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ENGLISH  
AUGUST - 2018

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## **AUGUST – 2018**

### **IMPORTANT TOPICS**

- 1) Chief Justice of Madras High court
- 2) Literary contributions of Dr. Muthuvel Karunanidhi
- 3) Forest Genetic Resources Tree Park in Tamil Nadu
- 4) Project Star 2.0
- 5) 5 Inclusive development Schemes of Tamil Nadu
- 6) Nodal Agencies for Disaster Early Warning dissemination
- 7) Kanyashree scheme
- 8) Importance of NOTA
- 9) Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS)
- 10) Benami transaction
- 11) Powers of Governor
- 12) Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill 2018
- 13) Seva Bhoj Yojna
- 14) Oxytocin
- 15) Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana
- 16) One District One Product Scheme
- 17) WABA
- 18) Scrub Typhus
- 19) POSHAN Abhiyan
- 20) e-cigarettes
- 21) TReDS
- 22) Zero Budget Natural Farming
- 23) BRU Tribe
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- 31) Proxy Voting in India
- 32) Hydrocarbons Vision 2025
- 33) Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana
- 34) Chilika Lake
- 35) Barak 8 missile
- 36) REDD+
- 37) Petcoke
- 38) CALL FOR CODE
- 39) Panini Language Laboratory
- 40) LaCONES
- 41) Chinna Pillai Perumal
- 42) NIRF Ranking
- 43) Healthy State; Progressive India report
- 44) Zojila Tunnel

- 45) **Environmental Ethics**
- 46) **Digital North East Vision 2022**
- 47) **Appellate Tribunal for Electricity**
- 48) **Project Navlekha**
- 49) **SC/ST Act**
- 50) **Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha**
- 51) **Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan**
- 52) **PARIVESH**
- 53) **National Policy on biofuels**
- 54) **Pink Bollworm Attack in Cotton**
- 55) **5G**
- 56) **123<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Bill**
- 57) **People (Amendment) Bill, 2017**
- 58) **Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018**
- 59) **State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP) 2018-2030**
- 60) **Indecent Representation of the Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986**
- 61) **Sexual harassment of women at workplace (prevention, prohibition and redressal) act 2013.**

## **AUGUST - 2018**

### **3 MARK QUESTIONS**

**1) Who is the 30<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of Madras High court? Mention the Article for an appointment.**

- (i) Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani
- (ii) From Bar council of Maharashtra and Goa
- (iii) 2<sup>nd</sup> Woman Chief Justice after Indira Banerjee
- (iv) Art. 217 – appointment of the chief justice of high court

**2) Write about the literary contributions of Dr. Muthuvel Karunanidhi.**

Sanga Tamizh	Ponnar Sankar
Thirukkural Urai	Nenjukku Needhi
Kuraloviam	Vellikizhamai
Iniyavai Irubathu	Thenpandi Singam
Romapuri Pandiyan	

**3) Where the Forest Genetic Resources Tree Park recently developed in Tamil Nadu? Mention its significance.**

- (i) Kolapakkam near Vandaloor in Chennai
- (ii) Significance: Create the forest environment
- (iii) Park has 300 species from Eastern and Western ghats
- (iv) 150 Naval, Iluppai and nuna trees have been transplanted
- (v) More seeds were procured from kerala, karnataka & Andhra Pradesh

**4) Define Project Star 2.0**

- (i) **S**implified and **T**ransparent **A**ministration of **R**egistration
- (ii) Quick and transparent service in Registration
- (iii) Elimination of middlemen
- (iv) Pleasant experience about registration process
- (v) Registration department of Tamil Nadu

(vi) Recently won CM's Good Governance Award

**5) Mention any 5 Inclusive development Schemes of Tamil Nadu.**

- (i) Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM)
- (ii) Tamil Nadu Urban Livelihood Mission (TNULM)
- (iii) Tamil Nadu Skill Development Mission – Programmes
- (iv) Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project (TNRTP)
- (v) Economic Development of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare

**6) Name the Nodal Agencies for Disaster Early Warning dissemination.**

DISASTERS	AGENCIES
Cyclone / Hydrometeorological	India Meteorological Department
Earthquake	India Meteorological Department
Floods	Central Water Commission
Drought	Ministry of Agriculture
Landslides	Geological Survey of India
Tsunami	Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services

**7) State Kanyashree scheme.**

- (i) West Bengal government announced
- (ii) Girls who belonging to families with annual family income not more than Rs 1.20 lakh is entitled to get the benefits
- (iii) Initiative led to a drastic reduction in child marriage, increase in female education and female empowerment
- (iv) Won UN Public Service Award

**8) Bring out the importance of NOTA.**

- (i) NOTA ensures people's right to freedom of speech and expression
- (ii) The option of NOTA for Lok Sabha and assembly elections was prescribed by the SC in 2013.
- (iii) The option of NOTA in RS polls was introduced by the EC in 2014.
- (iv) India became the 14<sup>th</sup> country to institute negative voting.



- (v) NOTA option will force the political parties to select the honest candidates, i.e with no criminal records.
- (vi) This will increase the polling percentage

**9) State Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS).**

- (i) ICDS is the flagship initiatives of Govt. of India
- (ii) Implemented WCD Dept
- (iii) Provide young children with an integrated package of services such as supplementary nutrition, health care and pre-school education
- (iv) Provide all basic essential services to children and mothers in an integrated manner right in their villages.
- (v) The scheme has been expanded to urban slums and to rural and tribal blocks

**10) What is Benami transaction?**

- (i) A benami transaction is one where a property is held by one person and the amount for it is paid by another person.
- (ii) Therefore, in a benami transaction, the name of the person who paid the money is not mentioned.
- (iii) Directly or indirectly, the benami transaction is done to benefit the one who pays.
- (iv) The Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016, designed to curb black money and passed by parliament in August, came into effect on November 1, 2016.

**11) Mention the powers of Governor.**

- (i) Like the President of India, the Governor of any state in India is vested with certain executive, legislative and judicial powers.
- (ii) He or she also possesses certain discretionary or emergency powers.
- (iii) But one major difference in the powers enjoyed by the President and those enjoyed by the Governor is the Governor does not have any diplomatic or military powers.

**12) Mention the highlights of Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill 2018**

- (i) Lok Sabha has passed the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill 2018.
- (ii) It seeks to replace the Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH) with a board of governors
- (iii) Aimed at bringing accountability and quality in homeopathy education system.

**13) State Seva Bhoj Yojna.**

- (i) To reimburse central share of CGST and IGST on food, prasada, langar or bhandara offered by religious and charitable institutions.
- (ii) The 'Seva Bhoj Yojna' has a total outlay of Rs 325.00 crore for financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- (iii) Union Ministry of Culture has launched

**14) Define Oxytocin.**

- (i) Oxytocin is a hormone that is made in the brain, in the hypothalamus.
- (ii) It is transported to and secreted by the pituitary gland which is located at the base of the brain.
- (iii) It acts both as a hormone and as a brain neurotransmitter.
- (iv) The release of oxytocin by the pituitary gland acts to regulate two female reproductive functions: Childbirth and Breast-feeding.

