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## 1

## Chapter

## NATIONAL SYMBOLS

The Republic of India has several official national symbols. These symbols are intrinsic to the Indian identity and heritage. These are discussed as follows:

### A. National Flag

#### Features

- The National Flag is a horizontal tricolor of deep saffron (kesaria) at the top, white in the middle and dark green at the bottom in equal proportion.
- The ratio of width of the flag to its length is 2:3. In the centre of the white band is a navy-blue wheel which represents the chakra.
- Its design is that of the wheel which appears on the abacus of the Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka. Its diameter approximates to the width of the white band and it has 24 spokes.
- The design of the National Flag was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India on July 22, 1947.
- The flag is based on the Swaraj flag, a flag of the Indian National Congress designed by Pingali Venkayya.
- The flag, by law, is to be made of khadi, a special type of hand-spun cloth, or silk made popular by Mahatma Gandhi.
- The manufacturing process and specifications for the flag are laid out by the Bureau of Indian Standards. The right to manufacture the flag is held by the Khadi Development and Village Industries Commission.



#### Constitutional & Statutory Provisions Related to National Flag

**Art 51A(a)** - To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem.

#### Statutes Governing Use of Flag

- Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950
- Prevention of Insults to National Honor Act, 1971
- Flag Code of India, 2002

There is no restriction on the display of the National Flag by members of general public, private organizations, educational institutions, etc., except as provided for by the above statutes.

**Half-mast:** The flag should be flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning. The decision to do so lies with the President of India, who also decides the period of such mourning.

### Significance

**Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who later became India's first Vice President and second President, clarified the adopted flag and described its significance as follows:**

- The saffron color denotes renunciation or disinterestedness. Our leaders must be indifferent to material gains and dedicate themselves to their work.
- The white in the centre is light, the path of truth to guide our conduct.
- The green shows our relation to the soil, our relation to the plant life here, on which all other life depends.
- The "Ashoka Chakra" in the centre of the white is the wheel of the law of dharma. The wheel denotes motion - India should no more resist change, it must move and go forward. The wheel represents the dynamism of a peaceful change.

### B. State Emblem

#### Features

- It is an adaptation from the Sarnath Lion Capitol of Ashoka. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the Capitol is crowned by the Wheel of the Law (Dharma Chakra).
- In the state emblem, adopted by the Government of India (by Madhav Sawhney) in 1950 on January 26, 1950, only 3 lions are visible. The wheel appears in the centre of the abacus with a bull on right and a horse on left.
- The outlines of other wheels on extreme right and left. The bell-shaped lotus has been omitted.
- The words Satyameva Jayate from Mundaka Upanishad, meaning 'Truth Alone Triumphs', are inscribed below the abacus in Devanagari script.
- The use of the state emblem of India, as the official seal of the Government of India, is regulated by the State of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Act, 2005. No individual or private organisation is permitted to use the emblem for official correspondence.



### C. National Anthem

- The song Jana-gana-mana, composed originally in Bengali by Rabindranath Tagore, was adopted in its Hindi version as the National Anthem of India on January 24, 1950.
- It was first sung on December 27, 1911 at the Kolkata Session of the Indian National Congress.
- It has five stanzas with first stanza containing the full version of the National Anthem.
- The duration of the National Anthem is approximately 52 seconds. A short version consisting of the first and last lines of the stanza (playing time approximately 20 seconds) is also played on certain occasions.

**D. National Song**

- The song Vande Mataram, composed in Sanskrit by Bankimchandra Chatterji, was a source of inspiration to the people in their struggle for freedom.
- It has an equal status with Jana-gana-mana. It was first sung at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress.

**E. National Calendar**

- The National Calendar based on the Saka Era, with Chaitra as its first month and a normal year of 365 days was adopted from March 22, 1957 along with the Gregorian calendar for:
  - (i) Gazette of India,
  - (ii) News broadcast by All India Radio,
  - (iii) Calendars issued by the Government of India, and
  - (iv) Government communications addressed to the public.
- Dates of the National Calendar have a permanent correspondence with dates of the Gregorian calendar, 1 Chaitra falling on March 22 normally and on March 21 in leap year.

**F. National Flower: Indian Lotus:** Lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*) is a sacred flower and occupies a unique position in the art and mythology of ancient India and has been an auspicious symbol of Indian culture.

**G. National Fruit: Mango:** Mango (*Mangifera indica*) originated in India and the country is home to more than 100 varieties of the fruit.

**H. National River: Ganga:** Ganga is the longest river of India with the most heavily populated river basin in the world. The river is revered by Hindus as the most sacred river on earth.

**I. National Tree: Indian Banyan:** Indian banyan (*Ficus bengalensis*) roots themselves to form new trees and grow over large areas. Because of this characteristic and its longevity, this tree is considered immortal and is an integral part of the myths and legends of India.

**J. National Animal: Royal Bengal Tiger:** Bengal tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*), the largest carnivore is found only in the Indian subcontinent and can be found in most regions of the country.

**K. National Aquatic Animal: River Dolphin:** Gangetic dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) is said to represent the purity of the holy Ganga River as it can only survive in pure and fresh water.

**L. National Bird: Indian Peacock:** Indian peacock (*Pavo cristatus*) is designated as the national bird of India. A bird indigenous to the subcontinent, peacock represents the unity of vivid colors and finds references in Indian culture.

**M. National Currency: Indian Rupee:** Indian Rupee (ISO code: INR) ₹ is the official currency of the Republic of India. The issuance of the currency is controlled by the Reserve Bank of India. The Indian rupee symbol is derived from the Devanagari consonant (ra) and the Latin letter "R" was adopted in 2010.

## 2

## Chapter

## AGRICULTURE

Agriculture plays a vital role in India's economy. 54.6 per cent of the population is engaged in agriculture and allied activities (census 2011) and it contributes 17 per cent to the country's Gross Value Added (current price 2015-16, 2011-12 series).

Given the importance of this sector, Government of India took several steps for its sustainable development. These have been taken to improve soil fertility on a sustainable basis through the soil health card scheme, to provide improved access to irrigation and enhanced water efficiency through Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), to support organic farming through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and to support for creation of a unified national agriculture market to boost the income of farmers. Further, to mitigate risk in agriculture sector a new scheme Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was also launched for implementation from Kharif 2016.

**Production**

Notwithstanding the setback in kharif crops 2015-16 due to bad monsoon and rabi crops due to warm winter, total foodgrain production in the country increased marginally in 2015-16. As per 4th Advance Estimates for 2015-16, total production of rice is estimated at 104.32 million tonnes which is lower by 1.17 million tonnes than the production of 105.48 million tonnes during the preceding year.

- Production of wheat, estimated at 93.50 million tonnes, is higher by 6.97 million tonnes than the production of 86.53 million tonnes achieved during 2014-15.
- Total production of coarse cereals estimated at 37.94 million tonnes is lower by 4.38 million tonnes than their production during 2014-15.
- Total foodgrain production in the country is estimated at 252.22 million tonnes which is marginally higher by 0.20 million tonnes than the previous year's foodgrain production of 252.02 million tonnes.
- Production of pulses estimated at 16.47 million tonnes is lower by 0.68 million tonnes than their production during 2014-15.

**National Policy for Farmers**

Government of India approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF) in 2007. The policy provisions, inter alia, include asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries, and bio-resources; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; agricultural bio-security systems; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material, improving soil fertility and health, and integrated pest management systems; support services for women like crèches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training; timely, adequate, and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates, and farmer-friendly insurance instruments; use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and setting up of farmers' schools to revitalize agricultural extension; effective implementation of MSP across the country, development of agricultural market infrastructure, and rural non-farm employment initiatives for farm households; integrated approach for rural energy, etc.



## Major Programmes

### A. *Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)*

- The scheme was approved with an outlay of Rs. 50,000 crore for a period of 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20).
- The major objective of PMKSY is to achieve convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level, expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on-farm water use efficiency to reduce wastage of water, enhance the adoption of precision irrigation and other water saving technologies (More crop per drop), promote sustainable water conservation practices, etc.
- The mission is administered by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

### B. *Kisan Credit Card*

- The Kisan Credit Card Scheme is in operation throughout the country and is implemented by commercial banks, cooperative banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRB). The scheme has facilitated in augmenting credit flow for agricultural activities.
- A Kisan Credit Card (KCC) is a credit delivery mechanism that is aimed at enabling farmers to have quick and timely access to affordable credit. It was launched in 1998 by the Reserve Bank of India and NABARD. The scheme aims to reduce farmer dependence on the informal banking sector for credit – which can be very expensive and suck them into a debt spiral. The card is offered by cooperative banks, regional rural banks and public sector banks.

### C. *Crop Insurance*

- Issue of crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions is always there. For that we have National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) with component schemes of Modified National Agricultural Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS). In addition, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which was to be withdrawn after implementation of NCIP from rabi 2013-14 was extended further upto 2015-16.
- **Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS):** Actuarial premium rates are charged with a provision of subsidy upto 75%, which is shared by the Central and State Governments on 50:50 basis.
- **Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS):** Provide coverage against weather deviation from the notified standards on the basis of weather data received from the notified Automatic Weather Stations (AWSs) and Automatic Rain-gauges (ARGs).
- As a result of the review of these schemes, a new scheme *Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana* (PMFBY) has been introduced along with pilot Unified Package Insurance Scheme (UPIS) and restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS). Under the PMFBY, a uniform maximum premium of only 2 per cent will be paid by farmers for all kharif crops and 1.5 per cent for all rabi crops. In case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the maximum premium to be paid by farmers will be only 5 per cent. Balance premium will be paid by the Government.

## Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices

- Commission for 'Agricultural Costs and Prices' (CACP), set up with a view to evolve a balanced and integrated price structure, is mandated to advice on the price policy (MSP) of 23 crops.

- These include seven cereal crops (paddy, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi and barley), five pulse crops (gram, tur, moong, urad and lentil), seven oilseeds (groundnut, sunflower seed, soyabean, rapeseed, mustard, safflower, nigerseed and seasmum), copra (dried coconut), cotton, raw jute and sugarcane. CACP submits its recommendations in the form of Price Policy Reports every year, separately for five groups of commodities namely kharif crops, rabi crops, sugarcane, raw jute and copra.

### Minimum Support Prices

Minimum Support Price (MSP) is a form of market intervention by the Government of India to insure agricultural producers against any sharp fall in farm prices. The minimum support prices are announced by the Government of India at the beginning of the sowing season for certain crops on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

MSP is price fixed by Government of India to protect the producer - farmers - against excessive fall in price during bumper production years. The minimum support prices are a guarantee price for their produce from the Government. The major objectives are to support the farmers from distress sales and to procure food grains for public distribution. In case the market price for the commodity falls below the announced minimum price due to bumper production and glut in the market, govt. agencies purchase the entire quantity offered by the farmers at the announced minimum price.

### Determinants of MSP

- Cost of production (CoP) is one of the important factors in the determination of MSP of mandated crops.
- Besides cost, the Commission considers other important factors such as demand and supply, price trend in the domestic and international markets, inter-crop price parity, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors and the likely impact of MSPs on consumers, in addition to ensuring rational utilization of natural resources like land and water.
- The pricing policy is rooted not in 'cost plus' approach, though cost is an important determinant of MSP.

### Indian Council of Agricultural Research

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been contributing to the growth and development of the country by enabling food security.
- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, it was **established on 16 July 1929** as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in pursuance of the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. The ICAR has its headquarters at New Delhi.
- The Council is the apex body for co-ordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country. With **101 ICAR institutes** and **71 agricultural universities** spread across the country this is one of the largest national agricultural systems in the world.
- The ICAR has played a pioneering role in ushering Green Revolution and subsequent developments in agriculture in India through its research and technology development that has **enabled the country to increase the production of foodgrains by 5 times, horticultural crops by 9.5 times, fish by 12.5**

**times, milk by 7.8 times and eggs by 39 times** since 1951 to 2014, thus making a visible impact on the national food and nutritional security. It has played a major role in promoting excellence in higher education in agriculture. It is engaged in cutting edge areas of science and technology development and its scientists are internationally acknowledged in their fields.

- The ICAR observed the year 2016 as the International Year of Pulses as declared by the United Nations.
- **Recently India has urged UN to declare 2018 as International Year of Millets.**

### Climate Change and Resilient Agriculture

- Forecasting studies of rice yields using DSSAT (Decision Support System for Agrotechnology Transfer) rice model predicted that, all states in the eastern region are likely to experience reduced yields of below or equal to 10% during mid-century climate change scenarios except Bihar.
- Net global warming potential (NGWP) and Greenhouse gas intensity (GHGI) were influenced by tillage and residue treatments.

- **Decision Support System for Agrotechnology Transfer (DSSAT)** is a software application program that comprises dynamic crop growth simulation models for over 40 crops. The crop simulation models simulate growth, development and yield as a function of the soil-plant-atmosphere dynamics. DSSAT has been used for many applications ranging from genetic modeling to on-farm and precision management to regional assessments of the impact of climate variability and climate change.
- **Global warming potential (GWP)** is a relative measure of how much heat a greenhouse gas traps in the atmosphere. It compares the amount of heat trapped by a certain mass of the gas in question to the amount of heat trapped by a similar mass of carbon dioxide. The GWP depends on the following factors:
  - a) The absorption of infrared radiation by a given species.
  - b) The spectral location of its absorbing wavelengths.
  - c) The atmospheric lifetime of the species.
- The **greenhouse gas intensity** of energy consumption is the ratio between energy-related **greenhouse gas emissions** (carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases) and gross inland energy consumption.

### Genetic Resources

- The Geographical Information System (GIS) on Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) of India was developed as a standalone package by which the users can extract and highlight habitats of selected breeds on the map.
- A new fish species of Indian chub mackerel (*Scomber indicus*) was discovered from Gujarat coast. Likewise *Barilius torsie* (Cyprinidae: Rasborinae) was recorded from river Torsa of Brahmaputra drainage system, and *Rita bakalu* (Siluriformes: Bagridae) from the Godavari river basin.

### Livestock Improvement

Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities, along with agriculture, continue to be an integral part of human life since the process of civilization started. These activities have contributed not only

to the food basket and draught animal power but also by maintaining ecological balance. Owing to conducive climate and topography, animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sectors have played prominent socio-economic role in India. Livestock production and agriculture are intrinsically linked, each being dependent on the other, and both crucial for overall food security. Livestock sector is an important subsector of the agriculture of Indian economy.

India has vast resource of livestock and poultry, which play a vital role in improving the socio-economic conditions of rural masses. There are about 300 million bovines, 65.07 million sheep, 135.2 million goats and about 10.3 million pigs as per 19th livestock census in the country.

### Livestock Production

Livestock production and agriculture are intrinsically linked, each being dependent on the other, and both crucial for overall food security. According to estimates of the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the value of output livestock sector at current prices was about Rs. 5,91,691 crore during 2015-16 which is about 28.5 per cent of the value of output from agricultural and allied sector. At constant prices the value of output from livestock is about 29 per cent of the value of the output from total agriculture and allied sector. India continues to be the largest producer of milk in the world.

- Per capita availability of egg is around 66 eggs per annum.
- Wool production showed negative growth.
- India is the second largest producer of fish and also second largest producer of fresh water fish in the world.

### National Livestock Mission

- For sustainable and continuous growth of livestock sector by emulating the success achieved in dairy and poultry sectors, across species and regions, the National Livestock Mission was launched in 2014-15 with an approved outlay of Rs. 2,800 crore during XII Plan.
- This Mission is formulated with the objectives of sustainable development of livestock sector, focusing on improving availability of quality feed and fodder, risk coverage, effective extension, improved flow of credit and organisation of livestock farmers/rearers, etc.
- The followings are sub-missions of the National livestock mission:
- Sub-mission on livestock development.
- Sub-mission on pig development in north-eastern region.
- Sub-mission on fodder and feed development.
- Sub-mission on skill development, technology transfer and extension.

### Livestock Health

With improvement in the quality of livestock through cross-breeding programmes, the susceptibility of these livestock to various diseases including exotic diseases has increased. In order to reduce morbidity and mortality, efforts are being made by the state/union territory governments to provide better health care through polyclinics/veterinary hospitals, dispensaries and first-aid centers including mobile veterinary dispensaries available in the states. At present, the Drugs Controller General of India regulates the quality of veterinary drugs and biologicals.

### **Livestock Census**

- The first Livestock census was conducted during 1919-1920 and since then it is being conducted quinquennially by all states/UTs of the country.
- It is the only source, which gives disaggregated information on various species of farm animals and poultry birds.
- The 19th Livestock Census was conducted in 2012 in the country in participation with animal husbandry departments of the states/UTs. Breed Survey was also undertaken in 2013 in order to estimate the breedwise number of livestock population on a general principle of 15 per cent sample village across the country.

### **Fisheries**

Presently, India is the second largest fish producing and second largest aquaculture nation in the world. India is also a major producer of fish through aquaculture and ranks second in the world after China. The total fish production during 2015-16 (provisional) stood at 10.79 million metric tonne (MMT) with a contribution of 7.21 MMT from inland sector and 3.58 MMT from marine sector. The historical scenario of Indian fisheries reveals a paradigm shift from marine dominated fisheries to a scenario where inland fisheries emerged as a major contributor to the overall fish production in the country. Within inland fisheries there is a shift from capture fisheries to aquaculture during the last two and a half decade.

## 3

## Chapter

## CULTURE AND TOURISM

## Ministry of Culture

- The mandate of the Ministry of Culture revolves around the functions like preservation and conservation of ancient cultural heritage and promotion of art and culture both tangible and intangible in the country.
- It has organized four missions namely National Mission for Manuscripts, National Mission for Monument and Antiquities, National Mission on Libraries, and Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission.
- It also nurtures **Gandhian Heritage** and is responsible for commemoration of important historical events and centenaries of great personalities.
- In tangible heritage, the Ministry takes care of all the centrally protected monuments of national importance, which is achieved through Archeological Survey of India. Similarly, the Ministry is also promoting a museum movement in the country and majority of the museums are under its administrative control. The Ministry also promotes regional museums through grants-in-aid.
- In the field of intangible heritage, the Ministry extends financial support to individuals, group of individuals and cultural organizations engaged in performing visual and literary arts.
- In knowledge heritage, the Ministry is the custodian of all the major libraries in the country. It also extends grant-in-aid for library development and is also responsible for all policy matters regarding library development.
- Through National Archives of India, Ministry is responsible for maintenance of all archival records of the country.
- The Ministry is also involved in protection and promotion of Buddhist and Tibetan Culture and is doing this through various institutions located at Sarnath, Varanasi and Leh.

## Lalit Kala Akademi

- It has been established to promote and propagate understanding of Indian art, both within and outside the country.
- It was established on August 5, 1954 at New Delhi. The Academy has regional centres called Rashtriya Lalit Kala Kendra at Lucknow, Kolkata, Chennai, Garhi in New Delhi, Shimla and Bhubaneswar.
- **Working Area**
  - a) The Academy has been organizing national exhibition of contemporary Indian art with 15 national awards.
  - b) Once in every three years, the Academy also organizes Triennial international exhibition of contemporary art in New Delhi.

- c) The Academy honors eminent artists and art historians every year by electing them as Fellows of the Academy.
- d) In order to foster contacts with artists from outside, it sponsors exchange of artists with other countries under the various Cultural Exchange Programmes.
- The Lalit Kala Academy accords recognition to art institutions/associations and extends financial assistance.
- It also gives scholarships to deserving young artists belonging to its regional centres.

### **Sangeet Natak Akademi**

- Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama, is a pioneer in creation of modern India.
- In 1961, the Sangeet Natak Akademi was reconstituted by the Government as a society and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- **Working Area**
  - a) The festivals of music, dance and drama presented or promoted by the Akademi are held all over India.
  - b) The great masters of the performing arts have been elected as Fellows of the Akademi.
  - c) The Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards conferred annually on eminent artists and scholars.
  - d) Financial assistance to artists for their work from the Akademi.
  - e) It has a large archive of audio and video tapes and remains the single most important resource for researchers in the field of performing arts.
  - f) The Akademi establishes and looks after institutions and projects of national importance in the field of performing arts. In 1959, the Akademi established the National School of Drama and in 1964, the Kathak Kendra).
  - g) Being the apex body, the Akademi also advises and assists the Government of India in formulating and implementing policies and projects in the field.

### **Sahitya Akademi**

- Sahitya Akademi is the Indian National Academy of Letters, to promote Indian literature through publications, translations, seminars, workshops, cultural exchange programmes and literary meets organized all over the country.
- The Akademi was founded in March 1954 as an autonomous body fully funded by the Department of Culture.
- It was registered as a Society in 1956 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Akademi has recognized 24 languages.
- It has an Office at Shillong for promotion of oral and tribal literature and an Archive of Indian literature in Delhi.
- The three fellowships by Sahitya Akademi are:-
  1. Sahitya Akademi Honorary Fellowship
  2. Ananda Coomaraswamy
  3. Premchand Fellowship

- Every year since its inception in 1954, the Sahitya Akademi awards prizes to the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages.
- Certain special projects like the Ancient Indian Literature, Medieval Indian Literature and Modern Indian Literature together.
- It has also launched a new project Encyclopedia of Indian Poetics.
- The Akademi organizes Festival of Letters every year to celebrate Indian writing.
- Sahitya Akademi promotes Tribal and Oral Literature in the country through its Centre for Tribal and Oral Literature in Delhi and North-East Centre for Oral Literature in Imphal.
- To promote literature among youth, the Akademi issues Travel Grants to young writers and publishes the first of the young author under its Navodaya scheme.
- Recently, Sahitya Akademi has launched a Village Outreach programme, Gramalok, to promote literature in rural spaces.
- Ananda Coomaraswamy Fellowship for scholars from Asian countries to pursue literary projects and Premchand Fellowship for scholars doing research on Indian literature from SAARC countries are two other prominent Fellowships of the Akademi.

### National School of Drama

- The National School of Drama (NSD) - one of the foremost theatre institutions in the world and the only one of its kind in India was set up by Sangeet Natak Akademi in 1959. Later in 1975, it became an autonomous organization.
- **Objective/Working area of the NSD**
  - a) To train students in all aspects of theatre, including theatre history, production, scene design, costume design, lighting, make-up, etc.
  - b) The school has a performing wing, a Repertory Company to establish professional theatre and regular experimental work.
  - c) The NSD has promoted children's theatre. The Theatre-in-Education Company (renamed as Sanskar Rang Toli) was founded in 1989 and has been actively involved in production of plays for children, organizing summer theatre workshops in schools of Delhi, etc.
  - d) The first ever National Theatre Festival christened Bharat Rang Mahotsav was held in 1999.

### Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

- The Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) is an autonomous centre under the Ministry of Culture.
- The IGNCA's view of the arts encompasses wide areas such as creative and critical literature, written and oral; the visual arts, architecture, sculpture, painting, graphics, photography and film.
- The centre aims at exploring, studying and reviving the dialogue between India and her neighbours, in areas pertaining to the arts, and between communities in India and the world.
- It focuses on schools and educational institutions and complements its research by cross disciplinary landscape studies.



### Centre for Cultural Resources and Training

- The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) is one of the premier institutions working in the field of linking education with culture.
- The centre was set up in May, 1979 as an autonomous organization by the Government of India. With headquarters in New Delhi, it has three regional centres at Udaipur, Hyderabad and Guwahati.
- The broad objectives of CCRT have been to revitalize the education system by creating an understanding and awareness among students about the plurality of the regional cultures of India and integrating this knowledge with education.
- It conducts a variety of training programmes for in-service teachers drawn from all parts of the country.
- This training also stresses on the role of culture in science and technology, housing, agriculture, sports, etc.
- It creates awareness amongst students and teachers of their role in solving environmental pollution problems and conservation and preservation of the natural and cultural heritage.
- The CCRT organizes educational tours to monuments, museums, art galleries, craft centres, zoological parks and gardens, camps on conservation of natural and cultural heritage, camps on learning crafts using low cost locally.
- Project Sanskriti is an initiative of Ministry of Culture in developing/ establishing of interpretation centres in educational institutions in Varanasi.

### Zonal Cultural Centres

- Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) aim to arouse awareness of the local cultures and to show how these merge into zonal identities and eventually into the rich diversity of India's composite culture.
- The seven zonal cultural centres were established under this scheme during 1985-86 at Patiala, Kolkata, Thanjavur, Udaipur, Nagpur, Allahabad and Dimapur.
- Master craftsmen and artisans from various ZCCs participate in Crafts Fair. Documentation of various rare folk and tribal art forms is one of the main thrust areas of the ZCCs.
- Under the National Cultural Exchange Programme (NCEP), exchanges of artists, musicologists, performers and scholars between different regions within the country take place.
- The ZCCs promote craftsmen through Shilpgrams.

**The Seven ZCCs with Headquarters and States, they cover are as follows:**

Zonal Centres	Head Quarters	Component States
North Central Zone Culture	Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand & Delhi
North Zone Cultural Centre	Patiala, Punjab	Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab & Union Territory of Chandigarh
West Zone Cultural Centre	Udaipur, Rajasthan	Goa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Union Territory of Daman, Diu and Dadra, Nagar Haveli

North East Zone Cultural	Dimapur, Nagaland	Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya
Eastern Zone Cultural Centre	Kolkata, West Bengal	Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Sikkim, Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Jharkhand
South Zone Cultural Centre	Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Pondicherry
South Central Zone Cultural	Nagpur, Maharashtra	Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh

- The main objectives of the ZCCs are the preservation, promotion and dissemination of the traditional folk arts and culture of the various States/Union Territories. The ZCCs have been carrying out various activities and programmes at the national, zonal and local levels in accordance with their aims and objectives implemented through various schemes.
- They have been implementing the following schemes to preserve and promote traditional art and culture:  
These are: National Cultural Exchange Programme; Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme; Young Talented Artistes Scheme; Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms; Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme; Shilpagram Activities and Loktarang - National Folk Dance Festival and Octave.
- The Government organizes various cultural programmes through its organizations like Zonal Culture Centres (ZCCs), Akademies etc. to promote Indian culture for all walks of people including youth. The various social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, You Tube and Mobile Apps are being used for providing regular updates about the cultural programmes/events being organized by various organizations.

### Archaeological Survey of India

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was established in 1861. It functions as an attached office of the Ministry of Culture.
- The major activities of the Archaeological Survey of India are: Survey of archaeological remains and excavations; maintenance and conservation of centrally protected monuments, sites and remains; chemical preservation of monuments and antiquarian remains; architectural survey of monuments; development of epigraphical research and numismatic studies; setting up and re-organization of site museums; expeditions abroad; training in archaeology; publication of technical reports and research works.

### National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities

- It prepares a National Register for Built Heritage, Sites and Antiques and setting up of a state level database on Built Heritage.
- As part of the mandate, NMMA has to prepare two national registers, viz., (i) National Register on Built Heritage and Sites and (ii) National Register on Antiquities.

### National Mission for Manuscripts

- The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) was launched in 2003 with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) as the nodal agency to reclaim India's inheritance of knowledge contained in the vast treasure of manuscripts.

- Major activities are: Documentation of manuscripts through survey, preventive and curative conservation, conducting training courses and workshops on conservation, documentation through digitization, research and publication and public outreach programmes.

### **National Museum**

- Works under the Ministry of Culture since 1960.
- **Main activities:** Exhibitions, Reorganization/Modernization of Galleries, Educational Activities and Outreach Programmes, Public Relations, Publications, Photo Documentation, Summer Holiday Programmes.

### **Anthropological Survey of India**

- The Anthropological Survey of India (An.S.I.) is an institution of its unique kind anywhere the world. It has been mandated to study the bio-cultural attributes of the Indian populations since its establishment, about 65 years before.
- The activities include collection, preservation, maintenance, documentation and study of ethnographic materials as well as ancient human skeletal remains.

