



Daily PIB Summary

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1. WATER GOVERNANCE IN RURAL INDIA



- Water pollution
- Poor irrigation efficiency
- Climate change impacts

Importance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Agriculture and rural livelihoods
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Public health and sanitation
- III. Contributes to:
 - A. Sustainable development and food security

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

What is Water Governance?

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Planning, management, regulation, and equitable distribution of water resources
- II. Involves:
 - A. Government institutions
 - B. Local communities
 - C. Panchayats
 - D. Water user groups

Key Objectives

- I. Ensure:
 - A. Safe and adequate water supply
- II. Promote:
 - A. Sustainable water resource management
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. Community participation and local decision-making

Major Challenges

- Groundwater over-extraction
- Uneven rainfall and droughts

Rural Water Scenario in India

- I. Agriculture consumes:
 - A. Major share of freshwater resources
- II. Many rural regions depend heavily on:
 - A. Groundwater for irrigation and drinking water

Key Government Initiatives

Jal Jeevan Mission

- I. Aims to provide:
 - A. Functional household tap connections in rural areas

Atal Bhujal Yojana

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Sustainable groundwater management through community participation

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana

- I. Promotes:

- A. Efficient irrigation and water conservation

Community Participation

- I. Village-level institutions help in:
 - A. Water budgeting
 - B. Conservation planning
 - C. Maintenance of water infrastructure

Water Conservation Measures

- Rainwater harvesting
- Watershed management
- Micro-irrigation techniques
- Rejuvenation of ponds and tanks

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Theme:** Water governance in rural India.
- **Focus:** Sustainable and equitable water management.
- **Major concern:** Groundwater depletion and water scarcity.
- **Key sectors:** Agriculture and drinking water.
- **Approach:** Community participation and local governance.
- **Important schemes:** Jal Jeevan Mission, Atal Bhujal Yojana.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen decentralized water governance and climate-resilient water systems.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **Water governance:** Management and regulation of water resources
- **Key issue:** Groundwater depletion
- **Jal Jeevan Mission:** Rural tap water supply

- **Atal Bhujal Yojana:** Groundwater management
- **PMKSY:** Irrigation efficiency scheme
- **Methods:** Rainwater harvesting and watershed management
- **Goal:** Sustainable rural water security

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. Groundwater is an important source of irrigation and drinking water in rural India.
2. Atal Bhujal Yojana focuses on community-based groundwater management.
3. Rainwater harvesting and watershed management help improve water conservation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

2. CABINET APPROVES INTEGRATION & CONTINUATION OF FOOD SECURITY SCHEMES UNDER SARTHAK-PDS



What is SARTHAK-PDS?

- I. Umbrella scheme for:
 - A. Strengthening and modernizing the Public Distribution System (PDS)
- II. Focuses on:
 - A. Foodgrain distribution efficiency
 - B. Technological reforms
 - C. Support to Fair Price Shops (FPS)

Scheme Components

1. Assistance for Intra-State Foodgrain Movement

- I. Financial assistance to states for:
 - A. Transportation of foodgrains within states
- II. Includes:
 - A. Margin support for Fair Price Shop dealers under the National Food Security Act (NFSA)

2. SMART PDS

- I. Focuses on:
 - A. Technology-based reforms in the PDS system

- II. Includes:
 - A. Digitization
 - B. Smart ration management
 - C. Transparency and monitoring systems

Objectives

- I. Improve:
 - A. Efficiency of foodgrain distribution
- II. Reduce:
 - A. Leakages and corruption
- III. Strengthen:
 - A. Food security and beneficiary access

Significance

- I. Supports:
 - A. Welfare of vulnerable populations
- II. Promotes:
 - A. Digital governance and accountability in welfare delivery

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Public Distribution System (PDS)

- I. Government system for:
 - A. Distribution of subsidized foodgrains to eligible households

National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013

National Food Security Act

- I. Legal framework ensuring:
 - A. Food and nutritional security
- II. Covers:
 - A. Priority households and Antyodaya beneficiaries

Fair Price Shops (FPS)

- I. Retail outlets distributing:
 - A. Subsidized foodgrains under PDS

Technology in PDS

- I. Reforms include:
 - A. Aadhaar seeding
 - B. Electronic Point of Sale (e-PoS) devices
 - C. Online supply-chain monitoring
 - D. Digitized ration cards

