

EDEN IAS

**GS
ARTICLES**

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THE POLICY OF RING-FENCE

- Warren Hastings took charge as the governor-general at a critical period of British rule when the British were to encounter the powerful combination of the Marathas, Mysore and Hyderabad.
- He followed a policy of ring-fence which aimed at creating buffer zones to defend the Company's frontiers.
- Broadly speaking, it was the policy of defence of their neighbours' frontiers for safeguarding their own territories.
- This policy of Warren Hastings was reflected in his war against the Marathas and Mysore. The chief danger to the Company's territories was from the Afghan invaders and the Marathas. To safeguard against these dangers, the Company undertook to organise the defence of the frontiers of Awadh on the condition that the Nawab would defray the expenses of the defending army. The defence of Awadh constituted the defence of Bengal during that time.
- Thus the states brought under the ring-fence system were assured of military assistance against external aggression—but at their own expense. In other words, these allies were required to maintain subsidiary forces which were to be organised, equipped and commanded by the officers of the Company who, in turn, were to be paid by the rulers of these states.

BHAKTI MOVEMENT

Bhakti Movement emerged as a devotional trend in medieval age and it worked as silent revolution transforming the

socio-religious realm of Indian society.

ORIGIN :

- Originated in southern parts of India between 7-12 century CE. , it slowly percolated to northern India by end of
- century CE. In South India there were two main group of Bhakti saints-

1. **NAYANARS**(Shiva devotees)

2. **ALVARS**(Vishnu devotees)

Word BHAKTI derived from Sanskrit word "BHAJ" meaning to share, participate and belong to.

Main characteristics of Bhakti Movement:

- There was emphasis on love and devotion towards god.
- Condemnation rituals, yagnas ,ceremonies and blind faith. Bhakti movement emphasized unity of god or one god known by different names.
- The Bhakti movement gave emphasis on equality of all castes and bhakti saints treated people of all castes equally.
- Bhakti saints emphasis on equality and love created atmosphere of amity and Hinduism and Islam closer.
- Before the Bhakti movement, Sanskrit was the language to perform yagas or rituals and religious books or scriptures were in Sanskrit . Bhakti saints preached and wrote in vernacular languages which were commonly understood by masses.
- Before the bhakti movement, rituals and yagnas were performed to achieve grace of god. But Bhakti marg which emphasized on love and devotion towards god allowed common masses to achieve salvation.
- Due to bhakti, religion became democratic , spiritual and free of obsolete rituals and dogmas .

Two Schools of Bhakti :

1 . NIRGUNA SCHOOL:

- Imagined God as formless with no attribute or quality.
- Rejected idol worship.
- Example – KABIR , GURU NANAK and DADU DAYAL.

2 . SAGUNA SCHOOL:

- Thought of God having a definite form , quality , and positive attributes.
- Thought God manifests himself in incarnations.
- Believed in idol worship.
- Example – RAMANANDA , MIRABAI and SURDAS.

BHAKTI MOVEMENT IN SOUTH INDIA:

1 . ALWARS:

- Vaishnava saints who sang in praise of VISHNU or his avatar KRISHNA

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- There were 12 alwars
- There hymns were compiled in "DIVYA PRABANDHAM".
- ANDAL is only female Alwar saint(called MEERA of South)..

2 . NAYANARS:

- Shaivite saints who sang in praise of SHIVA.
- Originally, 63 Nayanar saints.
- The details of lives of saints is described in work called TEVARAM(also called Dravida Veda).
- Hymns of Nayanars are collected into a volume called TIRUMURAI.

3 . LINGAYATS/ VIR SHAIVA:

- Shaivite sect in Hinduism emerged in 12 century CE in Karnataka region.
- Started by BASAVANNA and assisted by ALLA-MAPRABHU and AKKA MAHADEVI.
- Rejected caste system and wanted egalitarian society.

PAKISTAN RESOLUTION (March 1940)

The Muslim League passed a resolution calling for "grouping of geographically contiguous areas where Muslims are in majority (North-West, East) into independent states in which constituent units shall be autonomous and sovereign and adequate safeguards to Muslims where they are in minority".

August Offer:

- The government to get the cooperation of India in the war effort. Linlithgow announced the August Offer (August 1940) which proposed:
- Dominion status as the objective for India;
- Expansion of viceroy's executive council which would have a majority of Indians (who would be drawn from major political parties);
- setting up of a constituent assembly after the war where mainly Indians would decide the constitution according to their social, economic and political conceptions, subject to fulfilment of the obligation of the government regarding defence, minority rights, treaties with States, all India services; and No future

constitution to be adopted without the consent of minorities

- The Congress rejected the August Offer. Nehru said, "Dominion status concept is dead as a doornail."
- Gandhi said that the declaration had widened the gulf between the nationalists and the British rulers.
- The Muslim League welcomed the veto assurance given to the League, and reiterated its position that partition was the only solution to the deadlock.

WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is an international non-governmental organization founded in 1961, working in the field of the wilderness preservation, and the reduction of human impact on the environment. It was formerly named the World Wildlife Fund, which remains its official name in Canada and the United States.

WWF is the world's largest conservation organization with over five million supporters worldwide, working in more than 100 countries, supporting around 1,300 conservation and environmental projects. They have invested over \$1 billion in more than 12,000 conservation initiatives since 1995. WWF is a foundation with 55% of funding from individuals and bequests, 19% from government sources (such as the World Bank, DFID, USAID) and 8% from corporations in 2014

WWF aims to "stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature." The Living Planet Report is published every two years by WWF since 1998; it is based on a Living Planet Index and ecological footprint calculation. In addition, WWF has launched several notable worldwide campaigns including Earth Hour and Debt-for-Nature Swap, and its current work is organized around these six areas: food, climate, freshwater, wildlife, forests, and oceans.

Policies of the WWF are made by board members elected for three-year terms. An Executive Team guides and develops WWF's strategy. There is also a National Council which stands as an advisory group to the board and a team of scientists and experts in conservation who research for WWF.

National and international law plays an important role in determining how habitats and resources are managed and used. Laws and regulations become one of the organization's global priorities.

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CABINET COMMITTEES

The following are the features of Cabinet Committees:

1. They are extra-constitutional in emergence. In other words, they are not mentioned in the Constitution. However, the Rules of Business provide for their establishment.
2. They are of two types—standing and ad hoc. The former are of a permanent nature while the latter are of a temporary nature. The ad hoc committees are constituted from time to time to deal with special problems. They are disbanded after their task is completed.
3. They are set up by the Prime Minister according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation. Hence, their number, nomenclature, and composition varies from time to time
4. Their membership varies from three to eight. They usually include only Cabinet Ministers. However, the non-cabinet Ministers are not debarred from their membership.
5. They not only sort out issues and formulate proposals for the consideration of the Cabinet, but also take decisions. However, the Cabinet can review their decisions.
6. They are an organisational device to reduce the enormous workload of the Cabinet. They also facilitate in-depth examination of policy issues and effective coordination. They are based on the principles of division of labour and effective delegation.

The following four are the more important cabinet committees:

1. The Political Affairs Committee deals with all policy matters pertaining to domestic and foreign affairs.
2. The Economic Affairs Committee directs and coordinates the governmental activities in the economic sphere.
3. Appointments Committee decides all higher level appointments in the Central Secretariat, Public Enterprises, Banks and Financial Institutions.
4. Parliamentary Affairs Committee looks after the progress of government business in the Parliament.

The first three committees are chaired by the Prime Minister and the last one by the Home Minister. Of all the Cabinet Committees, the most powerful is the Political Affairs Committee, often described as a “Super-Cabinet”.

Group of Ministers:

1. In addition to cabinet committees, several Groups of Ministers (GoMs) are constituted to look into different issues / subjects.
2. Some of these GoMs are empowered to take decisions on behalf of the Cabinet whereas the others make recommendations to the Cabinet
3. The institution of GoMs has become a viable and effective instrument of coordination among the ministries.
4. These are ad hoc bodies formed to give recommendations to the cabinet on certain emergent issues and critical problem areas. Ministers heading the concerned ministries are inducted into the relevant GoMs and when the advice is crystallised they are disbanded.

