



**WE4U IAS COACHING**  
**UPSC MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS**  
**SEPTEMBER 2022**

## 1.INDIAN POLITY

1.1	Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989	1
1.2	Economic Weaker Section	2
1.3	State Universities.	2
1.4	Attorney General	3
1.5	No confidence Motion.	4
1.6	State Election Commission	5
1.7	Preventive detentions	6
1.8	Secularism	8
1.9	Reservation	8
1.10	Contempt of Court	9

## 2.INDIAN ECONOMY

2.1	Unemployment	11
2.2	Purchasing Manager Index.	12
2.3	NANO UREA	13
2.4	Comprehensive Economic partnership Agreement	14

2.5	PM Shri Scheme	15
2.6	Foreign Investment	16
2.7	Drug Prices Control Order, 2013:	17
2.8	Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin	18
2.9	Gender Budgeting:	20
2.10	Shrinkflation	20
2.11	Foreign Exchange Reserves:	22
2.12	Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY)	23
2.13	Cotton	24
2.14	Current Account Deficit	25
<b>3.INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS</b>		
3.1	G7	27
3.2	World Bank Group and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	28
3.3	QUAD	30
3.4	G20	30
3.5	UN Human Rights Council :	32
3.6	United Nation Security Council:	33

3.7	G4 Countries	35
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#### 4.INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

4.1	Harijan Sevak Sangh	36
4.2	Deendayal Upadhyay	36
4.3	Chatrapati Shivaji.	38
4.4	Korkai	39
4.5	Moovalur Ramamirtham	40
4.6	Arya Samaj	41
4.7	Golconda Fort	42
4.8	Integration of Hyderabad	44
4.9	Periyar	45
4.10	Sittanavasal Cave	46

#### 5.ENVIRONMENT

5.1	Bhitarkanika National Park :	48
5.2	Kuno National Park :	49
5.3	Kollidam	49
5.4	Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and	

Planning Authority	50
5.5 Nanjarayan Tank.	51
5.6 Kurmi Tribe.	52
5.7 The Chital	53
5.8 Tiwa Tribes	54
5.9 Kaziranga National Park	54
5.10 El nino And La nino	55
<b>6.SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</b>	
6.1 INS Vikrant	57
6.2 Navigation in Indian Constellation	58
6.3 Double Asteroid Redirection (DART)	59

## 1. INDIAN POLITY

### 1.1 Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989

[News]:

Case on Murugha Math seer registered under SC/ST Act

[Concept]:

#### Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989

- \* SC ST Act 1989 is an Act of Parliament enacted to prohibit discrimination against SC & ST communities members and prevent atrocities against them.
- \* The Act is also a recognition of the depressing reality that despite undertaking several measures, the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes continue to be subjected to various atrocities at the hands of upper-castes.
- \* The Act has been enacted keeping in view the express constitutional safeguards enumerated in Articles 15 (Prohibition of Discrimination), 17 (Abolition of Untouchability) and 21 (Protection of Life and Personal Liberty) of the Constitution, with a twin-fold objective of protecting the members of these vulnerable communities as well as to provide relief and rehabilitation to the victims of caste-based atrocities.
- \* In the amended SC/ST Act (2018), preliminary inquiry is not a must and no prior approval is also required for appointing authorities for senior police officers to file FIRs in cases of atrocities on SC and ST.

## 1.2 Economic Weaker Section

[News]:

SC to hear EWS quota petitions on Sept. 13

[Concept]:

### Economic Weaker Section

- \* The 10% EWS quota was introduced under the 103rd Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2019 by amending Articles 15 and 16.
- \* It inserted Article 15 (6) and Article 16 (6).
- \* It is for economic reservation in jobs and admissions in education institutes for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
- \* It was enacted to promote the welfare of the poor not covered by the 50% reservation policy for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC).
- \* It enables both Centre and the states to provide reservation to the EWS of society.

## 1.3 State Universities.

[News]:

Kerala passes University Laws (Amendment) Bill

[Concept]:

### **State Universities.**

- \* In most cases, the Governor of the state is the ex-officio chancellor of the universities in that state.
- \* While the Governor's powers and functions as the Chancellor are laid out in the statutes that govern the universities under a particular state government.
- \* Their role in appointing the Vice-Chancellors has often triggered disputes with the political executive.

### **1.4 Attorney General**

[News]:

A-G disallows contempt proceedings against Sibal

[Concept]:

#### **Attorney General**

- \* The Attorney General (AG) of India is a part of the Union Executive. AG is the highest law officer in the country.
- \* Article 76 of the Constitution provides for the office of AG of India.

#### **Appointment and Eligibility:**

- \* AG is appointed by the President on the advice of the government.



- \* She/he must be a person who is qualified to be appointed a judge of the Supreme Court
- \* Term of the Office: Not fixed by the Constitution.
- \* Removal: Procedures and grounds for the removal of AG are not stated in the Constitution. S/he holds office during the pleasure of the President (may be removed by the President at any time).

### 1.5 No confidence Motion.

[News]:

Jharkhand CM Soren to seek trust vote tomorrow

[Concept]:

**No confidence Motion.**

- \* A Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly and it remains in office till it enjoys the confidence of majority.
- \* Therefore, a motion of no-confidence is moved to remove the council of ministers and to remove the government from the office.
- \* According to the Article 75 of the Indian Constitution, council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha and as per Article 164, the council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly of the State.

