

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY CURRENT  
AFFAIRS BOOSTER FOR LAW EXAMS

# LawEX

16-31 JUL, 2023

ISSUE - 11

**NATIONAL MULTI  
DIMENSIONAL  
POVERTY**

**INDEX**

**2023**



A product by **SmartKeeda**



## About Magazine

“LawEx” is a carefully curated set of Current Events designed specifically for CLAT aspirants. To take you one step closer to realizing your dream, “LawEx” provides a fortnightly overview of the most significant current events related to politics, economics, science and technology, & sports with a wide range of infographics to ensure a smoother learning experience and enhanced retention of information.

## Editor's Note

India has registered a significant decline of 9.89 percentage points in the number of multidimensionally poor, from 24.85% in 2015-16 to 14.96% in 2019-2021 as per the National Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023, In the latest ranking released by Henley Passport Index, India has climbed seven places to the 80th spot from 87 last year, Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar nominated four women parliamentarians to the panel of vice-chairpersons, giving women equal representation in the panel, for the first time in the history of the Rajya Sabha, even as the women’s reservation Bill, that was first introduced in 1996, remains pending. To know more, keep reading.

**VISIT SMARTKEEDA**



Scan the QR code  
to visit our website

[testzone.smartkeeda.com](https://testzone.smartkeeda.com)



# CONTENTS

## QUICK BOOSTERS

NATIONAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX: A PROGRESS REVIEW 2023 .....	01
FIRST-EVER BIMSTEC FOREIGN MINISTERS' RETREAT .....	02
HENLEY PASSPORT INDEX 2023 .....	03
FOUR WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS TO THE PANEL OF VICE-CHAIRPERSONS .....	04
CONCEPT OF ZERO FIR .....	05-06
ADJOURNMENT MOTION .....	07
SUSPENSION OF MPs .....	08
STAPLED VISA ISSUE .....	09
EXPORT PREPAREDNESS INDEX (EPI) 2022 .....	10
INDIA AND UAE – PROMOTION OF LOCAL CURRENCIES FOR CROSS-BORDER TRANSACTIONS .....	11
NEW STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS .....	12
KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS .....	13
CLIMATE CHANGE ALTERS THE COLOUR OF THE OCEANS .....	14
INDIA SHARES INDIA STACK WITH PAPUA NEW GUINEA .....	15
INDIA'S FIRST SATELLITE NETWORK PORTAL SITE .....	16

## QUICK FACTS

CONTEMPORARY EVENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE .....	17-19
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS .....	20-22
ARTS & CULTURE AND HISTORICAL EVENTS .....	23

## TEST ZONE

PASSAGE -1 (Contemporary Events of Significance) .....	24
PASSAGE -2 (International Affairs) .....	25
PASSAGE -3 (Arts & Culture and Historical Events) .....	26

## CROSSWORD CORNER

CROSSWORD -1 .....	27
CROSSWORD -2 .....	28



**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



**QUICK BOOSTERS**



## NATIONAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX: A PROGRESS REVIEW 2023

### WHY IN NEWS?

- NITI Aayog has released a report titled 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023'.

#### Key Highlights

- India has registered a significant decline of 9.89 percentage points in the number of multidimensionally poor, from 24.85% in 2015-16 to 14.96% in 2019-2021.
- About 13.5 crore people came out of multidimensional poverty during the period, assessed by identifying "acute deprivations in health, education and standard of living" using United Nations-approved parameters.
- The report said rural areas witnessed the fastest decline in poverty from 32.59% to 19.28%, primarily due to a decrease in the number of multi-dimensionally poor in States such as Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Rajasthan.
- Multidimensional poverty in urban areas, during the same period, saw a decrease from 8.65% to 5.27%.
- Uttar Pradesh registered the largest decline in the number of poor with 3.43 crore people escaping multidimensional poverty.
- Bihar, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh top the chart where the percentage of the total population who are multidimensionally poor is high.
- Delhi, Kerala, Goa and Tamil Nadu have the least number of people facing multidimensional poverty along with the Union Territories.
- According to the report, between 2015-16 and 2019-21, the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) value has nearly halved from 0.117 to 0.066 and the intensity of poverty has reduced from 47% to 44%.
- The intensity of poverty has reduced from 47% to 44%, indicating that India is on track to achieve SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Target 1.2 (reducing multidimensional poverty by at least half) ahead of the stipulated timeline of 2030.

#### Other Indicators

- Flagship programmes like the Poshan Abhiyan and Anaemia Mukta Bharat have contributed to reduced deprivations in health.
- Initiatives such as Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) have improved sanitation across the country.
- The provision of subsidized cooking fuel through the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) has positively transformed lives, with a 14.6 percentage points improvement in cooking fuel deprivations.
- Initiatives like Saubhagya, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), and Samagra Shiksha have also played a major role in significantly reducing multidimensional poverty in the country.

#### About Index

- The National MPI is prepared based on the latest National Family Health Survey of 2019-21 and is the second edition of the National MPI.
- It measures simultaneous deprivations across the three equally weighted dimensions of health, education, and standard of living.
- Further, these three dimensions are represented by 12 SDG-aligned indicators. These include nutrition, child and adolescent mortality, maternal health, years of schooling, school attendance, cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing, assets, and bank accounts.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- Poverty estimation in India is carried out by NITI Aayog's Task Force.
- A common method used to estimate poverty in India is based on the income or consumption levels and if the income or consumption falls below a given minimum level, then the household is said to be Below the Poverty Line (BPL).
- The World Bank updated the global poverty lines in September 2022.
- The new extreme poverty line of \$2.15 per person per day, which replaces the \$1.90 poverty line, is based on 2017 PPPs.

PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
 DOWNLOAD CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP





## FIRST-EVER BIMSTEC FOREIGN MINISTERS' RETREAT

### WHY IN NEWS?

- The first-ever Foreign Ministers' retreat of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) was held in Bangkok, Thailand.

#### Key Highlights

- The Retreat brought together foreign ministers from all seven BIMSTEC member countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.
- During the Retreat, the Foreign Ministers emphasized the significance of engaging in discussions and collaborating on global and United Nations-related matters, such as the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and addressing climate change.
- Various other topics were also addressed during the Retreat, including BIMSTEC Grid Interconnection, advancements in agriculture technology, fostering cultural cooperation, promoting youth exchange programs, and enhancing diplomatic training.
- The meeting also considered establishing digital payment systems and trade settlements, as well as strengthening cooperation in cyber security and prevention of transnational crimes."
- During the Retreat, the Ministers reached a consensus to conduct such gatherings on a regular basis, preferably in the first quarter of each year.
  - Moreover, India extended an invitation to host the next BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting, which is scheduled to take place on the sidelines of the upcoming United Nations General Assembly in September 2023.

#### India's Participation

- India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' meet.

- The External Affairs Minister also co-chaired the 12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation meeting in Bangkok along with his Lao PDR counterpart Saleumxay Kommasith.
- In the meeting, Jaishankar prioritised the implementation of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway.
- During the meeting, the decision was made to establish a Mekong Ganga Cooperation Business Council with the aim of enhancing economic cooperation and expanding exchanges in agriculture, science and technology, as well as water resource management.
- Additionally, the member countries explored new avenues for development partnership, including the implementation of Quick Impact Projects, and furthered cooperation in the fields of culture and tourism. Museum-based collaboration was also discussed as part of their joint initiatives.
- The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation, founded in November 2000, consists of six member countries: India, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.
  - The cooperation primarily focuses on areas such as tourism, culture, education, transportation, and museum-based initiatives.

### What is BIMSTEC?

- BIMSTEC is a regional organisation that was established in 1997 with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration.
- Initially known as BIST-EC (Bangladesh-India-Sri Lanka-Thailand Economic Cooperation), the organisation is now known as BIMSTEC and comprises seven members, with Myanmar joining towards the end of 1997, and Bhutan and Nepal in 2004.
- Cooperation within the BIMSTEC had initially focused on six sectors in 1997 (trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism, and fisheries) and expanded in 2008 to other areas.
- In 2021, a reorganisation led to each of the Member States leading certain sectors. India focuses on security, along with counter-terrorism and transnational crime, disaster management and energy.

**NOW PREPARE FOR CLAT 2024  
WITHOUT PAYING HEFTY COACHING FEES  
JOIN LAWEX BY SMARTKEEDA ON YOUTUBE**





## HENLEY PASSPORT INDEX 2023

### WHY IN NEWS?

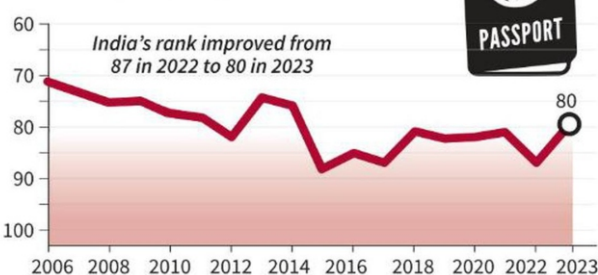
- In the latest ranking released by Henley Passport Index, India has climbed seven places to the 80th spot from 87 last year.
- Indians can now travel to 57 destinations without a visa.
- India's current rank ties it with countries like Togo and Senegal.

#### Key Findings

- Singapore is now officially the most powerful passport in the world, with its citizens able to visit 192 travel destinations out of 227 around the world visa-free.
- Germany, Italy, and Spain occupy the second place.
- Japan, which occupied the top position on the Henley Passport Index for five years, dropped to third place.
- Alongside Japan at the third position are Austria, Finland, France, Luxembourg, South Korea, and Sweden.
- The U.K. climbed two places to occupy the fourth place, while the U.S. continued its decade-long slide down the index, dropping two places to the eighth spot.
- The Top 20 'most open' countries are all small island nations or African states, except for Cambodia.
  - There are 12 completely open countries that offer visa-free or visa-on-arrival entry to all 198 passports in the world (not counting their own), namely: Burundi, Comoro Islands, Djibouti, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Micronesia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Samoa, Seychelles, Timor-Leste, and Tuvalu.
- The least open countries are Afghanistan, North Korea, Papua New Guinea, and Turkmenistan. They do not permit visa-free access for any passport holders.
- Gulf Cooperation Council countries have generally displayed higher-than-average shifts towards increased openness, in particular, the UAE's openness score increased from 58 to 80 since 2018 (22 points) and Oman's leapt from 71 to 106 (35 points) over the same period.

