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## DAY - 1

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**Q.1. Increase in indigenisation in defence sector will not only cut down imports, but will also make India self-reliant. Discuss. [Paper III: Science and Technology]**

### **Answer Format:**

- 👍 Meaning of indigenisation of technologies.
- 👍 Why indigenisation in defence?
- 👍 Present status of self-reliance in India.
- 👍 Impact on imports and thereby on the economy.
- 👍 Advantages of being self-reliant.
- 👍 Conclusion.

**SOURCE ARTICLE****Vice President calls for making India self-reliant in all areas  
Increase indigenous content in defence sector to cut down imports: VP****VP lauds scientists in defence, space & other sections for their excellent work****VP visits Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory & addresses scientists****Shri Naidu lays the Foundation Stone of Towed Array Integration Facility virtually****VP dedicates Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial**

The Vice President, Shri M Venkaiah Naidu today called for making India fully self-reliant in all areas, including strategic domains.

Addressing scientists and staff of the Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory at Kochi, the Vice President, stressed the need for increasing indigenous content in the defence sector and cutting down on imports.

“To achieve that, we need to not only give greater thrust to R & D activities, but also allow private collaboration, wherever it is possible and feasible, with stringent quality controls”, Shri Naidu observed.

On this occasion, the Vice President virtually laid the foundation stone of the “Towed Array Integration Facility”, essential for the development of towed array sonar systems, which is critical to underwater defence. The towed array sonar system is expected to enhance the Navy's capabilities to detect quieter enemy submarines underwater.

Asserting that India is strongly marching ahead on its way to becoming a global superpower in the coming decades, he lauded the scientists in defence, space and other areas for doing excellent work

in strengthening India's security.

Referring to the fact that India is still one of the largest importers of defence equipment, the Vice President said, In this context, the contribution of a small lab like NPOL in empowering the nation in its defence needs is truly commendable.

Keeping in view the geo-political scenario in our neighbourhood, the Vice President said NPOL's role towards national security is paramount as all warships or conventional submarines in the fleet of the Indian Navy are installed with NPOL-developed sonars. “Besides bringing in the socio-economic gains by stopping imports in this niche domain, NPOL has been able to master a very complex and critical technology that is giving a strategic edge to the Indian Navy in anti-submarine warfare capabilities”, he added.

Lauding the laboratory for establishing itself as a leading Research & Development centre in the area of underwater surveillance systems, he noted that it is currently working on ambitious mission mode projects and technology demonstration projects, besides undertaking a major Flagship Programme, the INTEGRATED

MARITIME SURVEILLANCE (INMARS) Programme for Indian Navy's future requirement for the next 15 years.

Appreciating NPOL for building strong network with industry and contributing towards improving financial performance of PSUs, the Vice President noted that

NPOL has also nurtured more than 100 local industries, including MSMEs and Start-ups, for developing niche technologies.

On the occasion, the Vice President also inaugurated Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam memorial and an installation on the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav near the laboratory. Describing the memorial as "truly befitting", he said that it will inspire countless people from all walks of life every day.

Governor of Kerala, Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, Minister for Industries, Government of Kerala, Shri P. Rajeev, Member of Parliament, Shri Hibi Eden, Director General (Naval Systems & Materials), Dr. Samir V Kamat, Director, Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory, Shri S Vijayan Pillai, Chief Staff Officer (Training), Headquarters, Southern Naval Command, Rear Admiral T.V.N. Prasanna and others were present on the occasion.

### **Following is the full text of the speech:**

"Namaskaram! Good afternoon to you all!

I am pleased to visit Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL), a premier R&D establishment of the Defence Research and Development Organization and interact with all of you today.

Formed in the Southern Naval Command

in 1952, NPOL later became part of DRDO in 1958. It will be celebrating its 70th year of inception in 2022. It is a matter of pride for the nation that during these last seven decades, NPOL has established itself as a leading Research & Development centre in the area of underwater surveillance systems.

I am told that NPOL-developed Sonar systems, which are the most critical equipment in the Anti-Submarine Warfare, have been fitted in all leading platforms of Indian Navy including ships, submarines and helicopters. The country's flagship technology achievement, the strategic submarine INS Arihant also carries NPOL-developed sonar system.

I understand that NPOL's services to the nation started with design and development of Hull Mounted Sonar systems for the Indian Navy's frontline Frigates and Destroyers. Today, NPOL has diversified the Research and Development area to Submarine Sonars, Airborne Sonars, Diver Detection Systems and Underwater Communication systems. I am happy to note that state of the art R & D facilities have been established and many new technologies in electronics and transducers have been developed.

With NPOL emerging as a leading and high performing R&D laboratory working in the area of underwater surveillance systems, Sonar systems developed by it are being used in Indian Navy's frontline platforms for last few decades and many of them have entered into third and even fourth generation products.

### **Dear sisters and brothers,**

As you all know, India is strongly marching ahead well on its way to becoming a global superpower in the coming decades. In defence, space and



other areas, our scientists from DRDO, ISRO, BARC and other leading R & D organizations are doing excellent work in strengthening India's security.

But it is also a fact that our country is still one of the largest importers of defence equipment. In this context, the contribution of a small lab like NPOL in empowering the nation in its defence needs is truly commendable. I understand that the scientists here are working very closely with the Indian Navy, frequently sailing with them in ships and submarines in order to gain a deeper insight into their requirements and offer customized solutions. This is advantageous in four ways 1) The complete know-how and know-why, especially in critical areas like oceanography and transducer materials, remains exclusively with us and no foreign player can enter into the market easily; 2) These systems can be upgraded periodically with improvements; 3) Our scientists can address the problems of users in a quick and efficient manner, making maintenance and life time support of these systems easier; and 4) Most importantly, through indigenization of these systems, there will be a savings to the exchequer ranging from 20% to 75%.

I am glad to note that NPOL has also built strong relationship and network with industry for carrying out its charter of duties. The lab has been synergistically working with PSUs like BEL, KELTRON & HMT and is a key provider of technologies, contributing to their improved financial performance during the recent years. I am told that NPOL has also nurtured more than 100 local industries, including MSMEs and Start-ups, for developing niche technologies for underwater surveillance systems.

Keeping in view the geo-political scenario in our neighbourhood, I believe

NPOL's role towards national security is paramount as all warships or conventional submarines in the fleet of the Indian Navy are installed with NPOL-developed sonars. Besides bringing in the socio-economic gains by stopping imports in this niche domain, NPOL has been able to master a very complex and critical technology that is giving a strategic edge to the Indian Navy in anti-submarine warfare capabilities.

I am informed that currently this laboratory is working on ambitious mission mode projects and technology demonstration projects, besides undertaking a major Flagship Programme, the INTEGRATED MARITIME SURVEILLANCE (INMARS) Programme for Indian Navy's future requirement for the next 15 years.

NPOL is also expanding its work to play a crucial role in establishing Underwater Domain Awareness for the nation.

### **Dear sisters and brothers,**

Our mantra should be *atma-nirbhartha*—to make India fully self-reliant in all areas, including strategic domains. For instance, we need to keep increasing our indigenous content in the defence sector and cut down on imports. To achieve that, we need to not only give greater thrust to R & D activities, but also allow private collaboration, wherever it is possible and feasible, with stringent quality controls.

