



# Census

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## DECENNIAL POPULATION CENSUS



A process of collecting, compiling, analysing and disseminating demographic, economic and social data (at a specific time) of all persons in a country.

### BRIEF HISTORY

- Earliest mentions: **Rigveda** (800-600 BC), **Arthashastra** (300 BC) & **Ain-i-Akbari** (16<sup>th</sup> century)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Non-synchronous Census (held in a few places): **1872** under **Gov. Gen. Lord Mayo**
- 1<sup>st</sup> Synchronous Census (held all over British India): **1881** by **W.C. Plowden** (Census Commissioner of India) under **Lord Ripon**

### RESPONSIBLE BODY

- Until 1951, Census Organisation was set up on an ad-hoc basis for each Census
- Since 1951, Office of the **Registrar General and Census Commissioner** (MHA)

### LEGAL BACKING

- A Union list subject under **Article 246**
- Conducted under **Census Act (CA), 1948**

### CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION COLLECTED

- Guaranteed under CA 1948
- Information not even accessible to the courts of law

### SIGNIFICANCE

- Largest single source of statistical information about people of India
- Used for good governance purposes
- Demarcation of constituencies & representation in Legislature

Census	Major Event
5 <sup>th</sup> (1921)	Only census to witness a decadal population decline (0.31%) Hence, called the year of " <b>The Great Divide</b> "
11 <sup>th</sup> (1971)	Added information on fertility for currently married women
13 <sup>th</sup> (1991)	<b>Concept of literacy changed</b> to children aged 7+ (previously 4+)
14 <sup>th</sup> (2001)	Leap in tech front; usage of <b>Intelligent Character Reading (ICR)</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> (2011)	Notable fall in case of <b>Empowered Action Group (EAG) States</b> noticed first time

## Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC)

### ABOUT

- Conducted in **2011** for the **first time since 1931**

### COMPONENTS

- Economic status** (to define a poor/deprived person)
- Specific caste** (to evaluate caste groups that are economically worse/better off)

### CONSTITUTIONAL BACKING

- Article 340** mandates the **appointment of a commission** to investigate the conditions of socially/educationally backward classes

### Census v/s SECC

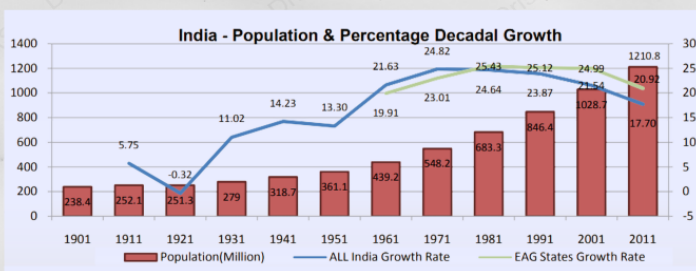
- SECC **identifies beneficiaries** of state support (Census - national population data)
- SECC **data open for use** by govt depts (Census data - confidential)

### SIGNIFICANCE

- Better inequality mapping
- Quantifiable data to support existing reservation levels

### SOME KEY FINDINGS OF SECC 2011

- Total Households - 24.49 crore
  - Rural - 17.97 crore
  - SC/ST Households - 3.87 crore (21.56%)
- Households with no literate adult (age >25) - 23.5%



# India's Chandrayaan-3 and Russia's Luna 25 Mission

**For Prelims:** [Chandrayaan-3](#), Luna 25, GLONASS navigation system, Aryabhata Mission, [Gaganyaan](#), Soyuz rocket, USSR's Interkosmos program.

**For Mains:** Difference in Luna 25 and Chandrayaan 3 Mission.

[Source: TH](#)

## Why in News?

The race for lunar exploration has taken an intriguing turn as **Russia's Luna 25 mission, launched aboard its Soyuz rocket on August 10, 2023**, seeks to soft-land close to the lunar South Pole, **just days before [India's Chandrayaan-3](#)**.

- **Russia's space agency, [Roscosmos](#)** asserts that Luna 25's landing would not impact Chandrayaan-3, as their landing regions are distinct.

## Why is Luna 25 Reaching the Moon Earlier than Chandrayaan-3?

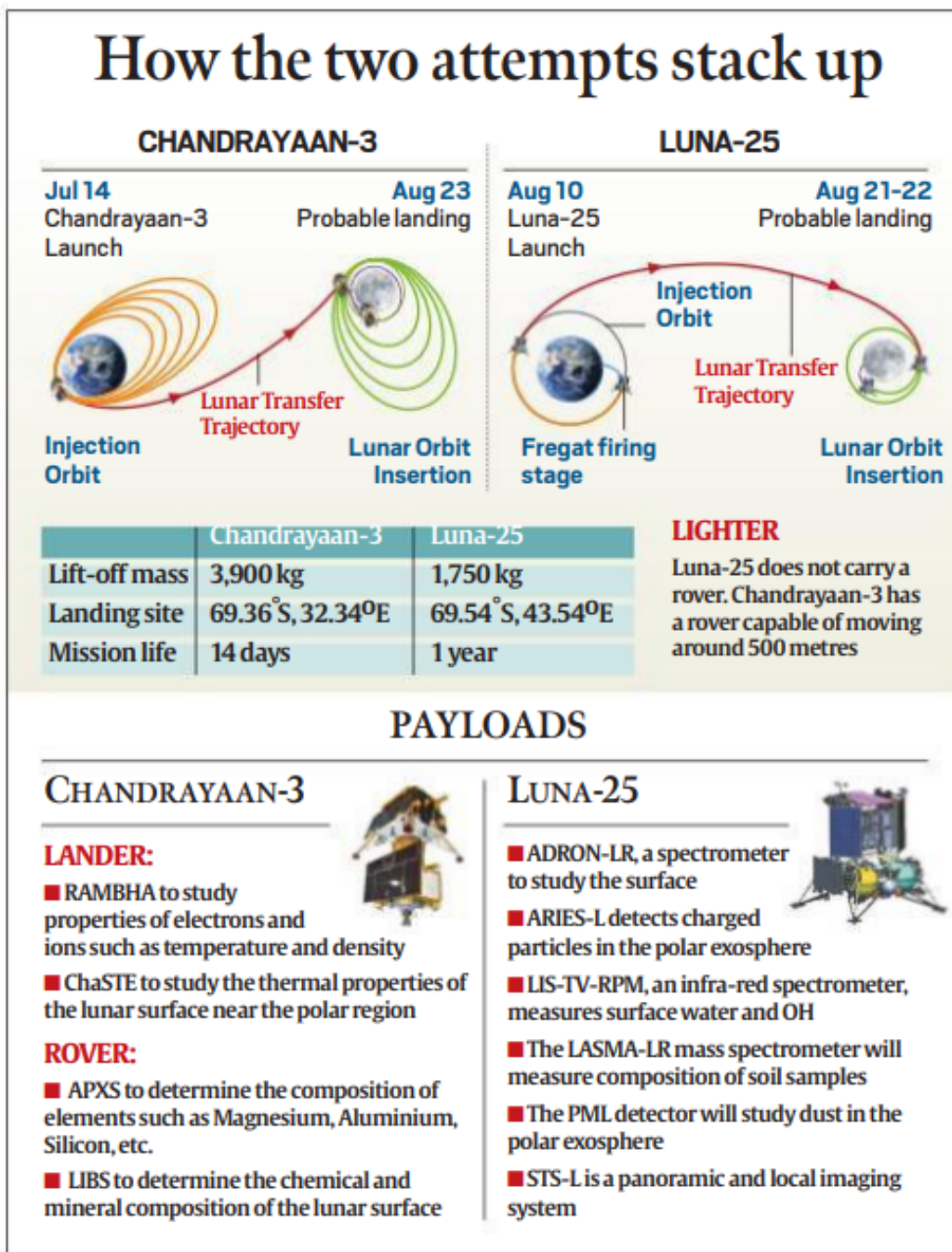
- **Direct Trajectory Advantage:** Despite being launched almost a month later than Chandrayaan-3, Luna 25 is set to reach the moon earlier due to its more **direct trajectory**.
- **Payload and Fuel Storage:** Luna 25's lift-off mass of **1,750 kg is significantly lighter than Chandrayaan-3's 3,900 kg**, facilitating a quicker journey.
- **Circuitous Route for Chandrayaan-3:** Chandrayaan-3 took a longer route to compensate for its **lower fuel reserve**, involving maneuvers to gain velocity and slingshotting towards the moon.
  - This elongated its journey to the **[lunar orbit](#)** by 22 days.
- **Lunar Dawn Timing:** Luna 25 benefits from an **earlier lunar dawn at its landing site, ensuring full [solar panel](#) power for its payloads during the lunar day (equal to 14 Earth days)**.

