

All in one topics Compiled
CAPF AC paper 2

BILINGUA



SHAURYA UPSC CDS II

2022 (OTA)

Complete Batch

Starts July 26, 2022 10 AM to 3 PM



BILINGUA



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2022 (IMA, INA & AFA)

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Y588



Most Important Argument Topics

Q.1

More stringent norms for social media platforms



THE HINDU

MENU

TODAY'S PAPER NEWS OPINION BUSINESS SPORT ENTERTAINMENT CROSSWORD+ SCIENCE

NEWS INDIA WORLD STATES CITIES

NEWS > INDIA

INDIA

More stringent norms for social media platforms in the works: government source

Yuthika Bhargava

NEW DELHI MAY 11, 2022 03:00 IST
UPDATED: MAY 11, 2022 00:21 IST

SHARE ARTICLE | f | | | | | 0 | PRINT | A | A | A





Most Important Argument Topics

Q.2

Privatization

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.3

Is loan waiver beneficial for farmers?

THE HINDU



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TODAY'S PAPER NEWS OPINION BUSINESS SPORT ENTERTAINMENT CROSSWORD+ SCIENCE

STATES ▾ ANDHRA PRADESH KARNATAKA KERALA TAMIL NADU TELANGANA OTHER STATES

NEWS > NATIONAL > OTHER STATES

OTHER STATES

As farm debt drives Punjab farmers to suicide, loan waiver demand set to gain momentum

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.4

Online Education vs Traditional Education?

or

Can online education replace traditional education

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.5

Artificial intelligence is a threat to humanity?

Elon Musk called AI “humanity’s greatest threat.”

Stephen Hawking said the technology could “spell the end of the human race.” That’s some major alarm-sounding.

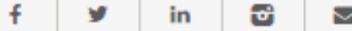
Most Important Argument Topics

Q.6

Increasing legal age of marriage to 21: Is it a boon or a bane

(वरदान है या अभिशाप)

THE HINDU



MENU

TODAY'S PAPER NEWS OPINION BUSINESS SPORT ENTERTAINMENT CROSSWORD+ SCIENCE

OPINION CARTOON COLUMNS EDITORIAL INTERVIEW LEAD READERS' EDITOR

OPINION > COMMENT

COMMENT

Is it right to increase the age of marriage of women to 21?



Jagriti Chandra

JANUARY 07, 2022 00:20 IST
UPDATED: JANUARY 07, 2022 00:44 IST

SHARE ARTICLE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  PRINT | A | A | A

Empowerment of women through education should be a priority irrespective of the law

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.7

Argument for/against Agnipath scheme

THE HINDU

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TODAY'S PAPER NEWS OPINION BUSINESS SPORT ENTERTAINMENT CROSSWORD+ SCIENCE

OPINION CARTOON COLUMNS EDITORIAL INTERVIEW LEAD READERS' EDITOR

OPINION > COMMENT

COMMENT

Will Agnipath energise or demoralise the military?

 Dinakar Peri

JUNE 24, 2022 00:15 IST
UPDATED: JUNE 25, 2022 15:51 IST

SHARE ARTICLE | f | t | r | w | e | c | PRINT | A | A | A

The scheme is too massive a change and first needs to be put through a testbed

On June 14, **the government announced the Agnipath scheme**, which fundamentally transforms the process of recruitment of soldiers, sailors and airmen into the three services. Agniveers, the recruits, will be employed for four years, after which 25% of them will be selected for enrolment in the regular

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.8

Is war the solution to conflicts?
unnecessary war ?

THE HINDU

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OPINION CARTOON COLUMNS EDITORIAL INTERVIEW LEAD READERS' EDITOR

OPINION > LEAD

LEAD

An unnecessary war and its grave portents

M.K. Narayanan

MARCH 10, 2022 00:50 IST
UPDATED: MARCH 10, 2022 10:34 IST

SHARE ARTICLE | f | | | | | | | PRINT | A | A | A

Kyiv is paying a heavy price and a change of tack is needed, where the cardinal objective is to save lives and Ukraine

Russia's attack on Ukraine, which began from the third week of February, shows no sign of ending. It has, in the meantime, led to a humanitarian crisis of gigantic proportions. The number of refugees streaming into countries adjoining Ukraine has revived memories and images of the vast numbers who

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.9

Agneepath Scheme for the Armed Forces

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.10

Solar Energy vs. Fossil Fuels: The Great Debate

THE HINDU

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TODAY'S PAPER NEWS OPINION BUSINESS SPORT ENTERTAINMENT CROSSWORD+ SCIENCE

NEWS INDIA WORLD STATES CITIES

NEWS > NATIONAL

NATIONAL

Transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy can pose fiscal challenges for India: study

Jacob Koshy

NEW DELHI JULY 10, 2022 20:20 IST
UPDATED: JULY 10, 2022 20:20 IST

LEARNING & CHANGE : DEFINITION

Learning can be understood as the process of acquiring new ideas, examples and processes that add value to our knowledge and thinking. For instance, when we teach a child that stealing is bad, he learns that he should not do it. When we teach children that men and women are equal, they learn that patriarchal society is unjustified and immoral. Thus it can be seen that, from learning comes change.

This incident proves the age old saying that change is the end result of all learning. Both learning and change are indispensable in order to be better humans; build better societies and shape great nations.

In this essay, we will examine what is meant by 'learning' and 'change'. We will then examine how learning led to change throughout the history and across the geography. Next, we will discuss the problems and hindrances in learning and changing. Finally, we will conclude by seeing how we can instill change.

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.7

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FOR

AGAINST

- **Transformative reform**
- **More Employment Opportunities**
- **Future Ready Soldiers**

- **Difficult to Find Another Job**
- **No Pension Benefit**
- **Training May Remain Unutilized**

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क्या युद्ध संघर्षों का समाधान है? अनावश्यक युद्ध ?

FOR

- Maintain cordial enough relations

Historical example: Vietnam's fight against France, Japan and the US for its independence and the right to decide its own fate. These wars decisively ended any conflict between Vietnam and these three, and now

- Where diplomacy is failed there A war will bring a state of aggression to an end.

AGAINST

- **Because wars are expensive, and often not as decisive as you might think. The classic example is WWI.**
- **Mass destruction of cities and have long lasting effects on a country's economy.**

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.9

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UPDATED: JULY 10, 2022 20:20 IST

FOSSILS

- **Most cost-efficient solution for providing energy**
- **Fossil fuels will still provide 60% of energy in 2040, compared to 85% today**

SOLAR

- The costs of renewable energy have dropped dramatically over the past years, quickly making solar (and wind energy) viable alternatives to fossil fuels.
- Better For The Environment?(NASA reports that “humans have increased atmospheric CO2 concentration by 48% since the Industrial Revolution began.)

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.10

Local reservation in private sector?

<https://indianexpress.com> > Explained

Explained: What is Haryana's private sector quota law that the ... ✓

04-Feb-2022 — The **local** candidates can be from any district of Haryana, but the employer has the discretion to restrict employment of **local** candidates from ...

FOR

AGAINST

- **Dealing with shrinking employment opportunities**
- **Curbing the selectively discriminating corporations**

- **In contravention of the Constitution**
- **No solution to core issues**
- **Stifle the labour market**

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Most Important Argument Topics

Q.11

Uniform civil code pros and cons

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) calls for the formulation of **one law** for India, which would be applicable to all religious communities in matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption.