**15) Bring out the Objectives of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana.**

- (i) Empowering women and protecting their health.
- (ii) Reducing the serious health hazards associated with cooking based on fossil fuel.
- (iii) Reducing the number of deaths in India due to unclean cooking fuel
- (iv) Preventing young children from significant number of acute respiratory illnesses caused due to indoor air pollution by burning the fossil fuel.

**16) Who organized the One District One Product Scheme? State its importance.**

- (i) Uttar Pradesh government had recently organized One District One Product (EK ZILA – EK UT PADAN) scheme
- (ii) ODOP is to optimise production, productivity and income, preservation and development of local crafts, promotion of art, improvement in product quality and skill development.
- (iii) Under this, one product indigenous to every district would be showcased at the three-day UP Diwas event.
- (iv) This will boost economic development of the state, and also help in generation of five lakh new jobs annually.

**17) Expand and Explain WABA.**

- (i) **World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA)**
- (ii) Global network of individuals and organisations concerned with the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding worldwide based on the Innocenti Declarations, the Ten Links for Nurturing the Future and the WHO/UNICEF Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding.
- (iii) WABA is in consultative status with UNICEF and an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

**18) What is Scrub Typhus?**

- (i) Scrub typhus is an infectious disease with symptoms similar to any viral fever.
- (ii) However, it is not caused by a virus, but by a parasite called *Orientia tsutsugamushi*,
- (iii) Transmitted by the bite of infected mite larvae in soil containing scrub vegetation
- (iv) The disease is also known as bush typhus
- (v) The disease is more common during the wet season when the mites lay eggs. Incubation period (time between bite and beginning of symptoms) is 10 – 14 days.



**19) Write about POSHAN Abhiyan:**

- (i) POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) was launched on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.
- (ii) Reduce the level of Stunting, Under-nutrition, Anemia and Low Birth Weight in Children, as also, focus on Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers, thus holistically addressing malnutrition.
- (iii) Ensure a holistic approach, all 36 States/UTs and 718 districts will be covered in a phased manner by the year 2020.

**20) What are e-cigarettes?**

- (i) An electronic cigarette is a battery-powered vaporizer that mimics tobacco smoking.
- (ii) It works by heating up nicotine liquid, called “juice.”
- (iii) Nicotine juice comes in various flavors and nicotine levels.
- (iv) Proponents of e-cigs argue that the practice is healthier than traditional cigarettes because users are only inhaling water vapor and nicotine.

**21) State TReDS and mention its salient features.**

TReDS is an online electronic institutional mechanism for facilitating the financing of trade receivables of MSMEs through multiple financiers.

**Salient Features of TReDS:**

- a. Unified platform for Sellers, Buyers and Financiers
- b. Eliminates Paper
- c. Easy Access to Funds
- d. Transact Online
- e. Competitive Discount Rates
- f. Seamless Data Flow
- g. Standardised Practices

**22) What is Zero Budget Natural Farming?**

- (i) Zero Budget Natural Farming, is a method of farming where the cost of growing and harvesting plants is zero.
- (ii) This means that farmers need not purchase fertilizers and pesticides in order to ensure the healthy growth of crops.

- (iii) Basically, a natural farming technique that uses biological pesticides instead of chemical-based fertilizers.
- (iv) Farmers use earthworms, cow dung, urine, plants, human excreta and such biological fertilizers for crop protection.
- (v) Reduces farmer's investment.
- (vi) Protects the soil from degradation.

**23) Why BRU Tribe is in news recently?**

- (i) The Union Home Ministry has agreed the four-corner agreement for repatriation of Bru migrants from Tripura to Mizoram
- (ii) They are also known as Rieng
- (iii) Spread across the Tripura, Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram
- (iv) Categorized as primitive tribal group
- (v) Second largest tribe of Tripura after the Tripuri tribe
- (vi) Dance: Mai-nouhna

**24) Write About Jal Marg Vikas Project.**

The Jal Marg Vikas Project seeks to facilitate plying of vessels with capacity of 1,500-2,000 tonnes in the Haldia- Varanasi stretch of the River Ganga.

The major works being taken up under JMVP are

- a. Development of fairway,
- b. Multi-Modal Terminals,
- c. Strengthening of river navigation system,
- d. Conservancy works,
- e. Modern River Information System (RIS),
- f. Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS),
- g. Night navigation facilities,
- h. Modern methods of channel marking etc.

**25) Mention the objectives of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana.**

- (i) Achieve convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level
- (ii) Expand cultivable area under assured irrigation
- (iii) Improve on-farm water use efficiency
- (iv) Reduce wastage of water

- (v) Enhance the adoption of precision-irrigation and other
- (vi) Water saving technologies (More crops per drop)

**26) State Ballistic Missile Interceptor Advanced Area Defence (AAD).**

- (i) endo-atmospheric missile
- (ii) Capable of intercepting incoming targets at an altitude of 15 to 25 kms.
- (iii) 7.5 metres tall and weighs around 1.2 tonnes.
- (iv) AAD interceptor is a single-stage missile powered by solid propellants.
- (v) Indigenously developed by DRDO

**27) What do you mean by aerogel?**

- (i) Scientists have developed a transparent heat resistant gel called aerogel by using beer waste
- (ii) Looks like a flattened plastic contact lens.
- (iii) The transparent gel is highly resistant to heat.
- (iv) Their thin films are made up of crisscrossing patterns of solid material that trap air inside billions of tiny pores, this trapping capacity acts as a good insulator.

**28) Write a note on Microcrystallites.**

- (i) Synthesised by decomposing an organic complex containing gold and other ions under controlled conditions.
- (ii) Normal gold has a face-centered cubic structure, while the new ones exhibit deformed cubic structure: tetragonal and orthorhombic cells.
- (iii) Microcrystal gold has been found to be nobler than gold
- (iv) Doesn't dissolve in mercury and Aqua regia
- (v) Microcrystallites are also more stable than the normal gold.

**29) What is Helina?**

- (i) Indigenously developed Helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile.
- (ii) Guided by an Infrared Imaging Seeker (IIR)
- (iii) Operating in the Lock on Before Launch mode
- (iv) One of the most advanced Anti-Tank Weapons in the world.

**30) Write the significance and theme of the International Buddhist Conclave.**

- (i) Encourage the prominent Buddhist heritage and pilgrim sites
- (ii) Advance the experience of travellers as well as tourists
- (iii) Looking to experience the spirit of Buddhist inheritance of our country
- (iv) **THEME:** “Buddha Path – The Living Heritage”

**31) State the importance of Proxy Voting in India.**

- (i) Under proxy voting, a registered elector can delegate his voting power to a representative.
- (ii) This was introduced in 2003 for elections to the Lok Sabha and Assemblies.
- (iii) Only a “classified service voter” includes members of the armed forces, BSF, CRPF, CISF, General Engineering Reserve Force and Border Road Organisation is allowed to nominate a proxy to cast vote on his behalf in his absence.
- (iv) A classified service voter can also vote by postal ballot.

