The Hindu News Analysis – 13^{th} August 2019 – Shankar IAS Academy

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Decision on Kashmir doesn't affect LAC, Delhi tells Beijing

Civilspedia Team - Shankar IAS Academy

News:

⇒ Minister of External Affairs → Reassured China: no implications for India's external boundaries with China / LAC

⇒ Legislative Measures in J & K → aimed at better governance and socio-economic development

⇒ 2005 Political Parameters and Guiding Principles → agreed to, fair, reasonable & mutually acceptable settlement

⇒ India → not raising additional territorial claims

Political Parameters & Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question:

* To foster a long term constructive and cooperative partnership

⇒ based on Five Principles of Peaceful co-existence

1. Mutual respect for each other’s sovereignty & territorial integrity
2. Mutual non-aggression
3. Non-interference in each other’s internal affairs
4. Equality & mutual benefit
5. Peaceful co-existence
* Should not affect overall development of bilateral relations

* Resolve → peacefull & friendly consultations

* Due consideration to strategic interests

* Strictly respect & observe LAC → until ultimate settlement

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From Assam to Chhattisgarh, a maiden 1,500-km journey for wild buffaloes

Five females to be translocated to Raipur to revive the waning population of the endangered species in central India

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Pg. 5 - Delhi Edition
### News:

- 5 female wild buffaloes → Translocation
  - from Piaam to Udanti Wildlife Sanctuary, Raipur, Chhattisgarh
  - longest translocation in the country → 1500 km
  - to revive the decreasing population in Chhattisgarh
    - State animal of Chhattisgarh - Wild Buffalo
  - Expansion of Wild Buffalo population across states
  - Recommendations from Chhattisgarh State Wildlife Board & CCMB, Hyderabad (Genetic Report)
  - Plan to translocate Subadults - don’t have long horns
  - Under ‘Central India Wild Buffalo Recovery Project’

### Central India Wild Buffalo Recovery Project:

- Joint Venture → Wildlife Trust of India
- Aims to stabilise Wild Buffalo population in the Udanti - Sitanadi Tiger Reserve, Chhattisgarh
- Implementing ex situ & in situ interventions
- Central India → gravely threatened population

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<td>North east → 3000 - 4000</td>
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<td>→ 92% of world population</td>
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| Central India: |
| Udanti WLS - 7 |
| Pamed WLS - 5-8 |
| Sitanadi WLS - Zero |
| Bhairangas WLS - Zero |
| Indravati NP - 30 |

### 5 year action plan → 3 objectives

1. Ensure zero unnatural deaths
   - Constant monitoring
   - Periodic health examination
   - Treatment
   - deweeding
   - fire - prevention
   - Water availability

2. Habitat Improvement

3. Population augmentation by restocking
   - enhancing population viability

### Wild buffaloes avoid areas occupied by domestic buffaloes

- adopted nocturnal habits
- local people encouraged to sell domestic cattle

### Other interventions

- Improving basic infrastructure
- Voluntary relocation of villages
- dug up / deepened water pools
- livestock in the area vaccinated → to prevent disease transmission
- Satellite collars on free - ranging buffaloes
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. With reference to the Wild Buffalo, which among the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is found only in the North-eastern region of India.
2. It is protected by the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
3. It is listed as ‘Endangered’ by the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s Red list.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Wild Buffalo:

* Asiatic Wild Buffalo or Wild Water Buffalo
* Scientific name - Bubalus arnee
* Record breaking species - horns spread up to 2m
* Schedule I, WPA 1972
* IUCN → 'Endangered'

Diphtheria, pertussis are vaccine-preventable, says expert

Outbreaks due to loss of herd immunity: Soumya Swaminathan

Diptheria and pertussis are vaccine-preventable diseases. However, awareness of vaccination had led to an upsurge of these diseases. The number of cases of diphtheria in the state is due to a lack of herd immunity and not administering the mandatory booster vaccine dose to children, said Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organization. "Parents are not taking their children vaccinated. It is a global phenomenon," she said.

When precisely older children are diagnosed with pertussis, it is often not recognized because of the overlapping symptoms. The World Health Organization has created a new diagnostic tool to detect pertussis faster and more accurately. The tool is based on genetic testing of throat swabs.

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, a senior health official, said, "We have to make sure that our immunization rates remain high and we are able to give at least one or two doses of vaccine for our children," she added.

