

CURRENT AFFAIRS

08 August 2022



TOPIC : INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

IAEA raises alarm over strikes at nuclear plant in Ukraine

REUTERS
KYIV

The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) raised grave concern about shelling at a nuclear power plant in Ukraine, as its military said Russian forces had attacked dozens of front-line towns.

The fighting over the Za-

porizhzhia nuclear plant in the south, captured by Russian forces in the opening stage of the war but still run by Ukrainian technicians, has raised the prospect of a wider disaster.

“I’m extremely concerned by the shelling yesterday at Europe’s largest nuclear power plant, which

underlines the very real risk of a nuclear disaster,” IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi said in a statement.

Both sides have accused each other of engaging in “nuclear terrorism”.

The United States has accused Russia of using it as a “nuclear shield”.

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

- World's "Atoms for Peace and Development" organization within the United Nations family, the IAEA is the international centre for cooperation in the nuclear field.
- The IAEA was created in 1957
- **Headquarter:** Vienna, Austria.
- Safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.
- In 2005, it was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize
- Independent international organization that reports annually to the United Nation General Assembly.
- When necessary, the IAEA also reports to the UN Security Council in regards to instances of members' non-compliance with safeguards and security obligations.

TOPIC : ENVIRONMENT

Tapping technology to check minor mineral plunder

India has grossly underestimated the issue of illegal mining, which damages the environment and causes revenue loss



AMAR PATNAIK

With the increase in the pace of development, the demand for minor minerals such as sand and gravel has crossed 60 million metric tons in India. This also makes it the second largest extractive industry on the planet, after water. However, while laws and monitoring have been made stringent for the mining of major minerals consequent to the unearthing of several related scams across the country, the fact is that rampant and illegal mining of minor minerals continues unabated. In many instances, one comes across gravel being removed from agricultural lands or fallow lands of the government near major highways or construction projects, as the contractor finds it easier and cheaper to do so even though the estimates for such work include the distance (called 'lead') to transport such gravel from authorised quarries.

Issue of regulation

Unlike major minerals, the regulatory and administrative powers to frame rules, prescribe rates of royalty, mineral concessions, enforcement, etc. are entrusted exclusively to the State governments.

The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notifications of 1994 and 2006 made environmen-

tal clearance compulsory for mining in areas more than or equal to five hectares. However, the Supreme Court of India after taking cognisance of a report by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on Environmental Aspects of Quarrying of Minor Minerals (2010) directed all State governments to make the requisite changes in the regulatory framework of minor minerals, requiring environmental clearance for mining in areas less than five hectares. Consequently, the EIA was amended in 2016 which made environmental clearance mandatory for mining in areas less than five hectares, including minor minerals. The amendment also provided for the setting up of a District Environment Impact Assessment Authority (EIAA) and a District Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC).

However, a State-wise review of EACs and EIAs in key industrial States such as Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, shows that these authorities review over 50 project proposals in a day and the rejection rate at the State level has been a mere 1%. This raises a pertinent question on whether introducing clearances alone can help eliminate irregularities in the illegal mining of minor minerals? The situation now indicates that the problem is even more complex and widespread and that a robust technology-driven enforcement approach is required.

The problem of illegal mining of minor minerals is often underestimated, thus accentuating undesired environmental consequen-

es. There have been numerous cases of the illegal mining of dolomite, marble and sand across States. For example, in Andhra Pradesh's Konanki limestone quarries alone, 28.92 lakh metric tonnes of limestone have been illegally quarried. However, the relentless pace of sand mining poses grave concerns.

Observations by agencies

The United Nations Environment Programme, in 2019, ranked India and China as the top two countries where illegal sand mining has led to sweeping environmental degradation. Despite this, there is no comprehensive assessment available to evaluate the scale of sand mining in India. Nevertheless, regional studies such as those by the Centre for Science and Environment of the Yamuna riverbed in Uttar Pradesh have observed that increasing demand for soil has severely affected soil formation and the soil holding ability of the land, leading to a loss in marine life, an increase in flood frequency, droughts, and also degradation of water quality. Such effects can also be seen in the beds of the Godavari, the Narmada and the Mahanadi

basins. As has been pointed out in a study of the Narmada basin, sand mining has reduced the population of Mahseer fish from 76% between 1963 and 2015.