**Note:** Only three countries have managed to complete a soft landing on the Moon in history: the United States, the Soviet Union, and China.

## What are the Other Differences between Luna 25 and Chandrayaan 3?

- **About:** Luna 25 marks **Russia's return to lunar exploration after 47 years**, aiming to reclaim its reputation in space exploration.
  - **Chandrayaan-3 is India's third lunar mission and second attempt at achieving a soft landing** on the moon's surface
- **Payload Difference:** Luna 25 is lighter and **lacks a rover**, focusing on studying **soil composition, dust particles, and detecting surface water**.
  - **Chandrayaan-3 carries a rover capable of moving 500 meters**, aims to study lunar soil, and has **instruments to detect water-ice in shadowed craters near the lunar South Pole**.
- **Lifespan:** Luna 25 is designed for a **year-long mission**, equipped with heating mechanisms and a non-solar power source.
  - In contrast, **Chandrayaan-3 is built for a single lunar day** due to lack of heating during lunar nights.

- **Objective of the Mission:** The Russian lander has **eight payloads mainly to study the soil composition, dust particles in the polar exosphere**, and most importantly, detect surface water.
  - The Indian mission also has scientific instruments **to study the lunar soil as well as water-ice**. The location near the southern pole was chosen because **of the presence of craters that remain in permanent shadow**, increasing the likelihood of finding water-ice.
    - The lander will carry four experiments on-board (RAMBHA, ChaSTE, ILSA, LASER Retroreflector Array (LRA)) .
    - There are two scientific experiments on the rover.
      - The LASER Induced Breakdown Spectroscope (LIBS).
      - The Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS).



## What is the Status of India Russia Space Collaboration?

- India's first satellite, [Aryabhata](#), was launched by the **Soviet Union in 1975**.

- Only one Indian citizen has ever flown to space- Rakesh Sharma flew to the **Salyut 7 space station on a Soyuz rocket in 1984 as part of the USSR's Interkosmos program.**
- In 2004, the two countries signed a protocol to boost cooperation in space. This included the development of the [GLONASS navigation system](#) and the launching of **Russian GLONASS satellites by Indian rockets.**
- Chandrayaan-2 was initially supposed to be a collaboration between India and Russia.
  - However, **Russia withdrew from designing the lander-rover for [Chandrayaan-2](#), leading India to develop it independently.**
- Also, four astronauts who will be part of **India's first crewed space mission: [Gaganyaan](#) have been trained in Russian facilities.**

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

**Q.** Discuss India's achievements in the field of Space Science and Technology. How the application of this technology has helped India in its socio-economic development? **(2016)**

## Urea Gold

**For Prelims:** Urea Gold, [Neem Coated Urea](#), [Liquid Nano Urea](#), [Leguminous crops](#), [Nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium \(NPK\)](#), Nitrogen use efficiency.

**For Mains:** Features of Urea Gold, Status of Urea Consumption in India.

[Source: IE](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, Indian Prime Minister officially launched '**Urea Gold**' fertiliser'. It is developed by **Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd (RCF)**, a leading fertilizer and chemical manufacturing company in India in the Public Sector.

## What is Urea Gold?

- **About:** Urea Gold is created by **infusing urea with sulfur**, creating a composite fertilizer with **37% nitrogen (N) and 17% sulfur (S)**.
  - This nutrient blend serves two primary objectives: **fulfilling sulfur requirements in Indian soils and enhancing nitrogen use efficiency (NUE)**.

**Note:** Normal [urea](#) contains 46% of a single plant nutrient: Nitrogen or N.

- **Features:**
  - **Addressing Soil Deficiencies: Indian soils frequently lack sulfur**, an essential element particularly crucial for oilseeds and pulses.
    - By incorporating sulfur into the fertilizer composition, '**Urea Gold**' aims to

- provide a **comprehensive nutrient package**, thus catering to the specific needs of crops reliant on sulfur.
- **Enhancing Nitrogen Efficiency:** A key innovation of 'Urea Gold' is its ability to **improve nitrogen use efficiency (NUE)**.
  - The sulfur coating on urea enables a gradual release of nitrogen, leading to **prolonged nutrient availability**.
  - As a result, **plants maintain their greenness for an extended duration**. This phenomenon allows farmers to reduce the frequency of usage.
    - Farmers tend to apply urea when **they notice the leaves turning yellowish**.
- **Potential Yield Increase:** 'Urea Gold' has the potential to increase crop yields through improved nutrient utilization.
  - The **gradual release of nutrients minimizes wastage and enhances the nutrient uptake by plants**, ultimately translating into enhanced productivity.

