Mumbai: Gujarat heaves sigh of relief

Two people killed in Maharashtra; 120 kmph winds uproot hundreds of trees

VILAIJIT SINGH
NEW DELHI

To ramp up infrastructure along the China border, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has decided to spend 10% funds of a Centrally sponsored scheme only on projects in Ladakh, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim.

The Border Area Development Programme (BADP) has been allocated ₹784 crore.

Extra attention

The government has decided to boost infrastructure along the 3,488 km border with China.

PROJECTS THAT CAN BE FUNDED: Roads, bridges, culverts, mini stadiums, community health centres, primary schools and hostels, apart from supply of medical equipment to hospitals.

WHO WILL CHOOSE THE PROJECT? The border guarding forces will play a key role in choosing the project.
## The Hindu News Analysis – 4th June 2020 – Shankar IAS Academy

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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; H – Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram
Mumbai escapes Nisarga’s fury, Gujarat heaves sigh of relief
Two people killed in Maharashtra: 120 kmph winds uproot hundreds of trees

Gujarat moves 60,000 to safer places
Government ensures uninterrupted power in COVID-19 hospitals during cyclone

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks)  Duration : Two hours
- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian and World Geography—Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-II
General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.
- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location-changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

PAPER-IV
General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
- Disaster and disaster management.
Cyclones

• Intense low-pressure areas

• Wind circulation around a low is called as a cyclonic circulation.

• The magnitude of the drop in pressure in the centre and the rate at which the pressure increases outwards, determines the intensity of the cyclones and the strength of winds.

Tropical Cyclones

• Cyclonic low-pressure system occurring in the tropics.

• A tropical cyclone forms when:
  
  ✓ The central pressure falls by 5 to 6 hPa (hecto-pascal) from the surrounding.

  ✓ The maximum sustained wind speed reaches 34 knots i.e., about 62 kmph.

• Vast violent whirl of 150 to 800 km, spiralling around a centre and progressing along the surface of the sea.

• Tropical cyclones originate only over the seas - originate and intensify over warm tropical oceans.
Conditions favouring tropical cyclones

- Presence of a large sea surface with temperature higher than 27° C.
- Presence of the Coriolis force.
- A pre-existing weak low-pressure area or low-level-cyclonic circulation.
- Presence of upper divergence above the sea level system.

Region-specific names of tropical cyclones

- Cyclones - Indian Ocean;
- Hurricanes - Atlantic;
- Typhoons - Western Pacific and the South China Sea
- Willy-willies - Western Australia.

News

- Nisarga, a tropical cyclone is making a landfall in Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- Impacts: Torrential rain and wind speed speeds of up to 120 kmph over a radius of 60 km.
- Nisarga did not hit the Gujarat coast as the cyclone moved north-eastwards from Maharashtra.
Precautionary measures taken by Gujarat government

- Deployed NDRF and SDRF to tackle any untoward incident.
- Ensured that Covid-19 hospitals in the affected areas have power supply without interruptions.
- All fishermen were asked to return from the sea.
- People associated with prawn cultivation and salt pans have been shifted to safer places.

Facts:

- Cyclone Amphan was named by Thailand.
- Cyclone Nisarga was named by Bangladesh.
- Next few cyclones are:
  - Gati, named by India.
  - Nivar named by Iran.
  - Burevi named by Maldives.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following:

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Which of the pairs given above is/are incorrectly matched?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
Cabinet nod for agri marketing reforms

Essential Commodities Act to be amended via ordinance

The Union Cabinet has approved an amendment to the 65-year-old Essential Commodities Act, removing cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onion and potatoes from the list of essential commodities. The amendment will be made effective immediately via an ordinance, according to the Agri-
News

• Cabinet approved agricultural reforms announced by government as part of AatmaNirbhar package.

1. Amendment to Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

• ECA, 1955 – Government regulates the production, supply and distribution of large number of commodities which it declares as ‘essential’.

• Need – farmers suffer huge losses when there are bumper harvests.

  ✓ Frequent and unpredictable blanket stock limits on commodities are imposed.

