION PLAN [ICAP]

ICAP provides a 20-year perspective and outlines actions needed to provide access to sustainable cooling.

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GBO-5 REPORT

It is a flagship publication of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

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CLIMATE CHANGE PERFORMANCE INDEX

India ranked 10th in the latest edition of the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI).

ENVIRONMENT

GENDER, CLIMATE & SECURITY: SUSTAINING INCLUSIVE PEACE:

- Recently, a new report titled **Gender, Climate & Security: Sustaining Inclusive Peace on the Frontlines of Climate Change** was published by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), UN Women, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (UNDPPA).
- Outcomes of climate change threatening security: Rising temperatures, extended droughts, heavier rains and harsher storms are resulting in exacerbated loss of livelihoods, food insecurity, competition over scarce resources, migration and displacement and political and economic instability.
- **UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA):** The DPPA was established in 2019 following the reform of the United Nations peace and security infrastructure, which brought together the former Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office.

ASSESSMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE OVER THE INDIAN REGION:

- Recently, Ministry of Earth Sciences' (MoES) released a report titled '**Assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region**'.
- It is a **first ever attempt** to document and assess climate change in different parts of India.
- The report **highlights the observed and projected changes** in various climatic dimensions over the Indian region, their impacts and various policy actions to deal with the regional climate change.

Observed and projected changes in various climatic dimensions over the Indian region:

- Rise in Temperature: The surface air temperature changes over India are attributed **mostly by greenhouse gases** and partially offset by other anthropogenic forcing **including aerosols and land use land cover change**.
- Change in Rainfall pattern: **Summer monsoon rainfall** has **declined by 6%**, over India between 1951-2015 especially in the densely populated Indo-Gangetic plains and the Western Ghats.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

78 IN-SPACE

It will regulate and promote building of routine satellites, rockets and commercial launch services

81 BOSE EINSTEIN CONDENSATES [BEC]

The existence of Bose Einstein Condensate, also known as the fifth state of matter was predicted by Albert Einstein

84 INDIGEN PROGRAMME

IndiGen programme, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research's (CSIR) resource, was completed in six months, and the results were recently published

88 GAGANYAAN

The Gaganyaan has been designed to carry three Indian astronauts to the low earth orbit

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATION OF NANO-BASED AGRI-INPUT AND FOOD PRODUCTS:

- Recently, Centre has released '**Guidelines for Evaluation of Nano-based Agri-input and food products**' in India.
- Nanotechnology refers to a **field of applied science and technology** whose unifying theme is the control of matter on the molecular level in **scales smaller than 1 micrometre, normally 1 to 100 nanometres**, and the fabrication of devices within that size range.
- Guidelines **apply to Nano-Agri-Input Products (NAIPs), Nano-Agri Products (NAPs) and nano composites**, sensors made from Nanomaterials that require direct contact with crops, food and feed for data acquisitions.
- They do not apply to the conventional products or formulations with incidental presence of natural nanomaterials.
- **Nanomaterial (NM):** These are material that ranges in size from 1 to 100 nm at least in one dimension
- **Nano-Agri-Input Products (NAIPs):** They are agricultural input preparation containing NMs in any of the three dimensions
- **Nano-Agri Products (NAPs):** They are agricultural preparation containing NMs in any of the three dimensions

LUNAR POLAR EXPLORATION [LPE]:

- Recently, details of Joint Lunar Polar Exploration (LPE) mission were released by **Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)**.
- It was conceptualized as joint mission between JAXA and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in 2017 which aims **to put a lander and a rover on the Moon's surface**.
- As per details shared by JAXA (see infographic), it will be launched after 2023. The mission would last for about six months and will target a constantly sunlit region near the **Moon's South Pole**.
- JAXA would be building the overall **landing module and rover** and ISRO would develop **lander system**.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

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GARIB KALYAN ROJGAR ABHIYAAN

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the mega 'Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan' aimed to boost livelihood opportunities

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PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AROGYA YOJANA [PMJAY]

It aims to undertake path breaking interventions to holistically address the healthcare system (covering prevention, promotion and ambulatory care) at the primary, secondary and tertiary level.