## What is the Status of Urea Consumption in India?

- **About Urea:**
  - Urea is a **white crystalline compound** commonly used as a **synthetic fertilizers** in agriculture.
  - When applied to the soil or crops, **urea is broken down by enzymes into ammonia and carbon dioxide**.
    - The **ammonia then gets converted into ammonium ions**, which can be **taken up by plant roots and used for growth and development**.
- **Status of Consumption in India:**
  - Urea is India's most widely used fertiliser, with its consumption/sales rising from **26.7 million tonnes (mt) to 35.7 mt between 2009-10 and 2022-23**.
- **Interventions Similar to Urea Gold:**
  - **Neem Coated Urea:** This is a modified form of urea that is **coated with neem oil**.
    - It **reduces the leaching and volatilization losses of nitrogen**, has insecticidal and nematicidal properties, and improves the soil texture and water holding capacity.
  - **Liquid Nano Urea:** This is a **nanotechnology-based fertilizer that is sprayed on leaves** and is assimilated by the plant cells.
    - It **enhances the nutritional quality and productivity of the crop**, reduces the fertilizer consumption, improves the nitrogen use efficiency, and saves the input costs.
- **Challenges:**
  - **Urea Imports and Feedstock Dependency:** In 2022-23, **7.6 million metric tons (mt) of urea were imported out of a total of 35.7 mt sold**, raising significant apprehensions.
    - Even **domestically produced urea heavily relies on imported natural gas**, the essential feedstock for production.
  - **Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) and Loss:** Around **65% of applied N is lost to various factors: ammonia gas release into the atmosphere** and nitrate leaching underground after conversion.
    - The decline in NUE has led to a **situation where farmers need to apply increasingly more fertilizer** to achieve the same crop yield.
  - **Subsidy Burden:** Urea is heavily subsidized by the Indian government to ensure affordable prices for farmers.
    - However, this **subsidy has led to issues of overuse and inefficiencies in urea consumption**.
    - Farmers often apply more urea than necessary due to its low cost, which can result in imbalanced nutrient application and environmental degradation.

## Way Forward

- **Fortifications:** Fortification of urea, DAP (Di-ammonium Phosphate) and other commodity fertilisers with micronutrients is the **way forward for boosting crop yields and maximising**

### the use efficiency of imported nutrients .

- Since India has limited natural gas, rock phosphate, potash, and sulfur reserves, these fertilizers should be coated with **secondary nutrients (calcium and magnesium) and micronutrients (zinc, boron, manganese, molybdenum, iron, copper and nickel) instead.**
- **Precision Agriculture:** Implementing [precision agriculture](#) techniques, such as **variable rate application**, can help optimize urea use by **tailoring fertilizer application rates based on specific crop and soil needs.**
  - This prevents overuse and reduces nutrient wastage.
- **Nutrient Management Planning:** Encouraging farmers to adopt comprehensive nutrient management plans can ensure balanced fertilizer application, considering the [nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium \(NPK\) needs of crops.](#)
  - This approach minimizes the overreliance on urea and promotes the efficient use of other nutrients with **optimum balance (N: P: K= 4:2:1).**
- **Crop Rotation and Diversification:** Promoting diverse cropping patterns and crop rotation can **reduce the excessive demand for urea.**
  - [Leguminous crops](#), for instance, can fix atmospheric nitrogen, reducing the need for nitrogen fertilizers.
- **Subsidy Reform:** There is a need to **gradually rationalise and reform the fertilizer subsidy system** to incentivize the use of balanced fertilization practices.
  - This might involve **providing subsidies for alternative nutrient sources**, encouraging farmers to reduce urea consumption.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year's Question (PYQs)

### Q. With reference to chemical fertilizers in India, consider the following statements: (2020)

1. At present, the retail price of chemical fertilizers is market-driven and not administered by the Government.
2. Ammonia, which is an input of urea, is produced from natural gas.
3. Sulphur, which is a raw material for phosphoric acid fertilizer, is a by-product of oil refineries.

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

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

Ans: (b)

### Q. Why does the Government of India promote the use of 'Neem-coated Urea' in agriculture? (2016)

- (a) Release of Neem oil in the soil increases nitrogen fixation by the soil microorganisms.
- (b) Neem coating slows down the rate of dissolution of urea in the soil.
- (c) Nitrous oxide, which is a greenhouse gas, is not at all released into atmosphere by crop fields.
- (d) It is a combination of a weedicide and a fertilizer for particular crops.

Ans: (b)

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# State Universities to be hubs of Skill-Based Education

**For Prelims:** State Universities to be hubs for Skill-Based Education, [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020](#), [Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics \(STEM\)](#), [IoEs \(Institutions of Excellence\)](#).

**For Mains:** State Universities to be hubs for Skill-Based Education.

**Source:** TH

## Why in News?

The [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020](#) in India has been hailed for its emphasis on skill-based education and practical learning.

- However, despite a large number of science graduates, there is a disconnect between the education provided and industry requirements.

## What is the Scenario of Higher Education in India for STEM?

- Among 1,113 Indian universities, 422 are public and managed by **State governments**, each with several State-affiliated colleges catering to a large share of enrolments.
  - These universities play a **crucial role in preparing graduates for the scientific workforce**.
- Among Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) graduates, the aggregate **enrolment of students in BSc courses is close to 50 lakh**, with more than 11 lakh students completing their bachelor's degrees every year, as per the **All-India Survey of Higher Education Report 2021-2022**.
- However, the number of science graduates drops to 2.9 lakh at the masters level (25% of BSc graduates), and even further at the doctoral level, with **only 6,000 science PhDs awarded each year**.
  - A PhD, or a master's degree with select eligibility tests, is a prerequisite to entry-level scientific research or teaching positions at universities and national institutes.
- Given this, **a large number of bachelors-equivalent science graduates in India - some 8 lakh a year** - represents the human resources entering the workforce immediately or in the near future.
- The majority of bachelors-level science graduates in India earn **their primary degrees at State-affiliated colleges and universities**.