  ✓ Investors are frightened due to restrictions and excessive regulatory interference in their business operations.
• Amendments

✓ Commodities like cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onion and potatoes will be removed from list of essential commodities.

➢ Freedom given to produce, hold, move, distribute and supply these commodities.

✓ Regulation of agricultural foodstuff in situations of war, famine, extraordinary price rise and natural calamity.

➢ Safeguards interests of consumers.

✓ Provides exemptions for exporters and processors at all times.

• Benefits

✓ Harnessing of economies of scale.

✓ Attract private sector or FDI into agriculture sector.

✓ Increased investment in cold storages and modernization of food supply chain.

✓ Prevents wastage of agri-produce.

✓ Increases income of farmers of perishable commodities.
### The Farming Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020

- **Barrier-free trade in agriculture produce.**
- **Need** – farmers suffer from various restrictions in marketing their produce.
  - Restrictions in selling agri-produce outside the notified APMC market yards.
  - Selling of produce only to registered licensees of the State Govts.
  - Barriers in free flow of agriculture produce between various States due to the prevalence of various APMC legislations enacted by the State Governments.

- **Expected to pave way for creating One India, One Agriculture Market**
  - Creates an ecosystem where farmers and traders will enjoy freedom of choice of sale and purchase of agri-produce.
  - Promotes barrier-free inter-state and intra-state trade and commerce outside the physical premises of markets notified under State Agricultural Produce Marketing legislations.

- **Benefits**
  - Opens more choices for farmer.
  - Reduces marketing costs.
  - Farmers of regions with surplus produce will get better prices.
  - Consumers of regions with shortages will get the produce in lower prices.
• Agriculture and markets – State subject.

CONSTITUTION OF INDIA
List II – State List

14. Agriculture, including agricultural education and research, protection against pests and prevention of plant diseases.

26. Trade and commerce within the State subject to the provisions of entry 33 of List III.


CONSTITUTION OF INDIA
List III—Concurrent List

33. Trade and commerce in, and the production, supply and distribution of,—

(a) the products of any industry where the control of such industry by the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest, and imported goods of the same kind as such products;

(b) foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils;

(c) cattle fodder, including oilcakes and other concentrates;

(d) raw cotton, whether ginned or unginned, and cotton seed; and

(e) raw jute.

• Central govt. is promulgating an ordinance as ‘trade and commerce in foodstuffs’ – concurrent list.
3. The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020

- Aimed at facilitating contract farming.
- Empowers farmers for engaging with processors, wholesalers, aggregators, large retailers, exporters etc., on a level playing field without any fear of exploitation.
- Transfers the risk of market unpredictability from farmer to sponsor.

Benefits:

- Attracting private sector investment for building supply chains for supply of Indian farm produce to global markets.
- Farmers will get access to technology and advice for high value agriculture.
- Availability of ready market for produce.

Adequate protection to farmers

- Sale, lease or mortgage of farmers' land is totally prohibited.
- Farmers' land is protected against any recovery.
Practice Question – Mains
GS – III

Q. What are the reformative steps taken by the Government providing freedom to farmers for marketing their produce at a place and price of their choice? (250 words, 15 marks)
Time to discontinue free power for farmers

It has led to widespread wastage of water and electricity

T. RAMAKRISHNAN

Exactly 15 years after Manmohan Singh, as Congress Prime Minister, openly spoke against the free power supply scheme for farmers, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led government at the Centre is attempting to do away with the much-abused scheme, which has been viewed by political parties as a major vote-catching policy measure. This time, the Centre has prescribed that the free power supply scheme should be replaced with the direct benefits transfer (DBT) as a condition to allow States to increase their borrowing limit. It is not the first time that the Union government has recommended DBT with regard to electricity. But what is new is setting the time frame for implementing it. By December this year, the DBT should be introduced in at least in one district of a State and from the next financial year, a full roll-out should be made.

Predictably, Tamil Nadu, which was the first state to introduce free power in September 1984, is strongly resisting the Centre's
News

• Centre is asking states to replace free power scheme with direct benefits transfer (DBT).