MARTIAL ARTS IN INDIA

1. KALARIPAYATTU (KERALA):

- “Kalari” means battlefield. “Payattu” means combat/ fighting.
- Involves strikes, kicks, grappling, preset forms, weaponry and healing methods, the footwork movement
- It is believed to be the oldest surviving martial art in India.
- Kathakali incorporates various routines from Kalaripayattu.
- It is believed that this art form was taught to early masters by Parashurama .

2. MALLA YUDDHA:

- Unarmed wrestling style.
- Four types:
 - Hanumanti concentrates on technical superiority.
 - Jambuvanti uses locks and holds to force the opponent into submission.
 - Jarasandhi concentrates on breaking the limbs and joints while fighting.
 - Bhimaseni focuses on sheer strength.

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3. SILAMBAM (TAMIL NADU) :

- Oral folklore traces Silambam back several thousand years to the saint Agastya.
- Movements of animals like snake, tiger, elephant and eagle used. Silambam's main focus is on the bamboo staff.
- "Kuttuvarisai" – a variant of silambam & uses no weapon
- It from Tamil Nadu to South east Asia

4. GATKA (PUNJAB) :

- Martial art practiced by NIHANG Sikhs.
- Gatka means – "One whose freedom belongs to race"
- Stick, Sword, kirpan or kataar used as weapon

5. MUSTI YUDH (VARANASI):

- Unarmed wrestling style
- Punches, kicks, knees and elbow strikes used

6. THANG TA (MANIPUR):

- Weapon Based martial art.
- "Thang" means sword. "Ta" means spear.
- Other weapons used are shield and axe.

7. LATHI (NORTH INDIA)

- Weapon Based martial art in which cane is used.
- It is more popular more in villages

8. MARDANI KHEL (MAHARASHTRA):

- Weapon base martial art developed by Marathas.
- Mainly uses sword & needs rapid movements

9. PARI – KHANDA (BIHAR, WB, CHATISGARH)

- Weapon based martial art developed by Rajputs.
- "Pari" means shield & "Khanda" means sword.
- It have birth to Chhau dance

INDEPENDENCE OF HIGH COURT

The Constitution has made the following provisions to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of a high court:

- 1. Mode of Appointment**-The judges of a high court are appointed by the president (which means the cabinet) in consultation with the members of the judiciary itself (i.e., chief justice of India and the chief justice of the high court).
- 2. Security of Tenure**-The judges of a high court are provided with the security of tenure. They can be removed from office by the president only in the manner and on the grounds mentioned in the Constitution.
- 3. Fixed Service Conditions**-The salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the judges of a high court are determined from time to time by the Parliament. But, they cannot be changed to their disadvantage after their appointment except during a financial emergency.
- 4. Expenses Charged on Consolidated Fund**-The salaries and allowances of the judges, the salaries, allowances and pensions of the staff as well as the administrative expenses of a high court are charged on the consolidated fund of the state. It should be noted here that the pension of a high court judge is charged on the Consolidated Fund of India and not the state.
- 5. Conduct of Judges cannot be Discussed**-The Constitution prohibits any discussion in Parliament or in a state legislature with respect to the conduct of the judges of a high court in the discharge of their duties, except when an impeachment motion is under consideration of the Parliament.
- 6. Ban on Practice after Retirement**-The retired permanent judges of a high court are prohibited from pleading or acting in any court or before any authority in India except the Supreme Court and the other high courts.
- 7. Power to Punish for its Contempt**-A high court can punish any person for its contempt. Thus, its actions and decisions cannot be criticised and opposed by anybody.
- 8. Freedom to appoint its Staff**-The chief justice of a high court can appoint officers and servants of the high court without any interference from the executive. He can also prescribe their conditions of service.

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9. Its Jurisdiction cannot be curtailed—The jurisdiction and powers of a high court in so far as they are specified in the Constitution cannot be curtailed both by the Parliament and the state legislature. But, in other respects, the jurisdiction and powers of a high court can be changed both by the parliament and the state legislature.

10. Separation from Executive—The Constitution directs the state to take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in public services.

ROWLATT ACT

- Just six months before the Montford Reforms were to be put into effect, two bills were introduced in the Imperial Legislative Council. One of them was dropped, but the other—an extension to the Defence of India Regulations Act 1915—was passed in March 1919.
- It was what was officially called the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act, but popularly known as the Rowlatt Act.
- It was based on the recommendations made in the previous year to the Imperial Legislative Council by the Rowlatt Commission, headed by the British judge, Sir Sidney Rowlatt, to investigate the 'seditious conspiracy' of the Indian people.
- (The committee had recommended that activists should be deported or imprisoned without trial for two years, and that even possession of seditious newspapers would be adequate evidence of guilt.)
- All the elected Indian members of the Imperial Legislative Council voted against the bill but they were in a minority and easily overruled by the official nominees. All the elected Indian members—who included Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Madan Mohan Malaviya and Mazhar Ul Haq – resigned in protest.
- The object of the government was to replace the repressive provisions of the wartime Defence of India Act (1915) by a permanent law. So the wartime restrictions on freedom of speech and assembly were re-imposed in India. There was strict control over the press and the government was armed with a variety of powers to deal with anything the authorities chose to consider as terrorism or revolutionary tactics.

Satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act— First Mass Strike:

- Just when the Indians expected a huge advance towards self-rule as a reward for their contribution to the war, they were given the Montford Reforms with its very limited scope and the shockingly repressive Rowlatt Act. Not surprisingly the Indians felt betrayed.
- More so Gandhi, who had been at the forefront in offering cooperation in the British war effort, and who had even offered to encourage recruitment of Indians into the British Indian forces. He called the Rowlatt Act the "Black Act" and argued that not everyone should get punishment in response to isolated political crimes.
- Gandhi called for a mass protest at all India level. But soon, having seen the constitutional protest meet with ruthless repression, Gandhi organised a Satyagraha Sabha and roped in younger members of Home Rule Leagues and the Pan Islamists.
- The forms of protest finally chosen included observance of a nationwide hartal (strike) accompanied by fasting and prayer, and civil disobedience against specific laws, and courting arrest and imprisonment.
- Satyagraha was to be launched on April 6, 1919 but before it could be launched, there were large-scale violent, anti-British demonstrations in Calcutta, Bombay,

AMERICAN AND FRENCH REVOLUTION SIMILARITY

The French Revolution was a complex conflict with numerous triggers and causes, the American Revolution set the stage for an effective uprising that the French had observed firsthand.

SIMILAR CAUSES FOR BOTH THE REVOLUTIONS

- **Economic struggles:** Both the Americans and French dealt with a taxation system they found discriminating and unfair
- **Monarchy:** Although the colonists had lived in a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system, they revolted against the royal powers of King George III just like the French rose up against Louis XVI.
- **Unequal rights:** Like the American colonists, the French felt that specific rights were

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only granted to certain segments of society, especially to elite and aristocrats.

- Flow of idea of enlightenment from American colonies to France.
- The National Assembly in France used the American Declaration of Independence as a model when drafting the *Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen* in 1789. Much like the American document, the French declaration included Enlightenment philosophies, such as equal rights and popular sovereignty.

HOW ARE FOLD MOUNTAINS FORMED

Fold mountains are created where two or more of Earth's tectonic plates are pushed together. At these colliding, compressing boundaries, rocks and debris are warped and folded into rocky outcrops, hills, mountains, and entire mountain ranges.

- Where an area of sea separates two plates, sediments settle on the sea floor in depressions called geosynclines. These sediments gradually become compressed into sedimentary rock.
- When the two plates move towards each other again, the layers of sedimentary rock on the sea floor become crumpled and folded.
- Eventually the sedimentary rock appears above sea level as a range of fold mountains.
- Where the rocks are folded upwards, they are called **anticlines**. Where the rocks are folded downwards, they are called **synclines**. Severely folded and faulted rocks are called **nappes**.

