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Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

07th May 2026



India's Act East Policy



CONTEXT: The Prime Minister remarked that Vietnam is a central pillar to the larger fulcrum of India's Act East Policy & Vision Mahasagar to ensure stability & economic development in region

Mains Heading 1 : Role of "Vietnam" in India's Act East Policy?

Context of News :

India's relation with Vietnam is a partnership that does not aim at any other country in the Indo-Pacific region, said senior officials on Wednesday.

The remarks came soon after India welcomed General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam's Central Committee To Lam, who is also the current Vietnamese President.

Indian Council of World Affairs

"Vietnam is a major pillar of India's Act East Policy & Vision MAHASAGAR"

India's Growing relations with Vietnam :

Diplomatic relations in 1972 & CSP in 2016

Trade touched \$16 Billion (2025) & to increase upto \$25 Billion by 2030

India's Imports : \$10 Billion : Electronics, Machinery & Chemicals

Key for Energy security, Critical Minerals & Rare Earths

MOU with RBI for Digital Payments

Mains Heading 2 : What Constitutes "ASEAN" ?

1967: Bangkok Declaration by Big - 5 countries : **PSTIM**

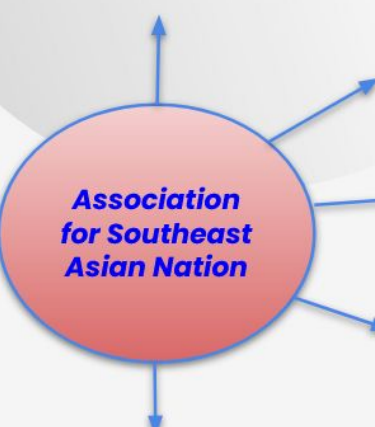
ASEAN Association of South East Asian Nation

Adherence to **UN Charter** : Promotion Of regional cooperation & economic development

1967: 1st summit at **Bali, Indonesia**

HQ is located at **Jakarta, Indonesia**

GDP: **\$13 Trillion** (6.5% of World's GDP) & World's **4th largest** economy by 2030



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Mains Heading 3 : Why ASEAN Is so important for India?

India's Gateway to Pacific Market :

Indo - Pacific : 65% World's population & 60% World's GDP

46% of World's merchandise trade & 55% container trade

ASEAN : >650 million population : 3rd largest market

Singapore : Largest provider of FDI to India

Bilateral trade crossing \$130 Billion in FY 24-25

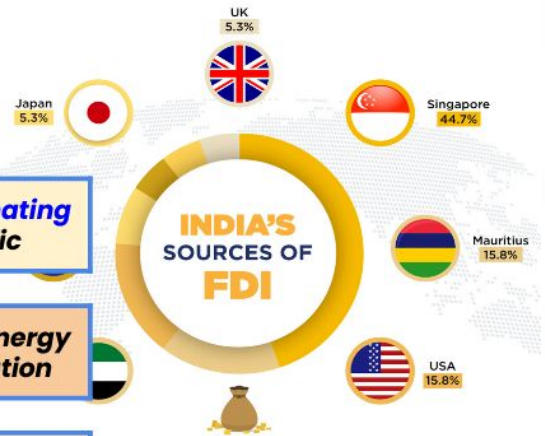
Counter balance dominating China in Indo- Pacific

Strategic for Offshore energy cooperation & exploration

Collaboration in digital economy, Startups & cyberspace

Enhance role as NSP in the region

TOP INVESTING COUNTRIES IN INDIA



Mains Heading 4 : What is India's Act East Policy?