Importance of Food Security

- I. Ensures:
 - A. Access to affordable food for economically weaker sections
- II. Important for:
 - A. Social welfare and poverty reduction

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Umbrella scheme:** SARTHAK-PDS.
- **Focus:** Food security and PDS modernization.
- **Components:** Foodgrain movement assistance and SMART PDS.
- **Law linked:** NFSA, 2013.
- **Technology:** Digitization and smart monitoring.
- **Importance:** Transparency and efficient welfare delivery.
- **Way Forward:** Expand technology-driven and leak-proof food distribution systems nationwide.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **PDS:** Public Distribution System
- **NFSA:** National Food Security Act, 2013
- **FPS:** Fair Price Shops
- **SMART PDS:** Technology-based PDS reforms
- **SARTHAK-PDS:** Umbrella food distribution modernization scheme
- **Goal:** Efficient subsidized food distribution
- **Importance:** Food security and transparency

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The National Food Security Act provides a legal framework for food security in India.
2. SMART PDS focuses on technology-driven reforms in the Public Distribution System.
3. Fair Price Shops distribute subsidized foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

3. INDIA & CANADA REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO USD 50 BILLION TRADE TARGET; PUSH FOR EARLY CONCLUSION OF CEPA TALKS



Key Highlights

- I. Focus on:
 - A. Expanding bilateral trade and investment cooperation
- II. Commitment towards:
 - A. Faster progress in CEPA negotiations

Areas of Cooperation

- Trade and investment
- Technology and innovation
- Agriculture and food processing
- Clean energy and sustainability
- Education and people-to-people ties

What is CEPA?

- I. Comprehensive trade agreement aimed at:
 - A. Reducing trade barriers
 - B. Enhancing market access
 - C. Promoting investments and economic cooperation

Significance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. India–Canada economic partnership
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Diversified trade and strategic cooperation

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

India–Canada Trade Relations

- I. Bilateral trade includes:
 - A. Agriculture products
 - B. Pharmaceuticals
 - C. Engineering goods
 - D. Energy resources
 - E. Services sector cooperation

Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

- I. Proposed agreement intended to:
 - A. Facilitate trade liberalization and economic integration
- II. Covers:
 - A. Goods
 - B. Services
 - C. Investment
 - D. Intellectual property and regulatory cooperation

Importance of Trade Agreements

- I. Help:
 - A. Increase exports and investments
- II. Improve:
 - A. Economic growth and market opportunities

Strategic Economic Cooperation

- I. India and Canada are exploring collaboration in:
 - A. Critical minerals
 - B. Clean technologies
 - C. Supply chains
 - D. Education and skilled mobility

1. A Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement generally aims to improve trade and investment relations between countries.
2. CEPA negotiations may include provisions related to goods, services, and investments.
3. Bilateral trade agreements can help improve market access and economic cooperation.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Countries involved:** India and Canada.
- **Trade target:** USD 50 billion.
- **Agreement under discussion:** CEPA.
- **Focus:** Trade, investment, and economic cooperation.
- **Key leaders:** Piyush Goyal and Maninder Sidhu.
- **Importance:** Strengthened bilateral economic ties.
- **Way Forward:** Accelerate CEPA negotiations and expand sectoral cooperation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **CEPA:** Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
- **Purpose:** Trade and investment liberalization
- **Partner countries:** India and Canada
- **Trade target:** USD 50 billion
- **Areas:** Goods, services, investment
- **Importance:** Economic integration and market access
- **Goal:** Stronger bilateral economic partnership

4. WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN IAS REACHES RECORD 41%; DR. JITENDRA SINGH CALLS IT A REFLECTION OF DEMOCRATISATION OF OPPORTUNITY IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA



PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

Key Highlights

- I. Women now constitute:

- A. Around 41% of IAS recruits in recent selections
- II. Reflects:
 - A. Greater accessibility to higher education and competitive examinations

Importance

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Gender diversity in governance and administration
- II. Encourages:
 - A. Inclusive policymaking and leadership representation

Factors Contributing to the Rise

- Improved educational opportunities for women
- Greater social awareness and empowerment
- Expansion of coaching, digital learning, and support systems
- Policy emphasis on women's empowerment