**32) Write briefly about Hydrocarbons Vision 2025.**

- (i) Hydrocarbons Vision 2025, presented in the year 2000, laid down the framework which would guide the policies relating to the hydrocarbons sector for the next 25 years.
- (ii) Assure energy security by achieving self-reliance through increased indigenous production and investment in equity oil abroad.
- (iii) Enhance quality of life by progressively improving product standards to ensure a cleaner and greener India.

- (iv) Have a free market and promote healthy competition among players and improve the customer service.
- (v) Ensure oil security for the country keeping in view strategic and defence considerations.

**33) Mention the objectives of Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana.**

- (i) Implement various developmental and welfare programs in mining affected areas
- (ii) These programs will be complementing the existing ongoing projects of State and Central Government
- (iii) Minimize the adverse impacts, during and after mining, on the environment, health and socio-economics of people in mining districts
- (iv) Ensure long-term sustainable livelihoods for the affected people in mining areas

**34) Why Chilika Lake is in news recently?**

- (i) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has approved a proposal to set up water aerodromes in the lake.
- (ii) It is Asia's largest brackish water lagoon located in coastal Odisha.
- (iii) It is separated from the Bay of Bengal by a 60 km long narrow strip of marshy islands and sand-flats.
- (iv) Designated as a Ramsar site in 1981

**35) Write briefly about Barak 8 missile.**

- (i) Jointly developed by India and Israel
- (ii) Long-range surface-to-air missile
- (iii) Designed to defend against any type of airborne threat including aircraft, helicopters, anti-ship missiles, and UAVs as well as cruise missiles and combat jets
- (iv) Capability to take down an incoming missile as close as 500 meters away
- (v) Maximum speed: Mach 2
- (vi) Operational range: 70 to 100 Km



**36) Define REDD+**

- (i) REDD+ means “Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation”
- (ii) Conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries
- (iii) Achieve climate change mitigation by incentivizing forest conservation.
- (iv) Forestry sector in India can make positive contribution for climate change mitigation like carbon mitigation services of India’s forest by improving carbon stocks

**37) Write a note on Petcoke.**

- (i) Petroleum coke or petcoke is a solid carbon rich (90% carbon and 3% to 6% sulphur) material derived from oil refining.
- (ii) Categorized as a “bottom of the barrel” fuel.
- (iii) Emits 11% more greenhouse gases than coal and nearly 17 times more sulphur than coal.
- (iv) Petcoke is a source of fine dust which can get lodged in the lungs.
- (v) Petroleum coke can contain vanadium which is a toxic metal.
- (vi) Sulphur-heavy petcoke and other polluting fuels such as furnace oil are widely used by cement factories, dyeing units, paper mills, brick kilns and ceramics businesses.
- (vii) India is the world’s largest consumer of petcoke.

**38) Who has launched the “CALL FOR CODE” initiative and write its aim?**

- (i) IBM has launched the “CALL FOR CODE”
- (ii) Bring startup, academic and enterprise developers together to respond to and recover from natural disasters
- (iii) Solve one of the most pressing societal issues of preventing, responding to and recovering from natural disasters

- (iv) Provide access to its cloud, data, Artificial Intelligence and blockchain technologies, along with training and code to developers

**39) Panini Language Laboratory:**

**(i) Who and where it was setup?**

- a. Set up at Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) in Mauritius.

**(ii) What is the aim of the lab?**

- a. Promote reading and writing Hindi amongst young generation and its further development.
- b. It will serve as medium to generate more interest in learning Hindi amongst youngsters thereby strengthening language.

**40) Write a note in LaCONES.**

- (i) It is India's only research facility engaged in conservation and preservation of wildlife and its resources.
- (ii) It was established in 1998 with the help of Central Zoo Authority of India, CSIR and the government of Andhra Pradesh.
- (iii) LaCONES has helped the Mouse Deer Conservation Breeding Centre at Nehru Zoological Park to increase the population of mouse deer in Telangana forests.
- (iv) Amrabad forest, for instance, ran out of mouse deer and through the efforts of LaCONES, the animal is now reintroduced in Amrabad Tiger Reserve.
- (v) Earlier, LaCONES has developed universal DNA based marker for identification of wild animals from parts and remains.
- (vi) It has a DNA banking of more than 250 species of mammals, birds and reptiles.

**41) Who is Chinna Pillai Perumal? Write about her contributions to society?**

- (i) Mrs. Chinna Pillai Perumal received a 2018 Avvaiyar Award
- (ii) She has been working for the uplift of rural women for over three decades
- (iii) She has been leading Kalanjiam SHG for women for a long time.
- (iv) She is responsible for the creation of as many as 2,589 SHGs for the benefit of women.

(v) she has engaged herself in conducting free medical camps, cultivating vegetables using organic farming, planting saplings, etc

**42) What is NIRF Ranking? Write about the performance of Tamilnadu in 2018 Rankings.**

- (i) National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)
- (ii) It is a methodology adopted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India,
- (iii) To rank institutions of higher education in India
- (iv) IIT Madras ranked as first and Anna University ranked as 3<sup>rd</sup> position

**43) Write a short note on “Healthy State; Progressive India” report and mention top 5 overall performance states in India.**

- (i) The report ranks states and Union territories innovatively on their year-on-year incremental change in health outcomes, as well as, their overall performance with respect to each other.
- (ii) NITI Aayog releases “Healthy States, Progressive India” Report
- (iii) Top 5 Tests:
  - 1- Kerala, Punjab & Tamil Nadu
  - 2- Jharkhand
  - 3- Jammu & Kashmir
  - 4- Uttar Pradesh

**44) Write a note on Zojila Tunnel.**

- (i) The tunnel will provide all weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh
- (ii) 14.150 km long two lane bidirectional single tube tunnel with a parallel 14.200 km long egress tunnel between Baltal and Minamarg in the state of J&K section of NH-1A
- (iii) India’s longest road tunnel and Asia’s longest bidirectional tunnel
- (iv) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

**45) How to maintain Environmental Ethics?**

- (i) Equitable utilization of natural resources.
- (ii) Equity among the people of rural and urban areas.
- (iii) Conservation of resources for future generations.
- (iv) Environmental rights of animals.
- (v) Environmental education.
- (vi) Use of eco-friendly items.
- (vii) Keeping the environment neat and clean.
- (viii) Community participation in protecting environment.

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## **8 MARK QUESTIONS**

### **1) Write the Objectives of Digital North East Vision 2022.**

- (i) Provide high speed broadband connectivity and mobile connectivity in all the uncovered villages in northeastern region.
- (ii) Create a Cloud- hub at Guwahati with Disaster Recovery Center for the NER.
- (iii) Expand Common Service Centers to all Gram Panchayats in North East States.
- (iv) Provide better access to quality health, educational and agricultural services using Digital Technology.
- (v) Promote local tourism, art and culture, handicraft, handloom.
- (vi) To establish Start-ups and innovation Hub for North East.
- (vii) Provide safe and secure cyberspace for digital north east by setting up specialized cyber security labs and by providing skill development through special trainings and IEC.
- (viii) Eight Thrust Areas have been identified by this Vision document for the empowerment of the people of the northeastern region.
- (ix) Areas include Digital Infrastructure, Digital Services, Digital Empowerment, Promotion of Electronics Manufacturing, Promotion of IT and ITES & BPO Industries.
- (x) Promotion of Digital Payments, Digital Innovation and Start-ups, and Cyber security.

