

# IMPULSE

SEPTEMBER 2020

## EDEN NEWS

**BLUE  
FLAG**

Certification scheme - 8 beaches  
of India recommended for  
coveted international eco - level.

**PART - II**

**RAFALE JET**

Induction ceremony

**EDUCATIONAL  
POLICY**

Education policy change 2020

# EDEN IAS - Educational Development & Enrichment Network

## US. KEEN ON FINALISING GEO-SPATIAL COOPERATION AT 2+2 DIALOGUE

SOURCE- THE HINDU

GS PAPER – 2

### CONTEXT -

The U.S. is keen that India sign the last foundational agreement, Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-Spatial cooperation (BECA), at the next India-U.S. 2+2 ministerial dialogue

### HIGHLIGHTS -

So far, **India has signed three foundational agreements:**

1. The Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA).
2. The Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA).
3. The General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) was signed a long time ago. An extension to the GSOMIA, **the Industrial Security Annex (ISA)**, was signed at the last 2+2 dialogue.

### BECA

- BECA refers to Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-spatial Cooperation. This agreement would facilitate exchange of geospatial information between India and United States for both military and civilian use.
- US argue that these would enable technology transfer, logistics and seamless communication between military systems of the two countries.
- The 2+2 dialogue is the highest-level institutional mechanism between India and USA that brings together the perspectives of the two countries **on foreign policy, defence** and strategic issues.

## THE EPIDEMIC DISEASES (Amendment) BILL, 2020

SOURCE - PRS INDIA

GS PAPER – 2 AND 3

### CONTEXT -

The Upper House on Saturday passed the Epidemic Diseases Amendment Bill, 2020 to bring a law that punishes those who attack health workers or doctors who are fighting the corona virus outbreak or during any situation similar to the current Covid-19 pandemic. The legislation provides for up to five years in jail for those who attack doctors and health care personnel.

### HIGHLIGHTS -

- The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on September 14, 2020.
- It amends the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.
- The Bill defines healthcare service personnel as persons who are at risk of contracting the epidemic disease while carrying out duties related to the epidemic
- They include: (i) public and clinical healthcare providers such as doctors and nurses, (ii) any person empowered under the Act to take measures to prevent the outbreak of the disease, and (iii) other persons designated as such by the state government.
- If any damage is done to clinical establishments, quarantine and isolation facilities of patients, mobile medical units or any other property associated with healthcare personnel during a pandemic, penal provisions can be provoked.
- Penalty ranging from Rs 50,000 to Rs 2, 00, 000 can be slapped on any individual who is involved in commission or abetment of such acts of violence. It can also be punishable in the form of an imprisonment for a term of three months to five years.
- Under the Bill, an 'act of violence' includes any of the following acts committed against a healthcare service personnel:

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1. Harassment impacting living or working conditions,
  2. Harm, injury, hurt, or danger to life,
  3. Obstruction in discharge of duties, and
  4. Loss or damage to the property or documents of the healthcare service personnel. Property includes: (i) clinical establishment, (ii) quarantine facility, (iii) mobile medical unit, and (iv) any other property in which a healthcare service personnel has direct interest, in relation to the epidemic.
- The various content items are provided to the people in the form of rare books, e-books, paintings, images, audio-clips, video-clips etc.
  - The Indian Culture Portal promotes and showcases both the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of India through various categories which include manuscripts, museum artefacts, paintings, archival photographs, food and culture, musical instruments of India, archival documents, social practices, rituals, and festivals, Oral traditions and expressions and rare books, etc. These details are provided for every region of India and from Indus Valley Civilisation to the present.
  - The Indian Culture Portal is currently available in two languages i.e. Hindi and English.

