# CA Why by @CSEWhy | Jun-Dec Subject Wise Current Affairs Compilation

# Bal. Buddhi. Vidya.

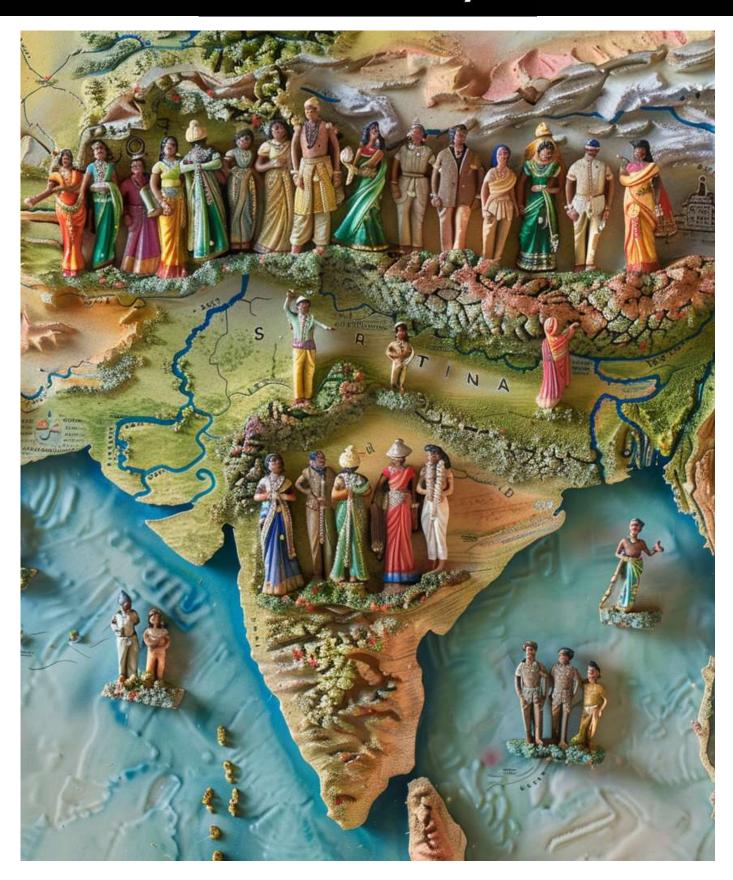
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## SAMPLE DOCUMENT

June 2023-November 2023



## Bal. Buddhi. Vidya.



## 7-IN-1 COMPILATION



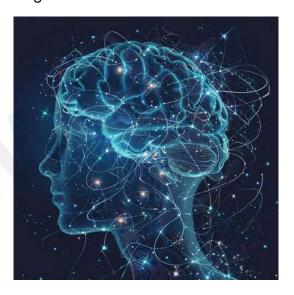
June 2023-November 2023

## TAPAS UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (UAV)

- Indian Navy and DRDO achieved a successful **TAPAS (Tactical Airborne Platform for Aerial Surveillance)** UAV control test from a distant ground station to INS Subhadra.
- About TAPAS 201 UAV:
  - Developed by Bengaluru's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE).
  - Capable of carrying various payloads for day and night missions.
  - Endurance of over 18 hours at altitudes up to 28,000 feet.
  - o Payload capacity of up to 350 kg.

## BRAIN ELECTRICAL OSCILLATION SIGNATURE PROFILING (BEOSP)

- **BEOSP (Brain Fingerprinting/Brain Mapping/P-300 Test):** Method for extracting hidden information from brain waves, using electroencephalogram.
- **Different from Polygraph:** Doesn't involve direct questioning, unlike polygraph which measures physiological indicators.
- **Credibility:** Brain mapping is considered more reliable than polygraph.
- Applications: Determine crime involvement, aid in medical diagnosis, counter-terrorism.
- **Legal Perspective:** SC ruled in <u>Selvi versus</u>
  <u>State of Karnataka case (2010)</u> that these
  tests cannot be forced without consent and
  results can't solely be used as evidence.



## **EXERCISES IN NEWS**

- Exercise Ekatha: Annual naval exercise between India and Maldives.
- **EKUVERIN:** Joint military exercise between Indian Army and Maldives National Defence Force.
- Ex Khaan Quest 2023: Indian Army's participation in multinational peacekeeping joint exercise in Mongolia.



#### **CYBERSECURITY**

The Standing Committee on Finance issued a report addressing the surge in cyber and white-collar crimes, particularly focusing on cybersecurity concerns.

