

INTERNATIONAL RELATION

❖ **India-Bangla trade, now set for CEPA boost**

❖ **CONTEXT:** Following a meeting with the visiting Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India and Bangladesh will soon commence negotiations on a Bilateral Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

❖ **Galloping trade**

- In 2021-22, Bangladesh has emerged as the largest trade partner for India in South Asia and the fourth largest destination for Indian exports worldwide. Exports to Bangladesh grew more than 66 per cent from \$9.69 billion in FY 2020-21 to \$16.15 billion in FY 2021-22.
- India is Bangladesh's second biggest trade partner, and its largest export market in Asia. Despite Covid-19 related disruptions, bilateral trade grew at an unprecedented rate of almost 44 per cent from \$10.78 billion in 2020-21 to \$18.13 billion in 2021-22.
- India's main exports to Bangladesh are raw cotton, non-retail pure cotton yarn, and electricity, and its main imports from the country are pure vegetable oils, non-knit men's suits, and textile scraps.

❖ **CEPA objectives**

- While informal talks on CEPA have been happening since 2018, officials said that the pandemic has brought urgency. Chinese investments in Bangladesh were an initial trigger for India, but India and Bangladesh want to step up the pace following the economic shock faced by the two economies.
- The CEPA is likely to focus on trade in goods, services, and investment, with a key objective being the reduction of the trade gap between the two countries. As Bangladesh prepares to graduate into a developing nation by 2026 — after which it may no longer qualify for trade benefits that it currently enjoys as a least-developed country — it is keen to clinch the CEPA in a year.
- The CEPA had figured prominently during the last commerce secretary-level meeting in New Delhi in March 2022.

❖ **Existing frameworks**

❖ **The current institutional frameworks for trade and investment include:**

- During the visit of Prime Minister to Bangladesh in June 2015, the bilateral trade agreement between the two countries was renewed for a period of five years with a provision for auto renewal.
- Under the provisions of the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), Bangladesh extends preferential tariffs to Indian exports of products outside the 'sensitive list' of 993 items. In 2011, India announced duty-free, quota-free access to Bangladesh for all tariff lines except tobacco and alcohol.
- An Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investments has been in force since 2011. Joint Interpretative Notes to the agreement were signed during the visit of the Indian Finance Minister to Bangladesh in October 2017.
- To facilitate trade and transit through inland waterways, a Protocol on Inland Waterways Trade and Transit (PIWTT) has been in place since 1972. The PIWTT too was renewed for a period of five years with a provision for auto renewal during Modi's visit to Bangladesh in 2015. The protocol allows the movement of goods by barges/ vessels on eight routes between points in India and Bangladesh, as well as between points in India through Bangladesh.
- Direct sea movement of containerized/ bulk/ dry cargo began after the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Coastal Shipping in June 2015. This has reduced the shipping time between India and Bangladesh from 30-40 days to 7-10 days, and has the potential to emerge as an economical mode of transportation for business communities on both sides.
- MoUs were signed in 2015 on the use of the Chittagong and Mongla Ports for Movement of Goods to and from India.
- The MoU on Border Haats on the India-Bangladesh border was renewed in April 2017 during the visit of Prime Minister Hasina to India. Currently, four Border Haats — two each in Meghalaya (Kalaichar and Balat) and Tripura (Srinagar and Kamalagar) — are functional. Work on setting up two more haats on the Tripura-Bangladesh border and four on the Meghalaya-Bangladesh border is under way. The two sides have also decided to identify locations for another six Border Haats.

IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

❖ **The Chilean referendum for a new constitution**

❖ **CONTEXT:** The people of Chile resoundingly rejected a new constitution which was set to replace a charter imposed by General Augusto Pinochet 41 years ago. Amid heavy turnout for the referendum, 61.9% of the voters rejected the draft document. President Gabriel Boric who had lobbied hard for the new document, said the results made it evident that the Chilean people "were not satisfied with the constitutional proposal that the convention presented to Chile".

❖ **What was the need for a new constitution?**

- In 2019, over a million people took to the streets of Chile for greater equality and more social protections. According to the World Bank, Chile has been among Latin America's fastest-growing economies in recent decades. However, more than 30% of the population is economically vulnerable and income inequality remains high. The 2019 protests sought reforms to address this inequality, which was in part spurred by the involvement of private sectors in social realms. The protests culminated with the then right-wing President Sebastian Piñera approving a referendum on the constitution. In October 2020, 78% of Chileans approved a proposal to draft a new constitution.

