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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; T – Thiruvananthapuram
LS passes Dam Safety Bill

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Dam Safety Bill, 2019 by a voice vote.

The Bill seeks to provide for institutional mechanism for surveillance, inspection, operation and maintenance of specified dams across the country. Speaking in the House, Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said the Centre had no intention of taking over the powers of States through the draft law, adding that “Water is a State subject.”

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance—Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Dam Safety Bill - 2019 provides for

- Surveillance, inspection, operation and maintenance of specified dams across India

Important Provisions of the Bill:

* Section 5: Setting up National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS)
  * Composition:
    - Chair - Chairperson of CWC
    - Upto 10 representatives of Centre
    - Upto 7 representatives of States (in rotation)
    - Upto 3 dam safety experts

* Section 6 - function of NCDS
  - Policy formulation → dam safety and prevention of dam failures
  - Analyse causes of dam failures → prescribe changes in dam safety practices

* Section 8 - Setting up of National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA)
  - Head: Officer not below Additional Secretary

* Section 9 - Functions of NDSA
  - Implement policies formulated by NCDS
  - Resolve disputes between State Dam Safety Organisations (SDSOs)
  - Inspection & investigation of dams
  - Accredit → Construction, design and alteration agencies
**Section 14 - Setting up of SOSOs by state govt.**
- NSOSA will act as SSO if
  - dam - owned by one state, situated in another
  - dam - extends to multiple states
  - dam - owned by Central PSU
- Functions of SSO - Surveillance, inspection of operation of dams; keep database of all dams; safety measures to dam owners

**Section 11 - State Committee on Dam Safety by State Government**
- Functions - review the working of SOSOs, order dam safety investigations, assess impact on upstream & downstream states

**Section 35 - Obligations on dam owners**
- Dam safety unit in each dam
- Inspect before and after monsoons, during and after earthquakes, floods
- Risk assessment studies - emergency action plan
- Comprehensive dam safety evaluation - major modifications to original structure, seismic events, etc.

**Section 41 - Offences and penalties**
- Obstructing a person discharging duties
- Refusing to comply with directions

\[
\text{Fine} \quad \text{1 year imprisonment} \quad \text{both}
\]

If Offence leads to death - 2 years imprisonment

---

**Why are some states unhappy?**
1) Water - State Subject - encroaches upon state Sovereignty
2) Section 24 - NSOSA to perform the role of SSO
   - Objection by Tamil Nadu - Mullaperiyar and Parambikulam - with Kerala

**Significance:**
- Union Water Resources Ministry
  - 5344 large dams in India
  - 293 dams more than 100 years old
  - Safety concerns
- Tusware dam breach, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra
- Bill - uniform dam safety procedures across India
- ↓ dam failures & safeguard life and properties
- Precautionary actions - ↓ water scarcity
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Recently the Dam Safety Bill 2019 was passed in Lok Sabha. ‘Water’ comes under which list in Schedule 7 of Constitution of India.

a) Union List
b) State List
c) Concurrent List
d) None of the above
Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the ‘Institutions of Eminence’ scheme.

1. Under this scheme 15 public and 15 private institutions are to be identified to emerge as world-class Teaching and Research institutions.

2. Under the scheme all the Institutions of Eminence will be provided financial assistance of up to Rs. 1000 Cr by the Central Government.

3. Greenfield category institutions are also considered for this status.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2
- c) 3 only
- d) 2 and 3
U.S. formally withdraws from INF arms treaty

‘Russia is responsible for its demise’

The U.S. and Russia terminated a Cold War-era missile pact on Friday in a move that raised the spectre of an arms race between the global superpowers.