On this occasion, let me inaugurate the 70th Anniversary celebrations of NPOL. I am sure that NPOL will keep its flag soaring higher and higher by developing several critical technologies and provide solutions to the Indian Navy in protecting our long coast line. Today, as part of the government's AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV celebrations in connection with 75th year of Indian

Independence, NPOL is commemorating a great visionary, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, who rose from a humble background to become a great defence scientist and finally the president of the country. I feel honoured to dedicate Dr APJ ABDUL KALAM MEMORIAL to the nation. Dr Kalam's memorial in front of this great laboratory is truly befitting and I am sure that it will inspire countless people from all walks of life every day.

**Q.2. National Urban Digital Mission will create the ideal space to harness immense synergies from the domain of urban and technology towards creating a citizen-centric governance. Examine. [Paper II: Governance]**

**Answer Format:**

- 👍 Introduction to National Urban Digital Mission.
- 👍 Purpose of the mission.
- 👍 Meaning and concept of citizen-centric governance.
- 👍 How would the mission ensure this governance.
- 👍 Prospects and challenges.
- 👍 Conclusion.



## SOURCE ARTICLE

## Year End Review 2021: Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs

### MoHUA Schemes and Missions help boost the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat Initiatives

Various schemes and Missions run by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs during 2021 have helped boost the Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives in many ways. The schemes and Missions have directly influenced the Atmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India initiatives directly or indirectly.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), launched to address urban housing shortage including the slum dwellers by ensuring a pucca house to eligible urban households by the year 2022, the technology used to build the houses at faster speed was innovative, specially the Light House projects as part of Global Housing Technology Challenge – India (GHTC -India) initiative, in six States. The initiative led to a new era in the construction technology in India, thus giving impetus to Make in India initiative. Bringing people and technology together, LHPs will pave the way for a new eco- system where globally proven technologies will be adopted for cost-effective, environment friendly and speedier construction. Advantages of these LHPs are many, the primary ones being durability, climate-resilient, affordability, safety and speed.

MoHUA also launched the Enrolment Module for TECHNOGRAHIS including students from IITs, NITs, engineering, planning and architecture colleges, faculty members, academicians, and stakeholders for registering themselves to visit Live Laboratories at six LHP sites for learning, consultation,

generation of ideas and solutions, experimentation, innovation, and technical awareness. This helped them in getting a first-hand account of the technologies being used and in turn, they can adapt and adopt them as per their requirements in the construction sector for a 'Make in India' approach.

A Technology Sub-Mission (TSM) was set up to facilitate the adoption of innovative, sustainable, eco-friendly and disaster-resilient technologies and building materials for low-cost, speedier and quality construction of houses. TSM not only aims to ensure speedier and safer delivery under PMAY-U but also has the potential to bring a paradigm shift in the overall housing construction sector in the country.

Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHC) Scheme under Atmanirbhar Bharat Package addresses the vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' significantly by creating a sustainable ecosystem of affordable rental housing solutions and to achieve overall objective of "Housing for All" encompassing the need of affordable rental housing for urban migrants/poor. ARHCs will provide them dignified living with necessary civic amenities near their place of work.

Under Smart Cities Mission (SCM), the City Innovation Exchange (CiX) platform was launched for innovative practices in cities. The platform was a significant addition to the growing innovation ecosystem of India and focuses

on fostering innovative practices in cities. CiX, through an 'open innovation' process, engages with innovators to design-test-deliver on solutions to pressing urban challenges. This initiative is among the ongoing efforts of the Government to realise Prime Minister's vision of New and AtmaNirbhar Bharat, by making cities more self-reliant and enabled to meet the needs of and provide services to their citizens. Another step towards making the SCM targets easier, a SmartCode is a platform was launched by MoHUA that enables all ecosystem stakeholders to contribute to a repository of open-source code for various solutions and applications for urban governance. It is designed to address the challenges that ULBs face in the development and deployment of digital applications to address urban challenges, by enabling cities to take advantage of existing codes and customising them to suit local needs, rather than having to develop new solutions from scratch. The India Urban Data Exchange has been developed in partnership between the Smart Cities Mission and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru. A New smart cities website & Geospatial management information system GMIS for project monitoring was also developed to implement and proper scrutiny of the projects under SCM.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the Transport4All, aiming to bring together cities, citizen groups, and start-ups to develop solutions that improve public transport to better serve the needs of all citizens. It also started the EatSmart Cities Challenge which aimed to motivate Smart Cities to develop a plan that supports a healthy, safe and sustainable food environment supported by institutional, physical, social, and economic infrastructure along with the

application of 'smart' solutions to combat food related issues.

National Urban Digital Mission will create the ideal space to harness immense synergies from the domain of urban and technology towards creating a citizen-centric governance that reflects Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'minimum government and maximum governance'. The National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM) will create a shared digital infrastructure for urban India, working across the three pillars of people, process, and platform to provide holistic support to cities and towns. It will institutionalise a citizen-centric and ecosystem-driven approach to urban governance and service delivery in 2022 cities by 2022, and across all cities and towns in India by 2024.

For making the street vendors AtmaNirbhar, Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme, MoHUA has entered into MoU with Zomato, one of the largest online platforms for ordering and delivery of food in India, to onboard street food vendors on its food-tech platform. It has given street food vendors online access to thousands of consumers and help these vendors grow their businesses. Further, MoHUA launched the Mobile Application for PM SVANidhi se Samridhi- Socio-economic profiling of PM SVANidhi beneficiaries and their families to link them to various Central Government Schemes

Under Atma Nibhar Bharat initiative, DAY-NULM scheme has focussed on equipping the urban poor women with adequate skills and opportunities, and to enable them to promote sustainable micro enterprises. It mobilises women from urban poor households into SHGs and their federations to create a

support system for these women. Over 5.7 lakh SHGs have been formed across various States/ UTs, with almost 60 lakh members. Many of these SHGs are engaged in livelihood activities, producing goods such as handicrafts, textiles, toys, eatables and so on. These were being sold primarily in local neighbourhood markets and often faced barriers in achieving visibility and wide market access.

Under Urban Transport Mission, the metro coaches which were earlier imported from Spain, South Korea, and China, are now being manufactured within the country. Their quality is at par with international standards and also being exported to Australia and Canada.

Under the Central Vista project, the new Parliament Building is an intrinsic part of the vision for Azadi@75 and symbolises our commitment and efforts towards building AatmaNirbhar Bharat. The new Parliament has been designed and is being built by Indians using Indian materials. It will be the first Indian Parliament built by the people, of the people, and for the people.

To enable the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister for New Urban India, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs organised Azadi@75 Conference-cum-Expo in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh along with an exhibition themed on transforming urban landscape across the country.

## Achievements and initiatives

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U)

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) was launched on 25th June, 2015 to address urban housing shortage among the EWS/ LIG and MIG category, including the slum dwellers by ensuring a pucca house to eligible urban households by the year 2022.

Against the total assessed demand of 1.12 Cr houses, 1.14 Cr houses have been sanctioned. Of these, total of 91.5 lakh houses were grounded for construction and 53 lakhs houses were completed / delivered, as on 12th Dec' 2021.

A total of 17.35 Lakh beneficiaries have availed subsidy on housing loans through Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS), out of which 6.15 Lakh beneficiaries are from Middle Income Group.

A total of 6,368 houses in Light House Projects are being constructed involving project cost of ₹790.57 crore.