### **2) Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL) - Explain**

- (i) Statutory body
- (ii) Constituted for the purpose of hearing cases against the orders of the Regulatory Commissions and the Adjudicating officer
- (iii) By virtue of Section 110 of The Electricity Act, 2003
- (iv) Appellate Tribunal for Electricity having jurisdiction through out India has been set up to hear appeals or original petitions against the orders of the Adjudicating officer or The Central Regulatory Commission or State Regulatory Commission or Joint Commission.



- (v) The Tribunal is conferred with original jurisdiction
- (vi) To hear petitions under Section 121 of the Act
- (vii) Issue directions to all Commissions for the performance of its statutory functions

**Composition:**

- (i) Chairperson + three other Members
- (ii) New Chairperson: Justice Manjula Chellur
- (iii) Every Bench constituted by the Chairperson shall consist of at least one Judicial Member and one Technical Member

**3) Discuss about Project Navlekha.**

**Aim:**

- (i) Google has unveiled the Project
- (ii) To make online content relevant for more Indian users especially in local languages

**Project Navlekha:**

- (i) Navlekha in Sanskrit means “a new way to write”
- (ii) To bring 135,000 local language publishers online by making web hosting smooth and simple
- (iii) It also comprises tool that uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to allow publishers to simply scan documents
- (iv) Create instant web pages on the platform
- (v) The project will provide a handy online publishing tool for local language newspapers and content companies 90% of which do not have a website.
- (vi) The registered publishers on Navlekha will also be provided with free web hosting, along with a branded domain for three years.
- (vii) Google will help these publishers to receive training and support and a branded page domain for the first three years.

**Significance:**

- (i) Amount of online content in Indian languages is only 1% of what is available in English.
- (ii) India is important market for Google as it has second largest population of internet users in the world.
- (iii) Hence, with the new project the amount of resources available for Indians in local languages will increase.

**4) Write about SC/ST Act. Why was in news recently?**

**SC/ST Act:**

- (i) The Scheduled Castes and Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act is popularly known as POA, the SC/ST Act, the Prevention of Atrocities Act, or simply the Atrocities Act.
- (ii) The SC/ST Act was enacted on September 9, 1989.
- (iii) The rules for the Act were notified on March 31, 1995.
- (iv) The SC/ST Act lists 22 offences relating to various patterns or behaviours inflicting criminal offences and breaking the self-respect and esteem of the scheduled castes and tribes community.
- (v) This includes denial of economic, democratic and social rights, discrimination, exploitation and abuse of the legal process.
- (vi) According to the SC/ST Act, the protection is provided from social disabilities such as denial of access to certain places and to use customary passage, personal atrocities like forceful drinking or eating of inedible food sexual exploitation, injury etc, and atrocities affecting properties, malicious prosecution, political disabilities and economic exploitation.
- (vii) For speedy trial, Section 14 of the SC/ST Act provides for a Court of Session to be a Special Court to try offences under this Act in each district.
- (viii) The main objective of the SC/ST Act is to deliver justice to marginalised through proactive efforts, giving them a life of dignity, self-esteem and a life without fear, violence or suppression from the dominant castes.

**Recently, the Amendment Bill seeks to insert three new clauses after Section 18 of the original Act:**

- (i) Preliminary enquiry shall not be required for registration of a First Information Report against any person
- (ii) The arrest of a person accused of having committed an offence under the Act would not require any approval.
- (iii) The provisions of Section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure which deals with anticipatory bail shall not apply to a case under this Act, “notwithstanding any judgment or order of any Court”

**5) List out the Election, powers and the significance of the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha.**

- a. The Deputy Chairman is a constitutional position created under Article 89 of the Constitution
- b. Which specifies that Rajya Sabha shall choose one of its MPs to be the Deputy Chairman as often as the position becomes vacant
- c. The office becomes vacant either by resignation or removal from office or when the Rajya Sabha member’s term gets over.

**Election:**

- (i) The election of a Deputy Chairman shall be held on such date as the Chairman may fix and the Secretary General shall send to every member notice of this date.
- (ii) At any time before noon on the day preceding the date so fixed, any member may give notice in writing addressed to the Secretary-General of a motion that another member be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Council, and the notice shall be seconded by a third member and shall be accompanied by a statement by the member whose name is proposed in the notice that he is willing to serve as Deputy Chairman if elected: Provided that a member shall not propose or second more than one motion.
- (iii) A member in whose name a motion stands in the list of business may, when called, move the motion or not move the motion, in which case he shall confine himself to a mere statement to that effect.

- (iv) The motions which have been moved and duly seconded shall be put one by one in the order in which they have been moved and decided if necessary by division.
- (v) If any motion is carried, the person presiding shall, without putting later motions, declare that the member proposed in the motion which has been carried, has been chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Council.

**Powers:**

- (i) The Deputy Chairman or other member competent to preside over a sitting of the Council under the Constitution
- (ii) When so presiding, have the same power as the Chairman when presiding over the Council and all references to the Chairman in these rules shall in these circumstances be deemed to be, references to any such person so presiding

**Significance:**

- (i) The Deputy Chair is the one position that is elected solely by members of Rajya Sabha.
- (ii) It is a critical position not just because she/he steps in when there is a vacancy in the office of Chairperson/Vice President but also because she/he plays a critical role in ensuring the smooth running of the House.

***Harivansh Narayan Singh has been elected as the new deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha.***

**6) Write about Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan.**

- a. Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), launched in 2013
- b. Aims at providing strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions
- c. The central funding (in the ratio of 60:40 for general category States, 90:10 for special category states and 100% for union territories) would be norm based and outcome dependent.

- d. The funding would flow from the central ministry through the state governments/union territories to the State Higher Education Councils before reaching the identified institutions.
- e. The funding to states would be made on the basis of critical appraisal of State Higher Education Plans, which would describe each state's strategy to address issues of equity, access and excellence in higher education.

**Objectives:**

- (i) Improve the overall quality of state institutions by ensuring conformity to prescribed norms and standards and adopt accreditation as a mandatory quality assurance framework.
- (ii) Usher transformative reforms in the state higher education system by creating a facilitating institutional structure for planning and monitoring at the state level, promoting autonomy in State Universities and improving governance in institutions.
- (iii) Ensure reforms in the affiliation, academic and examination systems.
- (iv) Ensure adequate availability of quality faculty in all higher educational institutions and ensure capacity building at all levels of employment.
- (v) Create an enabling atmosphere in the higher educational institutions to devote themselves to research and innovations.
- (vi) Expand the institutional base by creating additional capacity in existing institutions and establishing new institutions, in order to achieve enrolment targets.
- (vii) Correct regional imbalances in access to higher education by setting up institutions in unserved & underserved areas.
- (viii) Improve equity in higher education by providing adequate opportunities of higher education to SC/STs and socially and educationally backward classes; promote inclusion of women, minorities, and differently abled persons.