#### Slight uptick

A look at India's ranking over the years, according to the Henley Passport Index



#### About Index

- The Henley Passport Index is the ranking of all the world's passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.
- The index includes 199 different passports and 227 different travel destinations.
- The Index is compiled and published by Henley and Partners



## PREPARE FOR CLAT 2024

**SUBSCRIBE: LawEx**  
by smartkeeda



**ON THIS CHANNEL**

- free regular classes
- previous years question analysis
- concept building classes
- keep yourself updated
- free clat mock tests

testzone.smartkeeda.com






**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



## FOUR WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS TO THE PANEL OF VICE-CHAIRPERSONS

### WHY IN NEWS?

- Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar nominated four women parliamentarians to the panel of vice-chairpersons, giving women equal representation in the panel, for the first time in the history of the Rajya Sabha, even as the women's reservation Bill, that was first introduced in 1996, remains pending.

#### Key Points

- Among the newly nominated members, S. Phangnon Konyak has also found a berth.
  - She is also the first woman to be elected to Rajya Sabha from Nagaland (April 2022) and the second woman from the state to be elected to either the House of the Parliament or the state assembly.
- The other members are - nominated member P.T. Usha, BJD's Sulata Deo and NCP's Fauzia Khan.
- Among the men, Congress's L. Hanumanthiah, Trinamool Congress's Sukendu Shekhar Ray and the BJP's Ghanshyam Tewari were nominated for the panel.
- The panel has a total of eight members.

#### What is the Panel of Vice-chairpersons?

- Article 118(1) of the Constitution empowers each House of Parliament to make rules for regulating its Procedure and the Conduct of its business.
  - Under this provision of the Constitution, Rajya Sabha adopted rules for regulating its procedure and the conduct of its business in 1964.
- Under the Rules of Rajya Sabha, the Chairman nominates from amongst the members a panel of vice-chairpersons who holds office until a new panel of vice-chairpersons is nominated.
  - Any one of them can preside over the House in the absence of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman.
  - He/she has the same powers as the Chairman when so presiding.
- When a member of the panel of vice-chairpersons is also not present, any other person as determined by the House acts as the Chairman.
- A member of the panel of vice-chairpersons cannot preside over the House when the office of the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman is vacant.
  - During such time, the Chairman's duties are to be performed by such members of the House as the President may appoint for the purpose.

#### Women's Representation in Indian Parliament

- Despite the share of women legislators in the Lok Sabha peaking at 14.39% as of June 2019, India is still worse than 140 countries in the representation of women in Parliament.
- The global average for the share of women parliamentarians stood at 24.6%.
- The number of Women MP's in the Lok Sabha has increased from 45 (8.3%) in 2004 (14th Lok Sabha) to 81 (14.9%) in 2019 (17th Lok Sabha).
- Present Rajya Sabha has a total of 224 members out of which 24 are female members.
- As of 1 January 2023, only six countries have 50 per cent or more women in parliament in single or lower houses: Rwanda (61 per cent), Cuba (53 per cent), Nicaragua (52 per cent), Mexico (50 per cent), New Zealand (50 per cent), and the United Arab Emirates (50 per cent).



PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
 DOWNLOAD **CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP**





## CONCEPT OF ZERO FIR

### WHY IN NEWS?

- Hundreds of zero FIRs are being registered across police stations in Manipur after the series of widespread violence since May 3.

#### Background

- Tensions boiled over when Kukis began protesting against demands from the Meiteis to be given official tribal status, which the Kukis argued would strengthen their already strong influence on government and society, allowing them to buy land or settle in predominantly Kuki areas.

#### What is a Zero FIR?

- When a police station receives a complaint regarding an alleged offence that has been committed in the jurisdiction of another police station, it registers an FIR and then transfers it to the relevant police station for further investigation.
- A Zero FIR can be filed in any police station by the victim, irrespective of their residence or the place of occurrence of the crime. This is called a Zero FIR.
- No regular FIR number is given. Zero FIRs are assigned the number '0'. Hence the name.
- After a police station registers a zero FIR, it has to transfer the complaint to a police station that has the jurisdiction to investigate the alleged offence.
- Once a zero FIR is transferred, the police station with the appropriate jurisdiction assigns it a serial number, thereby converting it into a regular FIR.
- The provision of Zero FIR came up after the recommendation in the report of the Justice Verma Committee, which was constituted to suggest amendments to the Criminal Law in a bid to provide for faster trial and enhanced punishment for criminals accused of committing sexual assault against women.
  - The committee was set up after the 2012 Nirbhaya gang rape case.

#### Failure to Register an FIR

- Section 166A, inserted into IPC based on Justice JS Verma committee's recommendation, provides punishment for public servants failing to record information related to a cognizable offence.
- Punishment includes imprisonment of up to two years and a fine.

#### Landmark Judgments

- In *Satvinder Kaur vs State* (1999), the Delhi High Court held that a woman has the right to lodge her complaint from any place other than where the incident occurred.
- The Supreme Court of India in *Lalita Kumari vs Government of UP* (2014) observed that it is mandatory to register an FIR under Section 154 if the complaint is related to a cognizable offence.
- In the *State of Andhra Pradesh vs Punati Ramulu and Others* (1993) where the constable refused to lodge the FIR by the informant who was the nephew of the deceased and an eye witness of the crime on the grounds of jurisdictional limitations.
- The court observed the failure of duty of the police constable and emphasized his legal obligation to record the information and then transfer it to the competent police station.



**GET MENTORSHIP FROM**  
**ROHIT SIR**  
 RANK 1 PULLB | ALUMNUS, NLU PUNJAB  
 JOIN OUR TEST SERIES PLAN NOW  
**ALPHA | BETA | GAMMA**  
[testzone.smartkeeda.com](https://testzone.smartkeeda.com)

Smartkeeda  
The Question Bank

Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube icons

NOW PREPARE FOR CLAT 2024

WITHOUT PAYING HEFTY COACHING FEES

JOIN LAWEX BY SMARTKEEDA ON YOUTUBE







### What is an FIR?

- The term first information report (FIR) is not defined in the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973, or in any other law, but in police regulations or rules, information recorded under Section 154 of CrPC is known as FIR.
- As per Section 154 of CrPC, a copy of the information as recorded...shall be given forthwith, free of cost, to the informant”.
- In essence, then, there are three important elements of an FIR:
  - i. the information must relate to the commission of a cognizable offence,
  - ii. it should be given in writing or orally to the head of the police station and,
  - iii. its must be written down and signed by the informant, and its key points should be recorded in a daily diary.
- Further, anyone can file an FIR — the person approaching the police does not necessarily have to be the victim of or an eyewitness to an offence.
- Therefore, from the point of view of an informant, the main purpose of an FIR is to set criminal law into motion, while for the police, the main purpose of an FIR is to obtain information about alleged criminal activity and take necessary steps to produce the perpetrator(s) before a court.



**BUY  
NOW**

**GET 1000+  
NEW PATTERN  
CLAT MOCKS**

ALPHA | BETA | GAMMA

25 FULL  
LENGHT  
TEST

40  
SECTIONAL  
TEST

1000  
TOPIC  
TEST

150+  
YOUTUBE  
LESSON

call on: 8979589366 for queries

**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



## ADJOURNMENT MOTION

### WHY IN NEWS?

- Recently, Congress Members of Parliament (MPs) Manish Tewari and Gaurav Gogoi have moved adjournment motion notices demanding a discussion on the Manipur situation.

### What are the Various Motions raised in Indian Parliament?

- In both the houses of Parliament, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, there are ways for MPs to draw the attention of the house to any relevant issue. For this, there are various procedures given.
- As per MR Madhavan, the President and co-founder of PRS Legislative Research, there are four main procedures under which there could be a discussion in the Lok Sabha — a debate without voting under Rule 193, a motion (with a vote) under Rule 184, and an adjournment motion or a no-confidence motion.”
- Except for the last one, similar measures also exist in the Rajya Sabha.

#### Rule 193, Short Duration Discussion

- Short Duration Discussions can also take place in Lok Sabha under Rule 193 of its rules and in Rajya Sabha under Rule 176 of its rules.
- Under Rule 176 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha, “If the Chairman is satisfied... that the matter is urgent and is of sufficient public importance to be raised in the Council at an early date, he may admit the notice and in consultation with the Leader of the Council fix the date on which such matter may be taken up for discussion and allow such time for discussion, not exceeding two and a half hours...”
- However, under Rule 267, Rajya Sabha MPs can give a written notice to suspend all listed businesses and discuss an issue of importance.

#### Rule 184, A Motion with a Vote

- If a motion on a matter of general public interest satisfies certain conditions, such as that it “shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputations or defamatory statements”, “shall be restricted to a matter of recent occurrence”, and so on, then that motion can be admitted.
- Also, motions on a matter pending before any statutory authority (one established by law) or any commission or court of enquiry cannot be moved.
- However, in Lok Sabha, the Speaker can allow for such a matter to be raised at his own discretion. It must be concerned with the “procedure or subject or stage of enquiry” of an issue, and if the Speaker is satisfied that it is not likely to prejudice the consideration of such matter by the relevant authority that takes it up.
- The Speaker can then allot a time period for the discussion of any such motion.
- Here, the debate is on a specific question, and this is followed by a vote to determine Parliament's position on the issue. Passage of a motion would require the government to follow Parliament's decision on the issue.

### What is Adjournment Motion?

- The routine adjournment of Parliament indicates the day's work ending. Normally, Parliament is in session at 11 am and concludes at 6 pm, with a break in the middle.
- The Speaker has the power to decide when the House is adjourned.
- A motion for an adjournment of the business of the House is moved for discussing a “definite matter of urgent public importance”, with the Speaker's consent.
- It needs the support of 50 members to be admitted. As it interrupts the normal business of the House, it is regarded as an extraordinary device.
- The notice for this is to be given before 10 am on a given day to the Lok Sabha Secretary-General.
- This is not a provision available in the Rajya Sabha.
- The passage of an adjournment motion does not require the government to resign. However, it is seen as a strong censure of the government.

PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
 DOWNLOAD CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP





## SUSPENSION OF MPs

### WHY IN NEWS?

- Senior Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Sanjay Singh was suspended from the Rajya Sabha recently for the remainder of the monsoon session of Parliament for repeatedly “violating” the directives of the chair.

#### Common Rules for Both Houses

- Rules for ensuring the smooth functioning of Parliament have been unchanged since 1952.
- First, the presiding officers can direct an MP to withdraw from the House for any disorderly conduct.
  - If the MP continues disrupting the House, the presiding officer can “name” the legislator.
- After that, the House can move a motion to suspend the MP until the end of the session.
- These powers are common to the presiding officers of both Houses.

#### Changes in Lok Sabha

- In 2001, during Speaker G M C Balayogi's term, Lok Sabha changed its rules to give the Speaker more powers to deal with grave and disorderly conduct.
- As per this new rule, the Speaker can “name” an MP, who shall then automatically stand suspended for five days or the remaining part of the session.
  - This rule removes the need for the House to pass a motion for suspension.
- Rajya Sabha has not incorporated this provision in its procedures.

#### Can Courts Intervene in a Matter of Suspension of MPs?

- Article 122 of the Constitution says parliamentary proceedings cannot be questioned before a court.
- In some cases, however, courts have intervened in the procedural functioning of legislatures.
  - For example, the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly passed a resolution in its 2021 Monsoon Session suspending 12 BJP MLAs for a year.
  - The matter came before the Supreme Court, which held that the resolution was ineffective in law beyond the remainder of the Monsoon Session.

#### Rules of Procedure of Lok Sabha

- Rule 373** - As per Rule Number 373 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, “The Speaker, if he is of the opinion that the conduct of any Member is grossly disorderly, may direct such Member to withdraw immediately from the House, and any Member so ordered to withdraw shall do so forthwith and shall remain absent during the remainder of the day's sitting.”
  - To deal with more recalcitrant Members, the Speaker make take recourse to Rules 374 and 374A.
- Rule 374** - The Speaker may name a member if deems it necessary, who disregards the authority of the Chair or abuses the rules of the House by persistently and wilfully obstructing the business thereof.
  - If a Member is so named by the Speaker, the Speaker shall, on a motion being made forthwith put the question that the Member (naming such Member) be suspended from the service of the House for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session.
- Rule 374A** – It was incorporated in the Rule Book in December 2001.
  - In case of gross violation or severe charges, on being named by the Speaker, the member stands automatically suspended from the service of the House for five consecutive sittings or the remainder of the session, whichever is less.

**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank

**PREPARE FOR CLAT ON THE GO DOWNLOAD**

**CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA**

Free video lectures for CLAT 2024 by expert faculty  
Passage based MCQs Strictly based on CLAT pattern  
Subject wise Quizzes to test your CLAT Preparation  
Instant Doubt-Solving feature by expert CLAT Faculty

TESTZONE.SMARTKEEDA.COM

**NOW PREPARE FOR CLAT 2024  
WITHOUT PAYING HEFTY COACHING FEES  
JOIN LAWEX BY SMARTKEEDA ON YOUTUBE**





## STAPLED VISA ISSUE

### WHY IN NEWS?

- India withdrew its eight-athlete wushu contingent from the Summer World University Games, officially known as the FISU World University Games, beginning in Chengdu after China issued stapled visas to three athletes from the team who belong to Arunachal Pradesh.

#### What is a Stapled Visa?

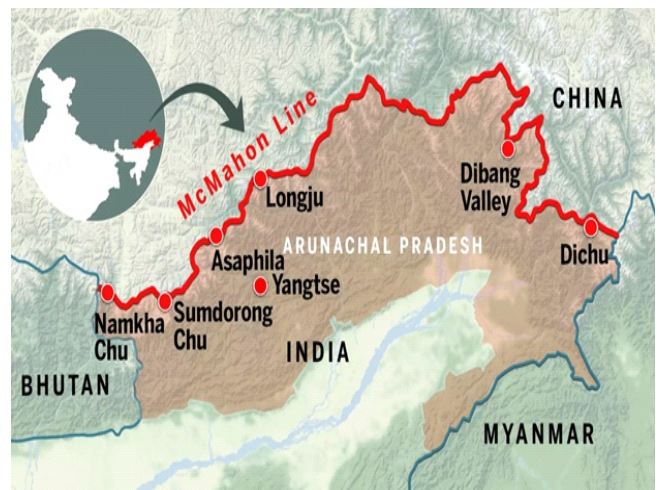
- A stapled visa is simply an unstamped piece of paper that is attached by a pin or staples to a page of the passport and can be torn off or detached at will.
  - This is different from a regular visa that is affixed to the passport by the issuing authority and stamped.
- China has made it a practice to issue stapled visas to Indian nationals from Arunachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.
  - It says the visas are valid documents, but the Government of India has consistently refused to accept this position.

#### Why does China do this?

- China disputes India's unequivocal and internationally accepted sovereignty over Arunachal Pradesh.
- It challenges the legal status of the McMahon Line, the boundary between Tibet and British India that was agreed at the Convention Between Great Britain, China, and Tibet at the Simla Convention of 1914.
- It is this disagreement that lies at the heart of Chinese claims over the position of the Line of Actual Control (LAC), and its repeated transgressions into Indian territory.
  - China claims some 90,000 sq km of Arunachal Pradesh as its territory. It calls the area "Zangnan" in the Chinese language and makes repeated references to "South Tibet".
  - Chinese maps show Arunachal Pradesh as part of China, and sometimes parenthetically refer to it as "so-called Arunachal Pradesh".
- China makes periodic efforts to underline this unilateral claim to Indian territory, and to undermine the sovereignty of India over parts of Indian territory.
- As part of these efforts, it issues lists of Chinese names for places in Arunachal Pradesh — it has issued three such lists in 2017, 2021, and in April this year — and takes steps such as issuing stapled visas.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- In March 2023, a resolution was introduced in the United States Senate to recognise the McMahon Line as the international boundary between China and Arunachal Pradesh.
- The bipartisan Senate resolution sees Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India.
- In its latest attempt to lay claim to areas inside the Indian territory, the Chinese government announced renaming the names of 11 places in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The list of the 11 places along with a map that shows parts of Arunachal Pradesh instead as inside the southern Tibetan region, that China refers to as Zangnan, the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs even included a town close to the Arunachal Pradesh capital of Itanagar.
- The LAC is the demarcation that separates Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory.
- India considers the LAC to be 3,488 km long, while the Chinese consider it to be only around 2,000 km.
- It is divided into three sectors: the eastern sector which spans Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, the middle sector in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, and the western sector in Ladakh.



**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



## EXPORT PREPAREDNESS INDEX (EPI) 2022

### WHY IN NEWS?

- NITI Aayog released the third edition of the report titled 'Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2022' for States/UTs of India.

#### Key Findings

- Tamil Nadu, topped the 2022 Export Preparedness Index (EPI), followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- Gujarat has been pushed to the fourth slot this time. Gujarat held the top position in the 2021 EPI.
- The report also mentioned that Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have the highest number of GI products being exported.
- Uttarakhand secured the top position among hilly/Himalayan states in the EPI 2022.
  - Uttarakhand is followed by Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Sikkim, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, and Mizoram.
- Haryana topped the chart among the landlocked regions. It is followed by Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan.
- Among union territories and small states, Goa ranked first in the EPI 2022.
  - Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Ladakh secured the second, third, fourth, and fifth positions, respectively.



#### About the Index

- The EPI by NITI Aayog in association with the Institute for Competitiveness, delves deeper beyond states and examines exports at the district level.
- The EPI 2022 Report evaluates the performance of the states across four pillars.
- The four pillars are -
  - Policy Pillar – It evaluates states' and UTs' performance based on its adoption of export-related policy ecosystems at a state and district level as well as the institutional framework surrounding the ecosystem.
  - Business Ecosystem – It assesses the prevailing business environment in a state/UT, along with the extent of business-supportive infrastructure, and a state/UTs' transport connectivity.
  - Export Ecosystem – It focuses on the export-related infrastructure in a state along with the trade support provided to the exporters, and the prevalence of research and development in the state to foster innovation.
  - Export Performance - It is an output-based indicator which gauges the growth of a state's export over the previous year and analyses its export concentration and footprint on the global markets.
- These pillars are further based on ten sub-pillars – Export Promotion Policy; Institutional Framework; Business Environment; Infrastructure; Transport Connectivity; Export Infrastructure; Trade Support; R&D Infrastructure; Export Diversification; and Growth Orientation.

### Export Preparedness Index (EPI)- 2022



PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
 DOWNLOAD CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP





## INDIA AND UAE – PROMOTION OF LOCAL CURRENCIES FOR CROSS-BORDER TRANSACTIONS

### WHY IN NEWS?

- India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have signed a pact to establish a framework to promote the use of the rupee and UAE Dirham (AED) for cross-border transactions.

#### Key Points

- The Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS) will cover all current and permitted capital account transactions.
- As per RBI, it would enable exporters and importers to send invoices and pay in their respective domestic currencies, which in turn would help the development of the INR-AED foreign exchange market.
- It would also help promote investments and remittances between the two countries.
- Broadly, the arrangement would help optimise transaction costs and settlement time for transactions, including for remittances from Indians residing in UAE.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- The major items of export from India to the UAE include mineral fuels, mineral oils and products, bituminous substances, mineral waxes, followed by pearls, precious stones and metals, electrical machinery & equipment, among other things.
- The major items imported by India are petroleum crude and petroleum-related products.
- The UAE was India's third-largest trading partner and second-largest export destination in FY2022-23. Conversely, India was the UAE's second-largest trading partner.
- The UAE is the fourth largest investor in India. Its cumulative FDI inflows between April 2000 and September 2022 stood at around \$15.2 billion.
- In March 2023, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) finalised a collaboration with Singapore's PayNow for facilitating cross-border real-time money transfers.
- In January 2023, the NPCI permitted non-resident accounts with international numbers to be onboarded into the UPI ecosystem.
- At the onset, it included users from 10 countries — Singapore, Australia, Canada, Oman, Qatar, the U.S., Saudi Arabia, the UAE, the U.K and Hong Kong.

