

DEVELOP INDIA

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Mobile Connection in the Country

As per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), there are 861,660,097 wireless telecom subscribers in the country as on 28.02.2013.

British territories sign deal on tax information

Bermuda and other British overseas territories with financial centres have signed agreements on sharing tax information, the Treasury has said. The move follows similar recent deals with Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man. The move is aimed at tracking down banking clients who escape paying taxes by hiding their money overseas. It comes amid an international drive against tax evasion and the use of tax havens.



In theory the move should boost tax income for the Treasury. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), whose members include the UK and most developed economies, has led the way. Other British overseas territories involved include the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Anguilla, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands. They will pass on bank account details, such as names, addresses, dates of birth, account numbers, account balances and payment details. They will share data with both the UK tax authorities and those in France, Germany, Italy and Spain. The UK recently reached agreements with Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man. Those deals were welcomed at the time by the Tax Justice campaign group, though it said the true test was whether the ownership of companies and trusts would be revealed.

NASA Extends Russia Space Travel Deal

NASA will pay an additional \$424 million to extend its contract with Russia's Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos) to transport US astronauts to and from the International Space Station (ISS), NASA said Tuesday, a move that America's space chief said underscores how diminished funding is hampering the US space program.



"While our Russian counterparts have been good partners, it is unacceptable that we don't currently have an American capability to launch our own astronauts," NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said. The United States has relied on Roscosmos to transport its astronauts to and from the ISS aboard Soyuz spacecraft ever since the US Space Shuttle Program was shuttered in 2011. The extended deal inked between the two agencies will allow US astronauts to travel aboard Russian spacecraft to the ISS through 2016 and will include return and rescue services through June 2017, NASA said. Bolden wrote that lack of Congressional funding has stymied the so-called Commercial Crew Program — supported by US President Barack Obama's administration—which was proposed three years ago to have domestic firms send American astronauts into space by 2015.

"It's a plan that supports the US human spaceflight program, boosts our economy, and helps create good-paying American jobs," Bolden wrote Tuesday. "If NASA had received the president's requested funding for this plan, we would not have been forced to recently sign a new contract with Roscosmos for Soyuz transportation flights." "Because the funding for the President's plan has been significantly reduced, we now won't be able to support American launches until 2017," Bolden added. The extended deal also includes "comprehensive Soyuz support, including all necessary training and preparation for launch, flight operations, landing and rescue of six space station crew members on long-duration missions," NASA said.



Haritha V Kumar ^{1st Rank,}

Apurva Dubey secures 19th rank in Civil Services

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has declared the result of civil services examination 2012 on May 3, 2013. For the third consecutive year, a woman has topped the prestigious Civil Services Examination 2012. Haritha V Kumar, a probationer of Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Central Excise) 2011 batch, has made it to the top slot of the coveted exam, according to the results declared on Friday by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

The top position in General, Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Scheduled Caste (SC) have also been secured by women candidates.

Kumar, who is undergoing training at National Academy of Customs Excise and Narcotics (NACEN), holds a Bachelor of Technology (Electronics and Communication) degree from Kerala University. This was her fourth attempt and last attempt.

She did not pass in her first attempt. In the second attempt, she got 179th rank and got selected for Indian Police Service, but She opted for IRS. In her third attempt, she got a rank of 290. This time she got first rank in this time she aimed and very keen to become an Indian Administrative Service (IAS). She is an engineer by profession.

Optional subjects

1. Economics
2. Malayalam Literature

V. Sriram and Stuti Charan have bagged second and third positions respectively in the examination. Sriram, who has earned Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) from Kerala University, has achieved the distinction in his second attempt. Fourth ranked Varghese is a medical officer in the Kerala government service in Ernakulam district. He took medicine and Malayalam literature as optional subjects. Stuti Charan has done Bachelor of Science from Jodhpur University and Post Graduate Diploma in Personnel and Marketing Management from the Indian Institute of Planning and Management (IIPM), Delhi. It was her third attempt.

Raju Narayana Swamy, a Kerala bureaucrat in Kerala who secured the first rank in the same examination in 1991, said that he was pleased that the myth that Keralite's cannot perform well in the Civil Services Examinations is broken.

Shena Aggarwal, an MBBS from the premier All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), had bagged the top slot in the civil services examination 2011. While Chennai-based law graduate S Divyadarshini topped the list in the 2010 exams.

As many as 998 candidates -- 753 male and 245 female -- have been selected for appointments to various central services like the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and Indian Police Service (IPS) among others, according to a release by the Department of Personnel and Training. Of these 998 successful candidates, 457 are in General (including 23 physically challenged) category, 295 Other Backward Classes (including nine Physically challenged), 169 Scheduled Castes (including two physically challenged) and 77 Scheduled Tribes. There were 1,091 advertised vacancies -- 550 General, 295 Other Backward Classes, 169 Scheduled Castes and 77 Scheduled Tribes-- for Civil Service Examination 2012. The result also showcases the pan-India distribution of successful candidates of this examination.

"Among the top 25 candidates, there are candidates claiming domicile from as many as 12 states or Union territories i.e Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh," it said. The family background of top 25 candidates shows diverse representation from all walks of life with their parents being farmer, teacher, businessman, government servant, doctor, advocate, professor and civil servant. Among the top 25 candidates, six have made it to the merit list in their first attempt; nine in second attempt; eight in third; and one each in their 4th & 6th attempts. As many as four have already been recommended to services other than IAS on the basis of Civil Services Examinations of previous years, it said. Of the top 25 candidates, 12 appeared from Delhi; four from Thiruvananthapuram, two each from Chennai and Hyderabad; and one each from Jammu, Mumbai, Jaipur, Chandigarh and Allahabad centres. The Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2012 was conducted on May 20, 2012. A record number of 5,36,506 candidates applied for this examination, out of which 2,71,422 candidates have actually appeared.

A total of 13,092 of these candidates were declared qualified for the main written examination held in October, 2012 out of which 2,674 candidates were selected for the personality test conducted in March-April, 2013. UPSC, which conducts the examination, has opened a 'Facilitation Counter' near the Examination Hall Building in its campus. Candidates can obtain any information or clarification regarding their examinations on the working days between 10 am -5 pm in person or over telephone nos 011- 23385271, 23381125, 23098543.

Important Highlights of Civil Services Examination, 2012

The UPSC has declared the final results of Civil Services Examination, 2012 on Friday, the 3rd May, 2013. The following are the important highlights of the results :

- The Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2012 was conducted on 20th May, 2012. A record number of 5,36,506 candidates applied for this examination, out of which 2,71,422 candidates have actually appeared.
- 13,092 candidates were declared qualified for the Main written examination held in October, 2012 out of which 2674 candidates were selected for the Personality Test conducted in March-April, 2013. Finally 998 candidates (753 Male & 245 Female) have been recommended for appointment to the IAS, IFS, IPS and other Central Services against 1091 reported vacancies. Vacancies unfilled presently are on account of 92 reserved community candidates qualifying on general standards. Depending on the options exercised by these candidates for service allocation, these vacancies will be filled by candidates recommended from the Reserve List that is maintained by the Commission.
- TOP position has been taken by Female candidate, Ms. Haritha V. Kumar (Roll No.075502). She has done B.Tech (E&C) from Kerala University. This is her 4th attempt.
- 2nd rank is of Shri V. Sriram (Roll No.494891). He has done MBBS from Kerala University. This is his 2nd Attempt.
- 3rd position is bagged by another Female candidate Ms. Stuti Charan (Roll No.038970). She has done B.Sc from Jodhpur University and PG Diploma in Personnel & Marketing Management from IIPM, Delhi. This is her 3rd attempt.
- TOP position in GENERAL, ST and SC categories have been secured by Female candidates. Amongst top 25 candidates there are 13 Male and 12 Female candidates.
- The result also showcases the pan-India distribution of successful candidates of this Examination. Amongst the top 25 candidates, there are candidates claiming domicile from as many as 12 States/UTs i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, & Uttar Pradesh.
- The family background of top 25 candidates shows diverse representation from all walks of life with their parents being Farmer, Teacher, Businessman, Govt. servant, Doctor, Advocate, Professor & Civil servant.
- Amongst top 25 candidates 6 have made to the merit list in their 1st attempt; 9 in 2nd attempt; 8 in 3rd attempt; and 01 each in 4th & 6th attempts. As many as 04 have already been recommended to services other than IAS on the basis of Civil Services Examinations of previous years.
- Of the top 25 candidates - 12 appeared from Delhi; 4 from Thiruvananthapuram, 2 each from Chennai & Hyderabad; and 1 each from Jammu, Mumbai, Jaipur, Chandigarh and Allahabad Centres.

Mumbai Metro trial run successfully

On the occasion of Maharashtra Day on Wednesday, Mumbaiers were treated to a successful trial run of the state's first Metro railway. Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan flagged off the three-km long trial run of the Mumbai Metro between Versova and Azad Nagar in Andheri. The section is a part of the 11.40 km Versova-Ghatkopar corridor which will provide a vital east-west link and drastically reduce travel time from the existing 90 minutes to barely 20 minutes. Chavan said that the Versova-Ghatkopar line will become operational by December. He said the Metro would be extended to the adjacent Thane district and that work on a separate monorail project has been expedited. The Mumbai Metro's Versova-Ghatkopar first phase is being constructed at a cost of around Rs 2,356 crore by a Reliance Infrastructure-led consortium on behalf of Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA). The Metro sector is an elevated corridor supported by columns at the road median and will enable connectivity of eastern-western suburbs to the Western Railway and Central Railway. The MMRDA plans to provide an interchange facility within the two railway networks at Ghatkopar and Andheri.

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Prelims & Main 2013 Study Matter

Fee : Prelims ₹ 1500 & Main ₹ 2000
for more details

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Exchange of Torn Currency

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that presently the facility of distribution of currency notes and coins through its counters against soiled/torn currency is being extended to the public. Bank notes and coins are distributed in exchange through counters of 19 Regional Offices of RBI and currency chest/bank branches. Public can also tender their torn/soiled currency in Triple Lock Receptacle (TLR) covers to the issue offices of RBI at 19 locations, the value of which is remitted to their bank account/address at a later date. All bank branches have been instructed to extend this facility to the members of public vide instructions dated January 28, 2013.

In the Annual Monetary Policy Statement (AMPS), 2012-13 announced on April 17, 2012, it was indicated to channelize the distribution of bank notes and coins only through currency chests/bank branches. RBI's reach with its presence restricted to just 19 centres is quite limited and commercial banks with their wide network of branches are better positioned to meet the requirements of common persons relating to currency and coins. The rationale behind the proposed move is to better serve the interest of the common person. However, RBI will continue to manage the distribution of bank notes and coins through the currency chests and bank branches.

Third Advance Estimates of Crops Production Released

The third advance estimates of production of major crops grown in the country have been released today. As per the estimates, the total foodgrain production is likely to be 255.36 million tonnes. The foodgrain production was earlier estimated at 250.14 MT (as per II advance estimates released in February.)

Production of rice is likely to be 104.22 million tonnes. Wheat production is likely to be 93.62 million tonnes.

The foodgrain production this year is the second highest production ever achieved despite low and erratic rains in many parts of the country during the monsoon season. In 2011-12, India had produced 259.32 MT foodgrains.

Total Rice Production Estimated at 104.22 MT

Foodgrain Production Likely to be 255.36 MT

Supply of Fertilizers and Pesticides

The following steps are being taken by the Government to ensure adequate and timely availability of fertilizers at state level as per projected requirement by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC):

- The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments, before commencement of each cropping season. Accordingly, month-wise, state-wise supply plan is made by Department of Fertilizers and issued to the states (including Tamil Nadu) and fertilizer companies. State Governments are responsible for monitoring the availability intra-state.
- DOF, continuously monitors the availability through following system:
 - The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
 - The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
 - Regular weekly Video conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State governments.
 - The gap in the demand and domestic production of fertilizer is met through imports.
- Department of Fertilizer is providing reimbursement of rail freight on movement of all the chemical fertilizers (Urea, DAP,MOP and NPK) for all the states (including Tamil Nadu) as a primary freight subsidy and along with this secondary freight subsidy for distribution from rail head to block level in case of urea only.
- Department of Fertilizers (DOF) has notified Special Freight Scheme for P & K fertilizers (except SSP), w. e. f. 01.04.2012, for giving subsidy for secondary movement for difficult, hilly and accessible States like Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, all North Eastern States and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, in order to have equitable distribution of fertilizers. The list of fertilizer manufacturing companies is at annexure.

As regards pesticides, the manufacturing in the Pesticide sector is deregulated and pesticides are freely importable subject to fulfillment of the conditions indicated in the current Exim policy. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals neither procures pesticides nor provides any financial support for their procurement.

Criteria for Evaluating Health Services

World Health Statistics report brought out by WHO provides annual compilation of health-related data for its Member Countries. Indicators are included in the report on the basis of their relevance to global public health; the availability and quality of the data; and the reliability and comparability of the estimates.

World Health Statistics (WHS) report, 2011 does not provide ranking of the countries. However, in order to strengthen and improve health services, the Government launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in 2005 which seeks to improve the availability of and access to quality health care. NRHM lays emphasis on providing accessible, affordable, accountable, effective, reliable, and quality primary health care especially to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population through improved hospital care, improve intra and inter-sectoral convergence, creation of a cadre of Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), and effective utilization of resources.

Indian Red Cross Society contributes 10 per cent of the total blood needs of India

The Business Session the Annual General Meeting of the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance (India) was held at DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi today. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare presided over the session. Addressing the session, Shri Azad said the Indian Red Cross Society contributes 10 per cent of the total blood needs of India through its 166 blood banks across the country. Volunteers and members of Indian Red Cross Society have been actively spreading the message of the importance of voluntary blood donation. The branches of the society across the country have been organizing blood donation camps on a regular basis. The model blood bank at national headquarters, inaugurated in 2010, has been awarded ISO accreditation for quality management systems by the Bureau of Indian Standards, and is in the process of obtain-

ing accreditation from NABH / NABL. This blood bank collects nearly 30,000 units of blood through more than 300 blood donation camps held throughout the year; 88 per cent of which is donated voluntarily. This blood bank also maintains records of about 50,000 potential donors to meet emergency requirements.

