



# YUVA IAS

An Institute for Civil Services Examination

## CURRENT AFFAIRS | ENGLISH

(24– 30 DEC 2022)

### Year End Review: Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change

#### Points to Remember:

- Mission LiFE- Lifestyle for Environment launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi
- India launched its Long-term low carbon development strategy at the COP-27
- The cover decision of UNFCCC COP27, titled the 'Sharm El Sheikh Implementation Plan', notes the 'importance of transition to sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production for efforts to address climate change'
- Cheetah Re-introduction in India, a historic first wild to wild intercontinental translocation of eight cheetahs from Namibia to India successfully done
- India establishes Asia's largest Ramsar Sites network in the 75th Year of Independence

#### Lifestyle for Environment - LiFE

- A Global call for Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was given by Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, while delivering India's National Statement, at CoP26, held at Glasgow in October-November, 2021.
- Subsequently, Mission LiFE was launched at Ekta Nagar by Prime Minister of India, on 20 October 2022, in the presence of United Nations Secretary General, Mr Antonio Guterres.
- India participated in COP 27, with focus on mainstreaming the theme of LiFE - Lifestyle for Environment. The Indian Pavilion at COP 27 highlighted the theme of LiFE in various ways – models, audio visual displays, activities and 49 side events with participation of various central government ministries, state governments, UN and multilateral organizations, public sector undertakings, think tanks, private sector, international organizations and civil society organizations.

#### Aim:

- India invited all countries to join the LiFE movement which is a pro-people and pro-planet effort, seeking to shift the world from mindless and wasteful consumption to mindful and deliberate utilization of natural resources.
- ☞ The cover decision of UNFCCC COP27, titled the **‘Sharm Al Sheikh Implementation Plan’**, notes the 'importance of transition to sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production for efforts to address climate change'.
- ☞ It also notes the ‘importance of pursuing an approach to education that promotes a shift in lifestyles while fostering patterns of development and sustainability based on care, community and cooperation’

### **INDIA @ CoP27 on LiFE**

- **“Understanding the Concept of LiFE”** - During the event, MoEFCC-UNDP Compendium ‘Prayas Se Prabhaav Tak’ was launched.
- **“In Our LiFEtime” campaign** - to encourage youth between the ages of 18 to 23 years to become message bearers of sustainable lifestyles. This campaign envisioned recognizing youth from around the world taking climate action initiatives that resonate with the concept of LiFE.
- **“Transformative Green Education: Experiences from India”** - highlighting the need to encourage sustainable lifestyle for environment among children through innovative techniques, tools and methods.
- Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) in conjunction with Ministry of Power; IREDA; Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI); and Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) organized a side event on November 8, 2022, during which discussions were held on linking India’s numerous initiatives on energy access, transition, and efficiency with the principles of LiFE in the run-up to India’s G20 Presidency.
- **“Financing of Technologies to Enable the LiFE Movement in Developing Countries.”** - The event proposed specific financial instruments including those that provide standardised solutions across several markets and bespoke solutions to address particular risks in specific developing countries.



#### **During his address, PM Modi set out a Five-Point Climate Agenda:**

1. India's non-fossil energy capacity to reach 500 GW by 2030
2. India will meet 50 per cent of its energy requirements with renewable energy by 2030.
3. India will reduce its total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now to 2030
4. By 2030, India will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy to less than 45 per cent.
5. By 2070, India will achieve the target of net zero emissions.

### **Promoting Circular Economy - Waste-to-Wealth**

- Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, in his address to the nation on the occasion of 75th Independence Day on 15.08.2021, highlighted India’s action on ‘Mission Circular Economy’.
- Circular Economy Action Plans for 10 waste categories-
  - ☞ Lithium-ion batteries

- ☞ E-waste
- ☞ Toxic and hazardous industrial waste
- ☞ Scrap metal (ferrous and non-ferrous)
- ☞ Tyre and Rubber
- ☞ End of Life Vehicles
- ☞ Gypsum

☞ Used Oil

☞ Solar Panels

☞ Municipal Solid Waste have been finalized

- Regulations on market based Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) principle have been notified for four categories of wastes i.e. plastic packaging waste, battery waste, e-waste and waste tyre.
  - ☞ “Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Waste Tyre, 2022” on 21.07.2022.
  - ☞ “Guidelines on EPR for Plastic Packaging on 16.02.2022.
  - ☞ “Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022” on 22.08.2022.
  - ☞ “E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022” on 02.11.2022.