#### UPI-IPP Linkage

- India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) will also be linked with its UAE-counterpart Instant Payment Platform (IPP).
- This is alongside the linking of card switches, that is, the RuPay switch and UAESWITCH.
  - Card switches entail facilitating communications and transactions between different payment service providers.
  - As for card switches, the RBI stated, it will "facilitate the mutual acceptance of domestic cards and processing of card transactions."
- This is relevant to 3.5 million resident Indians living in the UAE (figure as of 2021).
  - The RBI also said that the UPI-IPP linkage would enable users in either country to "make fast, convenient, safe, and cost-effective cross-border fund transfers".

#### Impact of the Move

- The move to ink the pact with the UAE is part of a concerted policy effort by India to internationalise the rupee to bring down the dollar demand as a means to insulate the domestic economy from global shocks.
  - Apart from Russia, countries in Africa, the Gulf region, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh had also expressed interest in trading in rupee terms.
- The focus on denominating export contracts and invoices in the local currency helps avert exchange-rate risks (such as when a third currency is being used as a standard), which further facilitates the scope to discover competitive pricing.
- Moreover, it could also lead to enhanced avenues for cooperation among the banking systems of the two countries, thereby contributing to the expansion of trade and economic activity for both.



NOW PREPARE FOR CLAT 2024

WITHOUT PAYING HEFTY COACHING FEES

JOIN LAWEX BY SMARTKEEDA ON YOUTUBE





## NEW STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS

### WHY IN NEWS?

- The government of India recently constituted a new Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS) which will replace the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES).
- Pronab Sen, India's first chief statistician and the former chairman of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), has been named the chair of the new committee.

#### About SCoS

- With an objective to review the existing data framework and issues related to all surveys, the government has renamed and expanded the scope of coverage of the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES) formed in December 2019 as Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS).
- The SCoS has 10 official members, and four non-official members who are eminent academics.
  - The panel can have up to 16 members, as per the order issued by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- The new committee comes at a time when India's statistical system is under criticism, especially from three members of the Economic Advisory Council to the PM (EAC-PM) including Chairman Bibek Debroy and members Shamika Ravi and Sanjeev Sanyal.

The earlier SCES formed in December 2019 had 28 members and was mandated to review the framework for economic indicators pertaining to the industrial sector, the services sector and the labour force statistic including datasets such as the Periodic Labour Force Survey, the Annual Survey of Industries, the Annual Survey of Services Sector Enterprises, the Annual Survey of Unorganised Sector Enterprises, Time Use Survey, Index of Service Production, Index of Industrial Production, Economic Census. The new SCoS now will review all surveys.



#### Key Functions

- To review the extant framework and to address the issues raised from time to time on the subject/ results/ methodology, etc. related to all surveys as brought before the SCoS by MoSPI.
- To advise on survey methodology including sampling frame, sampling design, survey instruments, etc. and to finalise tabulation plan of surveys; finalisation of survey results”.
- The committee's function is to design all data collection, data production efforts. It is to make sure that whatever data is collected in MoSPI, meets the standards of good statistics.
- The committee has also been mandated to provide guidance to conduct pilot surveys/ pre-testing, if necessary, before finalising schedules for data collection.

**PREPARE FOR CLAT 2024**

**SUBSCRIBE: LawEx**  
by smartkeeda

**You Tube**

**ON THIS CHANNEL**

- free regular classes
- previous years question analysis
- concept building classes
- keep yourself updated
- free clat mock tests

testzone.smartkeeda.com

**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



## KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS

### WHY IN NEWS?

- The 24th anniversary of the Kargil Vijay Diwas, or Kargil Victory Day, was observed on July 26.
- Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed annually on July 26 to mark India's triumph in the 1999 conflict with Pakistan.

#### The Kargil War

- The conflict was triggered when infiltrators from Pakistan crossed the Line of Control (LoC) and occupied high positions in Ladakh's Kargil district.
- First reported to the Indian Army on May 3, the infiltrators were initially thought to be jihadis. But over the first few weeks, as the sheer scale of the invasion came to light, the role of the Pakistani state became undeniable.
- Between mid-May and July, the Indian forces slowly recaptured critical positions from the Pakistanis, in the face of heavy casualties and numerous strategic and logistic difficulties, culminating with the Army announcing the complete withdrawal of all Pakistani regular and irregular troops from Kargil on July 26.
- As per official figures, Indian casualties at the end of the War stood at 527 dead, 1,363 wounded and 1 PoW (Fl Lt K Nachiketa, whose MiG-27 was shot down during a strike operation).
- The Kargil War officially ended on July 26, 1999, with the eviction of the last remaining Pakistani troops and infiltrators from positions on the Indian side of the LoC.

Kargil is located at the northern edge of the LoC, some 200 km northeast of Srinagar and 230 km west of Leh. While the town of Kargil is itself at an altitude of 2,676 m (8,780 ft), Dras lies at a height of 3,300 m (10,800 ft) and the surrounding peaks rise to altitudes of 4,800 m (16,000 ft) to 5,500 m (18,000 ft). These are extremely high altitudes, which cause severe physiological effects on the human body while also posing logistical and strategic challenges.

#### Operation Vijay

- In the year 1999, India and Pakistan signed the Lahore Agreement to mutually resolve the Kashmir issue in a peaceful manner.
- However, the Pakistani troops began infiltrating toward the Indian side of the Line of Control (LoC) under Operation Badr, hoping to cut off Indian Troops in Siachen. The Indian Army responded by launching Operation Vijay.
- On 3rd May 1999, Pakistan started this war when it had infiltrated into the high altitudes in the rocky mountainous region of Kargil with around 5,000 soldiers and captured it.
- When the Indian Government got the information about it, 'Operation Vijay' was launched by the Indian army to throw back the intruders who had treacherously occupied Indian Territory.



PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
 DOWNLOAD **CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP**







## CLIMATE CHANGE ALTERS THE COLOUR OF THE OCEANS

### WHY IN NEWS?

- According to a new study, 'Global climate-change trends detected in indicators of ocean ecology', published recently in the journal Nature, climate change has altered the colour of 56 per cent of the world's oceans.

#### Key Points

- Green-coloured water indicates life, especially phytoplankton, which are microscopic plant-like organisms.
- Phytoplankton are microscopic marine algae that contain the green-coloured pigment chlorophyll.
  - The pigment helps them absorb sunlight, which they use to capture carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and convert it into sugars.
  - Moreover, chlorophyll absorbs the red and blue portions of the light spectrum — or photosynthesis — and reflects green light.
- As per the study, one of the most affected areas is the Tropical ocean regions, near the equator, where the water is turning from blue to green.
- The findings suggested that a shift in colour is happening in those regions where the oceans are getting more stratified.
  - Ocean stratification is the natural separation of an ocean's water into horizontal layers by density, with warmer, lighter, less salty, and nutrient-poor water layering on top of heavier, colder, saltier, nutrient-rich water.
- Usually, ocean ecosystems, currents, wind, and tides mix these layers, creating smoothed temperature and salinity transitions between them.
  - But because of climate change, stratification has increased, making it harder for water layers to mix with each other, which has severe consequences — oceans are able to absorb less carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and the oxygen absorbed isn't able to mix properly with cooler ocean waters below, threatening the survival of marine life.
  - Moreover, nutrients aren't able to travel up to the surface of the oceans from below. This directly impacts phytoplankton, which thrives, on the upper surface of the oceans.

- In most regions across the world, the oceans appear blue or navy blue for a reason. This happens due to "the absorption and scattering of light."
- When the sunlight falls on deep and clear water, colours with longer wavelengths, such as red, yellow and green, are absorbed by the water molecules but blue and violet, which have a much shorter wavelength, are reflected back.
- "When sunlight hits the ocean, some of the light is reflected back directly but most of it penetrates the ocean surface and interacts with the water molecules that it encounters. The red, orange, yellow, and green wavelengths of light are absorbed so that the remaining light we see is composed of the shorter wavelength blues and violets.
- But when the water isn't deep or clean, an ocean can appear to be of a different colour. For instance, along Argentina's coastline, where major rivers merge into the Atlantic Ocean, the ocean exudes a brown tint because of dead leaves and sediments spewing from the rivers.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- Changes in the composition of the plankton population have larger effects on the marine ecosystem.
- Plankton has two major types: phytoplankton, which are plants, and zooplankton, which are animals.
- Phytoplankton are eaten by zooplankton, which are then eaten by other marine animals such as crabs, fish and sea stars, and therefore, plankton are critical in supporting marine and freshwater food webs.
- Any alteration in their population could throw off the whole marine ecosystem.





## INDIA SHARES INDIA STACK WITH PAPUA NEW GUINEA

### WHY IN NEWS?

- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) of India and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) of Papua New Guinea have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to share INDIA STACK — a collection of open APIs and digital public goods that aim to facilitate identity, data, and payment services on a large scale.

#### Key Points

- The MoU is expected to enhance capacities and facilitate sharing and implementation of population-scale Digital Public Infrastructure and Transformational Platforms/projects to improve living standards and enhance efficiency and transparency in governance.
- The collaboration seeks to strengthen digital identity systems and digital payment mechanisms for seamless transactions.

#### About Papua New Guinea

- Papua New Guinea gained self-government in 1973 and full independence in 1975.
- Papua New Guinea is an island country located in the south-western Pacific. The capital is Port Moresby.
- It shares land borders with Indonesia and water border with Australia, and the Solomon Islands.
- Linguistically, it is the world's most diverse country, with more than 800 languages.
- In 2019, the inhabitants of Bougainville voted to become independent from Papua New Guinea by 2027, but the central government has said it has the final say.
- Papua New Guinea lies on the "Ring of Fire", an area prone to volcanic eruptions.



#### What is INDIA STACK?

- India Stack, a government-led initiative, is the moniker for a set of open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and digital public goods that aim to unlock the economic primitives of identity, data, and payments at a population scale.
- The key components of INDIA STACK include Aadhaar (unique biometric-based identification system), a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for instant digital payments, a government e-market, CoWIN and a Digital Locker for secure storage of personal documents.
- These components are owned and maintained by different agencies.
- It aims to streamline and enhance identity verification, data exchange, and digital payment processes to make them more accessible and efficient for citizens.
- Although the name of this project bears the word India, the vision of India Stack is not limited to one country; it can be applied to any nation, be it a developed one or an emerging one.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- Earlier in June 2023, India signed MoU with four countries namely Armenia, Sierra Leone, Suriname, and Antigua & Barbuda on sharing INDIA STACK.
- Speaking during the G20 DAWG 2023, in Lucknow, Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw said that UPI does \$1.5 trillion in transactions annually with an average settlement time of 2 seconds.
- At present, India has UPI tie-ups internationally to transfer money with countries including Singapore, the US, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE and the UK.
- Indiastack.global was launched by Prime Minister on 4th July 2022 and is a single repository of all major projects on India Stack.