- Need for Strengthening Cybersecurity:
  - Legal Framework Lacunae: Multiple agencies with distinct roles hinder unified direction.
  - Technological Challenges: Emergence of Al and IoT
  - Misuse of Internet: Increased cyber-attacks
  - **Lack of Skilled Human Resources:** Significant gap in skilled cybersecurity professionals poses a challenge.
  - **Existing Framework:** <u>Information Technology Act 2000,</u> CERT-In, <u>National Cyber Security Policy 2013, and various initiatives aim to combat cyber threats.</u>



## **EXERCISES IN NEWS**

- **JIMEX 23:** 7th bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise hosted by Indian Navy, held at/off Visakhapatnam.
- **SALVEX:** 7th edition of Indian Navy US Navy Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise recently conducted in Kochi.
- Operation Southern Readiness 2023: Annual multinational exercise involving India, USA, Italy, UK, Seychelles, conducted by Combined Maritime Forces.
- Nomadic Elephant 2023: Joint military exercise between India and Mongolia.

#### **Key changes:**

- Ownership rules: Threshold reduced from 15% to 10% for partnership capital or profits to be considered a beneficial owner. Individuals exercising control over a partnership are also deemed beneficial owners.
- Principal officer definition: Only management-level officers can now be appointed as Principal Officer. Trustees in a trust must disclose their status.
- Reporting requirements: Entities must keep client records for five years after the end of the business relationship or account closure.



## FUGITIVE ECONOMIC OFFENDER (FEO)

Assets worth \$1.8 billion recovered under Fugitive Economic Offenders Act.

Fugitive Economic Offender (FEO): Evading arrest for economic crimes exceeding Rs. 100 crore.



#### FEO Act, 2018:

- Covers offenses like counterfeiting, money laundering.
- Process: Application filed in Special Court under PMLA.
- Enforcement by ED.
- Assets can be seized without conviction.
- Appeals go to the High Court.

**Challenges:** Limited international cooperation, legal complexities.

## TTPS-BASED CYBERCRIME INVESTIGATION FRAMEWORK

TTPs (Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures) based cybercrime investigation framework:

- Developed by IIT Kanpur with DST support.
- Aids in tracking and classifying cybercrimes.
- Identifies evidence chain for case resolution.
- Maps evidence for convicting criminals.
- Part of **NM-ICPS initiative** focusing on cyber-physical systems R&D and technology platforms.

## PANCHAYAT DEVELOPMENT INDEX (PDI)

#### Released by Ministry of Panchayati Raj

- Provides a grading system to monitor and evaluate panchayat progress.
- **Scoring and Ranking:** Panchayats are categorized into grades A, B, C, and D based on their scores.
- **Evaluation Criteria:** Covers various aspects of panchayat functioning for comprehensive assessment.
- Purpose:
  - 1. Guides targeted interventions and resource allocation.
- 2. Promotes accountability and transparency in local governance.



## **ADVERSE POSSESSION**

Adverse possession entails acquiring property through **continuous and peaceful possession**, aiming to resolve disputes over land ownership.

- **Historical Context:**Rooted in ancient legal codes like the **Hammurabi Code**, evolved through statutes such as **England's Property Limitation Act of 1874**, and further codified in **India's Limitation Act of 1963**.
- **Legal Framework:**The **Limitation Act of 1963** shifted the burden of proof to claimants and specified timeframes for ownership acquisition, based on possession duration.

#### **UNRWA**

Founded in 1949, UNRWA's primary mission is to deliver aid to Palestinians displaced during the **1948 Arab-Israeli conflict.** 

- HQ: Amman, Jordan and Gaza, Palestinian Authority
- Funding paused

• Implementation: Collaboration between the Ministries of Women and Child Development, Panchayati Raj, Rural Development, and Common Service Centers operated by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.



## AUGUST

## **DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ACT 2023**

- Applies to processing digital personal data within India and cross-border data flows.
- Requires consent before processing personal data and empowers the government to set lower age limits for Internet use.
- Establishes the **Data Protection Board of India** to monitor compliance and impose penalties.
- Cross-Border Data Flows and Impact on Social Media Companies:
  - Proposes easing cross-border data flows through a blacklisting mechanism, moving away from whitelisting.
  - Requires Significant Data Fiduciaries to develop user verification mechanisms, reducing user anonymity and mitigating issues like trolling and fake news.
- Exemptions and Data Protection Board of India:
  - Exempts certain activities from the Act's application, including prevention of offenses and research purposes.
  - Establishes the Data Protection Board of India to monitor compliance, impose penalties, and address data breach incidents.

#### Penalties and Enforcement:

- Specifies penalties for various offenses, such as non-fulfilment of obligations for children and failure to implement security measures to prevent data breaches.
- Penalties to be imposed by the Data Protection Board after conducting an inquiry

## SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

The Prime Minister of India has launched the **National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission** in **Madhya Pradesh**.

- SCD alters red blood cell shape, causing blockages in blood vessels and anemia.
- Stem cell transplants are the only cure but carry risks.
- India has predicted SCD births, especially among tribal populations due to malnutrition.