### INDIAN CULTURE PORTAL

**SOURCE - PIB**

**GS PAPER- 1**

#### CONTEXT -

India is enriched with vast and diverse tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the form of Books, Dance, Music, Monuments, Sculptures, Antiquities, Languages etc. Ministry of Culture had made efforts to bring all these cultural heritage in a single e-platform, namely, **Bhartiya Sanskriti Portal**,

#### ABOUT THE PORTAL

- The content available on the Indian Culture Portal is collected from the eminent cultural organizations under the Ministry of Culture, to provide a wide public access at local, national and global levels to all the available knowledge resources through open source platform in multilingual environment.
- The content is being promoted by the following means:
  1. Outreach through social media platforms such as Face book, Twitter and Instagram with a dedicated page for the portal.
  2. Through links provided on the websites of all MoC organizations
  3. Mobile phone apps
  4. Presence on the Umang platform.
  5. Direct promotion to over 30,000 schools and colleges

### TAMIL NADU BECOMES FIRST STATE TO UNVEIL ETHICAL AI, BLOCK CHAIN, CYBER SECURITY POLICIES IN COUNTRY

**SOURCE - INDIAN EXPRESS**

**GS PAPER - 3**

#### CONTEXT -

Tamil Nadu becomes the first state to come out with Tamil Nadu Safe and Ethical Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain and Cyber security policies in the country

- Tamil Nadu continues to be a "Destination of Choice" for the IT and IT-enabled services sector in India,
- The project will be implemented by establishing and leveraging the State Family Data Base (SFDB) and Block-Chain Backbone infrastructure.
- This pioneering initiative will take the Government to the Citizens, thus eliminating the need for the citizens to request G2C (government to citizen) services
- e Tamil Nadu e-governance goal of the Safe and Ethical AI Policy is to allow harnessing the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the public good while keeping it safe and ethically compatible with human values.



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- AI-based solutions are now being used for further improving its citizen engagement, service delivery and problem redressal processes so that “no citizen is left behind.”

### RECOMMENDATION -

The Six-Dimensional TAM-DEF Framework for evaluation of AI-based systems. The framework's factors like transparency & audit, accountability & legal issues, misuse protection, digital divide and data deficit, ethics and, fairness and equity, ensure that the evaluation is aligned to democratic values

### ADVANTAGES -

- Using artificial intelligence in helping farmers fight pests.
- Will help in building a Block chain Backbone infrastructure (network)
- This infrastructure would function as a single source of truth and trust anchor for all government processes and data.
- This Block chain Backbone would be used by the State for reimagining governance and for encouraging adoption of Block chain within the State.

right may be existing, arise in the future, or contingent arising from use of any service, facility or otherwise. The Bill amends the definition of receivables to mean any money owed by a debtor to the assignor for toll or for the use of any facility or services.

- The Act defines assignment to mean transfer (by agreement) of undivided interest of any assignor in any receivable due from the debtor, in favour of the factor.
- The amendments are expected to help micro, small and medium enterprises significantly by providing added avenues for getting credit facility, especially through Trade Receivables Discounting System.
- Increase in the availability of working capital may lead to growth in the business of the micro, small and medium enterprises sector and also boost employment in the country,

## THE FACTORING REGULATION (Amendment) BILL, 2020

SOURCE - PRS INDIA

GS PAPER - 3

## ELECTRONIC VACCINE INTELLIGENCE NETWORK (eVIN)

SOURCE - THE HINDU

GS PAPER- 3

### Context -

Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) system to track COVID-19 vaccine delivery in India

### About

- The Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) system, which provides real-time information on vaccine stocks and storage temperatures across all cold chain points in the country, is being enhanced to address the needs for distribution and tracking of COVID-19 vaccine, whenever it becomes available
- A national expert group on COVID-19 vaccine has been constituted to guide the government on prioritization of population groups for vaccination, selection of vaccine candidates, delivery mechanism of the vaccine, cold chain and associated infrastructure for roll-out of COVID-19 vaccination, etc.