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT)

Against total SAAP size of ₹77,640 crore, 5818 projects worth ₹80,713 crore have been grounded. Of the grounded projects, works worth ₹57,414 cr. have been physically completed (inclusive of completed projects worth ₹22,756 cr.) and expenditure of ₹50,118 cr. has been incurred so far.



Sector-wise progress of AMRUT projects is as below:

Sector	Projects completed		Projects ongoing		Total Projects Grounded	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Water Supply	740	11,530	586	30,320	1,326	41,850
Sewerage & Septage	370	8,259	483	25,074	853	33,332
Storm Water Drainage	612	1,114	187	1,829	799	2,943
Non-motorised urban transport	218	397	131	626	349	1,023
Parks & Green spaces	1,943	1,130	548	435	2,491	1,565
Total	3,883	22,430	1,935	58,284	5,818	80,713

AMRUT 2.0 was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 1st October 2021 with the aim of making the cities 'water secure' and providing functional water tap connections to all households. The total indicative outlay for AMRUT 2.0 is ₹2,77,000 Cr including central share of ₹ 76,760 Cr for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26. In the water supply sector, contracts for 1,326 projects worth ₹41,850 crore have been awarded of which 740 projects worth ₹11,530 crore have been completed. In addition, 18 projects worth ₹358 crore are at various stages of tendering. The target is to provide 139 lakh water tap connections to achieve universal coverage. So far 118 lakh water tap connections have been provided through AMRUT and in convergence with schemes.

### Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U)

Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) was launched on 2nd October 2014, with the vision to make India open defecation free. Under the mission, 31 cities have been self-declared as ODF and 58 have been certified as ODF since 1st January 2021. ODF+ certified cities increased

by 1,828 and ODF++ certified cities increased by 472 since 1st January 2021. Number of Individual Household toilets constructed increased by 20,892 and Community/ Public Toilets constructed increased by 17,866 till date. Under solid waste management, 100% Door to door collection has increased to 86,403 wards and 100% Source Segregation has increased to 77,415 wards resulting in increase of the total waste processing to 70% as against 68% till 1st January 2021.

Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0: Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the second phase of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 on 1st October, 2021 with an outlay of about ₹4.4 Lakh Crore to adopt 'Universal Approach' and make a move towards 'Saturation' in sanitation and water availability in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).

### Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana –National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)

The DAY-NULM is a flagship scheme which aims towards alleviating urban poverty through building strong community institutions, providing skill training, access to affordable credit for



self-employment, support for street vendors and shelters for the urban homeless. Since inception, it has covered 28 states, 7 UTs and 3,806 Towns creating 25.60 livelihoods. Under the scheme, 1.30 lakhs shelter spaces were created for urban homeless and 66.70 lakhs women members were mobilised into 6.4 lakh Self Help Groups (SHGs).

Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) were implemented with e-commerce giants like Amazon & Flipkart for selling over 2,000 products made by 5,000 SHG members on e-commerce portals across 25 States/ UTs. 'SonChiraiya' brand was launched with the aim to provide increased visibility and wider market access to the local ethnic products viz. handicrafts, food, apparel, decorative, etc. The Mission has provided 26.50 lakh Certificate of Vending (CoV) to urban street vendors to safeguard their rights. Mission has streamlined the process for payments of training fees to skill training providers through PAiSA Portal, which is centralized electronic platform for processing payments to the beneficiaries under the Mission.

**AZADI KA AMRUT MAHOTSAV:** As a part of the ongoing "AzadikaAmritMahotsav" of MoHUA, Revolving Fund (RF) support to Area Level Federation (ALF) i.e. federation of Self Help Groups through PAiSA Portal was operationalised on 30.09.2021.

### **PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)**

The PM SVANidhi was launched to empower street vendors, making them independent and self-sustainable. Under "SwadishtVyanjankiAadhunikDukaan (SVAD)", MoHUA has signed MOU with Swiggy and Zomato providing a

digital platform for Street Food Vendors (SFVs). Presently, over 8,486 SFVs have been onboarded and have generated sales of over ₹4.9 Crores.

Tie up with Digital Payment Aggregators (DPAs) like BharatPe, Mswipe, PhonePe, Paytm, Aceware were done to issue UPI ids, QR codes and digital training to the beneficiaries. Around 24.5 Lakh Street Vendors (SVs) have been onboarded digitally out of which 9.8 lakh vendors are Digitally active who have conducted 10.9 Crore Digital Transactions till date.

More than 42 Lakhs Eligible Loan Application under 1st Tranche and 773,986 Eligible Loan Application under 2nd Tranche were submitted. Out of these, more than 30 Lakhs loans under 1st Tranche and 46,931 loans under 2nd Tranche were sanctioned and more than 27 Lakhs loans under 1st Tranche and 33,471 loans under 2nd Tranche were disbursed. The loan total amount disbursed under 1st Tranche is ₹2656.97 Crores and under 2nd Tranche is ₹66.62 Crores.

### **Urban Transport**

One metro project i.e. Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase 2A & 2B of length 58.19 kms at the completion cost of ₹14,788 Cr has been sanctioned in June, 2021. 31 kms of metro rail lines have been commissioned in the cities of Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata and Nagpur. Under Make-in-India initiatives, the Ministry, in January, 2021, has issued a list of items where public procurement shall be done only from local suppliers. With driverless train operation on 94 km on Delhi Metro's network, India is at 4th position in the elite league of world's metro systems which operate driverless trains.

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## DAY -2

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**Q.1. Government must work on a futuristic and multi-pronged strategy for tiger conservation in India. Analyse. [Paper III: Biodiversity]**

**Answer Format:**

- 👍 Status of tiger conservation.
- 👍 Problems and challenges.
- 👍 Strategy adopted by the Government.
- 👍 Possible advantages of its implementation.
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

**19th Meeting of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) held****Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India unveiled, 50****Cheetahs to be introduced in various Parks over 5 years****Government working on a futuristic and multi-pronged strategy for next decade of tiger conservation in the country:****Shri Bhupender Yadav****14 Tiger Reserves accredited under globally developed CA|TS frameworks**

The 19th Meeting of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) was held here today under the chairmanship of Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav. Hon'ble Members of Parliaments Smt. Diya Kumari, Shri Rajeev Pratap Ruddy, & Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur, Secretary Smt. Leena Nadan & DGF Shri Chandra Prakash Goyal were present among others.

A power point presentation was made on the occasion explaining various initiatives of NTCA. In his address, Shri Bhupender Yadav underlined the need to have at least three meetings of NTCA in the first week of April, August & December every year. He said while tiger continues to be an endangered species and the situation calls for adopting as well as active management. He added that for effective management of tiger population it is imperative to have reliable estimate of tiger number at Tiger Reserve & Landscape Level.

The 5th cycle of All India Tiger Estimation which is currently underway will help in taking correct policy decision. The minister said we have 51 Tiger Reserves in the country and efforts are being made to bring more areas under Tiger Reserve network. The minister said that the tiger

reserves are not just for tigers because more than 35 rivers originates from these areas which are crucial for water security.

Referring to poaching the minister said that air gun problem in north eastern states is an issue that states & UT have been advise by the ministry for organising awareness program so that people can surrender their airguns.

As part of effective regulation of tourism activity in the Tiger Reserves, the minister said that there should be one core area which should be sacrosanct and vehicular movement in the reserve being one way.

Tiger Conservation efforts in the Indian context have the community at its centre, hence continuous efforts are being made for involvement of local communities in protection and Eco-tourism activities.