The Himalayas in Asia, the Andes Mountains in South America and the Alps Mountains in Europe are some examples of fold mountains.

INDUS VALLEY ARCHITECTURE

The Indus or the Harappan culture is older than the Chalcolithic cultures that have been examined earlier, but as a bronze-using culture it is far more developed than the latter. It developed in the north-western part of the Indian subcontinent. It is called Harappan because this civilization was discovered first in 1921 at the modern site of Harappa situated in the province of Punjab in Pakistan. Many sites in Sindh formed the central zone of pre-Harappan culture.

How Indus valley civilization provide an insight into the pattern of society and economy that existed in India during the Bronze age ?

- **Citadel** – upper citadel was for upper class of people while lower citadel was for lower class people. This shows the class distinction was there in bronze age.
- **Drainage System** - Each house was connected directly to an excellent drainage system, which indicates a highly developed municipal life.
- **Great bath** - The Great bath at Mohenjo-Daro is about 179 feet long and 107 feet wide. The complex has a large quadrangle in the center with galleries and rooms on all sides. In the center of this quadrangle there is a large swimming enclosure that is 39 feet long, 23 feet wide and 8 feet deep. The entire complex is connected to an elaborate water supply and sewer system. This indicates that the people of Harappan civilization used it for religious purpose.

No temples – it is said that they used to pray nature rather than god. Eg- great bath

URBANISATION

Urbanization, the process by which large numbers of people become permanently concentrated in relatively small areas, forming cities.

POSITIVE IMPACTS OF URBANISATION

- Employment opportunities
- Women's role in the decision making in home is increased.
- Caste system is not followed strictly
- Pride of women increased in the society.
- New and modern lifestyle of villagers.
- Creation of rural urban fringe
- Centre for change and innovation is created.
- Good education is accessible to all.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF URBANISATION

- Creation of slums
- Poor drainage system
- Water supply is poor
- Traffic is increased.
- Sanitization is compromised.
- Urban heat island is created.

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IMPORTANCE OF CHINA IN INDO PACIFIC REGION

- The notion of 'Indo-Pacific' has assumed a new rallying point for major stake holders- the US, China, Japan, India, Australia, ASEAN and others to articulate their strategic postures.
- 'Indo-Pacific' has emerged as the hub of global trade and energy supply.
- The two-third container trade of the world passes through this region. The two rising economies- India and China and Japan are dependent on Indo-Pacific sea routes for their trade and energy supply.
- The region is also the home of more than 50 percent of the global population and rich in mineral and marine resources.
- It is rich in natural resources, especially hydrocarbons which fuel the industrial engines of the world's economies.
- The region consists of many of the world's vital choke points for global commerce, including the Straits of Malacca which is very critical for the growth of world economy.
- The boom in port construction has only heightened the strategic significance of the Indo-Pacific and this in turn is likely to generate greater commercial traffic and the possibility for greater strategic competition
- The increasing flow of raw materials, oil and gas into the region has led to the rise of Asia.
- Labour, capital and consumer goods are also increasingly flowing from Asia to other regions of the world

NEW EDUCATION POLICY

- The NEP 2020 aims at making "India a global knowledge superpower"
- In school education, the policy focuses on overhauling the curriculum, "easier" Board exams, a reduction in the syllabus to retain "core essentials" and thrust on "experiential learning and critical thinking".

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Opening up of Indian higher education to foreign universities,

- Dismantling of the UGC and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE),
- Introduction of a four-year multidisciplinary undergraduate programme with multiple exit options
- **Discontinuation of the M Phil programme.**

WHAT CHANGES DOES NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL POLICY BROUGHT ?

- Pushed for a 10+2 structure of school education,
- The new NEP pitches for a "5+3+3+4" design corresponding to the age groups 3-8 years (foundational stage),
- 8-11 (preparatory), 11-14 (middle), and 14-18 (secondary).
- This brings early childhood education (also known as pre-school education for children of ages 3 to 5) under the ambit of formal schooling.
- The mid-day meal programme will be extended to pre-school children.
- The NEP says students until Class 5 should be taught in their mother tongue or regional language.
- The policy also proposes phasing out of all institutions offering single streams and that all universities and colleges must aim to become multidisciplinary by 2040.

IRRIGATION IN INDIA

Since the inception of the planning in our country irrigation has given top priority. Public have invested huge amount for expansion of irrigation.

- The consideration behind this is that the nation would benefit a lot from this expansion of irrigation.
- An irrigation schemes confers a number of benefits but direct and indirect on the nation.
- The key challenge facing the irrigation sector in India is the growing gap between Irrigation Potential Created (IPC) and Irrigation Potential Utilized (IPU), and uneven distribution of water over the length of the canal system,
- About 80 per cent of the current water use is drawn by agriculture. Irrigated area accounts for nearly 48.8 per cent of the 140 million hectare (mha) of agricultural land in India. The remaining 51.2 per cent is rainfed.

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- The increasing gap also impacts rainfed production in the country. The mean productivity of rainfed area (71.62 mha) is about 1.1 tonne per ha compared to 2.8 tonne per hectare of irrigated area. Thus this affects the cropping pattern of the country.
- To understand the issue from the point of view of extremists.
- Comprehensive and strict legal framework to implement the deradicalisation programme.
- Increase surveillance in terrorist and extremist areas.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

Solid Waste Management (SWM) is one among the basic essential services provided by municipal authorities in the country to keep urban centres clean. However, almost all municipal authorities deposit solid waste at a dumpyard within or outside the city haphazardly

- **Ensure proper segregation of waste at source** and to ensure that the waste goes through different streams of recycling and resource recovery. Then reduced final residue is then deposited scientifically in sanitary landfills.
- **Informal recycling-** In some urban centres, people working in the informal sector collect solid waste for each doorstep to get a collection fee and derive additional income from sale of recyclables.
- **Energy-from-waste** – it is a crucial element of SWM because it reduces the volume of waste from disposal also helps in converting the waste into renewable energy and organic manure.
- **Installation of waste-to-compost and bio-methanation plants** -Bio-methanation is a solution for processing biodegradable waste which is also remains underexploited
- **Common waste treatment facility** - It uses waste as a resource by either using it as a co-fuel or co-raw material in manufacturing processes.
- **Bio-medical waste (management and handling) rules, 1998** prescribe that there should be a Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facility (CBWTF) at every 150 kms in the country.

DERADICALIZATION

De-radicalisation is a process in which people reject the ideology they once embraced. This is a step further than disengagement, characterized by a change in behavior (leaving the radical group, stopping violence) without giving up.

Measures to counter terrorism and extremism

- Combating corruption
- Reduce the unemployment rates

- Focus should be to train and educate professionals, and to stimulate disengagement and de-radicalisation.
- The aim should be to decrease prejudice, stereotyping and discrimination and to increase knowledge about democracy.

HOW SAVING AND INVESTMENT HELPS IN CREATION OF ASSET AND MOBILISATION OF LABOUR

The **AATMNIRBHAR BHARAT ABHIYAN** aims to provide funds at cheaper rate to the public so that they can even as they will invest more the create an asset, more capital will be employed by them, more capital means more labours will be required to work on that capital will increase job creation and reduce the problem of unemployment currently due to covid – 19 pandemic.

- More labour will produce more and the output will increase which will sold in the market and the profit of the company will increase.
- The profit can again be saved and reinvested which will create more assets and mobilize more labours.

WELFARE STATE

A welfare state is a concept of government where the state plays a key role in the protection and promotion of the economic and social well-being of its citizens. It is based on three principles –

- Equality of opportunity
- Equitable distribution of wealth
- Public responsibility for those unable to avail themselves of the minimal provisions for a good life.

FEATURE OF WELFARE STATE

- The welfare state provides education, housing, sustenance, healthcare, pensions, unemployment insurance, sick leave or time off due to injury, supplemental income in some cases, and equal wages through price and wage controls.
- It also provides for public transportation, childcare, social amenities such as public parks and libraries, as well as many other goods and services.