India's Act East Policy 2014 :

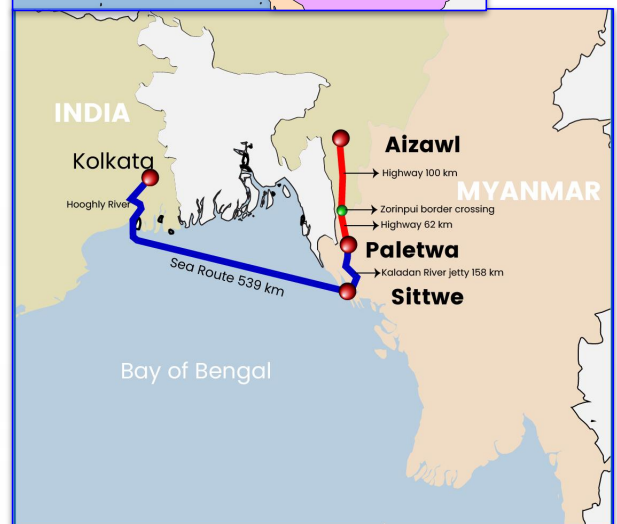
More ambitious version of "Look East Policy" 1991

4 C's Framework : Culture, Commerce, Connectivity & Capacity Building

Declaring 2025 as ASEAN-India Year of Tourism for which India committed USD 5 million

Doubling of ASEAN students at Nalanda University & ASEAN-India Fund for Digital Future 2024

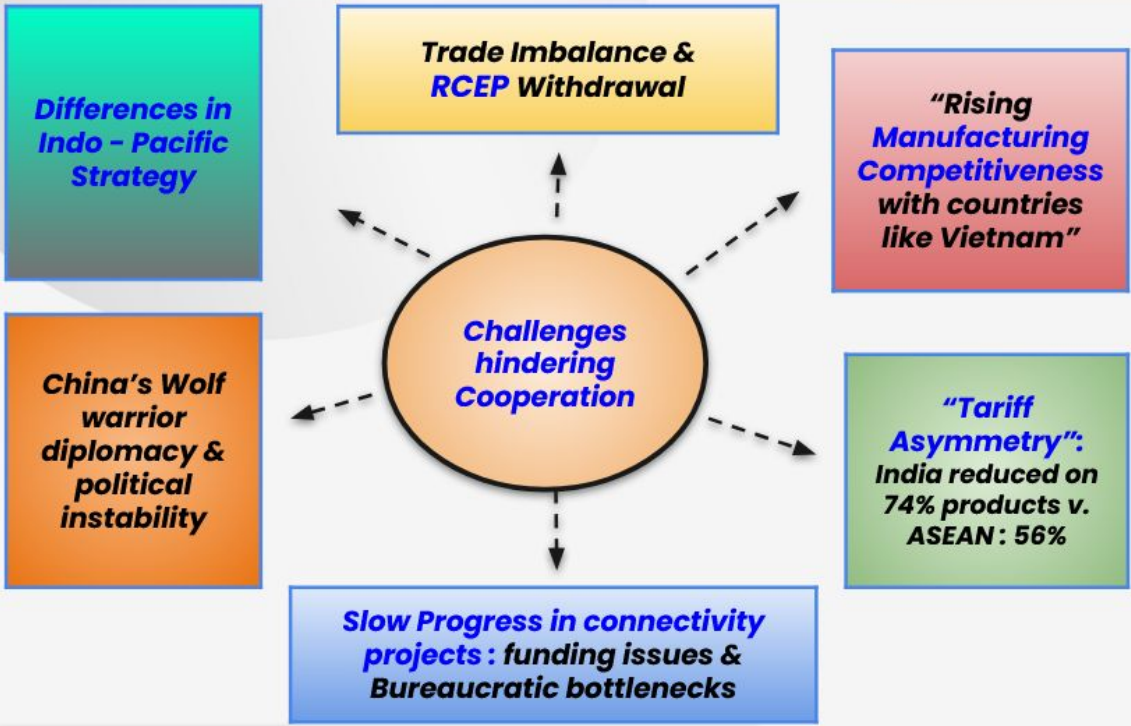
Cooperation in "Blue Economy" : HADR, SAR & combating IUU



India's Act East Policy

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Mains Heading 5 : Prevailing Issues In the Act East Policy?