The code comes under Article 44

PROS

CONS

- **To provide equal status to all citizens**
- **To promote gender parity**(personal laws of almost all religions are discriminatory towards women.)
- **To support the national integration**

- **Practical difficulties due to diversity in India**
- **Interference of state in personal matters & Sensitive and tough task**
- **Time is not yet suitable for this reform**

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.12

**Benefits & Risks of Artificial
Intelligence?**

FOR

AGAINST

- **1) Reduction in Human Error**(In Weather Forecasting)
- **Takes risks instead of Humans**(Chernobyl nuclear power plant explosion in Ukraine)
- **Helping in Repetitive Jobs**

- **Helping in Repetitive Jobs**
- **Making Humans Lazy**
- **Unemployment**

Most Important Argument Topics

Q.13

Age of Marriage of women and Men should be same



FOR

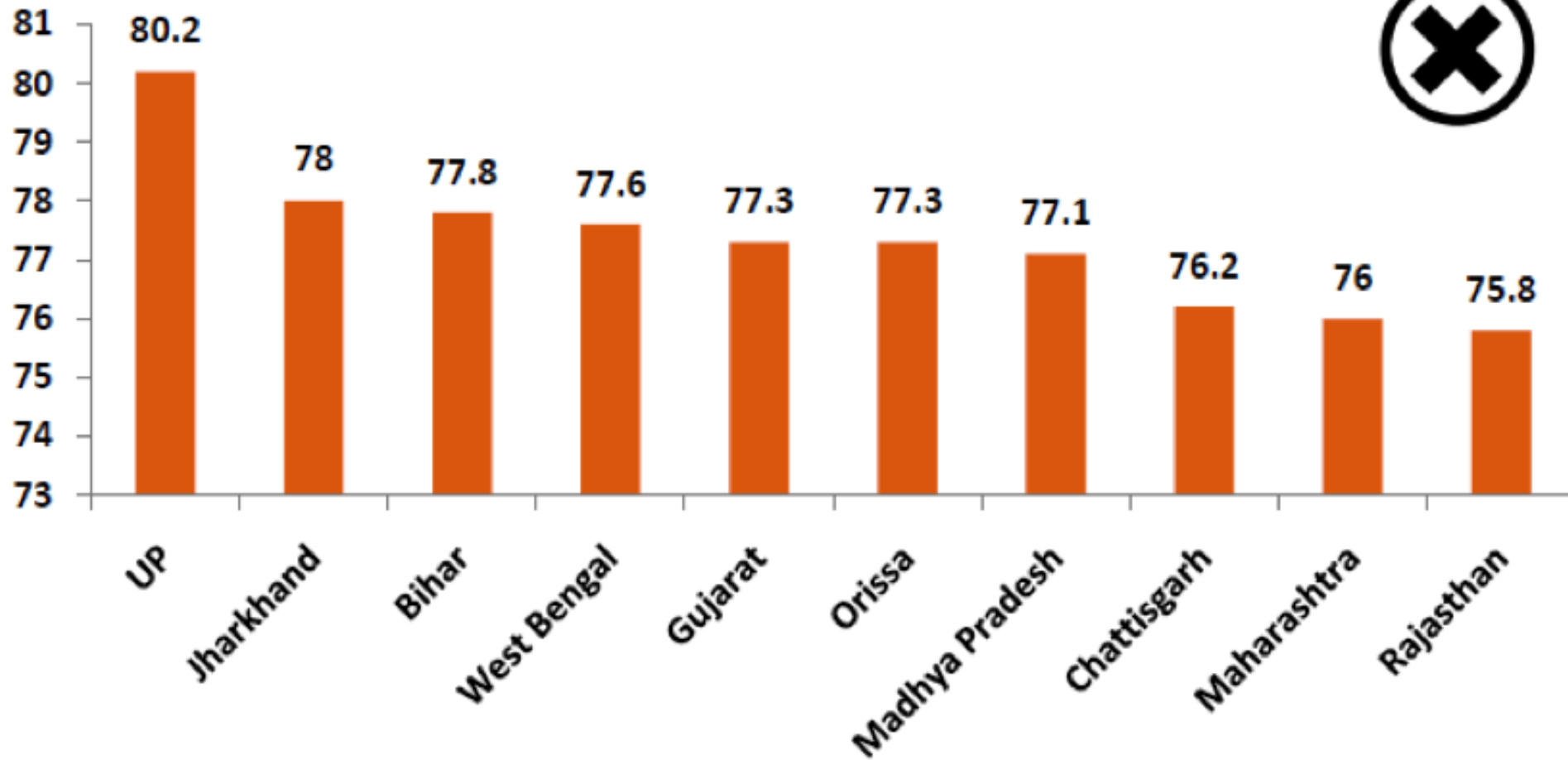
AGAINST

- **Protection of Basic Rights**
- **Bringing Gender Parity**
(Section 2(a) of the Special Marriage Act declares legal marriageable age women as 18 while for men this age is 21, the difference seems to have no justifiable logic.)

The age of voting can be equal

- **High Prevalence of Child Marriage Despite Stringent Laws**
- **No Assurance for Eliminating Child Marriages**
- **Misuse of Laws by Parents**

Percentage of Parents not aware of the Child Marriage Prohibition Act



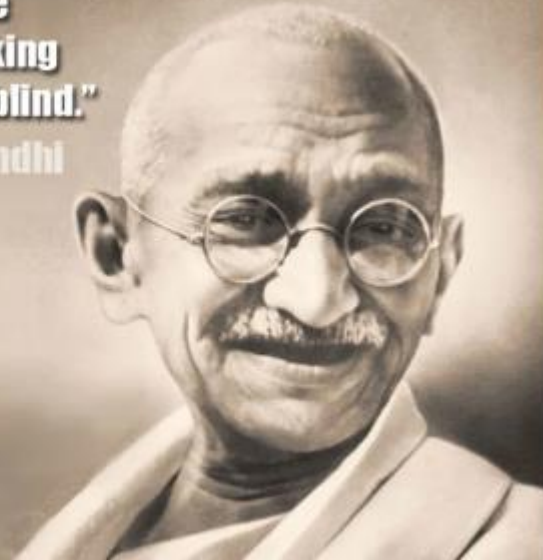
Most Important Argument Topics

Q.14

Death Penalty must be abolished.

**"An eye for an eye
only ends up making
the whole world blind."**

- Mohandas Gandhi



FOR

- **Important instrument for preserving law and order, deterring crime and costs less than life imprisonment.**
- **Serves as a deterrent for other criminals as well.**
- **The death penalty is needed in law books to contain terrorism.**

AGAINST

- **No sufficient evidence to prove that the death penalty is any more effective in reducing crime than imprisonment.**
- **It aggravates social injustices by targeting people who cannot afford good lawyers.**
- **Death sentence violates international human rights laws.**

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- Topics to be covered:-

- ✓ Basics

- ✓ Pyqs on Reports

- ✓ Source

- ✓ Format

- ✓ Current report topic

-

BASIC INFORMATION

Reports to be attempted: 2

No Choice

Maximum Marks: $10 \times 2 = 20$

Medium of writing: English

Word limit: 200 words and 10 mins

ANALYSIS OF PREVIOUS YEAR REPORT QUESTIONS

With reference to Report Writing, UPSC usually sets questions on current issues.

2021

- Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :
- Oxygen cylinders crisis in Delhi
- Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks)
- Poll violence in West Bengal

Delhi's oxygen crisis: Why it happened and how it was overcome

To deal with this acute crisis, Delhi government worked out usage and projected requirements of each hospital.

Written by [Shailendra Sharma](#) |

Updated: May 19, 2021 8:57:11 am



ADVERTISEMENT

Post-poll violence continues in West Bengal even now: Suvendu Adhikari

POLITICS

VIDEO

10/MAY/2021

2020

Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :

Impact of the new agricultural laws on farmers

Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :

Provisions for primary education sector in the New Education Policy

What are new farm laws and why farmers are protesting

EDUCATION

New Education Policy 2020 Highlights: School and higher education to see major changes

2019

Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :

Water scarcity and access to drinking water

Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :

The rising juvenile abuse

2019 report questions were based on current issue.

The first report question ‘Rising juvenile abuse’ was based on the recent strengthening of POCSO Act of 2012.

The second report question ‘Water scarcity and access to drinking water’ was based on the acute water crisis that most of the states of India were facing.