Shri Azad said a memorandum of understanding with the Turkish Red Crescent Society has been signed illustrating a commitment from both sides to work together on a variety of mutual interest issues, particularly in disaster response and development. The partnerships with several well-wishers from the corporate world, like Accenture, Coca Cola, Fed-Ex, Nestle and State Bank of India are very handy not only in supporting us in times of disaster, but also in helping to build our capacity. Within the Red Cross Movement, both the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) have continued to work with Indian Red Cross Society to achieve greatest impact of our collective voluntary work. The American Red Cross and DFID, UK, have long been our partners and have eagerly engaged with us in newer areas like the measles catch up programme.

Talking about St. John Ambulance (India), he said it had been doing exceptionally good work, especially in the area of first aid trainings and providing of ambulance services through its two wings; St. John Association and St. John Brigade. St. John Ambulance (India) has been training about six to seven lakhs of people in first aid every year and the brigade wing is running ambulance services in various parts of the country, saving precious lives.

Shri Azad also presented Indian Red Cross certificates of merit to 12 Red Cross workers during the business session.

It may be mentioned the certificate of merit is presented to up to six deserving individuals every year, each of whom has no less than 10 years of distinguished service. Awardees are selected based on their service to the organization and their communities, in particular those who are vulnerable or needy.

The Indian Red Cross Society is a voluntary humanitarian organization with a network of 35 state/union territory branches and over 700 district and sub-district branches, forming a large volunteer network spread throughout the country. The society contributes to saving lives and protecting livelihoods, provides relief in times of disasters and other emergencies and endeavours to ensure accessibility of sustainable quality health services.

The Indian Red Cross Society was established in 1920 under the Indian Red Cross Society Act and incorporated under Parliament Act XV of 1920. The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee is the President of the society, and Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad is the society's Chairman. Dr. SP Agarwal is its Secretary General.

Elimination of Kala-Azar

National Health Policy, 2002 envisaged the target to eliminate Kala-azar by 2010 i.e. less than 1 case per 10,000 population at sub-district level, which could not be achieved. The revised target for elimination of Kala-azar is 2015. Kala-azar is a vector borne disease and its elimination from the community depends on various environmental, socio-economic and health systems related factors.

The treatment procedure for Kala-azar has been shifted from injectable to oral drug as first line of treatment to improve the treatment compliance.

Miltefosine capsule has been introduced for both adult and children as 1st line treatment.

The 2nd line treatment is Amphotericin B injection being used for pregnant women/child bearing age women and also for children less than one year age.

Directives for Prescribing Generic Medicines

The duties and responsibilities of the physicians as prescribed under the Code of Medical Ethics in the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 contain the provision that every physician should, as far as possible, prescribe drugs with generic names and he / she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs. These regulations prescribe for removal of registration of the errant medical professional for violation of the provisions altogether or for a specified period. To deal with the unethical behaviour of some medical professionals in promoting / endorsing the (costly branded) products of pharmaceutical companies in lieu of unethical gratifications / inducements, the Medical Council of India had amended the Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 bringing the conduct of medical professionals in their relationship with pharmaceutical industry under the purview of these regulations by inserting a new Clause 6.8 which states that a medical practitioner shall not endorse any drug or product of the industry publically. In addition to these rules, the Government has from time to time been issuing repeated circulars / instructions to all Central Government hospitals, CGHS dispensaries and the State Governments for encouraging / motivating doctors to prescribe generic medicines to the maximum extent possible.

Census 2011: Abstract-Primary Data Released

Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde, Union Home Minister released the Primary Census Abstract-Data Highlights of Census 2011 released by the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.

On this occasion Union Home Minister congratulated all stake holders for completing the 2011 Census and said that the results of efforts to improve the quality by new methods of training, data collection, data processing and data dissemination are there before all of us.

The provisional data was published within 3 weeks of the completion of Census and the final housing Census data was brought out within 1 year of the provisional release. Today, the final results of the Population Enumeration are being released again a year ahead of schedule.

Shri Shinde also expressed his happiness that the growth rate of population has come down during the last decade and literacy has increased significantly, particularly the female literacy. He further said that all this information would go a long way in assessing the ongoing schemes and planning appropriate interventions in rural and urban areas.

On the occasion, Union Home Minister distributed Census Medals to Shri G. K. Pillai, former Union Home Secretary and the officers of the Census Organization in recognition to the outstanding services rendered by them during Census 2011.

Some of the salient features of the data released are as below:

- Total population of the country is 1.21 billion showing an increase of 181.96 million persons in absolute numbers of population in India during the decade 2001-2011. During this decade, population of India grew by 17.7% as against 21.5% in the previous decade.
- As per Census 2011, 833.5 million persons live in rural areas and 377.1 million persons lives in urban areas. Thus, more than 2/3rd of total population of India lives in rural areas.
- Density of population as per current Census is 382 persons per sq.km. against 325 persons per sq.km. in 2001.
- Child population in the age group 0-6 years in 2011 Census is 164.5 million as against 163.8 million showing an increase of 0.4% in the last decade.
- Sex ratio in Census 2011 is 943 females per 1000 males as against 933 in 2001 Census.

- Population of Scheduled Castes in this Census is 201.4 million as against 166.6 million in 2001 registering an increase of 20.8% whereas Scheduled Tribes population increased to 104.3 million in 2011 from 84.3 million in 2001.
- As per Census 2011, number of literates is 763.5 million as against 560.7 million in 2001.

International Tea Producers forum

Major tea producing Countries have come forward in setting up of a Forum for the producers to interact more closely with each other on matters of common interests. The forum would also articulate and facilitate the implementation of decisions emanating from Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)/ Inter Governmental Groups (IGG) on Tea Meetings. The Forum would promote collaboration and networking between producers particularly in respect to research and technology development, generic promotion of tea etc. The objectives of the Forum are as under:

- Promote the interests of tea producer countries;
- Deliberate and evolve collective solutions on common problems affecting producers;
- Provide technical cooperation, sharing of technology and expertise by member countries;
- Stimulate demand for tea by promoting consumption of tea through facilitating and execution of generic promotional campaigns, raising awareness with a view to popularizing and positioning tea as the most preferred beverage across the globe; as well as other usages.
- To undertake market studies, surveys, research projects aimed at addressing any specific issues concerning tea in general or any variety of tea, including but not limited to identifying tea consumption patterns and assessing consumer preferences across continents and countries and disseminating the results of such studies and surveys for the benefit of all members; and
- To undertake and facilitate programmes for providing training to members or their executives in various aspects of marketing of tea in different geographical segments.
- A meeting of the tea producing countries was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 21st and 22nd January, 2013. India, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Malawi, Indonesia, Rwanda, Iran and China participated in the said meeting.

Power from windmills

The present wind power installed capacity in the country is 19051 MW whereas the nuclear power installed capacity is 4780 MW. As per information available in Central Electricity Agency's website, nuclear power projects have generated 13.72 Billion units of electricity during April-August, 2012, whereas wind power projects have generated 18.91 Billion units of electricity during the corresponding period.

A total of 7162 MW wind power projects have been installed in Tamil Nadu which is around 40.8% of total installed power capacity in Tamil Nadu of 17540 MW. Depending upon functionality of different type of power plants, the wind energy contribution in terms of generation during peak windy season in Tamil Nadu is around 30%.

On account of non-availability of state policies to promote wind power development, transportation problems and gusty nature of winds, as per information available with Ministry, there is no proposal for installation of wind power projects in Lakshadweep.

US envoy: North Korea in dangerous nuclear showdown

North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un is playing a dangerous game in his nuclear showdown with the international community, the US envoy seeking to tempt the isolated state back into talks has said.



Glyn Davies said ahead of a tour of South Korea, China and Japan that it was becoming clear that the young Kim is the master dictating policy, including sanctions-busting nuclear bomb and long-range missile tests.

"We are beginning to see what this young man, Kim Jong-Un, is all about and we are beginning to see that he is a bit of a throwback," Davies said at the Japan Society in New York.

"He may even be approaching these issues more intensively, more provocatively, in a sense a bit more dangerously." Kim took over from his father Kim Jong-Il last year promising "better times." But Davies said the new leader "has rooted his vision for his country firmly in the past." "Small privileged elite continues to lavish resources on long-range missiles and nuclear projects as well as luxuries for their own gratification at the expense of his long-suffering subjects," he added.

When Kim took over, there had been speculation of collective leadership, with the military or others behind the scenes making the calls. But the US envoy said that debate has "largely evaporated." "It is increasingly clear that the logic of the North Korean system is at work and according to the logic of that system, there must be one paramount leader who heads the party, the state, the army," said Davies.

"All roads, all decision-making goes to the leader and all decisions come from that mountain-top down." Davies said his tour next week would aim to keep other countries committed to tempting North Korea to end its boycott of six-nation talks on its nuclear arsenal.

US policy has been "pressure when we must and engagement when we can," said the envoy.

"We are in a pressure phase. We are simply trying to sharpen North Korea's choices. We are trying to close off avenues to them other than a diplomatic way forward. We need signals from them that are solid. We need them to take steps to demonstrate that they are serious about moving forward. Sadly, they are going in the other 'direction' with 'provocations' and 'threats'," said Davies.

National Security

The Indian National Security Council (NSC) has been in existence since 1999. Yet, the government has not put out an official document outlining a National Security Strategy for India. This is despite the fact that India faces numerous formidable challenges to its national security. The earlier attempts to set up the NSC, notably in 1990, proved short-lived. Why is it that India could not set up a NSC earlier and why is it that India does not have a well articulated National Security Strategy document? There is after all an active debate on national security issues in the media, think-tanks and numerous fora. The leaders make statements on national security inside and outside the Parliament quite regularly, but the government hesitates from spelling out a national security strategy. Two reasons can be adduced for this state of affairs. First, there is no political consensus in the country on national security issues. For instance, there is no consensus on how to treat challenges from Pakistan and China. The government's policies on these issues have fluctuated. To give another example, there is little agreement on how to deal with Maoism. Similarly, the views of political parties on Kashmir and insurgencies in the North East differ widely. In the aftermath of Mumbai terror attacks there was acute debate on how India should have responded to the attacks. The government used restraint. Many appreciated the restraint while others saw the government's response as weak. Even today, there is no clarity how the government will deal with such terror attacks in the future. Secondly, the government has not been able to address the crucial issue of coordination required to formulate and address the issues of national security. The NSC has been a useful invention but it is anaemic in terms of resources. More important, it lacks powers to enforce anything. The departmental interests are very strong and it becomes difficult to synchronise them. There is no common understanding among various segments of the government of what national security constitutes. Yet, India needs a National Security Strategy urgently. The world is changing very fast. New security challenges have arisen. In the absence of a coherent strategy, the government's responses will remain ad hoc and partial. This may prove costly. There is urgent need to build a broad political consensus on national security issues. An official National Security Strategy document, for the next 10 years, is urgently needed. This will help clarify confusion over national security matters and consolidate government's responses. More important, it will generate informed debate which may help build consensus. Suggested outline of a National Security Strategy document

A National Security Strategy document should have, at the minimum, the following elements:

- a working definition of national security and national security objectives;
- an appreciation of the emerging security environment taking into account the geopolitical changes in the world;
- an assessment of the national strengths and weaknesses of the country in dealing with the challenges;
- identification of the military, economic, diplomatic resources needed to meet the challenges.

The National Security Strategy should also pay serious attention to coordination among different segments of the government. A draft National Security Strategy document for the next 10 years may consist of:

a) Definition of national security and political security objectives

The document must define national security in broad terms including military as well as non-military dimensions of security. It must clearly state the objectives of National Security Strategy. These might be: protecting and defending the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of the country; protecting the core values of the nation as enshrined in the Indian Constitution; ensuring socio-economic development of the country must also be an objective of National Security Strategy because human security is an important component of comprehensive national security. India's goal should be to play a positive and effective role in global and regional affairs.

b) Appreciation of the geopolitical environment

The document should describe the geopolitical environment and how it has affected India. These include the transition in the international system to multipolarity; the rise of China and its intense drive for military modernisation, the growing dysfunctionality of Pakistani state; the impending withdrawal of US and ISAF troops from Afghanistan; the implications of the Arab spring; the developments in Indian ocean region; the growth of Africa and Latin America; the discovery of energy resources in the Arctic Ocean and the economic uncertainty in the US and Europe. In addition, there are non-territorial challenges too with which India will have to cope up with. These are no less important than the hard security challenges. These include the increasing threat of piracy in high seas, maritime security, increasing militarization of space, threats from cyber space and intensification of competition for scarce resources like energy and strategic minerals. The implications of climate change for India's security must also be spelt out. The strategy document must identify the growing challenge of terrorism and asymmetric warfare for Indian security. The threat of WMD proliferation and issues concerning nuclear security must be underlined as growing challenges. A broad counter-terrorism strategy must be identified and implemented.

c) Challenges from the Neighbourhood

The document may pay special attention to the neighbourhood – the neighbouring countries, the extended neighbourhood and Indian Ocean. Instability in these regions will cause instability in India. India must prepare itself to face the backlash if some states in the region fail. At the same time, India should be prepared to contribute towards stability through bilateral and regional cooperation.

d) Coping up with the challenges

Having defined the challenges in a clear and unambiguous manner, the strategy document may pay focussed attention to how India will cope with these challenges. For a realistic National Security Strategy, there must be an appreciation of the ends and means. The end objective is to secure India's security but the means to be adopted to do so must preserve the freedoms and rights of the individuals as enshrined in the Constitution. Thus, for example, a counter-terrorism strategy is needed but it should have enough safeguards to protect individual rights and freedoms. India should seek a prominent role for itself in the international community without being hegemonistic or threatening. International cooperation; regional and sub-regional cooperation should be given high priority. Permanent membership of the UN Security Council should be aspired for.