## What are the Issues Related to State Affiliated Universities for Higher Education?

- **Outdated Curriculum:** Many State-affiliated institutions offer curricula and course content that are **outdated and not in line with contemporary technologies** and advancements. This hampers the students' ability to acquire relevant and up-to-date knowledge and skills.
- **Lack of Practical Training:** Science courses **often lack sufficient practical training opportunities**, and laboratory facilities are often inadequate or poorly maintained. This limits students' hands-on experience and practical skills development, which are crucial for scientific careers.
- **Limited Research Focus:** State-affiliated institutions **face resource constraints and often lack the research-intensive environment** found in [Institutes of Eminence](#) and private universities. This hampers research opportunities for students and faculty, hindering their ability to contribute to scientific advancements.
- **Existential Crisis:** These institutions struggle to find **their unique role in higher science education**. Unlike **IoEs (Institutions of Excellence)** or private universities, State-affiliated

colleges cater to a larger number of students but may lack the resources to meet research metrics. Balancing the teaching **role with the need for research and upskilling poses a challenge.**

- **Employability Gap:** Despite a large pool of science graduates, **industries report a lack of individuals trained with** relevant skills. This indicates a mismatch between the skills imparted by State-affiliated institutions and the demands of the job market.

## How can State Universities be Turned into Skill-Based Education Hubs?

- **Aligning Curriculum with Industry Needs:**
  - Revamp BSc and integrated course curricula to focus on industry-relevant skills and certifications, including programming, data analysis, instrumentation, quality assurance, and benchmarking.
- **Industry Collaborations:**
  - Forge long-term collaborations with industries through seminars, expert interactions, apprenticeships, job fairs, and funding support to provide real-world exposure and enhance practical training.
- **Incorporating Job Application Skills:**
  - Enhance course-training by teaching job application skills, including applying for positions, interviewing techniques, and salary negotiation, to ensure graduates are job-ready.
- **Adopting International Models:**
  - Draw inspiration from U.S. and European community college and technical university models that prioritize regional education and workforce readiness.
- **Bridging Policy Objectives:**
  - State-affiliated institutions can address India's need for skilled scientific personnel and graduate-level employability challenges, aligning with the National Education Policy and proposed National Research Foundation.

## Conclusion

- Transforming State-affiliated universities into **skill-based science education centers can bridge the gap between science education and industry requirements**, ensuring graduates are better prepared for the workforce. This aligns with the broader goals of the NEP and enhances the country's scientific capabilities.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

**Q1.** How have digital initiatives in India contributed to the functioning of the education system in the country? Elaborate on your answer. **(2020)**

**Q2.** Discuss the main objectives of Population Education and point out the measures to achieve them in India in detail. **(2021)**

## MPC Recent Decisions: Repo, Inflation Projection, I-CRR

**For Prelims:** [Monetary Policy Committee](#), [Reserve Bank of India](#), [Headline inflation](#), [Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio \(I-CRR\)](#), [Reverse repo operations](#), [Inflation Targeting](#), [Open Market Operations](#).

**For Mains:** Implications of Excess Liquidity in India, Measures Adopted by RBI to Suck Excess Liquidity, Ways to Manage High Inflation and High Liquidity Simultaneously.



## Why in News?

The [Monetary Policy Committee \(MPC\)](#) of the [Reserve Bank of India \(RBI\)](#) has recently opted to **maintain the [policy repo rate](#) at 6.5%**, while simultaneously revising its projection for retail inflation in the current fiscal year (2023-24).

- Additionally, a **temporary 10% Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (I-CRR)** is imposed on banks to absorb excess liquidity.

## What are the Key Decisions of the MPC?

- **Repo Rate Unchanged:** The RBI decided unanimously to **keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.5% to balance economic growth and inflation control.**
- **Inflation Projection Increased:** The projection for retail inflation in the **current fiscal year has been raised by 30 basis points to 5.4%**.
  - This adjustment **acknowledges the upward trend in [headline inflation](#)**, driven in part by rising vegetable prices.
  - While the spike in vegetable prices is expected to be temporary, **external factors like possible [El Nino](#) weather conditions** and global food prices pose potential risks.
- **Projected GDP Growth:** The MPC retained its projection for real GDP growth in 2023-24 at **6.5%**.
- **Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (I-CRR):** Effective from 12th August 2023, **scheduled banks are required to maintain an I-CRR of 10% on the net increase in their demand and time liabilities** between May 19, 2023, and July 28, 2023.
  - This move aims to **absorb surplus liquidity**, particularly due to the recent demonetisation of Rs. 2000 notes.
  - The RBI opted for **I-CRR over a general [CRR](#) increase to prevent penalizing banks for their current deposits** and to limit impacts on credit growth and the economy.
    - A CRR rise would have restricted loan funds and raised borrowing costs. **I-CRR only targets excess liquidity from demonetization** without disrupting regular banking operations.
    - The existing **CRR remains unchanged at 4.5%**.
  - Also, the RBI clarified that the **I-CRR is a temporary measure. In 2016, during the time of demonetisation, a 100% I-CRR was employed.**

## Is the Recent RBI's Move Related to the HDFC Ltd-HDFC Bank Merger?

- **Speculation:** The speculation is that the RBI's decision to introduce this additional CRR could be **an attempt to offset any potential profits that HDFC Bank** might have made during the grace period after the merger.
- **Background: HDFC Ltd was not a bank**, but it could raise deposits. However, it **was not subject to the CRR rule**. HDFC Ltd then merged with HDFC Bank, bringing in **large amounts of deposits into the banking system**.
  - After the merger, HDFC Bank was **granted a grace period during which it did not have to deposit the usual 4.5% CRR** on its newfound deposits.
  - This **grace period** allowed the bank to potentially invest these significant deposits elsewhere and **earn profits from these investments**.
  - The RBI's recent move of **incremental CRR** implies that **banks, including HDFC Bank, have to keep an extra 10% of these deposits with the RBI.**

## What are the Other Measures that RBI can Adopt to Suck Excess Liquidity?

- **Reverse Repo Operations:** The RBI can conduct [reverse repo operations](#), where it absorbs excess liquidity from banks by offering them government securities in exchange for funds.
  - However, recently RBI opted for using I-CRR instead of raising the reverse repo rate because **increasing the reverse repo rate would have also increased the repo rate which would have [tightened monetary policy](#)** and hampered economic recovery.

- **Foreign Exchange Operations:** Selling foreign exchange reserves can reduce liquidity in the domestic currency market.
  - This approach can be used cautiously, **as it can impact the [exchange rate](#) and international trade.**
- **Moral Suasion:** The RBI can communicate with banks and financial institutions to encourage them to voluntarily manage their liquidity positions and curtail excessive lending.