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- In these Some items are paid for via government insurance programs while others are paid for by taxes.
- The idea of welfare states arises from the philosophy of compassion towards the weaker sections.
- The shift of the position of Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) in summer, over the Ganga plain (this is the equatorial trough normally positioned about 5°N of the equator. It is also known as the monsoon trough during the monsoon season).

Provisions in Indian constitution for weaker sections

Article 15 (3) allows the State to make unique enactment to secure Women and Children

Article 15(4) and Article 16(4) enable the state to make unique arrangement for the reservation of arrangement of posts for any Backward Class of residents of the State

Article 38 – It authorizes the state to secure a social order for the promotion of the welfare of people.

Article 39A – Equal justice and free legal aid.

Article 40 – Organization of village panchayats.

Article 41 – Right to work, to education and to public assistance in certain cases.

Article 42 – Provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity leaves.

Article 43 – Living wage etc. for workers.

Article 43-A – Participation of workers in management of industries.

Article 43-B – Promotion of cooperative societies.

Article 45 – Provision for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.

Article 46 – Promotion of education and economic interests of SC, ST, and other weaker sections.

Article 47 – Duty of the state to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health.

Article 48 – Organization of agriculture and animal husbandry.

It is based on the Gandhian thinking which promotes a non-violent social order. Swaraj (Self-rule) , Sarvodaya (welfare for all) and svavlambam(self-reliance) .

FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR FORMATION OF INDIAN MONSOON

The differential heating and cooling of land and water creates low pressure on the landmass of India while the seas around experience comparatively high pressure.

- The presence of the high-pressure area, east of Madagascar, approximately at 20°S over the Indian Ocean. The intensity and position of this high-pressure area affects the Indian Monsoon.
- The Tibetan plateau gets intensely heated during summer, which results in strong vertical air currents and the formation of low pressure over the plateau at about 9 km above sea level.
- The movement of the westerly jet stream to the north of the Himalayas and the presence of the tropical easterly jet stream over the Indian peninsula during summer

KALARIPPAYATTU

Kalarippayattu is the traditional martial art dance of Kerala and the mother of all martial arts.

- A kalari is the school (or training hall) where martial arts are taught. The weapons used in it are strikes, kicks, etc.
- A footwork pattern is the most important key in this martial art dance.
- Recently, Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has recognized the Indian Kalarippayattu Federation (IKF) as Regional Sports Federation (RSF).
- This decision was taken with a view to promote and provide due acknowledgement and importance to sports having regional spread.
- This recognition also grants major role to the IKF for promotion and development of Kalarippayattu sport in India.

RISORGIMENTO

Risorgimento, also known as UNIFICATION OF ITALY 19th-century movement .

- It led to establishment of the Kingdom of Italy in 1861.
- The Risorgimento was an ideological and literary movement that helped to arouse the national consciousness of the Italian people, and it led to a series

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of political events that freed the Italian states from foreign domination and united them politically.

- Although the Risorgimento has attained the status of a national myth, its essential meaning remains a controversial question. The classic interpretation sees the Risorgimento as the triumph of liberalism, but more recent views criticize it as an aristocratic and bourgeois revolution that failed to include the masses.

CHALLENGES CONSTRAINTS IN ENERGY SECTOR

Power Sector

- Old inefficient plants continue to operate whereas more efficient plants are underutilized.
- As the gap between the average cost of supply (ACS) and average revenue realized (ARR) persists due to high aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses, distribution companies (discoms) use load shedding to minimize losses.
- Although legally independent, Regulatory Commissions are unable to fully regulate discoms and fix rational tariffs.
- Unmetered power supply to agriculture provides no incentive to farmers to use electricity efficiently.
- State power utilities are not able to invest in system improvements due to their poor financial health.
- High industrial/commercial tariff and the cross-subsidy regime have affected the competitiveness of the industrial and commercial sectors.

Oil & gas

- Non-discriminatory access for private and public sector companies to the gas pipeline network does not exist.
- Lack of market-driven gas prices for old fields disincentivizes further production.
- The gas pipeline infrastructure is also inadequate.

Coal

- Land for coal mining is becoming a major issue.
- There is a tendency to expand opencast mining and discourage underground operation even for better quality coal reserves. This aggravates the land availability problem.
- There is no competitive coal market.

Renewable energy

- High energy costs result in reneging on old power purchase agreements (PPAs) and erode their sanctity. This leads to uncertainty regarding power offtake and consequently endangers further investments.
- Flexibility in generation and balance requirements for the integration of renewable energy are emerging as major issues.
- There are supply chain issues in biomass power generation.

Energy efficiency

- Limited technical capabilities, high initial capital expenditure, limited market and policy issues have adversely affected efforts to achieve energy efficiency.
- High transaction costs (which involves appointing suitable consultants and vendors for execution) relative to project size, especially in the micro, small-scale and medium enterprises (MSME) sector, makes energy efficiency investments unattractive for investors.
- The non-availability of sufficient credit facilities and difficulties in obtaining required finances for energy saving projects are strong deterrents to investments in energy efficiency in India.

Overall energy

Subsidies and taxes

- A variety of subsidies and taxes distort the energy market and promote the use of inefficient over efficient fuels.

They also make Indian exports and domestic production uncompetitive as energy taxes are not under GST and hence, no input credit is given. This is a serious lacuna.

HOW PANDEMIC COULD IMPACT VARIOUS SECTORS

Two types of impact

- Primary Impact - related to restrictions imposed and social distancing, especially on urban economy and service sectors (both formal and informal), tourism and travel, retail, transport and real estate.
- Second round effect - result of primary impact- Reduced income, reduced consumption Expenditure

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(thus reduced expenditure multiplier), NPA among MSME, outflows of FPI.

Oil and natural gas

- Due to the fall in travel, global industrial activity has been affected. Oil prices fell further in March as the transportation section, which accounts for 60 per cent of the oil demand, was hit due to several countries imposing lockdowns.
- Not only oil, early this year in China, due to Covid-19-related containment measures, the demand for natural gas fell, as a result of which many Chinese LNG buyers halted their imports as storage tanks filled.

Industrial Metals

- Due to lockdowns in China, followed by in the US and Europe, the demand for industrial metals reduced as factories shut down. As per IMF, China accounts for roughly half of the global demand for industrial metals.

Food and beverages

- IMF projects a decrease in food prices by 2.6 per cent in 2020, caused by supply chain disruptions, border delays, food security concerns in regions affected by Covid-19 and export restrictions.
- In the lockdown period, while the price of cereals, oranges, seafood and arabica coffee has increased, prices of tea, meat, wool and cotton have declined. Further, the decline in oil prices has put a downward pressure on the prices for palm oil, soy oil, sugar and corn.

Malnutrition

- loss of wages means decreasing income of migrant population (which happen to come majorly from eastern India). This will reduce Consumption Expenditure by households.
- As per NSSO CES data 2011, 45% of expenditure of Indian household and 60% of expenditure of Poor household goes on Food items. Thus, this will result into malnutrition and hunger deaths

Banking Sector

- Increasing risk aversion attitude is affecting demand of and supply of loans: Demand- retailers and households and not taking loans Supply- banks risk averse to lend, thus parking funds with RBI

- Disparity in Credit giving- Banks are ready to lend to big corporates, who are now not taking up loans as they obtained their full capacity. While small firms who are in more need of loans are not getting loans as banks as sceptic about their credit worthiness

MSME Sector

- Most of them are not registered anywhere due to informal nature. This apparent Invisibility constraints govt's ability to help them. Developed countries are providing wage subsidy and extra credit to smaller firms and they are able to reach this sector due to registration. This makes Indian MSME sector more vulnerable.

Agriculture Sector

- Fertilizers shortage- due to disruption in supply chain
- On livestock- due to limited access to animal feed and a shortage of labour
- On food production and distribution- farmers are compelled to hold the produce perishable in nature lead to various impacts like farmer stress, decline in quality and cost of produce etc.

Other Issues

- Ability to retain prolonged closure due to lack of buffer, ability to restart the production after lockdown, drain of migrant labours.