The 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty

Mike Pompeo

News:

* US & Russia terminated Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty
  - Danger of arms race

INF Treaty:

* Treaty between USA & Union of Soviet Socialist Republics → signed in 1987
* Elimination of Intermediate-Range missiles & Shorter-Range missiles

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

* Destruction of Ground launched Ballistic & Cruise missiles [GLBM & GLCM]
  - Range → 500 - 5500 kms
  - Associated launchers, support structures & equipment → destructed
  - Destabilising weapons → little warning & time for decision-making
    - Raises spectre of miscalculation
  - Within 1991

* Designed to eliminate all " INF Treaty - Prohibited Systems"
  - Ensures compliance
  - Total ban on possession, production & flight testing

→ Resulted in elimination of an entire category of weapons

→ Treaty crucial to Euro-Atlantic region
Recent Developments:

- Russia developed, produced, tested and deployed several new intermediate-range missiles:
  - QM-99 or SSC-8
  - Mobile, easy to hide
  - Capable of carrying nuclear warheads
  - Can reach European capitals
- Violates INF Treaty
- Threat to NATO allies

Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces treaty.

1. It is for the elimination of the Intermediate-Range Missiles and Shorter-Range Missiles.
2. It is a trilateral treaty between India, U.S.A and Russia.
3. It only prohibits the flight-testing of the banned missiles.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2
c) 1 and 3
d) 2 and 3

Census may skip caste count

A large number of caste names are difficult to tabulate, says official

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy

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.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER II

General Studies I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.
- Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.
News:
→ 2021 Census unlikely to collect caste wise data
→ 2011 Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC)
→ Difficulty in enumerating caste data:
  1) Lack of Standardisation:
     Single caste - Multiple names - Confusion
     Eg: Yadav Caste → also called Yadus, Yaduwanthu
  2) People confuse caste with gotra
→ 2011 Census → Information was recorded on paper → later scanned and fed to database → So many datasets

How Census 2021 will be done?
• Involves 3 lakh enumerators → govt teachers
• Digital enumeration - Android based mobiles - web app developed by Registrar General
• 3 phases
  1) House listing
  2) Enumeration
  3) Revision

* Digitisation → make data crunching quicker
  Most of the parameters will be available by 2024-25
  → Data Crunching - processing of big/large amount of data for making decision
* 45000 villages in India - no internet connection data will be gathered in paper

* Section 8 - Census Act 1948 - every citizen is compelled by law to participate in Census exercise
* 2021 Census - will have ‘third gender’ category → give more focus
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Census in India

1. The 2011 Census has ‘third gender’ as a separate category.
2. The first Census in independent India was conducted in 1951.
3. Census Act 1948 bounds every citizen to participate in the exercise of census.

Select the correct answer from following code

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

Q1. Recently the Dam Safety Bill 2019 was passed in Lok Sabha. ‘Water’ comes under which list in Schedule 7 of Constitution of India.
   a) Union List
   b) State List
   c) Concurrent List
   d) None of the above

Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Consider the following statements with reference to the ‘Institutions of Eminence’ scheme.
   1. Under this scheme 15 public and 15 private institutions are to be identified to emerge as world-class Teaching and Research Institutions.
   2. Under the scheme all the Institutions of Eminence will be provided financial assistance of up to Rs. 1000 Cr by the Central Government.
   3. Greenfield category institutions are also considered for this status.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?
   a) 1 only
   b) 1 and 2
   c) 3 only
   d) 2 and 3
**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q3. Consider the following statements with reference to the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces treaty.

1. It is for the elimination of the Intermediate-Range Missiles and Shorter-Range Missiles.
2. It is a trilateral treaty between India, U.S.A and Russia.
3. It only prohibits the flight-testing of the banned missiles.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only  
b) 1 and 2  
c) 1 and 3  
d) 2 and 3

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**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Census in India

1. The 2011 Census has ‘third gender’ as a separate category.
2. The first Census in independent India was conducted in 1951.
3. Census Act 1948 bounds every citizen to participate in the exercise of census.

Select the correct answer from following code

a) 1 and 2  
b) 2 only  
c) 1 and 3  
d) 2 and 3
Practice Questions – Prelims Answers
3rd August 2019

Q1. Option ‘b’ – State List
Q2. Option ‘c’ – 3 only
Q3. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q4. Option ‘d’ – 2 and 3

LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE

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