• Electricity is listed under Concurrent List of VII schedule – Centre enacted The Electricity Act of 2003.

Severe consequences by continuing free power –

✓ Widespread wastage of water and electricity.
✓ High groundwater depletion.
✓ Encouraged installation of more pump sets.
✓ Accurate measurement of consumption becomes difficult.

Why free power scheme should be continued?

✓ Ensures food security.
✓ Helps farmers without canal or tank irrigation.

• Centre brought draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

• Centre prescribed that free power supply scheme should be replaced with the DBT as a condition to allow States to increase their borrowing limit.

✓ Article 293 (3) – “A State may not without the consent of the Government of India raise any loan if there is still outstanding any part of a loan. 
Practice Question – Mains
GS - III

Q. What are the different types of agriculture subsidies given to farmers at the national and state levels? Analyze the free electricity scheme to agriculture and its consequences.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS):

1. It aims to mitigate the economic distress faced by MSMEs by providing them additional funding of up to Rs. 3 lakh crore.

2. The entire funding provided under the scheme is provided with a 100% credit guarantee by National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS):

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(a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2
Salient features

• All MSME borrower accounts with an annual turnover of up to Rs. 100 crore and with outstanding credit of up to Rs. 25 crore are eligible for funding (*subject to certain conditions).

• Eligible MSME borrowers would get a maximum of 20% of their entire outstanding credit up to Rs. 25 crore as on 29th February, 2020.

• Entire funding provided under the scheme shall be provided with a 100% credit guarantee by National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC) to MLIs.

• The tenor of loan shall be four years with moratorium period of one year on the principal amount.

• NCGTC, not charge any Guarantee Fee from the MLIs under the scheme.

• Interest rates under the Scheme shall be capped at 9.25% for banks and FIs, and at 14% for NBFCs.

National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC)

• A private limited company incorporated under the Companies Act 1956.

• Established by the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance.

  √ A wholly owned company of the Government of India.

• NCGTC act as a common trustee company for multiple credit guarantee funds.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS):

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(c) Both 1 and 2
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Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Consider the following pairs:

**Major Ports** - **Special feature**

1. Ennore Port - Oldest Port
   (Tamil Nadu)

2. Jawaharlal Nehru Port - Largest container port
   (Maharashtra)

3. Kolkata Port - Corporate Port
   (West Bengal)

Which of the pairs given above is/are **incorrectly** matched?

a) 1 and 2 only  
b) 2 only  
c) 1 and 3 only  
d) 2 and 3 only

Kolkata Port renamed after Syama Prasad

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the renaming of Kolkata Port as Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, after the founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh.

The decision was announced by Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar at a press briefing after the Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In a statement, the government said the Board of Trustees of the Kolkata Port Trust had passed a resolution to rename the port after Mookerjee at its meeting on February 25, “considering his multifaceted genius as an eminent jurist, academician, thinker and leader of the masses”.

The decision was announced on January 12 at the inaugural ceremony of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the port.

The statement said that while major ports in the country were named after the city or town they are located in, some ports in special cases of “due consideration of contribution made by eminent leaders have been renamed after great national leaders in the past”.

Pg – 11 → C, B, D, H, T
• Ports in India are classified as Major and other Ports – according to jurisdiction of the Central and State government as defined under Indian Ports Act, 1908.

• India has 12 major ports and 200 non-major/intermediate ports.

• Major Ports
  ✓ owned and managed by the Central Government
  ✓ under Union list of the Indian Constitution
  ✓ administered under the Indian Ports Act 1908 and the Major Port Trust Act, 1963.
  ✓ Each major port is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by Government of India.
  ✓ The tariffs for major ports are fixed by the Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMP).

• Other ports
  ✓ owned and managed by the State Governments.
  ✓ managed at the State level by the department in charge of ports or the State Maritime Board.