- \* Lok Sabha/Legislative Assembly can remove the ministry from the office by passing a no-confidence motion.
- \* Lok Sabha Rule 198 specifies the procedure for a motion of no-confidence.

### **Procedure**

- \* A motion of No-Confidence Motion can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha under rule 198.
- \* There should be a minimum of 50 members to accept the motion. If not, then the motion fails.
- \* The motion of no-confidence is read by the Speaker within the House and asks all those favouring the motion to rise.
- \* If 50 MPs are there in favour then the Speaker could allot a date for discussing the motion.
- \* But this has to be done within 10 days.
- \* Then, the motion is put to vote and can be conducted through Voice Vote, Division of Votes or other means.
- \* If the government loses a confidence motion or if the no-confidence motion is accepted by the majority then the government has to resign.

### **1.6 State Election Commission**

[News].

HC criticises TNSEC's move to cancel polls at town panchayat .Court says it was done to help DMK put up new candidates for the election

[Concept].

**Tamil Nadu State Election Commission :**



- \* The Tamil Nadu State Election Commission is an autonomous, independent Constitutional and Statutory authority of Tamil Nadu.
- \* It was formed under the Constitution of India as per the provisions of the 73rd and 74th Amendments Acts of 1992B on 15 July 1994.
- \* All Local Body elections of Tamil Nadu are conducted by this Commission.

### 1.7 Preventive detentions

[News].

Preventive detentions rose in 2021

[Concept].

### **Preventive detentions**

- \* Article 22 grants protection to persons who are arrested or detained.  
Detention is of two types, namely, punitive and preventive.
- \* Punitive detention is to punish a person for an offence committed by him after trial and conviction in a court.
- \* Preventive detention, on the other hand, means detention of a person without trial and conviction by a court.
- \* Article 22 has two parts—the first part deals with the cases of ordinary law and the second part deals with the cases of preventive detention law.

### **Rights –Preventive detention**

- \* The grounds of detention should be communicated to the detenu.
- \* However, the facts considered to be against the public interest need not be disclosed.
- \* The detenu should be afforded an opportunity to make a representation against the detention order.
- \* The detention of a person cannot exceed three months unless an advisory board reports sufficient cause for extended detention.
- \* The board is to consist of judges of a high court.

## 1.8 Secularism

[News]:

Positive secularism is allowed, student to SC in hijab case. State should show 'reasonable accommodation': counsel

[Concept]:

**Secularism**

**Positive Secularism.**

- \* Positive secularism is where the state plays an enabler role in the exercise of fundamental rights and the religious freedoms of all communities.

**Negative Secularism.**

- \* Under 'negative secularism', the state says that nobody can display their religious identity in public and the ban on hijab in public places was upheld by the constitutional courts.
- \* Turkey observes negative secularism.

## 1.9 Reservation

[News]:

Constitution doesn't allow quota for women in public jobs: HC

[Concept].



### **Vertical Reservation.**

- \* Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes is referred to as vertical reservation.
- \* It applies separately for each of the groups specified under the law
- \* Example: Article 16(4) of the Constitution contemplates vertical reservation.

### **Horizontal Reservation.**

- \* It refers to the equal opportunity provided to other categories of beneficiaries such as women, veterans, the transgender community, and individuals with disabilities, cutting through the vertical categories.
- \* Example: Article 15 (3) of the Constitution contemplates horizontal reservation.

## **1.10 Contempt of Court**

[News].

Realtor produced before High Court in contempt case

[Concept].

## Contempt of Court



- \* Contempt of court can be of two kinds:
- \* Civil, that is the willful disobedience of a court order or judgment or willful breach of an undertaking given to a court.
- \* Criminal, that is written or spoken words or any act that scandalises the court or lowers its authority or prejudices or interferes with the due course of a judicial proceeding or interferes/obstructs the administration of justice.

## 2. INDIAN ECONOMY

### 2.1 Unemployment

[News]:

Jobless rate zooms to 1-year high of 8.3%

[Concept]:

**Unemployment**



- \* Unemployment occurs when a person who is actively searching for employment is unable to find work.
- \* Unemployment is often used as a measure of the health of the economy.

**Types Unemployment :**

1. Disguised Unemployment
2. Seasonal Unemployment:
3. Structural Unemployment
4. Cyclical Unemployment:
5. Technological Unemployment.



## 6. Frictional Unemployment

### 2.2 Purchasing Manager Index.

[News]:

PMI flags fastest manufacturing output growth since November

[Concept]:

#### **Purchasing Manager Index.**

- \* It is a survey-based measure that asks the respondents about changes in their perception of key business variables as compared with the previous month.
- \* It is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing and service sectors.
- \* The purpose of the PMI is to provide information about current and future business conditions to company decision makers, analysts, and investors.
- \* It is calculated separately for the manufacturing and services sectors and then a composite index is also constructed.
- \* The PMI is a number from 0 to 100.
- \* A print above 50 means expansion, while a score below that denotes contraction.
- \* A reading at 50 indicates no change.

## 2.3 NANO UREA

[News].

Nano urea fast-tracked for approval despite incomplete trials

[Concept].

### NANO UREA



- \* Recently, the Prime Minister inaugurated the first Liquid Nano Urea (LNU) plant at Kalol, Gujarat.
- \* It is Indigenous Urea, introduced firstly by the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) for farmers across the world.
- \* It is urea in the form of a nanoparticle. It is a nutrient (liquid) to provide nitrogen to plants as an alternative to the conventional urea.
- \* Urea is a chemical nitrogen fertiliser, white in colour, which artificially provides nitrogen, a major nutrient required by plants.