### **National Archives of India**

- Making public records accessible to various Government agencies and research scholars.
- Preparation of reference material.
- Preservation and maintenance of records and conducting of scientific investigations for the said purpose.
- Evolving records management programmes.

### **National Library**

- The National Library, Kolkata was established in 1948. It enjoys the status of an institution of national importance.
- Functions are: (i) Acquisition and conservation of all significant printed material as well as of manuscripts of national importance; (ii) Collection of printed material concerning the country, no matter where it is published; and (iii) Rendering of bibliographical and documentary services of current and retrospective material.

### **Centre for Cultural Resources and Training**

- The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) is one of the premier institutions working in the field of linking education with culture.
- The Centre was set up in May, 1979 as an autonomous organization by the Government of India.
- The broad objectives of CCRT have been to revitalize the education system by creating an understanding and awareness among students about the plurality of the regional cultures of India and integrating this knowledge with education.
- It creates awareness amongst students and teachers of their role in solving environmental pollution problems and conservation and preservation of the natural and cultural heritage.

### **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat**

- Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat was announced in 2015 on the occasion of the 140th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

- The broad objectives of the initiative are:
  - i) To celebrate the unity in diversity of our nation and to maintain and strengthen the fabric of traditionally existing emotional bonds between the people of our country;
  - ii) To promote the spirit of national integration through a deep and structured engagement between all states and union territories through a year-long planned engagement between states;
  - iii) To showcase the rich heritage and culture, customs and traditions of either state for enabling people to understand and appreciate the diversity that is India, thus fostering a sense of common identity;
  - iv) To establish long-term engagements; and
  - v) To create an environment which promotes learning between States by sharing best practices and experiences.
- The aim of Buddhist Tibetan Institutions (BTI) is to help preserve, promote and propagate the intangible Buddhist/Tibetan/Himalayan cultural heritage of the country.

### Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas

- The objective of the scheme is to promote and preserve the cultural heritage of the Himalayas. The scheme was revised in 2011.
- As per the revised scheme the grant shall be provided for undertaking the following activities:
  - i) Study and research on cultural heritage;
  - ii) Preservation of old manuscripts, literature, art & crafts and documentation of cultural activities/ events like music, dance, etc.;
  - iii) Dissemination through audio-visual programmes of art and culture; and
  - iv) Training in traditional and folk art - in the States falling under the Himalayan Region, i.e., Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

### Other Projects

- a) **Development of Buddhist/Tibetan Organization:** The objective of the scheme to give financial assistance to the voluntary Buddhist/Tibetan organizations including monasteries engaged in the propagation and scientific development of Buddhist/Tibetan culture and tradition and research in related fields.
- b) **Central Institute of Buddhist Studies:** The Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS), Leh Ladakh formerly known as School of Buddhist Philosophy was established at the behest of late Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1959. The Institute has obtained the status of Deemed University in January, 2016.
- c) **Nava Nalanda Mahavihara:** The Nava Nalanda Mahavihara (NNM) was established in 1951 in Nalanda, Bihar by the Government of Bihar. The NNM is an institution of post graduate studies and research in Pali and Buddhism. At present, Nava Nalanda Mahavihara is an autonomous institute under the Ministry of Culture and accorded Deemed University status in 2006.
- d) **Central University of Tibetan Studies:** The Central University of Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, Varanasi was established in 1967 with a view to educating the youths of Tibet and Indian students of Himalayan border areas. The Institute was declared as a “Deemed to be University” in 1988.

- e) **Central Institute of Himalayan Culture Studies:** The Central Institute of Himalayan Culture Studies (CIHCS) has been registered as a Society in 2010 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The area of operation of the Society shall be all over India. The Institute undertakes under graduate, post graduate and doctoral programmes in Buddhist and Himalayan studies and may also establish and maintain feeder schools. Regular Grants are also provided to six grantee bodies viz., Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamshala Tibet House, New Delhi; Centre for Buddhist Cultural Studies, Tawang Monastery, Arunachal Pradesh; Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, Sikkim; International Buddhist Confederation, GRL Monastic School, Bomdila, Arunachal Pradesh.

### Swadesh Darshan Scheme

Swadesh Darshan scheme has a vision to develop theme based tourist circuits on the principles of high tourist value, competitiveness and sustainability in an integrated manner by synergizing efforts to focus on needs and concerns of all stakeholders to enrich tourist experience and enhance employment opportunities. Under the scheme thirteen thematic circuits have been identified for development, namely: North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit.

### PRASAD Scheme

Under PRASAD scheme, 25 sites of religious significance have been identified for development namely; Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Amritsar (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Badrinath (Uttarakhand), Dwarka (Gujarat), Deoghar (Jharkhand), Belur (West Bengal), Gaya (Bihar), Guruvayoor (Kerala), Hazratbal (Jammu & Kashmir), Kamakhya (Assam), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Katra (Jammu & Kashmir), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), Puri (Odisha), Srisailem (Andhra Pradesh), Somnath (Gujarat), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu).

### Swachh Paryatan Mobile App

“Swachh Paryatan Mobile App” operated by the Ministry of Tourism for 25 Adarsh Smarak Monuments.

The Ministry of Tourism has launched an initiative for providing pre-loaded Sim Cards to foreign tourists arriving in India on e-Visa. This initiative was launched in 2017 in association with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd., (BSNL), wherein BSNL would distribute pre-loaded SIM cards to foreign tourists on e-Visa.

This initiative is aimed at providing connectivity to foreign tourists to enable them to stay in touch with their family and friends and also help them to contact with the 24x7 multi-lingual toll free helpline of Ministry of Tourism for any assistance and guidance during times of distress / medical emergency, etc.

## 4

## Chapter

## BASIC ECONOMIC DATA

**Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation came into existence as an independent ministry on October 15, 1999 after the merger of the Department of Statistics and the Department of Programme Implementation.
- The ministry has two wings, one relating to Statistics and the other relating to Programme Implementation.
- The Statistics Wing re-designated as National Statistics Office (NSO) consists of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) and the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO).

**National Statistical Commission**

- The Government of India through a resolution in 2005 decided to set up the National Statistical Commission (NSC).
- The NSC was initially constituted in 2006, to serve as a nodal and empowered body for all core statistical activities of the country, to evolve, monitor and enforce statistical priorities and standards and to ensure statistical coordination.

**Indian Statistical Institute**

In the early thirties, realizing the necessity for advancement of theoretical and applied statistics in India, the Indian Statistical Institute came into being following the pioneering initiative and efforts of Professor P.C. Mahalanobis.

The outstanding contributions made by the Institute in theoretical and applied statistical work culminated in the recognition of the Institute as an “Institute of National Importance”.

**Central Statistics Office**

- The Central Statistics Office (CSO), an attached office of the ministry, coordinates the statistical activities in the country and evolves statistical standards.
- Its activities inter-alia, include compilation of National Accounts, Index of Industrial Production, Consumer Price Indices for Urban/Rural/Combined, Human Development Statistics, including Gender Statistics in the states and union territories and disseminates Energy Statistics, Social and Environment Statistics and prepares the National Industrial Classification.
- The National Accounts Division (NAD) of the CSO is responsible for preparation of national accounts, which include the estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), national income, government/private final consumption expenditure, capital formation and savings along with details of transactions of institutional sectors.

### The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)

- The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), in Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, is responsible for conduct of large scale sample surveys, in diverse fields, on all India basis.
- Primary data is collected regularly through nationwide household surveys on various Socio-Economic subjects, Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) under the Collection of Statistics Act and Enterprise surveys, as a follow up of the Economic Census.
- Besides these surveys, NSSO collects data on rural and urban prices; plays a significant role in the improvement of crop statistics through supervision of the area enumeration and crop estimation surveys of the state agencies. It also maintains a frame of urban areal units for drawing samples for Socio-Economic Surveys in urban areas.
- The NSSO functions with requisite autonomy, in matters relating to data collection, processing and publication/dissemination of results/data based on its surveys, under overall guidance and supervision of National Statistical Commission (NSC) which appoints Working Groups/ Technical Committees comprising both official and non-official members on different subjects for finalization of survey instruments for its surveys and methodologies for the same.

#### Price Data Collection

- Rural Retail Price Collection:** The data collected on rural retail prices are used for compiling the consumer price index (CPI) for agricultural labourers. At present, the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour, compiles and publishes the CPI for agricultural labourers.
- Consumer Price Index CPI (Urban):** The collection of prices is being done by NSSO. The CPI (U) scheme collects the prices of goods on the basis of three broad segments of the population (viz. affluent, middle and poor).
- Wholesale Price Index (WPI):** On the request of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industries, NSSO is facilitating the Office of the Economic Adviser in price data collection for existing series as well as New Series of WPI. New series has base year - 2011-12.
- Consumer Price:** CSO releases Consumer Price Indices also at group and sub-group levels. It is to be stated that 'Food and beverages' as a whole has 45.86 per cent share, which includes 39.05 per cent share of CFPI in CPI (Combined) basket. Therefore, food items are generally the major drivers of overall inflation rate based on CPI.

### Indexes

#### A. Index of Industrial Production

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an abstract number or ratio which measures the growth of various sectors in the economy.
- In India, IIP is a representative figure which measures the general level of Industrial activity in the country.
- Being an abstract number, it does not show volume of activity and only shows the magnitude which represents the status of production in the industrial sector for a given period of time as compared to a reference period of time.

- The eight Core Industries, viz. Fertilizers, Electricity, Refinery Products, Natural Gas, Steel, Cement, Crude Oil and Coal [remember this by mnemonic FERNS-C3] is nearly 38% in the IIP. This is shown in decreasing order as follows: Electricity 10.32; Steel (Alloy + Non-alloy) 6.68; Refinery Products 5.94; Crude Oil 5.22; Coal 4.38; Cement 2.41; Natural Gas 1.71; Fertilizers 1.25.

## B. Annual Survey of Industries

- The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is the principal source of industrial statistics in India.
- It provides statistical information to access and evaluate, objectively and realistically, the change in the growth, composition and structure of the organized manufacturing sector comprising activities related to manufacturing processes, repair services, generation, transmission, etc., of electricity, gas and water supply and cold storage.
- The ASI extends to the entire country. The survey covers all factories registered under Section 2m (i) and 2m (ii) of the Factories Act, 1948. The survey also covers bidi and cigar manufacturing establishments registered under the Bidi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966.
- All the electricity undertakings engaged in the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity registered with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) were covered under ASI up to 1997-98 irrespective of their employment size. Certain services and activities like cold storage, water supply, repair of motor vehicles and of other consumer durables like watches, etc., are covered under the survey.
- Defence establishments, oil storage and distribution depots, restaurants, hotels, cafe and computer services and the technical training institutes are excluded from the purview of the survey.
- The electricity undertakings registered with the CEA are not being covered under ASI with effect from 1998-99. However, captive units not registered with CEA continued to be covered under ASI.

### Twenty Point Programme

The thrust of the programme, restructured in 2006, is to eradicate poverty and improve the quality of life of the poor and the underprivileged people all over the country. The programme covers various socio-economic aspects like poverty, employment, education, housing, agriculture, drinking water, afforestation and environment protection, energy to rural areas, welfare of weaker sections of the society, etc.

The primary responsibility of implementation and monitoring of the programme lies with the agencies entrusted with the execution of the programme, which in this case are the state governments/union territory administrations and the Central Nodal Ministries. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation monitors the programmes/schemes covered under TPP-2006 on the basis of performance reports received from State Governments/UT Administrations and Central Nodal Ministries. The Ministry has developed a web based Management Information System to expeditiously collect information from the State Governments and the Central Nodal Ministries.

### Members of Parliament Local area Development Scheme

The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was launched on 23rd December, 1993. Initially, Ministry of Rural Development was the Nodal Ministry for this scheme. In October, 1994 this scheme was transferred to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.



The salient features of the MPLAD Scheme include:

- a) MPLADS is a Central Plan Scheme fully funded by the Government of India under which funds are released in the form of grants-in-aid directly to the district authorities.
- b) The funds released under the Scheme are non-lapsable, i.e. the entitlement of funds not released in a particular year is carried forward to the subsequent years, subject to eligibility. At present, the annual entitlement per MP/Constituency is Rs. 5 crore.
- c) Under MPLADS, the role of the Members of Parliament is limited to recommend works. Thereafter, it is the responsibility of the district authority to sanction, execute and complete the works recommended by Members of Parliament within the stipulated time period.
- d) The elected Lok Sabha Members can recommend works in their respective constituencies. The elected members of the Rajya Sabha can recommend works anywhere in the state from which they are elected. Nominated Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha can recommend works for implementation, anywhere in the country.
- e) There is no limit for works to be executed for the Government. However, for the works meant for trust/society there is a ceiling of Rs. 50 lakh for the lifetime of each Trust/Society. An MP can recommend funds only upto Rs. 100 lakh in all in a financial year, from MPLADS funds for works to Trusts/Societies.
- f) MPLADS works can be implemented in areas affected by natural calamities like floods, cyclone, hailstorm, avalanche, cloudburst, pest attack, landslides, tornado, earthquake, drought, tsunami, fire and biological, chemical, radiological hazards, etc.
- g) In order to accord special attention to the development of areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), 15 per cent of MPLADS funds are to be utilized for areas inhabited by SC population and 7.5 per cent for areas inhabited by ST population.
- h) If an elected Member of Parliament finds the need, to contribute MPLADS funds, to a place outside that state/UT or outside the constituency within the State or both, the MP can recommend eligible works, under these Guidelines upto a maximum of Rs. 25 lakh in a financial year. Such a gesture on the part of an MP will promote national unity, harmony, and fraternity among the people, at the grass roots level.
- i) MPs may recommend their MPLADS funds to aided educational Institutions which are receiving financial assistance from state government and are recognized by a State/UT/Central Board of Secondary Education in the case of schools and by State/Central university in case of colleges and are not charging commercial fee from students. Such aided educational institutions are eligible for receiving MPLADS funds for all permissible items under the Guidelines with no ceiling.

## 5

## Chapter

COMMUNICATIONS &  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Communications and information technology in the country are handled by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Ministry of Communications. The former promotes e-Governance and sustainable growth of the electronics, IT and ITeS industries, enhancing India's role in internet governance while the latter looks after the Department of Posts and Department of Telecommunications.

## Posts

The modern postal system was set up by Lord Clive in 1766 which was further developed by Warren Hastings in 1774. These were regulated through an Act of 1837 on a uniform basis to unite all the post offices into one all-India Service.

Post Office Act of 1854 reformed the postal system when the first postage stamp valid across the country was issued at an affordable and uniform rate of postage, fixed by weight and not by distance. For the first time the common man could use postal facility, which was enjoyed only by heads of states and state officials.

The present statute is the Indian Post Office Act, 1898. Mail order services were introduced in 1877, while money order services in 1880, Post Office Savings Bank in 1882, and by 1884 all Government employees were covered by the Postal Life Insurance (PLI).

## Organization Overview

The Department of Posts comes under the Ministry of Communications. The Postal Service Board is the apex management body of the department.

The postal network consists of three categories of post offices, viz; Head Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices and Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices. All categories of post offices provide similar postal services, while delivery function is restricted to specified offices. In addition to post offices, basic postal facilities are also offered through franchisee outlets and Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendras. Franchisee outlets are opened in urban and rural areas where it is not possible to open a regular post office. These Kendras are opened at Gram Panchayat Headquarters.

## Financial Services Provided by Posts

Department of Posts is operating Small Savings Schemes on behalf of Ministry of Finance, which frames and modifies rules relating to these schemes and pays remuneration to the Department of Posts.

The post office savings bank operates savings accounts, Recurring Deposit (RD), Time Deposit (TD), Monthly Income Scheme (MIS), Public Provident Fund (PPF), National Savings Certificate (NSC), Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP), Senior Citizens Savings Scheme (SCSS) and Sukanya Samridhi Account.

**Facilities provided**

- The Core Banking Solution is a part of India Post IT modernization project and aims to bring in various IT solutions with required IT infrastructure in post offices. The project aims to implement core banking in all Departmental Post Offices for small savings schemes.
- **Retailing of Mutual Funds:** It extends the reach of the capital market and provides the common man easy access to market based investment options with Mutual Fund products of UTI MF only.
- **International Money Transfer Service:** It is result of the collaboration of Department of Posts with Western Union Financial Services and Money Gram International.
- **National Pension Scheme:** National Pension Scheme, earlier known as New Pension System (NPS), for common citizens was introduced by government in 2009. India Post is a point of presence for the national pension system. Subscribers (any Indian citizen) in the age group of 18 to 55 can join NPS and contribute till the age of 60. These pension contributions are invested in various schemes of different pension fund managers appointed by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- **Social Security Scheme:** Jan Suraksha Schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) were launched in 2015 in all CBS post offices for all post office savings account holders. Department of Posts has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Insurance Company (NIC) and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) for PMSBY and PMJJBY respectively. Atal Pension Yojna (APY) was launched in all CBS head post offices from 2015.
- **India Post Payments Bank:** Reserve Bank of India launched its differential banking policy for more focused banking, to boost financial inclusion and promote convenience of digital banking.

**Services provided:**

- IPPB will offer demand deposits such as savings and current accounts up to a balance of Rs. 1 lakh, digitally enabled payments and remittance services of all kinds between entities and individuals.
  - Provide access to third-party financial services such as insurance, mutual funds, pension, credit products, forex, and more, in partnership with insurance companies, mutual fund houses, pension providers, banks, international money transfer organizations, etc.
  - Issuance of ATM/ Debit Cards. Payments banks, however, cannot issue credit cards.
  - Payments banks will be permitted to handle cross border remittance transactions in the nature of personal payments or remittances on the current account.
- **Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance:** Postal Life Insurance (PLI) was introduced in 1884, as a welfare scheme for the benefit of postal employees and later extended to the employees of telegraph department in 1888. It now covers employees of central and state governments, central and state public sector undertakings, universities, government aided educational institutions, nationalized banks and local bodies. PLI also extends the facility of insurance to defence services and para-military forces. Life cover through PLI is also extended to employees of scheduled commercial banks, credit co-operative societies, joint ventures having a minimum 10 per cent stake of central/state govt/PSUs/banks etc., universities/educational institutions affiliated to University Grants Commission/Central Board of Secondary Education/All India Council of Technical Education/Medical Council of India. It is the oldest life insurer in the country.

Starting with upper insurance limit of Rs. 4,000, maximum sum assured is now Rs. 50 lakhs for all schemes. Apart from single insurance policies, also manages a Group Insurance Scheme for the Extra Departmental Employees (Gramin Dak Sevaks) of the Department of Posts.

## Philately

Philately is the hobby of collecting stamps as well as the study of postal history and other related items. It is a mode of commemorating, celebrating and promoting national heritage, culture, events and eminent personalities.

A postage stamp plays a great role as an ambassador, a brand image of the postal administration concerned and a statement of sovereignty of nation.

In keeping with their dual character as a 'Token of Postage' and as 'Cultural Ambassador', there are two categories of stamps, viz., definitive and commemorative postage stamps. The definitive postage stamps are meant for day-to-day use as a token of payment of postage on mail articles. These incorporate less complicated design inputs, entailing minimum expenditure in their manufacture, and are printed in large quantities, over longer periods. On the other hand, the commemorative postage stamps are designed and printed with greater aesthetic inputs. These are manufactured in limited quantities and generate great interest among philatelists and collectors.

## Information Technology

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) deals with policy matters relating to information technology, electronics, internet (other than licensing of ISPs) and cyber security. The aim is to promote e-governance for empowering citizens, promoting the inclusive and sustainable growth of the electronics, IT & ITes industries, enhancing India's role in internet governance, adopting a multi-pronged approach that includes development of human resources, promoting R&D and innovation, enhancing efficiency through digital services and ensuring a secure cyber space.

Digital India Programme has the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The programme has three vision areas namely, digital infrastructure as utility for every citizen, governance and services on demand and digital empowerment of citizens by bridging the digital divide in the country.

The Nine Pillars of growth, viz., broadband highways, universal access to mobile connectivity, public internet access programme, e-governance-reforming government through technology, e-Kranti electronic delivery of services, information for all, electronics manufacturing, IT for jobs and early harvest programmes, are being promoted under Digital India Programme.

IT Act 2000 provides legal recognition to the transaction carried out by means of electronic data interchange and other means of electronic communication, commonly referred to as "electronic commerce", to facilitate electronic filing of documents with the Government agencies. It directs the establishment of Cyber Appellate Tribunal.

In order that various benefits and subsidies reach the targeted beneficiaries, the Government has made all efforts to leverage the Aadhaar platform. A statutory backing will help to ensure that benefits of various subsidies and programmes go to the truly deserving.

The Digital India programme initiatives and the programmes and schemes of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology could be placed into eight broad action areas. The first related to digital identity and Aadhaar enabled services and payments, second to transforming the quality of governance

though e-governance and third to promotion of digital payments. Promoting electronics manufacturing, promotion of IT services and creation of IT infrastructure constitute the next set of programme initiatives. The forgoing programmes are complemented by initiatives in R&D, human resource development including digital inclusion and cyber security.

### Digital Identity

Aadhaar provides 12 digit biometric and demographic based identity that is unique, lifelong, online and authenticable. Under the Aadhaar Act 2016, UIDAI is responsible for Aadhaar enrolment and authentication, including operation and management of all stages of Aadhaar life cycle, developing the policy, procedure and system for issuing Aadhaar numbers to individuals and perform authentication and also required to ensure the security of identity information and authentication records of individuals.

Some of major initiatives are:

- a) **Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB):** A payment can be made to a person's bank account via his/her Aadhaar number, provided it is linked to his/her Aadhaar number. Government of India transfers benefits and subsidies directly to the beneficiaries' bank account through APB.
- b) **Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS):** AEPS is the platform in which a person can do basic banking transactions including withdrawal, deposit cash, fund transfer, etc. from his/her bank account at Micro-ATMs using biometric authentication. Bank is chosen by resident as it is a resident present transaction.
- c) **Aadhaar Pay:** It is merchant version of AEPS. The Application works on a low cost android phone with single finger biometric device. It enables merchant to take cashless payment from his customers. It was launched in 2017.
- d) **Pay to Aadhaar:** It is a facility available on UPI platform integrated to BHIM app. It enables Person-to-Person (P2P) remittance using Aadhaar number of the recipient as financial address. The receiving Aadhaar number should be linked with his/her Aadhaar number.

### e-Governance

With the advent of Digital India as an apex programme various new policy initiatives have been taken up by MeitY such as eKranti, policy on adoption of open source software in e-governance systems, email policy, policy on use of IT resources, policy on collaborative application development by opening the source code of government applications, application development and re-engineering guidelines for cloud ready applications and e-governance competency framework. Major schemes such as e-districts, common service centres and state wide area network (SWAN) have also been working in this direction.

- **Adoption of Open Source Software:** It encourages the formal adoption and use of Open Source Software (OSS) in government organizations. Accordingly, government organizations, while implementing e-governance applications and systems, are to ensure compliance of this policy and decide by comparing both OSS and Closed Source Software (CSS) options with respect to capability, strategic control, scalability, security, life-time costs and support requirements.
- **Collaborative Application Development by Opening the Source Code of Government Applications:** This policy aims to increase the pace of e-governance application development and rapid roll out/ implementation by adopting an open-source code, for high quality e-governance applications. It also intends to encourage innovative e-governance applications and solutions through collaborative development.

- **e-Governance Competency Framework (e-GCF):** Its tool-kit contains a set of end-user knowledge areas required for government employees. The objective of the framework is to strengthen the capacity building scheme to identify and define competencies, through a competency-based system which is required for different job roles under e-governance.

### *Other Initiatives*

In order to transform the quality of services and to provide integrated services the “eKranti” initiative aims to utilize emerging technologies such as cloud and mobile platform and focus on integration of services. The principle of this programme is ‘transformation’ and not translation, and to provide integrated services and not individual services. Another important initiative pertains to ‘Jeevan Praman’ is of providing an Aadhaar based digital life certificate for pensioners. A ‘Digital Locker system’ has also been envisaged to serve as a platform to enable citizens to securely share their documents with service providers who can directly access them electronically. ‘e-Sign’ framework has been released, which would allow citizens to digitally sign a document online using Aadhaar authentication.

**National Scholarship Portal** has been developed as a one-stop solution to implement end-to-end disbursement of the scholarship to the beneficiaries. The process includes student registration, application, approval and disbursement.

In order to integrate the delivery of government services (across various departments), an initiative called Mobile Seva has been launched. A portal called ‘Vikaspedia’ to provide information on health, education, agriculture, energy, social welfare and e-Governance has been developed in more than 15 languages with more languages being added.

**e-Sampark Database** is developed to send messages and emails to public representatives and government employees.

**e-Taal** is a web portal for dissemination of e-transactions statistics of national and state level e-governance projects including mission mode projects. It receives transaction statistics from web based applications periodically on near real time basis. e-Taal presents quick analysis of transaction counts in tabular and graphical form to give quick view of transactions done by various e-governance projects.

**Aadhaar-Enabled Biometric Attendance System (AEBS):** In order to bring in efficiency in the Government, an Aadhaar enabled Biometric Attendance System was implemented by MeitY. **e-Payment Framework:** All payments and receipts to be in electronic mode. The portal payonline.gov.in envisaged as common platform for making physical payments online.

**e-Hospital - OPD Registration Framework (ORF)** is an initiative to facilitate the patients to take online OPD appointments with government hospitals. This framework also covers patient care, laboratory services and medical record management.

**e-Districts:** It is one of the Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) under e-Kranti, with the MeitY, as the nodal Ministry, to be implemented by state government or their designated agencies. This MMP aims at electronic delivery of identified high volume citizen centric services, at district and sub-district level, those are not part of any other MMP.

**GI Cloud:** In order to utilize and harness the benefits of Cloud Computing, the government has embarked upon an ambitious and important initiative - “GI Cloud” which has been coined as “MeghRaj”. The focus of this initiative is to evolve a strategy and implement various components including governance mechanism to ensure proliferation of Cloud in government. Formulation of the Cloud Policy is one of the primary steps that will facilitate large scale adoption of cloud by government.

A new educational channel “**DigiShala**” for creating awareness regarding various forms of electronic payment to citizens was launched in 2016. DigiShala is now also available on Dish TV in addition to DD Free Dish. The DigiShala is an education and non-commercial TV channel on DD Free Dish.

**National Policy on Universal Electronic Accessibility** (2013) was formulated to break the barriers faced by differently abled persons by ensuring easy accessibility of electronics and ICT. Electronics and ICT can mitigate the barriers faced by differently abled persons as well as help them to participate independently in day-to-day life. The National Policy on Electronic Accessibility recognizes the need to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disabilities and to facilitate equal access to Electronics and ICT. It recognizes the diversity of differently abled persons and provides for their specific needs.

**Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan:** The Government has approved a scheme titled “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan” (PMGDISHA) to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household) by 2019.

## Cyber Security

Millions of people in the country (both in rural and urban areas) rely on the services and information available in cyber space. As the quantity and value of electronic information has increased, so too have the business models and efforts of criminals and other adversaries who have embraced cyber space as a more convenient and profitable way of carrying out their activities anonymously. Hence, security of cyber space has become an important part of the national agenda.

Considering its vital importance, a National Cyber Security Policy, 2013 was put in place. It is aimed at building a secure and resilient cyber space for citizens, businesses and government, by way of actions to protect information and information infrastructure in cyber space, build capabilities to prevent and respond to cyber threats, reduce vulnerabilities and minimize damage from cyber incidents through a combination of institutional structures, people, processes, technology and cooperation.

### *Organizations related to it*

#### **A. Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre**

- CERT-In is implementing this for detection of compromised systems in India and to notify, enable cleaning and securing systems of end users to prevent further malware infections.