e) Internal Security

The document will need to give urgent attention to internal security issues including left wing extremism, Jammu and Kashmir, the North East, communalism, corruption, religious fundamentalism and extremism, regional and socio-economic inequalities. These issues will have to be dealt with within the democratic framework of the Indian Constitution. Adequate sensitivity to people's aspirations will need to be paid. An effective counter-terrorism strategy encompassing intelligence reforms, police reforms, legal reforms and involving clear rules of engagement with insurgents, militants and terrorists should be adopted. Similarly, a counter insurgency strategy aimed at firmly dealing with insurgents while addressing the grievances of the alienated groups within the Indian Constitution should be put in place. Border management, a neglected area should be given high priority. An effectively regulated border which discourages illegal movement but facilitates people-to-people contacts is necessary. Modern border management practices should be adopted. Visa regime and immigration policies should be overhauled. The link between internal security issues and external factors, e.g. externally sponsored terrorism, fake Indian currency, drugs etc, may also be specified.

f) Resources and Capabilities

Making India secure will require building diverse capabilities – economic, diplomatic, military, human resources, governance reforms - and creating synergy between them. A strong economy and inclusive growth should form the basis of the National Security Strategy, maintaining strong economic growth will give India huge strategic advantage as it will strengthen its hard and soft power and increase governments' policy options. Without sustained and sustainable economic growth, Indian National Security Strategy will come to a naught. Our diplomatic resources will need to be expanded and strengthened. More diplomats, more training, and more synergy with resources outside the government will be needed. Diplomacy will need to include diverse interests. Public diplomacy will be an integral component of diplomacy. Technology will underpin many of our strengths. Thus, India will need to build capacities in research and development (R&D) in diverse fields to help socio-economic economic development, and self reliance in strategic sectors including space, defence technologies, agriculture, manufacturing, information technology, clean and green technologies etc. India's defence offsets policy is expected to bring in large investments in the high-tech defence sector. Imaginatively used, offsets programmes can help to establish a vibrant defence R&D and manufacturing sector in the country. India's three-stage nuclear energy programme and various national missions under the climate change adaptation programme can provide major opportunities to reform the economy, create employment, strengthening R&D in the universities, build national strengths and position India high in the global order. The advances in science and technology should aim at creating highly skilled human resources in the country. The education system will need to be overhauled. Young people must have the opportunity to pursue high quality education if need be through state subsidies. Suitable policy measures must be adopted to take advantage of the demographic dividend. While military modernisation is necessary, the need for military reform is even more acute. The institution of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) should be created and necessary changes in defence

structures should be brought about. Civil-military relations should be carried out in a harmonious way. Command and control systems for strategic systems must be made robust. Information warfare and cyber security issues will need to be given due attention. Critical infrastructure potential should assume high priority. The government needs to come out with a comprehensive cyber security policy in this regard. The county should create high quality of analytical skills for understanding and interpreting the ongoing changes and their implications for India. Universities and thinktanks should be strengthened. Historical research and methodologies to build scenarios for the future should be encouraged. Archival material should be made available to researchers. For an effective implementation of National Security Strategy, a wide range of governance reforms will be needed. Governance can be overhauled only through a thoroughgoing reform of the electoral system, the criminal justice system, etc. There is strong need to focus on the material and non-material needs of the youth. Their needs of education, skill development, employment, family, mobility, etc should be addressed. This will make them feel proud to be Indian, while they retain and enjoy their multiple identities and freedoms. The **National Security Act 1980** is an act of the Indian Parliament whose purpose is "to provide for preventive detention in certain cases and for matters connected therewith." The act extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. This act empowers the Central Government and State Governments to detain a person to prevent him/her from acting in any manner prejudicial to the security of India, the relations of India with foreign countries, the maintenance of public order, or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community it is necessary so to do. The act also gives power to the governments to detain a foreigner in a view to regulate his presence or expel from the country. **Preventive detention an anachronism** India is one of the few countries in the world where laws allowing preventive detention enjoy constitutional validity even during peacetime. In contrast, the European Court of Human Rights has long held that such laws are illegal under the European Convention on Human Rights regardless of the safeguards inherent in them to prevent their misuse. Normally preventive detention is resorted to against enemy aliens in emergencies such as war when the evidence in possession of the detaining authority is not sufficient to secure the immediate conviction of the detenu by the normal legal process. In India the history of preventive detention dates back to the early days of the British rule when under the Bengal Regulation – III of 1818 (the Bengal State Prisoners Regulation) the government was empowered to detain anybody on mere suspicion. There was also Rule 26 of the Rules framed under the Defence of India Act 1939, again a war time legislation, which allowed the detention of a person if it was "satisfied with respect to that particular person that such detention was necessary to prevent him from acting in any manner prejudicial" to the defence and safety of the country. In the normal course of things preventive detention laws should have lapsed after India attained Independence; but perhaps as the Republic of India had its birth amidst the ravages of civil commotion involving huge loss of lives and property, the framers of our Constitution decided to retain preventive detention as a means to curb anti-national activity. Thus, the Preventive Detention Act was passed by Parliament in 1950. After the expiry of this Act in 1969, the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) was enacted in 1971, followed by its economic adjunct the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act (COFEPOSA) in 1974 and the Terrorism and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act (TADA) in 1985. Though MISA and TADA have been repealed, COFEPOSA continues to be operative along with other similar laws such as the National Security Act (NSA) 1980, the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Essential Commodities Act 1980 and the draconian Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) 2002; not to mention laws with similar provisions enacted by the State governments. It is unbelievable that our Constitution allows the government to pass preventive detention laws against its own citizens in the name of national security and "maintenance of public order" as per Entry 9 of List I and Entry 3 of List III of the Constitution. Assuming that the situation in the country at the time of Independence warranted such legislation, there is still no compelling wisdom in allowing these laws to continue particularly when the circumstances identified in the aforementioned Entries do not exist today. Moreover, in the absence of proper safeguards, preventive detention has been grossly misused, particularly against the Dalits and the minorities. For instance, in May last year a Division Bench of the Madras High Court penalised the Kancheepuram Collector and a police Inspector to pay a sum of one lakh rupees for illegally detaining one Thameem Ansari under the Goondas Act. Another law which is misused is the COFEPOSA, under which a person found in possession of contraband can be imprisoned without trial and bail for a period of one year despite the possibility that the person may have been duped into carrying the contraband, because, it is often seen that baggage carried by people in good faith on behalf of their friends or relatives contains smuggled goods and they end up in prison under COFEPOSA. Unfortunately, the law does not recognise innocence even in such genuine cases. Normally before a preventive detention case is brought before the High Court, a three member Advisory Board headed by a sitting High Court Judge is constituted by the government to examine whether the detention is justified or not. Surprisingly, the proceedings of the Board are confidential except for that part of the report which expresses the opinion of the Board. But what is more appalling is the denial of the detenu's fundamental right to be represented by a professional lawyer before the Board. This is a blatant violation of human rights and goes against Article 22(1) of the Constitution, which says "No person who is arrested shall be detained in custody without being informed, as soon as may be, of the grounds for such arrest nor shall he be denied the right to consult, and to be defended by a legal practitioner of his choice." Thus in a majority of cases the Advisory Board upholds the detention due to lack of proper legal representation on behalf of the detenu. It takes up to six months or sometimes even more before a habeas corpus petition is filed and taken up by the High Court, and till such time the detenu languishes in prison under extremely trying conditions. No wonder, as per the NHRC report released in May last year, out of a total of 3,04,893 prisoners in India, 2,25,817 are awaiting trial. In other words, more than 74 per cent of the total prison population are undertrials. It is therefore clear that preventive detention is harmful to a secular democracy like India as it is extremely prejudicial to personal liberty. As the existing laws are more than sufficient to deal with any offence, the government must seriously consider abolishing all preventive detention laws which have consistently exposed not only the shabby investigative skills of the sponsoring authority, but also their illogical and mechanical application by the detaining authority. **The National Security Council (NSC) of India** The National Security Council (NSC) of India is the apex agency looking into the political, economic, energy and strategic security concerns of India. It was established by the A B Vajpayee government on 19 November 1998, with Brijesh Mishra as the first National Security Advisor. Prior to the formation of the NSC, these activities were overseen by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister. Besides the National Security Advisor, the Ministers of Defence, External Affairs, Home, Finance of the Government of India, and the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission are members of the National Security Council. Other members may be invited to attend its monthly meetings, as and when required. The three-tiered organization of the NSC comprises the Strategic Policy Group, the National Security Advisory Board and a Secretariat represented by the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC). The Strategic Policy Group is the first level of the three tier organization of the National Security Council. It forms the nucleus of the decision making apparatus of the NSC. This group consists of the following members:

- Cabinet Secretary
- Chiefs of Staff of the Army, Navy and Air Force
- Chairman CBDT
- Director of Intelligence Bureau
- Foreign Secretary
- Home Secretary
- Defence Secretary
- Secretary (Defence Production)
- Finance Secretary
- Secretary (Revenue)
- Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- Secretary of the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) of the Cabinet Secretariat
- Secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy
- Scientific Advisor to the Defense Minister
- Secretary of the Department of Space
- Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC).

The Strategic Policy Group undertakes the Strategic Defense Review, a blueprint of short and long term security threats, as well as possible policy options on a priority basis. **Joint Intelligence Committee** The Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC) of the Government of India analyzes intelligence data from the Intelligence Bureau, R&AW and the Directorates of Military, Naval and Air Intelligence. The JIC has its own Secretariat that works under the Cabinet Secretariat. **National Security Advisory Board** The National Security Advisory Board consists of persons of eminence outside the Government with expertise in external security, strategic analysis, foreign affairs, defence, the armed forces,

internal security, science and technology and economics. The board meets at least once a month, and more frequently as required. It provides a long-term prognosis and analysis to the NSC, and recommends solutions and address policy issues referred to it. **National Security Situation of India** Since independence in 1947, India's economy and population have been growing steadily. Now a country with over one billion people, India's first priority is socio-economic development. At the same time, India believes that an assured level of regional stability is necessary for this development. To this end, India has traditionally pursued a broad policy of defensive defense. However military developments, and growing hostilities with Pakistan, have caused her to shift to a strategy of war prevention. Since India's growth is involving her more and more with economic, technological, and political developments in Asia and the rest of the world, she is also squarely confronted by the consequences of strategic change in the international security order. Developments shaping India's national security environment are occurring globally, in adjacent regions, within the Indian sub-continent, and domestically. Key developments include nuclear proliferation, the growing ascendance of economic power as a key factor in international relations, India's relationships with the United States and Russia, turbulence in Central Asia and Afghanistan, global terrorism, and continuing enmity with China and Pakistan. **Specific Security Problems** India is also undergoing strategic transformation from a Third World non-aligned state to one in which she must stand on her own two feet in the international community in the midst of a range of complex security issues. India faces major national security challenges from a resurgent China and the unstable Islamic state of Pakistan. Combined with continuing political instability in Central Asia to the north and the fear of regional Islamization, India's land borders face both active and potentially hostile opponents, at least two equipped with nuclear weapons. From the seas to the east, west and south, it is anticipated that Chinese nuclear-armed submarines may patrol at will in the future, within striking distance of the Indian land mass. It is expected that conventionally-powered Pakistani nuclear submarines will also ply these waters, and be equipped with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles. US naval forces, although considered less a threat than China and Pakistan, also patrol these waters, both on the surface and in its depths. Internally, India faces an increasingly restless Muslim population, especially in the western regions and Kashmir, combined with persistent and age-old ethnic and racial strife among clans, castes and ethnic groupings. Several insurgencies are being supported by outside powers, namely Pakistan and China. The vast territory of the subcontinent combined with the wide disparities in the natural conditions of potential combat zones present great challenges to the Indian Armed Forces, requiring, for example, jungle troops in one theater and high altitude alpine forces in others. India is also concerned with the increased threat of ballistic missile attack from China, the Central Asian states, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Iran. This has led India to defense through deterrence, and the concomitant development of the Prithvi and Agni missiles. **National Security Policy** India's national security policy objectives to meet these challenges were summarized by the Indian Prime Minister in 1995. These are: the defense of national territory over land, sea, and air to include the inviolability of land borders, land territories, offshore assets, and maritime trade routes; internal security against threats to unity or progress from religious, language, ethnic, or socio-economic dissonance, the ability to influence other regional countries to promote harmonious relationships that support Indian national interests; and the ability to execute out-of-area operations to contribute to international stability. India is not well prepared internally to meet these. In addition to the condition of India's Armed Forces, whose combat systems are facing block obsolescence, she does not have established mechanisms for national security decision making and planning, for insuring sustained professional attention to security problems, and for coordinating the requirements and combat actions of India's three military Services. In spite of five wars in the 50 years of her existence, and the fact that India's armed forces have participated in 32 major military operations, India has historically taken a lackadaisical approach to national security issues. Since it was only unified in 1947, it has no long tradition of strategic thought as a nation. Only recently has India become conscious of the need for strategic defense. The funding of defense expenditures was also not considered a core priority and was handled ad hoc. At the same time, there was also a great deal of bureaucratic inflexibility in the Armed Forces structure, and no tradition of true cross service considerations. It was only in 1995 that India was able to state a comprehensive defense policy, even though a partial one. There is current debate within India as to the best way to resolve these structural issues. Military Requirements Indian defense analysts have discussed at length the missions that the Indian Armed Forces (IAF) should be prepared to execute in the beginning decades of the 21st century. In general, India's military must be prepared to conduct large-scale regional wars, with the potential for both conventional attack and operational and tactical nuclear use on land and at sea. As a result, the IAF must be prepared to conduct both defensive and offensive operations in conditions presented by the enemy's battlefield use of weapons of mass destruction. India must also be prepared to defend against land– air– and sea–based missile attack. The Indian Navy must execute both sea denial and sea control missions against Chinese and Pakistani incursions. Indian nuclear forces must be ready to conduct timely counter strikes against enemy targets, as well as employ such weapons in single or numerically limited demonstrative strikes against battlefield targets or targets deep within enemy territory. There is also increasing dialog within the military literature that suggests that current security concerns coupled with the dynamics of the issues derived from the global revolution in military affairs (RMA) may require mission emphasis adjustments among the services. The dialog has led to calls for a greater reliance on long-range air power to deter the hostile acts of aggressor countries towards India. More emphasis is being given to the role of the navy to protect India's critical sea lanes in the Persian Gulf approaches as well as in the Indian Ocean. This has resulted in calls for a shifting of the balance of conventional military power towards the Navy and Air Force. To meet these challenges, India has formulated a new war-fighting doctrine. In this doctrine, the Armed Forces must prepare for a cyber-based war in the 21st century that will require substantial military modernization to prosecute. The reorientation of India's fighting doctrine is based on awareness that its offensive forces must not be used in a way that could make them an escalator for nuclear war. Huge tank and artillery armies are therefore obsolete and the emphasis will be on smaller highly mobile battle groups designed to destroy adversary combat capabilities rather than occupy territory. Thus, hyper war will aim to neutralize enemy offensive forces using smart munitions well before they come into visual range. **Armament Requirements** An immediate concern of India's armament strategy is to solve the problem of pending block obsolescence of major weapons systems. During the next 10-15 years, India will need to replace all of its major systems. The Air Force is reported to need 400 fighters, 100 transport aircraft, 140 helicopters, and a replacement of a large number of its surface to-air missiles. The Navy will require nearly 55 ships, including at least seven submarines and two aircraft carriers, to maintain current force levels. The Army will need 1500 main battle tanks, 500 infantry combat vehicles, and 500 pieces of self-propelled artillery. In addition to the replacement of aging systems, India also has requirements for significant new capabilities. NATO's high technology air operation in Yugoslavia, combined with the recently concluded high-altitude conflict in the Kargil region of Kashmir, appears to be blessings in disguise to the Indian armament industry. Modernization programs that have been on the shelf are being dusted off and reexamined. The accelerated acquisition of new, high technology weapons systems is being studied, especially in light of an apparent plan to lift the defense budget ceiling. As a result of Kargil, for example, plans to accelerate the induction of the indigenous Advanced Jet Trainer (AJT) are being argued—apparently with renewed success— by the Indian Air Force. The conflict has also given new urgency to armaments modernization, especially for UAVs, weapon-locating radar systems, and modern communications systems. The Ministry of Defense has stated that the Kargil war also surfaced significant shortcomings in basic infantry weapons and ground surveillance capabilities. India is giving special priority to naval developments. Ninety seven percent of India's trade is sea-borne and the bulk of India's oil supplies is imported. Indian naval developments are focused on the eventual creation of a three aircraft carrier force, which will allow two to be at sea at all times. India also has decided to build a large aircraft carrier instead of the smaller air defense ship originally envisioned. The ship, to be called the INS Vikrant, will built indigenously, but will operate Russian aircraft. India believes that this will also contribute to the safety of the East-West sea lines of communications passing through the Indian Ocean. Additionally, the Navy will help contain the threat from Pakistan as well as provide air defense systems effective against China. In order to strengthen its deterrence capabilities, India has announced a Minimum Nuclear Deterrence (MND) initiative designed to build a nuclear triad of land-based missiles, aircraft, and ship-launched missiles. Some of India's purchases are designed to provide the platform capabilities needed to house and launch nuclear missiles. India has also announced a major new comprehensive development program designed to upgrade and field a broad range of new missiles. These will include an intercontinental range Surya missile system with a range in excess of 5000 km, a new medium-range naval missile, and a medium-range air-to-air missile. **India's defense budget** India's annual military expenditure in 1997 was \$11B (1997\$US), compared with \$7B (1997\$US) in 1991. This placed India 13th globally. In 2013-14 Budget it has increase over 2 lac crore rupee. ●●●