#### • National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission:

- Aims to provide affordable care, eliminate SCD as a public health problem by 2047.
- **Strategies**: Health promotion, prevention through screening, holistic management.
- Initially targets 17 high-prevalence states, aiming to cover 7 crore people in 3.5 years.

#### • Control Initiatives & Concerns:

- NHM guidelines focus on screening and genetic counseling.
- Special cards and a tribal affairs portal for registration.
- Concerns include lack of awareness, screening centers, and reliance on traditional medicine.



## **STEM CELLS**

Recently, US and UK scientists achieved a breakthrough by creating synthetic human embryo-like structures using stem cells, bypassing the need for eggs and sperm.

#### Synthetic Human Embryo-Like Structures:

- Resemble **natural embryos** in early development.
- Lack heartbeats or brain beginnings but contain cells for placenta, yolk sac, and embryo.
- Aid in understanding genetic disorders and recurrent miscarriages.

#### Relevance of Stem Cells:

- Understanding disease nature.
- Stem Cell Therapy (SCT): Involves introducing new stem cells into damaged tissue for treatment.
- **Toxicology**: Stem cells are used to test drug side effects, avoiding risks to patients.

#### Challenges in Stem Cell Technology

- Ethical concerns.
- Safety concerns: Risk of tumor growth.
- Immune rejection: Post-transplant rejection issues.
- Understanding mechanism: Uncertainty whether synthetic embryos can mature beyond early stages. Read more about stem cell here:



## **BLACK HOLES**

Scientists observed **time dilation** in a class of black holes known as quasars in the early universe.

- Time passes at different rates for observers based on relative motion or gravitational fields.
- Einstein's Theory of Relativity predicts time dilation, linked with the universe's expansion since the Big Bang.
- Black Holes: Black holes are regions where gravity is so strong that even light cannot escape. They form from remnants of large stars that undergo supernova explosions.
- 2020 Nobel Prize in Physics:Roger Penrose awarded for showing black hole formation is a prediction of General Relativity.Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez awarded for discovering a supermassive black hole at the center of our galaxy.
- In 2019, the first optical image of a black hole was obtained through the Event Horizon Telescope, capturing the one at the center of galaxy **Messier 87.**

#### Read more about Black Holes here:



## **SEPTEMBER**

#### ADITYA-L1

On September 2, ISRO achieved a milestone by launching India's inaugural space-based **observatory-class solar mission.** 

- ISRO executed the trans-Lagrangian point I (L1) Insertion maneuver on September 18
- The **Supra Thermal & Energetic Particle Spectrometer (STEPS)** within the Aditya Solar Wind Particle Experiment (ASPEX) payload began scientific data collection.
- STEPS, comprising six sensors, observes ions' behavior during Earth's orbits
- Data collection by STEPS will continue throughout the Aditya L1 mission.
- Aditya-L1, launched via **PSLV C57**, will orbit around the **L1 Lagrange point**, focusing on solar atmospheric dynamics and in-situ particle environments.
- The mission carries seven payloads, including capabilities for **UV imaging and CME detection** with onboard intelligence.

Placing satellites at L1 enables uninterrupted solar observation, exemplified by missions like **SOHO and the James Webb Space Telescope.** 

#### **KNOW MORE ABOUT ADITYA-LI HERE:**



#### WHO HYPERTENSION REPORT

WHO released its first report on hypertension, highlighting its global prevalence and impact.

- **Hypertension** is characterized by elevated blood pressure levels, with India having a 31% prevalence.
- In India, only 37% of hypertension cases are diagnosed, and 30% receive treatment, indicating a need for better control.
- Risk factors include high salt intake, tobacco use, obesity, alcohol consumption, and physical inactivity.
- India's interventions include the **India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI)**, focusing on evidence-based treatment and patient-centered care.

#### **GUJARAT DECLARATION**

WHO released the outcome document of its first **Traditional Medicine Global Summit 2023**, known as the **Gujarat Declaration**.

- The declaration reaffirmed global commitments to indigenous knowledge, biodiversity, and **Traditional**, **Complementary**, and **Integrative Medicine** (**TCIM**).
- It aims to harness the potential of traditional medicine and promote their integration into national health systems.

### SCRUB TYPHUS DISEASE

Caused by Orientia tsutsugamushi bacteria transmitted through bites of infected chiggers.

- No vaccine exists for scrub typhus.
- Symptoms include fever, headache, body aches, and rash.
- Prevalent in rural areas of Southeast Asia, Indonesia, China, Japan, India, and northern Australia.

# RNA (RIBONUCLEIC ACID) STUDY OF TASMANIAN TIGER

Researchers achieved the first sequencing of RNA from an extinct species, specifically the Tasmanian tiger, also known as the **thylacine**.

- RNA, like DNA, carries genetic information, synthesizes proteins, and regulates cell metabolism.
- Benefits include insights into species metabolism regulation and understanding the causes of past pandemics.