ENTERING THE FINAL LAP

RCEP or Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement will create the world's largest free trade area

Apart from India, China, Japan, South Korea, Asean countries, Australia and New Zealand are engaged in talks, which started in 2013

INDIA'S TRADE DEFICIT WITH RCEP COUNTRIES (\$Bn)

China	53.5
Asean	21.8
South Korea	12.1
Australia	9.6
Japan	7.9
New Zealand	0.2

RCEP 105.1

Source: Commerce dept

ITEMS WHERE GOVT DEPTS ARE WORRIED

<p>Agriculture Fruits, mustard oil, palm oil, dairy products</p>	<p>Industrial goods Tyres, auto parts, white goods, footwear, paper products</p>	<p>Electronic goods Mobile phones, telecom equipment, consumer electronics</p>
<p>Chemicals & basic drugs</p>	<p>Steel products</p>	<p>Food items Groundnut, pasta, cocoa</p>
		<p>Garments & carpets</p>



CONTEXT: The Prime Minister remarked that Vietnam is a central pillar to the larger fulcrum of India's Act East Policy & Vision Mahasagar to ensure stability & economic development in region

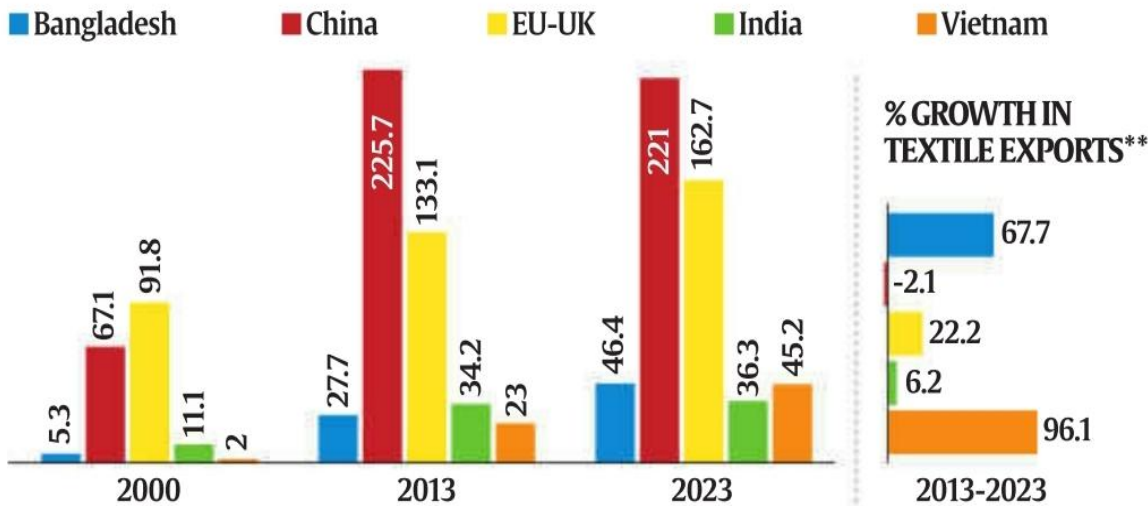
Mains Heading 5 : Prevailing Issues In the Act East Policy?

TABLE-1

INDIA'S TRADE WITH INDIVIDUAL ASEAN COUNTRIES (2024-25)				
Trade Figures in Million USD				
S.No.	Country	Export	Import	Total trade
1.	Brunei	58.67	128.89	187.46
2.	Cambodia	201.11	97.61	298.72
3.	Indonesia	5,379.59	22,778.45	28,158.04
4.	Laos	12.52	11.63	24.15
5.	Malaysia	7,316.40	12,539.87	19,856.27
6.	Myanmar	614.30	1,533.96	2,148.26
7.	Philippines	2,162.05	1,178.52	3,340.57
8.	Singapore	12,975.39	21,290.14	34,265.53
9.	Thailand	4,812.53	14,267.93	19,080.46
10.	Vietnam	5,428.91	10,334.51	15,763.42
	Total	38,961.47	84,161.41	123,122.88