**7) Explain about PARIVESH.**

- (i) **P**ro-Active and **R**esponsive facilitation by Interactive, **V**irtuous and **E**nvironmental **S**ingle-window **H**ub



- (ii) It is an environmental single window hub for Environment, Forest, Wildlife and CRZ clearances launched recently.
- (iii) This Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System has been developed in pursuance of the spirit of 'Digital India' initiated by the Prime Minister.

**Key features:**

- (i) "PARIVESH" is a workflow based application, based on the concept of web architecture.
- (ii) It has been rolled out for online submission, monitoring and management of proposals submitted by Project Proponents to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC), and State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAA).
- (iii) It seeks to give various types of clearances from Central, State and district-level authorities.
- (iv) The system has been designed, developed and hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, with technical support from National Informatics Centre, (NIC).
- (v) It provides single registration and single sign-in for all types of clearances unique-ID for all types of clearances required for a particular project and a single Window interface for the proponent to submit applications for getting all types of clearances.

**Significance and benefits of the platform:**

- (i) PARIVESH offers a framework to generate economic growth and strengthens Sustainable Development through e- Governance.
- (ii) PARIVESH helps in improving the overall performance and efficiency of the whole appraisal process.
- (iii) It also helps the processing authorities, as it has a Single Window System for Central, State and District level clearances.
- (iv) The facility of Geographic Information System (GIS) interface for the Appraisal Committee will help them in analyzing the proposal efficiently, automatic alerts (via SMS and emails) at important stages to the concerned officers, committee members and higher authorities to check the delays, if any.

- (v) It also enables project proponents, citizens to view, track and interact with scrutiny officers, generates online clearance letters, online mailers and alerts to state functionaries in case of delays beyond stipulated time for processing of applications.

**8) Discuss the salient features of National Policy on biofuels.**

**(i) Categorization:**

- a. First Generation (1G) bioethanol & biodiesel and “Advanced Biofuels”
- b. Second Generation (2G) ethanol, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to drop-in fuels
- c. Third Generation (3G) biofuels, bio-CNG etc.,
- d. To enable extension of appropriate financial and fiscal incentives under each category

**(ii) Scope of raw materials:**

- a. The Policy expands the scope of raw material for ethanol production by allowing use of Sugarcane Juice
- b. Sugar containing materials like Sugar Beet, Sweet Sorghum,
- c. Starch containing materials like Corn, Cassava,
- d. Damaged food grains like wheat, broken rice, Rotten Potatoes, unfit for human consumption for ethanol production.

**(iii) Protection to farmers:**

- a. Farmers are at a risk of not getting appropriate price for their produce during the surplus production phase.
- b. Taking this into account, the Policy allows use of surplus food grains for production of ethanol for blending with petrol with the approval of National Biofuel Coordination Committee.

**(iv) Viability gap funding:**

- a. Policy indicates a viability gap funding scheme for 2G ethanol Bio refineries of Rs.5000 crore in 6 years

- b. In addition to additional tax incentives, higher purchase price as compared to 1G biofuels.

**(v) Boost to biodiesel production:**

- a. Policy encourages setting up of supply chain mechanisms for biodiesel production from non-edible oilseeds, Used Cooking Oil, short gestation crops.

**9) Discuss about Pink Bollworm Attack in Cotton.**

- (i) According to a report published by the International Cotton Advisory Committee in March 2017
- (ii) India is the largest cotton producing and second largest exporting country
- (iii) Gujarat is the largest cotton producer in India followed by Maharashtra
- (iv) Cotton plantations in various parts of the country have been hit due to infestation of Pink Bollworm

**Causes of Pink Bollworm Infestation:**

- (i) Absence of Crop Rotation encourages breeding of the pest. Large hybrids, over a thousand different varieties, with varying flowering and fruiting periods ensure continuous food availability to pests.
- (ii) Herbicide-tolerant hybrids not approved for cultivation have been sown. There are also cases of seed companies selling non-Bt cotton as Bt.
- (iii) Resistance to Bt cotton in pink bollworm due to longer duration crop (> 120 days) & continuous cropping.
- (iv) Farmers do not follow Standard Protocols along with planting Bt cotton to prevent infestation due to underinformation or ignorance in following the rules.

**Solutions:**

**Refugia crop:**

- (i) Planting non-Bt cotton as 'refugia' in the vicinity of the main Bt-cotton

- (ii) Non-Bt cotton can act as a host for PBW and deter it to develop resistance to Bt toxins
- (iii) It can be enforced by supplying the seeds in the same bags that contain Bt seeds

**Using Original Bt cotton:**

- (i) Only recommended hybrid from companies with established R&D facilities which can vouch for the trait purity of the Bt cotton should be supplied.

**Pre-cultivation measures**

- (i) Prevent the carry-over of pink bollworm to the next cotton season such as selection of varieties with early maturity, drying of seeds under sun for 6-8 hours sowing of acid delinted seeds, two deep ploughings etc.

**Post-harvest measures**

- (i) Pheromone traps near cotton godowns to attract post-season moths, allowing cattle grazing of the left over green balls on the plant, destruction of cotton stubbles immediate to harvest, educating farmers and promotion of proper scientific methods etc.

**10) What is 5G? List out the advantages and Challenges of 5G?**

- (i) 5G is a wireless communication technology using radio waves or radio frequency energy to transmit and receive data
- (ii) Next generation mobile networks technology after 4G LTE networks
- (iii) 5G technologies will enter to a full range of services by 2024

**Technical specifications:**

- (i) High data rates (1 Gbps for hotspots, 100 Mbps download and 50 Mbps upload for wide-area coverage)
- (ii) Massive connectivity (1 million connections per square kilometre)
- (iii) Ultra-low latency (1 millisecond)
- (iv) High reliability (99.999% for mission critical 'ultra-reliable' communications), and
- (v) Mobility at high speeds (up to 500 km/h i.e. high-speed trains).

**Advantages:**

- (i) Faster Data Speed
- (ii) Ultra-low latency
- (iii) Internet of Things
- (iv) Medicine
- (v) Agriculture
- (vi) Smart Grid
- (vii) Smart Metering

**Challenges:**

- (i) Integration of various standards
- (ii) Common Platform
- (iii) Building Infrastructure
- (iv) Obstacles
- (v) The Indian market is yet to adapt to 4G completely and has not fully evolved to experience an AI revolution.

**Spectrum Policy:** India's spectrum allocation for public wireless services should be enhanced significantly. Also, the cost of spectrum relative to per capita GDP is high.

**Regulatory Policy:** Three expert committees on business, security and safety segments to be created to develop clear guidelines on regulatory policy.



## 15 MARK QUESTION

1) **Elaborate the following:**

a. **Highlight the 123<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Bill.**

Bill provides for the grant of constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) on par with the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

**Powers of the President:**

- (i) It states that the President may specify the socially and educationally backward classes in the various states and union territories.
- (ii) He may do this in consultation with the Governor of the concerned state.