2018

Write a report in about 200 words(10) :

Violence on University campuses during Student. Elections

Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :

Data leak from Facebook

➤ In 2018,

the report question as set by UPSC was ‘Data leak from Facebook’ which was based on the **current event of Facebook security breach that got exposed in April 2018.**

2017

Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :

Environmental pollution

The recent achievements of India's nuclear scientists

- In 2017, the report question asked by UPSC was ‘The recent achievements of India's nuclear scientists’
- This question is again based on current event from jan, 2017.

2016

- Write report on the following in about 200 words
- Receding glaciers
- Write reports on the following in about 200 words
- Ban on alcohol in Bihar

- In 2016, the report question asked by UPSC was ‘Ban on alcohol in Bihar’ This question is again based on current event as the state Bihar banned alcohol from April, 2016.

In **2015** report question 'Operation Rahat' is based on the operation of Indian Armed Forces to evacuate Indians from Yemen.

In the same year, report on 'Acid attacks on women' was asked. This was again a current event because in 2014 National Crime Records Bureau reported **309** cases of acid attacks on women. This upsurge came about despite **Supreme Court's ban on over-the-counter sales of acid in 2013**

Operation Ganga

In 2014, UPSC set the report question 'Penetration of Left-Wing extremism in tribal areas.'

This question reminds us of the attacks carried out by the **Naxals in 2013** when about **200 armed Maoists** killed the top rung of Congress leaders in the **Bastar-Sukma national highway in Chhattisgarh.**

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- **‘Penetration of Left-Wing extremism in tribal areas.’**
- **Recent Naxal encounter in Chhattisgarh**

'Shocked', says Jharkhand ex-MLA who was target of 'Naxal' attack

The son of a farmer, Nayak started his political career with the NSUI, the Congress's student wing, but as the Ayodhya movement peaked, his politics shifted to the Right.

Written by [Abhishek Angad](#) | Ranchi |
Updated: January 7, 2022 10:35:50 am



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सतर्क नागरिक बनकर

<https://www.deccanherald.com> › National

[CRPF officer killed, jawan injured in ... - Deccan Herald](#) ✓

12-Feb-2022 — "Assistant Commandant Shanti Bhusan Tirkey, belonging to the CRPF's 168th battalion, was killed while (CRPF) constable B Apparao, hailing from ...

Recent Naxal encounter **HEADING**

Chhattisgarh, 12th February 2022

By Special Correspondent

A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officer was **killed and a jawan injured** in an exchange of fire with Naxals in **Chhattisgarh's left-wing extremism affected Bijapur district on 12th February**. The incident took place around 9:30 am near a rivulet **close to Putkel village under Basaguda police station limits** when a team of CRPF's 168th battalion was out on a road security duty.

When the patrolling team was **cordoning off forest near Dongal Chinta rivulet** in forest, around 450 km away from capital Raipur, it came under heavy fire from a group of Maoists leading to the gunfight, and Assistant Commandant Shanti Bhusan Tirkey, belonging to the CRPF's 168th battalion was killed in the incident, while jawan Appa Rao sustained injuries.

After being alerted about the incident, **reinforcement was rushed** to the spot. The situation is under control, **as per the CRPF command sector**. The injured jawan and the body of the martyred officer are being shifted out of the forest, and the search operation is underway in nearby areas.

➤ ***First paragraph:*** Start your report with answering the question **WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN** in the decreasing order of their significance.

➤ ***Second Paragraph:*** Answer the question **WHY, HOW, CAUSE, EFFECT, CONSEQUENCES** of the topic under discussion.

➤ The content must be rich supported with data and evidence.

Third paragraph: Mention the reaction, opinion or suggestion as given by the experts or the government. **Solution can also be given but it should come from some experts.**

Q-3)

"Operation Ganga"

New Delhi
25th February 2022
By Special Correspondent

Indian government started the 'Operation Ganga' to evacuate the Indians from Ukraine after a day of invasion by Russia. Approx 23000 Indians and 147 people of 18 other countries have been evacuated safely except one student's casualty and one sustain injury..

On 24th February 2022 Russia invaded on Ukraine. Indian Prime minister and External affairs minister started to talk with Russian President Vladimir Putin and counterpart of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky to evacuate Indians. As to Mostly Indians are medical students. As per guidelines given by the External affairs ministry and 24x7 helpline number, the student reached to neighbouring country of Ukraine. From where Indian Airforce evacuated the students.

11. ~~Pm Modi~~ dispatched ~~4~~ Union Ministers at
~~the~~ ~~board~~ ~~area~~ of ~~Ukraine~~ for ~~no~~ ~~bet~~

12

~~Cooperation~~ with ~~Bolivia~~, ~~Slovak~~, ~~Romania~~ that ~~Indian~~
~~Airforce~~ can ~~operate~~ the ~~open~~ ~~evacuation~~ operation
~~easily~~.

When the last flight landed in New Delhi
part. Prime Minister congratulated the Indian
airforce for conducting the successful "Operation
Brangq" and said, "We proud of our IAF
which conducted many successful operation. Last Year
Operation Devi Shakti also conducted to evacuate
Indians from Afghanistan." "We feel regret of
loss a student," ~~so~~ added by PM.

THANKS



Most Important Report Topics

Q.2

Floods in assam

The two waves of the floods in Assam this year were the worst ever in the state in terms of human casualties.

Altogether 195 persons had lost their lives – 19 of them in the rain-induced landslides. Thirty-seven others were reported missing.

An estimated 90 lakh people were affected while crop areas damaged were in over 2.40 lakh hectares

One-third of the state's population was affected.

As regards cattle, 54,837 of them had died.

One positive exception was that the animals at the Kaziranga National Park had not died.

3,03,930 houses were damaged, 25,670 of them completely. He said the government would rebuild them.

Meanwhile, State government has been providing Rs 3,800 each to 1.81 lakh flood-affected families.

Similarly, 1.01 lakh students, affected by the deluge, were provided with Rs 1,000 each so they could buy their textbooks.

As per Assam CM, the subsequent steps are being taken to rebuild infrastructure which would entail an expenditure of Rs 1,000 crore.

Also, State government is getting extreme cooperation from the Centre.

Most Important Report Topics

Q.3

Sri Lanka economic crisis

What led to Sri Lanka's economic crisis

- ✓ The Sri Lankan economy has been facing a crisis owing to a serious Balance of Payments (BoP) problem.
- ✓ Its foreign exchange reserves are depleting rapidly and it is becoming increasingly difficult for the country to import essential consumption goods.

The current Sri Lankan economic crisis is the product of the

- ✓ **historical imbalances in the economic structure,**
- ✓ **the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s loan-related conditionalities and**
- ✓ **the misguided policies of authoritarian rulers.**



Why is Sri Lanka Suffering from Crisis?



• **Background:** When Sri Lanka emerged from a 26-year long civil war in 2009, its post-war GDP growth was reasonably high at 8-9% per annum till 2012.

- However, its average GDP growth rate almost halved after 2013 as global commodity prices fell, exports slowed down and imports rose.
- It again approached the IMF in 2016 for another US\$1.5 billion loan, however the **conditionalities of the IMF** further deteriorated Sri Lanka's economic health.



•Recent Economic Shocks:

The **Easter bomb blasts of April 2019** in churches in Colombo resulting in 253 casualties, consequently, **dropped the number of tourists sharply** leading to a decline in foreign exchange reserves.

The **newly led government** by Gotabaya Rajapaksa in 2019 **promised lower tax rates and wide-ranging benefits for farmers** during their campaign.

- **The quick implementation of these ill-advised promises** further exacerbated the problem.