#### INDIA US RELATIONS

Indian PM's 31st US Visit: Key Outcomes

- **Trade:** Launched Strategic Trade Dialogue to address export controls and enhance technology transfer.
- **Semiconductors:** Signed MoU on Semiconductor Supply Chain and Innovation Partnership
- **Telecommunication:** Launched Joint Task Forces for Open Radio Access Network (Open RAN) system development.
- **Quantum Tech:** Established Indo-U.S. Quantum Coordination Mechanism for collaboration in Quantum Information Science and Technology.
- **Research and Innovation:** Initiated "Innovation Handshake" to connect startup ecosystems.

#### India-U.S. Partnership Highlights:

- Clean Energy: Launched platform for green technologies; U.S. aids Indian Railways' carbon-neutral goal.
- Critical Minerals: India joins MSP for secure mineral supply.
- **Education:** Task force formed for research collaborations; Global Challenge Institutes established.
- **Visa Reforms:** U.S. pilot for visa renewals in 2023, with H1B and L renewal implementation in 2024.
- **Consulate Expansion:** U.S. opens consulates in Bengaluru, Ahmedabad; India in Seattle, with two more in the U.S. soon.





## JULY

#### INDIA-SRI LANKA

- India and Sri Lanka released a statement titled "Promoting Connectivity, Catalysing Prosperity: India-Sri Lanka Economic Partnership Vision."
- India-Sri Lanka Agreements:
- 1. MoUs on **UPI digital payments and Indian Rupee as currency for projects.**
- 2. Introducing passenger ferry services between Nagapattinam and Kankesanturai.
- Economic Ties:
- 3. **ISFTA** in 1998, bilateral trade \$5.45 billion in 2021.
- 4. India is a major contributor to Sri Lanka's FDI.
- Connectivity: Open Sky, Air Bubble arrangements exist for air connectivity.
- Areas of Convergence: Trade routes, geopolitical interest, military exercises, cultural ties.
- Divergence: Trust deficit, fishing disputes, Katchatheevu islet ceding, Tamil minority rights.
- India's Role in 2022 Crisis: Provided financial assistance, delivered essentials, engaged in debt restructuring talks.
- **Strategic Issues:** Increased Chinese presence, non-implementation of <u>13th Amendment for Tamil rights.</u>

## **INDIA-FRANCE**

- Horizon Framework: Includes defense, nuclear energy, space, <u>Schengen visa</u>, and environmental initiatives.
- Three Pillars for 25 Years: Security, planet, and people guide ties.
- Critical Technologies: Emphasis on AI, quantum computing.
- **Convergence:** France aids India's defense modernization.
- **Key Outcomes:** Eliminate single-use plastic, **Indo-Pacific roadmap**, consulate openings, economic collaborations.



### MALABAR: NOT JUST AN EXERCISE

Malabar naval exercise shifts to **Sydney** for the first time, featuring India, Japan, the United States, and Australia. Marks expanded Pacific Ocean collaboration.

- Malabar naval exercise, started in 1992 bilaterally, expanded to include Australia, Japan, and Singapore in 2007 (Quad 1.0).
- 2008: Australia and Japan withdrew due to Chinese protests.
- 2015: Japan became a permanent participant.
- 2020: Australia rejoined, aligning with Quad 2.0 revival.
- Evolution tied to changing geopolitics, fueled by China's assertiveness and OBOR program.

#### Significance for India:

- Enhances naval capabilities, safeguards navigation routes, and strengthens **Indo-Pacific** coalition.
- Quad cooperation aids economic, technological, and military capabilities.
- Supports <u>SAGAR policy</u> by sharing information and building capacity.
- Economic benefits with Japan and the USA.

## **GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS**

Under India's G20 Presidency, Trade and Investment Ministers agreed to map Global Value Chains (GVCs) and adopted a G20 Generic Framework for Mapping GVCs.

- GVC Definition: Complex global production networks for efficiency.
- Nature: Contrasts traditional trade, involves intricate transactions.
- Participation: Countries engage backward or forward.
- **Distribution:** Dominated by select countries; regional disparities.

#### **G20 Framework:**

- · Voluntary, non-binding; focuses on data and analysis.
- Identifies critical sectors for GVC resilience.

#### **About Hamas:**

- Founded in 1987 after the **First Intifada** to resist Israeli occupation.
- De facto authority in Gaza since Israel's withdrawal in 2005.
- Refuses to recognize Israel, committed to armed resistance, declared a terrorist organization by the US, EU, and Israel.

#### **Background of Israel-Palestine Conflict:**

- Rooted in territorial claims between Palestinians and Israelis.
- Jerusalem, with religious significance, is a focal point.
- Recent conflict underscores the importance of addressing the Palestinian cause.



## YOM KIPPUR WAR

#### Yom Kippur War (1973) - Background:

#### 1948 - First Arab-Israeli War:

- Arab states and factions opposed Israel's establishment.
- Israel gained territory, leading to the "Nakba" for Palestinians.