It is not just damage to the environment. Illegal mining causes copious losses to the state exchequer. As per an estimate, U.P. is losing revenue from 70% of mining activities as only 30% area is legally mined. Similarly, the absence of royalty has caused a loss of ₹700 crore in Bihar while non-payment of various cesses due to unregulated mining has resulted in a loss of ₹100 crore to Karnataka and ₹600 crore to Madhya Pradesh in 2016-17.

Judicial orders, state response
Judicial orders are often neglected by State governments. For instance, as in the report of the Oversight Committee by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Uttar Pradesh (where illegal sand mining has created a severe hazard) has either failed or only partially complied with orders issued regarding compensation for illegal sand mining. Such lax compliance can be seen in States such as West Bengal, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh too.

A State-wide review of the reasons behind non-compliance suggests a malfunction of governance due to weak institutions, a scarcity of state resources to ensure enforcement, poorly drafted regulatory provisions, inadequate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and excessive litigation that dampens state administrative capacity

The power of technology

Satellite imagery can be used to monitor the volume of extraction and also check the mining process. Even for past infractions, the NGT and administrative authorities can obtain satellite pictures for the past 10 to 15 years and uncontroversially show how small hillocks of earth, gravel or small stone dunes have disappeared in an area. Recently, the NGT directed some States to use satellite imagery to monitor the volume of sand extraction and transportation from the riverbeds. Well-planned execution of these directions increased revenue from minor minerals mining in all these States.

Additionally, drones, the internet of things (IoT) and blockchain technology can be leveraged to monitor mechanisms by using Global Positioning System, radar and Radio Frequency (RF) Locator. State governments such as Gujarat and judicial directions such as the High Court of Madras have employed some of these technologies to check illegal sand mining.

TOPIC : INFLATION

Focused on inflation

A rate increase was needed to prevent inflation expectations from stymieing growth

The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee on Friday raised the benchmark interest rate for a third straight meeting as policymakers battle to rein in inflation that has persistently 'remained at or above' the prescribed upper tolerance threshold for six months. The 50 basis points raise takes the policy repo rate to 5.4%, and, more significantly, to a level last seen in the pre-pandemic second quarter of fiscal 2019-20, when a growth slowdown and retail inflation of about 3.2% warranted a rate cut. As the MPC's Jayanth Varma had pointed out in June, when the MPC had recommended a 50 basis points increase, the impact of the 90 basis points total increase from May still left the real policy rate at the time lagging behind the RBI's 100 basis points increase in retail inflation projection for the year – from 5.7% to 6.7%. It is only now that the cumulative increase totals 140 basis points, and puts the central bank slightly ahead of the curve. Still, as Governor Shaktikanta Das acknowledged, consumer price inflation, even if off April's eight-year high, remains 'uncomfortably high' with inflationary pressures broad-based. And with the MPC's own forecasts for the second and third quarter pegging retail price gains well above the upper tolerance mark of 6%, at 7.1% and 6.4%, respectively, the rate setting panel had little option but to continue the withdrawal of monetary accommodation to prevent inflation expectations from getting unmoored and stymieing growth by retarding consumption.

From an external sector and exchange rate perspective as well, globalised inflationary surges are prompting policy tightening in advanced economies that is in turn roiling currency markets including appreciably weakening the rupee and adding imported inflation to the mix. Noting that 'successive shocks to the global economy' had led multilateral institutions including the IMF to lower their global growth projections and 'highlight the rising risks of recession', Mr. Das remarked, "disquietingly, globalisation of inflation is coinciding with deglobalisation of trade". Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the resultant impact on trade flows from the conflict zone have upended supply chains for several commodities and added to price pressures for a range of goods. The latest geopolitical tensions triggered in East Asia by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan in the face of Beijing's dire warnings, and China's decision to respond with aggressive military drills around one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, could also impact global trade at a time when uncertainty and risk aversion are already high. Mr. Das's confidence in the 'resilience' of the economy's fundamentals notwithstanding, it is probably apposite for the MPC to hereafter heed Mr. Varma's exhortation by 'providing projections of the future path of the policy rate'. This would help anchor price gain expectations firmly and surely enhance the RBI's inflation-fighting credentials.