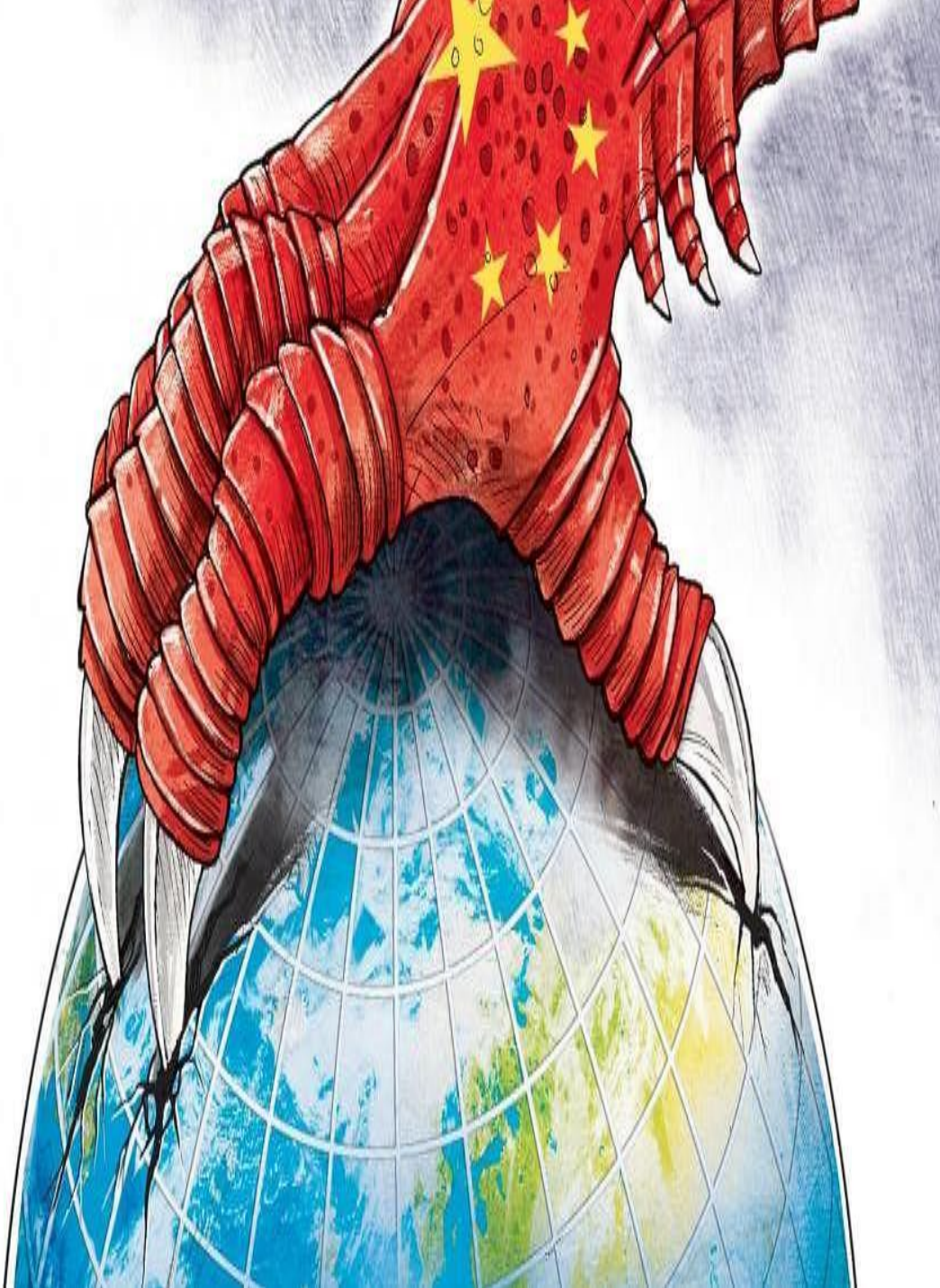
• The **Covid-19 pandemic in 2020** made the bad situation worse –

- Exports of tea, rubber, spices and garments suffered.
- Tourism arrivals and revenues fell further
- Due to a rise in government expenditures, the **fiscal deficit** exceeded 10% in 2020-21, and the **debt to GDP ratio** rose from 94% in 2019 to 119% in 2021.



• **Sri Lanka's Fertiliser Ban:** In 2021, all fertiliser imports were completely banned and it was declared that Sri Lanka would become a **100% organic farming nation overnight.**

- This overnight shift to organic fertilisers heavily impacted food production.



•**Debt Trap Diplomacy:** It is claimed that Sri Lanka was caught in a vicious web of money lending by China for infrastructure projects (**Hambantota Port**) and were unable to pay them back.

•**War-induced inflation:** The ongoing Russia-Ukraine war resulted in steep price inflation of crude oil, sunflower oil and wheat.



(Hambantota Port)



Fall in FDI:

Foreign direct investment (FDI) has drastically decreased to \$548 million in 2020 as compared to \$793 million and \$1.6 billion in 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Weak currency:

In 2022, Sri Lankan Rupee depreciated by more than 50 percent against the US dollar, 31.6 percent against Indian Rupee.

Impact of Sri Lanka crisis on India

Impact of Sri Lanka crisis on India



- **Refugee crisis:** Due to lack of comprehensive refugee policy, an influx of refugees in India can increase
 - supply-side shock and
 - competition in labor market,
 - strain healthcare services due to emergence of vector-borne and
 - infectious diseases
- if refugee camps lack proper sanitation.

- **China's influence:** Sri Lanka has asked for USD 2.5 billion emergency aid from China, there is a threat that China may gain its influence in the island country.



- **Impact on trade:** India relies considerably on Colombo port for global trade as it is a trans-shipment hub.

Thus, **any disruption in Colombo port operations** makes India vulnerable to an increase in costs and congestion issues.

- **Rise of rebel groups:** Tamil rebels and dissident group like Sinhalese **population** can take up arms in the time of crisis and can led to civil war in island nation.
- **Investment:** Ongoing crisis pauses **threat to investment and operations of multiple Indian companies** like Indian oil, Airtel, Tata communications etc. which in turn can impact the revenues of these viz a viz negatively impact Indian economy

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Most Important Essay Topics

Q.4

Operation ganga

'Operation Ganga' is the initiative launched by the government of India to bring back Indians stranded in Ukraine. Under this, India has already successfully brought back more than a 1,000 of its nationals from the country.

It has also set up 24×7 control centres to assist in the evacuation of Indians through the border crossing points with Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovak Republic. A Twitter handle, 'OpGanga Helpline', has also been dedicated to the mission, where all information regarding evacuation process and advisories of embassies are shared to keep everyone up-to-date.

Thousands of Indians, especially students studying medicine in Ukraine, have been stuck in the country since it closed its airspace as a security measure after Russia launched “special military operations”. The Indian Embassy, however, assured them that alternative arrangements would be made to help them fly back to India.

