### The Hindu News Analysis – 20th September 2019 – Shankar IAS Academy

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* C – Chennai; H – Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi
Access to Internet is a basic right: Kerala HC
Upholds college student’s plea

The Kerala High Court on Thursday held that the right to have access to the Internet is part of the fundamental right to education as well as the right to privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Justice P.V. Asha made the observation while ordering the principal of Sree Narayana College, Kollam, to re-admit a student who had been expelled from the college hostel for using her mobile phone beyond the restricted hours.

The court observed, “When the Human Rights Council of the United Nations has found that the right of access to Internet is a fundamental freedom and a tool to ensure right to education, a rule or instruction which impairs the said right of the students cannot be permitted to stand in the eye of law.”

The verdict came on a petition filed by Faheema Shiri, a third-semester B.A. English student of the college at Cheleam, challenging her expulsion for not adhering to restrictions on the use of mobile phone. As per the rules of the girls’ hostel, inmates were restrained from using mobile phones from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. She, along with a few other inmates, had protested against the restriction, as it was hampering their learning process.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

News:
• Kerala High Court Judgement

Right to have access to internet is part of the fundamental right to education as well as the right to privacy under Article 21 of Indian Constitution

Case:
Restriction on the use of mobile phones and laptops in hostel

Protest by the student

Student expelled for not abiding the rules

Student filed writ petition in Kerala High Court

Basis:
1. Violation of Right to Education

Resolution 29/2 of UN Human Rights Council
• Role of freedom of opinion and expression in women’s empowerment
• Calls upon states
  - To promote, respect and ensure women’s exercise of freedom of opinion and expression, both online and offline, including as members of non-governmental organisations and other associations
Call upon states
- To facilitate equal participation in, access to use of information and communications technology, such as the internet, applying a gender perspective, and to encourage international cooperation aimed at the development of media and information and communication facilities in all countries

Inference: Right to access to internet is a fundamental freedom and a tool to ensure right to education

2. Violation of Right to Privacy

P. B. Satyanarayana case
- Right to Privacy is held to be an intrinsic part of the Right to Life, personal liberty and dignity, and hence a fundamental right under Part III of Indian Constitution

Inference:

Access to Internet

Right to life, personal liberty and dignity

3. Violation of Right to Education and Right to Privacy

V. Vishaka & others v. State of Rajasthan & others
- International Convention and norms are to be read into the fundamental rights guaranteed in the Constitution of India in the absence of any enacted domestic law

Inference

Access to Internet

Part of Right to Education and Right to Privacy

UPSC Prelims Question – 2018
(For Reference only)

Q. Right to Privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty. Which of the following in the Constitution of India correctly and appropriately imply the above statement?

a) Article 14 and the provisions under the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution
b) Article 17 and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV
c) Article 21 and the freedoms guaranteed in Part III
d) Article 24 and the provisions under the 44th Amendment to the Constitution
UPSC Prelims Question – 2019
(For Reference only)

Q. Consider the following statements:
1. The 44th Amendment to the Constitution of India introduced an Article placing the election of the Prime Minister beyond judicial review.
2. The Supreme Court of India struck down the 99th Amendment to the Constitution of India as being violative of the independence of judiciary.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(b) Neither 1 nor 2

UPSC Prelims Question – 2018
(For Reference only)

Q. Consider the following statements:
1. As per the Right to Education (RTE) Act, to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in a State, a person would be required to possess the minimum qualification laid down by the concerned State Council of Teacher Education.
2. As per the RTE Act, for teaching primary classes, a candidate is required to pass a Teacher Eligibility Test conducted in accordance with the National Council of Teacher Education guidelines.
3. In India, more than 90% of teacher’s education institutions are directly under the State Governments.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 2
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3
d) 3 only

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper 1 - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- History of India and Indian National Movement.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-II
General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.