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GARIB KALYAN ROJGAR ABHIYAAN

To empower and provide livelihood opportunities in areas/ villages witnessing large number of returnee migrant workers

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PM-KUSUM SCHEME

It aims to add a solar capacity of 25,750 MW by 2022.



GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING COMPLEXES [ARHCs]:

- Recently, the Cabinet approved the development of **affordable rental housing complexes (ARHCs)** for urban migrants and poor as a sub-scheme under the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)**.

Scheme:

- ARHCs shall be developed for exclusive use as **rental housing for a minimum period of 25 years**, using two models:
 - Converting existing vacant government funded housing complexes through **Concession Agreements**.
 - Special incentives for private/ public entities to develop ARHCs **on their own available vacant land**.

Beneficiaries:

- Workforce involved in manufacturing industries, service providers in hospitality, health, domestic/commercial establishments, and construction or
- other sectors, laborers, long term tourists/ visitors, students etc.
- Approximately, **3 Lakh beneficiaries** will be covered initially under ARHCs.

GARIB KALYAN ROJGAR ABHIYAAN:

- Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the mega '**Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan**' aimed to boost livelihood opportunities in rural India amid the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.

Scheme:

- The first priority of the scheme is to meet the immediate requirement of workers who have gone back to their districts by providing them with livelihood opportunities.
- It is a focused campaign of 125 days across 116 districts in six states to work in mission mode. Public works worth 50,000 crore rupees to be carried out under the scheme.
- The villages will join this programme through the common service centers and Krishi Vigyan Kendras.



MISCELLANEOUS

102 IMPROVING HERITAGE MANAGEMENT IN INDIA

NITI Aayog released a working group report on 'Improving Heritage Management in India'.

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BAGH PRINT

It is a traditional hand block print with natural colours, practised in Dhar district in Madhya Pradesh.

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BRAHMOS SUPERSONIC CRUISE MISSILE

India successfully test-fired land-attack version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile in the Andaman and Nicobar.

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NANOMICELLES

Nanomicelles are extremely small structures with size less than 100nm and have been noted as an emerging platform in targeted therapy

MISCELLANEOUS

IMPROVING HERITAGE MANAGEMENT IN INDIA:

- Recently, NITI Aayog released a working **group report on 'Improving Heritage Management in India'**.
- There are roughly **5 lakh plus heritage sites and monuments** across the country. It includes 3691 ASI Protected Monuments, 38 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, 6000 + State Archaeology Protected Monuments and 4 lakh plus Religious Heritage sites.
- India ranked 34th on the **World Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019**, released by the **World Economic Forum**.
- Archaeological Survey of India(ASI): It is the nodal agency responsible for archaeological research and the conservation and preservation of cultural monuments in the country.

UNHCR GLOBAL TRENDS REPORT:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] is a **global organization dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future** for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people.
- Atleast 100 million people were forced to flee their homes in the past decade.
- Out of this, 40% are Children (30-34 million) are among the displaced. Forced displacement has almost doubled since 2010 (41 million in 2010 vs 79.5 million in 2019).

MOPLAH REBELLION:

- Moplahs/Mappilas were the **Muslim tenants (kanamdars)** and **cultivators (verumpattamdars)** inhabiting the Malabar region where most of the landlords (**janmi or jenmies**) were upper caste Hindus.
- The **Malabar rebellion**, also known popularly as the **Moplah rebellion**, was an armed revolt staged by the **Mappila Muslims of Kerala** against the British authorities and their Hindu landlords in 1921.
- The six-month-long rebellion is often perceived to be one of the first cases of nationalist uprisings in Southern India. It occurred within the broader spectrum of the **Khilafat/Non-cooperation movement** led by Mahatma Gandhi.