#### **Benefits of Mission Circular Economy:**

- To create new business models as well as new employment opportunities.
- This will also result in integration of informal sector.
- Participation of industry is of critical importance to make the Waste-to-Wealth Mission a success.
- This will result in moving away from mindless consumption to mindful utilisation and will help achieve the vision of Mission LiFE - Lifestyle for Environment given by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

#### **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)**

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has been implementing since 10th January, 2019, a National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a national-level strategy.
- Outlining the actions for reducing the levels of air pollution at city and regional scales in India. Rs 7100 crore have been released to 131 cities.
- City Action Plans are prepared by cities for implementation of activities that help in improving air quality.
- MoEF&CC has also launched a portal “PRAN” to monitor the implementation of NCAP on the occasion of International Day of Clean Air for blue skies on 7th September 2021.

#### **Objectives of National Clean Air Program (NCAP):**

- ☞ Abatement of emissions from waste and biomass dumping and burning
- ☞ For abatement of vehicular emissions
- ☞ Road dust and construction
- ☞ Demolition waste management



- ☞ Capacity building & monitoring network
- The Swachh Vayu Survekshan guidelines for Ranking of cities under NCAP has been issued to cities- 9 cities are awarded with a cash prize of 5 crores under 3 categories on 3rd December 2022 during VAYU conference in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- HC of Delhi appreciates efforts for Climate Action in India and India's leadership role
  - ☞ The Union of India has filed a detailed exhaustive report and also brought to the notice of the Court that the Cabinet has approved India's updated Nationally Determined Contribution which is a step towards achieving India's long-term goal of reaching net-zero by 2070.
  - ☞ It has also been brought to the notice of the Court that the approval of the Cabinet translates Prime Minister "**Panchamrit**" announced at COP-26 into enhanced climate targets and India is now committed to reduce emissions intensity of its GDP by 45 percent by 2030.

### **The Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

- The Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Article 4, paragraph 19, states, "All Parties should strive to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, mindful of Article 2 taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances."

#### **Initiatives of India with respect to the above:**

- India launched its long-term low carbon development strategy at the 27th session of Conference of Parties (COP-27) to the UNFCCC.
- India joins the select list of less than 60 parties that have submitted their LT LEDS to UNFCCC.
- **India's approach is based on the following four key considerations that underpin its long-term low-carbon development strategy:**
  - ☞ India has contributed little to global warming,
  - ☞ India's historical contribution to cumulative global GHG emissions is therefore minuscule despite having a share of ~17% of the world's population,
  - ☞ India is committed to pursuing low-carbon strategies for development and is actively pursuing them, as per national circumstances,
  - ☞ India needs to build climate resilience.

#### **Aim of LT-LEDS:**

- To go beyond India's climate targets or the nationally determined contributions (NDC) announced in August
- Of achieving 50 percent of India's cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil sources by 2030
- Reducing emission intensity of GDP by 45 percent below 2005 levels by 2030



- Builds on India's Panchamrit (five nectar elements) pledges at the 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) of the UNFCCC in Glasgow
- The target of net-zero emissions by 2070.

#### **India's LT-LEDS rests on seven key transitions to low-carbon development pathways-**

- ☞ Electricity systems
- ☞ Transport systems
- ☞ Urbanization
- ☞ Industrial systems
- ☞ CO2 removal
- ☞ Forestry
- ☞ Economic and financial aspects of low carbon development.

#### **Cheetah Introduction in India**

- The last cheetahs in the Indian wilderness were recorded in 1947 where three cheetahs were shot in the Sal (*Shorea robusta*) forests of Koriya District, Chhattisgarh State.
- The main reasons for the extinction of cheetah in India:
  - ☞ Large scale capture of animals from the wild for coursing
  - ☞ Bounty and sport hunting
  - ☞ Extensive habitat conversion along with consequent decline in prey base
- In 1952 Cheetahs were declared as extinct by the Government.