The Minister also informed that today 14 Tiger Reserves have been accredited under CA|TS and NTCA is working on getting other Tiger Reserves evaluated for CA|TS accreditation, the minister also said there is need for vision plan to put Tigers on assured path of recovery and conservation and suggested that six committees be formed so that they can visit 2 Tiger Reserves and study various aspects and problems to help in formulating better policy.

The Minister said that Prime Minister is keen on protection and conservation of 7 major big cats including Cheetah numbering 50 over a period of 5 years will be introduced in various parks.

The union minister also released a Water Atlas, mapping all the water bodies in the tiger bearing areas of India. Landscape wise information have been outlined in this water atlas which include, the Shivalik Hills and Gangetic plain landscape, Central Indian Landscape and Eastern Ghats, Western Ghats landscape, North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra

flood plains and Sundarbans.

During the course of the meeting Shri Yadav also informed that 'India for Tigers: A Rally on Wheels', organized under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was a mega success. The rally saw an active involvement of diverse range of stakeholders – forest officials, school and college students, media persons, local communities, and representatives from NGOs etc.

**Q.2. Discuss the viability of SAAR under Smart Cities Mission. [Paper II: Governance]**

**Answer Format:**

- 👍 Introduction to SAAR.
- 👍 Brief note on smart cities Mission.
- 👍 Need of SAAR in the mission.
- 👍 Challenges and prospects.
- 👍 Possible advantages.
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

## Launch of Smart cities and Academia Towards Action & Research (SAAR);

### Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and National Institute of Urban Affairs collaborate with 15 premier architecture & planning institutes to document 75 urban projects under the Smart Cities Mission

As part of the Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav (AKAM) celebrations across the country, the Smart Cities Mission, MoHUA has launched “Smart cities and Academia Towards Action & Research (SAAR)” program, a joint initiative of MoHUA, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and leading Indian academic institutions of the country. Under the program, 15 premier architecture & planning institutes of the country will be working with Smart Cities to document landmark projects undertaken by the Smart Cities Mission. The documents will capture the learnings from best practices, provide opportunities for engagement on urban development projects to students, and enable real-time information flow between urban practitioners and academia.



The Smart Cities Mission's urban projects are lighthouse projects to other aspiring cities. Since the start of the Mission in 2015, the 100 Smart Cities have been developing a total of 5,151 projects with an investment of Rs. 2,05,018 crore. The first activity envisaged under SAAR is to

prepare a compendium of 75 landmark urban projects in India under the Smart City Mission. These 75 urban projects are innovative, multi-sectoral, and have been implemented across geographies. The program marks the 75th anniversary of India's independence, with the idea to showcase country's best practices and on-ground achievements.

The compendium will act as a first point of reference for future research in the field, help disseminate learnings from projects under the Mission, act as a repository for Urban Projects, and contribute to dissemination of best practices and peer-to-peer learning. The 75 projects covered in the compendium are distributed across 47 Smart Cities. The partner institutes documenting the projects include inter alia Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, Center for Environment Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad, Jamia Milia Islamia, Delhi, and School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal.

(The list of cities participating in SAAR, along with the name of 15 Institutions is at Annexure)

#### SAAR Process Flow:

MoHUA and NIUA will facilitate linkages between the Institutions and Smart Cities for specific landmark projects that are to be documented under the program. The Institutes will document the outcomes of these projects, on how they are impacting the

lives of urban citizens. Team of students, mentors from these premier institutions will be visiting these 47 smart cities to understand/document these projects in the month of January/February, 2022.

The workflow of the compendium being prepared by SAAR will include field Investigation, data analysis & documentation, national research methodology workshop for the participating students, peer review of first draft, final submission by research students to their respective institutions, institutional submission of research to NIUA, and leading to the launch of compendium of 75 urban projects by June 2022.

### Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. This Mahotsav is dedicated to the people of India who have not only been instrumental in bringing India thus far in its evolutionary journey but also hold within them the power and potential to enable Prime Minister Modi's vision of activating India 2.0, fuelled by the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav is an embodiment of all that is progressive about India's socio-cultural, political, and economic identity. The official journey of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" commenced on 12th March 2021 which starts a 75-week countdown to our 75th anniversary of Independence and will end post a year on 15th August 2022.

Annexure 1

List of Cities and Institutes

The SAAR project includes 75 urban projects distributed across 47 Smart

cities. The cities include: Agra, Ajmer, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Dharamshala, Faridabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kanpur, Saharanpur, Shimla, Srinagar, Belgavi, Bengaluru, Chennai, Coimbatore, Erode, Kakinada, Kochi, Manguluru, Shivamogga, Thanjavur, Thiruchirapalli, Thiruvananthapuram, Tumakuru, Ahmedabad, Dahod, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune, Surat, Thane, Vadodara, Bhubaneswar, New Town Kolkata, Ranchi, Vishakhapatnam, Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore, Raipur, Sagar, Ujjain, Jabalpur, Agartala, Gangtok, and Namchi.

The 15 premier institutes of the country, partner in in this event include:

- Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee
- Malaviya National Institute of Technology
- Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi
- RV College of Architecture, Bangalore
- Anna University
- College of Engineering, Trivandrum
- Department of Architecture & Planning, Manipal University
- Center for Environment Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad
- College of Engineering, Pune
- Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture, Mumbai
- Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
- Indian Institute of Science and Environment Technology, Shibpur
- School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada
- School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal
- Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology



## DAY-3

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Q.1. Unrestricted global capitalism will lead to failures of markets causing damages to all nations. Do you agree? What should be the corrective measures? [Paper II: International Issues]

### Answer Format:

- 👍 Concept of global capitalism.
- 👍 What is the meaning of keeping it unrestricted?
- 👍 Fall outs of this form of capitalism.
- 👍 How is it related to failures of markets?
- 👍 Impact on nations.
- 👍 What needs to be done?
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

**It's time for the world to reform capitalism from within***The system could be made to work for everyone in society without compromising its benefits*

We witnessed capitalism in all its colours during the pandemic. It was able to incentivize science to develop and produce vaccines for the entire world in record time. The same capitalism has disincentivized appropriate allocation and availability of vaccines to the world's poorest and most vulnerable. This has led to both hope and despair. Market-based economies clearly have a lot of shortcomings, but we must not overlook their benefits. It's time to reform capitalism from within.

Jerry Z. Muller, in *The Tyranny of Metrics*, highlights how the seemingly-irresistible obsession to quantify and accordingly incentivize human performance is the bane of capitalism. Despite being beneficial, this often results in the measurement of things which are not always relevant and ignoring unmeasurable issues that matter. Consequently, we find ourselves in situations like our climate crisis, wherein, despite wide recognition of the problem, without appropriate metrics and incentives, capitalism can decelerate the world's fight against it. Similar is the case with issues like inequitable distribution of wealth that have long been considered the mere side effects of capitalism. The World Inequality Report of 2022 highlights this.

The first step to reform capitalism from within would be to acknowledge a problem. In their book, *Six Faces of Globalization: Who Wins, Who Loses, and Why It Matters*, Anthea Roberts and Nicolas Lamp discuss six competing narratives. They show that in between the 'everybody loses' and 'nobody loses' narratives of capitalism-induced globalization, there are narratives of

select stakeholder groups who claim to have lost out in different ways. These include citizens, workers, enterprises and nations. Acknowledging and listening to these narratives is a necessary (but not sufficient) condition for reform. We have disregarded naysayers for too long. The benefits of capitalism need to be democratized.