- ✓ An **accommodative** stance means the central bank is prepared to expand the money supply to boost economic growth. The central bank, during an accommodative policy period, is willing to cut the interest rates.
- **'Neutral'** A 'neutral stance' suggests that the central bank can either cut rate or increase rate. This stance is typically adopted when the policy priority is equal on both inflation and growth.
- ✓ A **hawkish** stance indicates that the central bank's top priority is to keep the inflation low. During such a phase, the central bank is willing to hike interest rates to curb money supply and thus reduce the demand.

TOPIC : SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CSIR gets its first woman chief

N. Kalaiselvi, 'lithium battery expert', is expected to aid India's e-vehicle push

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has, for the first time in its 80-year history, appointed a woman Director-General.

N. Kalaiselvi, currently Director of the CSIR-Central Electro Chemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI), Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, will now lead the network of 38 laboratories and nearly 4,500 scientists, and has been appointed for two years, said a note from the Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet.

Ms. Kalaiselvi's research spans over 25 years and is focused on electrochemical power systems and developing electrode materials, custom-design synthesis methods, optimising reaction parameters and electrochemical evaluation of in-house prepared electrode materials for making energy storage devices.

Her research interests include lithium and beyond lithium batteries, superca-



Credits galore: Ms. Kalaiselvi (second from right) published many research papers, holds six patents. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

pacitors and waste-to-wealth driven electrodes and electrolytes for energy storage and electro-catalytic applications.

She has been involved in projects to increase electric mobility in India and her expertise in these sectors will likely help with India's push towards increasing the number of electric vehicles. India has around 1.4 million electric vehicles comprising motorbikes, cars, three-wheelers and buses.

The Centre announced the second phase of a pro-

gramme, FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India), that will invest ₹10,000 crore in developing electric vehicle infrastructure.

A long journey

From Ambasamudram village in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu to heading the CSIR as its first woman Director-General, it has been a long journey for Ms. Kalaiselvi. Having studied in a Tamil-medium school in the district, she had gone on to pur-

sue her Ph.D. degree from Annamalai University in Chidambaram.

In February 2019, Ms. Kalaiselvi was appointed Director of the Karaikudi-based Central Electro Chemical Research Institute (CECRI). This is the first time a scientist from the CECRI has been appointed Director-General of the CSIR.

A scientist from the CECRI said Ms. Kalaiselvi was better known as "lithium battery expert" among the academics. She was instrumental in bringing out a number of research papers, has six patents to her credit and was a guide to research scholars in pursuing their Ph.D. degrees.

The CECRI will be celebrating its platinum jubilee in 2022 from where Ms. Kalaiselvi has been elevated to the top position in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research as its Director-General, New Delhi, the scientist added.

(With inputs from Srikrishna L.)

- ✓ Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is the largest research and development (R&D) organisation in India.
- ✓ Established: September 1942
- ✓ Headquarters: New Delhi
- ✓ CSIR is funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology and it operates as an autonomous body through the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- ✓ President: Prime Minister of India (Ex-officio)
- ✓ Vice President: Union Minister of Science and Technology (Ex-officio)
- ✓ Governing Body: The Director-General is the head of the governing body.

The workings of the Supreme Court collegium

How is the collegium constituted and what are its responsibilities? Who is set to be the next Chief Justice of India?

JUDICIARY

The story so far: The Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana's tenure is drawing to an end in a few days. The Ramana Collegium has been particularly successful. Meeting frequently and working quickly, they took the perennial problem of judicial vacancies by its horns and turned it around. The collegium, as a united front, was able to recommend numerous judicial appointments and scripted history by getting nine Supreme Court judges appointed in one go. Of the nine, Justice B.V. Nagarathna, is in line to be the first woman CJI in 2027.

What exactly is the collegium system? The collegium system was born out of years of friction between the judiciary and the executive. The hostility was further accentuated by instances of court-packing (the practice of changing the composition of judges in a court), mass transfer of high court judges and two supersessions to the office of the CJI in the 1970s.