#### **The goal of Cheetah introduction project in India:**

- To establish viable cheetah meta-population that allows the cheetah to perform its functional role as a top predator and provide space for the expansion of the cheetah within its historic range thereby contributing to its global conservation efforts.
- The major objective of the introduction project is restoring open forest and savannah grassland that will benefit biodiversity and ecosystem services from these ecosystems. Further, the project provides opportunity for eco-development and eco-tourism to enhance local community livelihoods.

#### **India establishes Asia's largest Ramsar Sites network in the 75th Year of Independence.**

- On the eve of 76th Independence Day (15th August 2022), India added ten wetlands to the List of Wetlands of International Importance (also called Ramsar Sites) within the framework of the Ramsar Convention, taking the total number of Ramsar Sites in India to incredible 75, the highest in Asia, in the 75th year of its independence.

## Background:

- India ratified the Ramsar Convention in 1982.
- Keoladeo National Park (in Rajasthan) and Chilika (in Odisha) were the first two sites to be placed on the Ramsar List by the Government of India.
- Till 1990, only four more sites were added to the list, and another 20 over the following two decades.
- Since 2014, Ramsar Site designation has received a significant policy push from the MoEFCC, and 49 wetlands have been added to the list.
- The network of Indian Ramsar Sites currently covers 1.33 million ha, which is approximately 8% of the known wetland extent of the country.

## Ramsar Sites:

- Ramsar Sites form an international network of wetlands which are important for conserving global biological diversity and sustaining human lives through the maintenance of their ecosystem components, processes and services.

**The international significance of these sites is indicated by their fulfilling at least one of the nine criteria set by the Convention.**

**Criteria:** To be a Ramsar site, one of the nine criteria must be met.

- ☞ **Criterion 1:** If it contains a representative, rare or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type found within the appropriate bio-geographical region.
- ☞ **Criterion 2:** If it supports vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities.
- ☞ **Criterion 3:** If it supports populations of plant and/or animal species important for maintaining the biological diversity of a particular biogeographic region.
- ☞ **Criterion 4:** If it supports plant and/or animal species at a critical stage in their life cycle or provides shelter during adverse conditions.
- ☞ **Criterion 5:** If it supports 20,000 or more waterfowl on a regular basis.
- ☞ **Criterion 6:** If it regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of a species or subspecies of waterbird.
- ☞ **Criterion 7:** If it supports a significant proportion of indigenous fish subspecies, species or families, life-history stages, species interactions and/or populations that are representative of the benefits and/or values of the wetland and Types contribute to global biological diversity.
- ☞ **Criterion 8:** If it is an important source of food for fishes, spawning grounds, nurseries and/or migration routes on which fish stocks depend, either within the wetland or elsewhere.
- ☞ **Criterion 9:** If it regularly supports 1% of the population of a species or subspecies of a wetland-dependent non-avian animal species.

- With 2,455 sites spanning 255.8 million ha, the Ramsar sites represent the world's largest protected area network.

#### **Ramsar sites in India:**

- A recent compilation of faunal diversity of 42 Indian Ramsar Sites by the Zoological Survey of India enlists 6200 species.
- For several of the faunal groups, these wetlands represent a significant share of the known diversity (for example, over one-third of recorded mammalian species, one-fifth of reptiles, and about two-thirds of known bird species).
- While the smallest Ramsar Site is just 19.75 ha in the area (Vembannur), the largest, the Sunderbans, spans 0.42 million ha.

#### **Initiative for Ramsar Sites of India:**

- Since 1986, the MoEFCC has been implementing a national scheme (presently known as the National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems) to assist state governments in preparing and implementing integrated management plans for Ramsar sites and other priority wetlands.
- Ramsar sites receive legal protection under Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.
- Each Ramsar site needs to have a management plan which outlines the pathway to wise use.
- A diagnostic approach for developing such management plans has been prescribed by the Ministry.
- In June 2022, the Ministry also formulated the 'Sahbhagita Guidelines' outlining an "all of society" approach and governance framework for wetlands conservation in the country.