GUESS Questions for IAS Pre (Set 18)

1. **Biome, largest recognizable assemblage of animals and plants on the Earth. is controlled mainly by :**

(a) Biological activity
(b) Landforms
(c) Climate
(d) Soil

Ans (c)
2. **'Kyoto Protocol', an agreement signed by various countries, is associated with**

(a) International trade
(b) Deep sea oil and mineral exploration
(c) Clean environment and climate change
(d) Building common food stock to save

Ans (c)
3. **Which of the following can be threats to the biodiversity of a geographical area ?**

1. Global warming
2. Fragmentation of habitats
3. Invasion of alien species
4. Promotion of vegetarianism

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans (a)
4. **Vultures, which were very common in our countryside a few years ago, are rarely seen nowadays. This is attributed to one of the Following :**

(a) Destruction of their nesting sites by new invasive species
(b) A drug used by cattle owners for treating their diseased cattle
(c) Scarcity of food available to them
(d) A widespread, persistent and fatal disease amongst them

Ans (b)
5. **Match List**

1. Buxa Tiger Reserve	1. Rajasthan
2. Periyar Tiger Reserve	2. Gujarat
3. Sariska National Park	3. West Bengal
4. Wild Ass Sanctuary	4. Kerala

Codes

A	B	C	D
(a) 2	1	4	3
(b) 3	4	1	2
(c) 2	4	1	3
(d) 3	1	4	2
6. **The regional project by name 'CASA-1000? (Central Asia-South Asia-1000), funded by World Bank, pertains to the field of :**

(a) Eradication of HIV AIDS
(b) Roads and Buildings
(c) Electricity
(d) Eradication of illiteracy

Ans (c)
7. **Who won the Golden Boot Award in the recently concluded UEFA Euro 2012**

(a) Fernando Torres (Spain)
(b) Mario Balotelli (Italy)
(c) Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)
(d) Mario Gonna (Germany)

Ans (a)
8. **Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below the lists :**

List-I

1. Steve Jobs
2. Sheryl Sandberg
3. Larry Page
4. Ross Levinsohn

List-II

1. Google
2. Apple
3. Yahoo
4. Facebook

Codes

A	B	C	D
(a) 2	1	4	3
(b) 3	1	4	2
(c) 2	4	1	3
(d) 3	4	1	2
9. **Match book with Author**

List I

a. Rahul Dravid: Timeless Steel
b. An Ashes Summer
c. Sachin : A Hundred Hundreds Now
d. Opening Up :My autobiography

List II

1. Steve Waugh and Nasser Hussain
2. Greg Chappell
3. Mike Atherton
4. V. Krishrowamy

Codes:

A	B	C	D
(a) 3	4	1	2
(b) 2	4	1	3
(c) 3	1	4	2
(d) 2	1	4	3

Ans (c)
10. **Why was Justice Dalveer Bhandari in the_ news recently?**

(a) He became member of UN Human Rights Council,
(b) He was elected to the International Court of Justice.
(c) He became Director General of World Trade Organization.
(d) He became Secretary-General of SAARC

Ans (b)
11. **Match Head with Institution**

List -I

A. Jim Yong Kim
B. Kamlesh Sharma
C. Christine Lagarde
D. Catherine Day

List -II
1. President, World Bank
2. Secretary-General, Commonwealth
3. Managing Director, IMF
4. Secretary-General of the European Commission

Codes:

A	B	C	D
(a) 3	4	2	1
(b) 1	4	2	3
(c) 3	2	4	1
(d) 1	2	4	3

Ans (d)
12. **Despite having huge coal reserve in OUT country, why do we import millions of tons of coal?**

1. It is policy of Govt. of India to save its own coal reserve for future use and import now from other countries for present use.
2. Most of the thermal plants in our country are coal based and they are unable to gel sufficient coal supply from our coal mines.
3. Steel plants require large quantities of coking coal which we do not have, coking coal is to be imported from other countries.

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

Ans (b)
13. **Which of the following statements is true about Industrial Policy since 1991?**

(a) Only 5 industrial related to security, strategic and environmental concerns require Industrial License.
(b) An investor need not file an industrial entrepreneur Memorandum.
(c) There is no reservation of products for production in small scale sectors.
(d) The number of industries reserved for public sector has been enhanced.

Ans (a)
14. **The newly introduced rupee symbol is based on**

(a) Roman and Greek script
(b) Persian and Dravidian script
(c) Roamn and Devanagari script
(d) Greek and Devanagari script

Ans (c)
15. **Which one of the following expresses the relation between normal price and market price?**

(a) Market price is greater than normal price
(b) Market price is equal to normal price
(c) Market price tends to be equal to normal price
(d) Market price is lesser than normal price

Ans (c)
16. **Bancassurance is**

(a) An insurance scheme to insure bank deposits
(b) An insurance scheme exclusively for bank employees
(c) A composite financial service offering both bank and insurance products
(d) A bank deposit scheme exclusively for employees of insurance companies

Ans (c)
17. **Inflation can be controlled by**

(a) Increase in wages
(b) Decrease in taxation
(c) Reduction in public expenditure
(d) Making the rupee dearer

Ans (d)
18. **Which of the following can be termed an infrastructural bottleneck in the development of India's economy ?**

(a) The federal nature of Indian Polity.
(b) Existence of a large variety of financial institutions
(c) Delay in the administration of justice relating to land acquisition and displacement
(d) The volatility of the Indian rupee

Ans (c)
19. **It is said that. in order to control inflation, foreign inflow needs to be sterilized. Sterilization here refers to**

(a) Ensuring that counterfeit currency does not enter circulation,
(b) Ensuring that black money is accounted for,
(c) Withdrawing equivalent local currency to maintain a desirable rate of exchange,
(d) Compliance with import-export regulations,

Ans (c)
20. **NABARD means**

(a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
(b) National Agricultural Bank and Rural Development
(c) National Agricultural Board and Rural Development
(d) National Board for Agricultural and Rural Area Development

Ans (a)
21. **Which of the following are the main causes of the slow rate of growth of per capita income in India?**

1. High rate of capital formation
2. High level of fiscal deficits
3. High rate of growth of population

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

Ans (d)
22. **If the RBI adopts an expansionist open market operations policy, this means it will**

(a) Sell securities in the open market.
(b) Buy securities from non-government holders.
(c) Openly announce to the market that it intends to expand credit.
(d) Offer commercial banks more credit in the open marker

Ans (b)
23. **Structural Planning refers to .**

(a) Centralized planning,
(b) Laying down broad goals and strategics.
(c) Changing existing institutions or creating new ones.
(d) Fixing flexible targets.

Ans (c)
24. **Which of the following is NOT one of the features of the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) being set up for promoting exports ?**
- (a) Foreign workers will be allowed free entry without Visa restrictions.
(b) The SEZ area will be treated as foreign territory for trade operations, duties and tariff.
(c) Them will be no routine examination by customs authorities of import-export cargo.
(d) No license is required for import into the zone.

Ans (a)
25. **Match the Following**

1. D.M Dharmadhikari Governance	1.National Corporate
2. Anil Kakodkar merger	2. Air India-Indian Airlines
3. B.N. Srikrishna Level Safety Review	3. Indian Railways High
4. Adi Godrej tive Reforms Commission	4. Financial Sector Legisla

Codes

A	B	C	D
(a) 1	3	4	2
(b) 2	3	4	1
(c) 1	4	3	2
(d) 2	4	3	1

Ans (b)
26. **A cultivator has about two hectares of rain fed land without irrigation facilities. Which type of crops would he like to grow?**

1. Jowar
2. Cotton
3. Arhar
4. Potatoes

Codes

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

Ans (d)
27. **Which one of the following statements is true about red soil ?**

(a) It is rich in humus.
(b) It is rich in potash.
(c) It is rich in iron compounds.
(d) It is derived from volcanic origin.

Ans (c)
28. **Which one of the following sets of industries were among first modern industries in India ?**

(a) Tea, Cotton and Sugar
(b) Jute, Silk and Cotton
(c) Cotton, Jute and Coal-Mines
(d) Sugar, Silk and Steel

Ans (c)
29. **Archaeological studies suggest the theory that**

(a) All the continents were settled with human societies at about the same time
(b) Farming societies developed before hunting and gathering
(c) The earliest human evolved in the Rift valley in East Africa
(d) The wheel was in use in all ancient societies

Ans (c)
30. **Which term is used to describe the spread of Buddhism from India through Southeast Asia?**

(a) Social mobility
(b) Cultural diffusion
(c) Ethnocentrism
(d) interdependence

Ans (b)
31. **Consider the following statements about heritage :**

1. Heritage is that which has been or may be inherited.
2. Heritage is anything given or received to be a proper possession.

Which of these statements is/are correct ?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)
32. **Consider the following statements :**

1. By the early nineteenth century British carried out detailed surveys.
2. The effort was to know the topography, the soil quality, the flora, the fauna, the logical histories and the cropping pattern.

Which of these statements is/are correct ?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)
33. **Which of the following is a correct statement about both the Mughal and Ottoman empires in the sixteenth century?**

(a) Both of these empires had powerful navies that engaged European navies.
(b) Both of these empires expanded through the use of gunpowder weapons and extensive bureaucracies.
(c) Both of these empires gave little monetary support to artistic and cultural endeavors.
(d) In both of these empires the majority of the people were Muslims.

Ans (b)
34. **Which is the correct meaning of the term 'rule of primogeniture' ?**

(a) Favourite son inheriting his father's estate
(b) Eldest son inheriting his father's estate
(c) Division of the inheritance amongst all the SODS
(d) Division of the inheritance amongst all the sons and daughters

Ans (b)
35. **Which of the following would be the most useful source of evidence for research about the agrarian history of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries ?**

(a) Accounts of contemporary travellers
(b) Individual revenue records
(c) Chronicles and documents from the Mughal court
(d) Records of the East India company

Ans (c)

PIRACY DECLINES OFF SOMALI COAST

C.S. Rajput

For years, Somali pirates used to hold shipping to ransom. Companies were forced to run convoys through the Gulf of Aden, and into the Indian ocean. But it has now been one year since they last hijacked a ship off the *Horn of Africa*, and the Somali Prime Minister Abdi Farah Shirdon thinks a solution to the piracy problem has been found.