❖ **How was the new constitution drafted?**

- In the national plebiscite of 2020, the voters had to tackle two main points:
 - firstly, whether the constitution should be changed at all

- secondly, whether the new constitution would be prepared by a constitutional convention of members elected directly or a mixed constitutional convention —consisting of both members of Parliament and directly elected citizens in equal proportion.
- Seventy-nine per cent of voters suggested that a directly elected constitutional convention be entrusted with this duty. A second vote conducted between May 15 and 16 in 2021 elected the members of the constitutional convention.
- The 155-member convention reserved 17 seats exclusively for indigenous people — ensuring representation of the varied communities constituting approximately 12.8% of the country’s total population as per the 2017 census.
- Further, in order to ensure gender parity, it was mandated that neither gender can have more than 55% representation in the convention. Also, independent members were to be in majority. The constitutional convention in charge of the process commenced work in July 2021.
- ❖ **What changes did the proposed constitution entail?**
- The main changes to the constitution involved reforms to the pension system, mining grants, the nature of property ownership as well as policies with respect to the environment.
- Chile’s 1981 pension system mandated that all wage and salary workers pay a percentage of their gross earnings into a pension fund administered by varied private pension fund administrators (AFPs). In simple words, profit-making national or foreign liability companies managed social security funding.
- The then-Chilean government stated that the move was motivated by efficiency and fiscal concerns, and a wish to reduce the role of government in economic affairs. The earlier system based on the pay-as-you-go mechanism had ensured that pensions were not subjected to financial market fluctuations. Further, the incumbent Finance Minister of Chile Mario Marcel had pointed out recently that the 1981 system allowed for a lower level of contributions from workers and companies compared to other countries.
- President Boric had proposed replacing the private sector-held system with a public one — among the biggest demands during the 2019 protests. Reuters, quoting Mr. Marcel, reported in March 2022 that the government would send the long-awaited reform bill to Congress in 2023.
- According to ratings agency Fitch, the existing pension system’s assets are equal to about 60% of the Chilean GDP. “Changes to the Chilean pension system could affect the ability of Chilean corporates to raise financing in the local market. The existing system encourages national savings and is the primary source of local financing for long-term investment projects used by many companies in the country.
- President Boric has also been a proponent of increasing mining taxes and royalties. During his campaign, he had also proposed setting up a national lithium company. Chile is the world’s second-largest producer of lithium after Australia.
- Recent amendments have stipulated that the state has an “absolute, exclusive, inalienable and imprescriptible domain on all mines.” Exploiting natural resources (such as coal and copper, among others) has helped Chile prosper but fostered sizeable social inequality.
- The text of the amendment permitted certain ‘mining concessions,’ only if they serve the public good as determined by the judiciary. Fitch stated that a change in direction could hinder investments in the sector, especially large long-term investments. Potential concerns include the increased role of indigenous people in new project approvals, changes in property and water rights, and unclear terms of compensation if an asset is expropriated.
- The new Chilean constitution was to also grant freedom to own all properties and goods, except those which “nature has made common to all men” or which should be collectively owned by the country as a whole.
- A qualified quorum law would establish requirements for the acquisition of properties to better serve the interests of the nation, including considerations about national security, public health utilities, and preservation of the environment.
- It recognises that the environment must be preserved and it is the right of the community to live in an environment free of contamination. The erstwhile constitution’s 1981 Water Code let the government grant ‘free water rights’ to private entities. This ended up creating a market for water with the state unable to supply enough for domestic consumption.
- Bloomberg reported in February 2022 that a proposal to annul free water rights for private concerns was approved in an initial vote by the convention’s environmental committee. This effectively meant that mines, agribusiness and utilities would have to seek temporary permits to use water. Additionally, the revised mechanism would prioritise human consumption, stability of water reserves, and indigenous rights.