#### **Ban on identified Single Use Plastics from 1 July 2022 and Plastic Waste Management**

- India has taken resolute steps to reflect its commitment to eliminate single use plastics that are not biodegradable and have an adverse impact on environment.
- The strategy adopted by the Government to tackle unmanaged and littered plastic waste has two pillars –
  - ☞ ban on single use plastic items which have high littering potential and low utility
  - ☞ implementation of extended producer responsibility on plastic packaging.
- A ban has been imposed on identified single use plastic items from 1st July 2022. The ban was notified on 12th August 2021.

#### **These items are included in the list of banned items-**

- ☞ Ear buds with plastic sticks
- ☞ Plastic sticks for balloons
- ☞ Plastic flags, candy sticks
- ☞ Ice-cream sticks
- ☞ Polystyrene (Thermocol) for decoration
- ☞ Plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes, Invitation cards, and cigarette packets
- ☞ Plastic or PVC banners less than 100 microns, stirrers. Thickness of Plastic carry bags increased to 75 microns (30.9.2021) and to 120 microns (31.12.2022).



### **Benefits from ban of single use plastic items:**

- The introduction and use of alternatives to banned single use plastic items have led to creation of new employment opportunities, promote innovation and development of new business models.
- The manufacturing of alternatives with eco-friendly material in the MSME sector will further support development of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

### **Other facts:**

- India had introduced a proposal in 2019 to curb pollution caused by single-use plastic, which was accepted at the 4th meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly in 2019.

### **TX2 International Award to Tiger Reserves of India**

- The award is given to tiger reserves that have made significant progress towards doubling the tiger number since 2010 or displayed conservation excellence.
- The TX2 a Tiger Conservation Excellence award is organized by a consortium of international organisations namely the Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards (CA|TS), Fauna & Flora International, Global Tiger Forum, IUCN Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme, Panthera, UNDP Lion's Share, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF's Tigers Alive Initiative.
- From India, in 2020, the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, Uttar Pradesh won the TX2 award and the Manas Tiger Reserve, Assam was selected for Conservation Excellence award for the transboundary conservation partnership.
- The TX2 award for the year 2021 was bagged by the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu.

### **Status of Tigers in India:**

- There are 53 Tiger Reserves covering an area of 75000 Sq Km in the country.
- India harbours more than 70% of the global tiger population and has honour of the largest tiger range country in the world.
- Tigers are apex predator in the ecosystem and conserving tigers results in maintaining the balance of the ecosystem, conservation of the entire gamut of the biodiversity and ecosystem services.

## **Year-End Review -2022: Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**

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### **Unprecedented enhancement in budget allocation**

- The Budget allocation for Ministry of Agriculture & FW has been increased to Rs. 1,24,000 crore in 2022-23.

### **Record food grains and horticulture production**

- Food grain production has increased from 308.65 million tonnes in January 2022 to 315.72 million tonnes in December 2022 (as per 4th advance estimates) which is the highest ever food grain production.

- As per third advanced estimates, horticulture production during 2020-21 was 331.05 million MT which is increased to 342.33 million MT during 2021-22. It is the highest ever production for Indian horticulture.

#### **Fixing of MSP at one-and-a half times the cost of production**

- Government has increased the MSP for all mandated Kharif, Rabi and other commercial crops with a return of at least 50 per cent over all India weighted average cost of production from 2018-19.
- MSP for Paddy (common) has increased to Rs. 2040 per quintal in December, 2022 from Rs. 1940 per quintal in January, 2022.
- MSP for Wheat increased from Rs. 2015 per quintal in January, 2022 to Rs. 2125 per quintal in December, 2022.

#### **Launch of the National Mission for Edible Oils – Oil Palm:**

- NMEO has been approved with a total outlay of Rs 11,040 crore.
- This will bring an additional area of 6.5 lakh ha under Oil Palm plantation with 3.28 lakh ha in the north-eastern states and 3.22 in the rest of India in the next 5 years.
- The major focus of the Mission is to provide Viability Prices of fresh fruit bunches (FFBs) to the farmers linked with assured procurement by industry with a simpler price fixing formula.
- The Central Government will compensate farmers through a viability gap payment if price paid by industry is below the viability price upto October, 2037.