Piracy off the coast of Somalia has been a threat to international shipping since the second phase of the Somali Civil War in the early 21st century. Since 2005, many international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization and the World Food Programme, have expressed concern over the rise in acts of piracy. Piracy has impeded the delivery of shipments and increased shipping expenses, costing an estimated \$6.6 to \$6.9 billion a year in global trade per Oceans Beyond Piracy (OBP). According to the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), a veritable industry of profiteers has also risen around the piracy. Insurance companies, in particular, have profited from the pirate attacks, as insurance premiums have increased significantly.

A United Nations report and several news sources have suggested that piracy off the coast of Somalia is caused in part by illegal fishing. According to the DIW and the U.S. House Armed Services Committee, the dumping of toxic waste in Somali waters by foreign vessels has also severely constrained the ability of local fishermen to earn a living and forced many to turn to piracy instead. 70 percent of the local coastal communities "strongly support the piracy as a form of national defense of the country's territorial waters", and the pirates believe they are protecting their fishing grounds and exacting justice and compensation for the marine resources stolen. Some reports have suggested that, in the absence of an effective national coast guard following the outbreak of the civil war and the subsequent disintegration of the Armed Forces, local fishermen formed organized groups in order to protect their waters. This motivation is reflected in the names taken on by some of the pirate networks, such as the National Volunteer Coast Guard. However, as piracy has become substantially more lucrative in recent years, other reports have speculated that financial gain is now the primary motive for the pirates.

Combined Task Force 150, a multinational coalition task force, took on the role of fighting piracy off of the coast of Somalia by establishing a Maritime Security Patrol Area (MSPA) within the Gulf of Aden. The increasing threat posed by piracy has also caused concern in India since most of its shipping trade routes pass through the Gulf of Aden. The Indian Navy responded to these concerns by deploying a warship in the region on 23 October 2008. In September 2008, Russia announced that it too would join international efforts to combat piracy. Some

reports have also accused certain government officials in Somalia of complicity with the pirates, with authorities from the Galmudug administration in the north-central Hobyo district reportedly attempting to use pirate gangs as a bulwark against Islamist insurgents from the nation's southern conflict zones. However, according to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, both the former and current administrations of the autonomous Puntland region in northeastern Somalia appear to be more actively involved in combating piracy. The latter measures include on-land raids on pirate hideouts, and the construction of a new naval base in conjunction with Saracen International, a UK-based security company. By the first half of 2010, these increased policing efforts by Somali government authorities on land and international naval vessels at sea reportedly contributed to a drop in pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden from 86 a year prior to 33, forcing pirates to shift attention to other areas such as the Somali Basin and the wider Indian Ocean. By the end of 2011, pirates managed to seize only four ships off of the coast of Somalia; 18 fewer than the 26 they had captured in each of the two previous years. They also attempted unsuccessful attacks on 52 other vessels, 16 fewer than the year prior. As of 1 May 2013, the pirates were holding 2 large ships with an estimated 54 hostages. According to another source, there were 151 attacks on ships in 2011, compared to 127 in 2010 - but only 25 successful hijacks compared to 47 in 2010. 10 vessels and 159 hostages were being held at February 2012. In 2011, pirates earned \$146m, an average of \$4.87m per ship. An estimated 3,000 to 5,000 pirates operated; by February 2012 1,000 had been captured and were going through legal processes in 21 countries. According to the European Union Naval Force (EU NAVFOR), intensified naval operations had by February 2012 led to a further drop in successful pirate attacks in the Indian Ocean, with the pirates' movements in the region at large also significantly constrained. 25 military vessels from the EU and NATO countries, the United States, China, Russia, India and Japan patrolled approximately 8.3m km² (3.2m sq miles) of ocean, an area about the size of Western Europe. On 16 July 2012, the European Union launched a new operation, EUCAP Nestor. An analysis by the Brussels-based Global Governance Institute urged the EU to commit onshore to prevent piracy. By September 2012, the heyday of piracy in the Indian Ocean was reportedly over. Backers were now reportedly reluctant to finance pirate expeditions due to the low rate of success, and pirates were no longer able to reimburse their creditors. According to the International Maritime Bureau, pirate attacks had by October 2012 dropped to a six-year low, with only 1 ship attacked in the third quarter compared to 36 during the same period in 2011.

A Brief History of Pirates

"We just saw a big ship, so we stopped it," said Sugule Ali, the spokesman for a band of pirates that on Sept. 25 hijacked the MV Faina, a Ukrainian freighter packed with Soviet-made tanks, grenade launchers, ammunition and other high-grade weaponry. The seizure was perhaps the most brazen in a recent spate of attacks on vessels crossing the world's most treacherous waters. According to the International Maritime Bureau, pirates have carried off 63 attacks and 26 hijackings off the coast of Somalia so far this year, seizing 534 crew members; 12 ships and 259 sailors (including 20 aboard the Faina) remain captive. "Think of us like a coast guard," Ali told the New York Times by satellite phone.

Today's pirates pursue their prey with outboard motors instead of oars and tote rocket-propelled grenades instead of cutlasses. With upgraded equipment and loftier stakes — the group demanded \$20 million in ransom for the Faina's return, a figure that reportedly plunged to \$5 million on Oct. 1 — these 21st century buccaneers, like their peg-legged predecessors, are economic opportunists exploiting the largely unpatrolled waterways through which 90% of global trade flows. Pirates have plagued seafarers for millennia. Homer and Cicero noted incidents involving ancient Greek and Roman mariners, and Western Europeans weathered Viking onslaughts during the Middle Ages. In the 16th and 17th centuries, monarchs frustrated by Spain's dominance of the Caribbean commissioned privateers to harass the Spanish fleet—helping to usher in piracy's golden age, when swashbuckling marauders like Edward (Blackbeard) Teach roamed the sun-splashed islands, plundering gold and silver. Piracy declined in subsequent centuries, thanks to increasingly vigilant militaries and the development of the steam engine. But amid a drop in naval patrols and a boom in international trade following the end of the Cold War, it has flourished anew — particularly in narrow choke points such as Asia's Strait of Malacca and the Gulf of Aden, which links the Red and Arabian seas. Buoyed by fast boats, fearsome weaponry and high-tech communications gear, pirates carried off 263 reported heists in 2007 — 28% of which occurred in the treacherous waters off Nigeria and Somalia, where vast coastlines and feckless transitional governments make for easy marks for plundering pirates. Despite a June U.N. resolution that lets naval allies surveil those waters, ships are warned to stay 250 nautical miles from land.

That legislation has spelled trouble for Ali and his cohorts. Fueled by fears that the cache of weapons could make its way to al-Qaeda-linked insurgents, the U.S. sent warships to encircle the anchored vessel as an international fleet hurried to join them. In his interview with the Times, Ali seemed cheerfully fatalistic about the prospect of tangling with the world's naval superpowers: "We know you only die once." Rumors flew that three pirates had already perished during a shootout stemming from a disagreement over whether to surrender, but the pirate spokesman dismissed the claim. He said the marauders onboard would withstand the siege, and didn't seem in much of a hurry to defuse tensions. In the meantime, he said, they would take meals alongside their hostages and celebrate the Muslim festival of Eid, which marks the end of Ramadan.

Somali piracy has considerable support from the Somali populace. It has evolved from a defensive reaction against illegal dumping and illegal fishing, to a criminal enterprise. Typical Somali pirate attacks involve attacking commercial ships, taking hostages, and demanding high ransoms, often in the millions of dollars. The attacks involve fishing trawlers which launch small attack boats,



known as skiffs, to seize larger cargo ships. Somali pirates are often armed with rocket-propelled grenade launchers and assault rifles. Somali fishermen are typically the masterminds of the operation, and they often have the help of former civil war militiamen. When confronted with a modern naval force, pirates will throw their weapons overboard to eliminate evidence. This has helped make it difficult to prosecute them in international courts of law. Pirates got their funding from various sources, including from within Somali, but also from Yemen and other foreign places. Pirate operations were so successful that they were receiving funding from local stock exchanges, where investors would trade shares in pirate groups. Effectively this meant that they were funding and speculating on the success of future pirate attacks. The profits from pirate attacks rose to an estimate of well over \$200 million as of 2010. The benefits of piracy to local Somali communities have manifested in the form of business from pirates spending their money at local businesses. In addition, pirate attacks have succeeded in fending off illegal foreign fishing in some places, resulting in improved fishing harvests for local fishermen.

Most pirate attacks do not result in the harming of the hostages that the pirates take. However, Somali pirates are suspected in the killing of four Americans on board a yacht in 2010. Pirates killed a Chinese sailor in 2007 when their ransom demands were not met. There have also been reported incidents of torture, and the use of hostages as shields against defensive fire.

The international community has struggled to deal with the piracy problem, but has made appreciable progress. The United States, Russia and India, among other nations, have fielded warships and Navy special forces teams to deal directly with pirates and pirate ships. Various government entities in Somalia have also worked to stop piracy by attacking their bases on land. Over the years, pirate attacks skyrocketed, reaching a peak of 151 known attacks in 2011. International naval interception efforts have led to a drop in pirate activity, such that only one attack occurred in October of 2012. The lack of success has also dried up the various sources of funding that pirates have been able to secure for their operations. Overall, Somali piracy has experienced a pattern of rapid decline since 2012.

Piracy in Somalia began as a result of the collapse of Somalia and the onset of foreign dumping and illegal fishing. Because of the depletion of fishing stocks around the Somali coast, piracy became a way for fishermen to not only replace their lost income but to also scare off intruders. The success of the international community's war on piracy has depended heavily on military intervention, but the rejuvenation of fish populations and the cooperation of Somali authorities has proven to be equally as effective. While Somali piracy is on the decline, its complete elimination may not occur as long as Somalia remains a failed state.

EDITORIAL

DEVELOP INDIA

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Safety Measures for the Jaitapur Nuclear Plant

The nuclear power reactors planned at Jaitapur site are Evolutionary Pressurised Water Reactors (EPRs). These have evolved from the proven design, safety principles and manufacturing technologies employed in 'N4' reactors in France and 'KONVOI' nuclear power reactors in Germany which are in safe operation for last several years. Currently, EPRs are under construction in Finland, France and China. These will be operational in 2 to 4 years and their operational feedback will also be available for reactors to be set up at Jaitapur.



The EPRs are Generation III+ reactors employing advanced safety features. Safety of the EPRs has been reviewed by the regulatory authorities in Finland, France and China where these reactors are in different stages of construction. The safety aspects of the reactors are reviewed and stage-wise clearances accorded by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) for every stage of implementation.

Safety of Nuclear Energy

There is a need to increase the per capita consumption of electricity to spur economic growth in the country. Nuclear energy is a clean source of electricity generation which has huge potential and needs to be deployed in addition to other sources of electricity to meet growing demand of electricity in the country.

The government has taken steps to augment nuclear energy generation by setting up nuclear power reactors based on indigenous technology & also with foreign technical cooperation. The share of nuclear energy in the total electricity generation in the country was about 3.6% in the year 2012-13.

The low share of nuclear power is on account of low installed capacity base, which is currently 4780 MW out of the total installed capacity of 223344 MW in the country. The present nuclear power installed capacity will reach to 10,080 MW by 2017 on progressive completion of projects under construction. The XII Five Year Plan proposals envisage start of work on new projects totaling to 17400 MW capacity. More nuclear power plants are planned to increase the nuclear power capacity in future.

The Fukushima accident in Japan led to apprehensions about safety of nuclear power in some sections of the people. A massive public outreach programme has been undertaken, adopting a multi-pronged approach, to reach out to all sections of the society and allay the apprehensions about the safety of nuclear power and all related issues in a credible manner.

Nuclear And Radiation Safety Policy of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)

In accordance with the Presidential orders dated 15 November 1983, constituting the AERB, the functions of AERB include, as per clause 2(i), development of safety policies in both radiation and industrial safety areas, and further, as per clause 2(vi), evolving major safety policies based on safety criteria, recommended by IAEA and other international bodies, adopted to suit Indian conditions. Accordingly, the safety policies concerning the activities regulated by AERB are enshrined in the high level documents of AERB, namely The Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004, the mission statement and the various 'Codes' of AERB. These documents include the policies, principles and / or safety objectives that apply to the relevant activity/field and the specific regulatory requirements that are to be followed for fulfilling the same.

The above principles and objectives form the broader policy of AERB for regulation of nuclear and radiation safety in the country.

AERB has already published 141 regulatory documents. AERB's approach with regard to prioritization for preparation of specific regulatory documents is a dynamic and ongoing process. The 27 balance documents are incorporated in the document development framework established by AERB in accordance with their assigned priorities.

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The Right to Information Act, 2005

The Right to Information Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha in December 2004. It was passed by both houses of Parliament with major amendments in May 2005. The assent of the President was received on June 15 and the Act was notified in the Gazette on June 21. The law will become operational by mid-October 2005. This law was passed by Parliament to enable citizens to exercise their fundamental right to information held by public authorities all over the country (except Jammu and Kashmir). The RTI Act aims to bring about transparency in the functioning of public authorities, contain corruption and hold Governments and their instrumentalities accountable to people. It creates a process for providing information to people. The RTI Act places a duty on officers to provide information to people both proactively and upon request. It provides for a two-tier appeals mechanism to deal with complaints of unreasonable denial of information by public authorities. This law will have an overriding effect vis-à-vis the Official Secrets Act, 1923 and all other laws and orders passed by Governments that restrict information flow to people.

Geographical Coverage: Covers all of India except Jammu and Kashmir (Jammu and Kashmir passed its own Freedom of Information Act in 2004)

Jurisdictional Coverage: Covers offices of Public Authorities established, owned or substantially financed by the Central Government, the State Governments and the Administration of the Union Territories (will include Panchayats, municipalities and other local bodies). Any body owned, controlled or substantially financially by these governments is also included. This law will be applicable to all non-government organizations substantially financed directly or indirectly by these governments.

