

**GOVERNANCE****National Family Health Survey-5**

Recently, the first-phase data of the National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5) 2019-20 has been released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

- NFHS is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India.
- All NFHSs have been conducted under the stewardship of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, with the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) Mumbai, serving as the nodal agency.
- Established in 1956 under the joint sponsorship of Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, the Government of India and the United Nations (UN), IIPS has established itself as the premier institute for training and research in population studies for developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region.
- Phase 2 of the survey (covering remaining states) was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its results are expected to be made available in May 2021.

**Key Points****About the Survey:**

- The NFHS-5 captured data during 2014-19 and its content is similar to NFHS-4 (2015-16) to allow comparisons over time and also marks a shift from it.
- It provides an indicator for tracking 30 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the country aims to achieve by 2030.
- However, NFHS-5 includes some new topics, such as preschool education, disability, access to a toilet facility, death registration, bathing practices during menstruation, and methods and reasons for abortion.
- In 2019, for the first time, the NFHS-5 sought details on the percentage of women and men who have ever used the Internet.

**Data Analysis:**

- Several states across the country have reversed course and recorded worsening levels of child malnutrition despite improvements in sanitation and better access to fuel and drinking water.
- The latest data captures the state of health in the states before the pandemic.
- Several states have either witnessed meagre improvements or sustained reversals on four key metrics of child (under 5 years of age) malnutrition parameters.
- These four key metrics are child stunting, child wasting, share of children underweight and child mortality rate.
- The data from these metrics is also used in several global indices such as the Global Hunger Index.

**Child Stunting:**

- The most surprising reversals have happened in child stunting, which reflects chronic undernutrition, and refers to the percentage of children who have low height for their age.
- Stunting, more than any other factor, is likely to have long-lasting adverse effects on the cognitive and physical development of a child.
- Telangana, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, and West Bengal saw increased levels of child stunting.
- The reversals in child stunting are “hugely troubling” as normally, stunting levels do not increase because all the things that affect child growth tend to improve as stable democracies and economies move ahead.

**Child Wasting:**

- It reflects acute undernutrition and refers to children having low weight for their height.
- India has always had a high level of child wasting.
- Instead of reducing it, Telangana, Kerala, Bihar, Assam and Jammu-Kashmir witnessed an increase and Maharashtra and West Bengal have been stagnant.

**Share of Children Underweight:**

- In the proportion of underweight children, big states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Telangana, Assam and Kerala have seen an increase.

**Child Mortality Rate:**

- Infant Mortality Rate (the number of deaths per 1000 live births for children under the age of 1) and Under 5 Mortality Rate data is mostly stagnant.

- Between NFHS-3 (2005-05) and NFHS-4, there was progress on mortality reduction but NFHS-5 and NFHS-4 are about five years apart still there is very little progress in many states.
- In Maharashtra, the under-5 mortality rate is basically the same in NFHS-4 and in Bihar, it reduced by just 3% over five years.
- Over 60% of child mortality is explained by child malnutrition, which is the central problem and needs to be addressed.

**Urban-rural Gender Gaps in Internet Use:**

- There is an urban-rural gap as well as gender divide with respect to the use of the Internet in several states and union territories.
- On average, less than 3 out of 10 women in rural India and 4 out of 10 women in urban India ever used the Internet.
- General Data: An average 42.6% of women ever used the Internet as against an average of 62.16% among the men.
- In Urban India: An average of 56.81% of women ever used the Internet compared to an average of 73.76% among the men.
- In Rural India: A dismal 33.94% women in rural India ever used the Internet as against 55.6% among men.
- The percentage of women, who ever used the Internet, significantly dropped in rural India.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**Lancet Citizens' Commission for Universal Health Coverage**

Recently, the Lancet Citizens' Commission on Reimagining India's Health System has been launched online which is a step towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in India.

**Key Points**

**Lancet Citizens' Commission on Reimagining India's Health System:**

**Participants:** It is a first-of-its-kind participatory, countrywide initiative, in collaboration with world's leading health journal The Lancet and the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, Harvard University.

**Objective:** To enable participatory public engagement to develop a citizens' blueprint for the implementation of UHC.

**Mission:**

- To lay out the path to achieving UHC in India in the coming decade, working with all stakeholders.
- To formulate a roadmap for realising a resilient health system that offers comprehensive, accountable, accessible, inclusive, and affordable quality health care to all citizens in India.
- To gather insights from across India through grassroots surveys, public consultations and online discussions.
- To build partnerships and work closely with academic institutions, civil society and other stakeholders to catalyse dialogue and knowledge sharing across fields.

**Focus :** Will be on the architecture of India's health system.

**Principles:** The Commission will be guided by four principles which are:

- UHC covers all health concerns.
- Prevention and long-term care are key.
- The concern is financial protection for all health costs.
- Aspiring for a health system that can be accessed by all who enjoy the same quality.