#### 1956 - Suez War (Second Arab-Israeli War):

- Involved Israel, UK, and France against Egypt.
- Marked the decline of British and French influence.

#### 1967 - Six-Day War (Third Arab-Israel War):

- Israel's pre-emptive strikes reshaped the Middle East map.
- Arab League's 'Three No's' resolution at Khartoum summit.

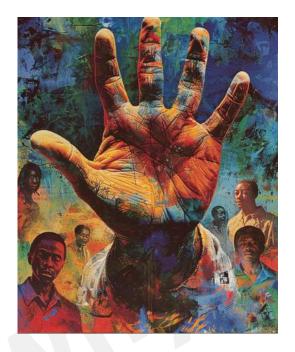
#### Yom Kippur War Overview:

- Coalition led by Egypt and Syria attacked Israel in October 1973.
- Unlike previous wars, Egypt and Syria aimed to reclaim lost territory.
- Superpower involvement heightened tensions, with the U.S. supporting Israel and the Soviet Union backing Egypt and Syria.
- Ceasefire achieved with United Nations mediation.

# UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (UNHRC)

The UN General Assembly **elected 15 Member States to the Human Rights Council (HRC)** but rejected Russia's bid for rejoining.

- The UN General Assembly elected 15 Member States to HRC, rejecting Russia's bid.
- New members chosen for the 2024-2026 term through secret ballot, requiring a minimum of 97 votes.
- UNHRC, headquartered in Geneva, aims to promote and protect human rights globally.
- Council's structure includes a Bureau,
   Working Groups, and a Secretariat supported
   by the UN OHCHR.
- Criticisms of HRC involve membership criteria, selectivity, accessibility barriers, and implementation deficiencies.



### **SOUTH CHINA SEA**

Philippines removes a Chinese-installed floating barrier blocking its fishing boats from entering a contested area in the South China Sea.

#### South China Sea Dispute Background

- Involving Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Vietnam
- China's 90% Claim based on Nine-Dash Line
- Artificial Islands, Territorial Conflicts
- 2016 UN Ruling Favors Philippines (UNCLOS)

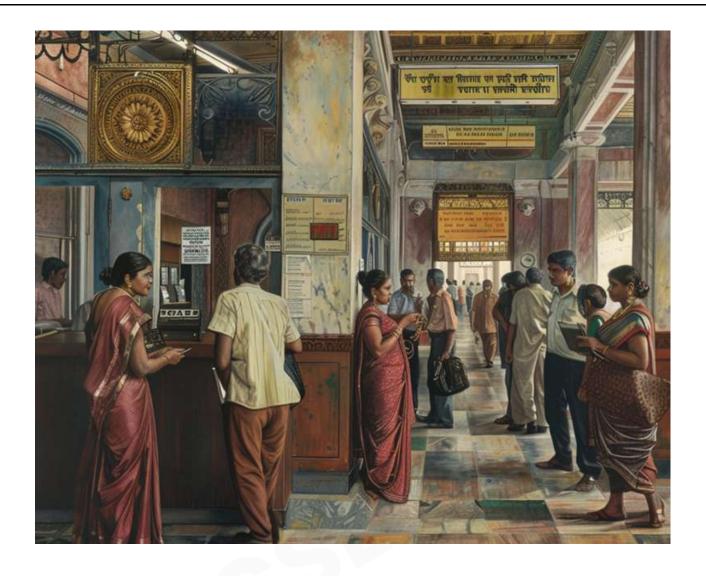
#### Significance of South China Sea

- Maritime Trade Hub
- Global Trade Route (60%)
- India's Trade Passage (55%)
- Rich in Resources: Oil, Gas, Fishing Grounds
- Geopolitical Importance for Freedom of Navigation

#### Nine-Dash Lines

- Historical Claim by China
- Represents 90% of South China Sea
- Origins: Chinese Map of 1940s





## **CRITICAL MINERALS**

The Ministry of Mines released India's first-ever report on "Critical Minerals," identifying 30 minerals, including 17 Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and 6 Platinum-Group Elements (PGE)

- A committee constituted by the Ministry identified critical minerals based on their limited availability in India's geological reserves.
- The list will guide policy formulation, strategic planning, and investment decisions in the mining sector.
- Critical minerals: Essential elements for modern technologies prone to supply chain disruptions, including Antimony, Beryllium, Cobalt, and Copper.
- Vital for manufacturing electronics, batteries, electric vehicles, and green technologies like solar panels and wind turbines.



#### **GLACIERS IN HINDU KUSH HIMALAYA**

ICIMOD released the WISE report for the Hindu Kush Himalaya.