#### **Income support to farmers through PM Kisan**

- PM-Kisan Yojana was launched in 2019 which is an income support scheme providing Rs 6000 per year to farmers in 3 equal installments.

#### **Introduction:**

- PM-KISAN was launched on November 1, 2018 to meet the financial needs of land holding farmers.

#### **Financial Benefits:**

- A financial benefit of Rs 6000 per annum is transferred in three equal installments every four months to the bank accounts of farmer families across the country through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

#### **Scope of the Scheme:**

- The scheme was initially meant for small and marginal farmers (SMFs) who had up to 2 hectares of land, but later the scope of the scheme was extended to cover all landholding farmers.

#### **Financing and Implementation:**

- It is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India.

#### **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**

- PMFBY was launched in 2016 to address the problems of high premium rates for farmers and reduction in sum insured due to capping.

#### **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):**

- PMFBY was launched in the year 2016 and is being administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- It replaced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and the Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS).

#### **Eligibility:**

- All farmers including tenant farmers / tenant farmers growing notified crops in notified areas are eligible for coverage.

#### **Premium:**

- Fixed insurance premium/premium to be paid by the farmers under this scheme - 2% for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi crops.
- Insurance premium is 5% in case of annual commercial and horticulture crops.
- Premiums above these limits are shared by the Central and State Governments on a 50:50 basis, except in the North-Eastern region where it is 90:10.
- There is no upper limit on government subsidy. Even if the remaining premium is 90%, it will be borne by the government.
  - ☞ Earlier there was a provision to cap the premium rate, as a result of which farmers were paid on the basis of fewer claims.
  - ☞ This upper limit has now been removed and farmers will get the claim of full sum assured without any deduction.

#### **Institutional credit for agriculture sector**

- Institutional credit for agriculture sector was Rs. 16.5 lakh crore in January, 2022 which has been increased to Rs. 18.5 lakh crore in December, 2022.
- Benefit of concessional institutional credit through KCC at 4% interest per annum has also now been extended to Animal Husbandry and Fisheries farmers for meeting their short-term working capital needs.
- A special drive has been undertaken since February 2020 to provide concessional institutional credit with focus on covering all PM-KISAN beneficiaries through Kisan Credit Cards (KCC).
- **Institutional Credit** - The country's rural financial system needs a strong and efficient credit delivery system that can meet the growing diverse credit needs of agriculture and rural development. Co-operative banks and regional rural banks are two important institutions in the distribution of rural credit.

#### **Providing soil health cards to farmers**

Soil Health Card Scheme was launched in the year 2014-15 for optimum utilization of nutrients. The cards were issued to the following number of farmers.

#### **About the Scheme:**

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- On February 19, 2015, the nationwide 'National Soil Health Card' scheme was launched at Suratgarh in Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan.
- The main objective of this scheme is to cooperate with the states in providing soil health cards to the farmers across the country.
- The theme of the scheme is: Healthy Earth, Green Farm.
- Under this scheme, rural youth and farmers whose age is up to 40 years, can establish soil testing laboratory and conduct sample testing.
- The cost of setting up a laboratory is up to Rs 5 lakh, of which 75 percent is borne by the central and state governments. The same provision is also made for self-help groups, farmer cooperatives, farmer groups or farmer producer organizations.
- Under the scheme, soil status assessment is done regularly by the State Governments every 2 years, so that nutrient deficiencies can be identified as well as corrections can be implemented.

#### **Promotion of organic farming in the country**

- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) was launched in 2015-16 to promote organic farming in the country.

#### **'Paramparadigm Krishi Vikas Yojana' (PKVY):**

- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, which was launched in the year 2015, is a major component of Soil Health Management (SHM), a sub-mission of the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).
- Under PKVY, development of 'Organic Villages' is promoted through 'Cluster Approach' and 'Participatory Guarantee System-PGS' certification in organic agriculture.
- Promoting certification under the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) and the National Program for Organic Production (NPOP).