**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



## INDIA'S FIRST SATELLITE NETWORK PORTAL SITE

### WHY IN NEWS?

- The Gujarat government through its Department of Science and Technology (DST) recently signed a memorandum of understanding with OneWeb India Communications Pvt Ltd for setting up a 'satellite network portal site' — a first for India — at Mehsana in Gujarat.

#### What is Satellite Network Portal Site?

- The satellite network portal (SNP) site serves as a signal and data downlink and uplink terminal or base station on the ground, an intermediary for data transmission through satellite tracking antenna systems.
- Satellite broadband technology or satellite telephony is not a new concept and with satellite constellations in the low Earth orbit (LEO) gaining traction with StarLink, Kuiper and OneWeb among many others, the world is increasingly moving towards relying on LEO satellite communications.
- LEO satellites operate at an altitude of 500 to 1,200 km, making it ripe for high-speed and low latency — a lower time lag between a user seeking data, and the server sending that data, compared to geostationary Earth orbit positioned satellites.
- OneWeb has 648 satellites orbiting at 1,000-1,200 km making 13 orbits per day, covering the entire globe.
- To cover the entire Earth, there should be 40 such SNPs but for India, at least 2 such SNPs are enough.
- OneWeb is planning to set up its second SNP in the southern part of India, likely to be in Tamil Nadu.
- As per the financial year 2021-2022 annual report of OneWeb, it had nine operational SNP sites serving the live coverage area and at the time, had agreements to build 38 SNPs in 27 different countries.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- Most of the existing space-based Internet systems use satellites in geostationary orbit.
- The signals from one geostationary satellite can cover roughly a third of the planet — and three to four satellites would be enough to cover the entire Earth.
- OneWeb's chief competitor is Starlink, a venture led by Elon Musk's SpaceX.
- Amazon is a newcomer to the space, with its Project Kuiper initiative announced in 2019.
- Google's 'Loon' project was launched in 2013. After testing the service in rural Kenya, Google's parent company, Alphabet, abandoned the project in 2021.



#### About LEO Technology

- LEO satellites have been orbiting the planet since the 1990s, providing companies and individuals with various communication services.
- LEO satellites are positioned around 500km-2000km from earth, compared to stationary orbit satellites which are approximately 36,000km away.
- Latency, or the time needed for data to be sent and received, is contingent on proximity. As LEO satellites orbit closer to the earth, they are able to provide stronger signals and faster speeds than traditional fixed-satellite systems.
- Additionally, because signals travel faster through space than through fibre-optic cables, they also have the potential to rival if not exceed existing ground-based networks.
- However, LEO satellites travel at a speed of 27,000 kph and complete a full circuit of the planet in 90-120 minutes.
- As a result, individual satellites can only make direct contact with a land transmitter for a short period of time thus requiring massive LEO satellite fleets and consequently, a significant capital investment.
- Due to these costs, of the three mediums of the Internet — fibre, spectrum and satellite — the latter is the most expensive.

PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
 DOWNLOAD **CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP**





**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



**CONTEMPORARY EVENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE FROM  
INDIA AND THE WORLD**

**QUICK FACTS**



1. The conservation status of **India's sole ape species, the hoolock gibbon**, has become a pressing global concern. The Global Gibbon Network (GGN) recently convened its inaugural meeting in Haikou, China's Hainan province, shedding light on the critical situation faced by these primates. Gibbons, the smallest and fastest of all apes, live in tropical and subtropical forests in the southeastern part of Asia. The hoolock gibbon, unique to India's northeast, is one of 20 species of gibbons on Earth. The estimated population of hoolock gibbons is 12,000.
2. The **Union government is not in favour of declaring lightning a natural disaster** as deaths caused by it can be avoided through education and awareness. India is among the only five countries in the world with an early warning system for lightning and the forecast is available from five days to up to 3 hours. There have been demands by States such as Bihar and West Bengal that deaths due to lightning be covered as a natural disaster. The victims will be entitled to compensation from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) once this is notified. As much as 75% of funds to SDRF are contributed by the Centre.
3. The **NITI Aayog** released the **Techno-Commercial Readiness and Market Maturity Matrix (TCRM Matrix) framework**, a pioneering assessment tool designed to revolutionize technology evaluation, foster innovation, and fuel entrepreneurship in India. It is an assessment tool designed to revolutionize technology evaluation, foster innovation, and fuel entrepreneurship in India. The framework presents an integrated assessment model that offers in-depth insights and actionable intelligence to stakeholders at every stage of the technology development cycle.
4. The **Tiger Orchids (Grammatophyllum speciosum)** are in bloom at the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Palode. *Grammatophyllum speciosum*, popular as the '**Tiger Orchid**,' is the **largest orchid species in the world**. The plant was listed by the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's tallest orchid. This species is native to Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar and Laos.
5. In a remarkable initiative to revive and preserve the 2000-year-old technique of shipbuilding known as the '**stitched shipbuilding method**', the **Ministry of Culture** and the **Indian Navy** have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The Indian Navy will oversee the implementation and execution of the entire project. Throughout history, India has had a strong maritime tradition, and the use of stitched ships played a vital role in trade, cultural exchange, and exploration. These ships, constructed by stitching wooden planks together rather than using nails, offered flexibility and durability, making them less susceptible to damage from shoals and sandbars.
6. The **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** in association with the **International Solar Alliance**, released a **Roadmap of Solar Energy for Universal Energy Access**. Through this report on 'Roadmap of Solar Energy for Universal Energy Access', developed under India's G20 presidency in 2023, the government of India aim to showcase how solar energy, in its various configurations, can play a key role in achieving electricity access and in providing socio-economic benefits in countries around the world.
7. The **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** has informed the Rajya Sabha about the **Intellectual Property Rights Policy Management (IPRPM) Framework**. The framework was launched in the form of National IPR Policy 2016 encompassing all IPRs into a single vision document setting in place an institutional mechanism for implementation, monitoring and review of IP laws. There are eight types of intellectual property rights covered under the IPRPM framework. These are (i) Patents, (ii) Trade mark, (iii) Industrial Designs, (iv) Copyrights, (v) Geographical Indications, (vi) Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Layout Design, (vii) Trade Secret, and (viii) Plant Varieties.
8. Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) of G20, the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying inaugurated an **International Symposium on Sustainable Livestock Transformation** at National Dairy Development Board, Anand. The livestock sector contributes to around 4% of the country's GDP. India is ranked 1st in milk production contributing 23% of global milk production. According to Food and Agriculture Organization Corporate Statistical Database (FAOSTAT) production data (2020), India ranks 3rd in Egg Production and 8th in meat production in the world. There are about 303.76 million bovines (cattle, buffalo, mithun and yak), 74.26 million sheep, 148.88 million goats, 9.06 million pigs and about 851.81 million poultry as per the 20th Livestock Census in the country.





9. **India's first Cannabis Medicine Project** was launched in Jammu and Kashmir. 'Cannabis Research Project' of CSIR-IIIM Jammu is a first of its kind in India initiated in Private Public Partnership with a Canadian firm, which has great potential to put the substance of abuse for the good of mankind, especially for patients suffering from neuropathies, cancer and epilepsy.
10. In an effort to boost the rural economy of the country, entrepreneurs, the **Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying (DAHD)** has set up a **credit guarantee fund trust of Rs 750 crores** to give easier access to finance to eligible MSMEs and entrepreneurs. The main objective of the Credit Guarantee Scheme is that the lender should give importance to project viability and secure the credit facility purely on the basis primary security of the assets financed.
11. **NITI Aayog** has released a Revamped **India Energy Security Scenarios (IESS) 2047 (IESS 2047 V3.0)** to assess the integrated impact of various green energy policies of the government of India. An open-source tool, IESS incorporates several policies related to alternative energy resources like Green Hydrogen, Energy Storage, Renewable Purchase Obligations, PM-KUSUM, offshore wind strategy, Electric Vehicle policy, Energy efficiency, etc. Assessing the demand and supply of energy in the country, the tool helps in analysing emissions, cost, land, and water requirements till 2047.
12. The Union government has launched the '**Meri Maati Mera Desh**' campaign, envisaged as a culminating event of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebration of 75 years of Indian Independence, in which soil collected from different parts of the country in August will be used to develop a garden, Amrit Vatika, along the Kartavya Path in Delhi. Events have been planned at the panchayat, village, block, urban local body, and State and national levels, respectively. Shilaphalakam (memorial plaque) with the names of bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice to be installed. Planting 75 saplings of indigenous species in every gram panchayat or village under 'Vasudha Vandhan'.
13. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently announced that India has commenced the rollout of **20% ethanol-blended petrol this year** and the country aims to **cover the entire nation by 2025**. India's ethanol production has diversified from cane molasses to various feedstocks like rice, maize, and other grains. Ethanol, also known as ethyl alcohol, is a biofuel produced from various sources such as sugarcane, corn, rice, wheat, and biomass. Ethanol is basically 99.9% pure alcohol that can be blended with petrol.
14. The **Goa Bench of the Bombay High Court** on July 24 directed the **Government of Goa** to notify the 208 sq. km. **Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS)** and its surrounding areas as a **tiger reserve**, and issue a notification within three months. The International Union for Conservation of Nature estimates that 3,726 to 5,578 tigers live in the wild worldwide. Out of these, the tiger population in India, as per the 2023 Tiger Census, is estimated at 3,167.
15. The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** inaugurated the **5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit (Heli Summit 2023) in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh**. It was jointly organized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, in association with the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Pawan Hans Ltd., and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). The theme of the event was "Reaching the Last Mile: Regional Connectivity through Helicopters & Small Aircraft". **UDAN 5.2** has also been launched to further enhance the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country and achieve last-mile connectivity through small aircraft such as 1A (<9 seats) and Category 1 (<20 seats).
16. The National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (**NIPCCD**) under the Ministry of Women and Child Development organised the First Capacity Building Programme on '**Mission Shakti- Hub for Empowerment of Women**' for State Nodal Officers and State Mission Coordinators.
17. **Slaked lime** is an alkali compound widely used as a binding agent, along with betel nut and other ingredients, to make paan in the Indian subcontinent. A new study has found that **chuna** is a **major cause for ocular burns among children**, along with household chemicals and fireworks. Loosely sold in plastic packets, the quicklime can puff out of the packet on to a child's eyes. The alkali then burns the ocular surface and can result in eye injury. Ocular burns due to household chemicals are wholly avoidable. They are a tragic cause of ocular morbidity, even vision loss, especially among children.