- \* It is developed to replace conventional urea and it can curtail the requirement of the same by at least 50%.

## 2.4 Comprehensive Economic partnership Agreement

[News]:

A lot is at stake for India–Bangladesh ties. Trade will be a focal point during Ms. Hasina’s visit as the two countries gear up to sign a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

[Concept]:

### Comprehensive Economic partnership Agreement

- \* It is a kind of free trade pact which covers negotiation on the trade in services and investment, and other areas of economic partnership.
- \* It may even consider negotiation on areas such as trade facilitation and customs cooperation, competition, and Intellectual Property Rights.
- \* Partnership agreements or cooperation agreements are more comprehensive than Free Trade Agreements.
- \* CEPA also looks into the regulatory aspect of trade and encompasses an agreement covering the regulatory issues.

## 2.5 PM Shri Scheme

[News].

Cabinet approves PM SHRI scheme. The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the 'PM Schools for Rising India' (PM SHRI) scheme to turn existing government schools into model schools for implementation of the National Education Policy, 2022.

### PM Shri Scheme

- \* It is a new centrally sponsored scheme and will showcase the components of the National Education Policy, 2020.
- \* A Centrally Sponsored Scheme is one where the cost of implementation is likely to be split in the 60:40 ratio among the Union government and the states/Union Territories.
- \* In Northeastern states, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir and UTs without legislatures, the Centre's contribution can go up to 90 per cent.
- \* Under it, as many as 14,500 schools across states and Union Territories will be redeveloped to reflect the key features of the NEP, 2020.
- \* The NEP envisages a curricular structure and teaching style divided into various stages – foundational, preparatory, middle and secondary.

- \* PM SHRI schools will be an upgrade of existing schools run by the Centre, states, UTs and local bodies.

## 2.6 Foreign Investment

[News]:

FPIs snap up bonds set to be added in global indices

[Concept]:

### Foreign Direct Investment



- \* Foreign investors take the FDI route when they have a long-term interest in mind. In FDI, an investor usually acquires foreign business assets, establishing ownership or controlling interest in a company.
- \* With FDI, foreign companies are directly involved with day-to-day operations in the other country.
- \* This means they are not just bringing money with them, but also knowledge, skills and technology.

- \* Under such circumstances, the investor company has at least 10 per cent stake in the company.

### **Foreign Portfolio Investment**

- \* The FPI is meant for short-term profit booking.
- \* Through this route, foreign investors put capital in financial assets, such as stocks and bonds. In other words, FPI involves the purchase of securities that can be easily bought or sold.
- \* Such an investment is made with the aim of making short term financial gain and not for obtaining significant control over managerial operations of the enterprise.

### **2.7 Drug Prices Control Order, 2013.**

[News]:

384 drugs on essential medicines list

[Concept]:

### **Drug Prices Control Order, 2013.**

- \* Under the provisions of DPCO 2013, only the prices of drugs that figure in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) are monitored and controlled by the regulator, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.

- \* Essential medicines are those that satisfy the priority healthcare needs of the majority of the population. The primary purpose of NLEM is to promote rational use of medicines considering the three important aspects i.e. cost, safety and efficacy.
- \* Paragraph 19 of the DPCO, 2013, deals with increase or decrease in drug prices under extraordinary circumstances. However, there is neither a precedent nor any formula prescribed for upward revision of ceiling prices.

## 2.8 Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin

[News]:

Delay in govt.'s flagship PMAY-G scheme to invite penalty

[Concept]:

**PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA GRAMIN**



- \* To achieve the objective of “Housing for All” by 2022, the erstwhile rural housing scheme Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) was restructured to Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana–Gramin (PMAY–G) w.e.f 1st April, 2016.
- \* Ministry of Rural development.
- \* To provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all rural families, who are homeless or living in kutcha or dilapidated houses by the end of March 2022.
- \* To help rural people Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in construction of dwelling units and upgradation of existing unserviceable kutcha houses by providing assistance in the form of a full grant.
- \* **Beneficiaries.** People belonging to SCs/STs, freed bonded labourers and non-SC/ST categories, widows or next-of-kin of defence personnel killed in action, ex servicemen and retired members of the paramilitary forces, disabled persons and minorities.
- \* **Selection of Beneficiaries.** Through a three stage validation – Socio Economic Caste Census 2011, Gram Sabha, and geo-tagging.
- \* **Cost Sharing.** The cost of unit assistance is shared between Central and State Governments in the ratio 60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North Eastern and hilly states.



## 2.9 Gender Budgeting:

### [News]:

All departments in T.N. to formulate gender budgets

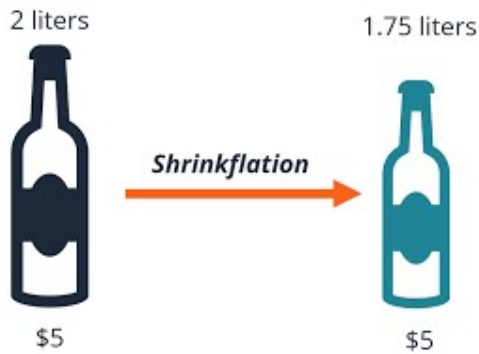
### [Concept]:

#### Gender Budgeting:

- \* GB is concerned with gender sensitive formulation of legislation, programmes and schemes; allocation of resources; implementation; audit and impact assessment of programmes and schemes; and follow-up corrective action to address gender disparities.
- \* A powerful tool for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that benefits of development reach women as much as men.
- \* Does not seek to create a separate budget but seeks affirmative action to address specific needs of women.
- \* Monitors expenditure and public service delivery from a gender perspective.