CLIMATE CHANGE

- ❖ **The idea of climate reparation**
- ❖ **CONTEXT:** Facing the worst flooding disaster in its history, Pakistan has begun demanding reparations, or compensation, from the rich countries that are mainly responsible for causing climate change. In repeated public statements, Pakistan’s Minister for Climate Change, Sherry Rehman, has been saying that while her country makes negligible contribution to global warming, it has been among the most vulnerable to climate change. The current floods have already claimed over 1,300 lives, and caused economic damage worth billions of dollars. Rich nations, Rehman has argued, owe reparations to countries like Pakistan for the consequences of climate change.
- On the face of it, Pakistan’s demand for reparations appears to be a long shot, but the principles being invoked are fairly well-established in environmental jurisprudence. In fact, Pakistan is not alone in making this demand. Almost the entire developing world, particularly the small island states, has for years been insisting on setting up an international mechanism for financial compensation for loss and damage caused by climate disasters. The issue has come up repeatedly at international climate change negotiations, and on other platforms.
- ❖ **Historical emissions argument**
- The demand for compensation for loss and damage from climate disasters is an extension of the universally acknowledged “Polluter Pays” principle that makes the polluter liable for paying not just for the cost of remedial action, but also for compensating the victims of environmental damage caused by their actions.

- In the climate change framework, the burden of responsibility falls on those rich countries that have contributed most of the greenhouse gas emissions since 1850, generally considered to be the beginning of the industrial age.
- The United States and the European Union, including the UK, account for over 50% of all emissions during this time. If Russia, Canada, Japan, and Australia too are included, the combined contribution goes past 65%, or almost two-thirds of all emissions.
- Historical responsibility is important because carbon dioxide remains in the atmosphere for hundreds of years, and it is the cumulative accumulation of this carbon dioxide that causes global warming. A country like India, currently the third largest emitter, accounts for only 3% of historical emissions. China, which is the world's biggest emitter for over 15 years now, has contributed about 11% to total emissions since 1850.
- While the impact of climate change is global, it is much more severe on the poorer nations because of their geographical locations and weaker capacity to cope. This is what is giving rise to demands for loss and damage compensation. Countries that have had negligible contributions to historical emissions and have severe limitations of resources are the ones that face the most devastating impacts of climate change.

❖ **Admission of responsibility**

- The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the 1994 international agreement that lays down the broad principles of the global effort to fight climate change, explicitly acknowledges this differentiated responsibility of nations. It makes it very clear that rich countries must provide both the finance and the technology to the developing nations to help them tackle climate change. It is this mandate that later evolved into the \$100 billion amount that the rich countries agreed to provide every year to the developing world.
- While this promise is yet to be met, this \$100 billion per year amount is not meant for loss and damage. Climate disasters were not a regular occurrence in 1994, and as such the UNFCCC does not make a mention of loss and damage. This particular demand emerged much later, and faced stiff resistance from the developed nations.
- It was after much struggle that the developing countries and NGOs managed to establish a separate channel on loss and damages at international climate change negotiations.
- The Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) for Loss and Damages, set up in 2013, was the first formal acknowledgment of the need to compensate developing countries struck by climate disasters.
- However, the progress on this front has been painfully slow. The discussions under WIM so far have focused mainly on enhancing knowledge and strengthening dialogue. No funding mechanism, or even a promise to provide funds, has come about. At 2021 climate conference in Glasgow, a three-year task force was set up to discuss a funding arrangement.

❖ **The pushback**

- It is not hard to understand why the developed countries are dead against compensation claims. They are struggling to put together even the \$100 billion per year flow that they had reluctantly agreed to provide.
- Further, loss and damage claims can easily spiral into billions of dollars, or even more. According to a recent report by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Efforts (UNOCHA), prepared for the UN General Assembly, annual funding requests related to climate-linked disasters averaged \$15.5 billion in the three-year period between 2019 and 2021. The economic loss from cyclone Amphan in India and Bangladesh in 2020 has been assessed at \$15 billion.
- The report said that the United States alone is estimated to have "inflicted more than \$1.9 trillion in damages to other countries" due to its emissions. Then there are non-economic losses as well, including loss of lives, displacement and migration, health impacts, and damage to cultural heritage. The report cited the results of another study to say that the unavoidable annual economic losses from climate change were projected to reach somewhere between \$290 billion to \$580 billion by the year 2030.