**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



18. The **Indian Army** inaugurated the **first Permanent Aadhaar Enrolment Centre (PAEC) for Army** in New Delhi. The PAEC will facilitate Aadhaar-related services (enrolment and updation) for tri-services personnel (Defence & civil) and their dependents through their Field Post Offices (FPO) in 48 identified locations in the country. All Command HQs, Corps HQs and selected FPOs are identified for the establishment of PAEC services.
19. The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched the **Resource Efficiency Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC)** during the 4th G20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) meeting in Chennai. RECEIC would play a pivotal role in promoting alliances, encouraging technological cooperation and knowledge transfer, fostering innovation, and facilitating the exchange of insights to enhance access to finance. Further, he acknowledged the commitment of the 39 founding members of RECEIC for stepping forward to join this coalition.
20. The **Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023** was inaugurated at **Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida** on July 27. It is the first time India is hosting this event. The championship sees the participation of more than 15 nations from the Asian region. The event will also see the participation of more than 30 Indian weightlifters, including many Khelo India Athletes who in the past month alone gave India its best-ever performance at the Weightlifting Commonwealth Championships by winning 61 medals in total.
21. As per the analysis by the environmental think tank **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)**, only 5% of India's coal-fired power plants have installed **flue gas de-sulfurisation (FGD) systems**, which are air pollution control devices for sulphur dioxide emissions. FGD is the process of removing sulfur compounds from the exhaust emissions of fossil-fueled power stations. The Union environment ministry specified the emission norms for coal-based power plants in December 2015.



PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
DOWNLOAD **CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP**





**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



## **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **QUICK FACTS**





1. **India-Mongolia joint military exercise “Nomadic Elephant – 2023”** was held at **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia** from 17 to 31 July 2023. Exercise Nomadic Elephant is an annual training event with Mongolia which is conducted alternatively in Mongolia and India, the last edition was held at Special Forces Training School, Bakloh in October 2019.
2. **World Snake Day**, held every year on **July 16**, aims to increase awareness regarding the over 3,500 snake species that exist across the world. The National Zoological Park also celebrated the day with the aim of protecting snakes and raising awareness about their significance in India's ecosystem.
3. **Russia** halted the **Black Sea deal**, an unprecedented wartime deal that allows grain to flow from Ukraine to countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia where hunger is a growing threat and high food prices have pushed more people into poverty. The deal was brokered by the United Nations and Turkey in July 2022, allowing Ukraine to ship grain to countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.
4. Delegates from across the world have gathered at the **19th session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) in Rome, Italy**. Delegates and observers deliberated on three matters - a review of work on biodiversity, nutrition and human health; access and benefit-sharing for food and agriculture; and digital sequence information for food and agriculture.
5. The United Nations General Assembly declared **July 20** every year to be celebrated as **International Moon Day**. International Moon Day is celebrated on July 20 every year to mark the anniversary of the day when humans first landed on the Moon as part of NASA's Apollo 11 mission. Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the Moon in a location that they then named Tranquility Base, on July 20, 1969.
6. Global immunization services reached 4 million more children in 2022 compared to the previous year, as countries stepped up efforts to address the historic backsliding in immunization caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to data published today by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and **UNICEF**, in 2022, 20.5 million children missed out on one or more vaccines delivered through routine immunization services, compared to 24.4 million children in 2021. The vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP) is used as the global marker for immunization coverage.
7. In 2023, the 76th World Health Assembly adopted its first-ever resolution on drowning prevention. The resolution accepts the invitation of the United Nations General Assembly for WHO to coordinate actions within the UN system on drowning prevention and facilitate the observance of **World Drowning Prevention Day on 25 July** each year. World Drowning Prevention Day was declared in April 2021 by the United Nations General Assembly resolution.
8. The **World Fragile X Awareness Day** is marked on **July 22** every year, started in 2021 to raise awareness about the rare genetic illness, Fragile X or Martin-Bell syndrome, that causes intellectual disability and autism. The disease is a chronic or lifelong condition. Only some people with FXS are able to live independently. Women who are carriers are at an increased risk for premature menopause, or menopause that starts before the age of 40. Men who are carriers are at increased risk for a condition known as Fragile X Tremor Ataxia Syndrome (FXTAS).
9. Scientists from the University of Oxford have come up with a new way to **obtain fluorine atoms**, used to manufacture important chemical compounds used in industry and research, in a much safer and less energy-intensive way. Fluorine is a highly reactive element used to make fluorochemicals, which in turn are used to produce plastics, agrochemicals, lithium-ion batteries, and drugs. Fluorine comes from a calcium salt called calcium fluoride, or fluorspar. Fluorspar is mined and then treated with sulphuric acid at a high temperature to release hydrogen fluoride (HF). HF is then made to react with other compounds to create fluorochemicals.
10. **Russia's Batagaika crater**, the **world's largest 1km-long permafrost crater**, expands due to global warming and thawing permafrost. Scientists say Russia is warming at least 2.5 times faster than the rest of the world, melting the long-frozen tundra that covers about 65% of the country's landmass and releasing greenhouse gases stored in the thawed soil. The "gateway to the underworld," as some locals in Russia's Sakha Republic also call it, has a scientific name: a mega-slump.





11. **India** gifted the indigenously-built in-service missile **corvette INS Kirpan** to **Vietnam** to enhance that country's naval capabilities. INS Kirpan is a Khukri class missile corvette displacing 1,350 tonnes and was commissioned into the Navy on January 12, 1991. It has a displacement of close to 1,400 tonnes, a length of 91 metres, a beam of 11 metres, and is capable of speed in excess of 25 knots. The ship is fitted with a medium-range gun, 30 mm close-range guns, chaff launchers, and surface-to-surface missiles, enabling it to perform a wide variety of roles, including coastal and offshore patrol, coastal security, surface warfare, anti-piracy, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations, according to the Navy.
12. Scientists have **explored novel quantum effects** on the radiation emitted from a black hole due to atoms freely falling into it. This investigation of atoms falling into a black hole could throw new light on the efforts of scientists towards the **unification of quantum mechanics** which plays out at the smallest scales of matter and the general **theory of relativity** propounded by Einstein which is applicable at the largest cosmological scales. The two most successful scientific theories of the past century are the general theory of relativity and quantum theory. Quantum theory describes the microscopic behaviour of fundamental particles whereas the general theory of relativity accurately describes the motion of objects or particles around a massive object which is the exact mathematical description of the theory of gravitation at the classical level.
13. The **8th India-Australia Defence Policy Talks (DPT)** was held at **Canberra in Australia** on 24-25 July 2023. During the Defence Policy talks, both sides reviewed the bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries and explored new initiatives to further strengthen and deepen bilateral defence engagements. India – Australia share a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership since June 2020 and defence is a key pillar of this partnership. India and Australia's partnership is based on a shared vision of a free, open, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.
14. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (**UNESCO's**) Global Education Monitoring Report 2023, titled '**Technology in Education: A Tool on Whose Terms**' has endorsed banning smartphones in schools in situations where “technology integration does not improve learning or if it worsens student well-being”.
15. An international team of astronomers has now published the results of its exhaustive study on repeating **fast radio bursts (FRBs)** from a distant galaxy that offers new clues about the origins of these mysterious radio flashes. They targeted a repeating FRB, called FRB 20190520B (they are christened by the date of their discovery, in this case: May 20, 2019), using the **Green Bank Telescope in the U.S.** and the **Parkes Observatory in Australia**, and recorded hundreds of bursts from it. Mysterious emissions of radio light from the far reaches of the universe are the next big thing in modern radio astronomy. Fleeting flurries of radio waves, called fast radio bursts (FRBs) reach earth from faraway galaxies, emitting as much energy in a millisecond as the sun does over weeks.
16. **World Hepatitis Day** is observed each year on **28 July** to raise awareness of viral hepatitis, and this year's theme is 'One Life, One Liver'. Hepatitis causes liver damage and cancer and kills over a million people annually. Of the 5 types of hepatitis infections, hepatitis B and C cause most of the disease and deaths. Hepatitis B is included under India's UIP which provides free of cost vaccination against eleven vaccine-preventable diseases i.e., Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Polio, Pneumonia and Meningitis due to Haemophilus Influenzae type b (Hib), Measles, Rubella, Japanese Encephalitis (JE) and Rotavirus diarrhoea.
17. A team at the University of Massachusetts (UMass) Amherst published a paper declaring they had successfully generated a small but continuous electric current from humidity in the air which is called **Hygroelectricity**. Hygroelectricity is proposed as a means to produce electric power from air by absorbing gaseous or vaporous water molecules, which are ubiquitous in the atmosphere. Hygroelectricity has the potential to be a renewable and sustainable energy source as it relies on the continuous availability of atmospheric moisture.
18. A study on deforestation drivers in seven South American countries found that more than 70 per cent of deforestation was driven by increased demand for pasture. In light of the global deterioration of natural resources and forests, **silvopasture systems** offer a relevant solution to deforestation trends. Silvopasture is

**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



an ancient and proven practice that harmoniously integrates trees, forage and livestock on the same land. By combining these elements, silvopasture brings numerous environmental advantages, including improved local climate resilience.