## 2.10 Shrinkflation

### [Concept]:



- \* Shrinkflation refers to the tampering of a product while maintaining retail price
- \* Shrink inflation is when a product downsizes its quantity while keeping the price the same.
- \* In other words, shrinkflation occurs when goods shrink in size but consumers pay the same price. It occurs when manufacturers downsize products to offset higher production costs but keep retail prices same.

#### **The effect of inflation**

- \* Shrinkflation deceives consumers into believing that the brands they buy are not affected by inflation.
- \* Shrinkflation occurs when materials or ingredients used to make products become more expensive and when there is intense competition in the market. As a result, instead of raising prices, they might just give you less of the product so as to maintain their profit margins.
- \* To prevent this, a product can reformulate or remove ingredients while maintaining its price.

### Various implications

- \* In the event of shrinkflation, it is more difficult to accurately measure price changes or inflation.
- \* In India especially, inflation is a complex phenomenon caused by several factors, such as demand-pull factors, cost-push factors, and structural factors.
- \* In India, the Right to Information has been recognised as a consumer right under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019. This means that the consumer has the right to know the quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard, and price of goods. Therefore, the Central Consumer Protection Authority needs to bring some guidelines to inform consumers when the weight of a product is reduced, instead of letting consumers be fooled by companies.

### 2.11 Foreign Exchange Reserves:

[News]:

Seth allays concerns over forex reserves

[Concept]:

Foreign Exchange Reserves.



- \* Foreign exchange reserves are assets held on reserve by a central bank in foreign currencies.
- \* It needs to be noted that most foreign exchange reserves are held in US dollars.
- \* **India's Forex Reserve include.**
  1. Foreign Currency Assets
  2. Gold reserves
  3. Special Drawing Rights
  4. Reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

## 2.12 Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY)

[News].

Centre extends free ration scheme for three months

**Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY)**

- \* The last announcement on PMGKY was made on 29th June 2020. Earlier on 26th March 2020, the government took an initiative towards the loss caused by the outbreak.
- \* The lockdown in the nation due to Coronavirus expected to cost the Indian Economy a cost of around 9 lakh crores.
- \* Announcements made by the Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman on 26th March 2020 are mentioned below:
- \* To provide an insurance cover of Rs 50 lakhs per health worker affected by COVID-19.
- \* To provide free resources of 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses for 80 crore poor people for the next three months under the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana.
- \* 20 crore Women Jan Dhan account holders will be provided Rs 500 per month for the next three months.
- \* There will be an increase in MNREGA wage to Rs 202 per day to benefit 13.62 crore families.
- \* The Central Government has given orders to State Governments to use the Building and Construction Workers Welfare Fund to provide relief to Construction Workers.

### 2.13 Cotton

**[News],**

Excessive rainfall this year has not only damaged the crops but has also led to gradual increase in moisture content in the soil, as a result of which leaves of cotton plants have begun turning red along with a thickening of the stem.

**[Concept],**

### **Cotton**

- \* It's a fibre, oil and protein yielding crop of global significance.
- \* Temperature: Between 21–30°C
- \* Rainfall: Around 50–100cm.
- \* Soil Type: Well-drained black cotton soil of Deccan Plateau.
- \* Top Cotton Producing States: Gujarat > Maharashtra > Telangana > Andhra Pradesh > Rajasthan.

### **2.14 Current Account Deficit**

**[News],**

Current account deficit widened to 2.8% of GDP in Q1

**[Concept],**

### **Current Account Deficit**

- \* A current account deficit occurs when the total value of goods and services a country imports exceeds the total value of goods and services it exports.

- \* The balance of exports and imports of goods is referred to as the trade balance. Trade Balance is a part of 'Current Account Balance'.
- \* Mostly High Oil Imports, High Gold Imports are the major driving force, widening the CAD.



### 3.INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

#### 3.1 G7

[News]:

G7 agrees to implement price cap on Russian oil

[Concept]:

G7



- \* It is an intergovernmental organisation that was formed in 1975.
- \* The bloc meets annually to discuss issues of common interest like global economic governance, international security and energy policy.
- \* The G7 countries are the UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the US.
- \* All the G7 countries and India are a part of G20.
- \* The G7 does not have a formal charter or a secretariat. The presidency, which rotates among member countries each year, is in charge of setting the agenda



### 3.2 World Bank Group and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

[News]

#### World Bank report highlights pandemic purchase challenge

‘India managed to get many things right in its management.

The World Bank (WB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) jointly funded the COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Strengthening Project worth \$1.5 billion (11,983.5 crores) in India.

[Concept]:

#### World Bank Group :

- \* Together, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA) form the World Bank, which provides financing, policy advice, and technical assistance to governments of developing countries. While the World Bank Group consists of five development institutions.
- \* International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) provides loans, credits, and grants.
- \* International Development Association (IDA) provides low- or nointerest loans to low-income countries.
- \* The International Finance Corporation (IFC) provides investment, advice, and asset management to companies and governments.

- \* The Multilateral Guarantee Agency (MIGA) insures lenders and investors against political risk such as war.
- \* The International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) settles investment-disputes between investors and countries.
- \* All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.