The second step to reform capitalism from within would be to undertake a genuinely unbiased assessment of what has not worked and what has. For years, frameworks such as capitalism with safety nets, comprising measures like trade-adjusted programmes, special and differential treatment, among others, have been experimented with. Unfortunately, these measures haven't realized their potential. While it's tempting to pin the blame on inefficient execution, insincere design, poor prioritization and a weak focus on enabling conditions must share responsibility.

Too much focus on capitalism and too little on safety nets has resulted in a failure to clearly articulate what these nets mean, how people can benefit from them, and what mechanisms can ensure their efficient and inclusive application. To do this, systems thinking can come to the rescue. Inter-linkages between different components of a society will need to be sufficiently understood. We must recognize that distribution of the economic pie is as important as increasing its size. We can begin by setting objectives of inclusion, sustainability and resilience as central to capitalism and not as goals to eventually be achieved someday.

Learning from local success stories will

be also important. For instance, the concept of managed competition, coined by economist Alain C. Enthoven, aims at maximizing value for consumers as well as employers, using rules for competition derived from microeconomic principles and leveraging the potential of cooperatives and collectives. It aims to give power back to people, communities (and their representatives), through clearly-defined principles and the prioritization of equity over classical efficiency arguments.

Variants of managed competition can be found in different countries and in diverse shapes and sizes, such as India's community owned-and-managed enterprise models. These consider productivity and worker welfare as equally important objectives that can co-exist. These need to be studied in detail to identify scale-up opportunities, while acknowledging that one size does not fit all and differences need to be managed. Similarly, people-first public-private partnerships aim to prioritize the interests of people (such as those who may be adversely impacted by projects) while considering the long-term gains of infrastructure investment for the economy and society.

The third step to reform capitalism from

within would be to stay ever-ready to re-evaluate and improve. Some models could be susceptible to capture by particular interest groups, and so we run the risk of facing the same challenges that we set out to resolve. For long, we have let elites make decisions for the world. Many decisions take place behind closed doors and aim to retain power within the same group. Without democratizing these decision-making processes and making them transparent, it will be difficult to move away from adventure capitalism and make it work for all. After all, it is political democracy that can lead to economic democracy. The coveted group of intermediaries entrusted with the task of making decisions needs to be busted to reform capitalism from within.

Innovations in the realm of technology such as blockchain could help us turn such intermediaries irrelevant, transfer decision-making and monitoring powers back to our people and communities, reclaim trust, and ensure better accountability. There is a need to foster innovations that can enable society, markets and governments to work together, and help make capitalism work for everyone. At the end, markets are still our best bet to make the world a better place to live in.

**Q.2. India's Central Asia policy primarily targets security concerns and ensures protection of its interests. Discuss. [International Relations]**

**Answer Format:**

- 👍 Main tenets of India's Central Asia Policy.
- 👍 Geopolitical significance of Central Asia.
- 👍 India's interests in Central Asia.
- 👍 Challenges.
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

## Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Management

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Management.

The MoU seeks to put in place a system, whereby both India and Turkmenistan will be benefited from the Disaster Management mechanisms of each other and it will help in strengthening the areas of preparedness, response and capacity building in the field of Disaster Management.

The MoU envisages cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis in the following areas:

- i. Monitoring and forecasting emergencies and assessment of their consequences;
- ii. Interaction, through Competent Authorities, between appropriate organizations involved in disaster management;
- iii. Joint planning, development and implementation of research projects, exchange of scientific and technical publications and results of research works in the field of disaster management;
- iv. Exchange of information, periodicals or any other publications, video and photo materials, as well as technologies, as mutually agreed within the scope of this MoU;
- v. Organization of joint conferences, seminars, workshops as well as exercises and trainings in the relevant fields;
- vi. Exchange of experts and experiences in disaster management;
- vii. Training and capacity building of first responders in search and rescue operations; exchange of trainees and experts to facilitate capacity building in the field of disaster management;
- viii. Rendering assistance, as mutually agreed, for providing technical facilities and equipment, enhancing early warning systems and capacity building of the Parties in disaster management;
- ix. Providing assistance, as mutually agreed, in emergency response;
- x. Mutual assistance sharing of knowledge and expertise for creation of disaster resilient infrastructure;
- xi. Rendering quality management systems, as mutually agreed in accordance with the internationally recognized standards;
- xii. Any other activities related to disaster management, which may be mutually agreed by the Competent Authorities of the Parties;

At present, India has signed the bilateral / multilateral Agreement / MoU / Joint Declaration of Intent / Memorandum of Cooperation for cooperation in the field of Disaster Management with Switzerland, Russian, SAARC, Germany, Japan, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Bangladesh and Italy.

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## DAY-4

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Q.1. The present digital revolution will lead to good governance in india.  
Explain. [Paper II: Governance]

### Answer Format:

- 👍 Meaning of digital revolution.
- 👍 Significance in governance.
- 👍 Concept and requirements of good governance.
- 👍 Features of good governance.
- 👍 How would digital revolution contribute to good governance?
- 👍 Conclusion.

**SOURCE ARTICLE**

**Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh says India under PM Modi is leading the 21st century Digital revolution**

**India has emerged as a data powerhouse in the World and it is taking all steps for data protection through legislative and other measures: Dr Jitendra Singh**

**The Minister inaugurates 24th National Conference on E-Governance in Hyderabad with the theme-“India’s Techade: Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World”**

**Shri K.T. Rama Rao, Cabinet Minister for Industries, Information Technology Electronics and Communications, Government of Telangana graced the occasion**

**Digital India has helped ease access to services for millions of people, particularly the poor and needy in the country: Dr Jitendra Singh**

**The Minister recognizes 26 successful initiatives in the areas of excellence in e-Governance**

India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi is leading the 21st century Digital revolution.

This was stated today by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoSPMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh while delivering the inaugural address at the two-day 24th National Conference on e-Governance in Hyderabad.

The Minister said, India has emerged as a data powerhouse in the World and it is taking all steps under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for data protection through legislative and other measures.

Dwelling on the Conference theme “India’s Techade – Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World”, Dr Jitendra

Singh said, Digital India has helped ease access to services for millions of people, particularly the poor and needy in the country. He said, whether it's issuance of Aadhar card, driving licence, birth certificate or payment of electricity bill, water bill, or income tax return, these can now be processed via Digital India platform faster & easily and even in villages, these things are being done through Common Service Centres.

Shri K.T. Rama Rao, Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Industries, Information Technology Electronics and Communications, Government of Telangana, Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, Government of India, Shri Somesh Kumar, Chief Secretary, Government of Telangana, Shri Rajendra Kumar, Additional Secretary,

Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India, Shri Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary, Information Technology, Government of Telangana and senior officials from the DARPG and State Government took part in the inaugural ceremony.

