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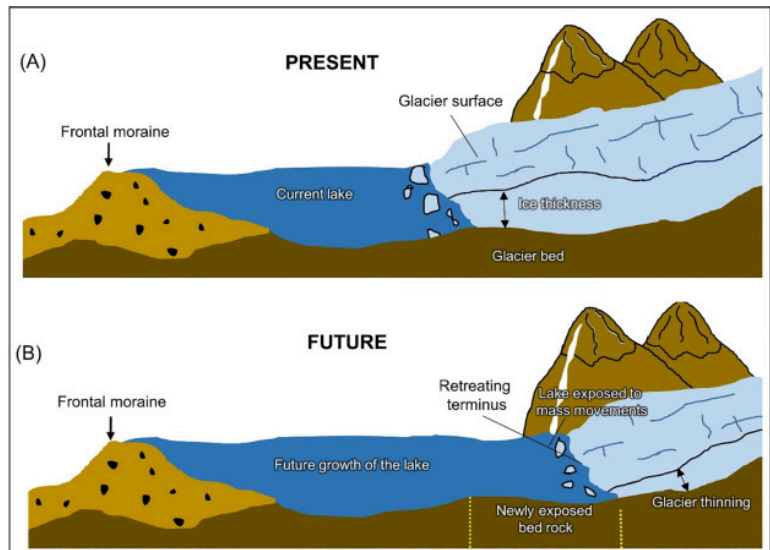Download our Adda247 App

24 April 2024
National & International News

Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF)	**Why in news?**
	• **ISRO's long-term satellite imagery** from 1984 to 2023 **shows significant changes in glacial lakes** in the **catchments of Indian Himalayan river basins**.
	• It provides valuable insights for **understanding glacial lake dynamics**, which are essential for assessing environmental impacts and developing strategies for **Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF)** risk management and climate change adaptation in glacial environments.
	About Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF:
	• Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) are a phenomenon that occurs **when large bodies of water, located in front of, on top of, or beneath a melting glacier, expand**.
	• These situations become more dangerous since **glacial lakes are primarily dammed by unstable ice or sediment composed of loose rock and debris**.
	• If the boundary around these lakes breaks, it can result in massive amounts of water rushing down the mountainside, potentially **causing flooding in downstream areas**.
Contempt of court	**Why in news?**
	• The Supreme Court questioned Patanjali Ayurved about the size and cost of its apology published in newspapers.

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- Patanjali is facing **contempt action from the Supreme Court for publishing misleading advertisement**s about their ayurvedic products.
- They had **violated an undertaking given to the Supreme Court in 2023 to stop these advertisements**.

About Contempt of Court:
- Contempt of Court is designed to **protect judicial institutions from unwarranted criticism and attacks** and **to uphold their authority**.
- The Indian Constitution's **Article 129** designates the **Supreme Court as a court of record with the power to punish for contempt of itself**.
- The **Contempt of Courts Act, 1971** is the governing law for contempt in India.
- **Judges have the authority to impose sanctions**, such as imprisonment or fines, on those found guilty of contempt of court.
- Contempt of court is divided into two categories: **Civil and Criminal**.
- **Civil contempt** occurs when **someone wilfully disobeys a court order or breaches** an undertaking given to the court.
- **Criminal contempt** includes three forms:
    - Actions, signs, or words (written or spoken) that "scandalize" or "tend to scandalize" or "lower" or "tend to lower" the authority of any court.
    - Actions that prejudice or interfere with any judicial proceeding.
    - Actions that interfere with or obstruct the administration of justice.

Safeguard Measures	**Why in news?** - **India**, along with other nations has **criticized the EU for not terminating its safeguard measure on imports** of certain steel products after a review. - Most of these countries argued that the **EU's safeguard duty was inconsistent with WTO rules**. **About Safeguard Measures:** - **Safeguard measures** are **emergency actions** introduced by a country **under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement** on Safeguards.

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	• These measures are **taken to protect a specific domestic industry from an increase in imports of any product** which is causing, or threatening to cause serious injury. • Safeguard measures can take the **form of suspension of concessions or obligations**, and can **consist of quantitative import restrictions** or **duty increases to higher than bound rates**. • They are **one of three types of contingent trade protection measures available to WTO members**, the other two being **anti-dumping** and **countervailing measures**. Think: • Know about **Anti-dumping** and **Countervailing measures.**
Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) scheme	**Why in news?** • The **Delhi High Court** has instituted a case regarding the grant of financial assistance under the Centre's **Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) scheme**. • The court observed that the **threshold income to claim benefits under this scheme is prima facie "extremely low"**. **Key points:** • Under the new umbrella scheme of RAN, the **threshold of monthly income for benefit** is **₹1,571 for rural** and **₹1,605 for urban areas**. • The **annual income** of the applicant is **₹96,000**. **About Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) scheme:** • The Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) is a scheme **under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** in India. • The RAN is a **centrally sponsored scheme.** • It was set up to **provide financial assistance to patients living below the poverty line**. • It is designed **to help those suffering from major life-threatening diseases receive medical treatment** at any of the **super specialty Government hospitals or institutes**. • The **scheme provides one-time financial assistance to poor patients living below the State/UT** wise threshold poverty line and suffering from **life-threatening diseases relating to heart, kidney, liver, cancer,** etc.

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Schengen visa	**Why in news?** ● **Indian nationals can now be issued long-term multi-entry Schengen visas that are** valid for **two years**. ● The **European Union** has announced this new visa 'cascade' regime. **About the Schengen visa**: ● The Schengen Visa is a **permit that allows one to enter and travel freely within the Schengen Area**, which **comprises 29 European countries**. ● It's **primarily for short stays up to 90 days** within 180 days **for tourism or business purposes**. ● The visa can be obtained in the form of a **single-entry visa**, which **allows the holder to enter the Schengen area once, or a multiple-entry visa**.