### **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)**

- \* Its a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia and beyond.
- \* The Parties (57 founding members) to agreement comprise the Membership of the Bank.
- \* It is headquartered in Beijing.
- \* The bank started operation after the agreement entered into force on 25 December 2015, after ratifications were received from 10 member states holding a total number of 50% of the initial subscriptions of the Authorized Capital Stock.
- \* China is the largest shareholder with 26.61 % voting shares in the bank followed by India (7.6%), Russia (6.01%) and Germany (4.2 %).
- \* The regional members hold 75% of the total voting power in the Bank.

### 3.3 QUAD

[News]:

India to host Quad senior officials' meeting next week

[Concept]:

#### QUAD

- \* The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD) or QUAD Group is an informal strategic forum comprising India, Japan, Australia and the United States of America

#### **India's Stand.**

- \* QUAD is united by its democratic values and will remain an important pillar of stability in the Indo-Pacific region.
- \* Called the meet an extension of the ancient Indian philosophy 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', which regards the world as one family.

### 3.4 G20

[News]:

Great G20 power, great responsibility, India will have the opportunity to assume centre stage in setting the global agenda.

#### G20



- \* The G20 is an informal group of 19 countries and the European Union, with representatives of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.
- \* The G20 membership comprises a mix of the world's largest advanced and emerging economies. Together, the G20 members represent more than 80% of world GDP, 75% of international trade and 60% of the world population.
- \* 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.
- \* Spain as a permanent, non-member invitee, also attends leader summits.
- \* The G20 Presidency rotates annually according to a system that ensures a regional balance over time.
- \* TROIKA: Every year when a new country takes on the presidency, it works hand in hand with the previous presidency and the next presidency and this is collectively known as TROIKA. This ensures continuity and consistency of the group's agenda.

### 3.5 UN Human Rights Council .

[News]:

India raises Sri Lankan Tamil issue in UNHRC

[Concept]:

UN Human Rights Council .



- \* The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the world.
- \* The Council was created by the United Nations General Assembly in 2006.
- \* It is made up of 47 United Nations Member States which are elected by the UN General Assembly (UNGA).
- \* The UNGA takes into account the candidate States' contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as their voluntary pledges and commitments in this regard.

- \* The Council's Membership is based on equitable geographical distribution.

Seats are distributed as follows:

1. African States: 13 seats
2. Asia-Pacific States: 13 seats
3. Latin American and Caribbean States: 8 seats
4. Western European and other States: 7 seats
5. Eastern European States: 6 seats

- \* Members of the Council serve for a period of three years and are not eligible for immediate re-election after serving two consecutive terms.

### 3.6 United Nation Security Council.

[News]:

China blocks listing of Lashkar 'commander' Sajid Mir at UNSC

#### **UNITED NATION SECURITY COUNCIL:**

- \* The Security Council was established by the UN Charter in 1945. It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.

- \* The other 5 organs of the United Nations are—the General Assembly (UNGA), the Trusteeship Council, the Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.
- \* Its primary responsibility is to work to maintain international peace and security.
- \* The council is headquartered at New York.
- \* The council has 15 members: the five permanent members and ten non-permanent members elected for two-year terms.
- \* The five permanent members are the United States, the Russian Federation, France, China and the United Kingdom.
- \* India, for the eighth time, has entered the UNSC as a non-permanent member last year (2021) and will stay on the council for two years i.e 2021-22.
- \* Each year, the General Assembly elects five non-permanent members (out of ten in total) for a two-year term. The ten non-permanent seats are distributed on a regional basis.
- \* The council's presidency is a capacity that rotates every month among its 15 members.

#### **UNSC 1267 committee :**

- \* It was first set up in 1999, and strengthened after the September, 2001 attacks. It is now known as the Da'esh and Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee.

- \* It comprises all permanent and non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).
- \* The 1267 list of terrorists is a global list, with a UNSC stamp.

### 3.7 G4 Countries

[Concept].

- \* G4 countries highlight 'urgent need' for reform in UN Security Council
- \* Germany, Brazil, Japan and India reiterate support for each other's bids to become permanent members of the UNSC, and for representation of African countries
- \* The group is primarily focused on UN Security Council (UNSC) reform, and permanent membership for G4 members



## 4. INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

### 4.1 Harijan Sevak Sangh

[News].

Mahatma's ideals inspired Constitution, says Dhankhar

[Concept].

**Harijan Sevak Sangh**

- \* Its a non-profit organisation founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1932 to eradicate untouchability in India, working for Harijan or Dalit people and upliftment of the Depressed Class of India.
- \* weekly paper, the Harijan.
- \* The Sangh helped the depressed classes to access public places such as temples, schools, roads and water resources, also conducted inter dining and inter-caste marriages.

### 4.2 Deendayal Upadhyay

[News].

'Upadhyaya was first to bat for nuclear deterrent'

[Concept].

## Deendayal Upadhyay



- \* Born in Mathura, UP in 1916, Deendayal Upadhyay is an Indian politician.
- \* He was one of the most important leaders of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the forerunner of the present day Bharatiya Janata Party.

### Key Philosophies

- \* Integral humanism: Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya defines it as “a classless, casteless and conflict-free social order”.
- \* The idea of Bharat: Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay believed that western intellectual colonization of Indian intellect has left a roadblock to the growth and expansion of the original Bharatiya.
- \* He did welcome modern technology, if, it is to be adapted to suit the Indian requirements.
- \* Polity: Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya visualized for India a decentralized polity and self-reliant economy with the village as the base.