**Universal Health Coverage:**

- UHC means that all individuals and communities receive the health services they need without suffering financial hardship. It includes the full range of essential, quality health services from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care.
- Goal of UHC: As stated in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3) is one of the most significant commitments to equitable quality healthcare for all.

**Benefits of UHC:**

- Enables everyone to access the services that address the most significant causes of disease and death, and ensures that the quality of those services is good enough to improve the health of the people who receive them.
- Protects people from the financial consequences of paying for health services out of their own pockets and reduces the risk of people getting pushed into poverty because unexpected illness

requires them to use up their life savings, sell assets, or borrow – destroying their futures and often those of their children.

**Other Related Initiatives:****Ayushman Bharat :**

- It is a flagship initiative that attempts to move away from the sectoral and segmented approach of service delivery to a comprehensive need-based health care service.
- It has been launched by the government with an aim to move towards a provision of universal healthcare in the country.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan: It aims to ensure service delivery and interventions by use of technology, behavioural change through convergence and lays-down specific targets to be achieved across different monitoring parameters.

**Way Forward**

Government funded programmes should ensure that financial barriers should not stop access to needed advanced care. As UHC evolves, the poor and near-poor must get full cost coverage while others may seek protection through employer funded schemes or privately purchased insurance.

The challenge of building capacity of people in a short time needs to be addressed through more transformational public-private partnerships (PPPs), presenting another opportunity to develop and adopt e-learning models.

For a sustainable UHC model, maintaining a balanced trade-off between cost, quality and access to healthcare services is critical. A collaborative approach aligning patients, payers and providers, along with innovative partnerships, will hasten efforts to mitigate risks, drive impact, forge stronger social returns and achieve sustainable UHC targets.

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY****Formulation of Policy for 3D Printing**

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) will soon come up with a policy aimed at promoting 3D printing on an industrial scale in view of its emerging market.

**Key Points****3D Printing:**

- 3D printing or additive manufacturing uses computer-aided designing to make prototypes or working models of objects by laying down successive layers of materials such as plastic, resin, thermoplastic, metal, fibre or ceramic.
- With the help of software, the model to be printed is first developed by the computer, which then gives instructions to the 3D printer.
- 3D printing and a viable industry around it is mostly in the shape of additive manufacturing, wherein companies make specific products for projects where there are very specific demands such as lightweight equipment, etc.
- One of the key applications for such products is in the medical and allied sector.
- The USA remains the global leader in 3D printing, with more than 35% market share.
- In Asia, about 50% of its market is cornered by China, followed by Japan at 30%, and South Korea at 10%.

**Features of the Policy:**

- Encourage market leaders to establish global bases for 3D manufacturing in India, while also discouraging imports of printed material for domestic requirements.

**Objectives:**

- Help develop a conducive ecosystem for design, development and deployment of 3D printing and additive manufacturing.
- Help domestic companies to overcome technical and economic barriers so that they can build supportive and ancillary facilities for world leaders in the technology, such as the USA and China.

**Key Areas of Focus and Application:**

- Auto and ancillary auto and motor spare part business, such as engines, interior and exterior parts of luxury vehicles, or landing gear, complex brackets, and turbine blades.
- There can be some application of it in consumer electronics, printed circuit boards, clothing, toys and jewellery as well.

**Challenges:**

- Lack of Standards: Since 3D printing is a very niche and new domain, there are no global qualifications and certification norms.

- **Hesitation in Adoption:** Another challenge is to convince the industry and ministries to push for its adoption in their respective sectors as any new technology, which is not understood easily, faces a tough time.
- **Risk of Job Losses:** In the initial meetings on the subject, there was a lot of resistance on whether this technology would eat into the jobs of highly-skilled workers in the medical equipment or aerospace technology sectors.
- **High Costing:** Although actual printing is cheap, parts to build a 3D printer are very expensive as the equipment and manufacturing costs are very high. In addition, there is a concern about warranty hence, resource companies are hesitant to put 3D-printed parts into their machines if they are not covered for damage in case the parts fail.
- **Sector Specific Challenges:** Globally and even in India, the largest consumer of 3D printing is the automotive industry and right now it is going through a lot of changes like the introduction of BS-VI and electric vehicles. New vehicle design development has slowed and so has the demand for 3D printing.

**Potential Market:**

- According to MeitY's estimates, the global market for additive manufacturing is expected to reach USD 34.8 billion by 2024, which is growing at a compound annual growth rate of 23.2%.
- 3D printing may not lead to an increase in net employment, but this technology is something which can be pushed ahead.