#### **B. National Informatics Centre (NIC)**

- National Informatics Centre (NIC) is a premier IT organization of the country under the Department of Electronics and Information Technology.
- It was established in **1976**.
- NIC, through its ICT Network, ‘NICNET’, has institutional linkages with all the governments and government departments at all levels.
- NIC services include Certifying Authority, Video-Conferencing, NIC e-MAIL (NICeMail) and SMS services across the country.
- **National Knowledge Network (NKN)** has been set up to connect institutions/ organizations carrying out research.
- **Open Technology Centre (OTC)** has been set up as a nodal agency for Open Technology related activities in e-Governance applications managed by NIC/NeGP and promotes the use and adoption of Open Source tools/software.
- It has established and maintains state data centers and other infrastructure related to NeGP.

### C. Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA)

- The IT Act promotes the use of Digital Signatures for e-Governance and e-Commerce through legal recognition to electronic records and treats digital signatures at par with hand written signatures.
- The CCA licenses Certifying Authorities (CA) to issue Digital Signature Certificates under the IT Act and also exercises supervision over the activities of these Certifying Authorities.
- The CCA certifies Public Keys of the CAs, lays down standards to be maintained by the CAs and performs other functions.
- These are being used in applications such as Real Time Cross settlement System & EFT of the RBI, e-mail, electronic funds transfer, e-Procurement, share trading; issue of import/export licenses by DGFT and filing of company returns with the Ministry of Company Affairs.

### D. Cyber Appellate Tribunal

- The first and the only Cyber Court in the country has been established by the Central Government in accordance with the provisions contained under Section 48(1) of the Information Technology Act, 2000. Provision has been made in the amended IT Act, 2009 for the Tribunal to comprise a Chairperson and many other members, as the Central Government may notify/appoint.

### E. C-DAC

- Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) is the premier R&D organization of the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY for carrying out R&D in IT, Electronics and associated areas.

*C-DAC is pursuing activities in the following thematic areas:*

- High Performance Computing (HPC), Grid Computing and Cloud computing.
- Multilingual Computing and Heritage Computing.
- Professional Electronics including VLSI and Embedded Systems.
- Software Technologies including FOSS.
- Cyber Security and Cyber Forensics.
- Health Informatics.
- Education and Training.

*Some applications developed by C-DAC are:*

- One of the significant achievements of the past year was upgradation of the compute power of **PARAM Yuva** system from 54 TF/s to 529 TF/s.
- In the area of Cloud Computing, C-DAC launched its cloud platform, **Meghdoot 1.0** during the Technology Conclave at Hyderabad in October, 2012.
- In the area of Professional Electronics, C-DAC completed the development of **WiTrac (Wireless Traffic Controller)**.
- Several electronic devices and associated solutions were also built for **smart buildings**. These include LED Luminaire, **Human Occupancy Prediction System and Indoor Air Quality Monitoring System**.



- In the area of Software Technology, release of a new version of BOSS Linux operating system and its wider deployment were carried out.
  - Several e-Governance applications and frameworks including e-Praman with Andhaar, etc.
  - In Health Informatics area, C-DAC carried out larger deployment of C-DAC tele medicine solutions. C-DAC also initiated the development of health care services on mobile devices, m-Health and m-Swasthya are two such solutions. Wider deployment of e-Vision and e-Nose systems was carried out during the year.
  - C-DAC is also involved in carrying out various activities in the **north-east** region through various Government supported initiatives.
- F. National e-Governance Division:** It was established as amalgamation of experts from the private sector and the Government for discharging the key tasks including programme management and technical support of various components of the Digital India Programme.
- G. National Internet Exchange of India:** NIXI is a not for profit organization set up under Companies Act, 1956 for peering of ISPs among themselves and routing the domestic traffic.
- H. CERT-In:** CERT-In is a functional organisation of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India. CERT-In has been designated under Section 70B of the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008 to serve as the national agency to perform the following functions in the area of cyber security: (i) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber security incidents; (ii) Forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents; (iii) Emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents; and (iv) Issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and white papers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents.
- I. Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research:** SAMEER was set up in 1984 as an autonomous laboratory at Mumbai with a broad mandate to undertake R&D work in microwave engineering and electromagnetic engineering technology. It is an offshoot of the special microwave products unit (SMPU) set up in 1977 at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai. It works in high end technology areas of RF/microwaves and allied disciplines. It undertakes design, development and delivery of hardware to meet stringent specifications of user agencies in its core areas of expertise including high power RF amplifiers, communication systems, atmospheric radar instrumentation, linear accelerators, RF/microwave/millimetre wave subsystems and systems, photonics, etc.
- J. National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology:** Scientific Society of the MeitY, which is actively engaged in capacity building and skill development in the areas of Information Technology (IT).
- K. Software Technology Parks of India:** Autonomous society under MeitY, meant for promotion of software exports by acting as 'single-window' in providing services to the software exporters.
- l. Media Lab Asia:** To bring the benefits of ICT to the common man, such as ICT for healthcare, education, livelihood and empowerment of disabled.

## Telecommunication

Communications sector has assumed the position of an essential infrastructure for socio-economic development in an increasingly knowledge-intensive world. The reach of telecom services to all regions of the country has become an integral part of an innovative and technologically-driven society. As a result of sustainable measures taken by the government over the years, the Indian Telecom Sector has grown exponentially and has become the second largest network in the world, next only to China.

Department of Telecommunication (DOT) is committed to provide secure, reliable, affordable and high quality converged telecommunication services anytime, anywhere for an accelerated inclusive socio-economic development. The Department is working towards the objective of maximizing public good by making available affordable, reliable and secure voice and data services.

- **Tele-density:** The total number of telephone connections increased from 1059.33 million from April, 2016 to 1194.99 million at the end of March, 2017.
- **Bharat Net:** For the deeper digital penetration in rural areas, the government has taken up Bharat Net, in mission mode to link each of the 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats through broadband optical fibre network.

### Phases of the Project

- The first phase envisages providing one lakh gram panchayats with broadband connectivity by laying underground optic fibre cable (OFC) lines have been achieved.
- The second phase will provide connectivity to all 2,50,500 gram panchayats in the country using an optimal mix of underground fiber, fiber over power lines, radio and satellite media. It is to be completed by March 2019. For success in phase-2, which will also involve laying of OFC over electricity poles, the participation of states will be important. This is a new element of the BharatNet strategy as the mode of connectivity by aerial OFC has several advantages, including lower cost, speedier implementation, easy maintenance and utilization of existing power line infrastructure. The last mile connectivity to citizens was proposed to be provided creating Wi-Fi hotspots in gram panchayats.
- In the third phase from 2019 to 2023, state-of-the-art, future-proof network, including fiber between districts and blocks, with ring topology to provide redundancy would be created.

### Organizations related to Telecommunication

- Department of Telecommunication C-DOT:** C-DOT, an autonomous body, is DoT's R&D arm. The organisation is committed to providing a wide range of cost-effective, indigenously developed and state-of-the-art total telecom solutions. C-DOT has grown to the level of a national centre for R&D in communication technology in many areas like Satellite communications, IN, ATM, DWDM, NMS, wireless broadband, GPON, NGN and mobile cellular systems. C-DOT is also entrusted with the projects of national importance, like central monitoring system for telecom security and secure network for strategic applications.
- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited:** Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), fully owned by Government of India, formed in October 2000, provides telecom services across the length and breadth of the country excluding Delhi and Mumbai. BSNL is providing all types of telecom services namely telephone services on landline, WLL and GSM mobile, broadband, internet, leased circuits and long distance telecom services. Rural telephony is one of its focus areas. BSNL also pays special emphasis on development of telecommunication facilities in North-Eastern region and in tribal areas as well as in the LWE affected areas.
- Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited:** Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), set up in 1986, is a Navratna PSU and provides telecommunication facilities in India's key metros - Delhi and Mumbai. MTNL is the principal provider of fixed-line telecommunication service in these two metropolitan cities, and for GSM mobile services in four peripheral towns of Noida, Gurgaon, Faridabad and Ghaziabad along with Delhi city and the areas falling under the Mumbai Municipal Corporation, New Mumbai Corporation and Thane Municipal Corporation along with Mumbai city, also come under the jurisdiction of the company. MTNL is providing triple play services, i.e., voice, high speed internet and IPTV on its broadband network.

- d) **ITI Limited:** ITI Limited was established in 1948, to supply telecom equipments to the then telecom service provider, DoT. ITI started its operations in Bangalore in 1948, which were further extended to other areas by setting up manufacturing plants at Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir; Naini, Rae Bareli and Mankapur in Uttar Pradesh; and Palakkad in Kerala. All the manufacturing plants are accredited with ISO 9001-2000 standards. The establishment of these plants at various locations was aimed not only at the augmentation of manufacturing capacity but also at the development of social infrastructure.
- e) **Telecommunications Consultants India Limited:** Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL) was set-up in 1978 with the main objective to provide world class technology in all fields of telecommunications and information technology to excel in its operations in overseas and in the domestic markets by developing proper marketing strategies, to acquire state of the art technology on a continuing basis and to maintain leadership. It has diversified into cyber parks, intelligent buildings, cyber and smart cities and upgradation of legacy networks by focusing on broadband multimedia convergent service networks, entering new areas of IT and IT-enabled services. It is also developing telecom and IT-training infrastructure abroad.
- f) **Bharat Broadband Network Limited:** Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), was incorporated in 2012 under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 for execution of the BharatNet for connecting 2.50 lakh (approximately) Gram Panchayats (GPs).

## Digital India

It aims to transform the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy, implemented in phases till 2018, by DeitY. It would also bring in public accountability through mandated delivery of Government's services electronically; a Unique ID and e-Pramaan. The source of funding is through budgetary provisions.

### *Scope of Digital India:*

- To prepare India for a knowledge future;
- On being transformative that is to realize IT (Indian Talent)+ IT (Information Technology) =IT (India Tomorrow);
- Making technology central to enabling change; and
- On being an Umbrella Programme covering many departments.

### *Initiatives under the Digital India Programme*

- Legal Information and Management Based System** is an easy to access, web-based tool for comprehensive, regulatory and proactive monitoring of court cases.
- NDSAP (National Data Sharing and Accessibility Programme)** is to facilitate the access to Government of India owned shareable data and information.
- e-Office:** The main objective of e-office is to improve efficiency, consistency and effectiveness of government responses.

## 6

## Chapter

## DEFENCE

The current international security environment can be characterized as one of rapid change, continued volatility and persistence of vast swathes of instability, compounded by uncertainty about policies and approaches of major powers. India continued efforts to build stronger defence partnerships with a large number of foreign countries with a view to addressing emerging threats and to enhance regional and international peace and stability.

The persisting salience of trans-national terrorism remains a primary security challenge, exacerbated by the interplay between states and non-state actors often used as proxies to spread extremist ideologies and foment violence. Large parts of West Asia, Afghanistan and Africa are afflicted by deep instability and violence, posing a rising threat to the stability of wider Asia and Europe. The re-emergence of territorial disputes, including in the maritime domain, has sharpened differences between states and could lead to militaristic approaches and challenges to norms of international law as well as standards of international behaviour. The rise of nationalism, including in key Western nations, and continued challenges to democratic structures and processes in several countries, could limit the efficacy of efforts for dialogue and reconciliation within and among societies. The revolution of rising aspirations coupled with weak economic growth as well as a variety of environmental and social crises, place additional burdens on state structures that are often unable to cope. Such instances of state failure, including in India's immediate neighbourhood, are a distinct feature of the current scenario, with immediate and often serious security implications.

The situation in India's immediate South Asian neighbourhood remains difficult, with the overall security and political context in most neighbouring states continuing to remain volatile. The growing recognition of the need to take a united view against cross-border terrorism, leading to the cancellation of the SAARC Summit and calls for holding the meeting in an atmosphere free of terrorism, was a notable development. Efforts to provide a fresh impetus to Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), such as through the BRICS BIMSTEC Outreach Summit and sub-regional efforts such as BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal) could provide alternative structures to enhance cooperation and promote economic development. India's continued economic rise, and the ability of some states in South Asia to maintain reasonable economic growth rates as well as improvements in their social development indicators, is another positive dimension that augurs well for longer-term stability in the region.

In Afghanistan, the Afghan National Security Forces took over the security responsibility and are facing a daunting challenge of fighting insurgents with reduced international combat support.

The political situation in Pakistan continues to remain fragile with a severe deficit of inclusive and balanced economic development. Pakistan also continues to relentlessly expand its military forces, especially nuclear and missile capabilities. The country is torn by ethno-regional conflicts, with the zone of conflict expanding from the tribal areas on Pakistan-Afghan border to the hinterland. The military has made efforts to improve the security situation in the country, more measures need to be taken against jihadi and terror outfits that target Pakistan's neighbours. Support to such group persists despite

ongoing efforts by the international community, including India, to list the head of the terrorist group JEM, Masood Azhar, as an international terrorist. Such outfits continued to be encouraged to infiltrate into India under the cover of massive cross-LoC and cross-border firing in Jammu and Kashmir and other areas throughout the year. Pakistan based terrorists attacked military bases in India, triggering an appropriate response by Indian armed forces.

Developments in the IOR region in the past one year have increased security challenges for India. In order to address these, India has taken proactive measures to enhance the peace and stability in the region. India actively participated in arrangements like the ReCAAP (Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia) and the SOMS (States of Malacca and Singapore) mechanism for maritime safety. India also took an active role in fighting piracy, both to our west and east.

India has undertaken a wide range of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations, from major evacuation in Yemen to supply of drinking water to the Maldives and providing relief supplies by air to Fiji and Sri Lanka.

India's interests in Central Asia are based on its geostrategic location, presence of abundant energy and natural resources as well as age-old historical and cultural ties. The region continues to be targeted by radical terrorist groups that seek to undermine the secular regimes. The International North South Trade Corridor which India, Iran and Russia are working to develop could enable viable trade and economic linkages with the region. India is also a stake holder in the TAPI pipeline as well as other initiatives such as digital links to foster connectivity.

The security situation in West Asia remains in flux, with growing sectarian rivalries as well as inter-state competition for influence in the context of a depressed economic scenario due to continuing low oil prices. The internal situation in countries such as Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Libya remained volatile and violent. Though the situation has slowly started to turn against the various insurgent and terrorist groups, the regimes in power continue to be vulnerable. India has key stakes in this region which accounts for 66 per cent of our energy requirements and is home to over eight million Indians. Apart from economic considerations, the region also assumes importance due to the rise in fundamentalist terrorist groups such as ISIS that seek to spread their influence across the world including India.

### Ministry of Defence

The principal task of the Ministry is to frame policy directions on defence and security related matters and communicate them for implementation to the Services Headquarters, Inter-Service Organisations, Production Establishments and Research and Development Organisations.

*The principal functions of the departments are as follows:*

- **The Department of Defence** deals with the Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) and three Services and various Inter Service Organizations. It is also responsible for the Defence Budget, establishment matters, defence policy, matters relating to Parliament, defence co-operation with foreign countries and co-ordination of all defence related activities.
- **The Department of Defence Production** is headed by a Secretary and deals with matters pertaining to defence production, indigenization of imported stores, equipment and spares, planning and control of departmental production units of the Ordnance Factory Board and Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs).
- **The Department of Defence Research and Development** is headed by a Secretary, who is the Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister. Its function is to advise the Government on scientific

aspects of military equipment and logistics and the formulation of research, design and development plans for equipment required by the Services.

- **The Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare** is headed by a Secretary and deals with all resettlement, welfare and pensionary matters of Ex-Servicemen.

## Army

- Global and regional geo-political and geo-strategic issues affect and shape India's security environment.
- The Indian Army plays a pivotal role in the nation's security construct.
- The Indian Army remains resiliently committed in braving the harsh terrain and weather on a daily basis along the national frontiers, to protect the territorial integrity of the nation.
- The Indian Army is at the forefront in combating the internal security challenges in conjunction with other security agencies.
- The Indian Army is also exploiting its core competencies in training the CAPFs and state police forces towards enhancing their operational employment in combating Left Wing Extremism.
- The Indian Army also contributes to sand dunes, soil and water conservation.
- Indian Army is one of the largest troop contributor to UN missions with presence in seven of the current 15 UN missions. It has enhanced its presence by deploying an additional hospital in Juba, South Sudan and conversion of one Infantry Battalion to Rapid Deployment Battalion. India has also conducted major UN Peacekeeping Courses for senior mission leaders, female military officers and selected African partners and has emerged as a leading trainer.

## Navy

The *raison d'être* of navies is to safeguard the nation's use of seas for its legitimate sovereign purpose, whilst concurrently guarding against inimical use of the sea by others. The full range of operations in which the naval forces may be involved is vast, ranging from high intensity war fighting at one end and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations at the other end. This broad continuum of operations can be broken down into distinct roles at each demanding a specific approach to the conduct of operations. Through the discharge of roles, the Indian Navy (IN) acts as the prime enabler and guarantor of the country's maritime sovereignty and myriad use of sea activities. Accordingly, the main roles that IN undertakes are - military, diplomatic, constabulary and benign.

- **Military Role:** The primary military objective of the IN is to deter any military adventurism against the country, including intervention in India's affairs and subversive strategies against the national interests and the ability to inflict a crushing defeat on the adversary in the event of hostilities.  
The ways and means of deterrence by the IN include conventional deterrence by both denial and punishment, by maintaining a robust military capability and posture to convince potential aggressors of high costs and limited gains from any aggression or intervention against India's national interests.
- **Diplomatic Role:** Over the past years, India's strategic and security interests in the northern IOR and surrounding areas from the Strait of Malacca to the Gulf of Aden have grown. As a responsible nation and benign maritime neighbour, enforcement of international laws, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in the IOR would continue to remain at the forefront of our international commitments. Towards this end, the IN is being increasingly called upon to address issues pertaining to security and stability in the region. The IN, by virtue of its capability, strategic positioning and presence in the IOR, has been a catalyst for peace and stability in the region.

- **Constabulary Role:** As part of its 'Constabulary Role', the IN is involved in operations like anti-poaching, anti-smuggling, coastal surveillance and anti-piracy. There are several occasions when the Indian Navy has rendered aid to civil authorities - be it natural calamities like cyclones in the states of Gujarat, Odisha or Andhra Pradesh; floods in Bihar, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Chennai, Gujarat and Odisha, diving assistance during accidents, search and rescue on the high seas or providing relief to quake hit areas. The IN has also provided assistance during the bridge collapse incident on Savitri river near Mahad (Maharashtra), evacuation of tourists from Havelock and Neil Islands, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The IN has been regularly contributing to HADR operations in the IOR.

### Indian Coast Guard (1977-78)

Under Coast Guard Act, 1978. It undertakes the assigned tasks during peace time and to supplement the efforts of Indian Navy during war. The duties are safety and protection of artificial islands and offshore terminals, installations and devices in maritime zones; protection & assistance to fishermen at sea while in distress; preservation and protection of marine environment; assistance to customs & other authorities in anti-smuggling operations. It has been entrusted the:

- Offshore security coordination authority;
- National maritime search and rescue coordinating authority;
- Lead intelligence agency for coastal and sea border; and
- Coastal security in territorial waters.

### Air Force

The focus is on "Make in India" to give impetus to indigenous development and manufacturing, including participation of private sector in defence manufacturing, including fighters, transport aircraft, helicopters, combat support assets and air defence network. IAF's recently acquired airborne assets have been effectively utilised in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief missions, most noticeably in J&K, Nepal and Yemen.

Three Flight Cadets - Avani Chaturvedi, Bhawana Kanth and Mohana Singh created history by becoming the first women pilots to be commissioned into the fighter stream after passing out from the IAF Academy, Dundigal in Telangana. They have been trained on Pilatus PC-7 Mk II and Kiran aircraft. Presently, they are undergoing training on Hawk Mk-132 Advance Jet Aircraft.

### Commissioned Ranks

The following are the commissioned ranks in the three Services; each rank is shown opposite its equivalent in the other Service:

Army	Navy	Air Force
General	Admiral	Air Chief Marshal
Lieutenant General	Vice Admiral	Air Marshal
Major General	Rear Admiral	Air Vice Marshal
Brigadier	Commodore	Air Commodore
Colonel	Captain	Group Captain
Lieutenant Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander

Major	Lieutenant Commander	Squadron Leader
Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant
Lieutenant	Sub Lieutenant	Flying Officer

### National Cadet Corps

Under the NCC Act, 1948 to provide the youth of the country opportunities for all round development with a sense of commitment, dedication, self-discipline and moral values, so that they become useful citizens and can take their place in all walks of life in the service of the nation. The motto of NCC is 'Unity and Discipline'. The total sanctioned strength of NCC cadets is 15 lakh.

### Sainik Schools

- The Sainik Schools were established as a joint venture of the Central and State Governments. These are under the overall governance of Sainik Schools Society.
- The objectives of Sainik Schools include:
  - a) Bringing quality public school education within the reach of the common man.
  - b) All round development of a child's personality and to remove regional imbalance in the officer's cadre of the Armed Forces.

### Training Institutions

- **College of Defence Management, Telangana**
- **National Defence College, New Delhi**
- **Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Tamil Nadu**
- **National Defence Academy, Pune**
- **Indian Military Academy, Dehradun**
- **College of Military Engineering, Pune**

### Defence Undertakings

**Hindustan Aeronautics Limited** is a Navratna Company and a premier aeronautical complex of South Asia. HAL's expertise encompasses design, production, repair, overhaul and upgrade of aircrafts, helicopters, aero-engines, accessories, avionics & systems.

**Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)**, is a Navratna PSU, ranks 69th among the top 100 companies worldwide in defence revenues with core competencies in areas of radars and fire control systems, weapon systems, sonars, communication.

**Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd.** is a leading shipyard, has expertise of building a wide array of vessels, from world class Frigates to Fast Interceptor Boats.

**Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)**, is capable of designing and building high technology and sophisticated ships to meet the crucial maritime security needs of the country.

**Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. (HSL)**, is located on the east coast of the country and is nation's premium shipbuilding and ship/submarine repair organisation.



**Mazagaon Dock Limited (MDL)**, is the Mini Ratna company and is India's premier shipyard, specialised in construction of warships of various sizes and classes, submarines, other technologically advanced commercial vessels and offshore platforms/drilling rigs.

**BEML Limited** established in 1964, is a Mini Ratna Category-I multi-location, multi product engaged in design, manufacturing, marketing and after-sales service of a wide range of equipment to three distinct business segments, i.e., Defence, Mining and Construction, and Rail and Metro.

### Different Organizations

- **Ordnance Factories:** The Ordnance Factory Board has 39 factories with two more at Nalanda and Korwa. Ordnance Factories are divided into five operating groups: (i) ammunition and explosives, (ii) weapons, vehicles and equipments, (iii) materials and components, (iv) armoured vehicles, and (v) clothing and equipments, each headed by Additional DGOF.
- **Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA):** It is an Inter-Service Organisation under the Department of Defence Production responsible for quality assurance of all defence equipment and stores for the Army and Navy (excluding Naval Armaments) as well as common use items for the Air Force.  
The Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance is an organisation under the Department of Defence Production that is responsible for quality assurance and final acceptance of military aircraft, accessories and other aeronautical stores for military aviation.
- **Directorate of Standardisation:** The primary objective is to establish commonality in equipment and components among the three services so that the overall inventory of the Defence Services is reduced to the minimum.
- **Directorate of Planning and Coordination:** The Directorate of Planning & Coordination was set up in 1964 with the primary objective of preparing overall plans for the production of defence equipments in the country. The directorate functions as an attached office of the Department of Defence Production (DDP). It primarily deals with capital acquisition of various weapon systems and platforms of the armed forces of India, viz., Air Force, Army, Navy and Coast Guard.
- **Defence Exhibition Organisation:** The main function of Defence Exhibition Organisation (DEO) is to organise and co-ordinate defence exhibitions in India and abroad, primarily with a view to promote the export potential of defence oriented products and services, developed and manufactured by the defence industry.
- **The National Institute for Research and Development in Defence Shipbuilding:** It was set-up as an autonomous society for India's futuristic shipbuilding programmes. This nerve centre will be responsible to collate and consolidate existing capabilities, create new capabilities and cover the gaps that exist.
- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO):** It is the research and development arm to advise and assist the Defence Services on scientific problems and to undertake research in areas related to Defence. The mandate has been widened to support national cyber security architecture which includes testing capabilities, security solutions, networking systems and cyber defence tools.
- **The Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare:** It formulates various policies and programmes for the welfare and resettlement of Ex-Servicemen (ESM) in the country. Armed Forces Flag Day is commemorated on 7th December every year across the country to commemorate the sacrifices made by the armed forces personnel for the country.

- **Director General (Resettlement):** It has the main thrust on resettlement, rehabilitation and welfare of ESM. DGR is entrusted with the responsibility of preparing retiring/retired service personnel for a second career.
- **Kendriya Sainik Board:** Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB) Sectt is the apex body of Government of India responsible for implementing government policies for welfare of war-widows/ disabled soldiers, Ex-Servicemen and their dependents.

## 7

## Chapter

## EDUCATION

Education plays important role in Human resources development. It also plays a significant and remedial role in balancing the socio-economic fabric of the country. Citizens of India are most valuable resource. 1.35 billion-strong nation needs the nurture and care in the form of basic education to achieve a better quality of life. This can be achieved by building strong foundations in education.

Good quality education is the foundation of new discoveries, new knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurship that trigger growth and prosperity of the individual as well as that of a nation. For this, we need to make our curriculum and pedagogy relevant to the needs of our society and economy and nurture qualities of problem solving and creative thinking, learning-by-doing, greater engagement with the live context, and confident self-expression from a young age.

To lay emphasis on the educational development of students of weaker sections of the society, a number of innovative initiatives have been taken by the ministry such as:

- i) Setting up of national monitoring committee on minorities;
- ii) Setting up of national monitoring committee for education of SCs, STs and persons with disabilities;
- iii) Student support initiatives such as National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS), National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE), Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu and Kashmir, Scheme of Interest Subsidy on educational loans;
- iv) Regulations on prevention of discrimination and establishment of ombudsman; and
- v) Development of an anti-ragging web portal.

Currently, the Ministry of Human Resource Development works through two departments: Department of School Education and Literacy, and Department of Higher Education.

### Government Initiatives in Education Sector

Article 21-A of the Constitution of India and its consequent legislation, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 became operative in the country in 2010. The RTE Act confers the right to elementary education on all children, in the age group of 6-14 years, on the basis of equality of opportunity in a formal school which satisfies certain essential norms and standards. All States and UTs have notified their State RTE Rules. The centrally sponsored scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) supports states and UTs in their efforts to implement the RTE Act. Its interventions include, inter alia, opening of new schools, construction of schools and additional classrooms, constructing toilets and drinking water facilities, provisioning for teachers, in-service training for teachers and academic resource support, free textbooks and uniforms, support for improving learning achievement levels, research, evaluation and monitoring.