#### **Initiatives taken to promote organic farming in the country:**

- Under **Namami Gange Programme** 123620 ha area covered and under natural farming 4.09 lakh ha area covered. Farmers in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar and Jharkhand have taken-up organic farming on either side of the river Ganga to control river water pollution as well as to fetch additional income to farmers.
- Government also proposes to promote sustainable natural farming systems through the scheme **Bhartiya Prakratik Krishi Padhati (BPKP)**. The proposed scheme aims at cutting down cost of cultivation, enhancing farmer's income and ensuring resource conservation and, safe and healthy soils, environment and food.
- Mission Organic Value Chain Development in North East Region (MOVCDNER) has been launched.
- In addition, to facilitate organic certification at affordable cost and easy to adopt approaches, a **New Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification** was launched during 2015.
- In addition, quick certification of default organic areas such as islands, remote, hilly areas has been initiated under the **Large Area Certification programme**.

#### **Agri Infrastructure Fund**

- Since the inception of AIF, upto January, 2022 the scheme sanctioned Rs.11,891 Crore worth agriculture infrastructure in the country for more than 16000 projects whereas till December, 2022 sanctioned Rs. 13,681 Crore worth agriculture infrastructure in the country for more than 18133 projects.
- With the support of the scheme, various agriculture infrastructures were created and some of the infrastructure is at the final stage of completion.

#### **National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM):**

- It has been launched in 2020 as part of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Rs. 500 crore for the period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023 has been allocated for beekeeping sector.

#### **Per Drop More Crop:**

- Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme launched during 2015-16 which aims to increase water use efficiency at the farm level through Micro Irrigation technologies i.e. drip and sprinkler irrigation systems.

#### **Micro Irrigation Fund:**

- A Micro Irrigation Fund of initial corpus Rs 5000 crore has been created with NABARD.
- In the Budget Announcement for 2021-22, the corpus of the fund is to be increased to Rs.10000 crores.
- Upto January, 2022, projects worth Rs 3970.17 crore covering 12.83 lakh hectares were approved whereas till December, 2022 projects worth 4710.96 crore covering 17.09 lakh hectares have been approved.

#### **Setting up of E-NAM extension Platform:**

- It is an online trade portal where farmer can connect with buyers for his products from any corner of the country. With this, not only will the farmers get a fair price, but the interests of the consumers will also be protected.

#### **Improvement in farm produce logistics, Introduction of Kisan Rail.:**

- Kisan Rail has been launched by Ministry of Railways to exclusively cater to movement of perishable agrihorti commodities. First Kisan Rail was started in July 2020. Upto January, 2022, 1900 services on 155 routes were operated which were increased to 2359 services on 167 routes in December, 2022.

#### **MIDH - Cluster Development Programme:**

- The Cluster Development Programme (CDP) is designed to leverage geographical specialisation of horticulture clusters and promote integrated and market-led development of pre-production, production, post-harvest, logistics, branding, and marketing activities. MoA&FW has identified 55 horticulture clusters, of which 12 have been selected for the pilot phase of the CDP.

#### **Creation of a Start-up Eco system in agriculture and allied sector:**

- Till January, 2022, 799 Startups were finally selected by different Knowledge Partners (KPs) and Agribusiness Incubators (R-ABIs) and their numbers increased to 1055 Startups in December, 2022.

- Till December, 2022, Rs. 6317.91 lakhs grants-in-aid has been released in installments to the respective KPs & R-ABIs as support by DA&FW, while it was 3790.11 lakh in January, 2022.