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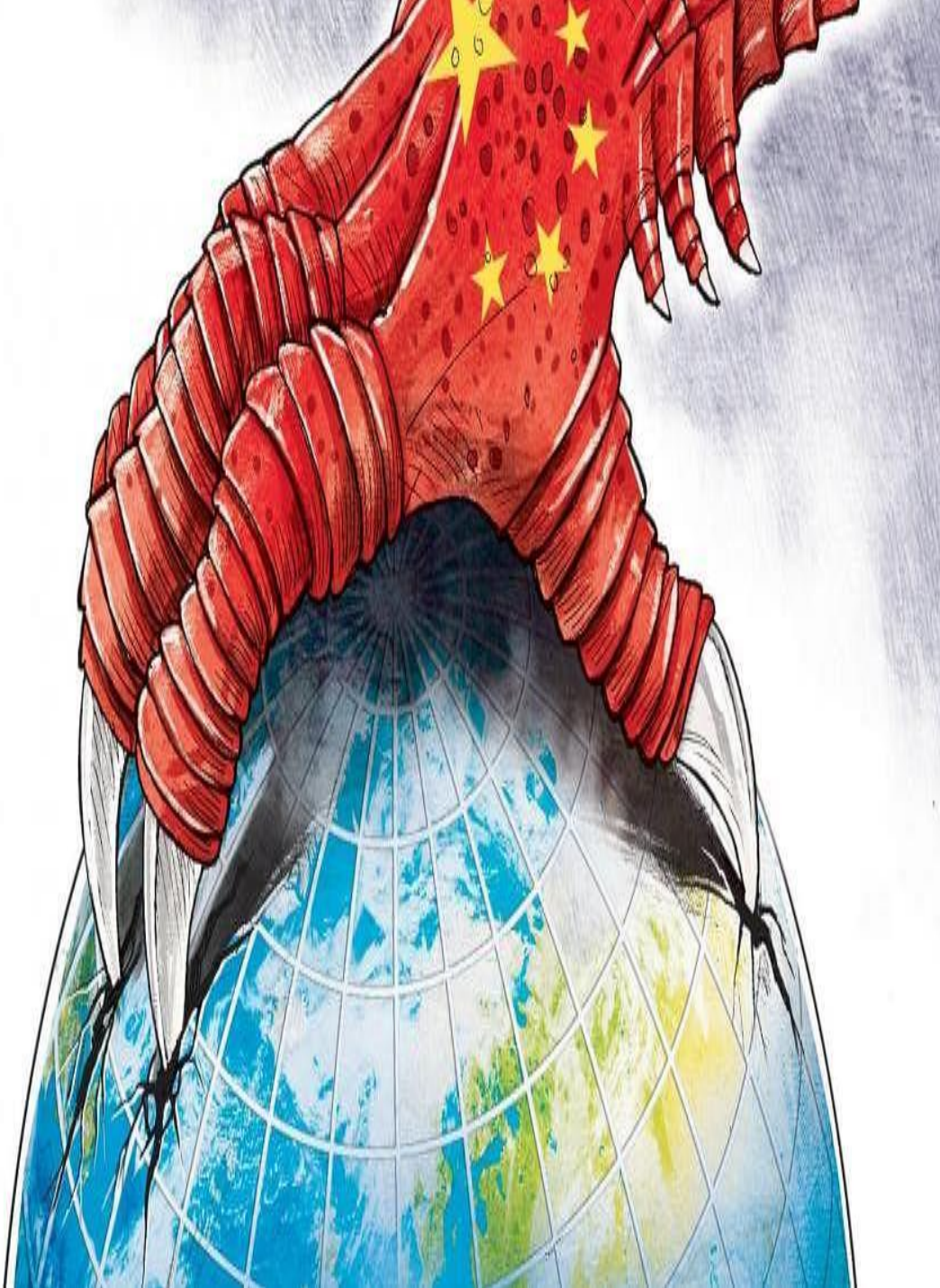
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- Exports of tea, rubber, spices and garments suffered.
- Tourism arrivals and revenues fell further
- Due to a rise in government expenditures, the **fiscal deficit** exceeded 10% in 2020-21, and the **debt to GDP ratio** rose from 94% in 2019 to 119% in 2021.



• **Sri Lanka's Fertiliser Ban:** In 2021, all fertiliser imports were completely banned and it was declared that Sri Lanka would become a **100% organic farming nation overnight.**

- This overnight shift to organic fertilisers heavily impacted food production.



•**Debt Trap Diplomacy:** It is claimed that Sri Lanka was caught in a vicious web of money lending by China for infrastructure projects (**Hambantota Port**) and were unable to pay them back.

•**War-induced inflation:** The ongoing Russia-Ukraine war resulted in steep price inflation of crude oil, sunflower oil and wheat.



(Hambantota Port)



Fall in FDI:

Foreign direct investment (FDI) has drastically decreased to \$548 million in 2020 as compared to \$793 million and \$1.6 billion in 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Weak currency:

In 2022, Sri Lankan Rupee depreciated by more than 50 percent against the US dollar, 31.6 percent against Indian Rupee.

Impact of Sri Lanka crisis on India

Impact of Sri Lanka crisis on India



- **Refugee crisis:** Due to lack of comprehensive refugee policy, an influx of refugees in India can increase
 - supply-side shock and
 - competition in labor market,
 - strain healthcare services due to emergence of vector-borne and
 - infectious diseases
- if refugee camps lack proper sanitation.

- **China's influence:** Sri Lankan has asked for USD 2.5 billion emergency aid from China, there is threat that China may gain its influence in the island country.



- **Impact on trade:** India relies considerably on Colombo port for global trade as it is a trans-shipment hub.

Thus, **any disruption in Colombo port operations** makes India vulnerable to an increase in costs and congestion issues.

- **Rise of rebel groups:** Tamil rebels and dissident group like Sinhalese **population** can take up arms in the time of crisis and can led to civil war in island nation.
- **Investment:** Ongoing crisis pauses **threat to investment and operations of multiple Indian companies** like Indian oil, Airtel, Tata communications etc. which in turn can impact the revenues of these viz a viz negatively impact Indian economy

Most Important Essay Topics

Q.4

Operation ganga

'Operation Ganga' is the initiative launched by the government of India to bring back Indians stranded in Ukraine. Under this, India has already successfully brought back more than a 1,000 of its nationals from the country.

It has also set up 24×7 control centres to assist in the evacuation of Indians through the border crossing points with Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovak Republic. A Twitter handle, 'OpGanga Helpline', has also been dedicated to the mission, where all information regarding evacuation process and advisories of embassies are shared to keep everyone up-to-date.

Thousands of Indians, especially students studying medicine in Ukraine, have been stuck in the country since it closed its airspace as a security measure after Russia launched “special military operations”. The Indian Embassy, however, assured them that alternative arrangements would be made to help them fly back to India.

Write a report in about 200 words(10 Marks) :

How our media habits feed political bias

<https://www.livemint.com> › [economy](#) › [social-media-ne...](#) ⋮

How our media habits feed political bias - Mint

24-Feb-2022 — **Views** and information floating on social **media** belong across **the political** spectrum, which could make such news consumers more sceptical in ...

You've visited this page 2 times. Last visit: 31/3/22

Most Important Report Topics

Q.4

How our media habits feed political bias

New Delhi, 24th February 2022

By Special Correspondent

Growing dependence on the **digital world** has changed our sources of news and information over the past decade, and it is also shaping our **political views**.