Digital de-addiction

Exposure to social media and other digital devices can lead to addiction. It is important to educate children and adults to avoid excessive use of digital devices.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER III

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

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
Diphtheria outbreak in TN
- India - 85 to 90% of diphtheria cases in the world
- Reason for resurgence - less awareness of vaccination

Diphtheria:
- Infection of nose and throat
- Preventable by vaccine
- Spread - direct contact, cough and sneeze
- Bacteria - Corynebacterium diphtheria

Pertussis:
- Whooping Cough
- Contagious Respiratory disease
- Bacterium - Bordetella pertussis
- Spread - direct contact, cough & sneeze

Chief Scientist, WHO - Outbreak in TN
- Fall in herd community
- Not administering - booster vaccine dose
- Booster dose of vaccine - extra administration of vaccine after primary dose
- Herd community - high percentage of population is immunized - prevent spread of disease

Study of older children - with diphtheria
- Not given booster dose of vaccine
- Booster dose - at 18 months and 5 years of age
- No booster dose → ↓ immunity → catch diseases

Misinformation - Safety and effectiveness of vaccine - ↓ rate of vaccination - ↑ disease rate

Emphasis - high immunisation rates & provide essential vaccines to children

Frame a policy - Vaccinate women for diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus during pregnancy
- Now - only diphtheria and tetanus vaccines
- In developed countries - Pertussis also
- India must adopt

Cocoon vaccination
- Protect infants - catching infection from people around
- Vaccinate them

Need for digital de-addiction clinics
- Addiction to social media, video games
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements, with reference to ‘Diphtheria’.

1. It is a contagious disease.
2. It is caused by virus.
3. Until now, there is no vaccine for the disease.

Which among the above statements is/are not correct?

a) 1 only  
b) 1 and 2  
c) 2 only  
d) 2 and 3
→ Meal zone for elephants

→ Farmers in 12 villages of Ronghang - Habikhluli area of Assam
  - donated 203 bighas of community land
    - Paddy crops
    - Napier grass
    - Oystega
    - Jack fruit
    - Banana

‘No toxic chemicals in PET bottles’
CSIR study concludes that metals and chemicals ‘were below’ detection limits

PET bottles are safe, a comprehensive evaluation by the CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysuru, has found.

For years, there has been a raging debate internationally on whether PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate) bottles, which are made of plastic bottles and degradable base materials, are harmful. The Indian government had given the go-ahead to manufacture and consume PET bottles.

A comprehensive study commissioned by the Indian government concluded that a variety of harmful substances were below even after the bottles were subjected to high temperatures, the plastic is not degradable, and can cause discomfort in the body.

For their analysis, researchers collected 13 different PET bottles from different brands and exposure to high temperatures and in the body. They found that the levels of metals and chemicals were below the detection limits.

They tested these bottles when they were subjected to 40°C and 10°C temperatures and as well as when they were heated for many days. Along with metals, the scientists also measured the level of naphthalene, naphthalic acid, naphthalic acids, and phthalates to find out if the levels were below what is considered safe limits.

The study found that the levels of metals and chemicals were found to be at levels below detection limits. The researchers also found that there was no evidence of any negative impact on health or the environment.

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CSIR - CFTRI study - no leaching of harmful chemicals from PET bottles when they are subjected to high temperatures
- CSIR - Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- CFTRI - Central Food Technology Research Institute

PET - Polyethylene Terephthalate
- Polyester family of polymers
- Excellent mechanical, chemical and thermal stability
- Used for packaging foods and beverages

Polymer: long repeating chains of molecules or monomers

Polyester: A polymer with ester functional group (C - COO - R)

CFTRI:
- PET - No leaching of harmful chemicals at high temperatures
- Antimony, arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, lead, mercury, selenium, zinc - below detection level (0.001 mg/kg)
- Bisphenol A - level below 0.02 mg/kg
- Also measured - Terephthalic acid, Isophthalic acid, BPA, Phthalates

BPA - Used in PET bottles
- Now phased out
- Link between BPA - hormone regulation and breast cancer

How was analysis done?
- Different PET bottles - exposed to different stimuli: ethanol, acetic acid and vegetable oil - stimuli would trigger - kind of chemicals contained in packaged food and drink

Amount of Chemicals
- Below EU 'Specific Migration Limit' (SML)
- SML - Quantity of specific substance - migrate from packaging material to food
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. CSIR works under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
2. It is a body registered under Societies Registration Act 1860.
3. It is presided by the Prime Minister of India.

Select the correct statements from the following codes.

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

CSIR

- Autonomous body
- Registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860
- Estd. 1942, Ministry of Science and Technology
- President of CSIR – PM of India
- Largest R&D organisation in India

CFTRI - Mysuru

- Laboratory under CSIR
- Focus on food technology, food safety
- Technology to reduce post harvest losses, increase export, etc.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims

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