**The duties of the NCBC** include investigating and monitoring how safeguards provided to the backward classes under the Constitution and other laws are being implemented and probe specific complaints regarding violation of rights.

**Report:**

- (i) The NCBC will be required to present annual reports to the President on working of the safeguards for backward classes.
- (ii) These reports will be tabled in Parliament, and in the state legislative assemblies of the concerned states.

**Powers of a civil court:**

- (i) Under the Constitution Amendment Bill, the NCBC will have the powers of a civil court while investigating or inquiring into any complaints.
- (ii) These powers include: (i) summoning people and examining them on oath, (ii) requiring production of any document or public record, and (iii) receiving evidence.

b. **Examine the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2017.**

- (i) Extend the facility of “proxy voting” to overseas Indians, on the lines of service voters

- (ii) Allow non-resident Indians (NRIs) to emerge as a decisive force in the country's electoral politics on their own terms.
- (iii) The amendment paves the way to remove an "unreasonable restriction" posed by Section 20A of the Representation of the People Act
- (iv) Requires overseas electors to be physically present in their electoral constituencies to cast their votes.
- (v) Section 20A of the Act provides for registration and inclusion of overseas electors in the electoral rolls.
- (vi) The Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 provide for overseas electors to register themselves in the electoral rolls of their respective constituencies
- (vii) On the basis of self-attested copies of their passport and valid visa, and exercise their franchise in person on production of the original passport at the time of voting at the specified polling booth.
- (viii) Demand for the physical presence of overseas electors in their respective polling stations in India on the day of polling.
- (ix) Causes hardship to the overseas electors.
- (x) Amendment proposes facilitating an external mode of voting, that is, voting by proxy, whereby such electors can exercise their franchise from their places of residence abroad.

## 2) **Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018 – Evaluate**

### **Aim:**

- (i) Parliament has passed the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018.
- (ii) The highlight of the bill is to amend the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Evidence Act, the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act
- (iii) To introduce a new provision to sentence convicts of such crimes punishment of death

### **Highlights of the Bill:**

#### **Punishment:**

- (i) It provides for strict punishment including death penalty for those convicted of raping girls below the age of 12 years.

- (ii) The minimum punishment in case of rape of women has been increased from rigorous imprisonment of seven years to 10 years, extendable to life imprisonment.
- (iii) In case of rape of a girl under 16 years, the minimum punishment has been increased from 10 years to 20 years, extendable to imprisonment for rest of life, which means jail term till the convicts' "natural life".
- (iv) The punishment for gang rape of a girl below 16 years will invariably be imprisonment for the rest of life of the convict.
- (v) Stringent punishment for rape of a girl under 12 years has been provided with the minimum jail term being 20 years which may go up to life in prison or death sentence.
- (vi) Gang rape of a girl under 12 years of age will invite punishment of jail term for the rest of life or death.

**Speedy investigation:**

- (i) The measure also provides for speedy investigations and trial.
- (ii) The time limit for investigation of all cases of rape has been prescribed, which has to be mandatorily completed within two months.
- (iii) The deadline for the completion of trial in all rape cases will be two months.
- (iv) A six-month time limit for the disposal of appeals in rape cases has also been prescribed.

**Bail related provisions:**

- (i) There will also be no provision for anticipatory bail for a person accused of rape or gang rape of a girl under 16 years.
- (ii) It has also been prescribed that a court has to give notice of 15 days to a public prosecutor and the representative of the victim before deciding bail applications in case of rape of a girl under 16 years of age.

**Need for a stringent law:**

- (i) The number of reported cases of rapes of children increased in India by 82% in 2016 compared to 2015.

- (ii) A climate of violence, social and economic insecurity, alienation, and a progressive undermining of the status of women and children seem to have given an impetus to carry out crimes against women and children.
- (iii) Therefore, the legal system must give a clear signal that we as a nation consider the rape of children below the age of 12 as among the most heinous of offences.
- (iv) Making such crimes punishable by capital punishment certainly gives such a signal.

#### **Is it sufficient?**

- (i) Statistics have not been able to prove or disprove the efficacy of capital punishment as a deterrent.
- (ii) While the U.K. has seen an increase in murders since 1965 when capital punishment for murder was removed from the statute book, Canada has not seen any such impact since it abolished the death penalty in 1976.
- (iii) The underlying socio-economic conditions in a society that cause crimes seem to have as much of an impact on the increase or decrease of crimes as the law does.

#### **What is needed?**

- (i) It is not the severity of the punishment but the certainty and uniformity of it which will reduce crime.
- (ii) Even for capital punishment to work as a deterrent, the fairness of the investigation, the certainty of conviction, and the speed of the trial are vital
- (iii) With the police and judicial independence being under a cloud, especially after the incidents in Kathua and Unnao
- (iv) The deterrent value of capital punishment seems diminished unless police reforms and fast-track courts are a part of the package.

Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have passed a Bill providing for death penalty to those convicted of raping girls of 12 years and below.

## 30 MARK QUESTIONS

### 1) State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP) 2018-2030 - Elaborate

#### Vision:

- a) Build a safe and disaster resistant Tamil Nadu
- b) Through systems approach,
- c) Inclusive development and
- d) Mainstreaming disaster risk concerns into the development ethos of the State

#### Mission:

- a) Adopt systems approach for sustainable disaster risk reduction and enhance resilience of the community.
- b) Focus areas for risk reduction will be natural resources conservation on
  - (i) Watershed basis,
  - (ii) Comprehensive management of river basins,
  - (iii) Sustainable management of ecologically fragile areas,
  - (iv) Sustainable agricultural development,
  - (v) Mainstreaming of disaster into developmental plans,
  - (vi) Social inclusion and integrated development of the vulnerable areas