### CONTEXT -

The Factoring Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was introduced in Lok Sabha on September 14, 2020. The Bill seeks to amend the Factoring Regulation Act, 2011 to widen the scope of entities which can engage in factoring business

### HIGHLIGHTS

- The Act defines receivables as (all or part of or undivided interest in) the monetary sum which is the right of a person under a contract. This

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## GOVERNMENT DECLARES MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES (MSP) FOR RABI CROPS

**SOURCE - THE HINDU  
GS PAPER - 3**

### Context -

MSP increased by Rs. 50 to Rs. 300 per quintal, Food Corporation of India and other State agencies will continue to purchase farm produce at MSP, APMC mandis will also continue to function

### ABOUT

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all mandated Rabi crops for marketing season 2021-22.
- This increase in MSP is in line with the recommendations of Swaminathan Commission
- The highest increase in MSP has been announced for lentil (Rs. 300 per quintal) followed by gram and rapeseed & mustard (Rs. 225 per quintal each) and safflower (Rs. 112 per quintal). For barley and wheat, an increase of Rs. 75 per quintal and Rs 50 per quintal respectively has been announced.
- The differential remuneration is aimed at encouraging crop diversification.
- The MSP for pulses (lentil) and oilseeds has been increased to boost production of these crops so that import of these items can be reduced.

## O-SMART

**SOURCE - PIB  
GS PAPER - 3**

### CONTEXT -

**Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre is providing Tsunami Services to 25 Indian Ocean Countries**

### ABOUT

The objectives of O-SMART (Ocean Services, Modelling, Applications, Resources and Technology) scheme of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt. of India are

1. To generate and regularly update information on Marine Living Resources and their relationship with the physical environment in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ),
2. To periodically monitor levels of sea water pollutants for health assessment of coastal waters of India, to develop shoreline change maps for assessment of coastal erosion due to natural and anthropogenic activities,
3. To develop a wide range of state-of-the art ocean observation systems for acquisition of real-time data from the seas around India,
4. To generate and disseminate a suite of user-oriented ocean information, advisories, warnings, data and data products for the benefit of society,
5. To develop high resolution models for ocean forecast and reanalysis system,
6. To develop algorithms for validation of satellite data for coastal research and to monitor changes in the coastal research,
7. Acquisition of 2 Coastal Research Vessels (CRVs) as replacement of 2 old CRVs for coastal pollution monitoring, testing of various underwater components and technology demonstration,
8. To develop technologies to tap the marine bio resources,
9. To develop technologies generating freshwater and energy from ocean,
10. To develop underwater vehicles and technologies,
11. Establishment of Ballast water treatment facility,
12. To support operation and maintenance of 5 Research vessels for ocean survey/monitoring/technology demonstration programmes,
13. Establishment of state of the art sea front facility to

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cater to the testing and sea trial activities of ocean technology,

14. To carryout exploration of Polymetallic Nodules (MPN) from water depth of 5500 m in site of 75000 sq.km allotted to India by United Nations in Central Indian Ocean Basin, to carryout investigations of gas hydrates,
  15. Exploration of polymetallic sulphides near Rodrigues Triple junction in 10000 sq. km of area allotted to India in International waters by International Seabed Authority/UN and,
  16. Submission of India's claim over continental shelf extending beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone supported by scientific data, and Topographic survey of EEZ of India.
- The Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC) was established at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, an autonomous body under Ministry of Earth Sciences which continues to provide timely tsunami advisories to stake holders

ii. **Ramanujan Fellowship:** This Fellowship provides attractive avenues and opportunities to Indian researchers of high calibre, who are residing abroad, to work in Indian Institutes/Universities in all areas of Science, Engineering and Medicine. It is directed to scientists and engineers below the age of 40 years, who want to return to India from abroad.

iii. **Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship:** The programme is to encourage scientists (Indian Nationals) working outside the country, who would like to return to the home country to pursue their research interests in Life Sciences, Modern Biology, Biotechnology, and other related areas.

iv. **Biomedical Research Career Programme (BRCP):** This program provides opportunity to early, intermediate and senior level researchers to establish their research & academic career in Basic biomedical or Clinical & Public Health in India. These fellowships are open to all eligible researchers who wish to relocate or continue to work in India.

v. **Scientists/ Technologists of Indian Origin (STIO) in Indian research Laboratory:** There is a provision to appoint Scientists/ Technologists of Indian Origin (STIO) on a contractual basis at Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories to nurture a research field in their area of expertise.

vi. **Senior Research Associateship (SRA) (Scientist's Pool Scheme):** This scheme is primarily meant to provide temporary placement to highly qualified Indian scientists, engineers, technologists, and medical personnel returning from abroad, who are not holding any employment in India. The Senior Research Associateship is not a regular appointment, but is a temporary facility to enable the Associate to do research/teaching in India while looking for a regular position.