- \* Welfare of People: Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was against the left-right division. He believed it is detrimental to the growth of a constructive, transformative pro-people ideology.

### 4.3 Chatrapati Shivaji.

[News]:

Navy's ensign pays tribute to Shivaji

[Concept]:

Chatrapati Shivaji.



- \* He was crowned as the king of the Marathas on 6th June , 1674, at Raigad.
- \* He took on the titles of Chhatrapati, Shakakarta, Kshatriya Kulavantas and Haindava Dharmodhhaarak.
- \* The Maratha Kingdom founded by Shivaji grew larger over time and became the dominant Indian power in the early 18th century.

- \* The King was the supreme head of state who was assisted by a group of eight ministers known as the 'Ashtapradhan'.

#### 4.4 Korkai

[News]:

Underwater survey launched at Korkai

[Concept]:

##### Korkai

- \* Korkai is a small village in the Thoothukudi district in Tamil Nadu, India.
- \* It was called Pandya-Kavada in the Kapatapuram in Kalithogai.
- \* It is situated about 3 km north of the Thamirabarani River and about 6 km from the shore of Bay of Bengal.
- \* Korkai was the capital, principal center of trade and important port of the Early Pandyan Kingdom.
- \* At that time, it was located on the banks of the Tamiraparani River and at the sea coast, forming a natural harbour.
- \* Due to excessive sedimentation, the sea has receded about 6 km in the past 2000 years, leaving Korkai well inland today.
- \* The famous urn burial site, Adichanallur, is located about 15 km. from Korkai.

#### 4.5 Moovalur Ramamirtham

[News].

CM to unveil scheme to pay girl students ₹1,000 a month. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin is set to launch the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance scheme, titled Pudhumai Penn scheme,

**Moovalur Ramamirtham**



- \* Tamil social reformer, author, and political activist of the Dravidian Movement, who worked for the abolition of the Devadasi system in the Madras Presidency.
- \* She was the author of the 1936 novel Dasigalin Mosavalai alladhu madhi pettra minor (lit. Devadasis' web of deceit or the minor grown wise) which exposed the plight of the Devadasis
- \* Originally a supporter of the nationalist Indian National Congress, she became a member of

- \* Periyar E. V. Ramasamy's Self-Respect Movement after Periyar left the Congress in 1925.
- \* In 1930, she supported Muthulakshmi Reddi's failed attempt to abolish the Devadasi system in the Presidency through legislation.
- \* She took part in the Anti-Hindi agitations
- \* The public awareness created by her novel and her continuous campaign to abolish the Devadasi system, were instrumental in the passage of the Madras Devadasi (Prevention of Dedication) Act or the Devadasi Abolition Bill, which outlawed the practice in 1947.

#### 4.6 Arya Samaj

[News]:

Arya Samaj certificates not proof of marriage'

#### Arya Samaj

- \* Arya Samaj is a monotheistic Hindu reform movement in India that supports principles and practices based on the Vedas' irrefutable authority. He issued the slogan, "Back to the Vedas.
- \* On 10 April 1875, the sannyasi (ascetic) Dayanand Saraswati created the samaj.
- \* Arya Samaj was the first Hindu group to practice proselytization.

- \* Since 1800, the group has also campaigned to advance the civil rights struggle in India.
- \* It was believed that post-Vedic books such as Puranas were to blame for the contamination of the Vedic religion.
- \* Opposes God's idolatry and reincarnation idea, but supports the notion of 'Karma' and soul transmigration.
- \* Dayanand also rejected the doctrine of fate/destiny Niyati.
- \* Believes in a single God who does not have a physical existence.
- \* Rejects Brahmanical domination over Hindu spiritual and social life. Brahmins' claim to be conduits between man and God is condemned.
- \* Supported the Four Varna System, however, it should be based on merit rather than birth.
- \* Everyone has an equal position in the spiritual and social lives of Hindus.
- \* Advocated for women's equality in society. There is no place for any type of gender discrimination against women.

#### 4.7 Golconda Fort

[News]:

Connecting the Golconda Fort with the restored Qutb Shahi tombs is expected to turn the complex into a tourism hub.

[Concept].

### Golconda Fort



- \* It is located in the western part of Hyderabad city.
- \* It was originally known as Mankal, and built on a hilltop in the year 1143.
- \* It was originally a mud fort under the reign of Rajah of Warangal.
- \* Later it was fortified between 14th and 17th centuries by the Bahmani Sultans and then by the Qutub Shahi dynasty. Golconda was the principal capital of the Qutub Shahi kings

### Qutb Shahi Tombs

- \* Lying two kilometers from the Golconda Fort, the Qutb Shahi Tombs are built in Persian, Hindu and Pathani styles of architecture.
- \* The tombs were planned and built by numerous monarchs who ruled the state during the 18th century.
- \* One of the most impressive tombs belongs to the founder of Hyderabad, Mohammed Quli Qutub Shah which rises to a height of 42 meters.



## 4.8 Integration of Hyderabad

[News].

Integration Day rallies held across Telangana

[Concept].

- \* Hyderabad state was merged with the Indian Union on September 17, 1948
- \* Celebrations of the 75th year of the merger of Hyderabad State with the Indian Union, being organised by the Telangana government.
- \* The State became independent on September 17, 1948 and that was the reason the day was being celebrated as national integration day.