Other Bodies: Information relating to a private body that can be accessed by a public authority under any law in force is also covered by the RTI Act. Most provisions will come into force from the 120th day of enactment. Some provisions will come into force with immediate effect, such as the duty of proactive disclosure, appointment of Public Information Officers and Assistant Public Information Officers and setting up Information Commissions at the Central and State level. *Freedom of Information Act, 2002* will be repealed.

Information means: Section 2

Information: Records, documents, memos, emails, opinions, advices, press releases, circulars, orders, logbooks, contracts, reports, papers, samples, models, data material held in any electronic form.

Record means: Section 2

- a) Any document, manuscript and file
- b) Any microfilm, microfiche and facsimile copy of a document;
- c) Any reproduction of image or images embodied in such microfilm (whether enlarged or not)
- d) Any other material produced by a computer or any other device.

Right to Information means: Section 2

- Right to inspect works, documents, records
- Right to take notes, extracts or certified copies
- Right to take samples
- Right to obtain information in electronic form
- Right to information whose disclosure is in the public interest
- Information which cannot be denied to Parliament or State Legislature shall not be denied to any person.

What is not open?

- 1) Information that would prejudicially affect the sovereignty, integrity, security, scientific or economic interest and relation with a foreign state
- 2) Information which would lead to commission of an offence
- 3) Information whose release is forbidden by a court or tribunal or disclosure which might constitute contempt of court
- 4) Information whose release may lead to breach of privileges of Parliament or State Legislatures.
- 5) Commercial and trade secrets, intellectual property etc. that would harm competitive position of third party.
- 6) Information available to a person in his fiduciary relationship (information shared between client and lawyer or landlord and tenant or patient and doctor).
- 7) Information received in confidence from a foreign government
- 8) If information disclosure endangers life and physical safety of any person
- 9) If it is about a source of information or assistance given in confidence of law enforcement or security purposes
- 10) If it is likely to impede investigation and prosecution processes
- 11) Cabinet Papers including deliberations of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers (but decisions and related reasons contained in them will be made public after the decision has been taken and the matter is complete or over)
- 12) Personal or private information subject to larger public interest to be decided by the Public Information Officer.
- 13) All exemptions subject to public interest override. If public interest outweighs harm to the public authority information must be disclosed. The power to decide whether public interest is with the Public Information Officer and the Appellate Authorities

Further grounds for rejection: Section 9

- If giving information infringes the copyright of any person other than the State.

Partial Disclosure: Section 10

- Partial access to information contained in records covered by exemption clause is allowed.

Time bar on information covered by exemptions - Section 8

Upon completion of 20 years, information about any occurrence, event or matter will be given irrespective of exemptions. But information relating to sovereignty, integrity, security, strategic, scientific and economic interests, information which would lead to incitement to commit an offence, Cabinet papers including records of deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers and matters relating to the privileges and immunities of legislators and MPs will not be given even after 20 years. Decision of the Central Government is final as regards computation of the time period.

Who is excluded - Section 21 and Schedule

Central Intelligence agencies and security agencies like the IB, RAW, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, Enforcement Directorate, Narcotics Control Bureau, Aviation Research Centre, Special Frontier Force, BSF, CRPF, ITBP, CISF, NSG, Assam Rifles, Special Service Bureau, CID Special Branch of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, CID Crime Branch of Dadra Nagar Haveli and Special Branch, Lakshadweep Police. Similar agencies established by the State Governments will also be included.

But information relating to corruption and human rights must be given but only with the approval of the Central or State Information Commission as the case may be.

Competent Authority: Section 2

Speaker of the Lok Sabha at the Centre and the Vidhan Sabhas in the States and Union Territories, Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Councils in the States (wherever applicable), Chief Justice of India and Chief Justices of High Courts in the States.

President in the case of other authorities created under or by the Constitution (like the Election Commission of India, SC/ST Commission, and Finance Commissions etc.) for the Central level. The Governor at the level of the States.

Administrator of Union Territories (like Lt. Governor). These Competent Authorities have the power to make rules for implementing the Act within their jurisdiction.

Public Authority: Section 2

- Any body constituted under the Constitution or a law made by Parliament or State Legisla-

tures.

- Any body constituted by a notification or order issued by the Central and State Governments.
- Includes any body owned or controlled by the Central and State Governments.
- Any body constituted by notification issued or order made by the appropriate government.
- Any body owned controlled or substantially financed by the appropriate government.
- Any non-government organizations substantially financed directly or indirectly by funds provided by the appropriate government.

Third Party: Section 2, 11

- Any person other than the requestor of information. This category includes another Public Authority. Third party has the right of appeal against PIOs order.

Public Authorities’ Duties: Section 4, 6, 7, 11

1. To maintain data in a catalogued and indexed form and computerize all appropriate records and facilitate access through a country-wide network on different systems.
2. Proactive provisions for information disclosure must be implemented
3. Provide reasons for its administrative or quasi-judicial decisions to affected persons.
4. Proactive publishing of facts while formulating important policies, or announcing the decisions which affect public.
5. Provide assistance to an applicant who is sensorily disabled (e.g. visually challenged) to access information or inspect records.
6. If information is not provided within the time limit then it must be provided to the applicant free of cost subsequently (when the Appellate Authority orders release of information).
7. Take into consideration representation made by third party before deciding on an information request.
8. Despite the exemptions allow access to information if disclosure in public interest outweighs the harm to the public authority.

Proactive Disclosure by Public Authorities: Section 4

1. The particulars of the organisation, functions and duties of the public authority;
2. The powers and duties of its officers and employees;
3. The procedure followed in its decision making process, including channels of supervision and accountability
4. The norms set out by it for the discharge of its functions;
5. Information regarding the rules, regulations, instructions, manuals and records used by its employees for the discharge of its functions
6. A statement of the categories of the documents held by it or under its control
7. Information regarding any arrangement that exists for consultation or representation, by members of the public, in relation to the formulation of policy or implementation
8. Advice given by the boards, councils, committees and other bodies consisting of two or more persons. Additionally information as to whether the meetings of these are open to the public, or the minutes. of such meetings are accessible to the public
9. A directory of its officers and employees;
10. The monthly remuneration received by each of its officers and employees, including the system of compensation as provided in its regulations
11. The budget allocated to each of its agency, indicating the particulars of all plans, proposed expenditures and reports on disbursements made
12. The details of the implementation of subsidy programmes, including the amounts allocated and the details and beneficiaries of such programmes
13. Particulars of recipients of concessions, permits or authorisations granted by it
14. Details of the information available to, or held by it, reduced in an electronic form
15. The particulars of facilities available to citizens for obtaining information, including the working hours of a library or reading room, if maintained for public use
16. The names, designations and other particulars of the Public Information Officers
17. Any other information that may be necessary.

This proactive disclosure must be carried out with immediate effect and in any case completed within 120 days of the enactment of this law. Thereafter it must be updated every year. This information should be easily accessible with the PIO as far as possible in electronic format, free of cost or at such cost of the medium or the print cost price that the Government may prescribe.

Public Information Officer (PIO): Section 5

1. PIO must be designated with immediate effect by every Public Authority at the level of administrative units or offices under it.
2. Asst. PIO must be designated at the sub-divisional or sub-district level with immediate effect by the Public Authority. (PIO includes APIO in the context of contravention of this law)
3. PIO has initial authority to decide whether disclosure of information is in public interest or not (applies to information covered by exemptions under Sec. 8).
4. PIO has the authority to decide which parts of a record covered by the exemption clause could be disclosed to the applicant (partial disclosure . severability).
5. Any officer whose assistance has been sought by the PIO for securing information will also be treated as a PIO and is liable to be punished for not furnishing information in time or for refusing information or for giving wrong information or misleading information.

Duties of a PIO: Sections 7 & 11

1. PIO should render assistance to those who cannot write an application.
2. Must inform the applicant of the appellate authority who should be approached for review of the decision taken on the fees for supply of information and also the time limit.
3. Give information in the form in which it is originally sought subject to resource constraints and preservation of the record in question.
4. Give written reasons for rejection of information request, details of the time limit for appeals and the appropriate Appellate Authority.
5. If allowing partial access he shall give notice to the applicant stating
 - a. which part will be provided after severing the exempt portions,
 - b. reasons for arriving at this decision including findings on any factual matter relating to the materials on which the findings are based
 - c. name and designation of the person who gave this decision
 - d. details of fees to be deposited
 - e. Applicant’s rights to seek review of the decision on fee charged or the decision taken including details of the Appellate Authority and the time limit for filing the review/appeal.
- 6) If information sought has been supplied by third party or is treated as confidential by the third party PIO must give written notice to the latter within 5 days of receiving the information request and take its representation into consideration.
- 7) Third party must be given a chance to make a representation (oral or written) before the PIO within 10 days of receiving the notice.

Application Procedure: Section 6

- 1) Apply in writing or electronically in English or local official language of the area where application is being made.
- 2) Reason for seeking information need not be given.
- 3) Pay fees as may be prescribed (if not belonging to the below the poverty line category).

Time Limit: Section 7

- a. 30 days from the date of application

- b. 48 hours for information concerning the life and liberty of a person
- c. Time taken for calculation of fees and intimation of the same to the applicant will be excluded from the 30 day period
- d. If the interests of a third party are involved then time limit will be 40 days (maximum period + time given to third party to make representation)
- e. No action on application for 30 days is a deemed refusal

Fees: Section 7

- a. Application fees to be prescribed which must be reasonable.
- b. If further fees are required then the same must be intimated in writing with calculation details of how the figure was arrived at.
- c. Applicant can seek review of the decision on fees charged by the PIO by applying to the appropriate Appellate Authority.
- d. No fees will be charged from people living below the poverty line. This benchmark will be decided by the appropriate government.
- e. Applicant must be provided information free of cost if the decision to release information is taken after the time limit.

Appellate Authority (AA): Section 12, 19

- a. Internal Appeal: First appeal to the officer immediately senior to PIO in the concerned Public Authority within 30 days from the date of latter’s decision. (Delay may be condoned by the AA if sufficient cause is shown)
- b. External Appeal: Second appeal to the Central or State Information Commission (see below) within 90 days of the date on which the decision was given or should have been made by the Appellate Authority. (Delay may be condoned by the AA if sufficient cause is shown)
- c. Third Party appeal against PIO.s decision must be filed within 30 days before first appeals body and within 90 days of the decision on the first appeal before the appropriate Information Commission.
- d. Burden of proving that information denial was justified lies with the PIO.
- e. Internal appeals must be disposed of within 30 days from the date of filing. Extendable by 15 days if necessary but in any case decision must be given within 45 days. No time limit fixed for Information Commissions to give their decisions.
- f. Decision of the IC is binding. But appeal on a point of fact or law can be filed in the High Court or the Supreme Court.

First Level of Appeal:

Appeals against refusal of information request can be filed with an officer senior in rank to the PIO within the same public authority. (Every public authority will have to appoint appellate authorities along with PIOs).

Supervisory Mechanism:

Central Information Commission: Section 12

- a. Central Information Commission (CIC) to be constituted through Gazette Notification with immediate effect.
- b. CIC includes **1** Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and not more than **10** Information Commissioners (IC) who will be appointed by the President of India.
- c. Oath of Office will be administered by the President of India according to the form set out in the Schedule.
- d. It will be based in Delhi. Other offices may be established in other parts of the country with approval from the Central Government.
- e. CIC will exercise its powers autonomously without being subject to directions by any other authority.

Appointment Process and Qualifications: Section 12

- a. Appointment Committee includes Prime Minister (Chair), Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and one Cabinet minister to be nominated by the Prime Minister. (if there is no Leader of Opposition then the Leader of the single largest group in Opposition in the Lok Sabha will sit on the Committee)
- b. Candidates must be eminent person in public life with knowledge and experience in law, science, technology social service, management, journalism mass media or administration and governance.
- c. No MP or MLA can be appointed CIC or IC during their term of service. They will have to give up that post upon appointment to the Information Commission.

CIC- Terms of Service: Section 13

- a. CIC appointed for 5 years from date of entering office. IC will remit office upon attaining 65 years of age even if the term of office is not completed.
- b. CIC is not eligible for reappointment.
- c. Term may be extended by one more year if recommended by the Appointment Committee
- d. Salary will be of the same level as that of the Chief Election Commissioner. This will not be varied to the disadvantage of the CIC during service.
- e. If candidate is a pensioner at the time of appointment his /her pension will be part of that salary. **[so no double pay]**
- f. After end of term CIC will be eligible for appointment to other offices of government.

IC - Terms of Service: Section 13

- a. IC will be appointed for a five-year term. IC will remit office upon attaining 65 years of age even if the term of office is not completed.
- b. Salary will be of the same level as that of the Election Commissioner. This will not be varied to the disadvantage of the IC during service.
- c. If candidate is a pensioner at the time of appointment his /her pension will be part of that salary. **[so no double pay]**
- d. IC is eligible for appointment as CIC but will not hold office for more than a total of five years including his/her term as IC.
- e. After end of term IC will be eligible for appointment to other offices of government.

Removal of CIC and IC: Section 14

1. Can be removed on grounds of misbehaviour or incapacity. Making profit from a
2. Governmental contract or a private contract during term of office constitutes misbehaviour. [But making gains from investment in companies like other people is allowed.]
3. President may make a reference to the Supreme Court to inquire into misbehaviour or incapacity.
4. If Supreme Court recommends removal on such grounds then CIC or IC may be removed from office by order of the President.
5. But President may also order removal of IC or DIC without reference to the Supreme Court on grounds of:
 - a) Insolvency
 - b) Convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude
 - c) Takes up any paid job outside official duties during the term of office
 - d) Infirmary of body or mind
 - e) Has acquired financial or other interest which is likely to affect his/her functioning as CIC or IC.

State Information Commission: Section 15-17

- The State Information Commission must be constituted with immediate effect in all States.
- The State Information Commission will have 1 State Chief Information Commissioner (SCIC) and not more than 10 Information Commissioners to be appointed by the Governor.
- The Appointments Committee will be headed by the Chief Minister. Other members include the Leader of the Opposition and one Cabinet Minister nominated by the Chief Minister.