## Note:

- **CRR:** Cash Reserve Ratio, a percentage of **Net Demand and Time Liabilities**, banks must keep with the central bank (RBI) to control liquidity.
  - **Incremental CRR:** Additional requirement imposed by RBI on banks' liabilities to manage excess liquidity and stabilize the economy.
- **Repo Rate:** It is the interest rate set by the RBI for **short-term loans to commercial banks**. It's a tool used to control inflation and stimulate economic growth.
- **Inflation:** It refers to the **sustained increase in the general price level of goods and services in an economy over a period of time**, leading to a decrease in the purchasing power of money.
  - **Headline Inflation:** It is the total inflation for the period, **comprising a basket of commodities**.
    - The **food and fuel inflation** form one of the components of headline inflation in India.
  - **Core Inflation:** It excludes volatile goods from the basket of commodities tracking Headline Inflation. These volatile commodities mainly comprise food and beverages (including vegetables) and fuel and light (crude oil).
    - **Core inflation = Headline inflation - (Food and Fuel) inflation.**
- **Inflation Targeting:** It is a monetary policy framework aimed at maintaining a specific target range for inflation.
  - The **Urjit Patel Committee** recommended **CPI (Consumer Price Index) over WPI (Wholesale Price Index)** as a measure for inflation targeting.
    - The current inflation target also aligns with the committee's recommendation to establish a **target inflation rate of 4%**, accompanied by an acceptable range of deviation of **+/- 2%**.
    - The central government, in consultation with the RBI, sets an inflation target, and an upper and lower tolerance level for retail inflation.
- **Liquidity** refers to the **ease with which an asset or security can be quickly bought or sold** in the market without significantly affecting its price.
  - It signifies the **availability of cash or liquid assets** to meet financial obligations or make investments. **In simpler terms, liquidity is to get your money whenever you need it.**

## What are the Implications of Excess Liquidity in India?

- **Positive Implications:**
  - **Lower Interest Rates:** Excess liquidity can lead to **lower interest rates in the economy**.
    - When there is an abundance of funds, banks and financial institutions tend to lower their lending rates to attract borrowers.
    - This can stimulate borrowing and investment activities, promoting economic growth.
  - **Stimulating Investment:** With lower interest rates, **businesses may find it cheaper to borrow and invest in expanding their operations**, launching new projects, and creating jobs.
    - This can have a **positive impact on economic activity and job creation.**
- **Negative Implications:**
  - **Inflationary Pressure:** Excess liquidity can contribute to inflationary pressures in the

economy.

- When there is too much money chasing a limited supply of goods and services, prices can rise.
- This can **erode the purchasing power of consumers** and reduce their overall standard of living.
- **Exchange Rate Volatility:** Sudden inflows of foreign capital can lead to currency appreciation, **making exports more expensive** and imports cheaper.
  - On the other hand, **outflows can lead to currency depreciation**, which can **impact trade balances and external debt**.
- **Asset Price Bubbles:** While excess liquidity can boost asset prices, it can also lead to the formation of **speculative bubbles**.
  - If the increase in asset prices is not supported by fundamentals, it **could result in a sudden collapse of prices, leading to financial instability**.
- **Income Inequality:** The benefits of excess liquidity, such as increased asset prices, **might disproportionately benefit the wealthy who have more exposure to these assets**.
  - This can exacerbate income inequality in the economy.

## How can High Inflation and High Liquidity be Managed Simultaneously ?

- **Interest Rate Adjustment:** The RBI can consider a cautious approach to interest rate adjustments.
  - While **high liquidity might suggest lowering interest rates, the focus should also be on curbing inflation**.
  - A balanced approach might involve incremental interest rate hikes to manage both liquidity and inflation concerns.
- **Open Market Operations (OMOs)** :The RBI can engage in **controlled [Open Market Operations](#)**, which involve **selling government securities to counterbalance the liquidity** injected into the system.
  - This can help mitigate the inflationary effects of excessive liquidity.
- **Targeted Fiscal Measures:** The Indian government can **adopt targeted fiscal policies to address sectors contributing to inflation**.
  - For instance, **investing in agricultural infrastructure and supply chain improvements** can help **[stabilize food prices](#)**, a current major driver of inflation in India.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims

#### Q. Consider the following statements: (2020)

1. The weightage of food in Consumer Price Index (CPI) is higher than that in Wholesale Price Index (WPI).
2. The WPI does not capture changes in the prices of services, which CPI does.
3. Reserve Bank of India has now adopted WPI as its key measure of inflation and to decide on changing the key policy rates.

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

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

Ans: (a)

#### Q. The RBI decides to adopt an expansionist monetary policy, which of the following would it not do? (2020)

1. Cut and optimize the Statutory Liquidity Ratio
2. Increase the Marginal Standing Facility Rate
3. Cut the Bank Rate and Repo Rate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (b)

### Mains

Q. Do you agree with the view that steady GDP growth and low inflation have left the Indian economy in good shape? Give reasons in support of your arguments. (2019)

## Demolition Drive and Rule of Law

**For Prelims:** [Demolition Drive](#), [Fundamental Rights](#), Rule of Law, Article 226, Maneka Gandhi case (1978), Article 39 of Magna Carta, Article 21.

**For Mains:** Demolition Drive and Rule of Law, Law Against Demolition Drives, Judgements & Cases.

[Source: TH](#)

### Why in News?

The Punjab and Haryana High Court's Suo Motu intervention in the [Demolition Drive](#) in Haryana, asking whether it is an exercise of **Ethnic Cleansing** and shed light on potential violation of [Fundamental Rights](#) and the erosion of rule of law.

- The recent demolition of dwellings and business establishments in Haryana has raised **significant constitutional and legal questions**.

### What is Ethnic Cleansing?

- The term "**Ethnic Cleansing**" originated from a **UN-appointed Commission of Experts** chaired by Prof. Cherif Bassiouni in 1992.
- It refers to deliberate acts by one ethnic or religious group to forcibly remove another group from specific geographic areas using violent and terror-inspiring methods.
- Although not defined in Indian law, acts amounting to ethnic cleansing violate **constitutional guarantees under Part III of the Indian Constitution**.

### What are the Reasons for Court's Intervention?

- The High Court took cognisance of the fact that the demolition drive was carried out without "**demolition orders and notices**", thereby violative of the procedure established by

law.

- **Article 21** of Indian Constitution commands that no person shall be deprived of his life and personal liberty except according to the procedure established by law.
  - In the **Maneka Gandhi case, 1978**, the Supreme Court had expanded the scope of procedure established by law by ruling that such procedure has to be “fair, just and reasonable, not fanciful, oppressive or arbitrary”, thereby introducing the **principle of “procedural due process”**.
- Despite such an expansion of the scope of Article 21, it is a constitutional travesty that scant regard for such basic **principles is demonstrated by elected governments**.