Schemes are discussed below:

- i. **Universal Access:** The *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)* is being implemented since 2001 for universalization of elementary education. It achieved progress in universal access and equity as -
  - a) *Special Training for mainstreaming out-of-school children:* The RTE Act makes a specific provision for Special Training for age-appropriate admission for out-of-school children.
  - b) *Residential facilities:* SSA has a provision for residential facilities in sparsely populated or hilly and densely forested areas with difficult geographical terrains and in densely populated urban areas.
  - c) *Transportation or Escort facilities:* These facilities are available for children in remote habitations with sparse populations or in urban areas where availability of land is a problem or children belonging to extremely deprived groups or children with special needs.
  - d) *Uniforms:* SSA provides two sets of uniform to all girls, SC, ST children and Below Poverty Line (BPL) children.
- ii. **Bridging Gender Gaps in Elementary Education:**
  - a) *Girls Education:* RTE-SSA provides a clear thrust and special focus on education for girls and children belonging to disadvantaged groups and weaker sections.
  - b) *Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV):* KGBV are residential upper primary schools for girls from SC, ST, OBC, Muslim communities and BPL girls.
  - c) *Removal of Gender Bias:* Most of the states have incorporated the gender sensitization in their regular School Management Committee (SMC) training modules to deal with issues such as enrolment, retention and completion of education of girls.
  - d) *Digital Gender Atlas for Advancing Girls' Education:* Department of School Education and Literacy has prepared a Digital Gender Atlas for Advancing Girls' Education in the country on its website. The tool, which has been developed with the support of UNICEF, will help identify *low performing geographic pockets for girls*, particularly from marginalized groups, on specific gender related education indicators. In order to plan and execute educational interventions, the purpose of the Gender Atlas is to help identify and ensure equitable education with a focus on vulnerable girls, including girls with disabilities.
- iii. **Inclusive Education**
  - a) *SCs/STs and Muslims:* Enrolment of SC children has gone up. Enrolment of ST children has marginally gone down. Enrolment of Muslim children has grown up from 12.50 per cent in 2010-11 to 13.8 per cent in 2015-16.
  - b) *Children with Special Needs:* RTE-SSA seeks to ensure that every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided meaningful and quality education. The main components of SSA interventions for children with special needs include identification, functional and formal assessment, appropriate educational placement, preparation of individualized educational plan, provision of aids and appliances, teacher training, resource support, removal of architectural barriers, monitoring and evaluation and a special focus on girls with special needs.
  - c) *Textbooks for Children:* All children are provided free textbooks up to class VIII. In 2016-17 provision was made for providing text books to 8.38 crore children.

#### iv. Sub-Programmes under SSA

- The Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (PBBB)*: It is a sub-programme of the SSA, in classes I and II is focusing on foundational learning in early grades with an emphasis on reading, writing and comprehension and mathematics.
- The Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan (RAA)*: Aims to motivate and engage children of the age group 6-18 years, in science, mathematics and technology by observation, experimentation, inference drawing and model building, through both inside and outside classroom activities. Schools have been adopted for mentoring by institutions of higher education like IIT's, IISER's and NIT's.
- Vidyanjali*: Launched to enhance *community and private sector* involvement in Government run elementary schools across the country. The aim of the programme is to strengthen implementation of co-scholastic activities in government schools through services of volunteers.
- ShaGun portal*: An initiative to monitor the implementation of SSA: MHRD has developed a web portal called ShaGun (from the words Shaala and Gunvatta).

#### v. Teacher Training

- Availability of Teachers*: To meet the shortage of teachers in elementary schools, 19.49 lakh additional teacher posts have been sanctioned under SSA up to 2016-17.
- In-service Teacher Training*: To upgrade skills of teachers, SSA provides for annual in-service training up to 20 days for all teachers. Apart from this induction training for 30 days is given to freshly trained recruits.
- Distance Education Programmes for Teachers*: Capacity building of institutions and personnel at the national, state, district and sub-district levels is being facilitated with assistance of IGNOU and other teacher education institutions in different states.
- Creation of Separate Cadre*: As per Annual Work Plan and Budget (2016-17) 17 States/UTs have created separate cadre for teacher educators under the TE-Scheme. States have also been asked to strengthen the cadre of teacher educators in their respective States/UTs.
- National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) Regulations, 2014- Norms and Standards*: The NCTE was established with a view to achieving planned and co-ordinated development of the teacher education system throughout the country, the regulation and proper maintenance of norms and standards in the teacher education system, and for matters connected therewith.
- 'India Teacher Education Portal (Prashikshak)'* – The Department of School Education and Literacy (SE&L), launched 'India Teacher Education Portal (Prashikshak)' in 2016. This portal is helpful in monitoring of Teachers Education Institutions and in providing comprehensive information to prospective students and teachers to select the right institute as per choice.

#### National Award to Teachers

**Instituted in 1958:** It is given away by the President of India on 5th September (Teacher's Day) every year to give public recognition to meritorious teachers working in primary, middle and secondary schools. From the award year 2001, 'Special Awards' have been instituted for teachers promoting inclusive education in schools and the education of children with disabilities in regular schools. The total number of 'Special Awards' are 43. 'Special Awards' are conferred on the teachers of following categories: Teachers with disabilities working in mainstream schools, special teacher or work for Inclusive Education.

## vi. Academic Support System

- a) **Academic Support Structures:** Block Resource Centres (BRCs) and Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs) have been set up across the country as resource centers in each block and cluster, to provide decentralized academic support, training and supervision to teachers and schools.
- b) **School and Teacher Grants:** SSA also provides annual teacher grants of Rs. 500 to all teachers for developing contextual teaching aids. For new schools, onetime ‘Teaching Learning Equipment’ grant a Rs. 20,000 per new primary school and Rs. 50,000 per new upper primary school is provided for school equipment and setting up expenses.
- c) **Computer Aided Learning:** Under SSA, grant up to Rs. 50 lakh is available to each district for strengthening computer aided learning in schools to support enhancement of children’s learning.
- d) **Learning Enhancement Programmes:** 2 per cent of the total SSA outlay for each district has been made available for ‘Learning Enhancement Programmes’ that aims specifically at improving the quality of learning processes and learning outcomes.

**vii. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan:** Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) was launched in 2009 with the objective to enhance access to secondary education and improve its quality. The schemes envisages to enhance the enrolment at secondary stage by providing a secondary school with a reasonable distance of habitation, with an aim to ensure GER of 100 per cent and universal retention by 2020. The other objectives include improving quality of education imparted at secondary level through making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms, removing gender, socio-economic and disability barriers, etc.

- a) **Shaala Siddhi:** School Standards and Evaluation Framework and its web portal was launched in 2015. It aims to enable schools to evaluate their performance in a more focused and strategic manner and facilitate them to make professional judgments for improvement. The programme’s objective is to establish an agreed set of standards and benchmarks for each school, by focussing on key performance domains and their core standards.
- b) **Shala Darpan:** The “Shaala Darpan Project” to cover all the Kendriya Vidyalayas was launched in June, 2015. The objective of this project is to provide services based on school management systems to students, parents and communities.
- c) **GIS Mapping:** To ensure universal access to schools including secondary schools within a reasonable distance of any habitation and without any discrimination, the geographic coordinates of school being uploaded on the school GIS Web enabled platform.
- d) **Kala Utsav:** Kala Utsav is an initiative of MHRD to promote Arts (Music, Theatre, Dance, Visual Arts and Crafts) in education by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students at secondary stage in the country, and it is also a platform to bring arts to the centre stage in an inclusive environment.
- e) **Focus on Science and Maths: Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan launched in 2015:** Under Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan, training of 1.04 lakh science and maths teachers, math and science kit, excursion trip to science centres and museum for students, special teaching on science and maths, science exhibition at district level, teaching of Vedic maths, etc., has been included under RMSA.

## viii. Vocationalisation of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education

- a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education were revised in 2014 with a view to align it with the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) into which the NVEQF has been assimilated. The scheme has been

subsumed under Integrated Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. The specific objectives of the scheme are to enhance the employability of youth through demand driven competency based, modular vocational courses; to fill the gap between educated and employable; and to reduce the dropout rate at the secondary level and decrease the pressure on academic higher education.

#### ix. Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage

- a) The Scheme of Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) was launched in 2009-10 replacing the earlier scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC). It provides assistance for the inclusive education of the disabled children in classes IX-XII. The aim of the scheme is to enable all students with disabilities, after completing eight years of elementary schooling, to pursue further four years of secondary schooling (classes IX to XII) in an inclusive and enabling environment.

#### Scheme for Minorities

- i. **Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas:** Government is implementing the scheme for providing quality education in Madarsas (SPQEM) for the children of minorities.

*The objectives of the Scheme are:* encourage Madarsas and Maktabas to introduce formal subjects i.e. science, mathematics, social studies, Hindi and English by means of providing financial assistance; children studying in Madarsas and Maktabas attain academic proficiency for class I-XII.

*The Scheme provides assistance for:* appointment of teachers for teaching science, mathematics, social studies, languages, computer application and science. Training will be arranged in groups for Madarsas teachers appointed under the scheme by SCERTs/DIETs/BRCs. Madarsas with respect to whom expenditure on account of honorarium of the teachers is met by the state government will not be eligible for salary component under the scheme.

- ii. **Infrastructure Development for Minority Institute:**

- a) The Scheme facilitates education of minorities by strengthening school infrastructure in minority institutions. The scheme covers the entire country. It will fund infrastructure development of private aided/unaided minority elementary/secondary/senior secondary schools to the extent of 75 per cent and subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs per school.
- b) Organizations that are recognised by central or state government shall be eligible to apply, should have been functioning for at least last 3 years and have substantial enrolment of children from minorities. The scheme is implemented through the state governments and all requests for financial assistance are entertained by the state government in the prescribed application form.

#### Implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer

The Government launched Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme/system from 2013 under which 25 schemes across eight ministries/departments were selected for implementation of DBT system in 43 pilot districts of 16 States/UTs. It envisages direct transfer of funds to beneficiary account through the Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB). From 2015, DBT Scheme was been extended in the entire country. Two scholarship schemes of the Department of School Education and Literacy, viz. National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) and National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE) are covered under DBT. A National Scholarship Portal (NSP) has been made operational for on-line submission of proposals/list of beneficiaries by the state governments for National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) and National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE).

## Adult Education

At the time of independence, 86 per cent of India's population was illiterate and as such the main focus of adult education had been on its very bottom tier, i.e. imparting of 'Basic literacy'. For accomplishment of this objective, a series of programmes had been introduced since the First Plan period, the most prominent, being the National Literacy Mission (NLM), launched in 1988 for the adults in the age group of 15+. The programme of National Literacy Mission was re-vamped in 2009 in alignment with new paradigms of lifelong learning as Saakshar Bharat. The National Literacy Mission Authority (NLMA) is the operating and implementing organization at national level for all the activities envisaged in Adult Education and Skill Development.

## Organizations

### a) National Council of Educational Research and Training

- The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) provides academic and technical supports for qualitative improvement of school education.
- The NCERT was established on September 1, 1961 as an apex national body to lead qualitative changes in school education.
- NCERT has been playing an advisory role guiding Central and State Governments in formulating Policies, Acts and government programmes.
- It is a unique institution in India, conducting researches, preparing skilled educational professionals and developing curriculum and curricular materials.

### b) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

- The Scheme of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVS) (Central Schools) was approved in 1962 by the Govt. of India on the recommendations of the Second Central Pay Commission to provide uninterrupted education to the wards of transferable Central Government employees.
- The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan was registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860) in 1965.
- The primary aim of the Sangathan is to provide, establish, endow, maintain, control and manage the Central Schools (Kendriya Vidyalayas) located all over India and abroad.
- The Government of India wholly finances the Sangathan.

### c) Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

- The National Policy on Education, 1986, envisaged setting up of pace setting residential Navodaya schools with an aim of providing excellence coupled with equity and social justice.
- Consequent to this, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti was registered as a Society, under the Society Registration Act, of 1860, with the objective to establish Navodaya Vidyalayas to provide good quality modern education - including a strong component of inculcation of values, awareness of the environment, adventure activities and physical education - to the talented children predominantly from the rural areas without regard to their family's socio-economic condition.

### d) National Bal Bhavan

- National Bal Bhavan (NBB), established in 1956, is an autonomous institution funded by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.



- National Bal Bhavan aims at enhancing the creative potential of children by providing them various activities, opportunities and common platform to interact, experiment, create and perform according to their age, aptitude and ability.
- It offers a barrier-free environment with immense possibilities of innovation without any stress or strain. Various creative activities are conducted for children especially from the deprived sections of society on a regular basis at NBB and its affiliated institutes.

#### e) National Institute of Open Schooling

- National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is “Open School” to cater to the needs of a heterogeneous group of learners up to pre-degree level.
- It was started as a project with in-built flexibilities by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in 1979. In July 2002, the Ministry of Human Resource Development amended the nomenclature of the organisation from the National Open School to the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) with a mission to provide relevant continuing education at school stage, up to pre-degree level through Open Learning system to prioritized client groups as an alternative to formal system, in pursuance of the normative national policy documents and in response to the need assessments of the people, and through it to make its share of contribution: to universalisation of education; to greater equity and justice in society, and to the evolution of a learning society.

### Mid Day Meal Scheme

- The Mid Day Meal Scheme covers children of Classes I-VIII studying in government, government aided schools, special training centres (STC) and madaras/maqtabs supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).
- It is the largest school feeding programme in the world.
- Apart from promoting access and retention, the Mid Day Meal Scheme has also contributed to social and gender equity. It has helped in preventing classroom hunger, promoting school participation and fostering social equality and enhancing gender equality.
- **Calorific Value of Mid Day Meals:** The cooked mid day meal consists of 100 grams of wheat/rice, 20 grams of pulses, 50 grams of vegetables and 5 grams of oil/fat and provides 450 calories of energy and 12 grams of protein at primary stage. For upper primary stage children, it consists of 150 grams of wheat/rice, 30 grams of pulses, 75 grams of vegetables and 7.5 gram of oil/fat and provides 700 calories of energy and 20 grams of protein.
- The Department issued notification for enrolment of cent per cent students in all schools. The use of Aadhaar identity document for delivery of services or benefits or subsidies simplify the government delivery processes, brings in transparency and efficiency. Enrolment of children under Aadhaar would enable to eliminate the proxy enrolment and provide the benefits of Mid Day Meal Scheme to the deserving children in a seamless manner.

### Tithi Bhojan

“Tithi Bhojan” is a concept designed to ensure greater public participation under the Mid Day Meal Programme being followed in Gujarat. In order to bring in greater community participation, local communities are encouraged to celebrate important family events viz., birth of a child, success in exam, inauguration of new house, etc. by contributing to the mid day meal served in the local schools. It is voluntarily served by the community/family among school children in several forms like sweets and namkeen along with regular MDM, full meals, supplementary nutritive items like sprouted beans, contribution in kind such as cooking ware, utensils, dinner sets or glasses for drinking water.

The concept has been adopted by different States with local nomenclatures like 'Sampriti Bhojan' in Assam, 'Dham' in Himachal Pradesh, 'Sneh Bhojan' in Maharashtra, 'Shalegagi Naavu Neevu' in Karnataka, 'Anna Dhanam' in Puducherry, 'Priti Bhoj' in Punjab and 'Utsav Bhoj' in Rajasthan.

### Initiatives for Vocational Education

- **Bachelor of Vocational Studies:** The UGC has introduced the scheme for B.Voc degree with multiple exits at diploma/ advanced diploma under National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). The objectives are:
  - i) To enhance the employability of youth;
  - ii) To maintain their competitiveness through provisions of multi-entry multi-exit learning opportunities and vertical mobility;
  - iii) To fill the gap between educated and employable; and
  - iv) To reduce the dropout rate at the secondary level.
  - v. Currently, 2035 schools across 25 states are implementing the scheme.
- **Skills Assessment Matrix for Vocational Advancement of Youth:** A credit framework Skills Assessment Matrix for Vocational Advancement of Youth (SAMVAY) is now in place which allows vertical and lateral mobility within vocational education system and between the current education system.
- **Education Sector Skill Council:** Education Sector Skill Council was constituted in 2014, to consider job roles other than academic faculties and teacher qualifications. The functions of the SSC, include setting up of Labour Market Information System (LMIS) to assist planning and delivery of training, Identification of skill development needs and preparing a catalogue of skill types, develop skill development plan and maintain skill inventory developing skill competency standards and qualifications.
- **Yukti - Yogya Kalakriti ki takneek:** Yukti aims at skill development and upgradation of design and technologies enhancing the economic prospects of those engaged in traditional crafts and arts as a means of livelihood. It aims at introducing appropriate designs and technology for innovation and pedagogical methods for introducing skills for upgradation.

### National Institutional Ranking Framework

- The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for educational institutions was launched to meet a felt need for a framework that would enable parents, students, teachers, educational institutions and other stakeholders to rank institutions on the basis of a set of objective parameters and a transparent process.
- Developed by a team of experts in education and heads of institutions, the portal and the framework is presently available for engineering and management institutions.

### Scholarships

- i. **SAKSHAM - Scholarship for Differently-Abled Children.**
  - Scheme of AICTE aims at providing encouragement and support to differently-abled children to pursue technical education.
  - Scholarships amounting to Rs. 5 crore per annum as tuition fees and incidentals are to be provided to needy and meritorious students for pursuing technical education at AICTE approved institution.

- This is to help them to achieve their college goals, despite learning issues, environmental challenges or medical bills.
- ii. *Ishan Uday for Students of North East Region*
- The UGC has launched a special scholarship scheme for students of north east region, Ishan Uday from the academic session 2014-15.
  - The Scheme envisages grant of 10,000 scholarships to students from the region whose parental income is below Rs. 4.5 lakh per annum and would be provided scholarship ranging from Rs. 3,500 to Rs. 5,000 per month for studying at under graduate level in colleges/universities of the country.
- iii. *Ishan Vikas - Academic Exposure for North Eastern Students*
- The programme has been launched with a plan to bring selected college and school students from the north eastern states into close contact with IITs, NITs and IISERs during their vacation periods for academic exposure.
- iv. *Pragati*
- Pragati (Scholarship for Girl Students) - Pragati is a scheme of AICTE aimed at providing assistance for advancement of girls participation in technical education.
  - Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skill and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process.
- v. *Swami Vivekananda Scholarship for Single Girl Child*
- The dropout ratio at various levels of education for girls is much higher than that of boys.
  - Keeping Swami Vivekananda's ideas of women education and to promote girls education, UGC has introduced the Swami Vivekananda Scholarship for Single Girl Child for research in social sciences with an aim to compensate direct costs of higher education especially for such girls who happen to be the only girl child in their family.

### ICT in Education

- a) **National e-Library:** The National Digital Library of India is envisaged as a National knowledge asset which will provide ubiquitous digital knowledge source. It will support and enhance education, research and innovation catering to the needs of all types of learner groups over the country. Developing and providing efficient access to quality e-content addressed to various learners with different backgrounds, expectations and languages.
- b) **Swayam: Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds.** Swayam is a Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) initiative on a national platform with a comprehensive academic structure. The integrated platform will offer courses covering engineering, humanities and social sciences etc., to be used by learners at large.
- c) **Global Initiative for Academic Network:** Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN) aims at tapping the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs, internationally to encourage their engagement with the institutes of higher education in India so as to augment the country's existing academic resources, accelerate the pace of quality reform, and elevate India's scientific and technological capacity to global excellence.
- d) **Research Parks:** The objective of the Research Parks is to create a knowledge and innovation ecosystem through collaboration between industry and academia to enable, encourage and develop cutting edge technology and innovation that exceeds the global standard.

- e) **Growing Aptitude in Numerical Innovations and Training:** Growing Aptitude in Numerical Innovations and Training (GANIT) Week in the schools affiliated to CBSE was organized to commemorate the birth anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan and to actively promote interest of students in mathematics.

### Facts Related to Copyright

- Acquisition of copyright is automatic and it does not require any formality. Copyright comes into existence as soon as a work is created and no formality is required to be completed for acquiring it.
- The Copyright Office was established in 1958. It functions under the administrative control of the Department of Higher Education. It is headed by the Registrar of Copyright, who has quasi-judicial powers in handling cases relating to copyright. The main function of the Copyright Office is to undertake registration of copyright.
- The Copyright Board also determines and fixes rate of royalties for statutory licences for cover versions and broadcasting of literary and musical works and sound recordings.
- It also hears cases in other miscellaneous matters instituted before it under the Copyright Act, 1957.
- The Copyright (Amendment) Act, 2012 provides for a three member permanent Copyright Board consisting of a Chairman and two other members.



“ **Make your Life a Masterpiece, Imagine no Limitations on What you can be, have or do** ”

### Pattern of Study Material

We will provide complete study material. We believe that the classroom learning is incomplete without the material and vice versa. The study material will be divided as:

- ▶ Level 1: Basic syllabus.
- ▶ Level 2: Contemporary issues related to every section of the syllabus.
- ▶ Level 3: Fortnight Current Affairs study material.
- ▶ Level 4: Answer writing practice workbook for Prelims as well as Mains.

### Pre-Foundation Interaction

Understand 'What' & 'How' About Civil Services Examination through 50 Hrs. Pre-Foundation Classes and interact with faculties to clear your doubts. Faculty members include:

**Manoj K. Jha, H. Bhushan, Dr. Piyush Choubey, Ashutosh Pandey, Saurabh Jain, Gaurav Bansal, Piyush Kumar Yadav and Rohit Lodha.**

### Batch 1 - Morning

**Starts: 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2018**  
Timing: 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM  
(Monday to Friday)

### Batch 2 - Evening

**Starts: 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2018**  
Timing: 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM  
(Monday to Friday)

### Batch 3 - Weekend

**Starts: 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2018**  
Timing: 11:00 AM to 7:30 PM  
(Saturday & Sunday)

### Programme Fee

(GS Pre cum Mains) |  
₹ 1,20,000/- + GST

(GS Pre cum Mains + GSAT)  
₹ 1,30,000/- + GST

# GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

# IAS FOUNDATION 2020

 Classroom &  Live/Online

## ASSESSMENT BASED LEARNING

*BASIC CONCEPTS to SCORE*

## Programme Highlights

- ▶ **It covers entire General Studies syllabus for Prelims & Mains examination.**
- ▶ **During 1<sup>st</sup> year of preparation:**
  - ▶ **Part-1:** Pre foundation classes will be provided for seamless transition of student to Foundation Course.
  - ▶ **Part-2:** Conceptual part of entire syllabus will be covered alongwith Class tests to establish the sound foundation base for each student.
- ▶ **During 2<sup>nd</sup> year of preparation:**
  - ▶ **Part-1:** Revision of entire syllabus through test series, writing practice and personal interaction with the experts will be done.
  - ▶ **Part-2:** Current Affairs Study Material and Classes will be provided in both the preparation years for Prelims & Mains.

# GS Foundation - Assessment Based Learning

## Mains Update Classes with Answer Writing Sessions

- 150 hrs. Update Classes will be conducted after Prelims Examination to cover Contemporary Issues for GS Mains Papers.
- Format of this assessment also includes daily Answer Writing Practice.

## Critical Thinking for Essay Writing

- Essay sessions alongwith Tests will be provided.
- 50 Model Essays to learn the art of Essay writing will also be provided.

## Development of Problem Solving Approach for GS Paper IV

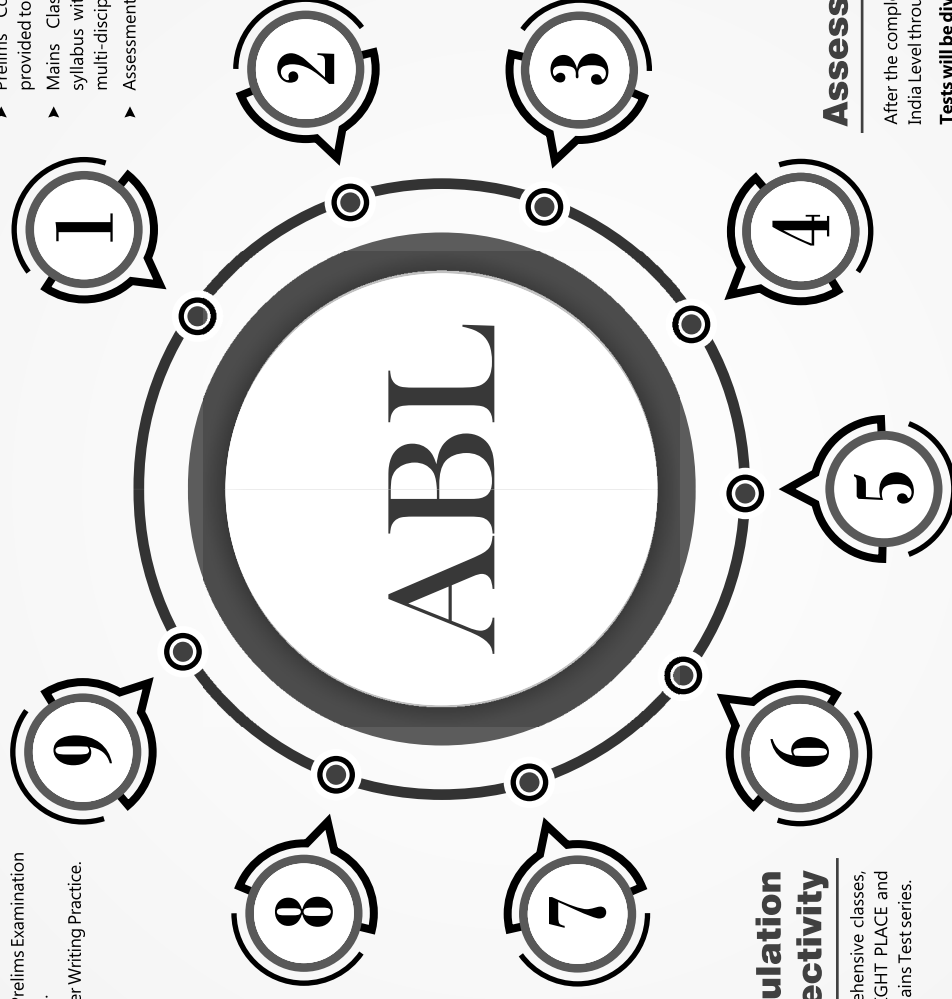
The conceptual clarity on the Ethical Theories and terms given in the UPSC Syllabus will be covered through Comprehensive Classes alongwith development of Case Study Based Approach.

## Improving Articulation and Objectivity

Once the content is known through comprehensive classes, for the articulation of that knowledge at RIGHT PLACE and RIGHT FORMAT, the programme will cover Mains Test series.

It will consist of:

1. Sectional Tests - **20 Questions** each.
2. Mock Tests - **UPSC pattern**
3. Feedback & Personal Discussion



## Concept Building

It covers 10 months conceptual classes covering complete UPSC syllabus.

- ▶ Prelims Comprehensive classes to cover Prelims syllabus will be provided to clear the core concepts related to each subject.
- ▶ Mains Classes will cover complete GS Mains Paper 1, 2, 3 and 4 syllabus with an approach of developing conceptual clarity with multi-disciplinary thinking process.
- ▶ Assessment: Each module will cover assessment tests.

## Strategy for Prelims

Prelims is more about range of information and micro detailing of topics. It is an innovative programme designed to provide complete Prelims preparation module to develop a sound conceptual base alongwith assessment based learning for Prelims, which will cover 15000 questions in entire course.

Assessment Module will be based on:

- L1- Basic Concept Assessment
- L2- Current Affairs Assessment
- L3- Advance Level Assessment

## Time & Speed Assessment for Prelims

After the completion of Prelims syllabus, assessment for the Time and speed management is must to check the level of preparation. The module will cover:

1. Subject-wise class test after completion of each subject (100 Questions)
2. Workbook containing about 200 Questions related to each subject as Home assignment.

Assess your Accuracy level with speed.

## Assessment at All India Level

After the completion of the conceptual classes ASSESS yourself at the All India Level through our comprehensive PT Test Series.

Tests will be divided as:

- Sub-sectional Tests based on Topics
- CSAT Tests
- Sectional Tests
- Mock Tests
- Current Affairs Tests

## Answer Writing Improvement

The conceptual base for Mains examination will be laid through the exhaustive Classes covering both theoretical as well as contemporary part of the syllabus. However, Answer writing plays an important role in the Mains examination.

Content + Good Writing Skill = Good Marks.

Thus to develop it:

1. Topic wise Class Tests **10 Questions** each.
2. Subject wise Class Test **20 Questions**.
3. Home assignments **4-5 Questions** on each topic will be provided to develop thinking line related to the topic taught in the classes.

## 8

## Chapter

## ENERGY

Energy is an essential input for economic development and improving the quality of life. Development of conventional forms of energy for meeting the growing energy needs of society at a reasonable cost is the responsibility of the government.