#### Achievement in Export of Agri and Allied Agri- Commodities:

- The country has witnessed emphatic growth in export of agri and allied commodities. As compared to previous year 2020-21, the Agri and allied export has increased from 41.86 billion USD in 2020-21 to 50.24 billion USD in 2021-22 i.e. an increase of 19.99%.
- The major commodities which posted significant growth as compared to previous year have been Wheat 273.54% (567.93 to 2121.46 Million USD), Other than Basmati Rice 27.29% (4810.80 to 6123.82 Million USD), Cotton raw including waste 48.43% (1897.21 to 2816.24 Million USD), Castor Oil 28.16% (917.24 to 1175.51 Million USD), Other cereals 53.82% (705.38 to 1085.05 Million USD), Coffee 41.84% (719.66 to 1020.74 Million USD), Fresh Fruits 14.11% (768.54 to 876.96 Million USD).
  - ☞ The export of Agri and allied commodities during in April-October, 2022 was 30.21 billion USD to 26.98 billion USD in the same period of 2021-22 i.e. an increase of 11%.

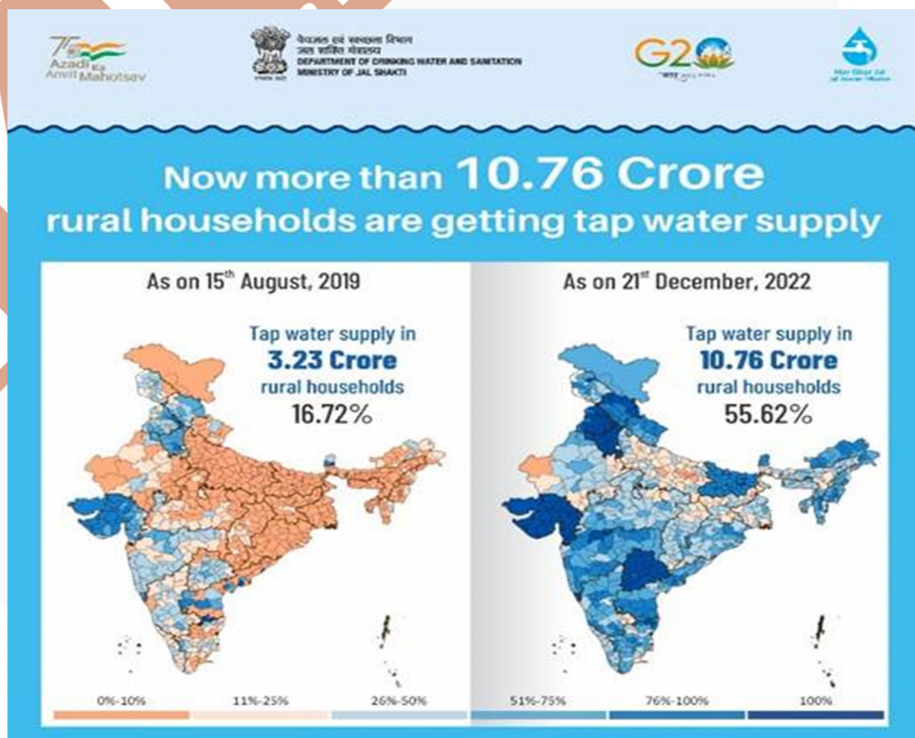
## YEAR END REVIEW 2022: DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION, MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

#### Points to Remember:

- 10.8 Crore Rural Households Provided Tap Water Connections Under Jal Jeevan Mission
- Over 1 Lakh Villages Declared ODF Plus in 2022 Under SBM-G (Phase II) Which Aims To Convert All Villages From ODF to ODF Plus by 2024-25

#### Jal Jeevan Mission [JJM]: Key Highlights of 2022

- Jal Jeevan Mission Is On Track To Fulfill Government's Resolve To Provide Tap Water Supply To Every Rural Household By 2024
- As the country celebrates Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, to mark 75 years of India's Independence, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) has achieved a new milestone by providing 10 Crore rural





households with safe and clean drinking water through taps on 19th August 2022. In Goa, Telangana, Gujarat, Haryana, Puducherry, D&D and D&NH, and A&N Islands, every rural household has tap water supply

- Till date, 125 Districts and 1,61,704 villages in the country reported as “Har Ghar Jal”
- Burhanpur District of Madhya Pradesh becomes the first ‘Har Ghar Jal’ certified district in India in July, 2022
- Goa becomes the First ‘Har Ghar Jal’ Certified State & Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu becomes the First ‘Har Ghar Jal’ Certified UT in India in August, 2022
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands becomes first ‘Swachh Sujal Pradesh’ in India in September, 2022

#### Har Ghar Jal certification:

- Once a village is declared as Har Ghar Jal, the Gram Panchayat of that village conducts a special Gram Sabha and passes a resolution with the concurrence of all the village members that all the households, schools, Anganwadi, and public institutions in their village have functional tap connection and thus declare themselves as 'Har Ghar Jal Certified'.
- As on date, 56 districts, 413 blocks, 34,452 panchayats, and 49,928 villages are ‘Har Ghar Jal’ certified i.e., all the households have access to tap water connection.