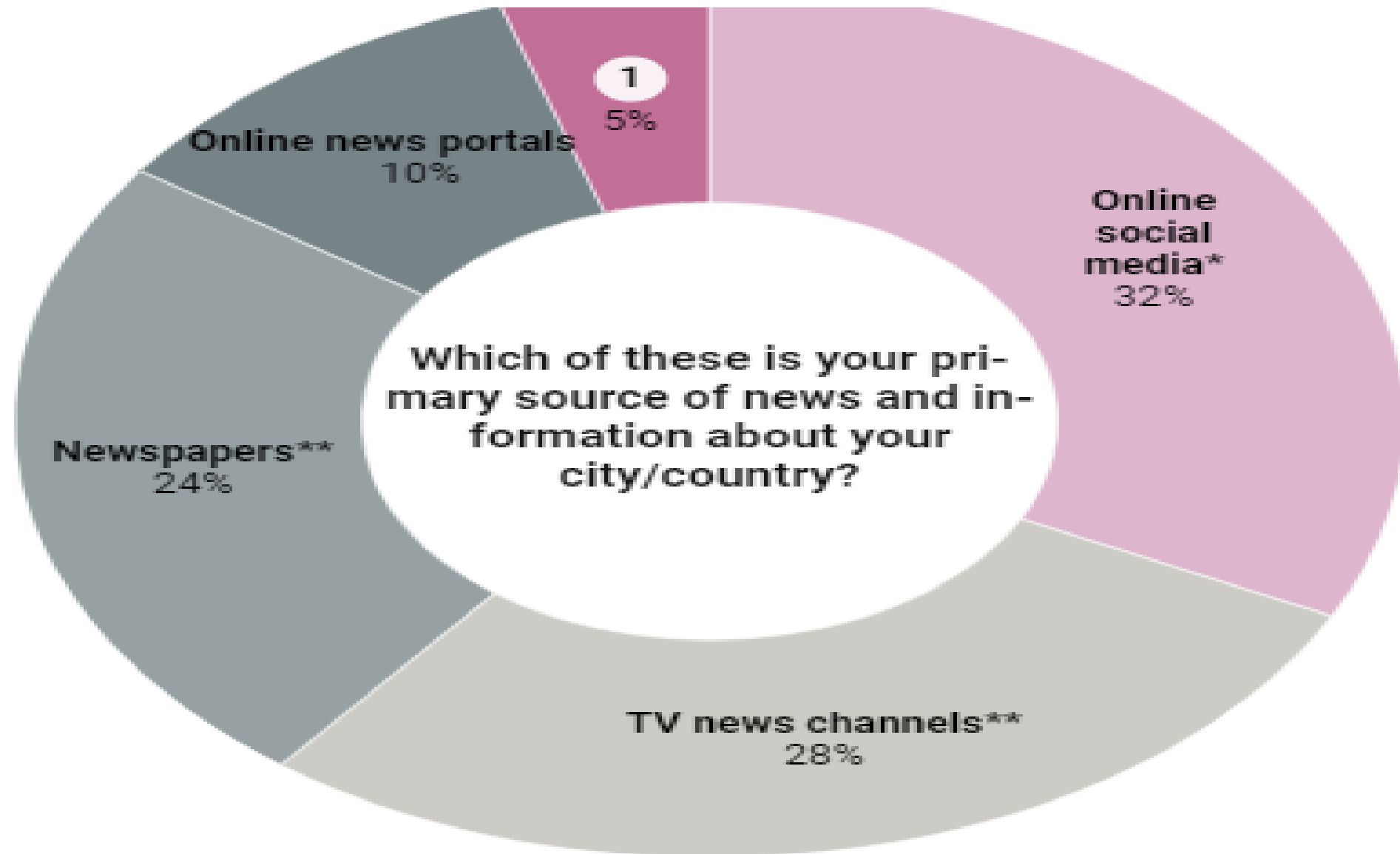
The latest YouGov-Mint-CPR Millennial Survey of 12,900 respondents in urban India shows a preference for new media and its crisp-and-quick circulation of information even in a country of low internet penetration. The survey found how **your preferred news source** is likely to influence your **political leaning**, and even your perception of the **post-pandemic economic recovery**.

The transition from conventional news sources to digital platforms and applications has picked pace in the last few years.

A **large chunk (32%)** of urban Indians prefer digital spaces for their daily dose of news and information, with social media feeds and WhatsApp or Telegram forwards emerging as the **most preferred method** of obtaining such content when the survey was held in late 2021.

This was followed by **television news (28%) and newspapers (24%)**, including their websites.

Social media, WhatsApp forwards are the most popular news source for urban India



Our choice of news media can shape our opinions, especially our political leanings, studies have shown.

But the YouGov-Mint-CPR survey found a **fundamental link** between news sources and the very tendency to support a political party.

Supporters of the **Bharatiya Janata Party** were the most likely to rely on TV news (28%).

Those who relied on social media for news were most likely to not identify with any party, and those using TV news preferred the BJP.

Half of the respondents in the survey felt the Indian economy was already there or would be there within a year.

But just like **political optimism**, **economic optimism** was also most common among adults who identified TV news channels as their top news source.

Among those relying on social media for news, **nearly half (47%)** felt the economy could take longer than a year to reach pre-pandemic levels.

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Introduction of CUET may encourage 'coaching culture': Private schools body

"...we, therefore, feel that the CUET could have been introduced next year so as to bring greater awareness among students who would have sufficient time to mentally prepare themselves to take such a common entrance examination after their final board," read the letter.

Private Schools Claim CUET Will Rise to 'Coaching Culture', NTA Chief Calls it a Misconception



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Home > India > CUET not to make board exams irrelevant, nor give push to coaching..

India

CUET not to make board exams irrelevant, nor give push to coaching culture: UGC chairman

Most Important Report Topics

Q.4

Private Schools Claim CUET Will Rise to 'Coaching Culture', NTA Chief Calls it a Misconception

NEW DELHI APRIL 29, 2022

By Special Correspondent

An **association of private schools** has written a letter to Union Education Minister, expressing apprehension that the introduction of Common University Entrance Test (CUET) from the 2022-23 academic session may encourage “**coaching culture**” among students.

This comes after **UGC chairman M Jagadesh Kumar**, said that the central universities will have to use CUET scores to admit students to undergraduate programs and not the Class 12 marks.

The syllabus of the CUET will be mirrored with the Class 12 model syllabus of the NCERT.

Although the **National Progressive Schools Conference (NPSC)**,

an association of Senior Secondary School Principals pan India and abroad, welcomed the move to introduce CUET and said it will “do away with the stress of appearing in multiple entrance tests” for students, it also flagged certain various concerns, including the fact that it might encourage coaching culture.

The NPSC called for a “**broad consultative process**” with all stakeholders dealing with school education.

NPSC chairperson Sudha Acharya said the fact that CUET will be based on NCERT books will encourage students from state boards and ICSE to take coaching since they follow different books.

“The NEP 2020 envisages doing away with the culture of coaching. Unfortunately not giving any weightage to class XII will encourage proliferation of the coaching culture,” she said in the letter.

“There will be no motivation or incentive for the students and teachers to put in their best efforts in getting good marks in 12th class

The whole focus of NEP 2020 for school education has got diluted. In order to avoid this problem, it is essential that a minimum weightage of 50 per cent should be given to the Board examination,” read the letter.

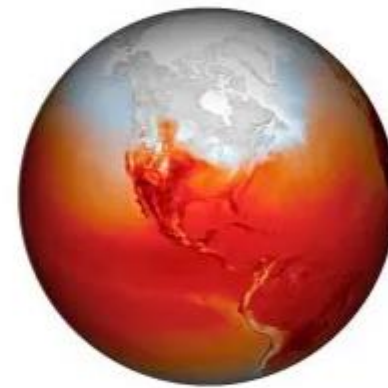
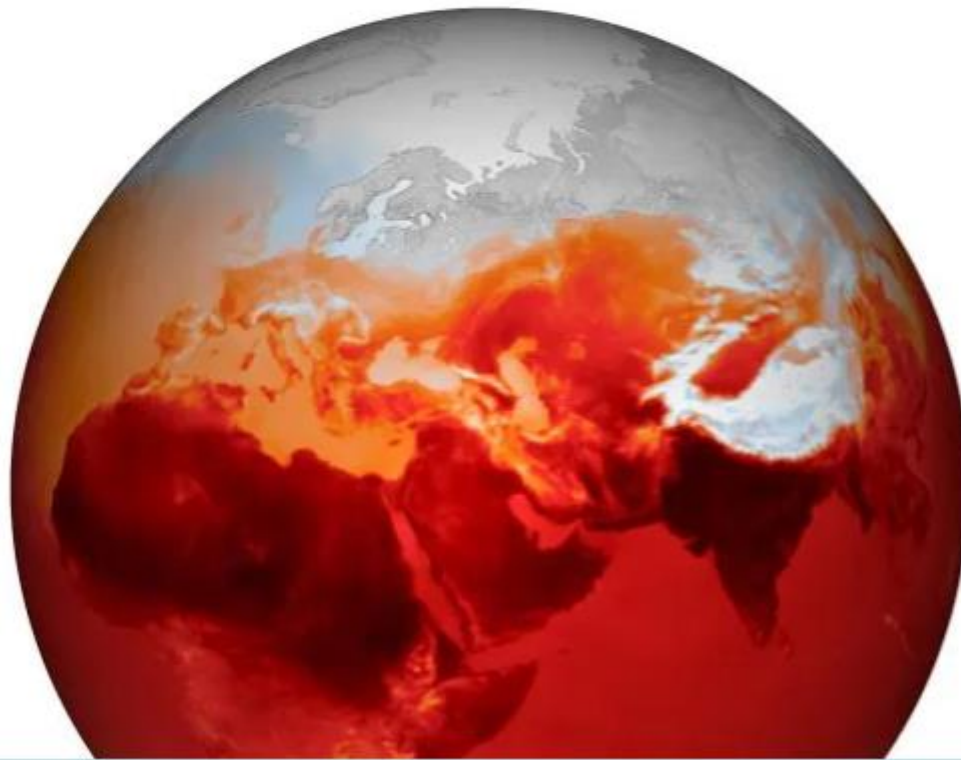
- The CUET will have **three parts**:
 - compulsory language,
 - 27 subject domains, and
 - general test on quantitative reasoning, logical and analytical reasoning, numerical ability, and general knowledge and current affairs.
- “Students who **do not have aptitude for maths or numerical or quantitative reasoning** will find it difficult to score well in the third part without coaching.
- Moreover, students who would like to shift from one stream to another for college admission will have extreme difficulty in choosing the subject domain in the CUET,” she said.