**Power**

- The *Ministry of Power* is primarily responsible for the development of electrical energy in the country.
- The construction and operation of generation and transmission projects in the Central Sector are entrusted to Central Sector Corporations {National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC), the North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO), and the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL)}.
- The Power Grid is responsible for all the existing and future transmission projects in the Central Sector and also for the formation of the National Power Grid.
- Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) and Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) are responsible for the execution of the Nathpa Jhakri Power Project in Himachal Pradesh and projects of Tehri Hydro Power Complex in Uttarakhand respectively.
- Three statutory bodies, i.e., the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), the Bhakra-Beas Management Board (BBMB) and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), are also under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power.
- Programmes of *rural electrification* are provided financial assistance by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).
- The Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provide term-finance to projects in the power sector.
- The autonomous bodies (societies), namely Central Power Research Institute (CPRI) and the National Power Training Institute (NTPPI) are also under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power.
- A Power Trading Corporation has also been incorporated primarily to support the Mega Power Projects in private sector by acting as a single entity to enter into Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs).

**Power Generation:**

- Power generation during 2016-17 was 1,160 BU comprising 994 BU thermal, 122 BU hydro, 37 BU from nuclear and 5 BU imports from Bhutan.

**Ultra Mega Power Projects:**

- The Government of India through Ministry of Power launched the initiative of Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs), of 4,000 MW.

- Super thermal power projects in November 2005 with the objective to develop large capacity power projects in India. Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) has been appointed as the Nodal Agency to facilitate the development of these projects.

#### **Integrated Power Development Scheme:**

- In order to provide impetus to strengthening of power distribution sector in urban area, Ministry of Power, Government of India launched “Integrated Power Development Scheme” (IPDS) in 2014.

#### **Mega Power Policy:**

- Mega power policy was introduced in 1995. The aim of this policy was to derive economies of scale by setting up large size power plants especially in the private sector at pithead and transmitting power to distant regions, which are deficit in power.

#### **Automatic Approval for FDI:**

- Automatic approval (RBI route) for cent per cent foreign equity is permitted in generation (except atomic energy), transmission and distribution and trading in power sector without any upper ceiling on the quantum of investment.
- Government of India has also allowed the FDI up to 49 per cent in power exchanges registered under Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Market) Regulations, 2010, under the automatic route.

#### **Schemes**

- i. **Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana:** Objectives: (a) To separate agriculture and non-agriculture feeders for judicious rostering of supply to agricultural and non-agricultural consumers in rural areas; (b) Strengthening and augmentation of sub transmission and distribution infrastructure in rural areas; and (c) Metering in rural areas.
- ii. **Development of National Grid:** National power grid in the country is being developed in a phased manner. All five regional grids, namely northern region, western region, eastern region, north-eastern region and southern region have been inter-connected in synchronous mode and total transfer capacity of inter-regional links in June, 2017 is about 75,050 MW.
- iii. **National Electricity Fund Scheme:** Under NEF scheme, interest subsidy would be provided on loans taken by private and public power utilities in distribution sector for non-Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) and non-Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (R-APDRP) projects now subsumed under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) respectively.
- iv. **UDAY—Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana:** UDAY Scheme was launched in 2015 for a sustainable solution to the operational and financial inefficiencies of DISCOMs across the country, through targeted interventions in the form of lower interest costs, reduction of cost of power, increased revenues and improved operational efficiencies. UDAY is *voluntary scheme* for participation and 26 states and 1 union territory have joined the scheme. The scheme is being monitored by an inter-ministerial committee and a state level committee.

#### **Energy Efficiency**

Government of India has undertaken a two pronged approach to cater to the increasing energy demand of the country while ensuring minimum increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. On one hand, at the



generation side, efforts are being made to move towards cleaner technologies, and on the demand side, thrust is given towards efficient use of energy by taking various initiatives under Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) established under Energy Conservation Act, 2001 launched number of programmes such as mandating standards and labels for energy consuming equipment and appliances, prescribing an energy conservation building code for commercial buildings, demand side management programmes for agricultural pumpsets, municipalities among others, energy consumption norms for energy intensive industries, promotion of energy efficiency in small and medium enterprises, fiscal instruments for promoting energy efficiency and outreach activities. State Designated Agencies has been established in 35 states/UTs to promote energy efficiency at the state level.

### Petroleum and Natural Gas

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is concerned with exploration and production of oil and natural gas (including import of liquefied natural gas), refining, distribution and marketing, import, export and conservation of petroleum products. Due to rapid economic expansion, India has become world's fastest growing energy market.

India surpassed Russia to become the 3rd largest energy consumer in the world after China and USA during 2015. Oil and gas accounted for around 35 per cent share in India's energy consumption.

In fact, India surpassed Japan to become 3rd largest oil consumer in the world after US and China during 2015.

#### Initiatives for Energy Security

- India's energy security is primarily about ensuring continuous availability of commercial energy at competitive prices to support its economic growth and meet the lifeline energy needs of households with safe, clean and affordable forms of energy. Keeping in view the vast and ever increasing energy requirements of the economy, several initiatives have been taken for increasing production and exploitation of all domestic petroleum resources.

- Some initiatives are:

##### a) Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy:

- Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) is a policy adopted by Government of India on 10.03.2016 indicating the new contractual and fiscal model for award of hydrocarbon acreages towards exploration and production (E&P). HELP is applicable for all future contracts to be awarded.
- **Key Features:**
  - There will be a uniform licensing system which will cover all hydrocarbons, i.e. oil, gas, coal bed methane etc. under a single license and policy framework.
  - Contracts will be based on "biddable revenue sharing". Bidders will be required to quote revenue share in their bids and this will be a key parameter for selecting the winning bid. They will quote a different share at two levels of revenue called "lower revenue point" and "higher revenue point". Revenue share for intermediate points will be calculated by linear interpolation. The bidder giving the highest net present value of revenue share to the Government, as per transparent methodology, will get the maximum marks under this parameter.

- An Open Acreage Licensing Policy will be implemented whereby a bidder may apply to the Government seeking exploration of any block not already covered by exploration. The Government will examine the Expression of Interest and justification. If it is suitable for award, Govt. will call for competitive bids after obtaining necessary environmental and other clearances. This will enable a faster coverage of the available geographical area.
  - A concessional royalty regime will be implemented for deep water and ultra-deep water areas. These areas shall not have any royalty for the first seven years, and thereafter shall have a concessional royalty of 5% (in deep water areas) and 2% (in ultra-deep water areas).
  - In shallow water areas, the royalty rates shall be reduced from 10% to 7.5%.
  - The contractor will have freedom for pricing and marketing of gas produced in the domestic market on arms length basis. To safeguard the Government revenue, the Government's share of profit will be calculated based on the higher of prevailing international crude price or actual price.
- b) The Government launched a scheme 'PAHAL' for direct transfer of LPG subsidy to consumers all over the country from 2015. This is the largest direct cash transfer scheme in the world as recognized by Guinness Book of World Records. Under this scheme, LPG is being sold to consumers at the market rate while the subsidy is directly credited to their bank accounts as per entitlement. Objective of scheme is to ensure that the subsidy on LPG reach the intended beneficiaries. The Government also launched 'Give-It-Up' Campaign. Under it, well-off LPG consumers have been asked to voluntarily give up LPG subsidy. Against each 'Give-It-Up' consumer, one security deposit-free connection is given to a BPL family (Give Back Scheme).
- c) In a bid to ensure universal coverage of clean cooking gas in the country, the Government launched **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)**. Under PMUY, 5 crore LPG connections were to be provided to BPL families with a support of Rs. 1,600 per connection by 2018-19. PMUY aims at empowering millions of poor women who are forced to inhale unhealthy emissions from burning coal, wood and other unclean fuels while cooking. LPG connections provided under the scheme are being seen as a great tool of empowerment, apart from being able to bring obvious health benefits.
- d) Under the **New Domestic Gas Pricing Policy**, a transparent new gas pricing formula linked to global market was made effective from 2014. Marketing and pricing freedom was provided for gas produced from geologically difficult, high risk/ high cost areas with a provision of ceiling price based on landed cost of alternate fuels.

### Organizations

- i. **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited:** Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), engaged in exploration and production of crude oil, natural gas and value added products was incorporated in 1993.
- ii. **ONGC Videsh Limited:** ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), is engaged in exploration and production of oil and gas outside India. OVL was incorporated as Hydrocarbons India Limited in 1965 to perform international exploration and production business. The company was rechristened as ONGC Videsh Limited from 1989.
- iii. **Oil India Limited:** It is engaged in the business of exploration, production and transportation of crude oil and natural gas. In 1959, Oil India Private Limited was incorporated to expand and

develop the newly discovered oil fields of Naharkatiya and Moran in Assam. In 1961, it became a joint venture company between the Indian Government and Burmah Oil Company Limited, UK. In 1981, OIL India Pvt. Ltd. became a wholly-owned Government of India enterprise. In-country operational areas are spread over Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Andaman and Rajasthan. OIL has presence in nine countries, viz., Venezuela, Libya, Gabon, Iran, Nigeria, Yemen, Sudan, Timor Leste and Egypt, pursuing various activities.

- iv. **Gas Authority of India Limited:** Starting as a natural gas transmission company, it is today an integrated energy company in the natural gas value chain with global footprints. Having started as a gas transmission company, it grew organically over the years by building a large network of natural gas trunk pipelines covering a length of over 8,700 km.
- v. **Indian Oil Corporation Limited:** Indian Oil Corporation (Indian Oil) is India's flagship national oil company with business interests encompassing the entire hydrocarbon value chain from refining, pipeline transportation and marketing of petroleum products to exploration and production of crude oil and gas, marketing of natural gas, petrochemicals, renewable energy and now into nuclear energy. The Indian Oil Group of companies own and operate 10 of India's 22 refineries with a combined refining capacity of 213.2 million metric tonnes per annum. Indian Oil's cross-country network of crude oil and product pipeline spans 10,909 km with a capacity of 75.55 MMTPA of crude oil and petroleum products and 96 MMSCMD of gas. This network is the largest in the country and meets the vital energy needs of the consumers in an efficient, economical and environment-friendly manner.
- vi. **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited:** Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) is a mega Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) with 'Navratna' status. It has two refineries; one in Mumbai (west coast) having a capacity of 6.5 MMTPA and the other in Visakhapatnam (east coast) with a capacity of 8.3 MMTPA. These refineries are producing a wide variety of petroleum products-fuels, lubricants and speciality products. HPCL holds an equity stake of 16.95 per cent in Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, a state-of-art refinery at Mangalore with a capacity of 9.69 MMTPA. HPCL, in collaboration with M/s Mittal Energy Investment Pvt. Ltd, has set up a state-of-the-art Green Field Refinery with a capacity of 9 million tonnes at Bathinda in Punjab. The project was commissioned in 2012.
- vii. **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited:** Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is an integrated oil company, in the downstream sector, engaged in refining of crude oil and marketing of petroleum products. It has also diversified into production and marketing of petrochemical feedstock. BPCL has refineries at Mumbai and Kochi with a combined refining capacity of 21.5 MMTPA.

**Pricing of Petroleum Products:** The Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) or cost plus pricing for petroleum products which was introduced in 1976 was abolished from 2002, consequent to the de-regulation of the oil sector in India. The Government notified that pricing of all petroleum products except PDS kerosene and domestic LPG; would be market determined. In June 2006, based on the recommendations of the *Rangarajan Committee*, the Government changed the pricing mechanism for petrol and diesel from import parity to trade parity (trade parity being the weighted average of import parity and export parity prices in the ratio of 80:20) while the pricing of PDS kerosene and domestic LPG continues on import parity basis.

## Coal

The Ministry of Coal (MoC) has the overall responsibility of determining policies and strategies in respect of exploration and development of coal and lignite reserves, sanctioning of important projects

of high value and for deciding all related issues. These key functions are exercised through its public sector undertakings, namely Coal India Limited (CIL) and Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (NLC) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), a joint sector undertaking of Government of Telangana and Government of India with equity capital in the ratio of 51:49.

- i. **Coal Reserves:** 308 Billion tonnes of coal reserves have been estimated by the Geological Survey of India.

The reserves have been found mainly in Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra.

- ii. **Lignite Reserves:** The Lignite Reserves in the country have been estimated at around 44.59 billion tonnes by the Geological Survey of India.

The major deposits are located in Tamil Nadu, followed by Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kerala, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Puducherry.

- iii. **Coal Production:** The overall production of coal for 2016-17 was projected at 724.71 MT. During the period April to December 2016, the actual production was 453 MT compared to 445 MT during corresponding period of 2015-16, showing a growth of 1.7 per cent.

- iv. **Coal India Limited:** Coal India Limited (CIL) is a 'Maha Ratna' company under the Ministry of Coal, with headquarters at Kolkata, West Bengal. CIL with its headquarters at Kolkata is the apex body in coal industry under the administrative control of the Ministry of Coal. Coal India is a holding company with seven wholly owned coal producing subsidiary companies and one mine planning and Consultancy Company.

It encompasses the whole gamut of identification of coal reserves, detailed exploration followed by design and implementation and optimising operations for coal extraction in its mines.

- v. **Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited:** Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (NLC) was registered as a company in November 1956. The mining operations in Mine-I were formally inaugurated in 1957. Neyveli Lignite Corporation has been conferred with 'Navratna' status since 2011.

## New and Renewable Energy

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is the nodal ministry at the federal level for all matters relating to new and renewable energy. The ministry has been facilitating the implementation of broad spectrum programmes including harnessing renewable power, renewable energy to rural areas for lighting, cooking and motive power, use of renewable energy in urban, industrial and commercial applications and development of alternate fuels and applications.

### *Drivers for Development*

- At present around 69.5 per cent of India's power generation capacity is based on coal. Despite increase in installed capacity by more than 113 times in 65 years, India is still not in a position to meet its peak electricity demand as well as energy requirement.
- The peak power deficit during financial year 2001-02 was approximately 9,252 MW, however, at the end of Financial Year 2014-15, the peak power deficit decreased to the order of 2.4 per cent.
- India has taken a voluntary commitment of reducing emission intensity of its GDP by 33-35 per cent from 2005 levels by 2030.
- In the recently concluded 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held at Paris, France, India committed to achieve about 40 per cent

cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030 with the help of transfer of technology and low cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund (GCF).

**Renewable Energy Potential:**

- India has an estimated renewable energy potential of about 900 GW from commercially exploitable sources viz.:  
 Wind - 102 GW,  
 Small hydro - 20 GW;  
 Bio-energy - 25 GW; and  
 Solar power - 750 GW.
- Over 1.2 million households are using solar energy to meet their lighting energy needs and almost similar numbers of the households meet their cooking energy needs from biogas plants.
- The National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE), formerly known as Centre for Wind Energy Technology, has developed the *Wind Atlas of India*. NIWE also collects data from Solar Radiation Resource Assessment stations to assess and quantify solar radiation availability and develop Solar Atlas of the country.
- National Institute of Solar Energy has assessed the State wise solar potential.
- The Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru has developed *Biomass Atlas of India*, and the Alternate Hydro Energy Centre, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee has assessed small hydro potential in the country.

**National Solar Mission:**

Under National Solar Mission, the target for setting up solar capacity increased from 20 GW to 100 GW by 2021-22.

To facilitate such a massive target, the Prime Minister's Office has been pushing various Ministries to initiate supporting interventions, like:

- a) Incorporating changes in land use regulations and tenancy laws to facilitate aggregation and leasing of land by farmers/ developers for solar projects.
- b) Identification of large chunks of land for solar projects.
- c) Identification of large government complexes/ buildings for rooftop projects.
- d) Clear survey of wastelands and identification of transmission/ road infrastructure using satellite technology for locating solar parks.
- e) Development of power transmission network/ Green Energy Corridor.
- f) Setting up of exclusive parks for domestic manufacturing of solar PV modules.
- g) Provision of roof top solar and 10 percent renewable energy as mandatory reform under the new scheme of Ministry of Urban Development.
- h) Amendments in building bye-laws for mandatory provision of roof top solar for new construction or higher FAR.

- i) Considering infrastructure status for solar projects; raising tax free solar bonds; providing long tenor loans; making roof top solar a part of housing loan by banks/ NHB and extending IIFCL credit facility to such projects by the Department of Financial Services.
- j) Suitable amendments to the Electricity Act for strong enforcement of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) and for providing Renewable Generation Obligation (RGO).
- k) Incorporating measures in Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) for encouraging distribution companies and making net-metering compulsory.

26 SPV projects of aggregate 330 MW capacity have been commissioned. Thus, 523 MW solar PV projects and 202.5 MW solar thermal power projects have been commissioned under the bundling scheme. Under the 100 SPV power plants, 78 projects were selected to set up 98 MW capacity projects from 12 states.

#### ***Renewable Energy for Rural Applications:***

- Under the National Biomass Cookstoves Initiative, several pilot projects have been taken up for deployment of improved biomass cookstoves for demonstration among domestic and large sized community cooking in Anganwadis, mid-day meal schemes in schools, tribal hostels etc.
- Projects taken up under *Unnat Chulha Abhiyan* are now eligible for carbon credits under the CDM mechanism with Sardar Swaran Singh National Institute of Renewable Energy (SSS-NIRE), an autonomous institute of MNRE, located at Jalandhar, Punjab has been designated as Coordinating and Managing Entity (CME).

#### ***Solar Cities Programme:***

- Under Development of Solar Cities Programme, the Ministry assists municipal corporations and urban local bodies in preparation of a Master Plan for increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy supply in the city.
- Objectives of the Solar City programme:
  - a) To enable and empower Urban Local Governments to address energy challenges at City - level.
  - b) To provide a framework and support to prepare a Master Plan including assessment of current energy situation, future demand and action plans.
  - c) To build capacity in the Urban Local Bodies and create awareness among all sections of civil society.
  - d) To involve various stakeholders in the planning process.
  - e) To oversee the implementation of sustainable energy options through public - private partnerships.

## 9

## Chapter

## ENVIRONMENT

**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is the nodal agency in the central government for overseeing the implementation of India's environment and forest policies, programmes and related schemes.
- The Ministry is also the nodal agency for the:
  1. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
  2. International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD); and
  3. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).
- The Ministry also coordinates with multilateral bodies such as the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), Global Environment Facility (GEF) and regional bodies such as Economic and Social Council for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on matters pertaining to environment.

**Environment Related Institutions and Organizations****a) Botanical Survey of India**

- Botanical Survey of India (BSI) is the apex research organization under MoEF&CC, for carrying out taxonomic and floristic studies on wild plant resources.
- It was established in 1890.
- Functional base of BSI was further expanded to include various new areas such as inventorying of endemic, rare and threatened plant species; evolving conservation strategies; studies on ecosystems and protected areas etc.

**RED DATA BOOK:**

Internationally IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) prepares a Red Data List/ Red Data Book which categories species and plants according to the degree of threat/extinction.

**b) Zoological Survey of India**

- Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), a premier research institution under the Ministry.
- It has completed 100 years of service.
- Headquarters are at Kolkata and 16 Regional centres are located at different parts of the country.

**ENVIS (Environmental Information System)**

- Environmental Information System (ENVIS) was set up in 1983 as a plan programme as a comprehensive network in environmental information collection, collation, storage, retrieval and dissemination to varying users, which include decision-makers, researchers, academicians, policy planners and research scientists, etc.
- The focus of ENVIS since inception has been on providing environmental information to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and engineers, research workers, etc. all over the country.
- A large number of nodes, known as ENVIS Centres, have been established in the network to cover the broad subject areas of environment with a Focal Point in the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

**c) Forest Survey of India**

- Forest Survey of India (FSI), a national level organization under the Ministry is engaged in the assessment of the country's forest resources on a regular interval.
- Established in 1981, the Forest Survey of India succeeded the "Pre-investment Survey of Forest Resources" (PISFR), a project initiated in 1965 by Government of India with the sponsorship of FAO and UNDP.

*Forest Survey of India is involved in the following:*

**1. Forest Cover Mapping**

- FSI is involved in forest cover assessment of the country on **biennial basis and publishes 'India State of Forest Report'**.
- Forest and Tree Cover of the country has increased by 8,021 sq km (1%) as compared to assessment of 2015. The very dense forest has increased by 1.36% as compared to last assessment.
- Successful agro-forestry practices, better conservation of forests, improvement of scrub areas to forest areas, increase in mangrove cover, conservation and protection activities have also led to increase in the forest and tree cover.
- Top 5 states where maximum forest cover has increased are Andhra Pradesh (2,141 sq kms), Karnataka (1,101 sq kms), Kerala (1,043 sq kms), Odisha (885 sq kms) and Telangana (565 sq kms).
- Top 5 states where forest cover has decreased are Mizoram (531 sq km), Nagaland (450 sq km), Arunachal Pradesh (190 sq km), Tripura (164 sq km) and Meghalaya (116 sq km).

**2. Forests Inventory**

- Inventory of forests and Trees Outside Forests (TOF) is the second major activity of FSI.
- The country has been divided into 14 physiographic zones.
- In the recent past, TOF resources have gained importance because of their increasing role in meeting the needs of wood based industries and society.
- The outcome of the TOF inventory is estimation of growing stock in TOF areas, estimation of production of wood from TOF and tree cover.



**d) Wildlife Institute of India**

- Wildlife Institute of India (WII) was established in 1986 in Dehradun as an autonomous institute of the Ministry.
- Its primary mandates are to:
  1. Carry out scientific and applied research on various issues of wildlife and biodiversity conservation,
  2. Develop wildlife and biodiversity conservation,
  3. Develop wildlife science as a discipline through academic activities,
  4. Build capacity in the field of wildlife management and conservation planning, and
  5. Provide technical inputs to MoEFCC and other international organizations.

**e) National Green Tribunal**

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was set up in 2010 under the NGT Act, 2010. It is a statutory body.
- The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.
- The Tribunal is mandated to make an endeavour for disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing.
- NGT has five places of sitting, i.e. the Principal Bench in Delhi and Zonal Benches in Pune, Kolkata, Bhopal and Chennai. Apart from this, the Tribunal holds three circuit Benches at Shimla, Shillong and Jodhpur.

**International Tropical Timber Organization**

- The International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) was negotiated under United Nation Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) auspices to provide an effective framework for cooperation and consultation among countries producing and consuming tropical timber promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber and the improvement of structural conditions in the tropical timber market; promote and support research and development to improve forest management and wood utilization.
- The ITTA, 1983 established the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) whose headquarter is at Yokohama, Japan.
- At present, the ITTO has 73 members divided into two categories; producer countries (35 members) and consumer countries (38 members).
- India is a founder member (producer country category).

**International Network of Bamboo and Rattan**

- The International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1997.
- INBAR is dedicated to improving the social, economic, and environmental benefits of bamboo and rattan.
- INBAR connects a global network of partners from the government, private, and non-for-profit sectors in over 50 countries.
- India is its member.

## Biodiversity Conservation

### a) Convention on Biodiversity

- **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** is one of the key agreements adopted during the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.
- The key objectives of CBD convention are:
  1. Conservation of biological diversity.
  2. Sustainable use of its components.
  3. Fair and equitable use of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.
- India enacted the Biological Diversity (BD) Act in 2002 to give effect to the provision of this Convention.
- India also prepared a National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) in 2008.
- **The Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing (ABS)** adopted under the aegis of CBD in 2010, is aimed at fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.

### b) Biodiversity Policy and Law

- The Government of India in collaboration with the Norwegian Government has established a “Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law (CEBPOL)” in the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai.
- Objective is to develop professional expertise in biodiversity policies and laws and develop capacity building.

### c) Biological Diversity Act, 2002

- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 came into force in 2003. The Act extends to the whole of India. The objectives of the Act are conservation, sustainable utilization and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and associated knowledge.
- The Act is being implemented through three-tiered institutional structures (NBA at National level, State biodiversity Boards at state level, and Biodiversity Management Committees at local level).

### d) Biosphere Reserve

- The idea of ‘Biosphere Reserves’ was initiated by UNESCO in 1973-74 under its Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme.
- The MAB, launched in 1970 by UNESCO, is a broad based ecological programme aimed to develop within the natural and social sciences a basis for the rational use and conservation of the resources of the biosphere and for the improvement of the relationship between man and the environment, to predict the consequences of today’s actions on tomorrow’s world and thereby to increase man’s ability to manage efficiently the natural resources of the biosphere.
- The **Indian National Man and Biosphere (MAB) Committee** identifies and recommends potential sites for designation as Biosphere Reserves, following the UNESCO’s guidelines and criteria.
- There are 18 designated Biosphere Reserves (BRs).

- Out of 18 Biosphere Reserves, 10 Biosphere Reserves have been included in the world Network of Biosphere Reserves of UNESCO.

#### 10 Biosphere Reserves in MAB Network are:

1. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
2. Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve
3. Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve
4. Nandadevi Biosphere Reserve
5. Nokrek Biosphere Reserve
6. Panchmari Biosphere Reserve
7. Similipal Biosphere Reserve
8. Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve
9. Achanakmar-Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve
10. Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve

- e) **Biodiversity Conservation Scheme Relating to Biosafety:** The main objective is implementation of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

### Forest Conservation

- **All India Coordinated Project on Capacity Building in Taxonomy (AICOPTAX):** Launched in 1999. The prime objectives include survey, collection and maintenance of collections of taxonomic groups, associated research etc.
- **Assistance to Botanic Gardens:** The scheme on Assistance to Botanic Gardens was initiated in 1992 to augment facilities for ex-situ conservation of rare, endangered threatened and endemic plants.
- **Forest Conservation Division:** The mandate of the Forest Conservation Division is to regulate the diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes through effective implementation of the **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**.

The proposals seeking prior approval of the central government for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes are examined at different levels as per procedure defined under the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 including the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) or the State Advisory Committee (SAC).

- The Ministry takes decision on diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes, stipulating appropriate mitigative measures.
- **Forest Management:** The intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS) aims at strengthening forest protection machinery of the state/UT governments and provides support for area-specific forest management interventions.
- **National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board:** In order to promote afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development activities in the country, the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB) was set up in 1992.

- **National Afforestation Programme Scheme:** National Afforestation Programme (NAP) is a major afforestation scheme of the NAEB in the Government of India. The programme is now implemented through a three tier system of State Forests Development Agency (SFDA) at the state level, Forest Development Agency (FDAs) at the district/forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level.
- **Eco-Development Forces Scheme:** Eco-Development Forces (EDF) Scheme was established in 1980s as a scheme being **implemented through Ministry of Defence** for ecological restoration of terrains, rendered difficult either due to severe degradation or remote location or difficult law and order situation.  
It is based on twin objectives of ecological regeneration in difficult areas, and promotion of meaningful employment to ex-servicemen.
- **National Mission for Green India:** The National Mission for a Green India (GIM), one of the eight missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change aims at protecting and enhancing India's diminishing forest cover to counter the perils of climate change.
- **National Nature Camping Programme:** National Nature Camping Programme is an initiative of the Ministry in environment education which is aimed at creating greater awareness, understanding and empathy of children with and for the environment.

#### Some Environment Related Institutions

- Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun, (ICFRE), an apex body in the national forestry research system, has been undertaking the holistic development of forestry research, education and extension covering all aspects of forestry.
- Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy was constituted in 1987 by upgrading and renaming the erstwhile Indian Forest College, established in 1938. The **Academy imparts professional training to the Indian Forest Services (IFS) Probationers** and has been accorded the status of "Staff College" for imparting mid-career training for officers of the Indian Forest Service (IFS).

#### A. GLOBE

- Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) is a hands-on international environmental science and education programme that brings students, teachers and scientists together to study the global environment.
- MoEFCC and US Government signed an agreement in 2000 to implement the Globe programme in India.
- Indian Environmental Society, Delhi is an implementing agency for Globe in India.

**B. Ecologically Sensitive Area:** Western Ghats is a global biodiversity hotspot. It is a ESA. The concept of Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) provides a mechanism to conserve biological diversity of an area while allowing for sustainable development to take place.

**C. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE),** an autonomous organization under the Ministry.

**D.** Government of India had set up five regional offices of the MoEF&CC at Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Lucknow and Shillong with a headquarters unit at New Delhi.