- The qualifications and terms and conditions of service remain the same as that of the Central Commissioners.
- The headquarters of the State Information Commission may be based anywhere in the State concerned and its other offices in other parts of that State.
- The salary of the State Chief Election Commissioner will be the same as that of an Election Commissioner. The salary of the State Information Commissioner will be the same as that of the Chief Secretary of the State Government.
- The Governor has the power to remove an SCIC or other ICs in the same manner as in the case of the Central Information Commissioners with a reference to the Supreme Court in similar cases and without a reference in other cases spelt above (see Section 14).

CIC/SCIC - Powers and Functions: Sections 18-20

- 1) CIC/SCIC has a duty to receive complaints from any person
 - i. Who has not been able to submit an information request because a PIO has not been appointed
 - ii. Who has been refused information that was requested
 - iii. Who has received no response to his/her information request within the specified time limits
 - iv. If he/she thinks the fees charged are unreasonable
 - v. If he/she thinks information given is incomplete or false or misleading
 - vi. And any other matter relating to obtaining information under this law
- 2) Power to order inquiry if there are reasonable grounds.
- 3) CIC/SCIC will have powers of Civil Court such as -
 - a. Summoning and enforcing attendance of persons, compelling them to give oral or written evidence on oath and to produce documents or things
 - b. Requiring the discovery and inspection of documents
 - c. Receiving evidence on affidavit
 - d. Requisitioning public records or copies from any court or office
 - e. Issuing summons for examination of witnesses or documents
 - f. Any other matter which may be prescribed.
- 4) All records covered by this law (including those covered by exemptions) must be given to

- CIC/SCIC during inquiry for examination.
- 5) Power to secure compliance of its decisions from the Public Authority includes
 - a. Appointing a PIO where none exists (if a public authority has not appointed one)
 - b. Publishing information or categories of information
 - c. Making necessary changes to the records management, maintenance and Destruction procedures of the Public Authority.
 - d. Enhancing training provision for officials on RTI.
 - e. Seeking an annual report from the Public Authority on compliance with this law
 - f. Require it to compensate for any loss or other detriment suffered by the requestor
 - g. Impose penalties under this law
 - h. Reject the appeal

Reporting Procedure: Section 25

1. CIC will send an annual report to the Central Government on the implementation of the provisions of this law at the end of the year. The SCIC will send a report to the State Government
2. Each Ministry has a duty to compile reports from its Public Authorities and send them to the CIC/SCIC.
3. Each report will contain details of number of requests received by each Public Authority, number of rejections and appeals, particulars of any disciplinary action taken, amount of fees and charges collected etc.
4. Central Government will table the CIC report before Parliament after the end of each year. The concerned State Government will table the report of the SCIC before the Vidhan Sabha (and the Vidhan Parishad wherever applicable)

Penalty Provisions: Section 20

Every PIO will be liable for fine of Rs. 250 per day up to a maximum of Rs. 25,000/- for .

- a. Not accepting an application
- b. Delaying information release without reasonable cause
- c. Malafidely denying information
- d. Knowingly giving incomplete, incorrect, misleading information

- e. Destroying information that has been requested and
- f. Obstructing furnishing of information in any manner.

The Information Commission (IC) at the Centre and the State levels will have the power to impose this penalty. The Information Commission can also recommend disciplinary action for persistent violation of the law against an erring PIO.

Jurisdiction of Courts: Section 21

Courts are barred from entertaining suits or applications against any order made under this Act except by way of an appeal. Appeals will lie only in the High Court and the Supreme Court as this is an enabling law for exercising a fundamental right.

Some dos for the Central/State Governments - Section 26

1. Develop educational programmes for the public especially disadvantaged communities on RTI.
2. Encourage Public Authorities to participate in the development and organization of such programmes.
3. Promote timely dissemination of accurate information to the public.
4. Train officers and develop training materials.
5. Compile and disseminate a User Guide within 18 months for the common person in its official languages.
6. Publish names, designation postal addresses and contact details of PIOs and other information such as notices regarding fees to be paid, remedies available in law if request is rejected etc.

Rule Making Power: Section 27, 28

Central, State Governments and the Competent Authorities have the power to make rules for implementing this law.

Power to Deal with Implementation Difficulties: Section 30

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions in the Act, the Central Government may make provisions necessary/expedient for removing the difficulty by Order published in the Official Gazette during the first two years of enactment. ●●●

International Affairs & Institutions

This part will include questions on important events in world affairs and on international institutions.

67th Session of the UN General Assembly

The sixty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly, or Sexagysimo Sýptimo Período de Sesiones de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unida, opened on 18 September 2012.

President Vuk Jeremic said at the opening of the session: "Peace and security is a prerequisite for the stability needed for global economic growth, sustainable development and social progress. Our objective should be the full implementation of the mandate this body received at the Rio+20 Conference. This will require a decisive commitment to observe not only procedural deadlines but also the political and financial objectives it has been designed to accomplish." He also said the main theme of the session would be the peaceful settlement of international disputes: "I hope this framework will usefully serve the noble cause of preventing gathering conflicts and resolving existing ones." As well as maintaining the rule of law: "Close to 800 years after the Magna Carta was promulgated, many people around the world still do not enjoy the fundamental rights enshrined in that seminal document – rights that protect individuals, while enabling countries to develop in peace and security, as sovereign equals. I urge the Member States to agree on a consensus document by the start of the High-Level Debate on the Rule of Law in a few days' time." Other important goals for the session are: peace and security as a means of enhancing development, a focus before te Millennium Development Goals' deadline in 2015, achieving the commitments made at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Brazil in June, progress on arms control and disarmament, strengthening UN peacekeeping operations, coordinating global responses to non-state terrorism and the promotion of human rights.

Most states will have a representative speaking about issues concerning their country and the hopes for the coming year as to what the UNGA will do. This is as opportunity for the member states to opine on international issues of their concern. The General Debate will commence with the opening of the session on 25 September and continue uptil 1 October. The order of speakers is given first to member states, then observer states and supranational bodies. Any other observers entities will have a chance to speak at the end of the debate, if they so choose. Speakers will be put on the list in the order of their request, with special consideration for ministers and other government officials of similar or higher rank. According to the rules in place for the General Debate, the statements should be on of the United Nations official languages of Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish, and will be translated by the United Nations translators. Each speaker is requested to provide 20 advance copies of their statements to the conference officers to facilitate translation and to be presented at the podium. Speeches are requested to be limited to five minutes, with seven minutes for supranational bodies. President Vuk Jeremic chose the theme: "Adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations by peaceful means."

Agenda

A multitude of issues, including administrative affairs for the UN, are on the broader preliminary agenda for the session. There is also a day-by-day schedule. A high level meeting on the rule of law took place on 24 September. President Vuk Jeremic also constituted a three-person panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda in regards to the encroaching deadline to meet the Millennium Development Goals. The three-members are: Indonesia's Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Liberia's Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and the United Kingdom's David Cameron.

Issues

It has been speculated by the Middle Eastern media that the Iranian nuclear programme, along with the Syrian civil war, would constitute the main focus of the session. A few days before the session began, international leaders arrived for the General Debate amongst worry that these two issues would lead to a wider international conflict. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said that the United States, United Kingdom and France "violate the basic rights and freedoms of other nations" and called Israelis "uncultured Zionists." In addition, U.N. and Arab League envoy for Syria Lakhdar Brahimi warned the Security Council that the Syrian civil war was worsening, but Russia and China still used their veto power to in opposition to international intervention in Syria. Similar to the previous year, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas vowed to take up the issue of Palestinian membership in some form on 27 September at the General Debate, as part of a campaign the Western media viewed as an attempt to gain the international community's attention. However, Abbas did not call for formally putting the issue to a vote. The move followed days of Palestinian protests directed against the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank cities of Bethlehem, Nablus and Hebron. However, unlike the previous year, where Abbas sought full-member status, he will symbolically seek non-member status. At the same time, the Palestinian delegation will be half the size of that of the previous year. Following Operation Pillar of Defense, the Palestinians promised to seek a vote on an upgrade in status to non-member observer state in the UN General Assembly on 29 November, the symbolic date the UN chose voted on the Partition Plan in 1947, leading to

the founding of Israel, and the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. On 29 November, the UNGA voted on the issue.

India-United Nations Relations

The year 2012 was busy with important milestones such as India's second UPR in May 2012, the election of a new Director-General of ILO, the convening of the firstever Extraordinary Session of the WMO on the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), continued State consultations on the ICRC-led review of humanitarian law, the creation of the Nansen Initiative by UNHCR, the Transformative Agenda of OCHA, the adoption of the Migration Crisis Operational Framework by the IOM Council and the sudden convening of a Diplomatic Conference on Industrial Designs and Geographic Indications by the developed States in WIPO.

Human Rights

India continued to play an active role in the Human Rights Council (HRC) with the resumption of its membership in July 2011 with 181 votes out of 193. Besides its three regular sessions (February – March; June-July; and September 2012), a Special Session on Syria was held in June, 2012. India's second UPR was held on 24 May 2012. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Goolam E. Vahanvati, Attorney-General of India.

India served as a member of the troika for the UPR of Poland and Sri Lanka. Eminent Indians continued to serve with distinction as members of important Treaty/Monitoring Bodies and Human Rights mechanisms including Shri Dilip Lahiri (Member, Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination); Smt. Indira Jaisingh (Member, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women); Shri Chandrashekhhar Dasgupta (Member, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights). Shri Anand Grover continued his mandate as the Special Rapporteur on the Right of Everyone to the enjoyment of the Highest Attainable Standard of Physical and Mental Health; and Shri Kishore Singh as well, as the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The highest decision-making body of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the IOM Council, held its 101st Session from 27-30 November 2012. The Session was notable for the adoption of a Resolution on the IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (IMCOF).

Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)

The Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) has remained as the largest and most comprehensive global platform for dialogue and cooperation on international migration and development. The Sixth Annual GFMD 2012 Summit Meeting was held on 21-22 November 2012 in Pailles, Mauritius. Shri Dilip Sinha, PR of India to the UN, Geneva led the Indian delegation. India had provided US\$ 50,000 as a onetime and first time grant to GFMD on the request of the current Chair, Mauritius to all States.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The 63rd Session of the Executive Committee of the UNHCR (ExCom) was held from 1-5 October 2012. The institutional meetings leading up to the 63rd Session centered on strengthening UNHCR's efficiency in discharge of its core duties on international protection and collaboration efforts with other UN organizations in humanitarian exigencies.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees visited India on 19-20 December 2012

for the Fourth Annual Open-Ended Bilateral Consultations between India and UNHCR.

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

During the year under review, the Permanent Mission of India participated in all the briefing sessions that Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) organized in Geneva (as per established norms, OCHA policy is negotiated in New York and implemented through the Geneva office). The Mission also drew attention of OCHA to the need for an exit strategy for its new field-based humanitarian intervention mechanism called Transformative Agenda whereby the mechanism is led by an UN humanitarian coordinator

World Intellectual Property Property Organisation (WIPO)

India actively participated in the Diplomatic Conference on the Protection of Audiovisual Performances held in Beijing, from 20-26 June 2012, which adopted the 'Treaty for the Protection of Audiovisual Performances'. The Indian delegation led by Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) attended the 50thSeries of Meetings of Assemblies of Member States of WIPO in Geneva from 1-9 October 2012. As a member of the Development Agenda Group, India actively worked towards promoting the incorporation of the development agenda recommendations in the works of all the relevant committees of WIPO.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

India continued its active engagement in all UNCTAD meetings of the Trade and Development Board (TDB), Multi-Year and Single-Year expert meetings. The Indian delegation led by Shri Anand Sharma, Minister of Commerce and Industry participated in the UNCTAD XIII Ministerial Conference held in Doha, from 21-26 April 2012. Mr. Ashok Chawla, Chairperson, Competition Commission of India led the Indian delegation at the

Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy from 9-11 July 2012, and Ad-Hoc Expert Meeting on "Consumer Protection:

The Interface between Competition and Consumer Policies" from 12-13 July 2012. Mr. T.C.A. Ranganathan, Chairman and Managing Director of Export-Import Bank of India participated in the Fourth Session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on International Cooperation: South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration as a panelist on 'Trade finance: challenges and Opportunities', held in Geneva from 24-25 October 2012.

United Nations Commission on Science, Technology and Development

India actively participated in the one-day open meeting, convened by the Chair of CSTD on 18 May 2012, involving all Member States and other stakeholders, to identify a shared understanding about enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, as per the UNGA Resolution A/Res/66/184. The Indian delegation actively coordinated its position with IBSA countries proposing setting up of a Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation.

Group of Fifteen (G-15)

India participated in the 35th Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Group of Fifteen (G-15) held on 27 September 2012 in New York, on the margins of the 67th UN General Assembly. India reiterated its offer to replicate within the framework of G-15 cooperation, its projects on solar energy in Senegal and the establishment of a Centre for Entrepreneurship Development in Zimbabwe. India made an annual contribution of US\$ 25,000 for 2012.

International Trade Centre (ITC)

India participated in all the inter-governmental meetings of the ITC, a subsidiary body of UNCTAD and the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The 46th session of the ITC Joint Advisory Group (JAG) was held from 21-22 May 2012, which examined the activities of ITC and also considered the ITC's Strategic Plan for 2012-2015.

World Health Organization (WHO)

India participated in the 65th World Health Assembly (WHA) held in Geneva from 21-26 May 2012. India's success in polio eradication was widely acknowledged in the WHA. India also participated in the First Informal Consultation with Member States and UN agencies on the development of a Global Mental Health Action Plan (2013-2020) on 2 November 2012 where it was, inter alia, brought out that Yoga, meditation and counseling should be a part of overall strategy for mental health promotion and prevention of mental disorders and suicides.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

India participated in the 101st Session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) of ILO held in Geneva from 29 May-12 June 2012. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Minister of Labour & Employment led the Indian delegation to the ILC. The Labour Ministers of Bihar, Haryana and Kerala also participated in the Conference. At the ILC, India's progressive schemes as important social protection measures, for the socioeconomic upliftment of the poor and the marginalized, were acknowledged.