### HYDERABAD ANNEXATION :

- \* Hyderabad was one of the largest natives/princely states in India. It was ruled by the Nizams who accepted the paramountcy of the British sovereign.
- \* He was encouraged by Pakistan and Muslim natives peoples, to stay as an independent power and improve his armed forces to resist the integration.
- \* During this military improvisation, internal chaos emerged in the state of Hyderabad because of which, on 13th September 1948, the Indian Army was sent into Hyderabad under Operation Polo (military operation to annex Hyderabad into the Union of India), on the grounds that the law-and-order situation in Hyderabad threatened the peace of South India.

- \* The troops met little resistance by the Razakars (the private militia who were resisting the integration), and between the 13th and 18th September, the military took complete control of the state.

#### 4.9 Periyar

[News].

Remember Periyar with a pledge to embrace dissent

[Concept].

Periyar



- \* Born in 1879, E V Ramasamy 'Periyar' is remembered for the Self Respect Movement to redeem the identity and self-respect of Tamils.
- \* Periyar started his political career as a Congress worker.
- \* He resigned from the party in 1925, and associated himself with the Justice Party and the Self Respect Movement, which opposed the dominance of Brahmins in social life, especially the bureaucracy.

- \* Periyar's fame spread beyond the Tamil region during the Vaikom Satyagraha of 1924, a mass movement to demand that lower caste persons be given the right to use a public path in front of the famous Vaikom temple. He would later be referred to as Vaikom Veerar (Hero of Vaikom).
- \* In the 1940s, Periyar launched a political party, Dravidar Kazhagam (DK), which espoused an independent Dravida Nadu comprising Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, and Kannada speakers.
- \* As a social reformer, he focused on social, cultural and gender inequalities, and his reform agenda questioned matters of faith, gender and tradition.
- \* Periyar died in 1973 at the age of 94. Over the years, Periyar is revered as Thanthai Periyar, the father figure of modern Tamil Nadu.

#### 4.10 Sittanavasal Cave

[News]:

A Jain heritage site in T.N. battles the elements

[Concept]:

Sittanavasal Cave



- \* Sittanavasal Cave (also, Arivar Koil) is a 2nd-century Tamil Śramaṇa complex of caves in Sittanavasal village in Pudukottai district of Tamil Nadu, India.
- \* Its name is a distorted form of Sit-tan-na-va-yil, a Tamil word which means "the abode of great saints"
- \* it is called the Arivar Koil, and is a rock cut cave temple of the Arihants. It contains remnants of notable frescoes from the 7th century. The murals have been painted with vegetable and mineral dyes in black, green, yellow, orange, blue, and white. Paintings have been created by applying colours over a thin wet surface of lime plaster.

## 5.ENVIRONMENT

### 5.1 Bhitarkanika National Park :

[News]:

Odisha govt. cancels shrimp culture leases inside Bhitarkanika

[Concept]:

Bhitarkanika National Park :



- \* Its located in Odisha.
- \* It is the second largest Mangrove ecosystems of India.
- \* The National Park is essentially a network of creeks and canals which are inundated with waters from rivers Brahmani, Baitarani, Dhamra and Patasala forming a unique ecosystem.
- \* It is the breeding place for the Salt Water Crocodiles.
- \* The Gahirmatha Beach which forms the boundary of the sanctuary in the east is the largest colony of the Olive Ridley Sea Turtles.

## 5.2 Kuno National Park :

[News].

African cheetahs may arrive on Modi's birthday. Kuno-Palpur is the forest reserve expected to house the cheetahs.

### Kuno National Park :

- \* Kuno National Park is a national park in Madhya Pradesh, India, established in 1981 as a wildlife Sanctuary
- \* In 2018, it was given the status of a national park. It is part of the Khathiar-Gir dry deciduous forests ecoregion.

## 5.3 Kollidam

[News].

Flood alert issued along banks of Kollidam river. Discharge from Mettur likely to go up

**Kollidam**



- \* The Kollidam (referred to as Coleroon in Colonial English) is a river in southeastern India.
- \* The Kollidam is the northern distributary of the Kaveri River as it flows through the delta of Thanjavur.
- \* It splits from the main branch of the Kaveri River at the island of Srirangam and flows eastward into the Bay of Bengal.
- \* The distribution system in Kollidam lies at Lower Anaicut which is an island of river Kollidam.

#### 5.4 Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

[News]:

Facing land 'shortage', DDA declining compensatory afforestation requests

[Concept]:

## Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).

- \* The CAF Act was passed by the centre in 2016 and the related rules were notified in 2018.
- \* The CAF Act was enacted to manage the funds collected for compensatory afforestation which till then was managed by ad hoc CAMPA
- \* Compensatory afforestation means that every time forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes such as mining or industry, the user agency pays for planting forests over an equal area of non-forest land, or when such land is not available, twice the area of degraded
- \* As per the rules, 90% of the CAF money is to be given to the states while 10% is to be retained by the Centre.
- \* The funds can be used for treatment of catchment areas, assisted natural generation, forest management, wildlife protection and management, relocation of villages from protected areas, managing human-wildlife conflicts, training and awareness generation, supply of wood saving devices and allied activities.

### 5.5 Nanjarayan Tank.

[News].



Nanjarayan tank becomes State's 17th bird sanctuary

[Concept]:

**Nanjarayan Tank.**

- \* Its located on the outskirts of Tirupur city around 60 kilometers from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- \* It was built by King Nanjarayan as a source for irrigation. It is also known as Sarkar Periyapalayam Reservoir.