## Wildlife Conservation

### a) Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats

- The protected area network of the country comprises 733 protected areas:
  1. National Parks
  2. Wildlife Sanctuaries
  3. Conservation Reserves
  4. Community Reserves
  5. Biosphere Reserves

### b) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

- Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) is a statutory multi-disciplinary body.
- Established to combat organized wildlife crime in the country.
- The Bureau has its headquarters in New Delhi and five regional offices at Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Jabalpur.
- It is mandated to collect and collate intelligence related to organized wildlife crime activities and to disseminate the same to state and other enforcement agencies for immediate action so as to apprehend the criminals; to establish a centralized wildlife crime data bank etc.
- It also assists foreign authorities and international organization.
- The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau was constituted in 2007.

### c) Central Zoo Authority

- The Central Zoo Authority with its headquarters in New Delhi was established in 1992 under the provisions of the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- It is mandated to oversee the functioning of zoos in the country with the view to enhance their role in conservation.
- The main objective of the Central Zoo Authority is to enforce minimum standards and norms for upkeep and healthcare of animals in the Indian zoos and to control the mushrooming of ill-conceived, ill planned zoos, to monitor and evaluate the existing zoos and to suggest ways and means for the improvement of zoos in the country so that they can be transferred into potent centers for ex-situ conservation of endangered wild fauna.

**Human-Wildlife Conflict Management:** The management of the human wildlife conflict (HWC) essentially is a part of wildlife management, which is with the **state government**.

### d) Project Elephant

- Project Elephant (PE) was launched by the Government of India in 1991-92 as a centrally sponsored scheme with the objectives:
  1. To protect elephants,
  2. Their habitat and corridors;
  3. To address issues of man-animal conflict; and
  4. Welfare of domesticated elephants.

e) **Project Tiger/National Tiger Conservation Authority**

- The Centrally Sponsored Scheme Project Tiger was launched in 1973.
- The objective was to ensure maintenance of a viable population of tigers in India for scientific, economic, aesthetic, cultural and ecological values, and to preserve for all times, areas of biological importance as a national heritage for the benefit, education and enjoyment of the people.
- Tiger Reserves are established under the Project Tiger.

f) **Institutions related to Animal Welfare**

i. **Animal Welfare Board of India:**

- General Animal Welfare covers the welfare of individual animals, mainly domesticated, and also wild animals in captivity, through Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI).
- AWBI is a statutory body established with headquarters at Chennai.
- Its basic mandate is to advise the government on animal welfare issues, and create awareness in animal welfare and to implement the regular schemes of AWBI and also the central sector schemes for the welfare of animals.

ii. **National Institute of Animal Welfare (NIAW):**

- The National Institute of Animal Welfare (NIAW) was set up as a subordinate office of the MoEF&CC.
- The objective of NIAW is to impart training and education in animal welfare on a diversified basis comprising, among other things, animal management, their behaviour and ethics.
- The aim is to create an enabling environment for fulfillment of the statutory requirements as laid down in the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960**.
- The mandate of NIAW covers the need to improve animal welfare through education, research and public outreach.

**Free Mobile Animal Clinic:** The Animal Welfare Board is providing free, on the spot veterinary treatment to sick and injured animals belonging to poor people through its Mobile Animal Clinic (MAC) programme.

### Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a planning tool to integrate environmental concerns into the developmental process from the initial stage of planning.

### Measures for Pollution Control

#### Abatement of Pollution and Related Schemes

- The scheme of Assistance for Abatement of Pollution is a part of a centrally sponsored umbrella scheme of 'Pollution Abatement'.
- The scheme of assistance for pollution abatement comprises of sub-components to grants-in-aid-general; grants for creation of capital assets; environment health cell (EHC) and trade and environment (PL) including north eastern region grants-in-aid-general and north eastern region grants for creation of capital assets.

- Under this Scheme the Grants are provided to the state pollution control boards/UT pollution control committees, environment departments of states/UTs, central/state research Institutes, and other government agencies/organizations with the aim of strengthening their technical capabilities.

### Scheme of Common Effluent Treatment Plants

- A centrally sponsored scheme has been undertaken by the Government for enabling small scale industries (SSI) to set up new and upgrade the existing common effluent treatment plants to cover all the states in the country.

### Recognition of Environmental Laboratories

- Under the provisions of **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986** the central government recognizes environmental laboratories to carry out the functions entrusted to an environmental laboratory.
- Twenty seven (27) **private laboratories** and three (03) **government laboratories are there (both private and government).**

### Initiative Related to Pollution Control

1. **National Water Quality Monitoring Programme:** Central Pollution Control Board in association with state pollution control boards has established a water quality monitoring network.
2. Real Time Water Quality Monitoring System (RTWQMS) On River Ganga and Yamuna.
3. **National Air Quality Index:** National Air Quality Index (AQI) has been launched for monitoring the quality of air in major urban centres across the country on a real-time basis and enhancing public awareness for taking mitigative action. The Index is centred around chief pollutants like: Particulate Matter, Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulphur Dioxide, ammonia, Lead and Carbon Monoxide. The unit of measurement is microgram (or milligram in the case of CO) per cubic meter.
4. **Categorization of Industrial Sectors:** CPCB has finalized the criteria for classifying industries into – Red, Orange, Green and White category. The classification is based on pollution potential will help bring uniformity for its adoption by SPCBs.
5. **Control of Pollution in Ganga -** CPCB has prepared segmental action plan for restoration of water quality of River Ganga which is based on dividing the **entire River Ganga into 4 segments** and for each segment, action points have been evolved for implementation.

## Waste Management

### Hazardous Substance Management

- The Hazardous Substances Management Division (HSMD) is the nodal point within the Ministry for management of solid waste including hazardous substances and chemical emergencies.
- Division also administers the **Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991** and rules framed thereunder.
- The activities of the Division are carried out under three main thrust areas viz., hazardous waste management solid waste management and chemical safety.

### Chemical Safety

- To ensure chemical safety, the Ministry notified sets of Rules **under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 - Chemicals Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996.**

- The main objectives of the MISHC rules are to:
  - a) Prevent major accidents arising from industrial activities; and
  - b) Limit the effects of such accidents.
- The rules endeavour to achieve these objectives by having a quantity-based approach.

### *Hazardous Waste Management*

- Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 were notified **under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.**
- The Rules lay down procedure towards this process by providing provisions for authorization of hazardous waste generating and units using hazardous waste.
- Important provision on regulation of import/export of hazardous waste in pursuance to our obligation under the **Basel Convention on Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous waste and its disposal.**
- India is party to the Convention.

### **e-Waste Management**

- The e-waste rules apply to e-waste generated from IT and telecommunication equipment and consumer electrical and electronics namely television sets (including LCD & LED), refrigerators, washing machines and air-conditioners.
- These rules empower the concerned state agencies to control, supervise and regulate relevant activities connected with e-waste management such as collection, segregation, dismantling and recycling.
- Producers are required to set up collection systems and meet the cost involved in the environmentally sound management of e-waste generated from the 'end of life' of their own products.

### **Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016**

- The Ministry revised the rules for management of solid waste in the municipal areas after 16 years.
- The new rules are now applicable beyond municipal areas and extend to urban agglomerations, census towns, notified industrial townships, areas under the control of Indian Railways, airports, airbase, port and harbour, defence establishments, special economic zones, state and central government organizations, places of pilgrimage, religious and historical importance.
- **The segregation of waste at source has been mandated.**
- Responsibilities of generators have been fixed for segregation of waste in to **three streams, wet (biodegradable), dry (plastic, paper, metal, wood, etc.) and domestic hazardous wastes (diapers, napkins, empty containers of cleaning agents, mosquito repellents, etc.)**
- The Rules provide ways for integration of waste pickers/rag pickers.

### **Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016**

The Rules provide for:

- i) Increase in minimum thickness of plastic carry bags from 40 to 50 microns.
- ii) First time cover and stipulate minimum thickness of 50 microns for plastic sheets being used for packaging and wrapping commodities to facilitate collection and recycle of plastic waste.



- iii) Revamped pricing mechanisms for plastic carry bags by introducing plastic waste management fee to be paid by retailers/street vendors willing to provide carry bags as pre-registration charge.
- iv) Ways and means to promote gainful utilization of plastic waste such as energy recovery, in road construction, etc.
- v) Introducing user charge and spot fines by local authority.

The Ministry for the first time notified the separate set of rules for management of construction and demolition waste in the country as **Construction and Demolition Management Rules, 2016**.

Under the rules, every waste generator has been made responsible for collection, segregation of concrete, soil and others and storage of construction and demolition waste generated separately, deposit at collection centre so made by the local body or handover it to the authorised processing facilities, ensure that there is no littering or deposition so as to prevent obstruction to the traffic or the public or drains.

The service providers are required to prepare a comprehensive waste management plan covering segregation, storage, collection, reuse, recycling, transportation and disposal of construction and demolition waste generated within their jurisdiction. They are also responsible for removal of all construction and demolition waste.

### Fly Ash Utilization Policy

- Fly ash earlier considered to be “hazardous industrial waste” material, is now considered to be useful and saleable commodity.
- The objectives of this notification are to protect environment, conserve the top soil, prevent dumping of fly ash from thermal power stations on land and to promote utilization of ash in the manufacture of building materials and construction activity.

### International Conventions

#### a) Basel Convention

- The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was adopted in 1989 in Basel, Switzerland.
- The overarching objective of the Basel Convention is to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects of hazardous wastes.
- Its scope of application covers a wide range of wastes defined as “hazardous wastes” based on their origin and/or composition and their characteristics, as well as two types of wastes defined as “other wastes” (household waste and incinerator ash).

#### b) Rotterdam Convention

- The Rotterdam Convention on the prior informed consent procedure for certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade came into force in 2004.
- India acceded to the convention a year later.
- The Designated National authorities (DNAs) for India are in Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation. The Official Contact Points (OCPs) are designated in Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- There are 47 chemicals listed in Annex III to this Convention, which include 33 pesticides and 14 industrial chemicals.

**c) Stockholm Convention**

- The Stockholm Convention on persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from POPs.
- The Convention sought initially 12 chemicals, for restriction or elimination of the production and release. Now, the Convention covers 23 chemicals.
- The Convention came into force in 2004.
- India ratified the Convention in 2006.
- As per Article 7 of the Convention, Parties to the Convention were required to develop a National Implementation Plan (NIP) to demonstrate how their obligations to the Convention would be implemented and NIP has been developed through Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding.
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change serves as the focal point for GEF and Stockholm Convention.
- Designated national authorities are in Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation and Ministry of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

**d) Minamata Convention on Mercury**

- In February 2009, the Governing Council of UNEP adopted Decision 25/5 on the development of a global legally binding instrument on mercury.
- At the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held in 2013 in Minamata and Kumamoto, Japan, the “Minamata Convention on Mercury”, a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury, was formally adopted.

## Water Resource Conservation

**a) National River Conservation Plan**

- The river conservation programme was initiated with the launching of the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) in 1985.
- The Ganga Action Plan was expanded to cover other rivers under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in 1995.
- The objective of NRCP is to improve the water quality of rivers, which are major water sources in the country, through implementation of pollution abatement works in various towns along identified polluted stretches of rivers on cost sharing basis between the central and state governments.

**b) Conservation of Lakes**

- National Lake Conservation Programme objective is to restore and conserve the urban and semi-urban lakes of the country degraded due to waste water discharge into the lake and other unique freshwater eco systems, through an integrated ecosystem approach.
- So far under National Lake Conservation Programme/NPCA, a total of 46 projects for conservation of 63 lakes.
- Major projects presently under implementation include.

1. Dal lake in Jammu & Kashmir,
2. Shivpuri and Sindh Sagar lakes in Madhya Pradesh,
3. Twin lakes at Mokokchung in Nagaland (NE region),
4. Annasagar, Pushkar and Pichola lakes in Rajasthan,
5. Ramgarh Tal and Laxmital in Uttar Pradesh.

### c) Conservation of Wetlands

- Wetlands are lifeline for a very large number of people and an important source of fresh water to mankind. They provide a host of ecosystem services to humanity, in addition to being host to rich biodiversity.
- Major pressures on wetlands include:
  1. Fragmentation of hydrological regimes,
  2. Siltation from degraded catchments,
  3. Pollution,
  4. Spread of invasive species, and
  5. Over-harvesting of resources.
- To control degradation and conserve wetlands, the National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP) was initiated in 1987 and financial assistance is being provided to the state governments for implementing action plans for conservation and management of identified wetlands.

National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) and National Wetlands Conservation Programme (NWCP) have been merged into a new scheme called the 'National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems' (NPCA).

The principal objectives of the new scheme will be holistic conservation and restoration of lakes and wetlands for achieving desired water quality enhancement, besides improvement in biodiversity and the ecosystem, through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach with a common regulatory framework. The scheme would contribute to reduction of pollution loads and improvement in goods and services provided by these water bodies to stakeholders.

The new scheme will have conservation and management of lakes and wetlands in the country within its scope, to include inventory and information system on lakes and wetlands national level directive on criteria for lakes and wetlands, regulatory framework, capacity building at state government and local body levels, evaluation etc.

### d) Ramsar Convention

- As a commitment for conserving potential wetlands, India became a signatory to the Ramsar Convention in 1982.
- As per this Convention, India is committed for international cooperation and to take national action for conservation and wise use of Wetlands.
- At present there are 26 Ramsar sites in India.

26 RAMSAR SITES		
Sl. No.	Wetland name	State
1.	Kolleru Lake	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Deepor Beel	Assam
3.	Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary	Gujarat
4.	Chandertal Wetland	
5.	Pong Dam Lake	Himachal Pradesh
6.	Renuka Wetland	
7.	Hokera Wetland	Jammu & Kashmir
8.	Surinsar-Mansar Lakes	
9.	Tsomoriri	
10.	Wular Lake	
11.	Ashtamudi Wetland	Kerala
12.	Sasthamkotta Lake	
13.	Vembanad-Kol Wetland	
14.	Bhoj Wetland	Madhya Pradesh
15.	Loktak Lake	Manipur
16.	Bhitarkanika Mangroves	Orissa
17.	Chilika Lake	
18.	Harike Lake	Punjab
19.	Kanjli	
20.	Ropar	
21.	Sambhar Lake	Rajasthan
22.	Keoladeo National Park	
23.	Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu
24.	Rudrasagar Lake Tripura	
25.	Upper Ganga River (Brijghat to Narora Stretch)	Uttar Pradesh
26.	East Calcutta Wetlands	West Bengal

**e) The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules 2010**

- To implement the objectives of the convention, a regulatory mechanism was put in place through Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules in December, 2010.
- Central Wetland Regulatory Authority (CWRA) has also been constituted under the Wetlands Rules, 2010.

### The Montreux Record

The Montreux Record is a register of wetland sites on the List of Wetlands of International Importance where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur as a result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference. It is maintained as part of the Ramsar List.

### World Wetland Day

- Celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.
- The World Wetland Day-2017 with the theme '**Wetlands for Disaster Risk Reduction**' was celebrated in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh at **Bhoj Wetlands**, Bhopal, one of the 26 Ramsar Sites that India has designated under the Ramsar Convention.

## Climate Change

The earth's climate has always changed and evolved. Some of these changes have been due to natural causes but other can be attributed to human activities such as deforestation, emissions from industry and transport etc. which have led to accumulation of gases and aerosols in the atmosphere. These gases are known as Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) because they trap heat and raise air temperatures near the ground, acting like a greenhouse on the surface of the planet.

### National and State Action Plans on Climate Change

- The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) is being implemented through the nodal ministries in specific sectors/areas.
- The core of the implementation of the Action plan are constituted by the following eight missions, that will be responsible for achieving the broad goals of adaptation and mitigation, as applicable.
  - National Solar Mission:** The NAPCC aims to promote the development and use of solar energy for power generation and other uses with the ultimate objective of making solar energy competitive with fossil-based energy options. The plan includes: Specific goals for increasing use of solar thermal technologies in urban areas, industry, and commercial establishments; a goal of increasing production of photo-voltaic to 1,000 MW/year; and a goal of deploying at least 1000 MW of solar thermal power generation. Other objectives include the establishment of a solar research centre, increased international collaboration on technology development, strengthening of domestic manufacturing capacity, and increased government funding and international support.
  - National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency:** The plan recommends: Mandating specific energy consumption decreases in large energy-consuming industries, with a system for companies to trade energy-savings certificates; Energy incentives, including reduced taxes on energy-efficient appliances; and Financing for public-private partnerships to reduce energy consumption through demand-side management programs in the municipal, buildings and agricultural sectors.
  - National Mission on Sustainable Habitat:** To promote energy efficiency as a core component of urban planning, the plan calls for: Extending the existing Energy Conservation Building Code; A greater emphasis on urban waste management and recycling, including power production from waste; Strengthening the enforcement of automotive fuel economy standards and using pricing measures to encourage the purchase of efficient vehicles; and Incentives for the use of public transportation.

- d) **National Water Mission:** With water scarcity projected to worsen as a result of climate change, the plan sets a goal of a 20% improvement in water use efficiency through pricing and other measures.
- e) **National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem:** The plan aims to conserve biodiversity, forest cover, and other ecological values in the Himalayan region, where glaciers that are a major source of India's water supply are projected to recede as a result of global warming.
- f) **National Mission for a "Green India":** Goals include the afforestation of 6 million hectares of degraded forest lands and expanding forest cover from 23% to 33% of India's territory.
- g) **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture:** The plan aims to support climate adaptation in agriculture through the development of climate-resilient crops, expansion of weather insurance mechanisms, and agricultural practices.
- h) **National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change:** To gain a better understanding of climate science, impacts and challenges, the plan envisions a new Climate Science Research Fund, improved climate modeling, and increased international collaboration. It also encourages private sector initiatives to develop adaptation and mitigation technologies through venture capital funds.

#### National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change

- National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) is a central sector scheme with **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as National Implementing Entity (NIE)**.
- The overall aim of the fund is to support concrete adaptation activities which are not covered under on-going activities through the schemes of state and central government, that reduce the adverse impact of climate change facing communities, sectors and states.

#### Climate Change Action Programme

- Ministry is implementing a scheme titled 'Climate Change Action Programme' since January, 2014, with an objective to create and strengthen the scientific and analytical capacity for assessment of climate change in the country, putting in place appropriate institutional framework for scientific and policy initiatives and implementation of climate change related actions in the context of sustainable development.
- It also deals with understanding of the role of black carbon in climate change through monitoring and assessment of the impacts of Black Carbon using modelling techniques.

#### Paris Agreement

- India ratified the Paris Agreement to the UNFCCC in 2016. The action plan for implementation of Paris Agreement and its components is being developed.
- The Paris Agreement builds upon the Convention and – for the first time – brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so. As such, it charts a new course in the global climate effort.
- The Paris Agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

- The Paris Agreement requires all Parties to put forward their best efforts through “nationally determined contributions” (NDCs) and to strengthen these efforts in the years ahead. This includes requirements that all Parties report regularly on their emissions and on their implementation efforts.

### Ozone Layer Protection

- About 90 per cent of ozone formed lies between 10 and 50 kilometres above the earth’s surface, called the Stratosphere.
- The ozone found in the part of the atmosphere is called the ozone layer.
- Ozone layer absorbs all the harmful UV-B radiations.

The UV-B radiation has the potential to cause:

- a) Skin cancer
- b) Eye cataract
- c) Suppress body’s immune system
- d) Decrease crop yield

- This led to adoption of **Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer in 1985** and the **Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer** in 1987. The mandate of the Montreal Protocol is to phase out the production and consumption of the Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs).
- India is a party to Vienna convention.
- The MoEF&CC has set up the Ozone Cell as a National Ozone Unit (NOU) to render necessary services for effective and timely implementation of the protocol and its ODs phase-out programme in India.

### United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

- Land degradation and desertification gets reflected in many of the national policies:
  1. National Water Policy, 2012.
  2. National Forest Policy, 1988.
  3. National Agricultural Policy, 2000.
  4. Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
  5. Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
  6. National Environmental Policy, 2006.
  7. National Policy for Farmers, 2007.
  8. National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA)-2007 which have enabling provisions for addressing these problems.
- India became a signatory to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1994.
- MoEF&CC is the nodal Ministry in the government of India for the UNCCD.
- Desertification cell is the nodal point within MoEF&CC to co-ordinate all issues pertaining to the convention.

### International Cooperation and Sustainable Development

- International Cooperation and Sustainable Development (IC&SD) Division of the Ministry coordinates matters related to international environmental cooperation and sustainable development including Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to transform our world:
  1. GOAL 1: No Poverty
  2. GOAL 2: Zero Hunger
  3. GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being
  4. GOAL 4: Quality Education
  5. GOAL 5: Gender Equality
  6. GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
  7. GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
  8. GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
  9. GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
  10. GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality
  11. GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
  12. GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
  13. GOAL 13: Climate Action
  14. GOAL 14: Life Below Water
  15. GOAL 15: Life on Land
  16. GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
  17. GOAL 17: Partnerships to Achieve the Goal

### United Nations Environment Programme

- India is a member of UNEP and provides annual financial contribution of USD 100,000 to UNEP Environment Fund.
- The Environment Fund is the main source of funding for the implementation of UNEP's Programme of Work and Medium Term Strategy. It enables UNEP to deliver in an efficient, effective, balanced and flexible manner as it leverages Member States' investments into pooled resources to ensure the positive impact of environmental initiatives across national boundaries and specific thematic issues. Multi-year commitments, adequate resources and timely payments into the Environment Fund facilitate the successful delivery of the approved Medium Term Strategy and Programmes.

### The Global Environment Facility

- India is a founder member of Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- Set up in 1991, GEF is the designated multilateral funding mechanism of 183 countries to provide incremental finance for addressing global environmental benefits which are also identified national priorities.



- The GEF mandate is decided as per the guidance provided by the Conference of the parties of the multilateral environmental conventions namely:
  1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD),
  2. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
  3. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),
  4. Stockholm Convention on PoPs, and
  5. Minamata Convention on Mercury.
- The GEF grants are available under five focal areas namely, biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters and chemicals and waste.

# 10

## Chapter

# FINANCE

### Ministry of Finance

- The Ministry of Finance is responsible for administration of finances of the Government. This Ministry consists of five departments, namely,
  - i) Economic Affairs;
  - ii) Expenditure;
  - iii) Revenue;
  - iv) Investment and Public Asset Management; and
  - v) Financial Services.

### Department of Economic Affairs

- The Department, inter alia, monitors current economic trends and advises the Government on all matters having bearing on internal and external aspects of economic management including, prices, credit, fiscal and monetary policy and investment regulations.
- Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) is divided into fourteen functional Divisions, some of them are:
  - Aid, Accounts and Audit Division;
  - Budget Division;
  - Coin and Currency Division;
  - Financial Sector Reforms and Legislation Division; and
  - Investment Division.
- The Department of Economic Affairs is also responsible for preparation and presentation of Union Budget to the Parliament and the Budget for the state governments under President's Rule and union territory administrations.
- The Directorate of Currency has the administrative control of the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL), a wholly owned Government of India Corporation that manages Government of India Mints, Currency Presses, Security Presses and Security Paper Mill.
- In addition, formulating and executing policies and programmes relating to designs/security feature of bank notes and coins and issue of commemorative coins.

### Annual Budget

- The Union Budget of India (including the Rail Budget) is presented each year on the first working day of February by the Finance Minister of India in Parliament.

- The Annual Financial Statement shows the receipts and payments of Government under the three parts in which Government accounts are kept: (i) Consolidated Fund, (ii) Contingency Fund and (iii) Public Account.
  - Consolidated Fund:** All expenditure of Government is incurred from the Consolidated Fund and no amount can be withdrawn from the Fund without authorisation from Parliament.
  - Public Account:** Transactions relating to provident funds, small savings collections and other deposits, etc. are kept in the Public Account. Parliamentary authorisation for such payments from the Public Account is, therefore, not required.
  - Contingency Fund:** In a few cases, a part of the revenue of Government is set apart in separate funds for expenditure on specific objects like road development, primary education including midday meal scheme, etc. These amounts are withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund with the approval of Parliament and kept in the Public Account for expenditure on the specific objects.
- Under the Constitution, Budget has to distinguish expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure. Government Budget, therefore, comprises (i) Revenue Budget; and (ii) Capital Budget.
- The Demands for Grants are presented to the Lok Sabha along with the Annual Financial Statement.

### FINANCE BILL

At the time of presentation of the Annual Financial Statement before Parliament, a Finance Bill is also presented in fulfillment of the requirement of Article 110(1)(a) of the Constitution, detailing the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of taxes proposed in the Budget. A Finance Bill is a Money Bill as defined in Article 110 of the Constitution.

### Sources of Revenue

The main sources of Union Tax revenue are:

- Customs duties,
- Union excise duties,
- Service tax,
- Corporate and
- Income Taxes,

Non-Tax revenues largely comprise of:

- Interest receipts,
- Dividends/profits,
- Fines and miscellaneous receipts collected in the exercise of sovereign functions,
- Regulatory charges and license fees, and
- User charges for publicly provided goods and services.

### Public Debt and Other Liabilities

- Public Debt of India is classified into three categories of Union Government liabilities into:

1. Internal debt,
  2. External debt, and
  3. Other liabilities.
- Internal debt for Government of India largely consists of fixed tenure and fixed rate government papers (dated securities and treasury bills) which are issued through auctions.
  - External debt represents loans received from foreign governments and multilateral institutions.
  - At present, the Government of India does not borrow in the international capital markets.
  - “Other” liabilities category, not a part of public debt, includes other interest bearing obligations of the government, such as post office saving deposits, deposits under small savings schemes, loans raised through post office cash certificates, provident funds and certain other deposits.

The Reserve Bank manages the public debt of the Central and the State Governments and also acts as a banker to them under the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

### Data Related to Economic Status

- Economic Growth and Demand: India recorded a growth of 7.1 per cent in 2016-17, highest among the major economies in the world, despite the sluggish global economic situation.
- On the demand side, India’s growth has been mainly consumption-driven.
- The Government has taken a number of measures to control inflation. The steps taken, inter alia, include: (i) increased allocation for price stabilization fund in the budget 2017-18 to check volatility of prices of essential commodities, in particular of pulses; (ii) approved creation of a dynamic buffer of upto 20 lakh tonnes of pulses for appropriate market intervention; (iii) states/UTs empowered to impose stock limits in respect of pulses, onion, edible oils and edible oil seeds under the Essential Commodities Act; and (iv) announced higher Minimum Support Prices so as to incentivize production and thereby enhance availability of food items which may help moderate prices.
- External debt stock stood at US\$ 471.9 billion at end of March 2017 recording a decline of 2.7 per cent over the level at end of March 2016.
- The industrial sector accounting for 31.1 per cent of the total Gross Value Added (GVA) in 2016-17.
- The services sector remains the key driver of India’s economic growth, contributing almost 62 per cent of its gross value added growth in 2016-17.

### Reforms in Budget 2017-18

The Budget for 2017-18 contained three major reforms.

- First, the presentation of the Budget was advanced to 1st February.
- Second, the merger of the Railways Budget with the General Budget was a historic step.
- Third, the plan and non-plan classification of expenditure has been done away with.

### Social Sector Programmes

The **Seven flagship programmes** continue to receive highest priority, viz.:

1. Sarva Siksha Abhiyan;

2. Mid-Day Meal Scheme;
3. National Health Mission;
4. Integrated Child Development Services;
5. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan;
6. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme; and
7. 100 Smart Cities.

### **Direct Benefit Transfer**

- The mandate of DBT was universalized and extended to cover all central sector schemes and centrally sponsored schemes that have any component of cash benefit transfer to individual beneficiaries.
- Further, the scope of DBT has been further expanded to include in kind transfers to beneficiaries as well as transfers/honorariums given to various enablers of Government schemes like ASHA, Aanganwadi workers, etc., and not limited to cash transfers to beneficiaries only.