- Calling this a misconception, **NTA Director General Vineet Joshi** told, “We do not want to give encouragement to the coaching culture, students should not go for coaching classes to clear the CUET exam. Whatever will be a part of the question papers will be based on books of the NCERT and state board syllabus.”
- “There is a misconception that we will only use NCERT books to form the question papers... that is not true, we are looking at other board syllabi as well for the question papers.”

Oppressive Heat Waves Strike India, Leaving More Than a Billion People Sweltering

TOPICS: Earth Observatory Heat Wave NASA Weather

By SARA E. PRATT, NASA EARTH OBSERVATORY MAY 2, 2022

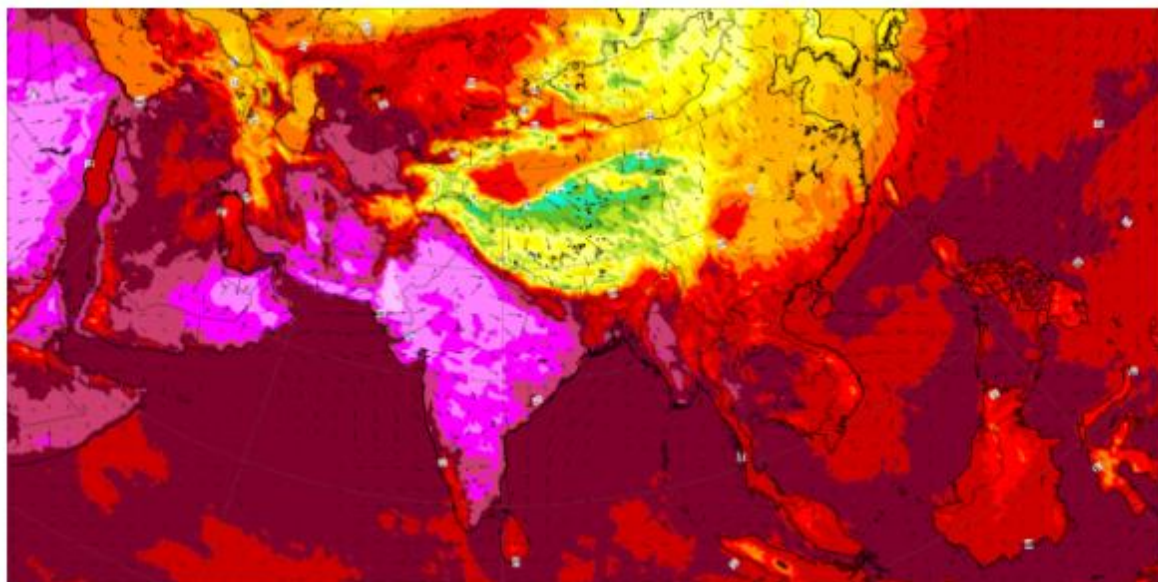


Population ≥ 1,000,000	°C
Prayagraj	45.03
Kanpur	44.95
Agra	44.72
Lucknow	44.60
Ahmedabad	44.45
Bhilai	44.43
Varanasi	44.24
Nagpur	44.00
Delhi	43.78



Home — Media — News — Climate change made heatwaves in India and Pakistan "30 times more likely"

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Climate change made heatwaves in India and Pakistan "30 times more likely"

Tags: [Public health](#) [Disaster risk reduction](#) [Climate](#) [Climate change](#) [Environment](#) [Weather](#)

24 Published 24 May 2022

Member: [India](#), [Pakistan](#)

India tries to adapt to extreme heat but is paying a heavy price

Summer hasn't arrived yet, but early heat waves have brought the country to a standstill

By [Gerry Shih](#) and [Kasha Patel](#)

May 9, 2022 at 2:00 a.m. EDT



Extreme Heat In India, Hours-Long Blackouts To Stretch Into Early May

The country is bracing for temperatures to rise to a record high, according to Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, head of meteorological department.

[All India](#) | (c) 2022, Bloomberg | [Archana Chaudhary, Bloomberg](#) | Updated: April 29, 2022 5:56 pm IST

The screenshot shows the Hindustan Times mobile app interface. At the top, there's a weather widget showing 'hi 32°C' and the HT logo. Below the logo is the 'Hindustan Times' title. A navigation bar includes 'World', 'Cities', 'Entertainment', 'Cricket', 'Lifestyle', and 'Astrology'. Below this are buttons for 'Daily Digest' (with a 'NEW' tag), 'Trending', 'Web Stories', 'Photos', 'Following' (with a 'NEW' tag), and 'Education'. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / India News / Climate crisis link to India's spring heatwave'. The article title is 'INDIA NEWS Climate crisis link to India's spring heatwave'. The text below reads: 'Last month, India recorded its warmest March since records were maintained and one of the driest spring seasons, with dry warm winds plunging much of North India into summer temperatures sooner than usual.' At the bottom, there's a partial image of a sign that says 'THERE'S NO' above a globe.

A close-up photograph of a white thermometer with a red liquid column. The thermometer has two scales: Celsius on the left and Fahrenheit on the right. The red liquid is positioned at approximately 38°C (100°F). The background is a bright, hazy sky with a sunburst effect from a bright sun, and some light clouds are visible at the bottom. The overall color palette is dominated by warm oranges and yellows.

Heat Wave

- **What are Heat Waves?**

- Heat waves are defined as **prolonged episodes of extreme temperature** over any region.
 - Apart from temperature, humidity is an important parameter considered for declaring heat-related stress.
- A Heat Wave is a period of **abnormally high temperatures**, more than the normal maximum temperature that occurs during the **summer season** in the **North-Western parts of India** in the month of March to June.
- **Factors:** The possible factors responsible for Heat Waves include shifting of jet streams, **El-Nino and La-Nina**, anthropogenic factors like **heat islands** etc.

Implications of Heat Waves

- ✓ It leads to **physiological stress**, which sometimes can **claim human life**.
- ✓ These mechanisms **affect seven vital organs**: The brain, heart, intestines, kidneys, liver, lungs and pancreas.
- ✓ There are 27 lethal combinations of these mechanisms and organs that have been shown to be caused by heat.

- ✓ **Severe heat waves** have caused catastrophic crop failures, thousands of deaths from hyperthermia, and widespread power outages due to increased use of air conditioning.
- ✓ The signs and symptoms are as follows:
 - ✓ **Heat Cramps & Heat Stroke**
 - ✓ **Heat Exhaustion:** Fatigue, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting, muscle cramps and sweating.
 - ✓ Exposure to heatwaves compromises the **body's ability to regulate temperature** and can result in a cascade of illnesses, including heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heatstroke, and hyperthermia.
- ✓ It affects the **transmission of diseases, health service delivery, air quality, and critical social infrastructures** such as energy, transport, and water.