Referring to “Techade” aspect, Dr Jitendra Singh quoted the Prime Minister as saying, “This decade is going to enhance India's capabilities in digital technology & its share in the global digital economy. That's why top experts are looking at this decade as 'India's Techade,’” said Narendra Modi.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that several successful initiatives have been brought about by Governments in making services faceless, paperless and cashless through electronic service delivery and subsidy disbursement using Aadhar enabled DBT, PDS, MGNREGA, LPG and Pensions are well recognized success stories. The Minister recognized 26 successful initiatives in the areas of excellence in e-Governance and underlined that it is also important to establish benchmarks and undertake independent assessments as we move forward in improving Digital Governance models.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that Telangana is one of India's most advanced States in Digital Governance using technology for good governance in industry and commerce as also for good governance in social welfare and development. He noted with satisfaction that the initiatives of Government of Telangana found recognition in the Good Governance Index 2021. Telangana's Janahita platform has been recognized as amongst the best functional grievance redressal platforms of India.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the CPGRAMS today has been adopted

and implemented across all the Central Ministries/ Departments, Attached, Subordinate and Autonomous bodies and the year 2021 witnessed 21 lac PG cases being received on the CPGRAMS with 19.95 lac cases being redressed. He said, with the implementation of CPGRAMS reforms mapping last mile grievance officers, over 68000 Grievance Officers have been mapped on the CPGRAMS system and the grievance redressal time during the pandemic was an average 1.45 days. Going forward the CPGRAMS reforms will be implemented in another 20 Ministries/ Departments in 2022 taking the cumulative number of Ministries adopting CPGRAMS version 7.0 to 40, the Minister added.

The Minister in his concluding remarks said that the National Conference has given us a platform to recognize the achievements in the e-Governance domain and we will acknowledge and award those today who are working faithfully in making this decade India's “Techade”. He said, the Conference strives to promote the inherent potential that lies within a digital revolution and establish a blend of both-competitive and collaborative spirit.

The Conference was organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, in association with the State Government of Telangana.

**Q.2. Tourism in India could prove to be a major instrument to ensure rapid economic growth with stability. Discuss. [Paper III : Economy]**

**Answer Format:**

- 👍 Introduction to tourism sector in India.
- 👍 Challenges and prospects.
- 👍 Need for rapid economic growth with stability.
- 👍 Role of tourism in economic growth.
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

## Union Tourism Minister Shri G. Kishan Reddy virtually inaugurates PRASHAD projects at Govardhan, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh

**Rs. 500 cr allocated for state of Uttar Pradesh under SWADESH DARSHAN scheme towards strengthening Tourism infrastructure through various spiritual circuits such as the Ramayana and Buddha circuits: Shri G Kishan Reddy**

### Key Highlights

Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Shri Yogi Adityanath and Minister of State for Tourism and Defence Shri Ajay Bhatt also graced the event

So far under the PRASHAD Scheme, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand together have close to 25% of the total allocation of approximately Rs. 1200 crores towards pilgrimage, spiritual and heritage rejuvenation: Shri G. Kishan Reddy

Shri Reddy highlighted, “When we remove the soul from our body, there is nothing remaining, similarly the spiritual heritage and culture of our country needs to be protected for the nation to thrive and Hon’ble Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi has been leading from the front on this”.

Union Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Shri G. Kishan Reddy along with Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Shri Yogi Adityanath and Minister of State for Tourism and Defence Shri Ajay Bhatt inaugurated various components developed at the Govardhan Bus Stand under the project “Development of Govardhan, Mathura” under PRASHAD Scheme of the Ministry of Tourism today virtually.

The Union Minister Sri G. Kishan

Reddy said that under the leadership of Prime minister India has achieved the historic feat of administering 150 crore vaccinations. The Minister also reminded the stakeholders that Covid has not yet ended, and requested all to follow all necessary protocols and precautions to stay safe and healthy. “When we remove the soul from our body, there is nothing remaining, similarly the spiritual heritage and culture of our country needs to be protected for the nation to thrive and Hon’ble Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi has been leading from the front on this.” The Prime Minister is focused on enhancing pilgrim accessibility and their experience through connectivity, infrastructure and better facilities, the Minister added. He said that for realizing the Prime Minister’s vision, the Ministry is working tirelessly towards improving the overall facilities and tourism infrastructure. The PRASHAD scheme is being implemented to improve the Tourism infrastructure like facilitation centers for tourists such as Information and Interpretation Centers, ATM and Money exchange facilities, Eco-friendly buses, lighting, parking, toilets, cloak rooms, first aid centers, rain shelters and internet connectivity at the Tourist locations.

Noting the projects implemented in the state, the Minister Sri Kishan Reddy said

“So far under the PRASHAD Scheme, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand together have close to 25% of the total allocation of approximately Rs. 1200 crores towards pilgrimage, spiritual and heritage rejuvenation”. “Moreover, Rs. 500 crores has been allocated for the state of Uttar Pradesh alone through the SWADESH DARSHAN scheme towards strengthening Tourism infrastructure within the state of Uttar Pradesh through various spiritual circuits such as the Ramayana and Buddha circuits”, the Minister added.

The Union Minister also highlighted the various programmes being conducted as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, as India celebrates its 75th year of independence. He requested for maximum people participation for the programmes that were being conceived keeping in mind our rich cultural heritage such as the Rangoli making competition and also programmes that were designed to invoke patriotic fervor among the masses such as the competition that requires composing patriotic songs. The Minister also congratulated the individuals and officials behind the successful completion of the project.

The occasion was graced by the august presence of Shri Dr. Neelkanth Tiwari, Minister of State (IC) for Tourism, Culture, Religious Affairs, Protocol (MOS), Smt. Hema Malini, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, Mathura Region, Shri Arvind Singh (I.A.S), Secretary (Tourism), Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and Shri Mukesh Meshram (I.A.S) Principal Secretary (Tourism), Uttar Pradesh.

The project for “Development of Govardhan Mathura” under the PRASHAD scheme was approved by the Ministry of Tourism with the cost of INR 39.73 Cr. in January 2019.

The components viz. ‘Multi Level Car Stand Block, Cloak Room & Toilets, Boundary wall and Surface development at Govardhan Bus Stand’ has been successfully completed with the cost of INR 15.82 Cr.

Other components sanctioned under the project include development of Mansi Ganga, Chandra Sarovar, Govardhan Parikrama and interventions at Kusum Sarovar. The illumination of the Kusum Sarovar is already completed and dedicated to the nation in February 2021. The work for all other components is in advanced stages of completion.

The components developed under the project have resulted in facilitation of pilgrims and enhancement of the pilgrimage experience. The interventions implemented have resulted in regulation of pedestrian traffic on the Govardhan Parikrama Path.

The ‘National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive’ (PRASHAD) is a Central Sector Scheme with complete financial assistance by the Government of India. The scheme has been launched under the leadership of Prime Minister by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-15 with the vision of focused infrastructure development to harness pilgrimage and heritage tourism destinations for its direct and multiplier effect upon employment generation and economic development. The scheme aims at infrastructure development to envisage world class infrastructural development of the sites with special emphasis on Tourist Facilities including Tourist Facilitation Centres, way-side amenities Parking, Public convenience, Illumination and Sound and Light Shows.

In addition to the above-mentioned



project at Govardhan, 5 more projects. have been sanctioned in the state of Uttar Pradesh under PRASHAD scheme of Ministry of Tourism. The total outlay of the projects sanctioned under the PRASHAD scheme for Uttar Pradesh is INR 139.75 Cr. The sanctioned projects include Development of Mathura Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Destination, Construction of Tourist Facilitation Center at Mathura, Development of Varanasi and Development of Cruise Tourism in River Ganga. Majority of

components implemented under these projects have already been completed and dedicated to nation.

The Union Minister praised the state government for the optimum use of the funds released by the Government of India for creating the facilities of international standards. He further assured the state government for every cooperation and support required from the Ministry of Tourism in the sector.