Source: http://shipmin.gov.in
### MAJOR PORTS (EAST COAST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Port</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Kolkata port                | • oldest major port  
• only riverine major port of India.  
• twin dock systems viz. Kolkata dock System (KDS) on the eastern bank and Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) on the western bank of river Hooghly. |
| Paradip port                | • only major sea port in Odisha  
• first major port in the East Coast commissioned after independence.                                                                                                                                       |
| Visakhapatnam port          | • natural harbour.  
• only port to possess the three International accreditations – ISO 14001; 2004 (EMS) / OHSAS 18001 and ISO 9001:2000 (QMS)                                                                                      |
| Chennai port                | • all weather artificial harbour with one outer harbour and an inner harbour with a wet dock and a boat basin with round the clock navigation facilities                                                        |
| Ennore port (Tamil Nadu)    | • Kamarajar Port Limited (KPL)  
• 12th Major Port under Ministry of Shipping  
• only corporate port amongst the Major Ports administered by Central Government.  
• all weather port with State-of-the art infrastructure and modern navigational facilities.                                                                                                          |
| Tuticorin port (Tamil Nadu) | • V.O. Chidambaranar Port  
• Representing old anchorage port.                                                                                                     |

### MAJOR PORTS (WEST COAST)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Port</th>
<th>Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Cochin port               | • formally opened for vessels by 1930-31  
• given the status of a major port in 1936.                                                                         |
| New Mangalore port        | 9th Major Port                                                                                                     |
| Mormugao port (Goa)       | • one of the century old ports with modern infrastructural facility  
• one of the finest natural harbours in the world                                                                       |
| Jawaharlal Nehru port (Maharashtra) | • India's largest container port  
• world class international container handling port.                                                                 |
| Mumbai port               | • natural deep water port  
• second oldest major port of India.                                                                                   |
| Kandla port (Gujarat)     | • a natural harbour  
• gateway to North-Western States.                                                                                   |
Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Consider the following pairs:

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<td>Corporate Port (West Bengal)</td>
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</table>

Which of the pairs given above is/are incorrectly matched?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 2 and 3 only
Practice Question – Prelims

Q3. Which of the following Protected Area(s) is/are located in the state of Assam?

1. Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park
2. Kaziranga National Park
3. Pakke Tiger Reserve
4. Nameri National Park

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Important National Parks – Assam

1. Kaziranga National Park
2. Dibru-Saikhowa National Park
3. Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park
4. Manas National Park
5. Nameri National Park
Practice Question – Prelims

Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to Border Area Development Programme (BADP):

1. It is aimed to meet the special development needs of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas near International border.

2. BADP is a Central Sector Scheme.

3. It is implemented by Ministry of Defence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
Border Area Development Programme (BADP)

- A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (Core).
- To meet the special development needs of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the international border.
- To saturate the border areas with the essential infrastructure through convergence of Central/State/BADP/Local schemes.
- To ensure balanced development of border areas through development of infrastructure and promotion of a sense of security among the border population.
- Implemented by Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Extra attention

The government has decided to boost infrastructure along the 3,488 km border with China

₹78.4 CRORE
FUNDING: The amount will be spent on projects in villages in Ladakh, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim

PROJECTS THAT CAN BE FUNDED: Roads, bridges, culverts, mini stadiums, community health centres, primary schools and hostels, apart from supply of medical equipment to hospitals

WHO WILL CHOOSE THE PROJECT?
The border guarding forces will play a key role in choosing the project

News

- For the year 2020-21, ₹784 crore allocated for BADP.
- To improve the infrastructure along the China border, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has decided to spend 10% funds only on projects along China border.
PRACTICE QUESTIONS
DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims

Q5. Consider the following:

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Which of the pairs given above is/are **incorrectly** matched?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
Practice Question – Mains
GS – III

Q. What are the reformative steps taken by the Government providing freedom to farmers for marketing their produce at a place and price of their choice? (250 words, 15 marks)
Practice Question – Mains
GS - III

Q. What are the different types of agriculture subsidies given to farmers at the national and state levels? Analyze the free electricity scheme to agriculture and its consequences.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)
**Answers**

1. Option ‘c’- Both 1 and 2
2. Option ‘b’- 2 only
3. Option ‘a’- 1, 2 and 4 only
4. Option ‘a’- 1 only
5. Option ‘b’- 1 and 2 only