### **Climate Change Finance**

- India ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016.
- India's comprehensive NDC target is:
  - a) To lower the emissions intensity of GDP by 33 to 35 per cent by 2030 from 2005 levels;
  - b) To increase the share of non-fossil fuels based power generation capacity to 40 per cent of installed electric power capacity by 2030; and
  - c) To create an additional (cumulative) carbon sink of 2.5-3 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.
- Provision of finance is embedded in UNFCCC and has also been mentioned in the Paris Agreement for addressing the adaptation and mitigation needs of developing countries.

### **GREEN CLIMATE FUND**

- The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a multilateral fund created to support the efforts of developing countries to respond to the challenge of climate change.
- GCF launched its initial resource mobilization in 2014, and mobilized resources worth USD 10.3 billion.
- So far, 43 projects have been approved by the Board of the GCF.
- India also has one project approved by the Board with NABARD on "Ground water recharge and Solar Micro Irrigation to ensure food security and enhance resilience in vulnerable tribal areas of Odisha" from 16th GCF Board meeting.

### **Foreign Exchange Reserves**

- India's foreign exchange reserves comprise:
  1. Foreign currency assets (FCAs),
  2. Gold,

3. SDRs, and
  4. Reserve tranche position (RTP) in the IMF.
- Foreign exchange reserves stood at US\$ 386.5 billion at end of June, 2017, showing an increase of US\$ 16.5 billion over the level of US\$ 370 billion at end of March 2017.
  - Currently our country's foreign exchange reserves are at a comfortable position to buffer any external shocks.

### Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission

- The Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission (FSLRC), set up in March 2011 for re-writing the financial sector laws to bring them in harmony with the current requirements, submitted its Report to the Government in 2013.
- The recommendations of the Commission can broadly be divided into two parts, legislative aspects and non-legislative aspects.
  - a) The **legislative aspects** of the recommendations relate to revamping the legislative framework of the financial sector regulatory architecture by a non-sectoral, principle based approach and by restructuring existing regulatory agencies and creating new agencies wherever needed. To this effect the Commission has recommended a seven agency regulatory architecture, namely, Reserve Bank of India, Unified Financial Agency, Financial Sector Appellate Tribunal, Resolution Corporation, Financial Redress Agency, Public Debt Management Agency and Financial Stability and Development Council in the Draft law - Indian Financial Code to replace a number of existing laws.
  - b) The **non-legislative aspects** of the FSLRC recommendations are broadly in the nature of governance enhancing principles for enhanced consumer protection, greater transparency in the functioning of financial sector regulators.

### Financial Stability and Development Council

- The Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) was set up as the apex level forum in 2010.
- The Council, inter-alia, monitors macro prudential supervision of the economy including functioning of large financial conglomerates, and addresses inter-regulatory coordination and financial sector development issues, including issues relating to financial literacy and financial inclusion.
- The FSDC Secretariat in Department of Economic Affairs provides secretarial support to the council.

### Financial Stability Board

- Financial Stability Board (FSB) was established in 2009 under the aegis of G20 by bringing together the national authorities, standard setting bodies and international financial institutions for addressing vulnerabilities and developing and implementing strong regulatory, supervisory and other policies in the interest of financial stability. India is an active member of the FSB having three seats in its Plenary.

### Infrastructure Financing

Government has launched the following to mobilize the long term investment in infrastructure in the country:

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1. **Bank Finance:** Banks continue to be major source of financing infrastructure. RBI has been modifying guidelines for advances to infrastructure including 5/25 scheme, take out financing. 5:25 scheme allows banks to extend long-term loans of 20-25 years to match the cash flow of projects, while refinancing them every five or seven years.
2. **Institutional Finance:** The Government has also set up India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) with the specific mandate to play a catalytic role in the Infrastructure sector by providing long-term debt for financing infrastructure projects. IIFCL funds viable infrastructure projects through long term debt, refinance to banks and financial institutions for loans granted by them, with tenure exceeding 10 years or any other mode approved by the government.
3. **Infrastructure Debt Funds:** Government of India has conceptualized Infrastructure Debt Funds (IDFs) to accelerate and enhance the flow of long term debt into infrastructure projects to help in the migration of project loans for operating assets from banks to the fixed income markets.
4. **Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)/Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvITs):** These are trust based structures that maximize returns through efficient tax pass-through and improved governance structures. Guidelines/Regulations for InvIT and REIT were notified by SEBI in 2014.

### Public Private Partnerships

- The central coordination of PPPs is provided by the PPP Cell within the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), under the Ministry of Finance.
- The PPP Cell is responsible for all matters relating to PPPs, including policies, guidelines, schemes, and capacity building initiatives.
- The PPP Cell also acts as the Secretariat for Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee and Empowered Institution (EI)/ Empowered Committee (EC) for the projects posed for financial support through DEA's Scheme for financial support to PPPs in infrastructure Viability Grant Fund (VGF).

### International Bodies

#### a) G-20

- The G20 was formed in 1999, as a forum of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, in recognition of the fact that there was a major shift in the global economic weight from the advanced economies to emerging market economies.
- The gradually declining role of G8 as world's economic coordinator and the increasing clout of EMEs in global deliberations on economic governance resulted in G20 replacing G8 in 1999.
- However, G20 rose into true prominence in 2008 when it was elevated from a forum of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to that of the G20 Heads of Nations in order to effectively respond to the global financial crisis of 2007-2010.

#### b) BRICS

- The New Development Bank, established by the BRICS nations in 2015.
- The framework of swap lines, conceived as a BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) with a corpus of USD 100 billion, stands operationalised in case any member nation requires short-term liquidity support.

**c) United Nations Development Programme**

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the largest channel for development cooperation in the UN System.
- The overall mission of the UNDP is to assist the programme countries through capacity development in Sustainable Human Development (SHD) with priority on poverty alleviation, gender equity, women empowerment and environmental protection.
- All assistance provided by the UNDP is grant assistance.
- The UNDP derives its funds from voluntary contributions from various donor countries.

**d) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation**

- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), in existence since 1985 (founded in Dhaka), is a regional organisation that aims to promote economic, social, cultural, technical and scientific cooperation in South Asia.
- Its member states include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Its secretariat is based in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- The Framework for Currency Swap Arrangement for the SAARC countries was formulated with intention to provide a line of funding for short-term foreign exchange requirements.

**SAARC DEVELOPMENT FUND (SDF)**

- SDF was established in 2008 by the SAARC countries to improve the livelihood of the people and to accelerate economic growth, social progress and poverty alleviation in the region.
- SDF is implementing many SAARC projects and programmes.
- Project funding in SDF is to be taken up under three windows (Social, Economic and Infrastructure).

**SARTTAC - SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE**

- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India and International Monetary Fund for setting up of South Asia Regional Training and Technical Assistance Center (SARTTAC) in India by the International Monetary Fund in 2016.
- SARTTAC will serve six member countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

**e) European Investment Bank**

- The European Investment Bank (the Banque Européenne 'Investissement) (EIB) is the European Union's financing institution which was established in 1958 under the Treaty of Rome (1957) to provide financing for capital investment.
- The members of the EIB are the Member States of the European Union, who have all subscribed to the Bank's capital.
- Outside the European Union, EIB financing operations are conducted principally from the Bank's own resources but also, under mandate, from Union or Member States' budgetary resources.



- Under these arrangements, the EIB's funds are utilized to finance investments in countries signatory to Co-operation Agreements with the EU.

**f) International Monetary Fund**

- India is a founder member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which was established to promote a cooperative and stable global monetary framework.
- At present, 188 nations are members of the IMF.
- The Board of Governors of the IMF consists of one Governor and one Alternate Governor from each member country.
- For India, the Finance Minister is the ex-officio Governor on the Board of Governors of the IMF.
- There are three other countries in India's constituency at the IMF, viz. Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka.
- Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is India's Alternate Governor.

**g) International Finance Corporation**

- International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, focuses exclusively on investing in the private sector in developing countries.
- Established in 1956, IFC has 184 members.
- India is founding member of IFC. IFC is an important development partner for India with its operations of financing and advising the private sector in the country.
- India represents IFC's largest portfolio exposure globally.

**h) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank**

- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) set up in 2016 to foster sustainable economic development, create productive assets and improve infrastructure in Asia through financing of infrastructure projects.
- India is one of the founding Members and the second largest shareholder.
- India along with 20 other countries signed the Inter Governmental Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for establishing the AIIB in Beijing.

**i) International Fund for Agricultural Development**

- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was set up in 1977 as the 13th specialized agency of the United Nations.
- It is dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries.

**j) Global Environment Facility**

- The Global Environment Facility (GEF) operates as a mechanism for international cooperation for the purpose of providing new and additional grant and concessional funding to meet the agreed incremental costs of measures to achieve agreed global environmental benefits.
- GEF provides grants to eligible countries in its five focal areas: biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters, chemicals and waste.

- It also serves as financial mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Minamata Convention on Mercury and supports implementation of the Protocol in countries with economies in transition for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (MP).

#### k) Asian Development Bank

- India is a founding member of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which was established in 1966.
- ADB has 67 members (including 48 regional and 19 non-regional members), with its headquarters at Manila, Philippines.
- India is holding 6.331 per cent of shares.
- The Bank is engaged in promoting economic and social progress of its developing member countries (DMCs) in the Asia Pacific Region.
- The main instruments that it uses to do this are making loans and equity investments, providing technical assistance for the preparation and execution of development projects and programmes and other advisory services, guarantees, grants and policy dialogues. India borrows from ADB within overall external debt management policy pursued by the Government which focuses on raising funds on concessional terms from less expensive sources with longer maturities. India started borrowing from ADB in 1986.

#### Department of Expenditure

- The Department of Expenditure is the nodal Department for overseeing the public financial management system in the central government and matters connected with state finances.
- **It is responsible for the implementation of the recommendations of the Finance Commission and Central Pay Commission**, monitoring of audit comments/observations, preparation of central government accounts.
- It further assists central ministries/ departments in controlling the costs and prices of public services, reviewing system and procedure to optimize outputs and outcomes of public expenditure.

- **Controller General of Accounts:** The Controller General of Accounts (CGA), in the Department of Expenditure, is the Principal Accounting Adviser to Government of India and is responsible for establishing and maintaining a technically sound Management Accounting System.
- **National Institute of Financial Management:** The National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM) was set up in 1993 as an autonomous body under the Societies Registration Act, to impart training to officers recruited by the Union Public Service Commission through the annual Civil Service Examinations and allocated to the various services responsible for managing senior and top management posts dealing with accounts and finance in the Government of India and to develop as a Centre of Excellence in the areas of financial management and related disciplines, not only in India but also in Asia.
- **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund:** National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) was created with the aim to attract equity investments from both domestic and international sources for infrastructure development in commercially viable projects, both greenfield and brownfield, including stalled projects.

## Digitization Initiatives

### a) Public Financial Management System

- Public Financial Management System (PFMS) is a web-based online software application designed, developed, owned and implemented by the CGA with the aim to provide a sound public financial management system by establishing a comprehensive payment, receipt and accounting network.
- It has been aimed to achieve: (i) “Just in time” transfer of funds; and (ii) complete tracking of realization of funds from its release to its credit into the bank account of intended beneficiaries.
- Integration with financial IT systems of various state governments is one key objective of PFMS which will facilitate complete tracking of funds transferred for scheme implementation and provide more holistic view of finances available for welfare programmes.

### b) Launch of Non-Tax Receipt Portal (NTRP)

- In order to ensure faster realization of government revenue, other than direct and indirect tax receipts, an online system has been developed whereby ministries/departments can facilitate accepting receipts from various government agencies/PSUs etc. including for the general public electronically.

## e-Governance Initiatives

### a) Permanent Account Number (PAN)

- PAN is a 10 digit alpha-numeric number allotted by the Income Tax Department to taxpayers and to the persons who apply for it under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- PAN enables the department to link all transactions of the “person” with the department.
- The transactions linked through PAN include tax payments, TDS/TCS credits, returns of income/wealth, specified transactions, correspondence, and so on.
- PAN, thus, acts as an identifier for the “person” with the Income tax department.

### b) One Person One PAN

- The Income Tax Act permits one person to have only one PAN. To avoid issuance of duplicate PAN, the data is checked for duplication by using the software having phonetic matching algorithm.
- In order to leverage the biometric data collected through Aadhaar enrolment it was decided to include Aadhaar Card as a valid Proof of Identity (PoI), Proof of Date of Birth (PDoB) and Proof of Address (PoA) document for allotment of PAN under Income Tax Rules, 1962.
- In order to further strengthen the de-duplication process the PAN database is being seeded with Aadhaar number for Individuals and Company Identification Number (CIN) for Corporate Entities.

### c) Integration with e-Biz portal of DIPP

- e-Biz programme is a mission mode project of **Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry** to facilitate the investors by providing Single Window clearance like licensing, environment and land clearances, approvals from various ministries and departments for start-up businesses.

**d) ePAN Card**

- All new applicants and card reprint requests are now being provided option of receiving digitally signed ePAN card on the lines of eAadhaar letter through email. The initiative has reduced the time of transmission of PAN card through post.

**e) Unification of Grievance Redressal Systems- e-Nivaran**

- e-Nivaran aims to fast track taxpayer's grievance redressal, ensuring early resolution by integrating all the online and physical grievances received by the department and keeping track of it until it reaches its logical conclusion.

**Aayakar Sewa Kendra**

Aayakar Sewa Kendra (ASK) is the single window system for implementation of Citizen's Charter of the Income Tax Department and a mechanism for achieving excellence in public service delivery.

**Department of Revenue**

- The Department of Revenue exercises control in respect of revenue matters relating to Direct and Indirect Union taxes **through two statutory boards namely, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC).**
- The Department is also entrusted with the administration and enforcement of regulatory measures provided in the enactments concerning Central Sales tax, Stamp duties and other relevant fiscal statutes.
- Control over production and disposal of opium and its products is vested in this Department.

**Goods and Services Tax**

- GST was implemented in the country in July, 2017.
- Subsuming of various central indirect taxes and levies such as central excise duty, additional excise duties, excise duty levied under the medicinal and toilet preparations (excise duties) Act, 1955, Service Tax, Additional Customs Duty commonly known as Countervailing Duty, Special Additional Duty of Customs, and Central Surcharges and Cesses so far as they relate to the supply of goods and services.
- Coverage of all goods and services, except alcoholic liquor for human consumption, for the levy of goods and services tax.
- In case of petroleum and petroleum products, it has been provided that these goods shall not be subject to the levy till a date notified on the recommendation of the GST Council.
- Compensation to the states for loss of revenue arising on account of implementation of the Goods and Services Tax for a period which may extend to five years.

**Central Board of Direct Taxes****Direct Taxes**

- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), created by the Central Boards of Revenue Act 1963, is the apex body entrusted with the responsibility of administering direct tax laws in India.
- It is the cadre controlling authority for the Income Tax Department (ITD).
- With modern information technology as a key driver, the CBDT has implemented a comprehensive computerization programme in the Income Tax Department.

- The programme is aimed to establish a taxpayer friendly regime, increase the tax-base, improve supervision and generate more revenue for the Government. The endeavour is to promote voluntary compliance by taxpayers and create a non-intrusive and non-adversarial tax administration.

### Revenue collection

- Revenue collection from direct taxes has been growing consistently. As a result of improved tax administration and better tax compliance, direct tax collection has been showing a positive trend over a period of time.
- The number of tax payers has increased significantly over the last five years.

### Central Board of Excise and Customs

- Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) deals with formulation of policy concerning levy and collection of Customs, Central Excise duties and Service Tax, prevention of smuggling and evasion of duties and all administrative matters relating to Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax formations.
- The main objectives of CBEC are to collect indirect tax revenues, improve tax payer services, to improve compliance for fair trade and enforcement of border controls and promote efficiency and transparency and develop human resources for such purposes.
- The CBEC consists of a Chairman and 6 members.

### CUSTOMS NEW INITIATIVES

- **ICEGATE:** The e-commerce web portal, Indian Customs EDI Gateway (ICEGATE), is the single point of interaction between ICES and Partners in the Customs community and provides such services as registration, e-filing, e-payment, document status and helpdesk as well as data exchange between customs and various regulatory and licensing authorities and facilitation of compliant trade (with concomitant reduction in transaction costs and cargo dwell time) and targeting of non-compliant or risky transactions is achieved through the risk management system.
- **SWIFT:** In 2016, CBEC launched single window interface for facilitating trade (SWIFT) at all customs EDI locations with six major participating government agencies (PGAs), as a single point interface for clearance of imported goods. SWIFT enables importers to file common electronic 'Integrated Declaration' which compiles the information requirements of customs, FSSAI, plant quarantine, animal quarantine, drug controller, wild life control bureau and textile committee and replaces nine separate forms earlier required by these agencies.
- **CBEC-GST Application:** GST business processes, namely, Registration, Return, Payment and Refund are provided from the common portal www.gst.gov.in which is managed by GSTN.

### Directorate of Enforcement

- At present, the **Directorate of Enforcement enforces two laws, viz., the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)** apart from looking after the residual work initiated under FERA.
- The Act also provides for initiating investigations for tracing and immobilizing tainted property arising out of transactions having cross border implications.

### Financial Intelligence Unit - India

- Financial Intelligence Unit - India (FIU-IND) is the central national agency for receiving, processing, analyzing and disseminating information relating to suspected financial transactions.
- FIU-IND was established by the Government of India in 2004 for coordinating and strengthening collection and sharing of financial intelligence through an effective national, regional and global network to combat money laundering, related crimes and terrorist financing.
- **It is an independent body reporting to the Economic Intelligence Council (EIC) headed by the Finance Minister.**
- **For administrative purposes, FIU-IND is under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.**
- FIU-IND does not investigate cases.

### Narcotics Control

- The Narcotics Control Division administers the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (61 of 1985), which prohibits, except for medical and scientific purposes, the manufacture, production, possession, sale, purchase, transport, warehouse, use, consumption, import inter-State, export inter-State, import into India, export from India or transshipment of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

### Department of Financial Services

- The Department of Financial Services (DFS) is mainly responsible for policy issues relating to Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Financial Institutions including their functioning, appointment of Chairman, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officers (MD & CEOs), Executive Directors (EDs), Chairman cum Managing Directors (CMDs), Legislative matters, international banking relations. Appointment of Governor/Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India, matters relating to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Agriculture Finance Corporation, Co-operative Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Rural/Agriculture Credit.
- The Department also administers the financial inclusion programme of the government, social security schemes and other targeted schemes aimed at facilitating flow of credit, matters relating to insurance sector and performance of public sector insurance companies, administration of various Insurance Acts. Matters relating to Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) and matters relating to pension reforms including the New Pension System (NPS), legislative and other issues regarding the Pension Funds Regulatory and Development Authority (PERDA), etc.

### Schemes Initiated by the Government

#### a) Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana

- For the benefit of the weaker sections of the society, Government of India floated a highly subsidized insurance scheme, viz., Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) which is administered through Life Insurance Corporation of India.
- Under this social security scheme for below poverty line (BPL) and marginally above poverty line citizens are covered under 48 identified occupations.

#### b) Atal Pension Yojana

- The Atal Pension Yojana (APY) was launched in May, 2015, to address the longevity risks among the workers in unorganised sector who are not covered under any statutory social security scheme.

- The APY is focussed on all citizens in the unorganised sector, who join the National Pension System (NPS) administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- Any Indian citizen between 18-40 years of age can join through their savings bank account/post office savings account.

**c) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana**

- PMJJBY is a one year life insurance scheme, renewable from year to year, offering coverage of two lakhs rupees for death due to any reason and is available to people in the age group of 18 to 50 years (life cover up to 55 years of age) having a bank account who give their consent to join and enable auto-debit.

**d) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana**

- The Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) is a one year personal accident insurance scheme, renewable from year to year, offering coverage for death/disability due to an accident and is available to people in the age group of 18 to 70 years having a bank account who give their consent to join and enable auto-debit.
- Under the said scheme, risk coverage available will be Rs. 2 lakh for accidental death and permanent total disability and Rs. 1 lakh for permanent partial disability.

**e) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana**

- With a view to increasing banking penetration and promoting financial inclusion and with the main objective of covering all households with at least one bank account per household across the country, a National Mission on financial inclusion named as (PMJDY) was announced in 2014.
- Objectives of PMJDY include:
  - i) Universal access to banking facilities for all households across the country through a bank branch or a fixed point business correspondent (BC) within a reasonable distance.
  - ii) To cover all households with atleast one basic bank account with RuPay Debit card having inbuilt accident insurance cover of Rs. 1 lakh.

**f) National Pension System**

- With a view to providing adequate retirement income, the National Pension System (NPS) was introduced.
- It has been made mandatory for all new recruits to the Government (except armed forces) with effect from January 1, 2004 and has also been rolled out for all citizens with effect from May 1, 2009 on a voluntary basis.
- The NPS provides various investment options and choices to individuals to switch over from one option to another or from one fund manager to another, subject to certain regulatory restrictions.
- The facility for seamless portability is designed to enable subscribers to maintain a single pension account (**Permanent Retirement Account Number - PRAN**) throughout the saving period.

**g) Swavalamban Scheme**

- To encourage the workers in the unorganized sector to save voluntarily for their old age, an initiative called Swavalamban Scheme was launched in 2010.

**h) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana**

- Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Limited (MUDRA), is a refinance institution set-up by the Government of India for development of micro units by extending funding support to encourage entrepreneurship in India, mostly from non-corporate small business sector.
- Under the guidelines of Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY), MUDRA has launched three innovative products namely Shishu, Kishor, and Tarun, which signifies the stage of growth and funding needs of the micro units or entrepreneur.
- MUDRA shall refinance through state level institutions, NBFCs, MFIs, Regional Rural Banks, Nationalized Banks, Private Banks and other intermediaries.
- Any Indian citizen who is involved in income generating activity such as manufacturing, processing, trading and service sector and whose credit need is less than Rs. 10 lakh can approach either banks, MFIs, financial institutions or NBFC for availing of MUDRA loans under PMMY.
- It has been since decided to extend funding support under PMMY for activities allied to agriculture also.

**i) Skill Development**

- Skilled labour force is essential to meet the diversified demands of a growing economy and to tap the benefits of demographic dividend.
- As per the India Skill Report, 2016, the present demographic advantage is predicted to last only till 2040.
- To meet the skill requirements of the economy, the Government imparts short term skill training through Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and long term training largely through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs).
- Model Skill Centres are being set up in every district of the country while ensuring coverage of all the Parliamentary constituencies under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra Scheme.

**Department of Investment and Public Asset Management**

- The Department of Disinvestment was set up as a separate Department in 1999 and was later renamed as Ministry of Disinvestment in 2001.
- From 2004, the Department of Disinvestment is one of the departments under the Ministry of Finance. The Department of Disinvestment has been renamed as Department of investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) from 2016.
- The mandate of the Department includes all matters related to management of Central Government investments in equity including disinvestment of equity in Central Public Sector Undertakings.

**Disinvestment Policy**

The salient features of the policy include:

- a) Public sector undertakings are the wealth of the Nation and to ensure this wealth rests in the hands of the people, promote public ownership of CPSEs;
- b) While pursuing disinvestment through minority stake sale in listed CPSEs, the Government will retain majority shareholding, i.e. at least 51 per cent of the shareholding and management control of the Public Sector Undertakings; and



- c) Strategic disinvestment by way of sale of substantial portion of Government shareholding in identified CPSEs upto 50 per cent or more, alongwith transfer of management control.

### **National Investment Fund**

Government constituted the National Investment Fund (NIF) in 2005 into which the proceeds from disinvestment of Central Public Sector Enterprises were to be channelized.

NIF is utilized for the following purposes:

- Subscribing to the shares being issued by the CPSE on rights basis so as to ensure that 51 per cent ownership of the Government in CPSEs is not diluted.
- Preferential allotment of shares of the CPSE to promoters as per SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2009 so that Government shareholding does not go down below 51 per cent in all cases where the CPSEs desire to raise fresh equity to meet their Capex programme. The Government further approved inclusion of the following purposes to be financed from the NIF:
- Investment by Government in RRBs/IIFCL/NABRAD/Exim Bank; equity infusion in various Metro projects;
- Investment in Bhartiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited and Uranium Corporation of India Ltd;
- Investment in Indian Railways towards capital expenditure.

# 11

Chapter

## CORPORATE AFFAIRS

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) administers the following Acts of the Central Government:

- i. Companies Act, 2013;
- ii. Companies Act, 1956;
- iii. Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008;
- iv. The Competition Act, 2002 as amended by Competition (Amendment) Act, 2009;
- v. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016;
- vi. The Chartered Accountants Act, 1949;
- vii. The Cost and Works Accounts Act, 1959;
- viii. The Company Secretaries Act, 1980;
- ix. Societies Registration Act, 1860 and Indian Partnership Act, 1932 (in Centrally administered areas); and
- x. Companies (Donations to National Funds) Act, 1951.

### Companies Act, 2013

The Companies Act, 2013, provides the corporate sector an opportunity for self-regulation, while mandating greater transparency and enhanced disclosures for improved compliance.

The Companies Act, 2013 seeks to bring corporate governance and regulatory practices in India at par with global best practices. The corporate sector has been given more flexibility in regulating its own affairs, subject to full disclosure and accountability of its actions, while minimising Government interference. The Act provides more opportunities for new entrepreneurs and enables wide application of information technology in the conduct of affairs by corporates.

### Key Features of the Companies Act, 2013

#### I. Business Friendly Corporate Regulations/Pro-Business Initiatives:

- Provision of self-regulation with disclosures/transparency instead of 'Government approval based regime'.
- Automation of corporate records/meetings - statutory recognition to: (i) maintenance of documents by companies in electronic form, (ii) 'video-conferencing' as a mode of conducting Board meetings etc.
- Faster mergers and acquisitions including short form of mergers and cross border mergers.

- Summary liquidation: For companies having net assets of Rs. 1 crore or less, Official Liquidators (OLs) are empowered with adjudicatory powers.
- National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has been constituted.
- Concept of 'dormant companies' introduced (companies not engaged in business for two consecutive years can be declared as dormant).
- Concept of One Person Company (OPC) introduced.

## II. Good Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility:

- Concept of Independent Directors (IDs) included as a statutory requirement under Section 149 (4).
- Provision for constitution of several committees of the Board (Audit Committee, Nomination and Remuneration Committee, Stakeholders Relationship Committee and CSR Committee).
- Woman Director for prescribed class of companies.
- Mandatory provision for constitution of CSR Committee and formulation of CSR Policy, with mandatory disclosure, for prescribed class of companies.

## III. Enhancing Accountability of Management:

- The term 'Officer in Default' has been reviewed to make it more relevant.
- Terms 'Key Managerial Personnel' (KMP) and 'Promoter' defined to affix responsibility on key functionaries of the company.
- Duties of Directors defined, including to shareholders, employees, the community and environment.
- Cap on number of Directorships: 20 companies, of which 10 can be public companies.

## IV. Strengthened Enforcement:

- The Central Government to have powers to order investigation, suo-motu, in public interest.
- Statutory recognition of Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).
- Search and seizure of documents, during investigation, without an order from a Magistrate.
- Freezing of assets or disgorgement of illegal gains of company under investigation.

## V. Audit Accountability:

- Recognition of accounting and auditing standards.
- Stricter disqualification norms for auditors.
- Auditor not to perform specified non-audit services.
- Tenure or rotation of auditors prescribed.
- Internal audit for bigger companies.
- Substantial civil and criminal liability for an auditor in case of non-compliance.
- Tribunal empowered to direct a change of auditor in case of a fraud detected.
- Cost records and cost audit for prescribed class of companies.
- Secretarial audit for prescribed class of companies.