Data/Surveys related issues

- Carrying out surveys such as Various surveys scheduled as follows
 - o Household Consumption Expenditure Survey 2020-21 and 2021-22
 - o Census 2021
 - o PLFC (last Annual data released for 2017-18 and quarter data for urban areas upto Q1 (Jan-March 2019))

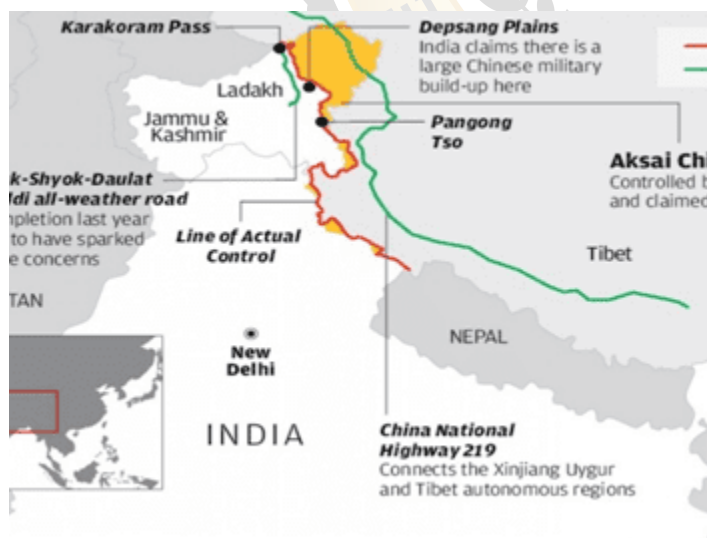


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BORDERS WHERE DISPUTES LIE BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA

Since there is no mutually agreed border line of LAC, India considered it to be 3488 km long while China does so only 2000 km. The India-China borders can be sub-divided into three sectors:

- **Western Sector or Aksai Chin Sector:** The dispute is over the Johnson line proposed by the British government in 1860s that put Aksai Chin under the Indian region (Then princely state of Jammu and Kashmir) while Aksai Chin is claimed by the Chinese government post-1962 war as an autonomous part of Xinjiang region through McDonald Line
- **Middle/Himachal-Uttarakhand Sector:** It is the least disputed area of the Indo-China border but the recent Doklam standoff and Nathu La Pass trading issues have again raised the concern in the sector.
- **Eastern Sector/Arunachal-Sikkim Sector:** McMahon Line is the bone of contention in the area which was accepted in the meeting of Representatives of China, India and Tibet which China refused to accept it in subsequent years. On the other hand, Tawang Tact (claimed by China) was taken over by India in 1951.



STEPS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT TO TACKLE MENTAL HEALTH

- **Mental health care Act 2017**
- **Right to make an Advance Directive:** Patient can state on how to be treated or not to be treated for the illness during a mental health situation.
- **Right to appoint a Nominated Representative:** A person shall have the right to appoint a nominated representative to take on his/her behalf, all health-related decisions-
- **Right to access mental health care**
- **Right to free & quality services**
- **Right to get free medicines**
- **Right to community living**
- **Right to protection from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment**
- **Right to live in an environment, safe and hygienic, having basic amenities**
- **Right to legal aid**
- **No Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) without anesthesia**
- **Attempt to commit suicide not an offence:** This act brought changes in Section 309 of the Indian Penal Code (which criminalized attempted suicide). Now, a person who attempts to commit suicide will be presumed to be "suffering from severe stress" and shall not be subjected to any investigation or prosecution.
- The act envisages the establishment of Central Mental Health Authority and State Mental Health Authority.
- **National Mental Health Programme (NMHP):** In 1982, the government of India launched the program to improve the status of mental health in India. NMHP has 3 components-
 - Treatment of Mentally ill
 - Rehabilitation
 - Prevention and promotion of positive mental health
- **NIMHANS RAAH App:** National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS) has come out with a NIMHANS RAAH app, a mobile application to provide free information to the public on mental health care professionals and mental healthcare centres.
- **District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), 1996:** its objective is to provide community mental health services at the primary health care level.
- **WHO's Comprehensive Mental Action Plan 2013-2020** was adopted by the 66th World Health Assembly.

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- **The Sustainable Development Goals** target 3.4 and 3.5 talks about reducing mental illness within the population.
- WHO recognizes mental healthcare system in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala as a best practice. Since 1999, Thiruvananthapuram District has integrated mental health services into primary care.

WHAT IS ESSENTIAL COMMODITY

- There is no specific definition of essential commodities in The EC Act.
- **Section 2(A)** of the act states that an “essential commodity” means a commodity specified in the “Schedule” of this Act.
- The Act gives powers to the central government to add or remove a commodity in the “Schedule.” The Centre, if it is satisfied that it is necessary to do so in public interest, can notify an item as essential, in consultation with state governments.
- At present, the “**Schedule**” contains 9 commodities — drugs; fertilisers, whether inorganic, organic or mixed; foodstuffs, including edible oils; hank yarn made wholly from cotton; petroleum and petroleum products; raw jute and jute textiles; seeds of food crops and seeds of fruits and vegetables, seeds of cattle fodder, jute seed, cotton seed; face masks; and hand sanitisers (latest added).

CHALLENGES FOR 5G TECHNOLOGY IN INDIA

India is waiting for 5G connectivity but there are challenges that need to be addressed first. Following are the challenges that India will have to overcome before the dream of 5G becomes a reality:

Spectrum related issues:

Allocation of 5G spectrum: The rest of the world may already be rolling out with 5G connectivity to its users but in India, 5G spectrum is yet to be allocated.

Expensive spectrum: one of the reasons for which 5G spectrum auction is getting delayed is its too expensive for telecom companies.

Finding space for spectrum: The biggest challenge in deploying 5G is acquisition of sites and finding space for spectrum.

Device related issues :

Lack of Affordable 5G devices: Various companies are trying to manufacture affordable 5G devices but it takes

little more time for complete affordability by all .

Enabling digital Infrastructure:

Another major factor which is the most compelling is the enabling digital Infrastructure. The digital infrastructure which has two critical components including Optical Fibre availability for backhaul and front haul (as 5G will have dumb RF cells), Tower/ Poles availability for RF rollout.

Lack of effective & uniform policy framework:

Rolling out to 5G technology certainly may be a Right of Way but as of now Lack of Policy framework is one of the biggest hurdle on its way of carrying forward to handle cyber issues.

Low optical fiber penetration:

India lacks a strong backhaul to transition to 5G. Backhaul is a network that connects cell sites to central exchange. As of now 80% of cell sites are connected through microwave backhaul, while under 20% sites are connected through fiber.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND INDIA

- **NITI Ayog** estimates that adopting AI means a 15% boost for the gross value added (GVA) for the economy by 2035.
- AI technology development and applications are evolving rapidly with major implications for economies and societies.
- A study by **Ernst & Young(EY)** and **NASCCOM** found that by 2022, around 46% of the workforce will be engaged in entirely new jobs that do not exist today, or will be deployed in jobs that have radically changed skillsets.

National Strategy for AI by NITI

- **NITI Ayog** unveiled its discussion paper on national strategy on AI which aims to guide research and development in new and emerging technologies.
- It has identified **five sectors** — healthcare, agriculture, education, smart cities and infrastructure and transportation — to focus its efforts towards implementation of AI.
- The paper focuses on how India can leverage the transformative technologies to ensure social and inclusive growth.

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- A national AI strategy needs to be premised on a framework which is adapted to India's unique needs and aspirations, while at the same time, is capable of achieving the country's full potential of leveraging AI developments.
- Such a framework could be seen as an aggregation of the following three distinct, yet inter-related components.
- **Opportunity:** the economic impact of AI for India
- **AI for Greater Good:** social development and inclusive growth
- **AI Garage for 40% of the world:** solution provider of choice for the emerging and developing economies (ex-China) across the globe.

Kamakoti Committee

AI Task Force headed by V. Kamakoti was set up to explore possibilities to leverage AI for development across various fields.