The Three Judges cases saw the evolution of the collegium system. In the First Judges case, the court held that the consultation with the CJI should be "full and effective". The Second Judges case introduced the collegium system in 1993. It ruled that the CJI would have to consult a collegium of his two senior-most judges in the apex court on judicial appointments. The court held that such a "collective opinion" of the collegium would have primacy over the government. It was the Third Judges case in 1998, which was a Presidential reference, that expanded the judicial collegium to its present composition of the CJI and four of his senior-most judges.

How does the collegium system work?

The collegium of the CJI and four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court make recommendations for appointments to the apex court and High Courts. The collegium can veto the government if the names are sent back by the latter for

reconsideration. The basic tenet behind the collegium system is that the judiciary should have primacy over the government in matters of appointments and transfers in order to remain independent. However, over time, the collegium system has attracted criticism, even from within the judicial institution, for its lack of transparency. It has even been accused of nepotism. The government's efforts to amend the Constitution and bring a National Judicial Appointments Commission was struck down by a Constitution Bench.

How are judicial appointments to the Supreme Court made?

The appointment of the CJI and judges of the apex court is governed by a Memorandum of Procedure. The CJI and the judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President under clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution. The appointment to the office of the CJI should be of the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court considered fit to hold the office. The Union Law Minister would, at an "appropriate time", seek the recommendation of the outgoing CJI on his successor. Once the CJI recommends, the Law Minister forwards the communication to the Prime Minister who would advise the President on the appointment.

In the case of an appointment of a Supreme Court judge, when a vacancy is expected to arise in the apex court, the collegium would recommend a candidate to the Union Law Minister. The CJI would also ascertain the views of the senior-most judges in the Supreme Court, who hail from the High Court from where the person recommended comes from. The opinions of each member of the Collegium and other judges consulted should be made in writing and form part of the file on the candidate sent to the government. If the CJI had consulted non-judges, he should make a memorandum containing the substance of consultation, which would also be part of the file. After the receipt of the Collegium

recommendation, the Law Minister would forward it to the Prime Minister, who would advise the President in the matter of appointment.

Has the increase in judicial appointments lowered pendency in the Supreme Court?

The increase in the number of judges has not guaranteed lower pendency of cases in the apex court over the years. The number of pending cases has risen to 71,411 as on August 1, 2022 from a little over 55,000 in 2017. This is despite the fact that the sanctioned judicial strength of the court was increased to 34 judges in August 2019. A steady rise in arrears regardless of the periodic increase in judicial strength has been a constant phenomenon since 1950.

In 1950, the Supreme Court had eight judges and a pendency of 100-plus cases. A decade later, in 1960, the judges' strength in the Supreme Court grew to 14 while pendency rose to 3,247. In 1978, the number

of apex court judges was 18 and pendency had crossed the 14,000-mark. In 1986, there were 26 judges in the Supreme Court while pendency increased to 27,881. In 2009, the number of judges in the Supreme Court reached 31 though pendency went beyond 50,000. In 2014, the number of judges remained 31 but pendency had burgeoned to over 64,000. In 2020 and 2021, the pandemic added to the pendency rate in the apex court. The year 2020 ended with a backlog of 64,426 cases and 2021 with 69,855 cases.

The court currently has 31 working judges. Four serving judges, including Chief Justice Ramana, would retire in the next few months. His successor Justice U.U. Lalit, is scheduled to retire in November 8, with hardly a three-month tenure as top judge. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud is in line as per the seniority norm to be the 50th CJI Chief Justice in November. The problems of arrears and vacancies in the apex court may likely fall on his shoulders in a year of churn.

TOPIC : CLIMATE CHANGE

EXPLAINER

The Great Barrier Reef's recovery and vulnerability to climate threats

What is the extent of recovery recorded in Australia's Great Barrier Reef? What are the potential threats to its health?

DIKSHA MUNJAL

The story so far: The highest levels of coral cover, within the past 36 years, has been recorded in the northern and central parts of Australia's Great Barrier Reef (GBR), according to the annual long-term monitoring report by the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS). The researchers behind the report have warned, however, that this could be quickly reversed owing to rising global temperatures. This came after the reef experienced a mass coral bleaching event in March this year.