Source: DGFT (23/06/2025)

BANGLADESH, VIETNAM SEE FASTER TEXTILE EXPORTS



% cumulative growth. Note: Value in \$bn. Source: GTRI

**World textile exports between 2013 and 2023 have risen over 11.4% while India's exports during the same period jumped by 6.2%, according to World Integrated Trade Solutions data



CONTEXT: The Prime Minister remarked that Vietnam is a central pillar to the larger fulcrum of India's Act East Policy & Vision Mahasagar to ensure stability & economic development in region

Mains Heading 6 : Way Forward :

For India, ASEAN is both an economic opportunity and geopolitical necessity in balancing Asian power dynamics : Henry Kissinger

Co - Develop Critical & Emerging Technologies

Implementing SAGAR Doctrine

Renegotiating FTA with each countries

Make for World : China + 1 Strategy

Fast track connectivity projects for Economic Integration

How to avoid Frictions?

Steps taken for Regional Connectivity

- Dimapur - Zubza Rail project in Nagaland
- Asian Highway 1 = Assam to Moreh via Kohima & Imphal
- Agartala - Akhaura Railway project : India & Bangladesh
- India - Japan Act East Forum 2017

Mains Practise Question

Practise Question : "India - ASEAN decade long synergy has not been able to develop into a strong economic & political union as envisaged under India's Act East Policy". Comment. (10 Marks, 150 words)

India and ASEAN should also prioritize services trade. The two sides inked the ASEAN-India Trade in Services Agreement in 2014 which came into force in 2015. However, India has not adequately explored the opportunities in the ASEAN IT sector despite its dominant global role. In addition, India should also be able to offer professional and business services to countries in the ASEAN.

One of India's notable concerns is the misuse of the trade agreement to reroute imports from third countries to avoid higher tariffs in India. The review of AITIGA is proposed to be comprehensive and should continue to be fast-tracked to ensure its conclusion next year. This will also support further diversification of India's export basket.



Mitigating SO2 from Coal power plants



CONTEXT: The article highlights the challenges & opportunities of controlling SO2 Emissions which contribute to the PM 2.5 Pollution in the country

Mains Heading 1: The "Urgent Call" for Structural Reforms :

Context of News :

THE IIT DELHI STUDY, IN A NUTSHELL

Importance of the study

- Coal-fired thermal power plants (CFPP) emit atmospheric sulfur dioxide (SO₂)
- Major precursor of secondary pollutants, which pose health risks
- Main pollutants produced include sulfate, nitrate, and ammonium aerosols

Current trend

- India's emissions have spiked significantly due to rapid socio-economic changes and heavy coal reliance
- Globally, CFPP-SO₂ emissions declining

The findings

- India could reduce annual PM_{2.5} levels by 0.3-12 microgrammes per cubic metre by cutting down CFPP-SO₂



- Can prevent 1,24,564 deaths annually
- States like Chhattisgarh and Odisha would see greatest improvements
- Socio-economically disadvantaged groups would see highest health benefits
- Health-related monetary gains likely to surpass costs of installing emission-control technologies like flue gas desulfurization (FGD)

Delhi : Pollution "Capital"?

WHO Report 2024 :
3rd most polluted country

Delhi : World's most polluted capital city

96% population exposed to high level of PM 2.5

LANCET Report 2023 :
Air pollution : 11% deaths per annum in Delhi

What is the "extent"?

While the World Health Organisation's (WHO) 24-hour guideline for PM 10 is 50 µg/m³, Delhi's hourly readings were already over 16 times higher, showing how high pollution levels surged before the festival night.