## How Does the Dichotomy of The Rule of Law and The Rule By Law Impact the Constitution?

- While the rule of law is declared a basic feature of the Constitution, **rule by law is the antithesis** of all that is represented by rule of law.
- The rule of law is a **government run by law, not men**.
  - The roots of the idea of a rule of law can be seen in **Article 39 of Magna Carta, 1215** that declares that “No freemen shall be taken or imprisoned or disseised or exiled or in any way destroyed, nor will we go upon him nor send upon him, except by the lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.”
- This civilisational journey has **since then found its reflection in Article 21** of Indian constitution and had its contours expanded by the Supreme Court.
- This progressive journey gets **barbarically reversed when rule by law comes into play**.
- Rule by law is when the law is used as an instrument of **suppression, oppression and social control** in the course of implementing a political agenda.
  - The administrative act of demolishing dwellings and buildings without issuing notice and hearing the affected, to further selective social control necessarily **warrants judicial interference**.

## What is the Procedure for the Demolition in the Illegal Occupation?

- Municipal Acts, such as the [Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957](#) provide provisions that **prohibit encroachments on public roads** and footpaths.
- Before taking any action, the **municipal authorities are usually required to issue notices to the individuals** or establishments involved in illegal encroachments.
- Courts, including the Supreme Court, have emphasized the **importance of due process and have often ruled that proper notice** and opportunity to be heard are essential before any demolition is carried out.
  - In the **1985 Olga Tellis case**, emphasizing the right to livelihood and rights of slum dwellers, SC had noted that the right to livelihood is **a part of right to life**.
- If the individuals **fail to respond** or do not provide a satisfactory explanation, the municipal authorities may **proceed with the demolition process**..
- The authorities are generally expected to act proportionally, considering the nature of the violation and the **response taken** to adhere to principles of natural justice.

## How are the Demolition Drives Problematic?

- **Right to Adequate Housing:**
  - The right to housing is a fundamental right recognized under [Article 21](#) of the Indian Constitution.
- **ICESCR:**
  - Article 11.1 of the **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)** recognises “the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions”.
- **International Human Rights Law Framework:**
  - It is also a well-documented right under the international human rights law framework.
    - For instance, Article 25 of the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights \(UDHR\)](#)

states that “everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care’.

- UDHR does **not have any binding force behind it** but it is accepted by all nations as a **Moral Code of Conduct**.

▪ **ICCPR:**

- **Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)** also provides that everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others and that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

## What are the Related Supreme Court Judgements?

▪ **[Olga Tellis & Ors. v. Bombay Municipal Corporation & Ors, 1985:](#)**

- The Supreme Court ruled that eviction of pavement dwellers using unreasonable force, without giving them a chance to explain, is unconstitutional.
  - It is a violation of their **[right to livelihood](#)**.

▪ **[Maneka Gandhi vs Union of India, 1978:](#)**

- The Supreme Court, while interpreting the scope of Article 21 of the Constitution, stated that the “due process of law” is an integral part of “procedure established by law”, explaining that such procedure must be fair, just and reasonable.
  - If the procedure prescribed by law is fanciful, oppressive and arbitrary in nature then it should not be considered procedure at all and thus not all the requirements of Article 21 would be satisfied.

▪ **[Municipal Corpn., Ludhiana v. Inderjit Singh, 2008:](#)**

- The apex court ruled that if the requirement of giving notice is provided under a municipal legislation, then this requirement must be necessarily complied with.
- No authority can directly proceed with demolitions, even of illegal constructions, without providing notice and an opportunity of being heard to the occupant.

▪ **Other Important Judgements:**

- The **[Supreme Court in cases like Bachan Singh vs State of Punjab, 1980](#)** , **[Vishaka vs State of Rajasthan, 1997](#)** , and recently in the famous **[Puttaswamy vs Union of India, 2017](#)** has laid down the principle that the fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution must be read and interpreted in a manner which would enhance their conformity with international human rights law.

## Way Forward

- There is a need for **vigilance against the erosion** of constitutional values, particularly the rule of law and the protection of fundamental rights.
- Judicial intervention **remains crucial to prevent the misuse of power** and ensure that justice is meted out fairly and in accordance with established legal procedures.
- The ongoing struggle between the rule of law and **rule by law highlights the significance of upholding constitutional ideals** for a just and inclusive society.

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## Need for Effective Self-Regulation of Media

**For Prelims:** Self-Regulation of Media, [Supreme Court](#), News Broadcasters and Digital Association, [Press and Registration of Books Act of 1867](#), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

**For Mains:** Supreme Court Advocates for Effective Self-Regulation of Media.

[Source: TH](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, the [Supreme Court \(SC\)](#) has emphasized the importance of strengthening the self-regulatory mechanisms adopted by television channels to **ensure ethical conduct and responsible reporting**.

- The court was hearing an appeal presented by the **News Broadcasters and Digital Association (NBDA)** challenging remarks made by the Bombay High Court against the effectiveness of self-regulation.
- The Bombay High Court had criticized **media trials and observed that existing self-regulatory mechanisms lacked** the character of statutory mechanisms.

**Note:**The NBDA (Formerly known as News Broadcasters Association (NBA)) represents the **private television news**, current affairs and digital broadcasters. It is the collective voice of the news, current affairs and digital broadcasters in India.

- The NBDA has presently **27 leading news and current affairs broadcasters** (comprising 125 news and current affairs channels) as its members. The NBDA presents a **unified and credible voice before the Government**, on matters that affect the growing industry.

## What are the SC's Observations?

- **Balancing Regulation and Freedom of Speech:**
  - The SC acknowledged the significance of avoiding pre-censorship or post-censorship by the government while **maintaining ethical standards in media content**.
  - The court commended the idea of **self-regulation by media outlets** but emphasized that such mechanisms should be **more effective in curbing unethical conduct**.
- **Notice Issued to Strengthen Regulatory Framework:**
  - The SC issued a notice to NBDA and other relevant parties to explore the enhancement of the regulatory framework.
  - The court emphasized the **necessity of examining whether the current steps taken to establish self-regulatory mechanisms** need to be strengthened both in terms of jurisdiction and the final consequences of violations.
- **Concerns Over Media Behavior:**
  - The SC highlighted the **frenzy in media coverage following** the death of an actor, where speculation about **guilt or innocence could impact ongoing investigations**.
  - Court emphasized that the **media's role should be to uphold the presumption of innocence** until proven guilty rather than preemptively shaping public opinion.
- **Proposals to Enhance Fines and Guidelines:**
  - The court questioned the adequacy of the current Rs 1 lakh fine imposed for violations, suggesting that fines **should be proportionate to the profits generated by the entire show**.
  - The Chief Justice raised the idea of "**disgorgement**," similar to the practice in **securities regulation**, where violators return ill-gotten gains.