- Initiatives of weather predictions
- **Mausam App:** It is a new mobile application called "Mausam" for the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) which will help users track weather updates and also bring in the enhanced forecast as well as warning services from the government.
- **Meghdoot App:** The Ministries of Earth Sciences and Agriculture have launched a mobile application that will provide location, and crop and livestock-specific weather-based agro advisories to farmers in local languages

Early season heat waves strike India

NEW DELHI APRIL 29, 2022
By Special Correspondent

**WHAT, WHERE,
WHEN**

An intense heat wave in **mid and late April 2022** brought temperatures 4.5 to 8.5°C (8 to 15°F) above normal in east, central, and northwest India.

On April 27, 2022, the highest temperature in the country, 45.9°C (114.6°F), was recorded in Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh. The day before, a high of 45.1°C (113.2°F) was reported at Barmer in West Rajasthan in the northwest, according to the India Meteorological Department. Many other localities recorded temperatures of 42-44°C (108-111°F).

The effects of the heat wave include heat-related illnesses, poor air quality, little rainfall, and reduced crop yields. Additionally, **power demand** has spiked and coal inventories have dropped, leaving the country with its worst electricity shortage in more than six years.

In the northern regions of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, mountain **snow** has been rapidly melting. Additionally, more than 300 large wildfires were burning around the country on April 27, according to the Forest Survey of India. Nearly a third of those were in Uttarakhand.

A unusual temporary increase in the jet stream and a **dome of high pressure** have kept an unseasonably warm, dry air mass parked over the country, according to meteorologists.

The heat wave conditions were expected to intensify in the next few days and persist for at least another week. Heatwaves are common in India in the spring and early summer, especially in May, which is typically the hottest month. But they are often relieved by the onset of the monsoon season from late May through September. A June 2019 heat wave killed more than 2,000 people according to India's Ministry of Earth Sciences.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in its Sixth Assessment Report, said that heatwaves and humid heat stress will be more intense and frequent in South Asia this century.

- **Public Awareness and community outreach** to increase public awareness on how to protect against extreme heat through different mediums.
- **Capacity building and training programme** for health care professionals at different levels to recognize and respond to heat wave related illnesses.
- **Collaboration with non-government organizations (NGOs)** and civil society to provide support in distress situations.
- **Encourage traditional methods of handling heat waves** like wearing cotton clothes etc.

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Most Important Report Topics

Q.8

RAILWAY SAFETY

Points to be covered

- ❖ **Why this topic**
- ❖ **Indian Railways and the importance of safety**
- ❖ **Initiatives to create a fast railways system**
- ❖ **What has been the outcome of these initiatives?**
- ❖ **Gaps in creating a Safe and Secure Railway Network**
- ❖ **Way Forward**

After a recent train accident in West Bengal killing at least 9 people, the **Railway Board Chairman** asked for a thorough probe to identify all aspects related to the accident.



Indian Railways and the importance of safety

Indian Railways is **one of the largest railway systems** in the world, carrying nearly 23 million passengers per day (Pre COVID-19) and

around 1.1 billion tonnes of freight;

passing through nearly 8700 railway stations



With **fast, safe, and secure** mobility being a **key concern** over such a long network, a number of committees and subsequent initiatives are taken by Indian Railways.

This includes **dedicated Committees on Safety** as well as other committees making recommendations to **ensure safe and secure travel** such as:



- Railway Safety Review Committee (**Khanna Committee**) in 1998,
- High Level Safety Review Committee (**Kakodkar Committee**) in 2012
- Expert Group for Modernization of Indian Railways (**Pitroda Committee**) in 2012,
- Committee for Mobilization of Resources for Major Railway Projects and Restructuring of Railway Ministry and Railway Board (**Debroy Committee**) in 2015.



Initiatives to create a Fast, Safe and Secure-Indian Railways Network

Creation of **Railway Safety Fund (RSF)** in **2001** to finance works related to conversion of all unmanned level crossings and for construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Road Under Bridges (RUBS)*.



Improved Signaling and Communication, equipping trains with protection warning systems, installation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras in more than 2,900 coaches etc.



Creation of **Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK)** in **2017-18** as a dedicated fund for safety with a corpus of **Rs.1 Lakh crore** over a period of **5 years** for **clearing the backlog** of critical safety related works.

Launch of Vision **2024** for accelerated implementation of certain **critical projects by 2024** such as 100% electrification, live multi-tracking of congested routes, upgradation of speed etc.

Set up of **State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR)** for passenger safety and security under the Chairmanship of DGP of respective States/UTs for regular monitoring and review of platform security arrangements.

All unmanned level crossings were eliminated by 2019 with ongoing work on replacing manned level crossings with ROB/RUBs to improve safety and mobility

Presently, review/approval of safety aspects in railways is done by the Commission of Railway Safety, an independent institution under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Commission of Railway Safety

- It is a **statutory body** (HQ: Lucknow) established under the **Railways Act, 1989**.
- It deals with matters pertaining to safety of rail travel and train operation including investigation on serious rail accidents.

What has been the outcome of these initiatives?

- **Train Collisions and Derailments:**

Between 2014-15 and 2019-20, the number of such accidents and number of deaths **reduced from 135 to 55 and from 292 to 5** respectively.



- **Passenger Safety:** As per NCRB, as compared to 27,987 accidents in 2019, 13,018 accidents happened in 2020 leading to death of nearly 12,000 railway passengers.
 - o Around 8,400 people or 70% lost their lives either due to falling off from the train or while crossing the railway track.
- **Road Users Safety:** Around 1,014 accidents reported at various railway crossings with 1,185 deaths.
- **Rescue from Human Trafficking:** Over 2,000 women and children during 2017-21.
 - o Indian Railways launched '**Operation AAHT**', a nationwide operation to curb human trafficking (with traffickers often using Indian Railways network).

Gaps in creating a Safe and Secure Railway Network

- **Structural gaps:**

Huge backlog of renewal and replacement of over aged assets for safe running of railways. According to the Standing Committee on Railways (in 2019), Indian Railways network has 1,47,523 number of bridges with serious issues over care as:

- 92% of them are classified as minor bridges and 37,689 bridges are 100 years or older.

- **Operational gaps:**

Lack of Fire Detection System; issues of maintenance of tracks with some of the railway network being in extreme weather conditions.

- **Financial Gaps:**

The severely underwhelmed railway finance due to **poor internal resource generation** for capital expenditure (around 3-3.5% of total capex) limits the financial capabilities of Indian Railways.

- o For instance, from 1950 to 2016, **only 23% increase in rail network** while **passenger and freight traffic increased by 1344% and 1642% respectively.**

- **Railway Staff Lapses:** Out of 13,018 accidents in 2020, 12,440 accidents happened due to locomotive pilot fault.

Rest was due to errors on part of the signalman, mechanical errors, poor track repair infrastructure, bridge/tunnel collapse etc.

- **Other Gaps/Issues:**

All States/Union Territories are yet to form State Level Security Committee for Railways;

Gaps in providing Safe Drinking Water and other amenities to passengers; issues of water Logging in Railway Under Bridges (RUBs); yet to accept important recommendations of various committees such as creation of railway safety authority.

Way Forward

Safety is not an attribute but an ethos that should be instilled and nurtured.

Like the National Rail Plan with an objective to create capacity ahead of demand, Indian Railways should have a safety plan for qualitative and quantitative improvement in its network safety.

This includes steps like:

- **Renewal or Replacement** of railway network to ensure structural safety of old tracks/bridges to meet dynamics of heavier and faster trains of present and future.
- **Encouraging Indigenous R&D** in railway safety to make optimum use of indigenous technology for safety as well as to reduce passenger casualties, road users casualties etc.

- **Set up of Rail Safety Authority** to co-ordinate with various railways departments, helping the concerned departments to discharge their safety functions effectively.

- o It can also help to address upcoming challenges like cyber-attacks/data theft to the Passenger Reservation System.

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