❖ **Estimating the quantum of loss**

- Not every loss and damage can be put up for compensation claims. There are practical difficulties in estimating how much a country has actually suffered due to the actions of others.
- To begin with, it has to be established that the disaster was caused by climate change. Good progress has been made in attribution science over the last few years, which now enables scientists to say with a fair degree of certainty how much role climate change has had to play in a particular extreme weather event. But it is still far from being an exact science.
- Then there is this other step about assessing how much of the losses are due to the event itself, and what could be attributed to misgovernance. For example, the kind of flooding currently being witnessed in Bengaluru could, to a very large extent, be attributed to the lack of efficient urban planning even though a heavy downpour could be the result of climate change.
- A lot of background work is going on to create the framework in which it would be possible to quantify the compensation due to an affected country.
- What Pakistan has done, through its demands for reparations, is to call attention to this often neglected aspect, as the world prepares for this year's climate conference, scheduled to be held in Sharm-el Shaikh in Egypt in November. Pakistan has already received widespread support from global climate NGOs that are likely to press for allotting more time for this subject at the Egypt conference.

PRELIMS

1. **Nasal vaccine gets emergency use nod**

- ❖ **CONTEXT:** Bharat Biotech's COVID-19 recombinant nasal vaccine has been approved by the Ministry of Health's Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation for primary immunisation of those aged 18 years and above in emergency situations.
- ❖ **What is a nasal vaccine?**

- Vaccines are usually given through different routes, with the most common being injectable shots delivered into the muscles (intramuscular) or the tissue just between the skin and the muscles (subcutaneous).
- There are also other routes of delivery, especially in some vaccines for infants, that include administering the liquid solution orally instead of injecting. In the intranasal route, the vaccine is sprayed into the nostrils and inhaled.
- Many viruses, including the coronavirus, enter the body through mucosa — wet, squishy tissues that line the nose, mouth, lungs and digestive tract — triggering a unique immune response from cells and molecules there.
- Experts believe an intranasal vaccine can act against the virus from the time it tries to break the body's barrier,
- Instead, intramuscular vaccines generally fail at eliciting this mucosal response, as they rely on immune cells mobilised from elsewhere in the body flocking to the site of infection.
- ❖ **How will a nasal vaccine work?**
- In the case of both delivery routes, vaccines trigger a response in the blood.
- B cells, for example, would churn out antibodies – including a particularly potent disease-fighter called IgG – to roam the body in search of the virus.
- Other cells, called T cells, would either help B cells produce antibodies or seek out and destroy the infected cells.
- But vaccines that are injected through the nose or mouth also tap into another set of immune cells that hang around mucosal tissues.
- The B cells that reside there can make another type of antibody, called IgA, that plays a key role in destroying the airway pathogens.
- In addition, the T cells that are residing nearby will be able to memorise the pathogens that it encountered and will lifelong scout the areas where these were first encountered.
- ❖ **Importance of vaccines delivered through nasal, oral route**
- These vaccines aim to overcome potential difficulties with mass vaccination and reduce the cost by doing away with the need for needles and syringes.
- Intranasal vaccines are also expected to cut down on the dependence on various trained personnel to administer the vaccine, according to experts.
- “One attraction with the intranasal vaccine is that it's very simple to use and it's something that can be self-administered in pandemics and outbreaks
- Experts, believe that a nasal vaccine has a likelihood of lower safety events as “it is going into a mucosal surface, it will likely be restricted.
- However, according to experts, there is very little evidence to back the effectiveness of this route of delivery so far and, save for some flu vaccines, attempts to deliver vaccines like this have not been successful.
- 2. **Ramon Magsaysay Award**
- ❖ **The story so far: The decision of former Kerala Health Minister K.K. Shailaja to decline an offer to be considered for the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award this year has sparked a row following allegations that the CPI(M) (Communist Party of India (Marxist)) restrained her from accepting the honour.**
- ❖ **Who was Ramon Magsaysay?**
- Born in 1907, Ramon Magsaysay served as the seventh President of the Philippines from December 1953 to March 1957 before he was killed in a plane crash on Mount Manunggal in Cebu island.
- During World War II, he served as a guerilla leader against the Japanese as part of the 31st Infantry Division of the Philippines.
- The U.S. took note of his military leadership during the war and appointed him as the military governor of his home province after the Philippines attained independence in 1946.
- Ramon Magsaysay started his political journey with his election to the House of Representatives in 1946. He came into prominence with his appointment as the Secretary of National Defence to deal with the communist-led Huks movement.
- In 1953, Ramon Magsaysay became President of the Philippines. As President, Magsaysay led several agrarian, military and administrative reforms. His three-year tenure is often cited as the ‘golden years’ of the Philippines.
- ❖ **What is the Ramon Magsaysay Award?**
- Following the death of President Ramon Magsaysay in 1957, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF) established the Ramon Magsaysay Awards in the President's honour in agreement with the Philippines government.
- Later, the Fund set up the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation, a non-profit organisation to manage Asia's biggest honour that recognises selfless work transforming lives.
- Regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, the award was initially given for contributions to government service, public service, community leadership, journalism, literature and creative communication arts, and peace and international understanding.
- The category of ‘emergent leadership’ was added later.
- From India, 58 have bagged the international honour. Some of the past awardees include Mother Teresa, Satyajit Ray, Verghese Kurien, Arvind Kejriwal, Mahasweta Devi and Aruna Roy.
- 3. **India & UK conducts Counter Ransomware Exercise for 26 Nations**
- ❖ **CONTEXT: India's National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and the UK Government in collaboration with BAE Systems successfully designed & conducted the Cyber Security Exercise for 26 Countries as part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group which is being led by India under the leadership of National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC).**
- The exercise has been facilitated by BAE Systems via the Immersive Labs platform, and the scenario has been written specifically for the participants based on Threat Intelligence and operational experiences.