### SCHEMES OF MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Source – PIB

GS Paper – 3

#### CONTEXT –

The Ministry of Science & Technology has formulated following schemes to provide attractive avenues and opportunities to Indian researchers who are residing in foreign countries to work in Indian Institutes and Universities.

- i. **Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty Scheme:** This Scheme is to bring overseas scientists and academicians including Non-resident Indians (NRI) and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) to India to work in public funded Institutions and Universities for a specific period of time. The scheme offers adjunct / visiting faculty assignments to overseas scientists including Indian researchers to undertake high quality collaborative research in cutting edge areas of science and technology with one or more Indian collaborators.

### CAROTAR, 2020 RULES

SOURCE – PIB

GS PAPER 2

**CONTEXT -** The Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020 (CAROTAR, 2020), notified on 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2020, shall come into force from 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2020 upon completion of the 30 day period that was given to importers and



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other stakeholders to familiarize themselves with new provisions.

### CARTOR RULES

- CAROTAR, 2020 implements the commitment of Finance Minister in her Budget Speech 2020 to protect the domestic industry from misuse of FTAs.
- An importer is now required to do due diligence before importing the goods to ensure that they meet the prescribed originating criteria.
- A list of minimum information which the importer is required to possess has also been provided in the rules along with general guidance.
- Also, an importer would now have to enter certain origin related information in the Bill of Entry, as available in the Certificate of Origin

### IMPORTANCE OF THESE RULES

- The new Rules will support the importer to correctly ascertain the country of origin, properly claim the concessional duty and assist Customs authorities in smooth clearance of legitimate imports under FTAs.
- The new Rules would strengthen the hands of the Customs in checking any attempted misuse of the duty concessions under FTAs.

## KAKATIYA DYNASTY

SOURCE - THE HINDU

GS PAPER 1

### CONTEXT -

Kakati Devi temple built by Kakatiya ruler Ganapati Deva in Dharanikota converted into an abode of local Goddess 'Balusulamma'.

### ABOUT

- A temple constructed by Emperor Ganapati Deva, a mighty ruler of Kakatiya dynasty, in Dharanikota near present Andhra Pradesh capital Amravati has been converted into an abode of local goddess Balusulamma (Goddess Durga)

- The presiding deity at this 13th century temple was Kakati Devi, the tutelary deity of Kakatiya rulers.
- Ganapati Deva is the first king who introduced the worship of Kakati Devi into the coastal region of Andhra and outside the dominions of his kingdom

### ART AND ARCHITECTURE

- ceiling bears decorations of lotus medallions and no sikhara on its top
- These architectural features are totally akin to their counterparts found in shrines at Hanamkonda and Warangal fort etc., - the original home land of Kakatiya dynasty,
- Currently, the idol is placed in a small shelter on the southern side of the temple, locally known as Golabhama Gudi

### SCULPTURE

- The goddess is gracefully seated in Padmasana with eight hands.
- Her facial physiognomic features are oval, distinguished with slender cheeks, wide open eyes, an elongated nose and closed tender pair of lips. She has eight hands and poses eight different special attributes.
- Her lower right hand is benevolently blessing the devotees.
- This is a very rare and unique image possessed with best iconographical illustrations of the Kakatiya sculptures and pointing towards a most distinguished cult deity.

## OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT

SOURCE - INDIAN EXPRESS

GS PAPER - 1

### CONTEXT -

A Delhi court has extended by seven days the custodial interrogation of freelance journalist Rajeev Sharma, arrested in an espionage case under the Official Secrets Act.