India also participated in the 316th Session of the Governing Body (GB) of ILO from 5-15 November 2012 in Geneva. The Indian delegation led by Dr. Mrutyunjay Sarangi, Secretary (Labour & Employment) participated in the Working Party, as one of the 16 members, for Improvement of Functioning of GB and ILC (There are 8 Workers and 8 Employer-Members in the Working Party).

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

The Extraordinary Session of the WMO Congress [Cg.Ext.(2012)-the first-ever such session in the Congress's 62 year-old history] was held from 29-31 October 2012 to consider the Draft Implementation Plan (DIP) and the Draft Governance Structure based on the Inter-governmental Board (DGS) for establishing the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) as directed by the High-Level Declaration of the World Climate Conference-3 (HLD-WCC-3) in 2009. Both documents were approved in the Congress. Dr. Shailesh Nayak, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, led the Indian delegation.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

The major activities with regard to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in 2012 were (i) the World Telecommunication and Information Society (WSIS) Day 2012 celebrated on 16 May 2012 at Geneva. The theme was "Women and Girls in ICT". (ii) The ITU Council-12, meeting with the Plenary Session held on 4 July 2012 in Geneva. (iii) Briefing sessions of the World Conference on International Telecommunication (WCIT-12) and the World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly-12 (WTSa-12) held in Geneva on 8-9 October 2012. WCIT-12 was held in November 2012 and WTSa-12 will be held in December 2012 in Dubai.

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

The Annual 2012 session of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference (IPC) on the WTO, held in Geneva from 15-16 November 2012. A 3-member Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Shri P.C. Chacko, MP participated in the Annual session of IPC.

The 127th IPU Assembly was held from 21-26 October 2012 at Quebec City, Canada. The delegation was led by Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)/International Federation of Red Cross and Red Cross Societies (IFRC)

The First Informal Meeting on “Strengthening Compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) was held in Geneva on 13 July 2012. The informal meeting was an ICRC endeavour to accelerate the discussions on review of IHL proposed at the 31st International Conference of RC&RC (2011) through adoption of two resolutions on “Four-Year Action Plan for the implementation of IHL” and “Strengthening Legal Protection for Victims of Armed Conflicts”.

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

The 25th Congress of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) was held at Doha, Qatar from 24 September-15 October 2012. During the Congress, elections were held for the Director-General of UPU, Deputy Director-General of UPU, Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC), India was successfully elected to the CA and POC.

UN Women and the International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF) sign a framework cooperation agreement

Michelle Bachelet, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women – the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women – with the Secretary-General of Organisation Internationale de La Francophonie (OIF), Abdou Diouf, signed a framework cooperation agreement today aimed at mutually reinforcing the various initiatives and projects to promote women's rights in Francophone countries – especially with regard to the fight to end gender-based violence (GBV).

When signing this Framework agreement, Abdou Diouf, Secretary-General of the OIF, expressed great delight at the possibilities offered as a result of such collaboration: “As part of our overall duty to express solidarity, we need to explore ways and means of giving impetus to and strengthening relations between la Francophonie and such a key player as UN Women”. Michelle Bachelet, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, said: “Women’s participation is a crucial element of democracy, peace, and sustainable development. We are delighted to be working together with the OIF in order to bring about real change in the lives of women and young girls”.

The cooperation agreement places special emphasis on the following areas: the fight to end gender-based violence; women’s participation in political and decision-making processes; advocating for gender equality; and inclusion of the gender equality issues as part of sustainable development.

UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards.

In March 2010, when reviewing the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, the OIF’s Member States and Member Governments adopted the “Francophone Declaration on gender-based violence”, which clearly laid out the principles behind the fight to end all forms of violence against women and young girls – be it in the private or public spheres – and which also put forward a broader definition of gender-based violence, recommendations for the OIF and clear commitments to be undertaken at the national level.

The International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF) comprises 56 State and governments as well as 19 observers.

Pan African e-Network Project (PAENP)

The Project was conceived by former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and was formally launched on February 26, 2009..

Under the Pan African e-Network Project, India has set up a fibre-optic network to provide satellite connectivity, tele-medicine and tele-education to countries of Africa. M/s. TCIL, a Government of India undertaking, is implementing the project on behalf of Government of India. (The project cost is approximately Rs. 542 crores.)

The project aims to create significant linkages for tele-education and telemedicine, internet, video-conferencing and VoIP services, making available the facilities and expertise of some of the best universities and super-specialty hospitals in India to the people of Africa. The receiving centres are fully equipped by GOI and local staff there is trained by Indian experts. The project is also equipped to support e-governance, e-commerce, infotainment, resource mapping and meteorological and other services in the African countries, besides providing VVIP connectivity among the Heads of State of the African countries through a highly secure closed satellite network.

The project has been commissioned in 47 countries out of the 48 that have signed the agreement with TCIL for participating in the project. The Project is presently being implemented in South Sudan. Angola, South Africa, Equatorial Guinea, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia have not signed the agreement for joining the project.

Under the Telemedicine component, patient end locations have already been set up in the 12 Indian Super Specialty Hospitals, namely, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi; Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi; Apollo Hospitals, Chennai; CARE Hospital, Hyderabad; Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre, New Delhi; Fortis Hospital, Noida; Narayana Hrudayalya, Bangalore; Sri Ramchandra Medical Centre, Chennai; Moolchand Hospital, New Delhi; HCG, Bangalore; Dr Bala Bhai Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai; Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow

These 12 Indian Super Specialty Hospitals have been connected to 48 PatientEnd Locations/ Hospitals in African countries.

Tele-Education teaching centres have already been set-up in the five Indian Universities, namely; Amity University, NOIDA; IGNOU New Delhi; BITS, Pilani; University of Delhi; University of Madras.

47 Learning Centers (LCs) have already been set up in African countries. Tele-Education learning centres have been set-up in the 5 Regional University Centres in Africa, namely, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology,Ghana; Makerere University, Uganda; Yaounde University, Cameroon; Alexandria Faculty of Commerce, Egypt; Chancellor College, Zomba, Malawi.

9916 students from African countries have already registered with Indian universities for a variety of PG, UG and certificate courses. 3503 tele-education sessions have been held till end September 2012.

Tele-Medicine centres have been set up in four Regional Super Specialty Hospitals in Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Mauritius and Egypt and 5th is in the process of being set up in Senegal.

460 Tele-Medicine consultations have taken place under the Project. Regular Continuing Medical Education (CME) sessions had started from April 22, 2009 from Super Specialty Hospitals. 2439 CME Sessions in English and 167 CME Sessions in French have been held from Indian Super Specialty Hospitals till September, 2012.

As per existing commitment, GOI will maintain the facilities created in each country for five years after commissioning them.

Polygraphy, narco-analysis and brain mapping as an investigating aids

A polygraph, popularly referred to as a lie detector, is an instrument that measures and records several physiological indices such as blood pressure, pulse, respiration and breathing rhythms and skin conductivity while a suspect is asked a series of questions. Deceptive answers are said to produce physiological responses that can be differentiated from those associated with non-deceptive answers.

The polygraph (lie detector) is a scientific instrument capable of simultaneously recording changes in several physiological variables such as blood pressure, pulse rate, respiration, electrodermal activity, and others, while the subject is asked a series of questions pertaining to a specific issue under investigation. The charts (polygrams) generated during the polygraph examination are interpreted by a polygraph examiner. The literal meaning of the word "polygraph" is "many writings".

Who is the inventor of the polygraph?

The polygraph was invented in 1921 by John Augustus Larson (1892-1965) a medical student at the University of California and a police officer of the Berkeley Police Department (Berkeley, California, USA). Dr. Larson, born in Shelbourne, Nova Scotia, Canada, was the first to simultaneously record more than one physiological parameter with the purpose of detecting deception. Dr. Larson developed and utilized the continuous method of concurrently registering changes in pulse rate, blood pressure, and respiration. In conjunction with his polygraph, Dr. Larson used a test/a scientific procedure originated by Dr. William Moulton Marston (1893-1947) in the Harvard Psychological Laboratory in 1915 and applied by him to various fields of investigation during World War I. Dr. Larson modified Dr. Marston's procedure and applied it to the police procedure at the Berkeley Police Department beginning in 1921.

How significant is the invention of the polygraph?

The polygraph is considered officially one of the greatest inventions of all time. For example, the polygraph (lie detector), invented by John A. Larson of the U.S. in 1921, is included in the Encyclopaedia Britannica Almanac 2003's list of 325 greatest inventions. Originally published in 1768, the Encyclopaedia Britannica is the oldest continuously published English-language encyclopedia and one of the world's most trusted sources of information.

Polygraph Applications

Polygraphy is used in several settings, some more contentious than others. Many of the controversies regarding polygraph testing are the result of a failure to differentiate these contexts.

One area that has attracted particular criticism is employment screening. Starting in the 1930s, private businesses began to use polygraphy to monitor the honesty of their employees; in the 1960s, pre-employment screening of job applicants was introduced. Questions were asked about theft from previous employers, drug use, and the like, but then increasingly inquiries were also made about life-style factors such as sexual orientation and marital fidelity. Employment screening became a multimillion dollar industry, but its unregulated nature led to serious abuse and left a bad taste about polygraphy in the mouths of many.

Matters came to a head in the 1980s when President Ronald Reagan, having famously complained about being “up to my keister in leaks,” sought to introduce random testing of all federal employees and subcontractors who had access to classified information, including members of his cabinet. Strong opposition prevented the program from commencing, but it triggered congressional interest and the passing of the 1988 Employee Polygraph Protection Act which in effect banned the use of polygraphy for employment screening in the private sector with certain exceptions, although ironically the ban does not apply to public service employees. Many federal agencies, most large police forces, and the military remain major users of polygraphy as a vetting tool.

The other arena where there is much confusion regarding the role of polygraph testing is in its use by the police and in the criminal justice system generally. In 1921, James Frye was charged with murder, having confessed to the crime after his arrest on an unconnected robbery charge. He subsequently withdrew his confession, claiming it was made because of police inducements. He passed a “lie test” administered by William Marston, but the trial judge did not allow Marston to give evidence. Frye was convicted, but appealed on the grounds that Marston's testimony should not have been excluded. The appeals court upheld the initial decision. In what has become known as the Frye standard, the court stated that Marston's lie detector test had not gained sufficient acceptance within the scientific community to be considered as scientific evidence.10,14,23 Ironically, Frye was later exonerated and set free.



The Frye standard became the test for the admissibility of scientific evidence in U.S. courts, meaning that polygraph evidence was largely inadmissible in American courtrooms for the next 70 years. The 1993 Supreme Court decision in Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc., however, broadened the test for admissibility of expert evidence. It gave judges the freedom to make decisions about whether to admit the evidence of experts, including polygraph examiners, on a case-by-case basis, depending on its relevance, reliability, and the extent to which it meets scientific standards.

Regardless of its standing in court, however, many police forces use polygraphy in their investigation of crime. Sometimes the aim is to eliminate individuals from suspicion, some-



times it is to encourage a confession, and sometimes it is to provide new lines of inquiry. There are many anecdotal reports of significant breakthroughs when polygraphy is used in this way,14 but hard data are lacking.

Postconviction Testing

There have been occasional examples dating back to the 1960s of judges using polygraph testing to assist in the management of offenders on probation, but its application in postconviction settings became widespread in the late 1990s in relation to the monitoring and treatment of sex offenders.

Evaluations of postconviction sex offender testing (PCSOT) programs consistently describe fuller and more accurate information about offenders' histories and increased disclosure regarding previous victims, types of offenses, age of onset of sexually deviant behavior, continued masturbation to deviant fantasies, and engagement in so called high-risk behavior. There is also evidence to show that it can act as a deterrent to reoffending. Sex offenders have tried unsuccessfully to challenge the principles and practice of PCSOT on several occasions. The Supreme Court has stated that it is “a sensible approach allowing prison administrators to provide to those repeat sex offenders who need treatment the incentive to seek it...; [It does not] amount to compelled self-incrimination.”

Narco-analysis

Narco-analysis is a controlled administration of intravenous hypnotic medications called truth drugs on a suspect to procure vital information.

A person is able to lie by using his imagination. In the Narco Analysis Test, the subject's imagination is neutralised by making him semi-conscious. In this state, it becomes difficult for him to lie and his answers would be restricted to facts he is already aware of. Experts inject the subject with Sodium Pentothal or Sodium Amytal. The dose is dependent on the person's sex, age, health and physical condition. A wrong dose can result in a person going into a coma, or even death.

The subject is not in a position to speak up on his own but can answer specific but simple questions. The answers are believed to be spontaneous as a semi-conscious person is unable to manipulate the answers.

P300 Test

When the brain recognises a person or a sound, it generates a particular type of electric wave, which is called a P300.

Sensors are attached to the head of a person undergoing a P300 test and the subject is seated before a computer monitor. He is then shown certain images or made to hear certain sounds. The sensors monitor electrical activity in the brain and register P300 waves, which are generated only if the subject has some connection with the stimulus, in this case pictures or sounds.



Brain-mapping

Brain-mapping is a comprehensive analysis of brainwave frequency bandwidths. In this test, forensic experts apply unique neuroscience techniques to find out if a suspect's brain recognises things from a crime scene which an innocent person's brain will have no knowledge of. In brain-mapping, sensors are attached to the suspect's head and he or she is made to sit in front of a computer screen. The suspect is then made to see images or hear sounds.

The sensors monitor electrical activity in the brain and register certain waves which are generated only if the suspect has any connection with the stimulus (image or sound).

Supreme Court of India decision on narco-analysis, polygraph test and brain-mapping

The Supreme Court of India said narco-analysis, polygraph and brain-mapping tests cannot be conducted on an accused or a suspect without their consent. These tests, which are often used as aid during investigations by probe agencies, are different from each other, but are all aimed at collecting vital information.

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