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## DAY-5

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**Q.1. Corporate Social Responsibility is one measure which could contribute greatly to address number of issues and concerns in India including those related to health. Critically discuss. [Paper II: Governance/Paper IV: Ethics]**

### **Answer Format:**

- 👍 Meaning and concept of Corporate social responsibility.
- 👍 Legal aspect.
- 👍 Issues and concerns present in India.
- 👍 Health-related issues.
- 👍 Role of CSR in addressing them.
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

## IndianOil's CSR initiative to help eliminate TB in Punjab & UP

IndianOil has committed to support the National TB elimination Program (NTEP) in India by providing an enabling environment through integrated and prioritised intervention with City Coordination Committees, District Health Societies, Technical support groups, etc., in each of the 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh and 23 districts in Punjab. The program's key objective will be to screen and test the entire population of UP & Punjab every year for the next three years. Once patients are notified, their treatment will continue as per the protocol of the National TB Elimination Program.

TB continues to be one of India's severest health challenges. India has a large number of 'missing' cases every year that are not detected or reported.

In 2018, Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had given a clarion call to End TB in India by 2025, five years ahead of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target of 2030. The Government of India provisions a good amount of budget annually for the TB programme. However, considering its enormity, the efforts of the Government need to be supplemented by augmenting the existing resources, service delivery mechanism and infrastructure for identification of numerous missing TB patients every year. TB elimination is a national duty, and therefore additional efforts are needed to identify the TB patients for treatment. Almost the whole population need to be reached every year for symptom screening and testing of over one crore symptomatic patients is needed in the next 3.5 years, so that, complete coverage for early diagnosis can

be made to cut the chain of transmission. To fulfil the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, in collaboration with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, is joining the "Jan Andolan" of "TB Mukht Bharat". IndianOil, as a conscious corporate citizen, having a sizeable presence in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab has decided to play a vital role in connecting the dots of demand aggregation, supply-side strengthening, and enabling the environment.

Uttar Pradesh is the state with the largest population in India (accounting for about 20% of the population of India). In 2020, Uttar Pradesh, with a population of over 23.4 crores, had the highest share of tuberculosis notifications in India (over 20%). At the same time, it contributes to almost one-fourth of estimated missing cases in the country. Punjab caters to a large number of migrant labourers from many states and ensuring cascade of care to TB patients among migrants is a challenge.

In collaboration with the State Government, demand aggregation (identification of patients) will be supported by running information, education & communication (IEC) programs in the community and strengthening ASHA, ANM & AWW workers in the state by incentivising them for accurate screening of population. Supply-side strengthening (strengthening infrastructure) will be done through creating more facilities for testing by providing machines at block level & medicine delivery mechanism through Mobile Vans, etc.

As part of its core value of care, IndianOil has always been committed to serve the people of India. From providing liquid medical oxygen in the second surge of the pandemic, ensuring vaccination of lakhs of its channel partners and ensuring uninterrupted supply lines of vital petroleum products during the pandemic, 'Pehle India Phir Oil' has always been IndianOil's guiding mantra.

**Q.2. E-Governance can ensure next generation Administrative Reforms to bring citizens and Government closer in India. Explain. [Paper II: Governance]**

**Answer Format:**

- 👍 Concept of e-governance.
- 👍 Components and significance.
- 👍 Meaning of next generation administrative reforms.
- 👍 Why such reforms?
- 👍 Challenges and prospects.
- 👍 Conclusion.



## SOURCE ARTICLE

## 24th National Conference on e-Governance 2021 successfully concludes at Hyderabad

### ‘Hyderabad Declaration’ on e-Governance adopted after 2 days of intensive deliberations

### Next generation Administrative Reforms to bring citizens and Government closer on Digital Platforms

### Secretariat Reforms, Swatchta Campaign, Redressal of Public grievances and Improving Service Delivery to be focus

### E-office and CPGRAMS to be promoted

### Exchange of views between Award winners and Unicorns held

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, in association with the State Government of Telangana organized the 24th Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) 2021 on 7th – 8th February 2022 at Hyderabad, Telangana. The theme of this Conference is “India’s Techade: Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World”. At the Valedictory Session today, ‘Hyderabad Declaration’ on e-Governance was adopted after intensive deliberations during the sessions held over two days.

The Conference was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Minister of State in the Prime Minister’s Office, Minister of State of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, Government of India and presided by Shri K. T. Rama Rao, Cabinet Minister for Municipal Administration

and Urban Development, Industries, Information Technology Electronics and Communications, Government of Telangana.

The 24th NCeG represented a platform for constructive exchange of ideas on some of the latest technologies for promoting e-Governance. The Distinguished speakers invited for the Conference shared their knowledge and insights on the themes identified for the Conference. The 24th NCeG 2021 provided all participating State and UT Government teams with a detailed view of the latest concepts and technologies to promote e-Governance and enable them to go back with useful takeaways for being implemented in their respective States and UTs..

Over the two days, discussions were held on six sub-themes in Plenary sessions- AatmaNirbhar Bharat: Universalization of Public Services; Innovation– Platformization, Emerging Technologies; Ease of living through Technology Interventions for Good Governance; Government Process Re-engineering and Citizen’s participation in

Government Processes; India's Techade – Digital Economy (Digital Payments – Building Citizen's Confidence). There were also parallel breakout sessions where the awardees of National e-Governance Awards 2021 from Centre, State and District showcased their award winning entries. These sessions were on the themes : Unicorns of 2021: Demonstrating Power of Innovation, Digital Excellence at District level; Seamless, Creating a technology Innovation Ecosystem, End to End service delivery without human interference through technological interventions; Replicability and sustainability in e-Governance-Best Practices. An Exhibition including a Wall of Fame was also organized during the event to showcase India's achievements in the field of e-Governance.

Over 50 speakers presented their papers in semi-virtual mode. The Conference was attended by over 2000 delegates in semi-virtual mode.

To recognise the implementation of e-Governance initiatives, the National e-Governance Awards 2021 were presented during the Inaugural Session. 26 awards were presented under the 6 categories of the Award Scheme to Central Ministries/Departments, State/UT Governments, Districts, Local Bodies, Public Sector Undertakings and Academic & Research Institutions. This include 12 Gold, 13 Silver and 1 Jury Award.

The 24th NCeG provided a platform for the delegates, including senior Government officers from across the country, industry stalwarts and researchers, to share best practices, latest technology developments, thus leveraging them for achieving effective governance and public service delivery. The focus of all the sessions was on learning by experience sharing effective

e-governance tools for benefits of the citizen and achieve Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance'.

## Hyderabad Declaration

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DAPRG), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India in collaboration with the Government of Telangana organized the 24th National Conference on e-Governance at Hyderabad during 7-8 January 2022.

Under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister, the e-Governance landscape of India has radically changed in scale, scope and learning paradigms. As India celebrates 75th year of Independence as Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Prime Minister's clarion call for adoption of Next Generation Administrative Reforms for bringing citizens and government closer was the focus of the Conference deliberations. Secretariat Reforms, Swachhta Campaign, Redressal of Public Grievances and Improving Service Delivery which form the core of India's good governance model were deliberated. During the pandemic, the widespread adoption of e-Office helped create paperless offices in the central secretariat and enabled smooth governance functioning. CPGRAMS helped redress 20 lac public grievances in 2021. The National e-Governance Awards were conferred in the Inaugural Session. The Two-day Conference held exchanges of views between the Award winners and Unicorns.