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## ABOUT

- **OSA has its roots** in the British colonial era. The original version was The Indian Official Secrets Act (Act XIV), 1889.
- This was brought in with the main objective of muzzling the voice of a large number of newspapers that had come up in several languages, and were opposing the Raj's policies, building political consciousness and facing police crackdowns and prison terms.
- It was amended and made more stringent in the form of The Indian Official Secrets Act, 1904, during Lord Curzon's tenure as Viceroy of India. In 1923, a newer version was notified.
- The Indian Official Secrets Act (Act No XIX of 1923) was extended to all matters of secrecy and confidentiality in governance in the country
- It broadly deals with two aspects — spying or espionage, covered under Section 3, and disclosure of other secret information of the government, under Section 5.
- Secret information can be any official code, password, sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, or information. Under Section 5, both the person communicating the information and the person receiving the information can be punished.
- Students, faculties and innovators/entrepreneurs from any university / technical institution across the country can apply and participate in the event in the form of a group.
- Participating students can collaborate with local start-ups, students from technology institutes, and can win Rs. 5 lakh, Rs 3 lakh and Rs. 1 lakh as first, second and third prize.
- development and promotion of women friendly equipments through innovative technology solutions and right collaborations with stakeholders would play an important role in enhancing the farm productivity and profitability
- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has also stressed upon the need of enhancing the innovation in farm mechanization in several meeting and provided the overall guidance in organizing this event.

## ADVANTAGES OF THE EVENT -

- NAHEP told that this event will give an opportunity to the students, faculties, entrepreneurs, innovators and other stakeholders to showcase their innovative approaches and technology solutions to promote farm mechanization in India.
- The initiative undertaken by NAHEP along with Agricultural Engineering Division of ICAR will also help in enhancing the learning capabilities, innovations and disruptive solutions, employability and entrepreneurial drive in Farm Mechanization sector.
- Besides, the event will also help in taking forward the vision of high-quality higher education with equity and inclusion as envisaged in NEP-2020.

## KRITAGYA HACKATHON

**SOURCE - PIB**

**GS PAPER - 3**

**CONTEXT** - In order to promote potential technology solutions for enhancing farm mechanization with special emphasis on women friendly equipments, a hackathon named "KRITAGYA" has been planned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP).

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The ICAR commenced NAHEP, a Government of India and World Bank project, in November 2017 with the overall objective to support the National Agricultural Research and Education System in providing more relevant and better quality education to the students.

## LASER GUIDED ANTI-TANK MISSILE

**SOURCE - THE HINDU**

**GS PAPER - 3**

**CONTEXT** - The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) on Tuesday successfully test-fired the indigenously-developed Laser-Guided Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) from the Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun at KK Ranges in Ahmednagar in Maharashtra.



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## HIGHLIGHTS –

- The missile uses a warhead that has the capability to neutralise armored vehicles which have reactive armours, which are specially-designed protective armours used in military vehicles.
- The missile was fired at a range of around 3 km in the test and successfully took out a target.
- The missile has the capability of engaging with the target even if it is not in the line of sight.
- “Laser-guided ATGMs lock and track the targets with the help of laser designation to ensure precision-hit accuracy.
- The missile employs a tandem HEAT warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA) protected armoured vehicles
- It has been developed with multiple-platform launch capability and is currently undergoing technical evaluation trials from the gun of MBT Arjun.”

DEVELOPED BY - Pune-based DRDO facilities – Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE) and the High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) — have developed the missile in collaboration with another DRDO laboratory, Instruments Research and Development Establishment (IRDE) in Dehradun.

- TrackChild portal provides an integrated virtual space for all stakeholders & ICPS bodies which includes Central Project Support Unit (CPSU), State Child Protection Society/Units and District Child Protection Units (DCPU), Child Care Institutions (CCIs), Police Stations, Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), etc. in the 35 State/UTs. It also provides a networking system amongst all the stakeholders and citizens to facilitate tracking of a “Child in distress”. It requires data entry and updating at various levels such as Police stations, Child Care Institutions (CCIs)/Homes, Shelters, Child Welfare Committees, and Juvenile Justice Boards etc.
- The Software also provides facilities for mapping of vulnerable locations, i.e. those which have a large number of children reported missing, so that corrective action can be taken in these areas. Monitoring by senior officers of the action being taken by the Police to trace the missing children has also been streamlined through the software.
- MWCD with the assistance of National Informatics Centre (NIC) have completed training on the use of TrackChild software for Police officials and ICPS functionaries in 35 States/UTs. Need based trainings are conducted as per requests received from States. NIC has also designated its nodal officers to provide technical help to 35 States/UTs. TrackChild nodal officers have also been appointed by departments of WCD by States/UTs.