What are coral reefs?

Coral reefs are marine invertebrates or animals which do not possess a spine. They are the largest living structures on the planet. Each coral is called a polyp and thousands of such polyps live together to form a colony, which grow when polyps multiply to make copies of themselves.

Coral reefs are of two types – hard corals and soft corals. Hard corals extract calcium carbonate from seawater to build hard, white coral exoskeletons. Hard corals are in a way the engineers of reef ecosystems and measuring the extent of hard coral is a widely-accepted metric for measuring the condition of coral reefs. Soft corals attach themselves to such skeletons and older skeletons built by their ancestors. Soft corals also add their own skeletons to the hard structure over the years. These growing multiplying structures gradually form coral reefs.

Australia's Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest reef system stretching across 2,300 km and having nearly 3,000 individual reefs. It hosts 400 different types of coral, gives shelter to 1,500 species of fish and 4,000 types of mollusc. Coral reefs support over 25% of marine biodiversity even as they take up only 1% of the seafloor. The marine life supported by reefs further fuels global fishing industries. Besides, coral reef systems generate \$2.7 trillion in annual economic value through goods and service trade and tourism. In Australia, the Barrier Reef, in pre-COVID times, generated \$4.6 billion annually through tourism and employed over 60,000 people including divers and guides.

What does the new report say?

The annual long-term monitoring by AIMS began 36 years ago, and reefs are surveyed through in-water and aerial techniques. The current report surveyed 87 reefs in the GBR between August 2021 and May 2022. The report states that reef systems are resilient and capable of recovering after disturbances such as accumulated heat stress, cyclones, predatory attacks and so on, provided the frequency of such disturbances is low.

The new survey shows record levels of region-wide coral cover in the northern and central GBR since the first ever AIMS survey was done. Coral cover is measured by determining the increase in the cover of hard corals. The hard coral cover in northern GBR had reached 36%



The Great Barrier Reef as on March 7. AFP

while that in the central region had reached 33%. Meanwhile, coral cover levels declined in the southern region from 38% in 2021 to 34% in 2022.

The record levels of recovery, the report showed, were fuelled largely by increases in the fast-growing *Acropora* corals, which are a dominant type in the GBR. Incidentally, these fast growing corals are also the most susceptible to environmental pressures such as rising temperatures, cyclones, pollution, crown-of-thorn starfish (COTs) attacks which prey on hard corals and so on. Also, behind the recent recovery in parts of the reef, are the low levels of acute stressors in the past 12 months – no tropical cyclones, lesser heat stress in 2020 and 2022 as opposed to 2016 and 2017, and a decrease in COTs outbreaks.

Does this mean the reef is out of the woods?

Besides predatory attacks and tropical

cyclones, scientists say that the biggest threat to the health of the reef is climate change-induced heat stress, resulting in coral bleaching.

Corals share a symbiotic relationship with single-celled algae called zooxanthellae. The algae prepares food for corals through photosynthesis and also gives them their vibrant colouration. When exposed to conditions like heat stress, pollution, or high levels of ocean acidity, the zooxanthellae start producing reactive oxygen species not beneficial to the corals. So, the corals kick out the colour-giving algae from their polyps, exposing their pale white exoskeleton and leading to coral starvation as corals cannot produce their own food. Bleached corals can survive depending on the levels of bleaching and the recovery of sea temperatures to normal levels. Severe bleaching and prolonged stress in the external environment can lead to coral death.

Over the last couple of decades, climate change-induced rise in temperature has made seas warmer than usual. Under all positive outlooks and projections in terms of cutting greenhouse gases, sea temperatures are predicted to increase by 1.5°C to 2°C by the time the century nears its end. According to the UN assessment in 2021, the world is going to experience heating at 1.5°C in the next decade, the temperature at which bleaching becomes more frequent and recovery less impactful.

The concern is that in the past decade,

mass bleaching events have become more closely spaced in time. The first mass bleaching event occurred in 1998 when the El Niño weather pattern caused sea surfaces to heat, causing 8% of the world's coral to die. The second event took place in 2002. But the longest and most damaging bleaching event took place from 2014 to 2017. Mass bleaching then occurred again in 2020, followed by earlier this year. According to the Australian government's scientists, 91% of the reefs it had surveyed in March were affected by bleaching.