Key recommendations-

- Set up digital data banks, marketplaces and exchanges to ensure availability of cross-industry information.
- Data ombudsman: to address data-related issues and grievances.
- Ensure availability of funds for R&D
- Setting up National Artificial Intelligence

ism-related crimes resulting in death, terrorism-related cases not resulting in death, rape not resulting in death, kidnapping not resulting in death, drug trafficking not resulting in death, treason, espionage and military offenses not resulting in death.

Legal Position

- **Supreme Court of India in Bachan Singh vs state of Punjab (1980)** case held that death penalty shall be awarded in rarest of the rare cases alone.
- In 2015, India's **Law Commission** submitted a report calling for abolition of the death penalty for all excluding non-terrorism cases.
- In November 2012, India upheld its stance on capital punishment by voting against the **UN General Assembly** draft resolution seeking to end the institution of capital punishment globally.
- **The Supreme Court** had also ruled that mandatory death penalty is unconstitutional.
- **Article 72** of the Constitution, the power to pardon lies with the President.

INDIA'S PRIORITIES AS UNSC MEMBER

- **India's 5-S Approach-** Recently while joining as a Non-permanent member, India committed its approach to—
 - **Samman** (Respect),
 - **Samvad** (Dialogue),
 - **Sahyog** (Cooperation)
 - **Shanti** (Peace) and
 - **Samriddhi** (Prosperity)

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN INDIA

- **Methods-** Hanging and shooting are the **two methods** of death penalty in India.
- According to the Criminal Procedure Code, **hanging** is the method of execution in the civilian court system.
- The Army Act, 1950, however, lists both hanging and **shooting** as official methods of execution in the military court-martial system.
- According to a study by National Law University in Delhi, 755 people have been hanged in independent India until now.
- **Crimes punishable by death in India-** Aggravated murder, other offences resulting in death, terrorism-related crimes resulting in death, terrorism-related cases not resulting in death, rape not resulting in death, kidnapping not resulting in death, drug trafficking not resulting in death, treason, espionage and military offenses not resulting in death.
- **Global action on counter-terrorism-** Aligning with **Quad countries** or working with mechanisms like **FATF** to mount pressure on Pakistan to stop supporting cross-border terrorism in India.
- **More transparency** in the process of listing and delisting of entities and also individuals in sanction committees.
- **UN Peacekeeping mission:** Being one of the largest Troop Contributing Country, India will seek to engage intensively in finalizing of mandates for UN peacekeeping mission.
- **Sustainable development** - India will continue its active engagement on issues relating to sustainable development and climate change.

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- **Health service provider-** India will also highlight its contribution to global co-operation to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic by aiding more than 150 countries across the globe as a pharmacy of the world.
- **Women-led development-** India will reiterate its commitments and achievements in women-led development, as 2020 is the 25th anniversary of the Fourth **World Conference on Women**.
- **India-UN Development Partnership Fund-** In this context, it will highlight its role as a South-South development partner.
- **International Solar Alliance-** India's commitment to the idea of global partnership under **SDG-17** including climate change will be prominently promoted.
- **Balancing National Interest and Multilateralism-**
- While reclaiming its role in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), India must engage with other multilateral institutions as new rule-making as India is not at disadvantage if rule making takes place outside the UN.
- **tations, and continued observance of the moratorium on nuclear tests.**
- Continued commitment to the goal of a nuclear weapon free world, through global, verifiable and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament.

Insights into Credible Minimum Deterrent:

- **The concept of "credible minimum deterrence" is the cornerstone of India's nuclear doctrine.**
- It is used in conjunction with the concepts of "No First Use" (NFU) and "Non Use" against nuclear weapon states.
- **It clearly indicates that India envisages its nuclear weapons as only a deterrent merely for defensive purposes** and not as a means to threaten others, that it is not in the business of building up a huge arsenal and that it will not engage in arms racing.
- The concept, however, also recognizes that for deterrence to be effective it must be "credible".
- The prerequisites for the credibility of our deterrent in the context of our nuclear doctrine may be listed as follows:

KEY FEATURES OF INDIA'S NUCLEAR DOCTRINE

- Building and maintaining a credible minimum deterrent.
- A posture of "No First Use policy": Nuclear weapons will only be used in retaliation against a nuclear attack on Indian territory or on Indian forces anywhere;
- Nuclear retaliation to a first strike will be massive and designed to inflict unacceptable damage.
- Nuclear retaliatory attacks can only be authorized by the civilian political leadership through the Nuclear Command Authority.
- Non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states;
- However, in the event of a major attack against India, or Indian forces anywhere, by biological or chemical weapons, India will retain the option of retaliating with nuclear weapons;
- A continuance of strict controls on export of nuclear and missile related materials and technologies, participation in the Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty negotiations, and continued observance of the moratorium on nuclear tests.
- Sufficient and Survivable nuclear forces both in terms of warheads and means of delivery able to inflict unacceptable damage;
- Nuclear Forces must be operationally prepared at all times;
- Effective Intelligence and Early Warning Capabilities;
- A Robust Command and Control System;
- The Will to Employ Nuclear Forces;
- Communication of Deterrence Capability.

Robust Command and Control System is essential for the credibility of deterrence.

- Effective Intelligence and Early Warning Capabilities always important in any conflict are critical in the context of a nuclear attack not merely as a means to counter it but also for purposes of retaliation.
- The need for operational preparedness at all times of the nuclear forces in order for our nuclear deterrent to be credible is self evident.

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WHAT IS RADICALISATION

"Radicalization is a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject or undermine the status quo or contemporary ideas and expressions of the nation."

Traits- (may be associated with different causes or ideologies depending upon context and time.

- Shaped by the ideas of the society at large,
- it can be violent/non-violent,
- independent/mutually reinforcing,

Factors aiding Radicalisation

1-Institutional factors

- Deprivation of traditional rights in common property resources
- Food security issues and inefficiency in the Public Distribution System
- Disruption of traditional occupations and lack of alternative work opportunities.
- Lack of availability of essential public services including primary health care and education.
- Corrupt, ill-trained, unethical and poorly motivated public personnel who raises sense of revenge among dissidents.
- Misuse of powers by the police and violations of the norms of law.
- Profit oriented Corporate-Politics alliance and unsatisfactory working of local government institutions.
- In 2006, Forest Rights Act was enacted. But Forest Bureaucracy continued its hostility towards it.

2- Land, Displacement and Rehabilitation factors

- Encroachment and occupation of Government and Community lands (even the water-bodies) by powerful sections of society.
- Lack of title to public land cultivated by the landless poor.
- Poor implementation of laws securing tribal lands
- Non-regularisation of traditional land rights

3-Socio-religious factors

- Issues like beef consumption, language imposition, conversion efforts by religious groups etc., further created a wedge between the religious community.
- Fake news on interpretation of the laws related to religion or caste (CAA, SC/ST act etc)
- Criminalisation of politics and use of religion in gaining political edge.
- Religious fundamentalism among youth like among Kashmiri youth, which can give an impetus to already existing separatist tendencies.

Types of Radicalisation

<u>Left Wing Extremism</u>	<u>Right Wing Extremism</u>	<u>Politico-Religious Extremism</u>	<u>Single-Issue Extremism</u>
-Primarily against capitalism considered responsible for producing social inequalities, -usually employ violent means (e.g. Maoist, Marxist-Leninist etc).	-Associated with fascism, racialism/racism, and ultranationalist. -usually violent defence of a racial, ethnic or pseudo-national identity -associated with radical hostility towards state authorities, minorities, immigrants and/or left-wing political groups.	-Associated with a political interpretation of religion -the defence, by violent means, of a religious identity perceived to be under attack (via international conflicts, foreign policy, social debates, etc.) (e.g. SIMI, Khalistan, Zindabad Force etc).	-motivated by a sole issue. -It includes radical environmental or animal rights groups, anti-abortion extremists, certain anti-gay/antifeminist movements, and ultra-individualist or independent extremist movements.

WHAT IS CONTEMPT OF COURT

Section 2 of the contempt of courts act, 1971 stipulates that the contempt of court means civil contempt or criminal contempt.