## TRACK CHILD PORTAL

**SOURCE – PIB**

**GS PAPER -2**

**CONTEXT -** The Ministry of Women and Child Development has developed a web portal “TrackChild” to track the missing and found children

### ABOUT THE PORTAL

- The TrackChild Portal is implemented with the help of various stakeholders including Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Railways, State Governments/UT Administrations, Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards, National Legal Services Authority, etc. National Informatics Centre organises regular training programmes on Trackchild portal as per the requirement of the States/UTs.

## CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

**SOURCE – THE HINDU**

**GS PAPER – 3**

**CONTEXT-** CPCB recently celebrated its **46th Foundation Day**

### ABOUT CPCB

- The **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** of India is a statutory organisation under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Mo.E.F.C).
- It was established in 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of pollution) Act, 1974.

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- The CPCB is also entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- It Co-ordinates the activities of the State Pollution Control Boards by providing technical assistance and guidance and also resolves disputes among them.
- It is the apex organisation in country in the field of pollution control,<sup>[3]</sup> as a technical wing of MoEF
- It is responsible for maintaining national standards under a variety of environmental laws, in consultation with zonal offices, tribal, and local governments.
- It has responsibilities to conduct monitoring of water and air quality,<sup>[3]</sup> and maintains monitoring data. The agency also works with industries and all levels of government in a wide variety of voluntary pollution prevention programs and energy conservation efforts.

The proposed mandatory data access policies will likely deter investment and innovation in the Indian market, raising the costs of acquiring such data in the first place while also disincentivising data collection activities, resulting in increased costs for end-users and reduced incentives for developing new technology

The Krish Gopalakrishnan-headed committee had in its draft classified non-personal data into three main categories, namely public non-personal data, community non-personal data and private non-personal data

### WHAT IS NON PERSONAL DATA ?

The idea of a non-personal data governance framework and a regulator for the same may be “premature and not entirely necessary” in India as of now as the country is yet to have a personal data protection regime in place, startups and tech policy bodies have said in their submissions to the nine-member non-personal data governance committee.

## NON-PERSONAL DATA

SOURCE – INDIAN EXPRESS

GS PAPER – 2

### CONTEXT-

According to the results of a survey, majority of MSMEs and start-ups are not comfortable with the draft non-personal data policy in the current form. They believe permitting large businesses and platforms to sell aggregate data for a price will not help them. The survey was conducted by LocalCircles.

### HIGHLIGHTS –

- The committee had suggested that non-personal data generated in the country be allowed to be harnessed by various domestic companies and entities. The committee had then also suggested setting up of a new authority which would be empowered to monitor the use and mining of such non-personal data.
- Mandating startups and tech companies to compulsorily share the data they mine with other companies may however, prove counterproductive to the idea of developing a data sharing ecosystem

## SAFETY EVALUATION OF HYDROGEN FUEL CELL VEHICLES

SOURCE – LIVEMINT

GS PAPER – 3

### CONTEXT -

**Govt notifies standards for safety evaluation of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles**

### ABOUT

- This would facilitate the promotion of hydrogen fuel cell-based vehicles in the country, which are energy-efficient and environmentally friendly
- “The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has notified the Standards for Safety Evaluation of vehicles being propelled by Hydrogen Fuel cells through an amendment to Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989 ...dated 23rd September, 2020
- The prospective manufacturer and suppliers of such vehicles have the standards available for the testing of such vehicles
- These standards are also at par with the available international standards

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- The Hydrogen Fuel Cells shall be developed in accordance with ISO 14687.

Category M vehicles are those carrying passengers and category N are those vehicles carrying goods

### JIMEX 20

SOURCE - PIB

GS PAPER - 3

### CENTRE ALLOWS ADDITIONAL BORROWING OF ₹9,913 CRORE BY FIVE STATES

SOURCE - THE HINDU

GS PAPER - 2 AND 3

#### CONTEXT -

The Centre on Thursday permitted five states to go for additional borrowing of ₹9,913 crore through Open Market Borrowings (OMBs) to meet their expenditure requirements amid falling revenues due to the COVID-19 crisis.