PAPER-III
General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions, and basic structure.
- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.
- Statement by Union Home Minister - Hindi to become the identity of the country globally and to unite the country
- Article 351: For promotion of Hindi, not imposition
- Linguistic diversity of India
  - 2011 Census - 1369 mother tongues
  - Hindi spoken by 43.63% - not majority
- Constitution unites India
  - Schedule 8 - recognized 22 languages
  - Hindi - 4 out of 22 languages

**Reasons it will not work**
- Language - expand beyond carrying capacity will break
  - Eg: Latin and Sanskrit

- One Nation, One Language, One Culture - a failed idea in 19th Century Europe
  - will not work for India - multilingualism
  - colonial mindset
  - not in tune with our history and civilisation

- Large scale Inter-State Migration in India
  - give new language identities to states
  - large metropolises - Multilingual cities
  - widen choice of languages
  - idea of one language
    - hostility between linguistic groups
    - economically disastrous

<table>
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<tr>
<th>3 Language Policy</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
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<td>Three Language Formula - 1961</td>
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<td>National Commission on Education / Kothari Commission → 1968 National Policy on Education</td>
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<td>Stages</td>
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<td>1. Teach mother tongue</td>
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<td>2. States official language + English (optional)</td>
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<td>3. Hindi → Non-Hindi States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Hindi Indian language → Hindi States</td>
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<td>3 Language Formula - effective for overall development of children</td>
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<td>Flaws</td>
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<td>a) Hindi states bypassed the provisions</td>
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<td>→ made the policy look like a tool to impose Hindi</td>
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<td>b) Imposition of English</td>
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- Imposition of majoritarian language → a linguistic disaster
  - Eg: disappearance of tribal languages

- Linguistic freedom - an emotive issue
  - potential to divide India on linguistic basis
  - Eg: Formation of Bangladesh in 1971
Global Emerging Threats and Challenges to Children

1. Clean water, clean air and a safe climate
   • Basic needs to sustain healthy lives
   • Climate change → greater threat to next generation of children
   • FAO - "The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the world, 2018"

   ◀ Climate change → key force for rise in global hunger
   → Weakening global efforts to eradicate hunger

   • Climate-related disasters → doubled since early 1990s. (Extreme heat, drought, etc)
     ▶ Harms agricultural productivity
     ▶ Rise in food prices and income loss

   • Intensifies impact of air pollution, toxic waste and ground water pollution
     ▶ Damages children's health
     ▶ 2017 → 300 million children living in areas most toxic levels of outdoor air pollution
     ▶ Contributes to death of 6 lakh children under 5 years of age

   • By 2040 → 1 in 4 children will live in areas of extreme water stress
2. One in four children are likely to live and learn, in conflict and disaster zones.
   • 1 in 4 children live in countries affected by violent fighting or disaster
   • 25 million children → driven away from home
   • 75 million → children + young people
     ➔ disrupted learning
     ➔ migrated or displaced
   • Will lead to lost generation of disillusioned, uneducated children angry

3. Talking about Mental Health
   • Adolescents → Mental Health disorders
     ➔ depression, schizophrenia, dementia, intellectual disabilities, autism, etc
   • Disorder rising steadily past 30 years among under-18 individuals
   • Depression → leading cause of disability in young people
   • WHO
     ➔ Self harm
     → 62,000 died in 2016
     → 3rd leading cause of death among adolescents of 15-19 years
   • 90% adolescent suicides in 2016 → LIC, MIC
   • LIC & MIC → <1% in total health budget
     MIC → 4-6 %

4. Over 30 million children migrated from their place of birth
   • No opportunity to build safe, healthy life in place of birth
   • Migration due to distress → “irregular migrants”
     ➔ encounter violence, abuse & exploitation
   • Rural to Urban Migration
   • Disadvantaged children → worst scenarios
     Urban > Rural
   • Poorest Urban Children
     ➔ more likely to die before 5 years of age
     ➔ less likely to complete primary education

5. Officially never exist, Unless we act
   • ¾th Children born → May never have official birth certificate
   • Lack of formal recognition → denial of healthcare, education and other public services
   • ‘Stateless Child’ → invisible to authorities

6. 21st Century skills for 21st Century Economy
   • 1.8 billion young people → aged 10 to 24
   • Lack access to education and skill → poverty trap
7. Children’s Digital footprint must be protected
   - using online services → leaves digital footprint
   - data collected without consent
   - personal info collected during childhood → can be exploited, traded for profit

8. May be least trusting generations ‘ever’
   - Digital environment → misinformation
     + fake news
   - Undermines trust and engagement with institutions and information sources
   - Unable to distinguish → fact from fiction

Keeladi findings traceable to 6th century BCE report
Carbon dating suggests that the cultural deposits may be 300 years older than believed

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper 1 - (200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance.
- History of India and Indian National Movement.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-II
General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.
- Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.