**Way Forward**

Lack of investment and fewer research and development centres for 3D printing are some of the additional factors that are holding back a large scale adoption. However, a better understanding of 3D printing technology and its applications among users will definitely help increase its adoption in India. Indian market has a high potential ground as the adoption of 3D printing solutions is continuously rising for the past few years with increased general market awareness and there is still a lot of growth here compared to markets that are more mature such as Japan, Germany or the USA.

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS****Indian Diaspora in the United Kingdom**

Recently, British Foreign Secretary has stated that "India's politics" is, in some sense, "Britain's politics" because of the Indian diaspora in the United Kingdom (UK).

- The statement came as he discussed the situation arising out of the farmers' protests with the External Affairs Minister of India.
- British Prime Minister would be the chief guest at Republic Day celebrations in January 2021.
- Indian Prime Minister has been invited for G7 summit in 2021.

**Key Points****Indian Diaspora:**

- Indian Diaspora is a generic term used for addressing people who have migrated from the territories that are currently within the borders of India.
- The term "diaspora" is derived from the Greek word diaspeirein, which means "dispersion". Over time, the term evolved, and now loosely refers to any person/s belonging to a particular country with a common origin or culture, but residing outside their homeland for various reasons.

**Indian Diaspora in the UK:****Historical Background:**

- The incorporation of the British Empire in India can be linked to the existence of modern Indian Diaspora all over the world.
- Dating back to the nineteenth century, Indian indentured labor was taken over to the British colonies in different parts of the world.

**Population:**

- The Indian Diaspora in the UK is one of the largest ethnic minority communities in the country, with the 2011 census recording approximately 1.5 million people of Indian origin in the UK equating to almost 1.8% of Britain's population.
- **Economy:** Indians contribute 6% of the UK's GDP.
- Indian diaspora-owned companies with a combined revenue of 36.84 billion pounds employ over 1,74,000 people and pay over 1 billion pounds in Corporation Tax.

**Culture:**

- There has been a gradual mainstreaming of Indian culture and absorption of Indian cuisine, cinema, languages, religion, philosophy, performing arts, etc.
- The Nehru Centre is the cultural wing of the High Commission of India in the UK which was established in 1992.
- 2017 was celebrated as the India-UK year of Culture to mark the 70th anniversary of Indian independence.

**Politics:**

- In 2019, the British House of Commons had 15 members of parliament of Indian origin.

**Significance of Indian Diaspora****Huge Number:**

- According to Global Migration Report 2020, India continues to be the largest country of origin of international migrants with a 17.5 million-strong diaspora across the world, and it received the highest remittance of USD 78.6 billion (this amounts to a whopping 3.4% of India's GDP) from Indians living abroad.
- It contributes by way of remittances, investment, lobbying for India, promoting Indian culture abroad and for building a good image of India by their intelligence and industry.

**Economic Front:**

- Indian diaspora is one of the richest minorities in many developed countries, this helps them to lobby for favourable terms regarding India's interests.
- The migration of less-skilled labour (especially to West Asia) has also helped in bringing down disguised unemployment in India.
- In general, migrants' remittances have positive systemic effects on the balance of payments.
- Remittances of USD 70-80 billion help to bridge a wider trade deficit.
- By weaving a web of cross-national networks, the migrant workers facilitated the flow of tacit information, commercial and business ideas, and technologies into India.

**Political Front:**

- Many people of Indian origin hold top political positions in many countries, in the USA itself, they are now a significant part of Republicans and Democrats, as well as the government.
- India's diaspora played an important role in the India-U.S. nuclear deal.
- Indian diaspora is not just a part of India's soft power, but a fully transferable political vote bank as well.

**Related Government Initiatives****Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD):**

- It is celebrated once in every two years to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots.

**UMANG International App:**

- It would help all Indian international students, NRIs, and Indian tourists abroad to avail themselves of the services of the government of India anytime they want.
- The app would be helpful in creating awareness about India in the world through 'Indian Culture' services available on it.

**VAJRA Faculty Scheme:**

- The Scheme enables NRIs and the overseas scientific community to participate and contribute to research and development in India.

**Know India Programme:**

It is a three-week orientation programme for diaspora youth conducted with a view to promote awareness on different facets of life in India and the progress made by the country in various fields.

**IMPORTANT FACTS FOR PRELIM****India Water Impact Summit 2020**

Recently, the 5th India Water Impact Summit (IWIS), organised by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Center for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (cGanga) has held virtually.

**Key Points****About the Summit:**

- India Water Impact 2020 is a five-day long summit, hosting experts and academicians from all over the world to discuss and debate issues related to water conservation, water security and river rejuvenation.
- **Theme:** Comprehensive analysis and holistic management of local rivers and water bodies with focus on Arth Ganga - river conservation synchronised development.
- At the event, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research signed an MoU with cGanga for development of a sludge management framework in India.