#### Coverage of potable tap water to JE-AES affected districts:

- The government of India accords priority to Japanese Encephalitis (JE)-Acute Encephalitis Syndrome[1] (AES) affected Districts to ensure potable tap water supply in all the households under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- In 61 districts affected with JE/AES across 5 states, tap water connection increased from 8 lakh (2.69%) to 147.14 lakh (49.29%) households, resulting in improvement in the health profile of the rural population of these areas.

#### Coverage of potable tap water in Aspirational districts:

- There are 112 Aspirational districts of which 8 districts have provided 100% tap water connection to its rural households.

#### Provision of drinking water supply in public institutions (Schools and Anganwadi Centers):

- Safe water for children is critical for their well-being and holistic development. Jal Jeevan Mission is proving to be a game-changer for children's health, as potable drinking piped water supply is being provided on a priority basis in schools and anganwadi centers (day care) which will



greatly reduce the occurrence of water related ailments among children.

- Infants and young children will be less prone to water-borne diseases and an end to open defecation will result in reduced incidences of child deaths due to diarrhoeal disease.

#### **Status of Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance:**

- Ensuring water quality is one of the main objectives of the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- To ensure that the supplied water is of adequate quality, the program promotes regular testing of water samples at source and delivery points.
- There are a total of 2,074 water testing laboratories in the country. Of these, 1,005 are NABL accredited.

#### **Village Water & Sanitation Committee (VWSC) formation and Village Action Plans (VAPs):**

- Over 5.17 lakh Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs)/ Paani Samitis have been constituted under the programme.
- The Paani Samiti is responsible for management and regular operation and maintenance of in-village water supply system including local water sources.
- So far, 5.08 lakh Village Action Plans have been developed which detail out the type of water supply scheme required, cost estimates, implementation schedule, O&M arrangement and contribution from each household towards partial capital cost.

#### **Funds Allocation for Jal Jeevan Mission:**

- The estimated outlay of Jal Jeevan Mission under 'Har Ghar Jal' program is Rs. 3.6 Lakh Crore for the period of five years from 2019-2024.
- The 15th Finance Commission has identified water supply and sanitation as a national priority and allocated funds of Rs. 2.36 lakh Crore to Rural Local Bodies/Panchayat Raj Institutions (RLBs/PRIs) for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26[2].
- Accordingly, 60% of the fund, i.e., Rs. 1.42 lakh Crore provided as Tied Grants meant to be utilized exclusively for the drinking water, rainwater harvesting and sanitation & maintenance of open-defecation free (ODF) village.



#### **Skilling:**

- JJM aims to build the capacity of people to support and working as masons, mechanics, plumbers, pump operators, technicians, utility managers, and water testing laboratory in-charge.
- With major infrastructure development taking place across the country a lot of employment opportunities are getting generated at all levels for skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled labour force.
- Local people were trained as masons, plumbers, pump operators, motor mechanics, electricians, and fitters.



### Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs):

- The States/ UTs are extending support to the Panchayats by engaging Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs) to facilitate constitution of VWSC, under participatory rural appraisal for community mobilization, support in preparing Village Action Plan and carry out activities post infrastructure construction. About 14 thousand ISAs have been engaged, which are actively working in the field.

### Rural WASH Partners Forum (RWPF):

- The Department of drinking water & Sanitation has set up a forum, where development partners along with sector partners can come forward, support, and work collaboratively with the Government of India and State/ UTs for the effective implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen).
- The 2nd event of Rural WASH Partners' forum was held on 2nd Nov and was chaired by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