The Conference has unanimously adopted the Hyderabad declaration outlined below after intensive deliberations during the sessions held over two days.

The Conference resolved that Government of India and State Governments shall collaborate to:

- To bring citizens and government closer through digital platforms.
- Transform citizen services through use of technology by leveraging the artifacts of India Stack that include Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, UMANG, e Sign and consent framework.
- Fast track the implementation of the national level public digital platforms in key social sectors viz. Health, Education, Agriculture, etc by adopting open interoperable architecture for joined up connected services.
- Operationalize the data governance framework to facilitate data sharing within Government entities as also make available all data on data.gov. in except for a negative list. Enable protocols for data collection, data harvesting, data privacy, data anonymization, data security, and data preservation that can help build a data economy.
- Foster responsible use of emerging technology such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Blockchain, 5G, Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, etc for Social Empowerment.
- Make India the global hub for emerging technology through creation of large pool of skilled resources on futuristic technologies
- Ensure resilient Government Infrastructure with robust technological solutions to withstand pandemic like disruptions.
- Foster a spirit of research and development and process reengineering in ongoing government services
- Uplift good governance to higher level through healthy competition among States and UTs and among Central Ministries by benchmarking services.
- NeSDA 2021 to be adopted in collaboration with MeITY for improving e-Governance landscape.
- Integration of all State/District portals with CPGRAMS for seamless Redressal of Public Grievances
- Replication of awarded projects under National Awards for e-Governance 2020 – 21 and their nomination for dissemination of best practices through Regional conferences
- Adoption of e-office version 7.0 in all ministries and departments
- Use technology for propagating end to end service delivery without human interference to the citizen at the grass root level
- Make “digital” the primary aspect of government service design and delivery and provide requisite infrastructure to achieve that.

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## DAY-6

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Q.1. Current account deficit generally becomes detrimental to an economy like India. Do you agree? Discuss the recent changes in India's current account. [Paper III: Economy]

### Answer Format:

- 👍 What is current account?
- 👍 Why is it important for Indian economy?
- 👍 Conditions which cause deficit.
- 👍 Why is it detrimental?
- 👍 Recent changes.
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

## India's current account moves into deficit again as trade gap widens

India's current account has slipped back into a deficit of USD 9.6 billion or 1.3% of GDP in the three months from July to September, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

In the preceding April-June quarter, the current account was in surplus to the tune of \$6.6 billion. It was in surplus of \$15.3 billion in the same quarter a year ago.

For the reporting quarter, the deficit was mainly due to widening of trade deficit to USD 44.4 billion from USD 30.7 billion in the preceding quarter, and an increase in net outgo of investment income, the RBI said.

"The deficit in the current account in Q2 2021/22 was mainly due to widening of trade deficit to \$44.4 billion from \$30.7 billion in the preceding quarter and an increase in net outgo (outflow) of investment income," the RBI said.

RBI said net services receipts decreased marginally over the previous quarter but increased year-on-year on the back of a robust performance from computer and business services exports.

Private transfer receipts, mainly remittances by overseas Indians, rose 3.7% on the year, while net foreign direct

investment had an inflow of \$9.5 billion, lower than \$24.4 billion in the same quarter a year ago.

"The current account deficit in Q2 FY22 was somewhat smaller than our expectation. Nevertheless, a huge widening lies ahead, with the large merchandise trade deficits seen in October-November 2021," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at rating agency ICRA.

"We expect the current account deficit to print in excess of \$25 billion in Q3 FY22, rivalling the size of the full year CAD in FY20. For the year as a whole, we foresee the CAD at \$40-45 billion, or around 1.4% of GDP," she added.

The country's balance of payments stood at a surplus of \$31.2 billion in the second quarter of the financial year, compared with a surplus of \$31.6 billion a year earlier.

The current account, which records the value of exports and imports of both goods and services along with international transfers of capital, was in a surplus mode both in the quarter-ago and year-ago periods.



Q.2. Though forest cover in India has increased yet the progress needs to be speeded up. What impact does the forest create on environment? Explain. [Paper III: Environment]

**Answer Format:**

- 👍 Introduction to Forest Survey Report.
- 👍 India's forest cover.
- 👍 Why the progress has been slow?
- 👍 What needs to be done?
- 👍 Impact of forest on environment.
- 👍 Conclusion.

## SOURCE ARTICLE

**India's green cover has advanced far too slowly**

*The 2021 update of our forest survey has reported modest gains over two years. We must aim for faster progress. Let carbon capture play a supportive role in attaining net zero emissions*

At first glance, the latest India State of Forest Report is heartening. Since the count of 2019, we have gained tree coverage of 2,261 more square kilometres overall, according to the Forest Survey of India's 2021 update released last week by the ministry of environment, forests and climate change. Most of this was forest expansion, reported at 1,540-sq-km. With 809,000-sq-km of Indian territory and hence almost a quarter of our official map now climate-friendly, our green cover has advanced. A country that had a Gandhian Chipko Andolan to save trees well before the current hurly-burly over carbon exhaust versus capture, however, must hold itself to finer standards and look at the report's data more closely, lest we miss the wood for the boughs. If net deforestation is not an official worry (some critics dispute the readings), at least the pace of advancement should worry us. At 0.22% over the two years since 2019's estimate, our forest sprawl has slowed to a crawl, compared to the 0.94% growth found in 2017 by this biennial survey. When New Delhi set a target of 33% forest cover under the Indian Forest Policy of 1988, we had no emission-neutrality aim. After the CoP-26 summit held in Glasgow, we actually do, and so laxity on this front imposes an increasingly material cost.

Disputants of official metrics argue that our scanners label forests on satellite scans a tad too easily. So, what does the survey's data sliced by arboreal density show? 'Open' forests, which include plantations such as those of coconut or coffee, have expanded modestly. But

sadly, our somewhat thicker 'moderately dense' forests have seen a decline. Natural coverage, with its wealth of flora and fauna, has retreated across large swathes. The blame for these losses, most acute in our northeastern states, lies with both human activities and natural calamities. Very dense jungles (with a canopy cover of 70% or more) have fared relatively well, the report says, thanks to conservation efforts in reserve forest and other areas under protection. This may sound like a relief, as thick vegetation does the best job of absorbing carbon from the air. However, such green saturation makes up less than a seventh of the 713,789-sq-km of India deemed to be forested now. Dense expansion needs to be paced up steeply if we are to make effective progress. Moreover, this must be done even as forests themselves turn vulnerable to the effects of a warming planet. The Himalayas' leaf cover, ecologists warn, has already begun to display signs of stress at various altitude belts. In this context, activists have opposed any tweaks of the Forest Conservation Act of 1980 that may ease the diversion of forest land for other uses. India's recent refusal to sign a pledge at CoP-26 to "halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by 2030" drew some criticism too, but New Delhi had a valid objection to cross-border trade being mixed up with green goals.

Even so, as global warming at its trajectory recorded last year would threaten the planet's future, forestation must play an effective role in our climate strategy. Emission clamps on the use of fossil fuels,

after all, are not the be-all and end-all of mitigation. Globally, forests are said to absorb a net 7.6 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> every year. But India's 2015 commitment to adding a carbon sink of 2.5-3 billion tonnes by 2030 looks not just like an equivocal aim, sans base-year data, but an ambition overleap. Even if the 'carbon stock' held by Indian trees has risen, our leafy shield just isn't moving fast enough.