AnalySis

Eight of Adyar eco-restoration phase III to begin soon

Adyar eco-restoration phase III to begin soon

As many as 27 rescued from the vessel that had no permission to operate

Eight of capsizes in flooded Godavari

Comments contrary to spirit of Constitution, says CPI(M)

Eight capsizes in flooded Godavari

Amit Shah has willfully exacerbated language divisions to divert public attention from critical issues...
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<th>S. No</th>
<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
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<td>India, Australia to elevate strategic ties</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Practice cum Revision - MCQs</td>
<td>@end of the video</td>
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India, Australia to elevate strategic ties

Likely to conclude logistics support and maritime cooperation pact during Rajnath’s visit

The Information exchange agreement, with a high degree of confidence, is an important step in future maritime domain awareness.

The two nations have already established cooperation in maritime domain awareness. The information exchange agreement, with a high degree of confidence, is an important step in future maritime domain awareness.

Two visits scheduled

There have been a series of high profile visits aimed at furthering the partnership. The Indian Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh went to Australia and New Zealand. In the visit, the two nations concluded an information exchange agreement, which will be signed in November, and the Russian Navy, which is an important step in future maritime domain awareness.

The Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)

* Conceived by Indian Navy in 2008
* Enhance maritime co-operation among the navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region
* By providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion on regionally relevant maritime issues

16 members + 8 Observers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Observers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia, Bangladesh, France, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, China, Germany, Italy</td>
<td>India, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Japan, Madagascar, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Russia, Spain</td>
<td>Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor Leste, UAE, UK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Chairmanship**

- Chair of IONS will be rotated every two years amongst members, based on the following geographical order
  - South Asian Littorals
  - West Asian Littorals
  - East African Littorals
  - South East Asian and Australian Littorals

**Activities**

- ‘Indian Ocean Naval Symposium’ → will be held once in 2 years
- ‘Conclave’ of the Chiefs-of-Navy

**IONS Working Groups (IWG)**

- Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief IWG
- Maritime Security IWG
- Information Sharing & Interoperability IWG

**News**

- Indian Defence Minister is expected to visit Australia in November 2019
- Bilateral agreements likely to be signed
  - Mutual logistics support agreement
  - Broader maritime co-operation agreement
- **AUSINDEX**
  - Biennial Bilateral naval exercise between Australia and India, since 2015
AUSINDEX - 19 → April 2019 - Vishakapatnam, India

- Anti-Submarine warfare exercises
- Air defense exercises
- Anti-surface warfare exercises

- To strengthen and enhance mutual co-operation and interoperability between Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy
Edakkal Caves on knife-edge
Illegal quarries, construction pose threat to heritage site

Private entrepreneurs purchased land on the hill after it became a major tourism spot. They are building resorts to attract visitors, which is said to be a violation of a ban imposed on constructions in the state. An engineering report by the government has listed several illegal activities in the area. The report mentions the illegal quarrying of granite, which has been ongoing for years. The report also mentions the illegal construction of water tanks and the illegal cutting of trees.

While the government is seeking World Heritage status for Edakkal Caves on the Ambukuthi hills in Wayanad district, illegal construction of resorts, by building illegal structures near the caves, poses a serious threat to the rock engravings. A few years ago, the government had banned all types of construction on the premise of the caves to conserve the Neolithic engravings.

While the government has been taking steps to conserve the area, the private sector has been exploiting it for commercial purposes. The government has been trying to protect the site, but the private sector has been putting up structures and resorts, which are said to be a violation of the ban imposed on constructions.

The government has also been trying to find a way to balance the needs of the local community and the needs of tourism. The government has been trying to promote eco-tourism in the area, which is said to be a better way to conserve the site while also providing income for the local community.

The government has also been working on a project to build a water tank near the caves, which is said to be a violation of the ban imposed on constructions. The government has been trying to find a way to balance the needs of the local community and the needs of tourism.
Edakkal Caves

- Ambukuthi hills, Wayanad district
- One great boulder wedged between two bigger stones
- Scientists: Fissure in the rock due to natural calamities or climate change
- Edakkal = A stone in between
- Known for human settlements in the New Stone Age
- Etchings and prehistoric line drawings - people dwelled - various time periods in history
- Some petroglyph depictions in cave walls - 7000 years old
- Govt. of Kerala: Edakkal Caves - only place with Stone Age carvings in ‘South India’

Rock carvings - Mesolithic & Neolithic Age
- Ancient stone scripts, ancient weapons, symbols, animal figures, human beings
- Edakkal - known for the ‘Muniyaras’
- Ancient burial sites - ancient earthenware and pottery

