

### 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum

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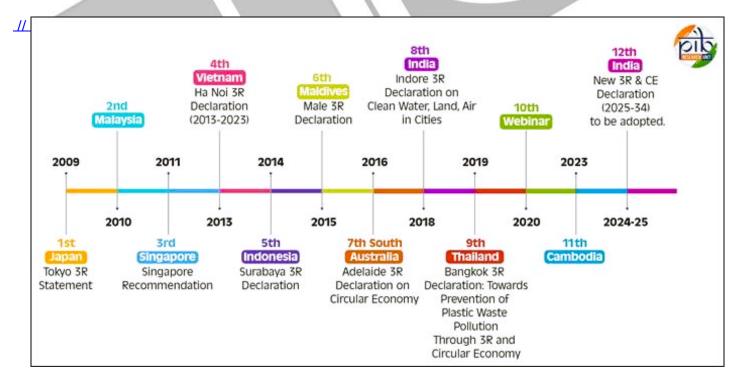
#### Why in News?

India (Jaipur, Rajasthan) hosted the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific emphasising on sustainable waste management and <u>circular economy</u>.

 A circular economy focuses on durable, reusable, and recyclable products, ensuring materials are continuously repurposed, remanufactured, or used for various purposes.

### What are the Key Highlights of the 12th Regional Forum Meeting?

- About: It is a regional platform that promotes <u>3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)</u> principles and circular economy practices across the Asia-Pacific region.
  - It brings together **policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, and partners** to advance resource efficiency strategies.
- Historical Context: It was launched in 2009 to promote 3R principles and resource efficiency.
  - The Hanoi 3R Declaration (2013-2023) set 33 voluntary goals for a resource-efficient and circular economy.



Theme: Realizing Circular Societies Towards Achieving SDGs and Carbon Neutrality in

Asia-Pacific.

- Objectives: Discuss and agree a voluntary, non-binding "3R and Circular Economy Declaration (2025-2034)" for a resource-efficient, low-carbon, and resilient Asia-Pacific.
  - Discuss and pave way towards realization of a Circular Economy Alliance Network (CEAN) towards Zero Waste Cities and Societies.
  - Discuss circular economy strategies to achieve **net-zero targets and SDGs.**
- Key Announcements:
  - **P-3 (Pro Planet People) Approach:** India's PM advocated the **P-3 approach** for sustainable lifestyles and eco-friendly behavior.
  - **Cities Coalition for Circularity (C-3):** The C-3, a **global alliance** for city collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and private sector partnerships, was launched.
  - **CITIIS 2.0:** A key MoU for <u>CITIIS 2.0</u> (City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain) was signed that focuses on integrated <u>waste management</u> and climate action.

Click Here to Read: What is a Circular Economy?

#### India's Leadership in Circular Economy & 3R Policies

- Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U): Achieved 108.62% of the household toilet construction target and successfully processed 80.29% of solid waste.
- GOBAR-Dhan Scheme: 1,008 biogas plants are operational, covering 67.8% of India's districts.
- E-Waste Management Rules, 2022: For FY 2024-25, 5,82,769 MT of e-waste was collected, with 5,18,240 MT successfully recycled.

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• Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Plastic: India banned single use plastic on 1st July 2022.

#### **UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)**

#### <u>Prelims</u>

# Q. In India, 'extend producer responsibility' was introduced as an important feature in which of the following? (2019)

- (a) The Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998
- (b) The Recycled Plastic (Manufacturing and Usage) Rules, 1999
- (c) The e-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011
- (d) The Food Safety and Standard Regulations, 2011

#### Ans: (c)

## Q. Due to improper/indiscriminate disposal of old and used computers or their parts, which of the following are released into the environment as e-waste? (2013)

- 1. Beryllium
- 2. Chromium
- 3. Cadmium
- 4. Heptachlor
- 5. Mercury
- 6. Lead
- 7. Plutonium

#### Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 only

(b) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only

(c) 2, 4, 5 and 7 only

(d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Ans: (b)

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