Civil contempt: Civil contempt means willful disobedience to any judgment, decree, direction, order, writ or other process of a court or willful breach of an undertaking given to a court;

Criminal contempt: Criminal contempt means the publication (whether by words, spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representations, or otherwise) of any matter or the doing of any other act whatsoever which —

Provisions related to contempt of court

Article 129: It grants the Supreme Court the power to punish for contempt of itself.

Article 142(2): It enables the Supreme Court to investigate and punish any person for its contempt.

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Article 215: It grants every High Court the power to punish for contempt of itself.

The Contempt of Court Act, 1971 under Section 2(c) defines and limits the powers of certain courts in punishing contempt of courts scandalizes or tends to scandalize, or lowers or tends to lower the authority of, any court; or

prejudices, or interferes or tends to interfere with, the due course of any judicial proceeding; or

interferes or tends to interfere with, or obstructs or tends to obstruct, the administration of justice in any other manner;

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 5G VS 4G

5G Versus 4G at Glance

FEATURE	4G TECHNOLOGY	5G TECHNOLOGY
What is it?	It stands for Fourth Generation technology	It stands for Fifth Generation technology
Upload speed	The maximum upload rate of 4G technology is 500 Mbps	While the maximum upload rate of 5G technology is 1.25 Gbps
Down load speed	The maximum download rate of 4G technology is 1 Gbps	While the maximum download rate of 5G technology is 2.5 Gbps.
Latency period	The latency of 4G technology is about 50 ms	While the latency of 5G technology is about 1 ms
Radio systems	4G offers Code Division Multiple Acces (CDMA)	While 5G offers Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) , BDMA .
Advantages	4G has the advantages of high speed handoffs, global mobility	While 5G has the advantages of extremely high speeds, low latency
Applications	4G can be used for high speed applications, mobile TV, wearable devices	While 5G can be used for high resolution video streaming, remote control of vehicles, robots and medical procedures
Efficiency	It is little slow and less efficient than 5G	It is fast and more efficient than 4G

THE CYCLE OF ROCK CHANGE

The processes that form rocks, when taken together, constitute a single system that cycles and recycles Earth materials over geologic time from one form to another.

As shown in given figure, There are two environments—a surface environment of low pressures and temperatures and a deep environment of high pressures and temperatures. The surface environment is the site of rock alteration and sediment deposition. Here, igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks are uplifted and exposed to air and water. Their minerals are altered chemically and broken free from the parent rock, yielding sediment. The sediment accumulates in basins, where deeply buried sediment layers are compressed and cemented into sedimentary rock.

Sedimentary rock, entering the deep environment, is heated and comes into a zone of high confining pressure. Here, it is transformed into metamorphic rock. Pockets of magma are formed in the deep environment and move upward, melting and incorporating surrounding rock as they rise. Upon reaching a higher level, magma cools and solidifies, becoming intrusive igneous rock, which reaches the surface environment when it is uncovered by erosion. Or it may emerge at the surface to form extrusive igneous rock. Either way, the cycle is completed. The cycle of rock change has been active since our planet became solid and internally stable, continuously forming and reforming rocks of all three major classes. Not even the oldest igneous and metamorphic rocks found so far are the “original” rocks of the Earth’s crust. These were recycled eons ago.

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GREEN GDP AND CLIMATE FINANCING

Green GDP

Green GDP refers to a national accounting system of the utilization of the non-renewable

natural resources of any country and is now being envisioned as a part of sustainable development. The objective is to utilize the resources optimally, efficiently and effectively in furthering the growth of economies and at the same time a realization of their scarcity value. It is also believed that such an accounting will also pave the way for greater R&D for developing viable alternatives to the fast depleting non-renewable natural resources of the country.

Clearly, the biggest issue is that of absolute poverty which has to be addressed in prior, before one can talk about broader aspects of sustainable development. This not to say that India should not address the issue of sustainable development, but addressing the needs of the poor is unquestionably the priority, of giving them the means of living and a hygienic decent living standard. Thus, inclusive growth, sustainable development and green GDP are all different terminologies, totally distinct from each other in their meaning but cannot be said to be independent but inter-related in terms of their implications.

Climate Financing

Climate finance means local, national or international financing through public, private and alternative sources of financing. It is critical to addressing climate change as large-scale investments are required to reduce climate change induced adversities.

Climate finance is equally important for adaptation strategies as there are requirements for significant financial resources to allow countries to adapt to the adverse effects and reduce the impacts of climate change.

GUPTA ADMINISTRATION

According to inscriptions, the Gupta kings assumed titles like *Paramabhattaraka*, *Maharajadhiraja*, *Parameswara*, *Samrat* and *Chakravartin*. The king was assisted in his administration by a council consisting of a chief minister, a *Senapati* or commander-in-chief of the army and other important officials. A high official called *Sandivigraha* was mentioned in the Gupta inscriptions, most

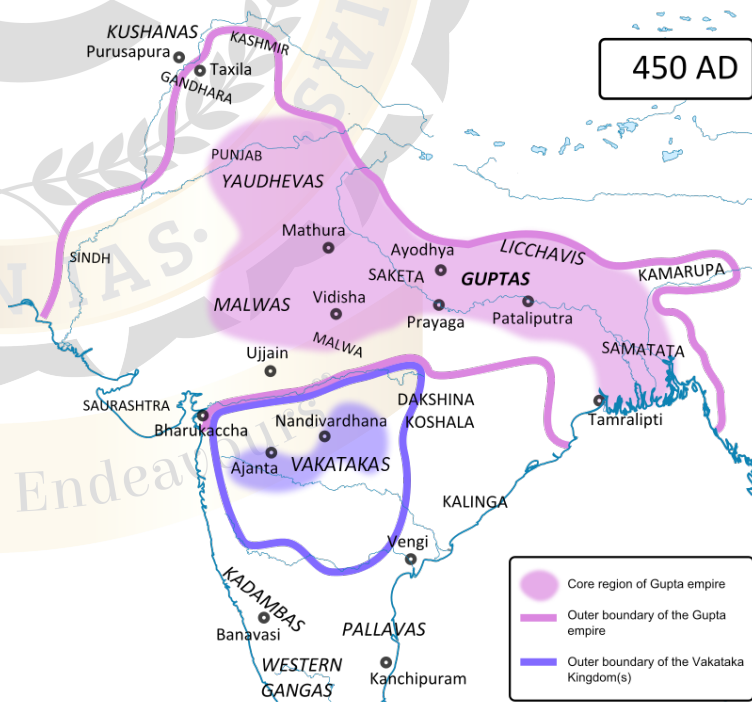
probably minister for foreign affairs.

The king maintained a close contact with the provincial-

administration through a class of officials called *Kumaramatyas* and *Ayuktas*. Provinces in the Gupta Empire were known as *Bhuktis* and provincial governors as *Uparikas*. They were mostly chosen from among the princes. *Bhuktis* were subdivided into *Vishyas* or districts. They were governed by *Vishyapatis*. *Nagara Sreshtis* were the officers looking after the city administration. The villages in the district were under the control of *Gramikas*.

Fahien's account on the Gupta administration provides useful information. He characterises the Gupta administration as mild and benevolent. There were no restrictions on people's movements and they enjoyed a large degree of personal freedom. There was no state interference in the individual's life. Punishments were not severe.

Imposing a fine was a common punishment. There was no spy system. The administration was so efficient that the roads were kept safe for travelers, and there was no fear of thieves. He mentioned that people were generally prosperous and the crimes were negligible. Fahien had also appreciated the efficiency of the Gupta administration as he was able to travel without any fear throughout the Gangetic valley. On the whole the administration was more liberal than that of the Mauryas.



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TYPES OF WRITS

The Supreme Court (under Article 32) and the high courts (under Article 226) can issue the writs of *habeas corpus*, *mandamus*, prohibition, *certiorari* and *quo-warranto*. Further, the Parliament (under Article 32) can empower any other court to issue these writs. Since no such provision has been made so far, only the Supreme Court and the high courts can issue the writs and not any other court. Article 226 empowers all the high courts to issue the writs.