#### Levels of Disasters:

- a) Level 1
- b) Level 2
- c) Level 3

#### Crisis Management:

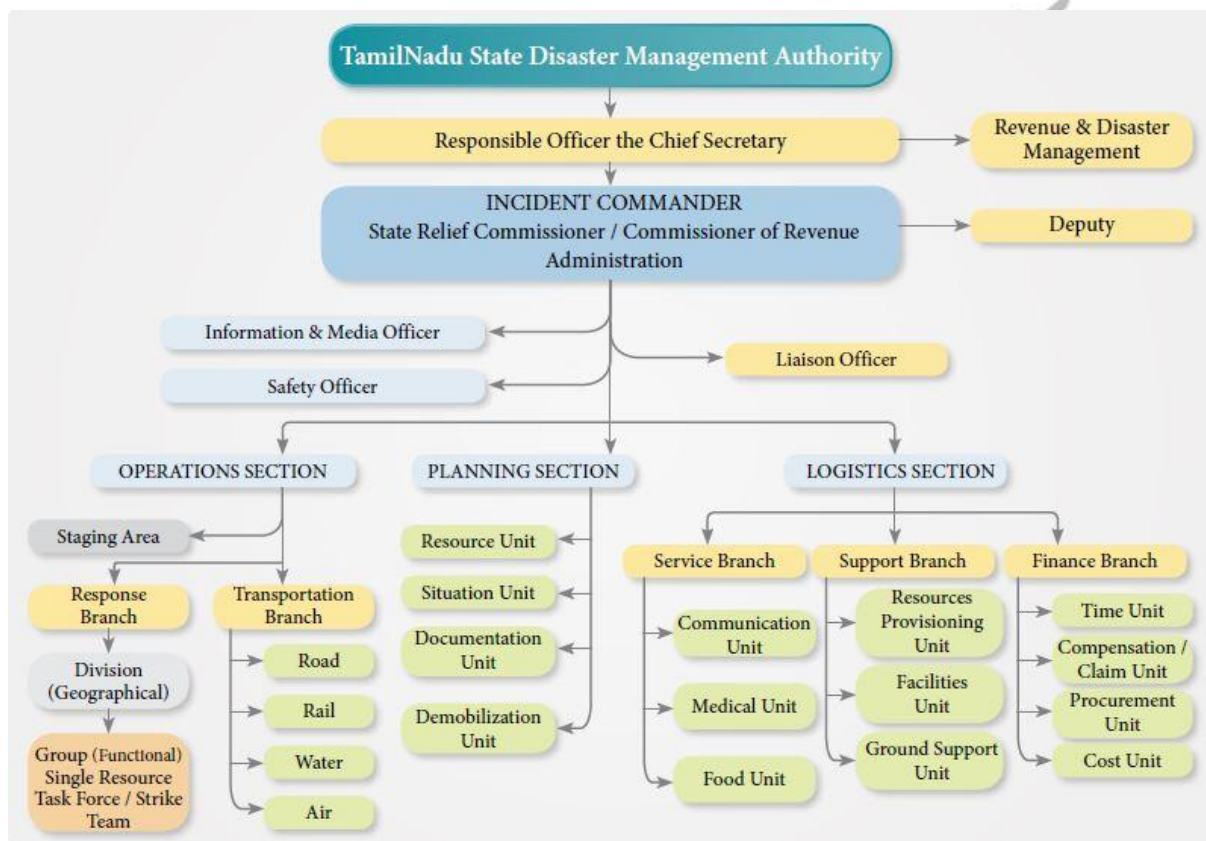
- a) National Crisis Management Plan
- b) State Crisis Management Group
- c) District Crisis Management Group
- d) District Disaster Management Authority



- e) State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC)
- f) District Emergency Operation Centre (DEOC)
- g) Taluk/Block/Zone level Disaster Management Committee
- h) Inter Departmental Zonal Teams for group of vulnerable areas
- i) Village/Ward Level Disaster Management Committee

**Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority:**

**Chairman:** Chief Minister - Monitoring the Disaster Management Activities in the State



**Disaster Preparedness:**

- a) Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk Assessments (HVRA)
- b) Identification of Vulnerable Areas
- c) Vulnerability Mapping
- d) Early Warning and Dissemination Systems
- e) Institutional Frame work & Coordination

- f) Public education, training & rehearsals
- g) Resource mobilization

**Types of Disaster:**

- a) Floods
- b) Tsunami
- c) Cyclone
- d) Drought
- e) Heat Waves
- f) Landslides
- g) Earthquakes
- h) Chemical Industrial Disaster
- i) Nuclear and Radiological
- j) Emergency Scenarios

**Disaster Prevention & Mitigation:**

STRUCTURAL MEASURES	NON STRUCTURAL MEASURES
<p><b>Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disaster Resistant Housing,</li> <li>• Multi-Purpose Evacuation Shelters</li> </ul>	<p><b>Economic measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversification of Economic Activity</li> <li>• Subsidies,</li> <li>• Credit Waiver</li> </ul>
<p><b>Water resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration of River drainage systems</li> <li>• River Grading/Stream Training, Flood Routing</li> <li>• Clearing inflow channels</li> </ul>	<p><b>Risk Transfer</b></p> <p>Insurance, Credit &amp; Tax Policies</p>
<p><b>Infrastructures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roads,</li> <li>• Bridges</li> <li>• Drinking water,</li> <li>• Power,</li> <li>• Communication,</li> <li>• Education,</li> <li>• Heritage,</li> <li>• Tourism</li> </ul>	<p><b>Societal Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Information Campaigns,</li> <li>• Non formal Education</li> <li>• Community Involvement</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ecosystem restoration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raising Shelter Belts along Coast,</li> <li>• Afforestation,</li> <li>• Restoring fragile interface Ecosystems viz., creeks, marshlands, wetlands etc.</li> <li>• Enhance Ecosystems' Health</li> </ul>	<p><b>Physical Planning Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land use Planning,</li> <li>• Safety in Designs</li> <li>• Retrofitting</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Safety Audit</b></p> <p>Disaster Resilient Public Infrastructure (Buildings Roads, Bridges, Water Bodies &amp; Reservoir)</p>
	<p><b>Management &amp; Institutional Measures</b></p> <p>(Educational Training – School/College Disaster Research Strengthening Technical Expertise, Strengthening of local Authorities)</p>

### Natural Resources Conservation Schemes:

To address Drought, Floods, Landslides, Heat waves and Climate Impact

- Kudimaramathu
- MGNREGS- Improving Inflow Channels, Tree Planting, Watershed Development
- Watershed Development
- Special Area Development Programmes
- Integrated Tribal Development
- Micro Irrigation
- Rain Water Harvesting
- Artificial Recharging of Ground Water
- New Irrigation Projects
- Prevention of Sea Water Incursion

### FUNDS:

#### (i) Central Government Funding:

- Project funds from Government of India
- State special funds
- State Development fund
- Departmental specific project funds
- Project fund/ soft loans from International agencies

#### (ii) State Government Funding:



- State Disaster Response Fund
- District Disaster Response fund
- State Disaster Mitigation Fund
- District Disaster Mitigation Fund

## Where We want to be in 2030

### Understanding Disaster Risk

- Hazard Risk & Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping for all major – Natural as well as man-made disasters.
- Big Data Analytics based Risk Assessment
- Comprehensive Flood Mitigation through appropriate interventions aided by Mapping of Flood Prone River Basins with Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP) for Village level planning
- State Data Base on Emergency Management



### Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance

- Incident Response System (IRS)
- Strengthening and Capacity Building of TNDRF
- Modernisation of Fire and Rescue Services
- Inter Departmental Zonal Teams
- Multi Stakeholder Participation
- Disaster Response Guards to provide service in all vulnerable areas
- First Responders including Women in Vulnerable areas.