Mains Heading 2: The "Cause" behind "Breathing Crisis" :

Total Installed Power Capacity : 456 GW = Coal Based TPP = 47%

Share in Actual Generation : 68-71%

SO2 = Toxic gas with pungent smell : India is LARGEST emitter

PM 2.5 combined with Ammonia (NH₃)

CREA Report 2024 :

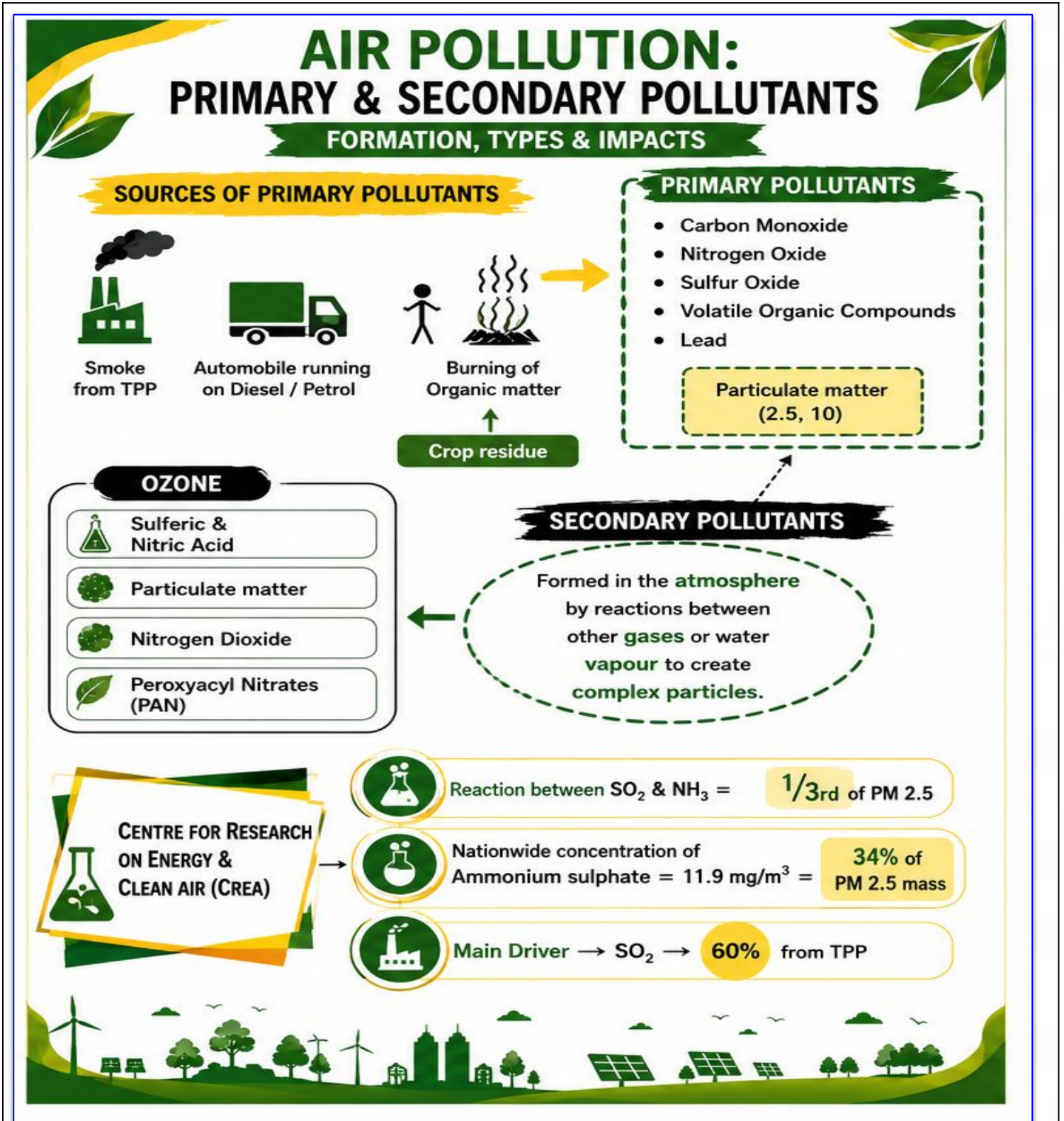
TPP : 240 times greater SO2 emission than Stubble Burning