- ICIMOD, **established in 1983**, focuses on climate risks and sustainable action, with 8 member countries.
- The report highlights climate change impacts:
  - a. Glacier melt accelerated by 65% in the 2010s.
  - b.Glacier volume could decrease by 30%-50% by 2100 under 1.5°C to 2°C global warming.
  - c. 'Peak water' expected by mid-century in most HKH river basins.
  - d.Increased hazards like floods and landslides, with a three-fold rise in GLOF risk by the century's end.

Read more about Hindu Kush Himalayas here:



## **ENERGY TRANSITION**

The World Economic Forum (WEF)released the "Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2023" report featuring the Energy Transition Index (ETI).ETI evaluates equity, security, and sustainability.

- Key findings include:
  - Sweden, Norway, and Denmark lead the rankings.
  - India ranks 67th out of 120 countries.
  - o India and Singapore show progress across all energy system aspects.
  - ETI has increased yearly over the last decade but plateaued in the past three due to challenges to equity and inclusiveness.
- Electricity generation contributes significantly to India's greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for around 34% in 2019
- To fulfill Panchamitra pledge

## SCHEME FOR EXPANSION AND MODERNIZATION OF FIRE SERVICES IN THE STATES

#### **NDRF Scheme Highlights**

- Launched by **Union Ministry of Home Affairs** from Preparedness and Capacity Building Funding Window
- Shift in disaster management approach towards Risk Reduction
- 15th Finance Commission allocates 12.5% of NDRF and SDRF for Preparedness
- Aims to expand and modernize Fire Services in States

#### **Funding Allocation:**

- Rs. 5,000 Crore from NDRF for Fire Services expansion
- Rs. 500 Crore incentivizes states based on legal and infrastructure reforms
- States contribute 25% of the project cost; North-Eastern and Himalayan States contribute 10%

## **EARTHQUAKE SWARM**

#### Iceland Earthquake Swarm:

- 2,200 earthquakes observed in 24 hours in Europe's largest volcanic region
- · Caused by diverging plate movements on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge
- Mount Fagradalsfjall and Eyjafjallajokull major earthquake zones

#### **Earthquakes and Swarms:**

- Sudden ground shaking by seismic waves
- Swarm: Many earthquakes in a short period, no specific foreshocks or aftershocks
- · Lasts hours to weeks, mostly low to moderate magnitude
- · Occurs at shallow depths along existing fault systems

## SHELF CLOUD

- Uttarakhand Shelf Cloud
- Associated with powerful storms, formed when cold downdraft reaches the ground, pushing warm moist air upward.



## NAMAMI GANGE PROGRAMME (NGP)

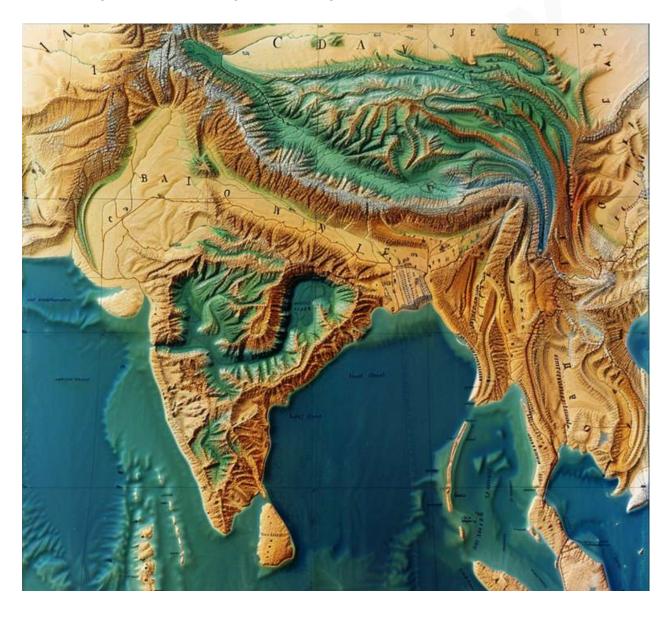
The Installed Waste treatment plants can treat only 20% of sewage projected in 5 major states along the Ganges.

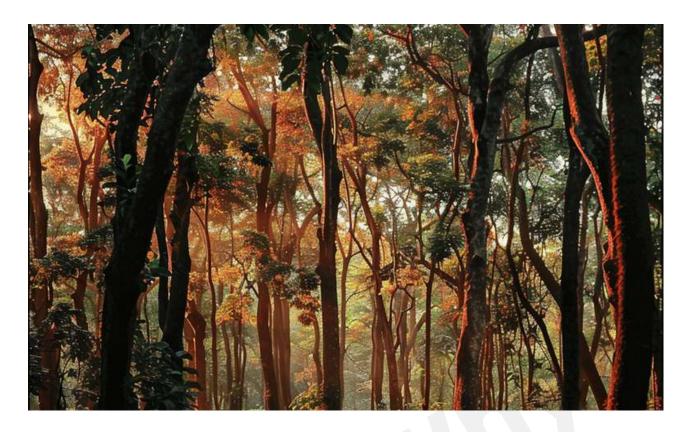
#### Namami Gange Programme (NGP) Overview:

- Integrated Mission for Ganga conservation.
- Phases: I (2014-2021), II (2022-2026).
- Implemented by NMCG and states.
- Covers key pillars: Sewerage, River-Front, Biodiversity.
- Achieved acceptable Dissolved Oxygen levels.
- 885 of 1072 Industries monitored.