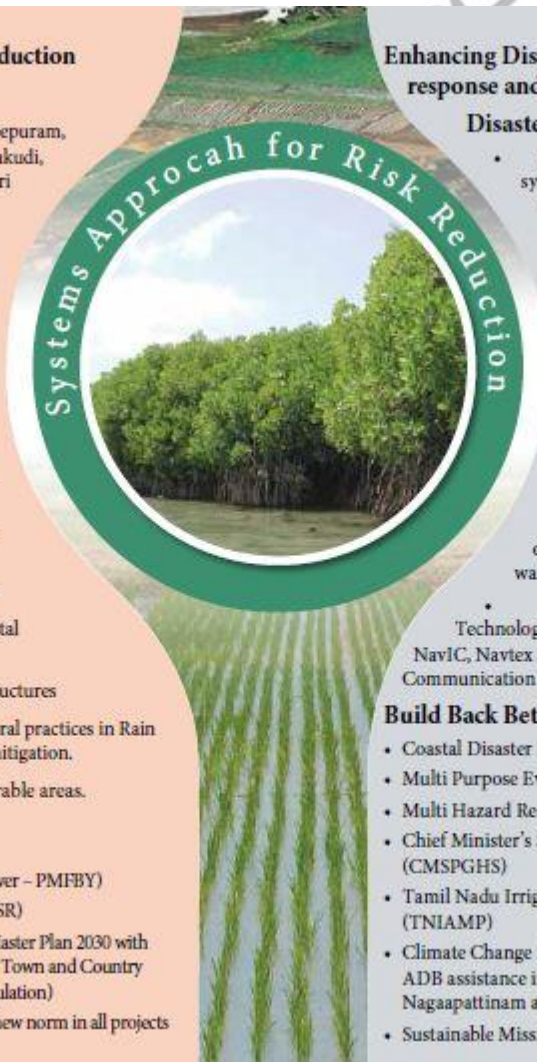
### Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction

#### Structural Measures

- Flood resistant Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Thoothukudi, Ramanathapuram and Kanyakumari Districts.
- Flood resistant Urban pockets of Chennai, Tambaram, Cuddalore&Nagapattinam Districts etc.
- Restoration and protection of fragile ecosystems
- Prevention of Sea water intrusion
- Enhanced storage of water bodies [Desilting of water bodies (G.O. Ms. No. 50) and Kudimaramathu]
- Conversion of over exploited and critical aquifers into safe categories
- Enhancement of bio-shields in coastal ecosystems
- Climate resilient Hydraulic Infrastructures
- Promotion of sustainable Agricultural practices in Rain fed areas for drought and climate mitigation.
- Integrated development of Vulnerable areas.

#### Non Structural Measures

- Risk Transfer (enlarging Insurance cover – PMFBY)
- Encouraging Private Participation (CSR)
- Non-structural measures (CMDA - Master Plan 2030 with Land use Regulation & Directorate of Town and Country Planning – (land use and building regulation)
- Disaster Risk Reduction to become a new norm in all projects



### Enhancing Disaster Preparedness for effective response and Build Back Better

#### Disaster Preparedness

- Real-time Forecasting with Tamil Nadu system for Multi – Hazard Potential Impact Assessment and Emergency Response Tracking (TN - SMART)
- Chennai Flood Warning System (C-FLOWS) – a forecast based and real-time flood warning system for Chennai up to ward level
- Real Time Flood Forecasting and Spatial Decision Support System for Adyar, Cooum, Kosasthalaiyar Rivers, Kovalam Basins, other River basins in Coastal and Non Coastal Districts
- Storm Surge Model based on Geo Spatial Technology for real-time warning
- Use of Social Media, Mobile Technologies, Satellite Telephony, HF sets, NavIC, Navtex and Distress Alert Transmitters in Risk Communication

#### Build Back Better

- Coastal Disaster Risk Reduction Project (CDRRP)
- Multi Purpose Evacuation Shelters (MPES)
- Multi Hazard Resistant Houses
- Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS)
- Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation Project (TNIAMP)
- Climate Change Adaptation Programme with ADB assistance in Delta Districts viz., Thanjavur, Nagaapattinam and Thiruvavur
- Sustainable Mission for Dryland Agriculture.

**2) Explain the following:**  
**a. Examine the Indecent Representation of the Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986**

The reformulated Bill proposes following amendments in the parent Act:

- (i) Amendment in definition of term advertisement to include digital form or electronic form or hoardings, or through SMS, MMS etc
- (ii) Amendment in definition of distribution to include publication, license or uploading using computer resource, or communication device or in Insertion of a new definition to define the term publish
- (iii) Amendment in section 4 to include that No person shall publish or distribute or cause to be published or cause to be distributed by any means any material which contains indecent representation of women in any form.
- (iv) Penalty similar to that provided under the Information Technology Act, 2000
- (v) Creation of a Centralised Authority under the aegis of National Commission of Women (NCW)
- (vi) This Authority will be headed by Member Secretary, NCW, having representatives from Advertising Standards Council of India, Press Council of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and one member having experience of working on women issues.

**Functions:**

- (i) This Centralised Authority will be authorized to receive complaints or grievances regarding any programme or advertisement broadcasted or publication and investigate/examine all matters relating to the indecent representation of women.

**Need for revisiting the law:**

- (i) The Government of India has enacted the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act (IRWA), 1986 to prohibit indecent representation of women through advertisements, publications, writings, paintings, figures or in any other manner.



- (ii) Since the enactment of the Act, technological revolution has resulted in the development of new forms of communication, such as internet, multi-media messaging, cable television, over-the-top (OTT) services and applications e.g. Skype, Viber, WhatsApp, Chat On, Snapchat, Instagram etc.
- (iii) Therefore, these technological advancements make it necessary to widen the scope of the law so as to cover such forms of media on one hand and to strengthen the existing safeguards to prevent indecent representation of women through any media form on the other.

**b. List out the important provisions of the sexual harassment of women at workplace (prevention, prohibition and redressal) act 2013.**

- (i) The Act defines sexual harassment at the work place and creates a mechanism for redressal of complaints.
- (ii) It also provides safeguards against false or malicious charges.
- (iii) Aggrieved woman who will get protection under the Act is extremely wide to cover all women, irrespective of her age or employment status, whether in the organized or unorganized sectors, public or private and covers clients, customers and domestic workers as well.
- (iv) While the “workplace” in the Vishaka Guidelines is confined to the traditional office set-up where there is a clear employer-employee relationship
- (v) The Act goes much further to include organisations, department, office, branch unit etc. in the public and private sector, organized and unorganized, hospitals, nursing homes, educational institutions, sports institutes, stadiums, sports complex and any place visited by the employee during the course of employment including the transportation.
- (vi) Every employer is required to constitute an Internal Complaints Committee at each office or branch with 10 or more employees.
- (vii) The District Officer is required to constitute a Local Complaints Committee at each district, and if required at the block level.
- (viii) **Functions of the committee:** The Committee is required to complete the inquiry within a time period of 90 days. On

completion of the inquiry, the report will be sent to the employer or the District Officer, as the case may be, they are mandated to take action on the report within 60 days.

- (ix) **Powers:** The Complaints Committees have the powers of civil courts for gathering evidence. The Complaints Committees are required to provide for conciliation before initiating an inquiry, if requested by the complainant.
- (x) **Penalties have been prescribed for employers:** Non-compliance with the provisions of the Act shall be punishable with a fine of up to 50,000. Repeated violations may lead to higher penalties and cancellation of licence or registration to conduct business.

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY  
ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS