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**Daily Current Affairs**

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SOURCES



**Date: 7-8 July 2024**

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## Important News Articles

### GS I

#### 1. Representation of women in the Lok Sabha-THE HINDU

**Relevance:** Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

##### Prelims Takeaway

- Women's reservation Bill

**News:**

- Representation of women in the Lok Sabha has increased significantly since the first parliamentary election in 1952.

**Key Highlights**

- In the first Lok Sabha, there were 22 women MPs out of a total of 489, constituting a share of 4.5%.
- In 1957, of the 494 MPs, 27 were women (5.5%).
- In the 17th Lok Sabha, which had 543 MPs, 78 were women (14.4%).
- The 18th Lok Sabha constituted after the 2024 election has 74 women MPs out of a total of 543 (13.6%).
- There was barely any difference among political parties between the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections when it came to fielding women candidates.

### GS II

#### 2. DRDO unveils country's indigenous light tank Zorawar- The Hindu

**Relevance:** Security Challenges and their Management in Border Areas

**News:**

- The prototype of the country's indigenous light tank Zorawar is ready and will soon be subjected to extensive trials
- The tank was jointly developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) along with Larsen & Toubro as the lead integrator.

##### Prelims Takeaway

- DRDO
- DAC

**Highlights:**

- The tank is currently powered by a Cummins engine, and the DRDO has taken up a project to develop a new engine domestically.
- It has been developed from the drawing board within the shortest possible time and capable of operation in the most challenging environment on earth:
  - Extreme weather and extreme height with minimal logistic support in high-altitude areas along the northern border.
- The first prototype is ready after factory acceptance.
- The tank is planned to be handed over to the Army for user trials by August 2025.
- The DRDO has taken up a project to develop a power pack for the light tank as a new 1,400-HP engine is also under development for the Arjun Mk1A main battle tank.
- Following this, the DRDO and the L&T teamed up to develop a light tank indigenously along with many Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises who have been roped in for various sub-system development to encourage indigenous development of Defence weapon platforms through industry.

#### 3. Pharma sector seeks tax reliefs, incentives to spur innovation- The Hindu

**Relevance:** Issues Relating to Development and Management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

**News:**

- India's pharmaceutical companies are hoping for tax incentives and financial assistance for research on new drugs as the government readies this year's Union Budget to be presented on July 23.

##### Prelims Takeaway

- Pharma Exports
- PLI Scheme

## Highlights:

- Indian drug makers must focus on developing complex drugs beyond generics if the country is to continue being renowned for being the 'pharmacy of the world' for its affordable medicines.
- "If the government can give some income tax exemptions for 5-10 years for new molecules developed in India.
  - that can pull innovation to grassroots level
  - companies will start investing in innovation
- India's pharmaceutical market is expected to be valued at \$130 billion by the end of 2030. It is the world's third largest manufacturer of drugs by volume after the U.S. and China and is a hub of generic drug manufacturers.

## No PLI scheme

- India has offered production-linked incentives since 2020 to spur manufacturing products ranging from drones to drugs. But novel drug manufacturers are not eligible for the scheme.
- I think the government is evaluating how their existing scheme is working. but industry is expecting a policy to boost research and development,"
- India's exports, which dominate the U.S. generics market, is expected to double to \$55 billion by 2030, according to the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India.

## 4. Bail cannot be withheld as a form of punishment: Supreme Court - The Hindu

**Relevance:** Indian Constitution—Historical Underpinnings, Evolution, Features, Amendments, Significant Provisions and Basic Structure.

**News:** The right to bail of an accused cannot be withheld as a punishment irrespective of the nature of the crime, the Supreme Court recently ruled.

### Prelims Takeaway

- Article 21

## Highlights:

- If the state, prosecution agencies or even courts do not have the wherewithal to protect an accused's right to speedy trial, they should not withhold bail on the ground that the alleged crime is serious.
- Refusal to grant bail is an unjust punishment leading to "prisonisation" of an accused, who is innocent until proven guilty.
  - Article 21 of the Constitution applies irrespective of the nature of the crime
- The order was based on an appeal filed by Javed Gulam Nabi Shaikh against a Bombay High Court decision refusing him bail in a case under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA).
- The top court refused a request made by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to adjourn the matter and decided to give Shaikh his liberty back.
- The Bench noted that he has been languishing in prison as an undertrial for the past four years.
- It noted that the trial court had not even been able so far to proceed to frame charges in the case.

## GS III

## 5. 'Important to ensure India produces more chip components'- The Hindu

**Relevance:** Science and Technology- Developments and their Applications and Effects in Everyday Life.

## News:

- Stressing the need for India to deepen the value chain in the semiconductor sector, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) said the Centre had already committed about ₹70,000 crore under a ₹76,000-crore incentive program for the development of a sustainable semiconductor and display ecosystem.

## Highlights:

- India's incentive program is one of the most generous initiatives in the world.

### Prelims Takeaway

- PLI Scheme
- Electronics Manufacturing

- In addition to the 50% incentive from the Centre, States such as Tamil Nadu have provided a top-up incentive through their respective policies.
- Therefore, 75% of the cost of setting up a unit is subsidized.
- Stating that the remaining sum [from the ₹76,000 crore would be committed under the India Semiconductor Mission program announced in 2021
- Out of India's total electronics export of \$110 billion, there was about 18-20% value addition, owing to assembly and labor factors.
- This is significant for India as it provides many jobs to many people.
- However, mostly, it is an assembly exercise building on the arbitrage in terms of labor cost. While this provides employment, there is a risk if we do not deepen the value chain. this may move to another country that offers cheaper labor.
- It was important to ensure that the country manufactured more components.
- This is where the Centre, the MeitY and the State governments needed to work together, adding that on the design of semiconductors, India had been successful with an estimated 20-25% of the global design workforce being based out of the country.

### All about precision

- However, it is a different scenario when it comes to manufacturing.
- Semiconductor is all about precision manufacturing, zero error and getting everything down to the atomic level to achieve precision. That is something we need to learn from Taiwan, Korea and Japan.
- We will need to support all of that ecosystem, which is what is intended.

## 6. Beki: Was human folly to blame for Brahmaputra tributary changing course, displacing state highway?- DOWN TO EARTH

**Relevance:** Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

### Prelims Takeaway

- BEKI RIVER

### News:

- Human folly and ignorance responsible for the Beki, a tributary of the Brahmaputra, changing course and displacing thousands of people and a state highway in Lower Assam

### Causes of Course Alteration

- The Integrated Flood and Erosion Management Plan of 2022, supported by the World Bank, highlighted the increased flood hazard and severe erosion along the Beki River's path.
- Periodic releases of water from the Kurichu Dam in Bhutan further escalated floods and erosion downstream, altering the Beki's natural course significantly.
- Lack of proactive bank protection measures and failures in coordination between the water resources department, district administration, and public works department exacerbated the crisis.

## 7. Red flags raised over silver imports from UAE through GIFT City-THE HINDU

**Relevance:** Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.

### Prelims Takeaway

- GIFT City
- GTRI

### News:

- Almost all of India's silver imports are now being handled by a few private players bringing the white metal from Dubai through the GIFT City exchange
  - Which could cause significant revenue losses for the exchequer over time.

### Key Highlights

- A trade research body has sought a probe into the relationships between export and import firms to identify and address any potential conflicts of interest
  - while warning that this silver market trend could extend to gold, platinum, and diamonds, further disrupting traditional import practices and market dynamics.
- India's imports of gold and silver from the UAE had jumped 210% in 2023-24 to \$10.7 billion.
- Total silver imports stood at \$5.4 billion.

- In May, 87% of India's global silver imports came from Dubai at a reduced 8% duty and were cleared through the GIFT City exchange in Gandhinagar
  - which has been clearing all silver imports from UAE since December 2023. Imports from other countries and ports are virtually abandoned.
- Earlier attempts by some banks to import silver from the UAE through other ports were questioned for not meeting rules of origin of the India-UAE free trade deal, think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) flagged in a report.
- "The key concern is how the imports cleared through GIFT City meet the rules of origin requirements specified in the India-UAE CEPA [Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement]
- when importers from other ports fail to meet these
- India levies a 15% import duty on silver and only allows institutions nominated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to import the precious metal.
- However, the GIFT City exchange does not limit imports to RBI/DGFT-nominated agencies, registers private traders, and has found no rules of origin issues as flagged by customs elsewhere.

#### Zero tariff

- Under the CEPA signed in 2022, India has agreed to reduce the duty on silver imports to 0% over 10 years, subject to Dubai exporters meeting the rules of origin conditions.
- "As the tariff becomes zero over the next eight years, all silver imports will likely come from the UAE, resulting in a revenue loss of ₹6,700 crore.
- It had also suggested restricting silver imports to nominated agencies authorised by the RBI and DGFT to minimise the risk of misdeclared imports.

## 8. Extinct humans occupied the Tibetan plateau 1,60,000 years ago- The Hindu

**Relevance:** Science and Technology- Developments and their Applications and Effects in Everyday Life.

**News:** According to a new study published, bone remains found in a Tibetan cave 3,280 metres above sea level indicate an ancient group of humans survived there for many millennia.

#### Highlights:

- The Denisovans are an extinct species of ancient human that lived at the same time and in the same places as Neanderthals and Homo sapiens.
- Only a handful of Denisovan remains have ever been discovered by archaeologists.
- Little is known about the group, including when they became extinct, but evidence exists to suggest they interbred with both Neanderthals and Homo sapiens.
- The layer where the rib was found was dated to between 48,000 and 32,000 years ago, implying that this Denisovan individual lived at a time when modern humans were dispersing across the Eurasian continent.
- The results indicate that Denisovans lived through two cold periods, but also during a warmer interglacial period between the Middle and Late Pleistocene eras.
- The research team studied more than 2,500 bones from the Baishiya Karst Cave on the high-altitude Tibetan Plateau, one of the only two places where Denisovans are known to have lived.
- Their new analysis has identified a new Denisovan fossil and shed light on the species' ability to survive in fluctuating climatic conditions including the ice age on the Tibetan plateau from around 200,000 to 40,000 years ago.
- The team used a novel scientific method that exploits differences in bone collagen between animals to determine which species the bone remains came from.
- The research team determined that most of the bones were from blue sheep, known as the bharal, as well as wild yaks, equids, the extinct woolly rhino, and the spotted hyena.
- The researchers also identified bone fragments from small mammals, such as marmots, and birds.
- The team was able to identify that Denisovans hunted, butchered and ate a range of animal species.
- Detailed analysis of the fragmented bone surfaces shows the Denisovans removed meat and bone marrow from the bones, but also indicate the humans used them as raw material to produce tools.

#### Prelims Takeaway

- Denisovans
- Baishiya Karst Cave

## Editorials, Gists and Explainers

### 9. A law around low-carbon climate resilient development- The Hindu

**Relevance:** Conservation, Environmental Pollution and Degradation, Environmental Impact Assessment.

**News:**

- In M.K. Ranjitsinh and Others vs Union of India, the Supreme Court of India recognised a right to be “free from the adverse impacts of climate change” sourcing it from the right to life and the right to equality.
- A patchwork of these judicial interventions would fall short of the encompassing and systemic approach climate change requires.
- Therefore, a strong case for climate legislation, tailored to the Indian context is the need of the hour.

#### Law to inform development choices

- Preparing India to reduce the risks of climate change and address its impacts requires re-orienting development toward low-carbon and climate resilient futures.
- Climate change relentlessly targets the vulnerable, and because an energy transition must be just, it must be grounded in the imperative of advancing social justice.
- While the concept of climate law is often associated with a top-down approach of setting and achieving targets, in a developing country, this approach is limited because addressing climate change is about more than limiting emissions.
- Instead, it requires careful, ongoing, consideration of each developmental choice and its long-run synergies and tradeoffs with low-carbon and climate resilient futures.
- To achieve this, the substantive right of protection against adverse effects of climate change must be realised, in part, through well-defined procedures in law that are applicable across levels of government.
- Several countries (67 according to one estimate) have experimented with ‘framework climate laws’ that build governance capacity to address climate change.
- Umbrella laws that define government-wide goals and substantiate them with a set of processes and accountability measures are a known and increasingly popular way of bringing climate action to the heart of government.
- However, these laws vary, and India’s approach must be tailored to our context.

#### What should be India’s approach?

- Starting from a low base of per capita emissions less than half the global average India’s emissions are still growing
- Our objective should be to squeeze out as much development as possible from each ton of carbon and avoid locking-in to high carbon futures.
- Moreover, India is highly vulnerable to climate impacts, and climate resilience must be an essential element of the new law.
- In meeting both objectives, considerations of social equity must be central.
- Consequently, India’s law must ensure development, but in a low-carbon direction while building resilience to ever more pervasive climate impacts.

#### Have a low carbon development body

- An immediate priority is to create a knowledge body in government capable of rigorously parsing policy options and the futures they might generate.
- An independent ‘low-carbon development commission’, staffed with experts and technical staff, which could offer both national and State governments practical ways of achieving low-carbon growth and resilience.
- This body could also serve as a platform for deliberative decision-making.
  - Vulnerable communities and those that may lose from technological change need to be systematically consulted.

#### Way Forward

- Effective climate governance requires the ability to set directions, make strategic choices, and encourage the consideration of low carbon choices and climate change impacts within line ministries.
- Across the world, climate policy is often defeated by siloed decision-making.
  - So, the law could create a high-level strategic body, which could be ‘climate cabinet’, tasked with driving strategy through government.
- A whole-of-government approach will also require dedicated coordination mechanisms for implementation.
- Not least, the law must pay attention to India’s federal structure. Many areas crucial to reducing emissions and improving resilience, electricity, agriculture, water, health and soil are wholly or partially the preserve of State and local governments.

- Any institutional structure or regulatory instrument created to protect the Court's newly established climate right must meaningfully engage with subnational governments.
- The Court's historical pronouncement in M.K. Ranjitsinh opens the door to legal and governance changes that make possible an actionable right against the adverse effects of climate change.
- But to realize this promise, this open door has to actually be used to pass a climate law that is well suited to the Indian context, that steers Indian development choices toward a low-carbon and climate resilient future, and that also advances justice.

## 10. Only 7% of MSME credit to women; low female labour force participation drag on growth: RBI ED-THE HINDU

**Relevance:** Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

**News:**

- Reserve Bank's executive director said low labour force participation among women is a barrier to financial inclusion efforts and also to broader economic growth.
- There is also a need to up the credit supply to women, pointing out that only 7% of the overall outstanding loans to micro, small and medium enterprises are to women-led businesses.

Current Challenges in Women's Economic Participation	Schemes to Promote Women Empowerment
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Low Labor Force Participation Rates:</b> There is a significant disparity between female (32.8%) and male (77%) participation rates.</li> <li><b>2. Credit Access Discrepancies:</b> Despite women-led businesses comprising nearly a fifth of MSMEs, only 7% of MSME loans are allocated to them.</li> <li><b>3. Gender Inequality:</b> India ranks 135th out of 146 countries in the 2022 World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Report, with gender disparities exceeding five percent.</li> <li><b>4. Gender Pay Gap:</b> Oxfam India's 2022 Discrimination Report highlighted widespread gender pay discrepancies, compounded by biases in recruitment and pay practices.</li> <li><b>5. Barriers to Financial Inclusion:</b> These include structural challenges like limited capital and societal norms, as well as perceptions and biases in the financial sector.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>National Commission for Women:</b> Established in 1992 to monitor and address issues related to women's rights and welfare.</li> <li>• <b>Reservation for Women in Local Self-Government:</b> Mandated by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 to ensure one-third reservation for women in elected offices in local bodies.</li> <li>• <b>Women's Reservation Act of 2023:</b> Provides for reserved seats for women in constituencies by rotation.</li> <li>• <b>Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana:</b> Aims to improve access to financial services for women.</li> <li>• <b>Priority Sector Lending (PSL) Mandate:</b> Encourages banks and microlenders to extend credit to underserved segments, including women entrepreneurs.</li> <li>• <b>RBI Regulations:</b> Mandates financial literacy centers to promote financial education in each district.</li> <li>• <b>Other Initiatives:</b> Includes various government schemes and programs like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme, Samagra Shiksha, Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK), and Mission Shakti, which focus on integrated women empowerment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pathways to Enhance Women's Participation</b></p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Addressing Systemic Biases:</b> Promoting fair assessment and treatment of women borrowers to mitigate biases in lending.</li> <li><b>2. Empowering Through Education:</b> Enhancing financial literacy and providing skills training to improve economic opportunities.</li> <li><b>3. Ensuring Access to Capital:</b> Facilitating easier access to credit with reasonable terms to support women entrepreneurs.</li> <li><b>4. Supporting Women-Led MSMEs:</b> Offering tailored support and incentives to promote the growth and sustainability of businesses led by women.</li> </ol>	



## Quick Look

### 1. Hepatitis A

- Hepatitis A is an inflammation of the liver that can cause mild to severe illness.
- The hepatitis A virus (HAV) is transmitted through ingestion of contaminated food and water or through direct contact with an infectious person.
- Almost everyone recovers fully from hepatitis A with a lifelong immunity. However, a very small proportion of people infected with hepatitis A could die from fulminant hepatitis.
- The risk of hepatitis A infection is associated with a lack of safe water and poor sanitation and hygiene (such as contaminated and dirty hands).
- A safe and effective vaccine is available to prevent hepatitis A.

### 2. Ashadhi Bij

- It falls on the second day of Shukla paksha of Ashada month of Hindu calendar.
- The festival is associated with the beginning of rains in the Kutch region of Gujarat.
- During Ashadhi Bij, the moisture in the atmosphere is checked to predict which crop would do best in the coming monsoon.

### 3. Genome Editing

- Genome editing refers to a set of technologies that allow scientists to alter an organism's DNA.
- These technologies enable the addition, removal, or modification of genetic material at particular locations in the genome.
- Several different genome editing tools have been developed, with CRISPR-Cas9 being one of the most well-known and widely used.
- Genome editing has diverse applications, including gene therapy to treat genetic disorders, improving crop resistance and yield in agriculture
- It also has potential in developing disease-resistant livestock and engineering immune cells for targeted cancer therapies.

### 4. Transposons

- Transposons, or "jumping genes," are DNA sequences that can change their position within the genome.
- They can create mutations, alter the genome's size, and influence gene expression.
- Transposons play significant roles in evolution, genetic diversity, and the regulation of genes, and are used as tools in genetic research and biotechnology.
- They were first discovered by Barbara McClintock in maize, earning her a Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1983.

### 5. Graphene

- Graphene is a one-atom-thick layer of carbon atoms arranged in a hexagonal lattice.
- It is the building-block of Graphite (which is used, among others things, in pencil tips).
- It was first isolated in 2004.
- Graphene is the world's thinnest material; it is only one atom thick, one million times thinner than human hair. However, it is very strong, stronger than steel and diamond.
- It is an excellent conductor of heat and electricity. It conducts electricity better than copper. It is almost perfectly transparent, as it absorbs only 2% of light.
- It is impermeable to gases, even those as light as hydrogen and helium.
- Mechanical strength: It can be used to enhance the strength of other materials.

## Prelims Track Question

**Q1. In context of Gender Samvaad which was in news recently, consider the following:**

1. It is a national virtual initiative under the DAY-NRLM to generate greater awareness on the mission's interventions across the country with a gender lens.
2. Under this Over 3000 state mission staff and rural SHG women connect online to discuss food and nutrition security through women collectives recently.
3. It comes under the purview of the Ministry of Women and Child development.

**Which of the statements above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 Only
- B. 1 and 3 Only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 2 and 3 Only

**Q2. Which of the following statements about the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is/are correct?**

1. DRDO is the premier agency under the Ministry of Defence responsible for research and development in the field of defence technology.
2. DRDO was established in 1958.
3. DRDO's mission includes enhancing self-reliance in defence systems and achieving technological advancements in critical areas.
4. The Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) is a flagship initiative of DRDO aimed at developing indigenous missile systems.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 3, and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian pharmaceutical sector:**

1. India is the largest provider of generic drugs globally.
2. The Indian pharmaceutical industry is heavily dependent on imports for active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs).
3. The government has launched the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme to reduce dependency on imported APIs and boost domestic manufacturing.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

**Q4. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Article 21?**

1. Article 21 is available to both citizens and non-citizens.
2. It includes the right to live with human dignity.
3. The right to education is derived from Article 21.

**Which of the statements above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 Only
- B. 1 and 3 Only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 2 and 3 Only

**Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Electronics:**

1. The PLI Scheme for Electronics aims to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in mobile phone manufacturing and specified electronic components.
2. The scheme provides an incentive of 4% to 6% on incremental sales of goods manufactured in India.
3. The PLI Scheme for Electronics is applicable only to Indian companies and excludes foreign companies.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

**Q6. Which of the following is tributary of river brahmaputra**

- 1. Subansiri
- 2. Ronganadi
- 3. Subarnarekha

**Which of the statements above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 Only
- B. 1 and 3 Only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 2 and 3 Only

**Q7. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) City consists of a multi-service Special Economic Zone (SEZ), which houses India's first International Financial Services Centre

**Statement II:** GIFT city (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) is envisaged as an integrated hub for financial and technology services for India only

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

- A. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- B. Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- C. Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- D. Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

**Q8. The word 'Denisovan' is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to:**

- A. Fossils of a kind of dinosaur.
- B. An early human species.
- C. A cave system found in North-East India.
- D. A geological period in the history of the Indian subcontinent.

**Q9. Which of the following statements about climate change and its impacts are correct?**

- 1. The Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.
- 2. Ocean acidification is a direct consequence of increased atmospheric CO2 levels.
- 3. The melting of polar ice caps contributes to rising sea levels.

**Which of the statements above is/are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 Only
- B. 1 and 3 Only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 2 and 3 Only

**Q10. Which of the following is a key indicator used to measure unemployment in a country?**

- A. Consumer Price Index (CPI)
- B. Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- C. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)
- D. Wholesale Price Index (WPI)

## Prelims Track Answer

**Answer 1 Option A is correct.**

**Explanation**

- **Gender Samvaad** is a national virtual initiative under the DAY-NRLM to generate greater awareness on the mission's interventions across the country with a gender lens. Organized as a part of the Ministry's Iconic Week celebration theme 'Naye Bharat ki Naari' under Amrit Mahotsava. (Hence statement 1 is correct)
- Under this **Over 3000 state mission staff and rural SHG women connect online to discuss food and nutrition security through women collectives** recently. (Hence statement 2 is correct)
- It is organized by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), **Ministry of Rural Development**. (Hence statement 3 is incorrect)

**Answer 2 Option D is Correct**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** DRDO is the premier agency under the Ministry of Defence responsible for research and development in the field of defence technology.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** DRDO was established in 1958 by combining three major defence organisations.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** DRDO's mission indeed includes enhancing self-reliance in defence systems and achieving technological advancements in critical areas to ensure the security of India.
- **Statement 4 is Correct:** The Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) is a flagship initiative of DRDO aimed at developing indigenous missile systems such as Prithvi, Agni, Trishul, Akash, and Nag.

**Answer 3 Option D is Correct**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** India is the largest provider of generic drugs globally, contributing significantly to the global supply of affordable medicines.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Indian pharmaceutical industry relies heavily on imports for active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), particularly from countries like China.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Indian government has introduced the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme to reduce dependency on imported APIs and promote domestic manufacturing of critical key starting materials (KSMs), drug intermediates (DIs), and APIs.

**Answer 4 Option C is correct.**

**Explanation:**

- Article 21 applies to both citizens and non-citizens. **Statement 1 is correct.**
- The right to live with human dignity is included under Article 21, as interpreted by the Supreme Court. **Statement 2 is correct.**
- The right to education is derived from Article 21 through judicial interpretation and led to the enactment of Article 21A. **Statement 3 is correct.**

**Answer 5 Option A is Correct**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The PLI Scheme for Electronics is designed to boost domestic manufacturing and attract significant investments in mobile phone manufacturing and specified electronic components.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The scheme provides an incentive of 4% to 6% on incremental sales of goods manufactured in India.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The PLI Scheme for Electronics is not limited to Indian companies; it is open to both Indian and foreign companies to encourage a broader range of investments and enhance the global competitiveness of Indian manufacturing.

**Answer 6 Option A is correct**

**Explanation**

- The tributaries namely Subansiri, Ronganadi, Dikrong, Buroi, Borgong, Jiabharali, Dhansiri (North) Puthimari, Manas, Beki, Aie, Sonkosh are the main tributaries on the North
- Subarnarekha is not the tributary of the river Brahmaputra. The Subarnarekha River originates near Nagri village in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

## Answer 7 Option C is correct

### Explanation

- GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) City is located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- It consists of a multi-service Special Economic Zone (SEZ), which houses India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) and an exclusive Domestic Tariff Area (DTA).
- GIFT city (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) is envisaged as an integrated hub for financial and technology services not just for India but for the world.

## Answer 8 Option B is Correct

### Explanation:

- For the first time, scientists have found fossils from an extinct ancient human lineage known as the Denisovans outside of Siberia.
- Denisovans were an extinct group of hominins that were close relatives of Neanderthals.
- They are known primarily from a handful of fossil fragments found at Denisova Cave in Siberia, and from genetic clues that linger in the DNA of people across Asia.

## Answer 9 Option C is correct

### Explanation:

- The Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, above pre-industrial levels. **Statement 1 is correct.**
- Ocean acidification is caused by the absorption of excess atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> by the world's oceans, leading to lower pH levels. **Statement 2 is correct.**
- The melting of polar ice caps contributes to rising sea levels by adding more water to the oceans. **Statement 3 is correct.**

## Answer 10 Option C is correct

### Explanation

- The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is a key indicator used to measure unemployment. It represents the percentage of the working-age population that is either employed or actively seeking employment.



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