- These states are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Goa, Karnataka and Tripura.
- The permission has been accorded after these states successfully met the reform condition of implementation of 'One Nation One Ration Card' system

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- This was done to allow the state government to use the State Disaster Response Funds. Also, the Central Government allowed additional borrowing of the states by increasing their borrowing limit to 2% of their Gross Domestic Product.
- Andhra Pradesh can now borrow Rs 2,525 crores, Goa Rs 223 crores, Telangana Rs 2,508 crores, Tripura can borrow Rs 148 crores respectively.
- Article 293(3)** of the Constitution requires states to obtain the Centre's consent in order to borrow **in case the state is indebted to the Centre over a previous loan**

#### ONE NATION ONE CARD

The scheme was launched to provide food security to the Indian citizens under National Food Security Act, 2013. It is an upgraded scheme of Subsidised Public food Distribution System. Under the upgraded scheme, a person can avail food security benefits at subsidised prices in public distribution shops (ration shops) irrespective of his location

#### CONTEXT -

The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of India - Japan Maritime bilateral exercise JIMEX, which is conducted biennially between the Indian Navy and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) will be held in North Arabian Sea from 26 to 28 September 2020.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- JIMEX series of exercises commenced in January 2012 with special focus on maritime security cooperation.
- The last edition of JIMEX was conducted in October 2018 off Visakhapatnam, India.
- JIMEX 20 will showcase high degree of inter-operability and joint operational skills through conduct of a multitude of advanced exercises, across the spectrum of maritime operations. Multi-faceted tactical exercises involving weapon firings cross deck helicopter operations and complex surface, anti-submarine and air warfare drills will consolidate coordination developed by the two navies.
- JIMEX 20 will be spread over three days and is being conducted in a 'non-contact at-sea-only format', in view of COVID-19 restrictions.
- Indigenously built stealth destroyer *Chennai*, *Teg* Class stealth frigate *Tarkash* and Fleet Tanker *Deepak*, will represent the Indian Navy
- The Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force will be represented by JMSDF Ships *Kaga*, an Izumo Class Helicopter Destroyer and *Ikazuchi*, a Guided Missile Destroyer
- JIMEX 20 will further enhance the cooperation and mutual confidence between the two navies and fortify the long standing bond of friendship between the two countries.



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### TECHNOLOGY VISION CYBER SECURITY FOR URBAN CO-OPERATIVE BANKS (UCBs)

setting up effective offsite supervision of UCBs to monitor their compliance for cyber security guidelines as well as to have an overall and up-to-date understanding of the cyber security posture of the UCB sector.

SOURCE - THE HINDU

GS PAPER - 3

#### CONTEXT -

The 'Technology Vision for Cyber Security for Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) 2020-2023' was recently released by RBI. It has been formalized based on inputs from various stakeholders.

#### OBJECTIVES

The vision document aims to achieve the objective through a five-pillared strategic approach call GUARD

Governance oversight,

Utile technology investment,

Appropriate regulation and supervision,

Robust collaboration and developing necessary IT,

Cyber security skills set

#### IMPORTANCE OF THE DOCUMENT

Considering that implementation of cyber security controls will be capital intensive, UCBs may consider creating a reserve or fund earmarked for implementing IT or cyber security projects

UCBs would be expected to prepare a Business Continuity Plan for all processes and ensure that it is well-communicated, well-rehearsed and reviewed periodically

Effective offsite supervision of UCBs to monitor their compliance for cyber security guidelines as well as to have an overall and up-to-date understanding of the cyber security posture of the UCB sector.

The vision document also called for adopting cloud services and imparting technical skills for managing IT and cyber security issues at these lenders

Further given their large numbers, the RBI has called for

## **CUSTOMIZABLE** **TEST SERIES FOR GS MAINS 2020**

*Designed by keeping short time window available between Prelims & mains 2020 in mind*



**Save Time to prepare other subjects**



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