#### **Initiatives and Issues:**

- Clean Ganga Fund for treatment.
- Dissolved NRGBA, formed NMCG.
- Waste disposal ban (2017).
- Challenges: Financial, sewage treatment, governance.





#### TROPICAL TIMBER

**59th ITTO Council Session:** Focused on sustainable tropical forest management and trade.

- Tropical Timber: 45% of global forests, including Amazon and Congo Basin.
- Uses: Construction, fuel, paper, and synthetic textiles like Rayon.
- **Threats:** Deforestation (land use change, illegal logging) and forest degradation (wildfires, climate change).
- Initiatives: ITTA 2006, ITTO's Strategic Action Plan (2022–2026), CBD Collaboration, UNCED's Panel and Forum on Forests.

## NOA-DIHING MUSIC FROG

New Frog Species: Discovered in Namdapha-Kamlang, Arunachal Pradesh.

**Naming:** Named after Noa-Dihing River, a Brahmaputra tributary.

#### **Features:**

- Genus: Nidirana (first time in India).
- Pale cream mid-body line, 'rounded' snouts, and bony protrusions.
- Known as Music frogs for their unique call pattern.

## HIMALAYAS' VULNERABILITY TO LANDSLIDES

**Silkyara-Barkot Tunnel Collapse**: Uttarakhand's under-construction tunnel collapsed due to a landslide.

- **Tunnel Details:** Connects Yamunotri to Dharasu, part of Char-Dham all-weather road project.
- Construction in an area with soft rocks prone to collapse.

#### LAMBANI ART

**Guinness World Record** 

- Lambani community/Banjara community
- · Vibrant colours, mirror work
- Geographic Indication (GI) tag- 2010 from Karnataka.
- Language of Banjara "Gorboli" "Gor mati" Boli" or "Brinjari"

## BASTILLE DAY AND FRENCH REVOLUTION (1789-1815)

PM attended Bastille Day Parade

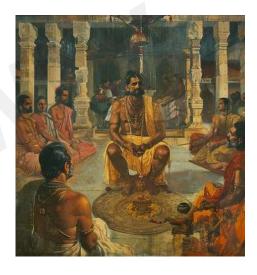
- 14th July 1789: Bastille prison was stormed, beginning of the French Revolution
- Bastille symbolized despotic power of the king
- Contributions: Liberty, Equality and Fraternity

## ANUBHAV MANTAPA

International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC), Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, renamed as '**Bharat Mandapam'** 

- From Lord Basaveshwara's Anubhav Mantapa- one of the earliest Parliament in history
- Sharanas-poets and socio-spiritual reformers
- President-Prabhudeva, a great Yogi
- PM-Lord Basaveshwara
- Membership by nomination

Read about Lord Basaveshwara here.



## TANKAI SHIPBUILDING METHOD

Revival project by Ministry of Culture and Indian Navy

- 2000-year-old technique
- · Wooden planks are stitched together'
- Flexible and durable

### OL CHIKI SCRIPT

Script of Santhali Language

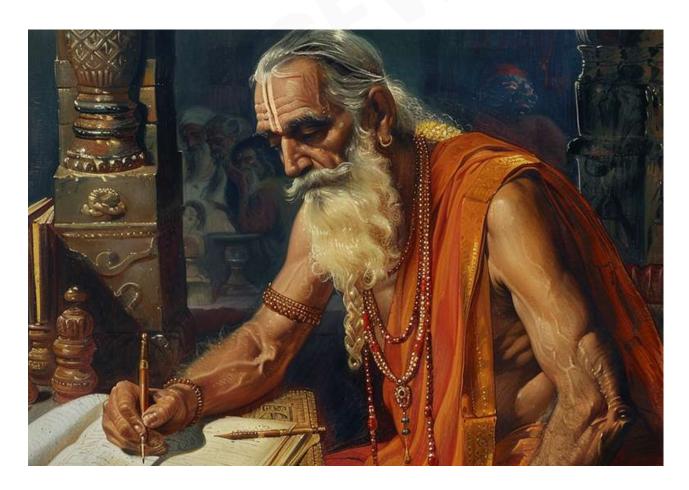
- Official Language: 92nd Constitutional Amendment Act added Santhali to Schedule VIII
- No fixed criteria exist for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule
- Script created by Raghunath Murmu in 1925
- Hul Diwas: June 30, beginning of the Santhal rebellion 1885
- Santhal Rebellion
  - o Damin-i-Koh region- Rajmahal Hills of Jharkhand
  - o Headed by- Siidhu and Kanhu Murmu

## SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AMRIT AWARDS

- Acknowledges individuals above 75 for remarkable contributions in music, dance, and theater.
- National honor recognizing performing artists, teachers, and scholars in the performing arts field.
- Award includes a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000, a Tamrapatra, and an Angavastram.