News
- Report on 4th phase of Keeladi excavation
  - ‘Keeladi - An Urban Settlement of Sangam Age on the banks of River Vaigai’
- Phases of Keeladi Excavation
  1st phase - 2015
  2nd phase - 2016
  3rd phase - 2017
  4th phase - 2018
  5th phase - 2019 - present
  - Archaeological Survey of India
  - Tamil Nadu Archaeological Department

- First three phases - Results
  - More than 8000 artefacts unearthed
    - Pottery with Tamil Brahmi Inscriptions
    - Gold coins, Beads, Iron tools, Jewellery
  - Charcoal - Carbon dating → 200 BCE
  - Inference: Presence of Urban Civilization in Tamil Nadu
UPSC Prelims Question – 2016  
(For Reference only)

Q. What is/are common to the two historical places known as Ajanta and Mahabalipuram?

1. Both were built in the same period.
2. Both belong to the same religious denomination.
3. Both have rock-cut monuments.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the statements given above is correct
Catch a cold and help scientists make new vaccines

Under a new model, volunteers will be infected with viruses or bacteria.

A new approach will involve infecting the participants, who will then be treated with drugs to prevent the viruses from spreading to other people. The idea is to collect data on how the viruses affect the volunteers and how the drugs affect the viruses. This will help scientists understand the viruses better and develop new treatments.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance
- General Science

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-IV


- Science and Technology: developments and their applications and effects in everyday life
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.

PAPER-V

General Studies-IV: Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude

- Ethics and Human Interface

- Dept. of Biotechnology (DBT): new projects to develop new influenza vaccines
  - DBT: under Min. of Science and Technology
  - Influenza virus - Orthomyxoviridae family
  - Project involve - CHIM ( Controlled Human Infection Model)
  - CHIM
  - Strain of pathogen --> healthy volunteers
  - to understand human disease, spread, etc
  - help to develop vaccine for infectious diseases
  - used in US, UK, Kenya now

- vaccine --> works in small groups, but may not work with large population
  - may work in one country, not another
  - CHIM offers solution for both

- CHIM in India to focus on making influenza vaccines
  - then study enteric viruses (cholera, typhoid)

  Eq: Hyderabad based biotech company - developed a typhoid vaccine with the help of CHIM

- Issue: against medical ethics
  - guidance document on CHIM would be prepared
  - need approval of Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)

- DCGI --> under Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, Min. of Health & Family Welfare

- Functions of CDSCO:
  - Regulate import of drugs, approve new drugs, approve clinical trials, etc.
Practice Question – Prelims
Q1. Consider the following statements.

1. The 86th Amendment to the Constitution of India inserted an Article to provide free and compulsory education of all children in the age group of six to fourteen years as a Fundamental Right.

2. Fundamental Rights are mentioned in Part IV of Indian Constitution.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Prelims
Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. According to the Census 2011, more than 50% of Indian population speak Hindi.

2. The census 2011 considers Rajasthani and Haryanvi as the subset of Hindi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 or 2

Practice Question – Prelims
Q3. Recently, Archaeological Survey of India has conducted excavation in Keeladi. This site revealed historic remains belonging to the period of 3rd BCE to 3rd CE. Potsherds were also excavated from this site in which the names of individuals were inscribed in certain script. Which of the following script was inscribed in the potsherds?

a) Chinese script
b) Indus Script
c) Tamil-Brahmi script
d) Sumerian Script

Practice Question – Prelims
Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to Central Drugs Standard Control Organization.

1. It functions under the Ministry of Science and Technology.

2. It has the power to regulate the approval of new drugs and clinical trials.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 or 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Answers

Q1. Option (a) – 1 only
Q2. Option (b) – 2 only
Q3. Option (c) – Tamil-Brahmi script
Q4. Option (b) – 2 only