19. **NASA's James Webb Space Telescope** has captured the “antics” of a pair of actively **forming young stars**, known as **Herbig-Haro 46/47**, in high-resolution near-infrared light. The stars are within the orange-white splotch. They are buried deeply in a disk of gas and dust that feeds their growth as they continue to gain mass. The disk is not visible, but its shadow can be seen in the two dark, conical regions surrounding the central stars. James Webb Space Telescope is the successor to the Hubble Space Telescope.
20. Scientists discovered and reanimated two kinds of **frozen microscopic nematodes** or roundworms in **Siberia** five years ago. A new study on them published recently revealed their secrets, including the fact that they are **46,000 years old** and one of them is an entirely new species that has never before been discovered. Many animals like nematodes, and more famously, tardigrades, can survive extreme conditions by entering a dormant state called “cryptobiosis.” The worms found by the scientist were taken from a fossilised burrow in silt deposits in the northeastern Arctic.
21. **World Nature Conservation Day** is observed on **July 28** to create awareness about the importance of protecting the environment. The theme for this year is 'Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet'. In India, the National Zoological Park, New Delhi commemorated World Nature Conservation Day linking it with the goals of **Mission-LiFE ('LiFEStyle For Environment')**. At UNFCCC COP26 Glasgow, India's Prime Minister introduced Mission LiFE, aiming to prioritize individual behaviours in global climate action.



Webb Celebrates First Year of Science With Close-up on Birth of Sun-like Stars



**BUY  
NOW**

**GET 1000+  
NEW PATTERN  
CLAT MOCKS**

ALPHA | BETA | GAMMA

25 FULL  
LENGHT  
TEST

40  
SECTIONAL  
TEST

1000  
TOPIC  
TEST

150+  
YOUTUBE  
LESSON

call on: 8979589366 for queries

**PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
DOWNLOAD CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP**





**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



**ARTS & CULTURE AND HISTORICAL EVENTS  
OF CONTINUING SIGNIFICANCE**

**QUICK FACTS**



1. **July 15, 2023**, marked the **120th birth anniversary of Kumaraswami Kamaraj**, a freedom fighter and politician, known as much for his simplicity and personal integrity as for his astute political mind. He actively participated in the Salt March in 1930, earning a two-year prison sentence. He faced imprisonment again from 1942 to 1945 due to his prominent involvement in the Quit India campaign against British rule. He served as the Chief Minister of Madras State (now Tamil Nadu) for nine years and as the President of the Indian National Congress for four years. He was known as the “Kingmaker” for choosing Lal Bahadur Shastri and Indira Gandhi as Prime Ministers of India after the death of Jawaharlal Nehru and Shastri, respectively. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour, posthumously in 1976.
2. **J. Robert Oppenheimer, father of the atomic bomb** and an American theoretical physicist, is known for his pivotal role in the creation of the atomic bomb. As the head of the Los Alamos Laboratory and leader of the Manhattan Project, Oppenheimer and his team harnessed advancements in nuclear physics to develop the first atomic bomb. The dawn of the Atomic Age occurred on July 16, 1945, with the Trinity Test, marking the successful detonation of the first atomic bomb.
3. **July 30, 2023**, is the **201st birth anniversary of Wajid Ali Shah**, the last Nawab to sit on the throne of Awadh. Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was a fine connoisseur of art, music, dance, poetry and cuisine, and he supported many artists and performers in his court. Although Wajid Ali Shah's pen name was "Qaisar", he used the pseudonym "Akhtarpiya" for his numerous compositions.
4. The **birth anniversary of Mangal Pandey** is observed every year on **July 19**. He was born on July 19, 1827, in Nagwa village in Uttar Pradesh. He played a significant role in the Indian rebellion against British colonial rule, also known as the First War of Independence. On March 29, 1857, at the Barrackpore military cantonment near Calcutta, he attacked on British officers was the first major incident of what came to be known as the Indian Mutiny.
5. The President of India presented the “**Bhoomi Samman**” **2023** to State Secretaries and District Collectors along with their teams who have excelled in achieving saturation of the core components of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP).
6. Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to freedom fighter **Bal Gangadhar Tilak**, popularly known as Lokmanya Tilak, on his **birth anniversary on July 23, 2023**. Tilak emphasized the need for self-rule or swarajya and popularized the slogan "Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it!". He founded the All-India Home Rule League in April 1916, aiming for Hindu-Muslim unity through the Lucknow Pact in 1916. Known for his newspapers Kesari (Marathi) and Mahratta (English) and authored books like Gita Rhasya and Arctic Home of the Vedas.
7. Several villages in **Haryana** dominated by the Rajput community have imposed a ban on the entry of BJP leaders over the unveiling of a **statue of Samrat Mihir Bhoj**, a 9th-century ruler, with the word 'Gurjar' inscribed on the plaque in Kaithal district. Mihir Bhoja or Bhoja I is the greatest ruler of the Pratihara Dynasty. Mihir Bhoj had made Kannauj his capital. He was a devotee of Vishnu, so in honour of Vishnu, he had assumed titles like Varaha and Prabhas. The achievements of Mihir Bhoj have been described in his Gwalior Prashasti inscription.
8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to freedom fighter **Chandrashekhar Azad** on his **birth anniversary on July 23, 2023**. The leader was born in the year 1906 in a village named Bhabra, situated in the state of Madhya Pradesh. At the age of 15, he joined the Non-Cooperation Movement taking place in 1921. He was well known for the Kakori train robbery. The Non-Cooperation Movement brought the fire of nationality in him when he changed his surname from Tiwari to Azad when presented in front of the court.
9. The **Dongria Kondh tribe, one of 13 particularly vulnerable tribal groups in Odisha**, fought a historic winning battle to save its ecology from bauxite mining operations in the Niyamgiri hill range from 2004 to 2013. Now, the tribe may face another challenge to prevent the diversion of community-owned forest land. Experts working in the forestry sector have sounded an alarm around the proposals of the Forest Conservation (Amendment) Bill (FCA), 2023. The new legislation may open a window for government agencies to divert land not classified as 'forest' in government records to other purposes.





**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



**TEST ZONE**



## PASSAGE - 1

India has registered a significant decline of 9.89 percentage points in the number of multidimensionally poor, from 24.85% in 2015-16 to 14.96% in 2019-2021, according to the 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023'. The report was released by the [1] in New Delhi on July 17. It claims that about 13.5 crore people came out of multidimensional poverty during the period, assessed by identifying "acute deprivations in health, education and standard of living" using United Nations-approved parameters. The report said rural areas witnessed the fastest decline in poverty from 32.59% to 19.28% and multidimensional poverty in urban areas, during the same period, saw a decrease from 8.65% to 5.27%.

It is prepared based on the latest National Family Health Survey of 2019-21 and is the second edition of the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). The broad methodology followed is in consonance with the global methodology. The report examined 12 parameters of health, education and standard of living. These include nutrition, child and adolescent mortality, maternal health, years of schooling, school attendance, cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing, assets, and bank accounts.

According to the report, between 2015-16 and 2019-21, the MPI value has nearly halved from 0.117 to 0.066 and the intensity of poverty has reduced from 47% to 44%. "With our own national MPI, India is poised to gain a deeper understanding of poverty's complexities and forge solutions that ensure inclusivity for all. The district-wise estimation of the national MPI will also prioritise reaching out to the furthest behind first through focused efforts on specific indicators and dimensions.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "[1] report claims decrease in multidimensional poverty", The Hindu]

**Q.1 Which organisation's name has been replaced with '[1]' in the passage above?**

**A** NITI Aayog

**C** NITI Aayog and World Bank

**B** United Nations Development Programme

**D** United Nations Development Programme and NITI Aayog

**Q.2 As per the National MPI 2023 which state saw the largest decline in the number of poor individuals escaping multidimensional poverty?**

**A** Bihar

**C** Uttar Pradesh

**B** Madhya Pradesh

**D** Odisha

**Q.3 Who among the following is the current Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog?**

**A** Dr. V K. Paul

**C** Dr. Arvind Virmani

**B** Suman Bery

**D** B. V. R. Subrahmanyam

**Q.4 In which year was the first edition of the National MPI released?**

**A** 2018

**C** 2020

**B** 2019

**D** 2021

**Q.5 Which of the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is related to 'end poverty in all its forms everywhere' by 2030?**

**A** SDG 1

**C** SDG 3

**B** SDG 2

**D** SDG 4

Q.1 (A) Q.2 (C) Q.3 (B) Q.4 (D) Q.5 (A)  
Answers

**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



## PASSAGE - 2

The first-ever Foreign Ministers' meeting of the BIMSTEC began in [1], on July 17. India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar was also present here and said in a tweet that areas of coordination challenges that were discussed, including health and energy security.

Despite having been in existence for many years, the grouping had been largely ignored until India gave it a renewed push in October 2016, a month after the terrorist attack in Uri. Alongside the BRICS summit in Goa, India hosted an outreach summit with leaders of BIMSTEC countries. Weeks earlier, some of these countries had supported New Delhi's call for a boycott of the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit scheduled in Islamabad that November.

Constantino Xavier, research fellow at the public policy think tank Centre for Social and Economic Progress, wrote in a paper for Carnegie India in 2018 how all of the BIMSTEC countries have a strategic incentive in its growth. Bangladesh views BIMSTEC as a platform to position itself as more than just a small state on the Bay of Bengal, and Sri Lanka sees it as an opportunity to connect with Southeast Asia and serve as the subcontinent's hub for the wider Indo-Pacific region.

The Bay of Bengal is crucial for an increasingly assertive China in maintaining its access route to the Indian Ocean. As China has undertaken a massive drive to finance and build infrastructure in South and Southeast Asia through the Belt and Road Initiative in almost all BIMSTEC countries, except Bhutan and India, BIMSTEC is a new battleground in the India-China battle for dominance.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "S Jaishankar attends BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' meet: What is the grouping?", The Indian Express]

**Q.1 What does BIMSTEC stand for?**

**A** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-National Technical and Economic Cooperation

**B** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

**C** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Party Technical and Economic Cooperation

**D** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Nation Technical and Economic Cooperation

**Q.2 Which place's name has been replaced with '[1]' in the passage above?**

**A** Dhaka, Bangladesh

**B** Colombo, Sri Lanka

**C** New Delhi, India

**D** Bangkok, Thailand

**Q.3 BIMSTEC is a regional organisation that was established in \_\_\_\_\_ with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration.**

**A** 1997

**B** 1967

**C** 1985

**D** 2009

**Q.4 Which of the following countries is not a member of SAARC?**

**A** Maldives

**B** Bhutan

**C** Myanmar

**D** Afghanistan

**Q.5 Which member of the G7 is the only country to join China's Belt and Road Initiative?**

**A** Italy

**B** Germany

**C** Canada

**D** France

Q.1 (B) Q.2 (D) Q.3 (A) Q.4 (C) Q.5 (A)

Answers

PREPARE FOR LAW EXAMS ON THE GO  
 DOWNLOAD CLAT BY SMARTKEEDA APP







## PASSAGE - 3

Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated every year to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War in [1]. The day honours the bravery and sacrifice made by Indian soldiers during the intense war. The successful operation against Pakistan was named Operation Vijay. Today, it's the 24th anniversary of the Kargil War. Honouring the soldier on Kargil Diwas 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted on X that they will "always remain an inspiration for the countrymen". "I bow down and salute him from the bottom of my heart," he added.