Significance

- I. Indicates:
 - A. Expanding social mobility and equal opportunity
- II. Supports:
 - A. Women-led development and participatory governance

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Administrative Service (IAS)

Indian Administrative Service

- I. Premier civil service of India under:
 - A. All India Services
- II. Officers are responsible for:
 - A. Policy implementation
 - B. Administration
 - C. Governance at district, state, and central levels

UPSC Civil Services Examination

Union Public Service Commission

- I. Conducts:
 - A. Civil Services Examination for recruitment to IAS and other services

Women in Governance

- I. Greater participation of women in administration can:
 - A. Improve representation and inclusivity
- II. Enhances:
 - A. Diversity in decision-making processes

Democratisation of Opportunity

- I. Refers to:
 - A. Expanding access to education, employment, and leadership irrespective of gender or background

Women Empowerment in India

- I. Linked with:

- A. Education
- B. Economic participation
- C. Political and administrative representation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Service:** IAS.
- **Women representation:** Record 41%.
- **Authority quoted:** Dr. Jitendra Singh.
- **Theme:** Gender inclusion in governance.
- **Importance:** Equal opportunity and empowerment.
- **Institution involved:** UPSC.
- **Way Forward:** Continue strengthening educational access, mentorship, and leadership opportunities for women.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **IAS:** Indian Administrative Service
- **Recruiting body:** UPSC
- **Category:** All India Service
- **Theme:** Women empowerment
- **Concept:** Democratisation of opportunity
- **Importance:** Inclusive governance
- **Goal:** Gender-balanced administration

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Union Public Service Commission conducts the Civil Services Examination for recruitment to the IAS.
2. The IAS is one of the All India Services.
3. Increased representation of women in governance can improve inclusivity in policymaking.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

5. INDIAN COAST GUARD CONDUCTS ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATION OFF MUNDRA COAST IN GUJARAT



Key Highlights

- I. Operation carried out in:
 - A. Coastal waters near Mundra, Gujarat
- II. Objective:
 - A. Prevent illegal smuggling activities through maritime routes

Role of the Indian Coast Guard

- I. Conducts:
 - A. Maritime patrols and surveillance
- II. Ensures:
 - A. Coastal and offshore security
- III. Prevents:
 - A. Smuggling

- B. Illegal trafficking
- C. Maritime crimes

Importance of the Operation

- I. Strengthens:
 - A. Maritime law enforcement
- II. Protects:
 - A. National security and coastal economy
- III. Enhances:
 - A. Coordination among maritime security agencies

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Indian Coast Guard (ICG)

Indian Coast Guard

- I. Maritime law enforcement and search-and-rescue force under:
 - A. Ministry of Defence
- II. Responsible for:
 - A. Coastal security
 - B. Marine environment protection
 - C. Anti-smuggling operations

Mundra Coast

Mundra

- I. Strategically important coastal region in Gujarat.
- II. Important for:
 - A. Ports
 - B. Maritime trade
 - C. Industrial activities

Smuggling Through Maritime Routes

- I. Illegal maritime activities may involve:
 - A. Narcotics
 - B. Contraband goods
 - C. Weapons
 - D. Illegal trafficking networks

Importance of Coastal Security

- I. India has:
 - A. Long coastline and extensive maritime interests
- II. Coastal security is important for:
 - A. Trade protection
 - B. National defence
 - C. Economic stability

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Agency:** Indian Coast Guard.
- **Operation type:** Anti-smuggling operation.
- **Location:** Off Mundra coast, Gujarat.
- **Focus:** Maritime surveillance and law enforcement.
- **Importance:** Coastal and national security.
- **Threat addressed:** Illegal maritime trafficking.
- **Way Forward:** Strengthen integrated coastal surveillance and inter-agency coordination.

PRELIMS BOOSTER BOX

- **ICG:** Indian Coast Guard
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Defence
- **Functions:** Coastal security and anti-smuggling
- **Location:** Mundra coast, Gujarat
- **Threats:** Contraband and illegal trafficking
- **Importance:** Maritime security

- **Goal:** Safe and secure coastal waters

PadhAI-GENERATED UPSC MCQ

Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Coast Guard functions under the Ministry of Defence.
2. The Indian Coast Guard is involved in anti-smuggling and maritime law enforcement operations.
3. Coastal security is important for protecting maritime trade and national security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)