#### **ADI SHANKARACHARYA**

- Adi Shankara, born on May 11th, 788 AD, in Kaladi near Kochi, Kerala.
- Passed away at the age of 33 in Kedar tirth; devoted to Shiva.
- Propagated the **Doctrine of Advaita (Monism)** and authored numerous commentaries on Vedic texts in Sanskrit.
- Opposed Buddhist philosophers.
- Major works: "Brahmasutrabhasya," "Bhajagovinda Stotra," "Nirvana Shatakam," and various Prakaran Granths.
- Revived Hinduism in India during Buddhism's rise; established four Mathas at Sringeri, Puri, Dwaraka, and Badrinath.
- Advaita Vedanta presents radical nondualism, derived from Upanishadic texts.
- According to Advaitins, the Upanishads reveal 'brahman', the ultimate reality transcending individuality.
- Advaitins assert that one's essential self (atman) is brahman, pure consciousness without intentionality, nondual, infinite, and identical to brahman.



#### SIR SYED AHMED KHAN

2023 marked the 125th death anniversary of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.

- Was a civil servant, journalist, educationist, social reformer, and historian.
- Promoted **free inquiry in Islam** and its compatibility with modern science.
- Magazine: Tahzebul Akhlaq (Social Reformer in English)
- Other works: "The Causes of the Indian Revolt," "Commentary on the Holy Bible," and the Aligarh Institute Gazette.
- Played a pivotal role in establishing Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College in Aligarh.
- Initially conservative but later acknowledged the importance of women's education.

### RANI DURGAVATI

500th birth anniversary of Veerangana Rani Durgavati

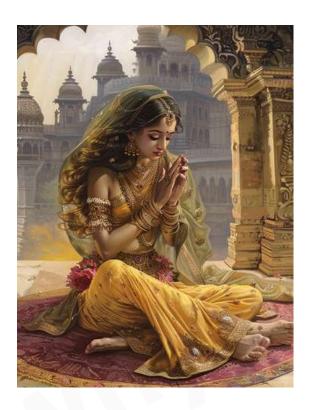
- Born in the Chandel Dynasty of Mahoba in Banda, UP; married Dalpatshah of the Gond Dynasty of Garha-Katanga in 1542.
- Assumed **leadership** after husband's death in 1550, became guardian of son Veer Narayan.
- Opposed Mughal expansionism during Emperor Akbar's reign; faced conflict with Asaf Khan's Mughal attack on Gond Empire.
- **Contributions**: infrastructure development, patronage of religious figures, commitment to secular governance.
- Notable victory over Baz Bahadur, ruler of Malwa, as chronicled by Abul Fazl and British Colonel Sleeman.



## **SANT MEERA BAI**

Sant Meerabai's 525th birth anniversary

- Early Life: Born as Princess of Mewar, named Yashodha.
- Married Rana Bhoj Raj, the crown prince of Mewar.
- After Bhoj Raj's death in 1521, she embarked on a spiritual quest, leaving Mewar.
- Life as a Saint: Resided in various places, including Brindavan and later Dwarka.
- **Devoted follower of Lord Krishna**, considering him her husband.
- Referred to Lord Krishna as Giridhar Gopal.
- Major Works: "Paayoji maine Ram Ratan dhan paayo" & "Raag Govind" & "Bhaktmal."



#### **Social Reforms:**

- Became a disciple of Sant Ravidas, challenging caste norms.
- Her songs challenged upper caste norms.
- Rejected traditional gender roles by leaving the palace.

## KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM

- Childhood and Early Life: Born in Churulia village, Burdwan
- Joined the Indian Army in 1917 and later became a Battalion Quarter Master.
- Rebel Poet: Known as the Bidrohi Kobi for works rebelling against oppression.
- Composed over 2000 songs known as 'Nazrul Geeti.'
- Major Works: 'The Autobiography of a Delinquent' in 1919, 'Bandhan-hara', 'Bodhan', 'Shat-il-Arab', etc.
- Imprisoned for a year in 1922 for his poem 'Anondomoyir Agomone'.
- Active in Swadeshi and Khilafat movement, organizing the Sramik Praja Swaraj Dal.
- Hindu-Muslim Unity
- Awards & Achievements: Padma Bhushan in 1960 by the Republic of India.
- Conferred the title of 'national poet' and awarded the 'Ekushey Padak' by Bangladesh.