The armed conflict between India and Pakistan started after the Pakistani soldiers crossed the Line of Control (LoC) and entered Kargil district of Jammu and Kashmir (now part of the Union Territory of Ladakh). Known as the Kargil War, it continued from May to July [1]. It was on this day 21 years ago that the Indian Army recaptured all the Indian posts in Kargil that had been occupied by Pakistan's army. Since then, July 26 has been observed annually to commemorate the sacrifices made by soldiers in this war. Captain Vikram Batra, Lt Manoj Kumar Pandey, Major Rajesh Singh Adhikari, Major Vivek Gupta and others were among the 527 brave soldiers who gave their lives for the country.

Several event and parades are organised on this day in honour of these soldiers. The main ceremony is at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is in Drass in the Kargil district of Ladakh. He laid a wreath at the War Memorial in memory of the soldiers who died in Kargil.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "Kargil Vijay Diwas 2023: History, Significance And Other Things To Know", by Amit Chaturvedi, NDTV]

**Q.1 Which year has been replaced with '[1]' in the passage above?**

**A** 1965

**B** 1999

**C** 1962

**D** 1971

**Q.2 The Indian Army launched 'Operation Vijay' in response to which operation launched by Pakistan?**

**A** Operation Gazi

**B** Operation Kashmir

**C** Operation Badr

**D** Operation Gibraltar

**Q.3 In which year did India and Pakistan sign the Lahore Agreement to mutually resolve the Kashmir issue in a peaceful manner?**

**A** 1999

**B** 1972

**C** 1952

**D** 1963

**Q.4 Which place is known as the world's highest battlefield?**

**A** Drass

**B** Baltoro Glacier

**C** Siachen glacier

**D** Sonamarg

**Q.5 The National War Memorial was inaugurated and dedicated to the nation on 25 Feb 2019 at which place?**

**A** Drass

**B** New Delhi

**C** Kargil

**D** Leh

Q.1 (B) Q.2 (C) Q.3 (A) Q.4 (C) Q.5 (B)

Answers

**NOW PREPARE FOR CLAT 2024**

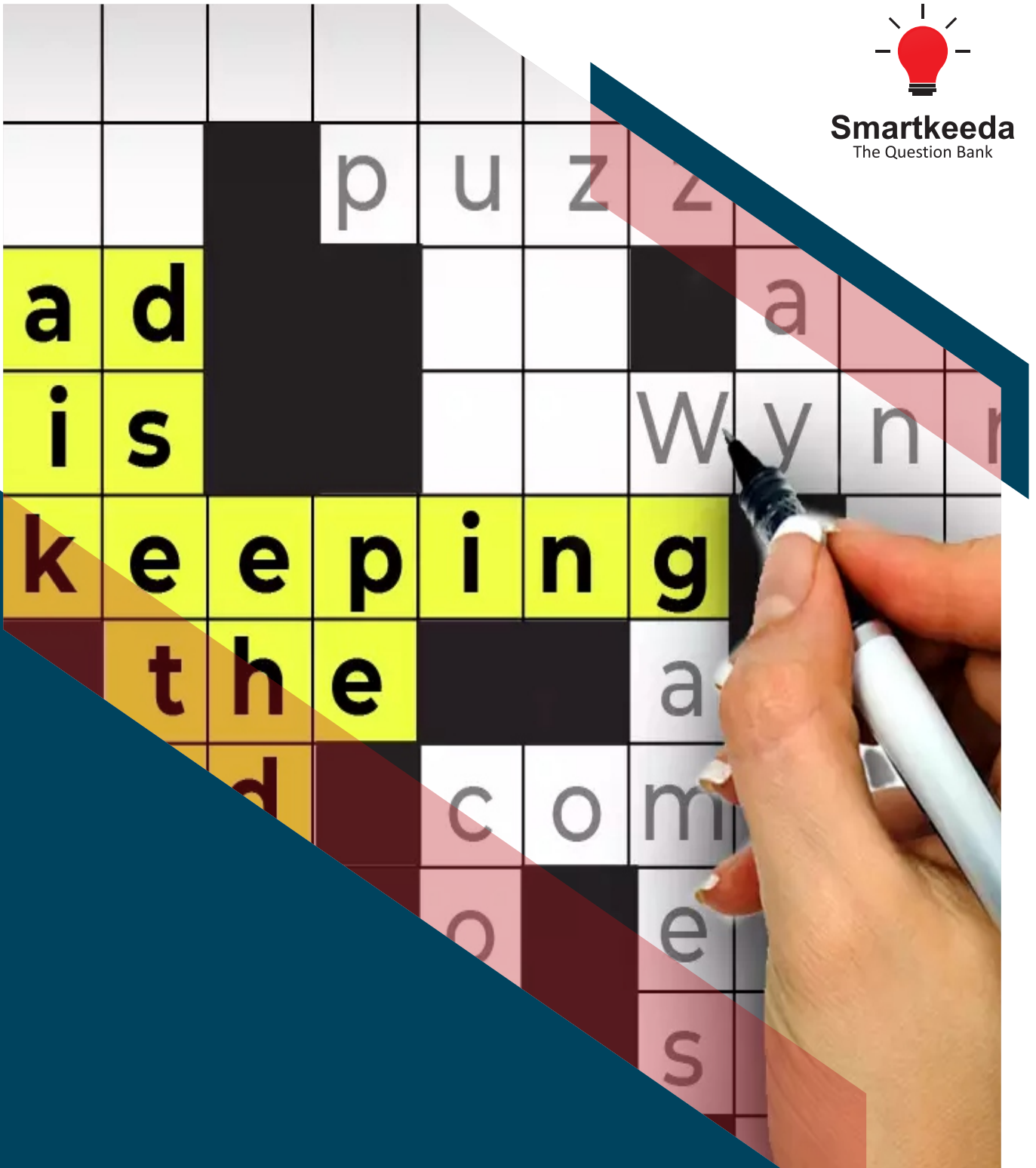
**WITHOUT PAYING HEFTY COACHING FEES**

**JOIN LAWEX BY SMARTKEEDA ON YOUTUBE**





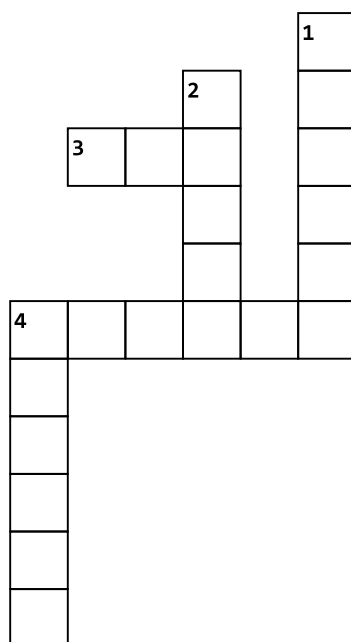
**Smartkeeda**  
The Question Bank



**CROSSWORD CORNER**



## CROSSWORD - 1



### Across

3. Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary
4. World Drowning Prevention Day

### Down

1. World Snake Day
2. India's first Cannabis Medicine Project was launched
4. International Moon Day

### Answers

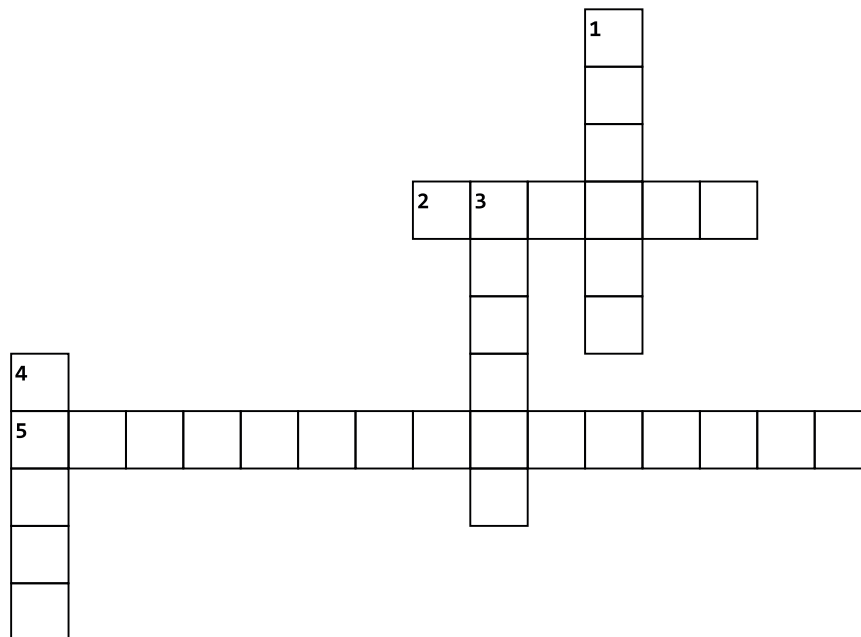
- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 3 | Goa              |
| 2 | Jammu            |
| 1 | 16 July          |
| 5 | 25 July (Across) |
| 4 | 20 July (Down)   |

**HAVE ANY DOUBT REGARDING YOUR CLAT PREPARATION?**

WRITE TO US AT [HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM](mailto:HELP@SMARTKEEDA.COM) OR CALL US ON - 8979589366



## CROSSWORD - 2



### Across

2. World Fragile X Awareness Day
5. India-Mongolia joint military exercise

### Down

1. Birth anniversary of Bal Gangadhar Tilak
3. World Hepatitis Day
4. Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023

### Answers

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 3 | 28 July          |
| 2 | 22 July          |
| 1 | 23 July          |
| 5 | Nomadic Elephant |
| 4 | India            |