- National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) to be constituted.
- Protection of minority shareholders.
- Exit option provided, if there is dissent to change in object clause, or during compromises, etc.
- Valuation mandated during compromise, arrangements, etc.
- Effect of merger on minority shareholding to be disclosed.
- Listed companies to have one Director representing small shareholders.

#### VI. Investor Protection:

- Stringent norms for acceptance of deposits from the public.
- Strengthened role of Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF).
- No time bar on claims of dividends from IEPF.
- Class Action Suits recognized.
- Enhanced powers to tribunal for protection of minority rights.

The Companies Act, 2013 was amended through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2015 to facilitate business and address certain immediate concerns raised by stakeholders. These amendments along with the relevant rules have been notified and they provide exemptions under various provisions of the Act to: (i) private companies, (ii) government companies, (iii) Section 8 companies, and (iv) Nidhis.

#### Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016

The Code has been framed with the objective to consolidate and amend the laws relating to reorganization and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time bound manner.

#### The Salient Features are:

- The Code highlights insolvency processes for individuals, companies and partnership firms. It may be noted that, under IBC debtor and creditor both can start 'recovery' proceedings against each other.
- Companies have to complete the entire insolvency exercise within 180 days under IBC. The deadline may be extended if the creditors do not raise objections on the extension.
- For smaller companies including startups with an annual turnover of Rs. 1 crore the whole exercise of insolvency must be completed in 90 days and the deadline can be extended by 45 days.
- Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India has been appointed as a regulator and it can oversee these proceedings. IBBI has 10 members; from Finance Ministry and Law Ministry the Reserve Bank of India.
- IBC permits hiring services of licensed professionals who have total control over assets of debtor while the proceedings are going on at a tribunal.
- Two tribunals have been authorised to resolve insolvency issues and pronounce their judgement on them. One is National Company Law Tribunal for companies and the other Debt Recovery Tribunal for individuals.

The essential idea of the new law is that when a firm defaults on its debt, control shifts from the shareholders/promoters to a Committee of Creditors, who have 180 days in which to evaluate proposals from various players about resuscitating the company or taking it into liquidation. When decisions are taken in a time-bound manner, there is a greater chance that the firm can be saved as a growing concern, and the productive resources of the economy (the labour and the capital) can be put to the best use. This is in complete departure with the experience under the SICA regime where there were delays leading to destruction of the value of the firm.

The vision of the new law is to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation. Some business ventures will always fail, but they will be handled rapidly and swiftly. Entrepreneurs and lenders will be able to move on, instead of being bogged down with decisions taken in the past.

A key innovation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code is four pillars of institutional infrastructure.

The first pillar of institutional infrastructure is a class of regulated persons, the 'Insolvency Professionals'. They would play a key role in the efficient working of the bankruptcy process. They would be regulated by 'Insolvency Professional Agencies'.

The second pillar of institutional infrastructure is a new industry of 'Information Utilities'. These would store facts about lenders and terms of lending in electronic databases. This would eliminate delays and disputes about facts when default does take place.

The third pillar of institutional infrastructure is in adjudication. The NCLT will be the forum where firm insolvency will be heard and DRTs will be the forum where individual insolvencies will be heard. These institutions, along with their Appellate bodies, viz., NCLAT and DRATs will be adequately strengthened so as to achieve world class functioning of the bankruptcy process.

The fourth pillar of institutional infrastructure is a regulator, viz., 'The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India'. This body will have regulatory over-sight over the Insolvency Professional, Insolvency Professional agencies and information utilities.

### **Recent Amendments**

The Amendments aim to keep-out such persons who have wilfully defaulted, are associated with non-performing assets, or are habitually non-compliant and, therefore, are likely to be a risk to successful resolution of insolvency of a company. In addition to putting in place restrictions for such persons to participate in the resolution or liquidation process, the Amendment also provides such check by specifying that the Committee of Creditors ensure the viability and feasibility of the resolution plan before approving it. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has also been given additional powers.

It may be recalled that the Regulations by the IBBI were also amended recently to ensure that information on the antecedent of the applicant submitting the Resolution Plan along with information on the preferential, undervalued or fraudulent transactions are placed before the Committee of Creditors in order for it to take an informed decision on the matter.

Along with other steps towards improving compliances, actions against defaulting companies to prevent misuse of corporate structures for diversion of funds, reforms in the banking sector, weeding-out of unscrupulous elements from the resolution process is part of ongoing reforms initiated by the Government. These would help strengthen the formal economy and encourage honest businesses and budding entrepreneurs to work in a trustworthy, predictable regulatory environment.

### National Company Law and Appellate Tribunal

The constitution of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) was done in 2016. These bodies have been constituted for faster resolution of corporate disputes and reducing the multiplicity of agencies thereby promoting 'ease of doing business' in the country. With the constitution of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), the Company Law Board (CLB) stands dissolved and cases pending with CLB were transferred to NCLT.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 and SICA Repeal Act, 2003 have also been put in place in 2016. With this, the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction have been dissolved and Benches of NCLT have been designated to exercise the jurisdiction, powers and authority of Adjudicating Authority conferred by or under part II of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. Central Government has also notified provision for transfer of proceedings relating to arbitration, compromise, arrangements and reconstruction to the benches of NCLT. The applications pending before High Courts on winding up shall continue to be dealt by the respective High Courts and fresh applications are required to be filed before NCLT. The Benches of NCLT are being established in a phased manner taking into account the availability of physical infrastructure, members and other supporting staff, etc. NCLAT is having its headquarters at New Delhi. At present the NCLT has its Benches at 10 locations, viz., New Delhi, Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai.

### Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Act

- In India, about 95 per cent of industrial units are micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). The corporate form does not appear to be widely prevalent amongst MSMEs. The reason behind this was high compliance cost under the Companies Act, 1956 which deterred the MSMEs from adopting the corporate form.
- The functioning of a proprietorship or a partnership firm is too opaque, making assessment of credit-worthiness by bankers difficult, and therefore, the MSME sector is at a comparative disadvantage vis-a-vis corporate bodies in accessing loan/credit facilities from banks and other financial institutions.
- To overcome this problem, the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) Act was enacted in 2008. LLP is a form of business entity, which allows individual partners to be protected from the joint and several liabilities of partners in a partnership firm. The liability of partners incurred in the normal course of business does not extend to the personal assets of the partners. It is capable of entering into contracts and holding property in its own name. A LLP would be able to fulfill the compliance norms with much greater ease, coupled with limitation of liability. The corporate structure of LLP and the statutory disclosure requirements are expected to enable higher access to credit in the market.

### Key Institutions related to Ministry of Corporate Affairs

#### a) Serious Fraud Investigation Office

- The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) was set up in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The main function of SFIO is to investigate corporate frauds of serious and complex nature. It takes up investigation of complex frauds, having inter-departmental and multi-disciplinary ramifications, substantial involvement of public interest to be judged by size of either monetary appropriation or the number of persons affected and the possibility of investigations leading to, or contributing towards a clear improvement in systems, laws or procedures.
- The Companies Act, 2013 has enlarged the scope of SFIO to a statutory recognition and SFIO has been vested with police power in their investigation.

**b) Indian Corporate Law Service**

- Indian Corporate Law Service Ministry of Corporate Affairs is the Cadre Controlling Authority of the Indian Corporate Law Service (ICLS). The erstwhile Indian Company Law Service was rechristened in November, 2008 as the Indian Corporate Law Service.
- The training of ICLS officers inculcates skills to enforce Corporate Law efficiently including incorporation, regulation, investor protection and implementation of corporate governance in the country.

**c) Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs**

- The Ministry set up the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), a registered society under Societies Registration Act, 1860 to serve as a 'Holistic Think-Tank', and a 'Capacity Building, Service Delivery Institution' to help corporate growth, reforms through synergized knowledge management, partnerships and problem solving in a one-stop-shop mode.
- The institute fulfils the training needs of the officers of the Indian Corporate Law Service (ICLS), and other officials working for the ministry through its network of various schools/centres.

**d) Competition Commission**

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) was established in 2003 under the Competition Act, 2002, with the objective of eliminating practices having an adverse effect on competition, promoting and sustaining competition, protecting the interest of consumers and ensuring freedom of trade in India.

# 12 MISCELLANEOUS CONTENT

## Chapter FROM DIFFERENT CHAPTERS

### Census 2011 from Chapter 1

The Indian Census is the most credible source of information on Demography (Population characteristics), Economic Activity, Literacy & Education, Housing & Household Amenities, Urbanization, Fertility and Mortality, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Language, Religion, Migration, Disability and many other socio-cultural and demographic data since 1872. Census 2011 is the 15th National Census of the country. This is the only source of primary data at village, town and ward level. It provides valuable information for planning and formulation of policies for Central & State Governments and is widely used by National & International agencies, scholars, business people, industrialists, and many more. The delimitation/reservation of Constituencies - Parliamentary/Assembly/Panchayats and other Local Bodies is also done on the basis of the demographic data thrown up by the Census. Census is the basis for reviewing the country's progress in the past decade, monitoring the on-going schemes of the Government and most importantly, plan for the future.

The Census is a statutory exercise conducted under the provisions of the Census Act 1948 and Rules made thereunder.

#### Highlights of 2011 Census

- The population of India has increased by more than 181 million during the decade 2001-2011.
- Percentage growth in 2001-2011 is 17.64; males 17.19 and females 18.12.
- 2001-2011 is the first decade (with the exception of 1911-1921) which has actually added lesser population compared to the previous decade.
- Uttar Pradesh (199.5 million) is the most populous State in the country followed by Maharashtra with 112 million.
- The percentage decadal growth rates of the six most populous States have declined during 2001-2011 compared to 1991-2001:
  - Uttar Pradesh (25.85% to 20.09%)
  - Maharashtra (22.73% to 15.99%)
  - Bihar (28.62% to 25.07%)
  - West Bengal (17.77% to 13.93%)
  - Andhra Pradesh (14.59% to 11.10%)
  - Madhya Pradesh (24.26% to 20.30%)
- During 2001-2011, as many as 25 States/UTs with a share of about 85% of the country's population registered an annual growth rate of less than 2% as compared to, 15 States/UTs with a share of about 42% during the period 1991-2001.



- 15 States/UTs have grown by less than 1.5 per cent per annum during 2001-2011, while the number of such States/UTs was only 4 during the previous decade.
- The total number of children in the age-group 0-6 is 158.8 million (-5 million since 2001).
- Twenty States and Union Territories now have over one million children in the age group 0-6 years. On the other extreme, there are five States and Union Territories in the country that are yet to reach the one hundred thousand mark.
- Uttar Pradesh (29.7 million), Bihar (18.6 million), Maharashtra (12.8 million), Madhya Pradesh (10.5 million) and Rajasthan (10.5 million) constitute 52% children in the age group of 0-6 years.
- Population (0-6 years) 2001-2011 registered minus (-)3.08 percent growth with minus (-)2.42 for males and minus (-) 3.80 for females.
- The proportion of Child Population in the age group of 0-6 years to total population is 13.1 percent while the corresponding figure in 2001 was 15.9 percent. The decline has been to the extent of 2.8 points.
- Overall sex ratio at the national level has increased by 7 points to reach 940 at Census 2011 as against 933 in Census 2001. This is the highest sex ratio recorded since Census 1971 and a shade lower than 1961. Increase in sex ratio is observed in 29 States/UTs.
- Three major States (J&K, Bihar & Gujarat) have shown decline in sex ratio as compared to Census 2001.
- Kerala with 1084 has the highest sex ratio followed by Puducherry with 1038; Daman & Diu has the lowest sex ratio of 618.
- Child sex ratio (0-6 years) is 914. Increasing trend in the child sex ratio (0-6) seen in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Mizoram and A&N Islands. In all remaining 27 States/UTs, the child sex ratio show decline over Census 2001.
- Mizoram has the highest child sex ratio (0-6 years) of 971 followed by Meghalaya with 970. Haryana is at the bottom with ratio of 830 followed by Punjab with 846.
- Literacy rate has gone up from 64.83 per cent in 2001 to 74.04 per cent in 2011 showing an increase of 9.21 percentage points.
- Percentage growth in literacy during 2001-2011 is 38.82; males: 31.98% & females: 49.10%.
- Literates constitute 74 per cent of the total population aged seven and above and illiterates form 26 per cent.

## Polity Content from Chapter 3

### About Parliamentary Committees

The functions of Parliament are varied in nature. The time at its disposal is limited. It cannot make very detailed scrutiny of all legislative and other matters that come up before it. A good deal of Parliamentary business is, therefore, transacted to the committees. Both Houses of Parliament have a similar committee structure, with few exceptions. Their appointment, terms of office, functions and procedure of conducting business are also more or less similar and are regulated as per rules made by the two Houses under Article 118(1) of the Constitution.

Broadly, Parliamentary Committees are of two kinds—Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees. The former are elected or appointed every year or periodically and their work goes on, more or less, on

a continuous basis. The latter are appointed on an ad hoc basis as need arises and they cease to exist as soon as they complete the task assigned to them.

### Financial Committees

- The three financial committees are: **Committees on Estimates, Public Accounts and Public Undertakings**— constitute a distinct group as they keep an unremitting vigil over Government expenditure and performance. While members of the Rajya Sabha are associated with Committees on Public Accounts and Public Undertakings, the members of the Committee on Estimates are drawn from the Lok Sabha.
- The **Estimates Committee** reports on what economies, improvements in organization, efficiency or administrative reform consistent with policy underlying the estimates may be effected. It also examines whether the money is well laid out within limits of the policy implied in the estimates and suggests the form in which estimates shall be presented to the Parliament.
- The **Public Accounts Committee** scrutinizes appropriation and finance accounts of Government and reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. It ensures that public money is spent in accordance with the Parliament's decision and calls attention to cases of waste, extravagance, loss or nugatory expenditure.
- The **Committee on Public Undertakings** examines reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General, if any. It also examines whether public undertakings are being run efficiently and managed in accordance with sound business principles and prudent commercial practices.

### Department Related Standing Committee

- The functions of these committees are:
  - a) To consider the demands for grants of various ministries/departments of Government of India and make reports to the Houses.
  - b) To examine such Bills as are referred to the committee by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha or the Speaker, Lok Sabha, and make reports thereon.
  - c) To consider annual reports of ministries/departments and make reports thereon; and
  - d) To consider policy documents presented to the Houses, if referred to the committee by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha or the Speaker, Lok Sabha, and make reports thereon.

### Other Standing Committees

- **Committees to Inquire:**
  - a) **Committee on Petitions** examines petitions on Bills and on matters of general public interest and also entertains representations on matters concerning subjects in the Union List; and
  - b) **Committee of Privileges** examines any question of privilege referred to it by the House or Speaker/Chairman.
- **Committees to Scrutinize:**
  - a) **Committee on Government Assurances** keeps track of all the assurances, promises, undertakings, etc., given by Ministers in the House and pursues them till they are implemented.
  - b) **Committee on Subordinate Legislation** scrutinizes and reports to the House whether the power to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, bye-laws, etc., conferred by the Constitution or Statutes is being properly exercised by the delegated authorities.

- c) **Committee on Papers Laid on the Table** examines all papers laid on the table of the House by Ministers, other than statutory notifications and orders which come within the purview of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, to see whether there has been compliance with the provisions of the Constitution, Act, rule or regulation under which the paper has been laid.
- **Committees relating to the day-to-day business of the House:**
    - a) **Business Advisory Committee** recommends allocation of time for items of Government and other business to be brought before the Houses.
    - b) **Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions** of the Lok Sabha classifies and allocates time to Bills introduced by private members, recommends allocation of time for discussion on private members' resolutions and examines Constitution Amendment Bills before their introduction by private members in the Lok Sabha. The Rajya Sabha does not have such committee. It is the Business Advisory Committee of that House which recommends allocation of time for discussion on stage or stages of private members' Bills and resolutions.
    - c) **Rules Committee** considers matters of procedure and conduct of business in the House and recommends amendments or additions to the rules.
    - d) **Committee on Absence of Members from the Sitzings of the House of the Lok Sabha** considers all applications from members for leave or absence from sittings of the House. There is no such committee in the Rajya Sabha. Applications from members for leave or absence are considered by the House itself.
  - **Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**, on which members from both Houses serve, considers all matters relating to the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes which come within the purview of the Union Government and keeps a watch whether constitutional safeguards in respect of these classes are properly implemented.
  - **Committees concerned with the provision of facilities to members :**
    - a) **General Purposes Committee** considers and advises Speaker/Chairman on matters concerning affairs of the House, which do not appropriately fall within the purview of any other Parliamentary Committee; and
    - b) House Committee deals with residential accommodation and other amenities for members.
  - **Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament**, constituted under the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, apart from framing rules for regulating payment of salary, allowances and pension to Members of Parliament, also frames rules in respect of amenities like medical, housing, telephone, postal, constituency and secretarial facility.
  - **Joint Committee on Offices of Profit** examines the composition and character of committees and other bodies appointed by the Central and State governments and union territories administrations and recommends what offices ought to or ought not to disqualify a person from being chosen as a member of either House of Parliament.
  - **The Library Committee** consisting of members from both Houses, considers matters concerning the Library of Parliament.
  - On April 29, 1997, a **Committee on Empowerment of Women** with members from both the Houses was constituted, to secure, status, dignity and equality for women in all fields.
  - On March 4, 1997, the **Ethics Committee** of the Rajya Sabha was constituted. The Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha was constituted on May 16, 2000.

### Ad hoc Committees

Such committees may be broadly classified under two heads :

- a) **Committees which are constituted from time to time**, either by the two Houses on a motion adopted in that behalf or by Speaker/Chairman to inquire into and report on specific subjects, (e.g., Committees on food management in Parliament House Complex, Committee on installation of portraits/statues of National leaders and Parliamentarians in Parliament House Complex, Committee on Security in Parliament Complex, Committee on MPLADS, Committee on Railway convention, etc.); and
- b) **Select or Joint Committees on Bills** which are appointed to consider and report on a particular bill. These committees are distinguishable from the other ad hoc committees as much as they are concerned with Bills and the procedure to be followed by them as laid down in the Rules of Procedure and Directions by the Speaker/Chairman.

### Consultative Committees

- Functioning of Consultative Committees of Members of Parliament for various ministries is one of the functions allocated to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. The minimum membership of a Consultative Committee is ten and the maximum membership is thirty.
- The Consultative Committee stands dissolved upon dissolution of every Lok Sabha and are re-constituted upon constitution of each Lok Sabha.

### National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons (NACWC) is a multilateral international treaty which outlaws the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons and their precursors. The CWC came into force with effect from 1997. By March 2016, 192 states have ratified or acceded to the treaty. The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW); an intergovernmental organization based in the Hague, Netherlands is the 'treaty organisation' for the CWC. The OPCW bagging the Nobel Peace Prize of 2013 is in recognition of the Convention as a very effective Disarmament Treaty.

The National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) was set up as an office of the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India to fulfill, on behalf of the Government of India, the obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and to act as the national focal point for effective liaison with the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and other state parties on matters relating to the Convention. In 2000, Chemical Weapons Convention Act was passed by the Parliament which came into force in 2005. India is one of the four non-elected Members of the Executive Committee (consisting of 41 members from all over the world) of the OPCW. India has representation in the Advisory Body on Administrative and Finance (ABAF), the Confidentiality Commission, Network Committee on Assistance and Protection, Scientific Advisory Body (SAB) and the newly created Advisory Body on Education and Outreach (ABEO) of the OPCW. India is an active collaborator with OPCW and all other state parties in implementation of the provisions of the Convention.

### Project Monitoring Group

Project Monitoring Group (PMG), is an institutional mechanism for resolving a variety of issues including fast tracking of approvals for setting up an expeditious commissioning of large Public, Private and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) project. Project Monitoring Group (PMG) was set up in 2013 under Cabinet Secretariat. PMG is presently functioning under Prime Minister's Office (PMO) since 2015.

The monitoring mechanism has been developed to track the progress achieved in online processing and disposal of different types of clearances in various central ministries/departments, etc. The portal tracks all digitalized proposals starting from the online submission till clearance by pulling the information from various online central services/ clearance portals of ministries/departments, etc.

### **Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration**

Government of India instituted 'Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration' to acknowledge, recognize and reward the extraordinary and innovative work done by officers of the central and state governments. It rewards the outstanding and exemplary performance of civil servants.

### **Civil Services Day**

The Government of India celebrates April, 21 every year as 'Civil Services Day' for the civil servants to rededicate themselves to the cause of citizens and renew their commitment to public service and excellence in work. The first such function was held in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on April 21, 2006. On the occasion, the Prime Minister conferred "Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration". This date coincides with the date when the first Home Minister of Independent India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the first batch of Indian Administrative Services officers at Metcalf House, New Delhi.

### **National Conference on e-Governance**

The DARPG along with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in association with one of the state governments organises the National Conference on e-Governance every year since 1997. This conference provides platform for the senior officers of the government including IT secretaries of state governments.

To recognize and promote excellence in implementation of e-Governance initiatives, DARPG presents national awards every year during such conferences in the following categories: (i) Excellence in Government Process Reengineering; (ii) Outstanding performance in Citizen Centric Service Delivery; (iii) Innovative use of technology in e-Governance; (iv) Incremental innovations in existing projects; (v) Best District level initiatives in citizen-centric service delivery through ICT; (vi) Innovative use of GIS technology in e-Governance; (vii) Innovative use of mobile technology in e-Governance; (viii) Sectorial Award: "Digital Transformation towards Transforming India"; (ix) Innovative use of ICT by Central Government PSUs; (x) Innovative use of ICT by State Government, PSUs/cooperatives/federations/societies; (xi) Outstanding e-Governance initiative by academic and research institutions; and (xii) Use of ICT for development of non-government institutions.

### **Official Language**

Article 343 (1) of the Constitution provides that Hindi in Devanagari script shall be the official language of the Union. Article 343 (2) also provides for continuing the use of English in official work of the Union for a period of 15 years (i.e., upto January 25, 1965) from the date of commencement of the Constitution. Article 343 (3) empowered the Parliament to provide by law for continued use of English for official purposes even after January 25, 1965. The Act also lays down under Section 3 (3) that both Hindi and English shall compulsorily be used for certain specified purpose such as Resolutions, General Orders, Rules, Notifications, Administrative and other Reports, Press Communiques; Administrative and other reports and official papers to be laid before a House or the Houses of Parliament; contracts, agreements, licences, permits, tender notices and forms of tender, etc.

In 1976, Official Language Rules were framed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the Official Languages Act, 1963 as amended in 1967. Salient features of the rules are as under: (i) They apply to all central government offices, including any office of a Commission, Committee or Tribunal appointed by the central government and corporation or company owned or controlled by the central government except Tamil Nadu; (ii) Communications from a central government office to state/union territories or to any person in region 'A' comprising Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Haryana and union territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Delhi, shall be in Hindi; (iii) Communications from a central government office to states/union territories in region 'B' comprising Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra and the union territory of Chandigarh, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli shall ordinarily be in Hindi and if any communication is issued to any of them in English, it shall be accompanied by a Hindi translation thereof; (iv) Communications from a central government officer to state or union territory in Region 'C' or to any office (not being a central government office) or person in such state shall be in English; and (v) Communications between central government offices in region 'C' to a state or union territory of Region 'A' or Region 'B' or to any office (not being a central government office) or persons in such state may be either in Hindi or English.

### Features of Official Language Policy

The features of official language policy are :

- i. All manuals, codes and other procedural literature relating to central government offices are required to be prepared both in Hindi and English. All forms, headings of registers, name plates, notice boards and various items of stationery, etc. are also required to be in Hindi and English.
- ii. Officers should ensure that documents specified in Section 3 (3) of the Act are issued both in Hindi and English; and
- iii. The administrative head of each central government office should ensure that the provisions of the Act, the rules and directions issued under Rule 12 shall be properly complied with, and suitable and effective check-points shall be devised for this purpose.

### Award Schemes

The Department has Rajbhasha Keerti Puraskar Yojana for awarding the outstanding achievements in the implementation of Official Language Policy of the Union. Under the Rajbhasha Gaurav Hindi Book Writing Scheme, cash awards, shields and certificates are awarded to the working/retired employees of the central government, banks, financial institutions, universities, training institutions and autonomous bodies of the central government for writing original books in Hindi. At zonal level, Zonal Official Language Awards are given annually to the central government offices, public sector undertakings, banks and financial institutions of the central government for outstanding achievements in implementing the Official Language Policy of the Union, and for progressive use of Hindi.

## Commerce content from Chapter 7

### Top 5 Export commodities

Exports of the top five commodities during the period Apr-Sep 2017-18 (P) registered a share of 32.52 per cent mainly due to significant contribution in the exports of petroleum products; pearl, precious, semi-precious stones; drug formulation biological; gold and other precious metal jewellery and iron and steel.

### Top 5 Import Commodities

Import of the top five commodities during the period Apr-Sep (2017-18) (P) registered a share of 42.48 per cent mainly due to significant import of petroleum crude; pearls, precious and semi-precious stones; gold; telecom instrument and coal, coke and briquettes, etc.

### SEZ

India was one of the first in Asia to recognise the effectiveness of the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) model in promoting exports, with Asia's first EPZ set up in Kandla in 1965. To overcome the shortcomings on account of multiplicity of controls and clearances, absence of world-class infrastructure and an unstable fiscal regime and with a view to attract larger foreign investments in India, the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Policy was announced in April 2000.

This policy intended to make SEZs an engine for economic growth supported by quality infrastructure complemented by an attractive fiscal package, both at the Centre and the state level, with minimum possible regulations. SEZs in India functioned from 2000 to 2006 under the provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy and fiscal incentives were made effective through the provisions of relevant statutes.

The SEZ Act, 2005, supported by SEZ Rules, came into effect in 2006, providing simplification of procedures and single window clearance on matters relating to central and state governments. The main objectives of the SEZ Act are: Generation of additional economic activity; Promotion of exports of goods and services; Promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources; Creation of employment opportunities; and Development of infrastructure facilities.

### Government e-Market (GeM)

DGSD created a dedicated e-market for different goods and services procured/ sold by government/ PSUs, a technology driven platform to facilitate procurement of goods and services by various ministries and agencies of the government. The portal was launched in 2016. GeM, a scalable system and being completely online, transparent, and system driven, makes procurement of goods and services, easy, efficient and fast. It covers entire procurement process chain, right from vendor registration, item selection by buyer, supply order generation, and receipt of goods/services by the consignees(s), to online payment to vendor.

### Launch of Trade Infrastructure for Export Sector (TIES)

Assistance to states for developing export infrastructure and allied activities (ASIDE): Department of Commerce has worked with states to fill infrastructure gaps through ASIDE. Therefore, a new scheme was formulated and launched in 2017 for strengthening of export infrastructure namely; TIES. TIES would be implemented from 2017-18 onwards and would focus on filling the gaps in terms of provision of export infrastructure and would support projects with direct linkage to exports such as: trade facilitation centres; common facility centre; technology upgradation; and testing and certification Labs, etc.

Central/State government agencies or their joint ventures having majority stake are eligible for financial assistance up to 50 per cent of the total equity of the project under this scheme. PPP projects are also eligible.

# GS SCORE

## IAS 2018

# Prelims

## TEST SERIES 2018



CLASSROOM

&



ONLINE

### Programme 1

**Sectional + Mock**

**Total 18 Tests**

- ▶ 6 GS Sectional, 3 CSAT Sectional, 5 Current Affairs & 4 Mock Test

**Value Addition Material**

- ▶ All India Ranking

Batch Starts: **24<sup>th</sup>** March, 2018

Test Timings: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

### Programme 2

**Mock Test**

**Total 12 Tests**

- ▶ 8 Mock Tests for GS and 4 Mock Tests for CSAT
- ▶ Value Addition Material
- ▶ All India Ranking

Batch Starts: **31<sup>st</sup>** March, 2018

Test Timings: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Off. No. 6, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Apsara Arcade, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-5, (Karol Bagh Metro Gate No. 5)

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