News
- Edakkal Caves - is in danger
- Bulldozing of Ambukuthi hills for illegal construction of resorts
- Illegal granite quarrying
- Serious threat to the rock shelters and families residing on hill slopes
Caves in India that are World Heritage Sites

- Ellora Caves
- Ajanta Caves
- Elephanta Caves
- 'Cultural' World Heritage Sites

July 2019 - Jaipur City in Rajasthan - became World Heritage Site

World Heritage Sites

1. Cultural Site
2. Natural Site
3. Mixed Site

Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

- adopted by UNESCO in 1972
- to identify, protect and preserve the cultural and natural heritage around the world
- India ratified in 1977

- as of now, 38 sites in India identified as World Heritage Sites
- 30 Cultural
  - 7 Natural
    - Mixed (Khangchendzonga National Park, Sikkim)

38
Vulture culture: How the bird was saved from extinction

The number declined from 40 million in the 1980s to a few thousand by 2009

Rapid decline in Vulture population in India in 1990s - Vulture care centre, Pinjore, Haryana

Vulture Conservation Breeding Centre (VCBC) in Pinjore - Jatayu CBC

* Bir Shikargah Wildlife Sanctuary

* Joint project: Haryana Forest Dept. + Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)

- Save 3 species of vultures
  - White backed vulture
  - Long-billed vulture
  - Slender billed Vulture
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bombay Natural History Society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Founded - 1883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* NGO engaged in research &amp; conservation of biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Partner of BirdLife International in India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Designated as “Scientific &amp; Industrial Research Organisation” by the Dept. of S&amp;T</td>
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<tr>
<td>* HQ - Mumbai</td>
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**News**

⇒ vulture population – 40 million in 1980s to few thousands in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for decline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Diclofenac drug in Cattles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>↓ Vultures eat cattle carcass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>↓ death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>↓ India - banned Diclofenac for Veterinary use in 2008 - illegal procurement</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Objectives of VCBCs**

1. Looking after Vultures
2. Breeding in Captivity
3. Release them in to world
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vulture</th>
<th>IUCN</th>
<th>CITES</th>
<th>WPA, 1972</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White backed</td>
<td>Critically Endangered</td>
<td>Appendix II</td>
<td>Schedule IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-billed</td>
<td>Critically Endangered</td>
<td>Appendix II</td>
<td>Schedule I (Part III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slender-billed</td>
<td>Critically Endangered</td>
<td>Appendix II</td>
<td>Schedule I (Part III)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himalayan Griffon</td>
<td>Near Threatened</td>
<td>Appendix II</td>
<td>Schedule IV</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Why India’s growth figures are off the mark

The over reliance on the organized sector for official GDP data is causing a gross miscalculation

How would those agencies in charge of collecting the statistics that drive our economic growth, and those in official data, who, in official data, are given

Economic Slowdown in India

1. Incorrect Projections in Official data

⇒ India’s GDP – last 5 quarters

- April, May, June – 2018 → 8%
- July, Aug, Sep – 2018 → 7%
- Oct, Nov, Dec – 2018 → 6.6%
- Jan, Feb, Mar – 2019 → 5.8%
- Apr, May, June – 2019 → 5%

⇒ General growth rate predicted by RBI, IMF, ADB etc. ~ 7%

⇒ Incorrect → depend on official data

⇒ Actual growth rate – less than 5%

⇒ Investment + domestic demand
2. Investment rate
   ⇒ Investment rate ~ 30% of GDP for years
   ⇣ due to under utilization of capacity more investment → ↑ underutilization of capital

3. Important measures by govt.
   1. Merger of 10 public sector banks
   2. Stimulus package for automobile sector
   3. Rs. 10,000 Cr to support housing sector

4. Handling of fiscal deficit
   ⇒ Transfer of Rs. 1.76 lakh crore from RBI to govt.
   ⇣ Should be spent rather than meeting the fiscal deficit target

⇒ Source of Problem → Informal Sector
   * Informal sector in India → 94% of the workforce + 45% of Output

⇒ Origin of problems
   * Unorganised sectors → hit by demonetisation and GST
   ⇣ ↓ growth - affected overall growth

   * Govt growth projection → based on data from organized sector
   ⇣ need to account unorganized and informal sector data
Survey of India to deploy 300 drones for mapping country

High-resolution maps will facilitate digitisation of land titles in villages

Survey of India

- National survey and mapping organisation of the country
- Oldest scientific department of Govt. of India - set up in 1767 A.D.
- After independence, works for developmental needs of the country and its defence forces
  * numerous developmental surveying and mapping tasks - small / medium / large projects
  * Central / State agencies / PSUs and others
- Subordinate office to the Dept. of Science and Tech
- National Map Policy, 2005
  * to prepare National Topographic Database (NTDB), to provide Dual Series Maps to Defence forces
  * Open Series Maps to other users