Notably, half of the total reefs were surveyed before the peak of this year's mass coral bleaching event in the GBR. Since surveys to determine the effects of bleaching need to occur during or after the summer heatwave, the authors of the report say that the full impact of this year's mass bleaching would only be known in next year's report. The aerial surveys by AIMS included 47 reefs and coral bleaching was recorded on 45 of these reefs. While the levels were not high enough to cause coral death it did leave sub-lethal effects such as reduced growth and reproduction.

The AIMS report says that the prognosis for the future disturbance suggests an increase in marine heatwaves that will last longer and the ongoing risk of COTs outbreaks and cyclones. "Therefore, while the observed recovery offers good news for the overall state of the GBR, there is an increasing concern for its ability to maintain this state," the report says.

THE GIST

■ The highest levels of coral cover, within the past 36 years, has been recorded in the northern and central parts of Australia's Great Barrier Reef, according to the annual long-term monitoring report by the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

■ Australia's GBR is the world's largest reef system stretching across 2,300 km and having nearly 3,000 individual reefs.

■ The new survey shows record levels of region-wide coral cover in the northern and central GBR since the first ever AIMS survey was done. The record levels of recovery were fuelled by increases in the fast-growing *Acropora* corals. However, scientists warned that these fast growing corals are also the most susceptible to environmental pressures such as rising temperatures, cyclones, pollution etc.

TOPIC : FEDERALISM

PM lauds States for cooperative federalism in fighting COVID-19

NITI Governing Council discusses crop diversification, NEP, urban governance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said the collective effort of all the States in the spirit of cooperative federalism was the force that helped India emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Addressing the seventh meeting of the NITI Aayog Governing Council, the Prime Minister said that during the pandemic, every State played a crucial role by focusing on the grassroots delivery of public services through cooperation across political lines.

In that process, India emerged as an example for the developing nations to look up to as a global leader, he added.

Telangana and Bihar Chief Ministers K. Chandrasekhar Rao and Nitish Kumar, respectively, did not participate in the meeting, which was attended by 23 Chief Ministers, three Lieutenant-Governors and two Administrators and Union Ministers.

Through a four-page letter to the Prime Minister, Mr. Rao had earlier conveyed that he would stay away from the meeting "as a mark of strong protest against the present trend of the Union government to discriminate against the States and not



Top deck: Prime Minister Narendra Modi (centre) and other Ministers and Chief Ministers at the seventh Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi on Sunday. •PTI

treating them as equal partners".

The NITI Aayog termed the decision "unfortunate", while Union Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday said the boycott showed that the Telangana Chief Minister had lost interest in the development works for the country's growth.

Key issues

This year, the Governing Council discussed key issues such as crop diversification and achieving self-sufficiency in pulses, oilseeds and other agri-commodities; im-

plementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) in school education and higher education; and urban governance.

In his inaugural address, the Prime Minister stressed the need to focus on modernised agriculture, animal husbandry, and food processing to become self-sufficient and a global leader in the agriculture sector.

Mr. Modi said rapid urbanisation could be turned into a strength by using technology to ensure ease of living, transparent service delivery and improvement in

the quality of life.

Describing India's G20 presidency in 2023 as a unique opportunity to show to the world that India was not just confined to Delhi, but included every State and Union Territory, Mr. Modi called for a mass movement for identification of the best talent available in the country.

There should be a dedicated team for G20 in the States to derive the maximum possible benefit from the initiative, he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

- Granville Austin
- Cooperative federalism, also known as marble-cake federalism, is defined as a flexible relationship between the federal and state governments in which both work together on a variety of issues and programs.
- NITI AAYOG.
- Composition of NITI Aayog
- Chairperson: Prime Minister
- Vice-Chairperson: To be appointed by Prime-Minister
- Governing Council: Chief Ministers of all states and Lt. Governors of Union Territories

G 20

- The G20 is an informal group of 19 countries and the European Union, with representatives of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.
- world's largest advanced and emerging economies
- The members of the G20 are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.



THANK YOU