#### **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG):**

- It is the implementation wing of the National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection, and Management of River Ganga also known as National Ganga Council (set in 2016; which replaced the NRGBA).
- NMCG was established in the year 2011 as a registered society.
- It has a two-tier management structure and comprises the Governing Council and Executive Committee.

#### **The aims and objectives of NMCG are:**

- To ensure effective control of pollution and rejuvenation of the river Ganga by adopting a river basin approach to promote inter-sectoral coordination for comprehensive planning and management.
- To maintain minimum ecological flows in the river Ganga with the aim of ensuring water quality and environmentally sustainable development.
- In 2014, 'Namami Gange Programme' was launched as an Integrated Conservation Mission, to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation, and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.
- The program is being implemented by the NMCG, and its state counterpart organization viz., State Program Management Groups (SPMGs).
- It has a budget outlay of Rs. 20,000 crore.

#### **The main pillars of the programme are:**

- Sewerage Treatment Infrastructure & Industrial Effluent Monitoring,
- River-Front Development & River-Surface Cleaning,
- Bio-Diversity & Afforestation, and
- Public Awareness.

#### **Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (cGanga):**

- It was established at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IITK) in 2016.
- The Centre is a Centre of Excellence for data collection, the creation and dissemination of knowledge and information for the sustainable development of Ganga River Basin.
- The centre acts in the capacity of a comprehensive think-tank to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), in its stated goals and objectives vis-à-vis the Ganga River Basin.

### **DAILY ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE**

**Qns "Recent geopolitical developments in India's neighbourhood, requires a reset in India-Nepal relations." Critically Analyse the statement in context of India-Nepal- China triangulation. (250 words).**

**Ans:**

Nepal has recently released a new political map that claimed Kalapani, Limpiyadhura and Lipulekh of Uttarakhand as part of Nepal's territory. Though Kalapani has been a disputed territory between India and Nepal, this cartography assertion by Nepal appears to threaten the special relationship between India and Nepal.

Further, China's engagement with Nepal, in order to counterbalance the Indian influence in Nepal, has also led to erosion of trust between India and Nepal.

**Background of Territorial Dispute:** The 1816 Treaty of Sugauli concluded between British India and the Kingdom of Nepal, states the Kali River in the Kalapani region demarcates the border between India and Nepal.

- However, in recent times, Nepal has contested that the tributary joining the Mahakali river at Kalapani is not the Kali river. Nepal now contends that the Kali river lies further west to the Lipulekh pass.

- This results in a boundary dispute between India and Nepal.
- There is a similar dispute over Susta region due to change of course by the Gandak river which demarcates the Indo-Nepal border in Champaran(Bihar).
- Series of Diplomatic Tussles: Nepal's assertion on Kalapani is part of a series of events which reflects a rough patch in India-Nepal ties. Other parts being-
- India's reservation on Nepal's new constitution in 2015.
- Virtual blockade of oil supplies from India to Nepal for six months.
- China's Growing Influence: In recent times, China has made inroads into Nepal in infrastructure, education and health sectors. Also, Nepal wants to take advantage of China's BRI project.
- India is worried that China's chequebook diplomacy would turn Nepal into a client state, which would undermine India's security interests.
- However, Nepal has asserted that its relationship with China is purely economic and will not be hurting the Indian strategic interests in any way.

### Way Forward

- India and Nepal through cooperation could bring growth and prosperity from its people and region. Thus, both countries should make diplomatic efforts to resolve the present crisis.
- Further, India should stop looking at Nepal purely through a security prism, and at bilateral relations only as transactional and part of a zero-sum game with China.
- India should revise its stance on the India-Nepal-China economic corridor.
- The corridor provides a likelihood of greater tourism and people to people contact which is important for bridging the trust deficit that exists today between India and China.
- Nepal should ensure India that any of its development activities will not jeopardise India's strategic interests.

### DAILY QUIZ

1. With reference to Myristica swamp treefrog, consider the following statements:

1. They are endemic to the Western Ghats.
2. Their whole life cycle is carried out on trees only.

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

2. Which of the following are not the components Capital Expenditure?

1. Acquiring fixed assets
2. Salaries of employees
3. Interest payment on past debt
4. Subsidies

Choose the correct answer using code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) **2, 3 and 4**

3. Consider the following statements:

1. The National Energy Conservation Day is an initiative of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy.
2. India is a member nation of the International Energy Agency as well as the Mission Innovation.
3. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency functions under the Ministry of Power.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) **3 only**
- d) 1, 2 and 3

4. With reference to 3D printing, consider the following statements:

1. 3D printing uses computer-aided designing to make working models of objects.
2. It is also called subtractive manufacturing.

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

5. With reference to Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), consider the following statements:

- 1. It refers to the difference in sea-surface temperatures in opposite parts of the Indian Ocean.
- 2. Positive IOD results in less cyclones than usual in Arabian Sea.

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



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