- The theme of the exercise is based on Energy Sector in which the respective National Cyber Crisis Management Teams of the CRI Partner Nations will have to deal with a ransomware attack on multiple electricity distribution companies.
 - These companies are responsible for the distribution of electricity to domestic customers and are the last link to the public supply. The exercise explores the complexity of decision-making around response to ransomware on Critical National Infrastructure.
 - There are over 26 invitees, from CRI Partner Nations and their respective organisations; including Cyber Security, National Crisis Management, National Security Policy, Critical National Infrastructure, and Law Enforcement Agencies.
 - The aim to organise this virtual Cyber Exercise on Ransomware Resilience is to simulate a large, wide-spread cyber security incident affecting organisations within a country. This exercise has been designed to support the mission of the CRI, and aims to allow participating CRI Members to test their capability to respond to a major ransomware incident; Demonstrates the benefit of sharing information and collaborating during a major incident; provide opportunities for the CRI Nations to share their approaches to countering ransomware.
- 4. Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST): Launching of a new I-STEM initiative**
- ❖ **CONTEXT: Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST), a new I-STEM (Indian Science Technology and Engineering facilities Map) initiative called “Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology (WEST)” was launched by Government of India.**
 - The WEST programme will cater to women with a STEM background and empower them to contribute to the science, technology, and innovation ecosystem.
 - I-STEM is a national web portal for sharing research equipment/facilities and is the umbrella under which many programmes for promoting collaborations in R&D and technological innovation among and between academia and industry, especially startups, are underway.
 - Through the WEST initiative, I-STEM shall provide a separate platform to scientifically inclined women researchers, scientists, and technologists for pursuing research in basic or applied sciences in frontier areas of science and engineering. Women may join the WEST program and explore opportunities to become stakeholders in various domains and pursue careers in R&D at various levels: technicians, technologists, scientists, and entrepreneurs. Opportunities range from operating scientific equipment and maintaining them, to designing and manufacturing them.
 - The Skill Development programmes under the WEST initiative will provide training for women with S&T backgrounds to brush up on their abilities and become engaged “in the field” as lab technicians and maintenance engineers, filling crucial gaps in the R&D infrastructure of the country. This initiative will also help bring women back into S&T domains after a career break.
 - With this experience, women can become entrepreneurs to serve as consultants for the operation and maintenance of sophisticated equipment/instruments through the I-STEM platform. This would go a long way towards filling a “skills gap”, and putting publicly-funded equipment to good use.
 - Under the WEST initiative, the current support being provided to S&T startups by women entrepreneurs by I-STEM will be enhanced. The access to R&D facilities and R&D software platforms (COMSOL, MATLAB, LABVIEW, AUTOCAD) available through the I-STEM portal will form a strong support network for women entrepreneurs in S&T.
 - A digital consortium “**Connect Quickly**” for online discussion and immediate support has also been established through the I-STEM WhatsApp and Telegram platforms.
 - A dedicated team of women will ensure the successful implementation of the WEST initiative.