Habeas Corpus

It is a Latin term which literally means 'to have the body of'. It is an order issued by the court to a person who has detained another person, to produce the body of the latter before it. The court then examines the cause and legality of detention. It would set the detained person free, if the detention is found to be illegal. Thus, this writ is a bulwark of individual liberty against arbitrary detention.

The writ of *habeas corpus* can be issued against both public authorities as well as private individuals. The writ, on the other hand, is not issued where the (a) detention is lawful, (b) the proceeding is for contempt of a legislature or a court, (c) detention is by a competent court, and (d) detention is outside the jurisdiction of the court.

Mandamus

It literally means 'we command'. It is a command issued by the court to a public official asking him to perform his official duties that he has failed or refused to perform. It can also be issued against any public body, a corporation, an inferior court, a tribunal or government for the same purpose.

The writ of *mandamus* cannot be issued (a) against a private individual or body; (b) to enforce departmental instruction that does not possess statutory force; (c) when the duty is discretionary and not mandatory; (d) to enforce a contractual obligation; (e) against the president of India or the state governors; and (f) against the chief justice of a high court acting in judicial capacity.

Prohibition

Literally, it means 'to forbid'. It is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal to prevent the latter from exceeding its jurisdiction or usurping a jurisdiction that it does not possess. Thus, unlike *mandamus* that directs activity, the prohibition directs inactivity. The writ of prohibition can be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities. It is not available against administrative authorities, legislative bodies, and private individuals or bodies.

Certiorari

In the literal sense, it means 'to be certified' or 'to be informed'. It is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal either to transfer a case pending with the latter to itself or to squash the order of the latter in a case. It is issued on the grounds of excess of jurisdiction or lack of jurisdiction or error of law. Thus, unlike prohibition, which is only preventive, *certiorari* is both preventive as well as curative.

Previously, the writ of *certiorari* could be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities and not against administrative authorities. However, in 1991, the Supreme Court ruled that the *certiorari* can be issued even against administrative authorities affecting rights of individuals. Like prohibition, *certiorari* is also not available against legislative bodies and private individuals or bodies.

Quo-Warranto

In the literal sense, it means 'by what authority or warrant'. It is issued by the court to enquire into the legality of claim of a person to a public office. Hence, it prevents illegal usurpation of public office by a person.

The writ can be issued only in case of a substantive public office of a permanent character created by a statute or by the Constitution. It cannot be issued in cases of ministerial office or private office. Unlike the other four writs, this can be sought by any interested person and not necessarily by the aggrieved person.

LAFFER CURVE AND TAX REVENUES

The Laffer curve is a theory developed by supply-side economist Arthur Laffer to show the relationship between tax rates and the amount of tax revenue collected by governments. The curve is used to illustrate Laffer's main premise that the more an activity — such as production — is taxed, the less of it is generated. Likewise, the less an activity is taxed, the more of it is generated.

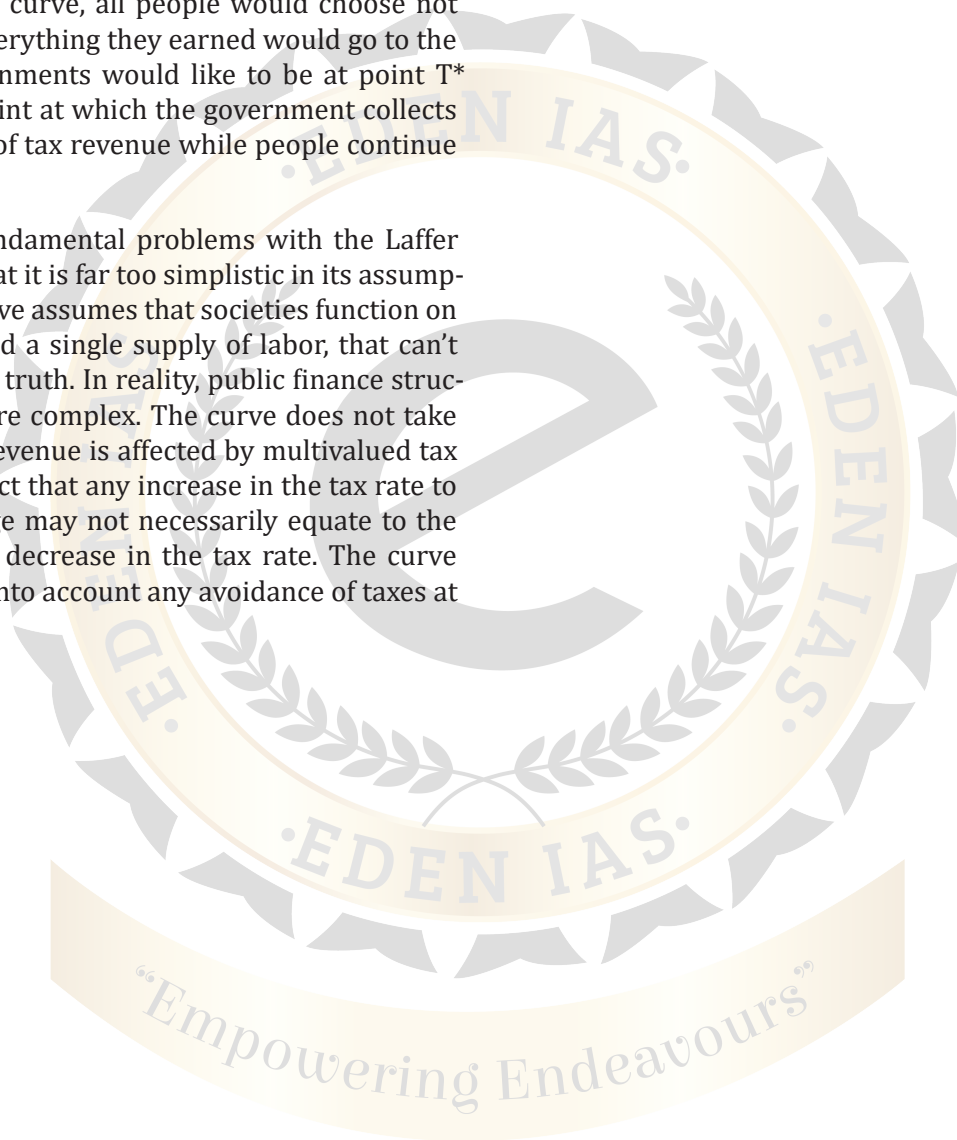


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The Laffer curve suggests that, as taxes increase from low levels, tax revenue collected by the government also increases. It also shows that tax rates increasing after a certain point (T^* on the diagram below) would cause people not to work as hard or not at all, thereby reducing tax revenue.

Eventually, if tax rates reached 100 percent, shown as the far right on his curve, all people would choose not to work because everything they earned would go to the government. Governments would like to be at point T^* because it is the point at which the government collects maximum amount of tax revenue while people continue to work hard.

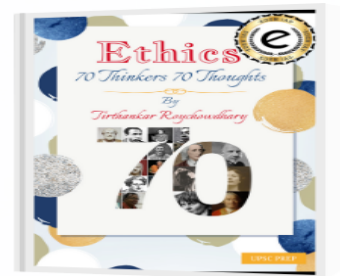
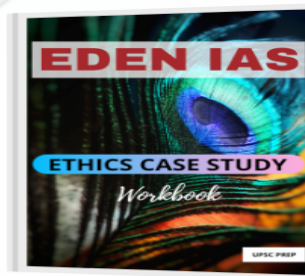
There are some fundamental problems with the Laffer curve — notably that it is far too simplistic in its assumptions. While the curve assumes that societies function on a single tax rate and a single supply of labor, that can't be further from the truth. In reality, public finance structures are much more complex. The curve does not take into account how revenue is affected by multivalued tax rates. Simply, the fact that any increase in the tax rate to a certain percentage may not necessarily equate to the same revenue as a decrease in the tax rate. The curve also does not take into account any avoidance of taxes at any level.



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