## How is Media Regulated in India?

- **Conventional Media:**
  - Conventional media includes newspapers, magazines, TV, radio, etc. To regulate the conduct of traditional media, the government has **established various statutory bodies** under different statutes.
    - **Print media** is regulated mostly through two major Acts, namely, the **Press and Registration of Books Act of 1867**, which provides for the registration,

regulation and preservation of every copy of books and newspapers printed in India, and the **Press Council Act, 1978**.

- **Cinema is regulated through the Cinematographic Act of 1952**. The Act also establishes a regulating body named **Central Board of Film Certification** for the certification of cinematograph films, for the exhibition of movies, and to regulate those exhibitions.
- The **telecommunication sector** is regulated through the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997**. Under this Act, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, regulates, adjudicates disputes, disposes of appeals, and protects the interests of service providers and consumers.

▪ **Digital Media:**

- Digital media broadly includes websites, blogs, video platforms like youtube, and social media sites. As these platforms act as a medium of communication between two or more people, they are **known as “intermediaries” under the governing law**.
- These are regulated under the provisions of the **Information Technology Act, 2000** and the rules framed therein under section 69, which are called **Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code), Rules 2021 (from now on, IT Rules, 2021)**.

## Conclusion

- The Supreme Court's focus on revising fines for unethical conduct by television channels reflects its commitment to maintaining media ethics and responsible reporting while safeguarding free speech.
- The court's intention to involve regulatory bodies and establish stricter penalties highlights its proactive stance toward balancing media freedom and ethical responsibility.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims

**Q. In India, it is legally mandatory for which of the following to report on cyber security incidents? (2017)**

1. Service providers
2. Data centres
3. Body corporate

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

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

**Ans: (d)**

- According to section 70B of the Information Technology Act, 2000 (IT Act), the Union Government by notification should appoint an agency named Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) to serve as the national agency for incident response.
- The Union Government under section 70B of the IT Act, 2000 established and notified rules of CERT-In in 2014. According to Rule 12(1)(a), it is mandatory for service providers, intermediaries, data centers and corporate bodies to report cyber security incidences to CERT-In within a reasonable time of occurrence of the incident.
- Hence, 1, 2 and 3 are correct. Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.



## **Mains:**

**Q.** Religious Indoctrination via digital media has resulted in Indian youth joining ISIS. What is ISIS and its mission? How can ISIS be dangerous to the internal security of our country? **(2016)**

**Q.** What are social networking sites and what security implications do these sites present? **(2013)**

## **Pulses Production India**

**Source:** [PIB](#)

### **Why in News?**

Recently, the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare provided valuable insights in a written reply in [Rajya Sabha](#) regarding the comprehensive strategies being employed to enhance pulses production in India.

- The [National Food Security Mission \(NFSM\)-Pulses](#), aimed at increasing productivity and ensuring sustainable practices in the agriculture sector was highlighted.

### **What are India's Initiatives to Boost Pulses Production?**

#### ▪ **National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses:**

##### ◦ **About:**

- The NFSM-Pulses initiative, led by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, operates in 28 States and 2 Union Territories including Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

##### ◦ **Key Interventions Under NFSM-Pulses:**

- Assistance to farmers through States/UTs for various interventions.
- Cluster demonstrations on improved package of practices.
- Cropping system demonstrations.
- Seed production and distribution of HYVs/hybrids.
- Improved farm machinery/tools.
- Efficient water application tools.
- Plant protection measures.
- Nutrient management/soil ameliorants.
- Processing & post-harvest equipment.
- Cropping system-based trainings.
- Distribution of seed mini-kits of newer pulse varieties.
- Technological demonstrations by [Krishi Vigyan Kendras \(KVKs\)](#).
- Additionally, the establishment of **150 Seed Hubs for Pulses** has significantly contributed to increasing the availability of quality pulse seeds.
  - These hubs have collectively produced over 1 lakh quintals of quality pulse seeds since their inception in 2016-17.

#### ▪ **ICAR's Role in Research and Variety Development:**

- The [Indian Council of Agricultural Research \(ICAR\)](#) plays a pivotal role in enhancing the productivity potential of pulse crops through research and development efforts. The ICAR focuses on:
  - Basic and strategic research on pulses. Collaborative applied research with State Agricultural Universities.
  - Development of location-specific high-yielding varieties and production packages.
  - During the period from **2014 to 2023, an impressive 343 high-yielding**

varieties and hybrids of pulses have been officially recognized for commercial cultivation across the country.

▪ **Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) Scheme:**

◦ This comprehensive umbrella scheme (launched in 2018) comprises three components:

- **Price Support Scheme (PSS):** Procurement from pre-registered farmers at **Minimum Support Price (MSP).**
  - **2021-22:** Around 30.31 lakh tonnes of pulses procured, benefiting over 13 lakh farmers.
  - **2022-23 (as of July 2023):** Approximately 28.33 lakh tonnes of pulses procured, benefitting over 12 lakh farmers.
- **Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS):** Compensates farmers for price differences.
- **Private Procurement Stockist Scheme (PPSS):** Encourages private sector participation in procurement.

## India's Pulses Production:

- India is the **largest producer (25% of global production), consumer (27% of world consumption) and importer (14%) of pulses in the world.**
- Pulses account for around **20% of the area under foodgrains** and contribute around **7-10% of the total foodgrains production in the country.**
- Though pulses are grown in **both Kharif and Rabi seasons, Rabi pulses contribute more than 60% of the total production.**
- **Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka** are the top five pulses-producing states.

The production of pulses during the last three years and in 2022-23 (as per third advance estimates) are given as under:

Year	Production (Lakh Tonnes)
2019-20	230.25
2020-21	254.63
2021-22	273.02
2022-23*	275.04

\* As per third advance estimates

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims

**Q. With reference to pulse production in India, consider the following statements: (2020)**

1. Black gram can be cultivated as both kharif and rabi crop.
2. Green-gram alone accounts for nearly half of pulse production.
3. In the last three decades, while the production of kharif pulses has increased, the production of rabi pulses has decreased.