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.
⇒ National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organisation

⇒ Set up in 1956

⇒ preparing National Atlas of India, in Hindi, English and other regional languages

⇒ Preparation of thematic maps based on socio-economic, physical, cultural, environmental, demographic and other issues

⇒ Drone based mapping project

⇒ to be carried out in 75% of Indian Geography

⇒ 2 years timeframe

⇒ may leave forests, hills and deserts

⇒ produce high resolution maps

⇒ will facilitate digitisation of land titles in villages

⇒ helpful to Dept. of Revenue and Land records of the states

⇒ 1:500 scale – resolution

⇒ Drones for mapping

⇒ already began – Gaothan, Maharashtra

⇒ Drones to be advantageous over the limitations of aerial photography using aircrafts and helicopters

⇒ Expected cost: Around 500 crore
Amla candy rescues Assam nutrition drive

Women unwilling to consume iron folic acid tablets could opt for alternative

Women unwilling to consume iron folic acid tablets could opt for alternative

news
Amla candy rescues Assam nutrition drive - 16-09-2019

Amla candy rescues Assam nutrition drive - 16-09-2019

Women unwilling to consume iron folic acid tablets could opt for alternative

Women unwilling to consume iron folic acid tablets could opt for alternative

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy

News

* NFHS - 4 2015-16:

  - 47.2% of women of reproductive age are anaemic

  - Hailakandi Dr, Assam

  - Initiative to induce behavioural change among the population in consuming nutritious foods.

Anaemia

* Condition marked by low levels of haemoglobin in the blood

* Other causes

  - Malaria

  - Hookworm and other helminths

  - Chronic infections

  - Genetic conditions

  - Other Nutritional deficiencies

  - Can impair cognitive development, leads to Stunted growth and Increased Morbidity

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Iron deficiency can be supplemented</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>→ through diet</td>
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<tr>
<td>→ by giving iron-folic acid tablets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-consumption of iron-folic acid tablets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>→ Feeling of Nausea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>→ Constipation issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>→ Local myths</td>
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**POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission)**

- Launched in March 2018
- Improve nutritional status of children up to 6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achieve specific targets for reduction in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>→ low birth weight babies → Under nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>→ Stunting growth → Prevalence of anaemia</td>
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</table>

**Increase nutrition awareness among different sections of population about key nutrition behaviours**

*Alternative Solution for intake of iron*

- Giving Amla-gur Candies along with iron-folic acid tablets
  - Amla/Gooseberry → rich in Vitamin C, antioxidants
  - Gur/Jaggery → rich in Iron, Vitamins & minerals
  - Home-made & Cost-effective
PRACTICE QUESTIONS
DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Which of the following countries are members of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium?

1. India
2. Australia
3. Iran
4. Russia
5. Madagascar

Choose the correct answer from the options given below.

a) 1 only
b) 2 and 5 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 3 and 5 only
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. Ellora caves, Elephanta caves and Edakkal caves are World Heritage Sites, as identified by UNESCO.

2. All the above three sites are located in the State of Maharashtra.

Which of the above statement(s) is or are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre is located in the Bir Shikargah Wildlife Sanctuary.

2. It is a project of Government of India for the conservation and breeding of vultures.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 or 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Which of the following best describes the ‘Survey of India’ Organisation?

a) Providing user focused, cost effective, reliable and quality geospatial data, information and intelligence for meeting the needs of national security, sustainable national development, and new information markets.

b) Conducting of large-scale socio-economic sample surveys in diverse fields on All India basis.

c) Studying tribes and other communities that form the population of India both from the biological and cultural point of view.

d) Conducting survey and assessment of forest resources in the country.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. ‘National Nutrition Mission’ strives to reduce which of the following?

1. Level of Stunting
2. Under-nutrition
3. Anaemia
4. Low birth weight babies

Choose the correct answer from the options given below.

a) 1 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 3 only
c) 1, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
Practice Question – Mains
GS – III

Q. Indian economy has been witnessing a continuous slowdown. Are the measures taken by the government to spur economic growth effective? Explain the actual origin of problems faced by the Indian economy.
Practice Question – Answers
16-09-2019

Q1. Option ‘c’ – 1, 2 and 3 only
Q2. Option ‘d’ – Neither 1 nor 2
Q3. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q4. Option ‘a’ – Providing user focused, cost effective, reliable and quality geospatial data, information and intelligence for meeting the needs of national security, sustainable national development, and new information markets.
Q5. Option ‘d’ – 1, 2, 3 and 4
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