**5.6 Kurmi Tribe.**

[News]:

Kurmis block railway tracks demanding inclusion on ST list

[Concept]:

**Kurmi Tribe.**

- Kurmi is traditionally a non-elite tiller caste in the lower Gangetic plain of India, especially southern regions of Awadh, eastern Uttar Pradesh and parts of Bihar.

- The Kurmis came to be known for their exceptional work ethic, superior tillage and manuring, and gender-neutral culture, bringing praise from Mughal and British administrators alike
- Kurmali language

### 5.7 The Chital

[News]:

‘No spotted deer brought to Kuno as prey for cheetahs’

#### The Chital or the Spotted Deer



- \* IUCN status – Least Concern.
- \* State animal of Telangana.
- \* In India Chital is very widely distributed from the base of Himalayas to the steaming forests of the south except in the north east.

## 5.8 Tiwa Tribes

[Concept]:

- \* The tribe Tiwas (Lalungs) lives both in the hills and plains of Assam and Meghalaya state. Tiwa means people who were lifted from below.
- \* They are recognized as a Scheduled tribe within the State of Assam.
- \* The hill Tiwa villagers are habitual to the Jhum cultivation, horticulture, vegetables and the crops which are cultivable in the area.
- \* They speak a Tibeto Burman language.

## 5.9 Kaziranga National Park

[News]:

Inert rhinos rise from ashes at Kaziranga

[Concept]:

### **Kaziranga National Park**

- \* It is located in the State of Assam.
- \* It was declared as a National Park in 1974.
- \* It has been declared a tiger reserve since 2007.
- \* It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985.
- \* It is recognized as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

- \* It is the home of the world's most one-horned rhinos.
- \* Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary has the highest density of one-horned rhinos in the world and second highest number of Rhinos in Assam after Kaziranga National Park.
- \* Much of the focus of conservation efforts in Kaziranga are focused on the 'big four' species - Rhino, Elephant, Royal Bengal tiger and Asiatic water buffalo.

#### **Pobitora WLS**

- \* Its a wildlife sanctuary on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra in Morigaon district in Assam, India.
- \* It has the highest concentration of one-horned rhinos in the world and is often called 'Mini Kaziranga' due to similar landscape and vegetation.

#### **5.10 El nino And La nino**

[News]:

Shifting monsoon patterns: Why are certain regions of the country experiencing higher rainfall than normal? How is the triple dip El Nina effect contributing to this change? Do these changes affect the sowing of the summer crop?

**El Nino**

- \* El Nino is a climate pattern that describes the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.
- \* It occurs more frequently than La Nina.
- \* El Nino was first recognized by Peruvian fishermen off the coast of Peru as the appearance of unusually warm water.
- \* The Spanish immigrants called it El Nino, meaning “the little boy” in Spanish.
- \* El Nino soon came to describe irregular and intense climate changes rather than just the warming of coastal surface waters.
- \* The El Nino event is not a regular cycle, they are not predictable and occur irregularly at two- to seven-year intervals.

**La Nina.**

- \* La Nina, the “cool phase” of ENSO, is a pattern that describes the unusual cooling of the tropical eastern Pacific.
- \* La Nina events may last between one and three years, unlike El Nino, which usually lasts no more than a year.
- \* Both phenomena tend to peak during the Northern Hemisphere winter.

## 6.SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### 6.1 INS Vikrant

[News]

Vikrant is a reflection of self-reliant India, says Modi

[Concept].

#### INS Vikrant

- \* Country's first indigenous aircraft carrier commissioned into the Navy
- \* Security concerns in the Indo- Pacific region and the Indian Ocean had long been ignored, but today this area is a major defence priority of the country, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday as he commissioned INS Vikrant, the country's first indigenous aircraft carrier and the most complex warship ever built.
- \* The ship is christened after India's first aircraft carrier Vikrant, which played a vital role in the 1971 war. From 2013 to 2017, the Navy had fielded two aircraft carriers the erstwhile Viraat acquired from the U.K. and the INS Vikramaditya from Russia which is currently in service.
- \* "So far, such aircraft carriers were only made by developed countries. India has taken a step towards being a developed country by being part of the league.

## 6.2 Navigation in Indian Constellation

[News].

Centre's push for NavIC system lands smartphone giants on unknown road

[Concept].

### Navigation in Indian Constellation



- \* Navigation in Indian Constellation (NavIC) is an Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), developed by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- \* IRNSS consists of eight satellites, three satellites in geostationary orbit and five satellites in geosynchronous orbit.
- \* The main objective is to provide reliable position, navigation and timing services over India and its neighbourhood.
- \* It works just like the established and popular U.S. Global Positioning System (GPS) but within a 1,500-km radius over the sub-continent.

### 6.3 Double Asteroid Redirection (DART)

[News]:

Bam! NASA spacecraft crashes into asteroid

[Concept]:

DART:

- \* DART is a low-cost spacecraft
- \* The mission is to test the new technology to be prepared in case an asteroid heads towards Earth in the future.
- \* The aim is to test the newly developed technology that would allow a spacecraft to crash into an asteroid and change its course.
- \* The target of the spacecraft is a small moonlet called Dimorphos (Greek for “two forms”).
- \* Dimorphos orbits a larger asteroid named Didymos (Greek for “twin”).
- \* It is a suicide mission and the spacecraft will be completely destroyed.