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

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (a)

- In India, the important pulse crops grown in winter (rabi) are chickpea, lentil, lathyrus, field pea and kidney bean. However, green gram, black gram and cowpea are grown in both spring and rainy season.
- Black gram is a warm weather crop and comes up in areas receiving an annual rainfall ranging from 600 to 1000 mm. It is mainly cultivated in a cereal-pulse cropping system primarily to conserve soil nutrients and utilize the left over soil moisture particularly, after rice cultivation. Hence, although it can be grown in all the seasons, the majority of black gram cultivation falls in either rabi or late rabi seasons particularly in peninsular India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- According to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), the share of pulse production in 2018- 19 was comprised of Tur (15.34%), Gram (43.29%), Moong (green gram,10.04%), Urad (black gram, 13.93%), Lentil (6.67%), and Other Pulses (10%). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- A 2010 report by the Confederation of Indian Industry, states that the production of pulses grew by 45 per cent from 1951 to 2008 and in the past decade by 65 per cent between 2009-10 and 2020-21, as per the Third Advance Estimate given by the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
- However, the production of Kharif pulses (tur, urad and moong), which account for about 40 per cent of India's total pulses, has been worse than that of rabi pulses (chana and masoor).
- According to a NITI Aayog report, production of kharif pulses was rising by 8.7 per cent in 1980 but fell to -6.6 per cent by 1990. Production of rabi pulses, too, was increasing at 5.5 per cent and fell to -3.2 per cent in 1990, but it then made a recovery in the next decade and grew at 4.2 per cent after 2000.
- Thus, in the last three decades, both, the production of kharif pulses and the production of rabi pulses have increased. Hence, statement 3 is not correct. **Therefore, option (a) is the correct answer.**

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## Rapid Fire Current Affairs

### CCEA Approves 7 Multi-tracking Projects of the Ministry of Railways

The [Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs \(CCEA\)](#) approved Seven projects of the Ministry of Railways.

- The proposals of Multi-tracking will ease operations and reduce **congestion**, providing the much-required **infrastructural development** on the **busiest sections across [Indian Railways](#)**.
- The projects **covering 35 districts in 9 states** will expand the existing Indian Railways **network by 2339 kms** and will generate **employment for approximately 7.06 crore man-days** for the people of these states.
  - These are essential routes for the transportation of varied baskets of commodities such as **foodgrains, fertilizers, coal, cement, fly-ash, iron and finished steel, clinkers, crude oil, limestone, edible oil etc.**
- These projects align with the fostering [climate goals](#), **regional self-reliance**, and creating a **versatile workforce**, enhancing **employment opportunities**.
- The projects are the result of the [PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan](#), facilitating seamless connectivity for people, goods, and services through integrated planning.

Read more: [Budget 2022-23: PM GatiShakti](#)

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## Cabinet Approves Mutual Recognition Arrangement

Recently, the **Union Cabinet** has granted approval for the **Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA)** between the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**, Department of Revenue, Government of India, and the Department of Home Affairs incorporating the **Australian Border Force of the Australian Government**.

- This significant arrangement seeks to offer **reciprocal advantages to accredited and trusted exporters from both nations in the streamlined customs clearance of goods.**
  - Aligned with the **World Customs Organisation's Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade (SAFE Framework)** of Standards, this MRA strengthens global trade security while enhancing trade facilitation.
  - By bringing the **Australian Trusted Trader Program (ATTP)** and the **Indian Authorized Economic Operator Program (IAEOP)** under mutual recognition, the arrangement aims to bolster trade relations between India and Australia.

Read more: [India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement](#)

## Lake Titicaca



**Lake Titicaca** is facing a **serious threat from climate change and drought**. It is the **largest freshwater lake in South America** and the **highest of the world's largest lakes**.

- The lake, which lies on the **border between Bolivia and Peru**, has seen its water levels drop to near-record lows.
- The **lack of rainfall and the increased evaporation due to rising temperatures** have reduced the inflow and volume of the lake.
  - This has resulted in **stranded boats, exposed shorelines, and diminished fish populations.**
- The lake is also **home to more than 500 species of plants and animals**, some of which are endemic and endangered.

## Empowering Women Through 'Koosina Mane' Initiative

Karnataka's '**Koosina Mane**' initiative, introduced in its 2023-24 Budget, marks a progressive stride

towards **enhancing [women's labor force participation](#) and addressing [gender disparities](#).**

- This initiative aims to **establish childcare centers across 4,000 gram panchayats**, supporting working mothers under the **MGNREGA** and others nearby.
- It addresses the "triple burden" women face by **redistributing childcare responsibilities, potentially enabling sustained employment and upskilling.**
- It will **address the issue of the 'motherhood penalty,'** which is considered to be one of the reasons why women drop out of the labor force.

**Read more:** [MGNREGA](#), [Gender Parity](#).

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## Critical Role of Sulina Channel in Ukraine's Grain Trade

- In a sequence of overnight **drone strikes, Russia** directed its assaults towards **ports and grain storage sites** located along **Ukraine's Danube River**.
  - **Ukraine** is also known as the "**breadbasket of Europe**". Its economy relies **significantly on exporting agricultural products.**
- The **Danube River** is the **second-longest river in Europe**, flowing through ten countries and serving as a **vital transportation route and natural resource** for the region.
- Following **Russia's recent departure** from the **Black Sea grain agreement**, **Ukraine** adopted the **Danube delta** as its fresh pathway for moving grain.
- The **Sulina Channel** is a crucial part of this "**new**" **trade route**. It's a **63 km** long offshoot of the **Danube River** that links important **Ukrainian ports** on the river to the **Black Sea**. This channel is entirely within **Romania's borders**.

**Read More:** [Russia-Ukraine Conflict](#)

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## India and WHO to launch Global Initiative on Digital Health

- **India** and the **World Health Organization (WHO)** will introduce the **Global Initiative on Digital Health** during the ongoing **G-20 summit** in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.
- This **global initiative** focuses on bringing together **health data, connecting health platforms, and investing in digital health worldwide.**
- The **summit** is also aiming to establish a vital **interim Medical Countermeasure (MCM)**. This involves a '**network of networks approach**' to be prepared for future health emergencies.
- The worldwide digital platform will have three main parts:
  - An investment tracker.
  - An ask tracker (to find out what products and services are needed by different people).
  - A collection of existing digital health platforms.
- **Digital health** innovations and solutions will aid **universal health convergence and improve healthcare service delivery.**

**Read More:** [National Digital Health Mission](#)