ANSWER WRITING

Q. Discuss the desirability of greater representation to women in the higher judiciary to ensure diversity, equity and inclusiveness.

- In the recent instances concerning women in judiciary, the Chief Justice of India, N.V. Ramana called for 50% representation of women in the judiciary.
- According to the latest data on the gender gap in judiciary, it is highlighted that the Supreme Court only has 2 women judges and there has never been a female Chief Justice of India. There are only around 80 women judges out of the total sanctioned strength of around 1100 judges in the higher judiciary.
- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 5 and SDG 16, in particular), address the global responsibility of having gender equality and women’s representation in public institutions such as the judiciary. Achieving equality for women judges, in terms of representation at all levels of the judiciary, should be the ultimate goal.
- Being a woman does not limit her critical thinking and capability to render justice. Judicial benches having representation of women give either a new dimension or broader acceptance to legal principle/interpretation.
- By their mere presence, women judges enhance the legitimacy of courts, sending a powerful signal that they are open and accessible to those who seek recourse to justice. The legal profession, as a gatekeeper of equality and as an institution committed to the preservation of rights, should be emblematic of gender equality.
- Improving the representation of women in the judiciary is of crucial importance and has to go a long way towards a more balanced and empathetic approach in cases involving sexual violence. Changing the long-established demographics of a court can make the institution more amenable to consider itself in a new light, and potentially lead to further modernization and reform.

MCQs

1. “Border Haats” with reference to India and Bangladesh, consider the following
 1. The border haats are set up at the zero line of international border with one part on Indian side and the other in Bangladesh.

2. No local taxes would be imposed on the items to be sold in the haats and currencies of both the countries would prevail.
Choose the correct statement/s using the codes given below
a) 1 only b) 2 only **c) Both 1 and 2** d) Neither 1 nor 2
2. Consider the following statements with reference to South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA)
1. All the SAARC members are the part of SAFTA
 2. SAFTA was signed at one of the SAARC summits
- Select the correct statement/s using the codes given below
a) 1 only b) 2 only **c) Both 1 and 2** d) Neither 1 nor 2
3. Consider the following countries
1. Argentina
 2. Uruguay
 3. Paraguay
 4. Bolivia
 5. Peru
- Which of the above country/ies share border with Chile?
a) 1,2 and 3 b) 3,4 and 5 c) 1,2 and 5 **d) 1,4 and 5**
4. Consider the following statements
1. Polluter pays principle was first conceptualised by OECD
 2. In India, the 'polluter pays principle' was for the first time applied and defined in the 1996 case of Indian Council of Enviro-Legal Action vs Union of India.
- Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?
a) 1 only b) 2 only **c) Both 1 and 2** d) Neither 1 nor 2
5. "Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) for Loss and Damages" often mentioned in news can be associated with which of the following?
a) UNFCCC
b) OECD
c) UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Efforts (UNOCHA)
d) World Bank
6. Consider the following statements with respect to I-STEM Portal
1. The portal aims to encourage women in S&T domain, preferably those having a break in career and not having regular employment, to explore possibility of re-entry into the profession.
 2. It is an initiative of Department of Science and Technology under the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) mission.
- Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only b) 2 only **c) Both 1 and 2** **d) Neither 1 nor 2**
7. Recently "WEST initiative" launched by Government of India, is related to which of the following?
a) Women
b) Children
c) Senior citizen
d) Disabled section of the society
8. India and which of the following country Counter Ransomware Exercise for 26 countries?
a) USA
b) UK
c) France
d) Japan
9. Which of the following statement/s regarding Cheetah is/are correct?
1. It's the fastest terrestrial animal.
2. IUCN Red List status of Asian cheetah is Endangered.
3. IUCN Red List status of African cheetah is Vulnerable.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3
10. Consider the following statements about the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)
1. It is under the department of Health Research of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 2. It derives its power from the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.
 3. It is responsible for approval of licenses of vaccine.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) all of the above