Mitigating SO₂ from Coal power plants



CONTEXT: The article highlights the challenges & opportunities of controlling SO₂ Emissions which contribute to the PM 2.5 Pollution in the country



Mitigating SO₂ from Coal power plants



CONTEXT: The article highlights the challenges & opportunities of controlling SO₂ Emissions which contribute to the PM 2.5 Pollution in the country

Mains Heading 2: The "Cause" behind "Breathing Crisis":

Coal Based TPP: 4-5 million Tonnes of SO₂ annually

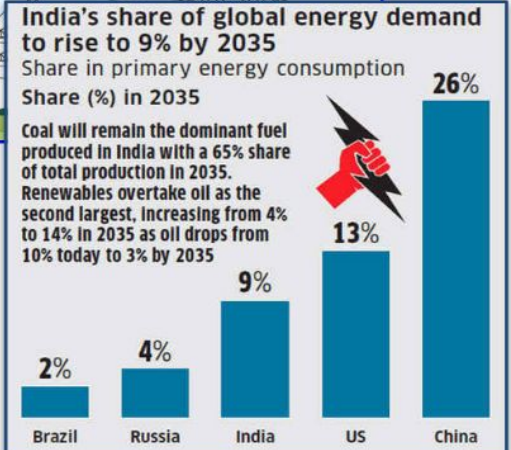
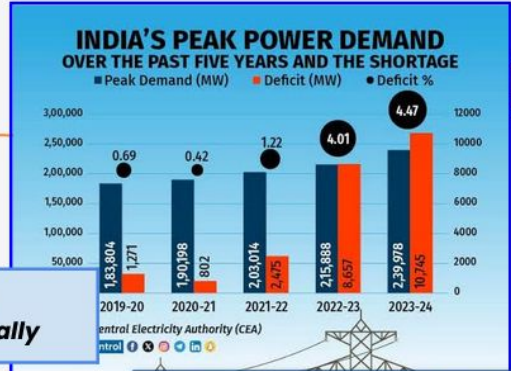
TPP around Delhi: Emit 281 Kilotonnes of SO₂ annually

Many TPPs entirely lack FGD Technology

IIT Delhi Study: Complete mitigation of SO₂: Prevent 14,000 + Cardiovascular deaths

Environmental Equity Issue: More impact on OBC, SC & ST section of

Impact of SO₂ Emission



Mains Heading 3: The "Government's Response":

Categorisation of TPPs:

Category A:

- TPPs within 10 km radius of the National Capital Region (NCR)
- Cities with a million plus population

Category B:

Within a 10 km radius of critically polluted areas or non-attainment cities.

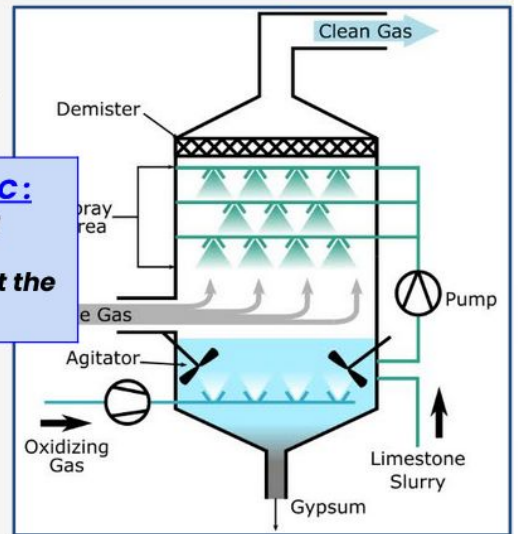
Category C:

Remaining Plants throughout the country

PENALTIES

- ₹0.2 / Unit = Delay up to 180 days
- ₹0.3 / Unit = Delay from 181 to 365 days
- ₹0.4 / Unit = Delay beyond 1 year

Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD):



Mitigating SO₂ from Coal power plants



CONTEXT: The article highlights the challenges & opportunities of controlling SO₂ Emissions which contribute to the PM 2.5 Pollution in the country

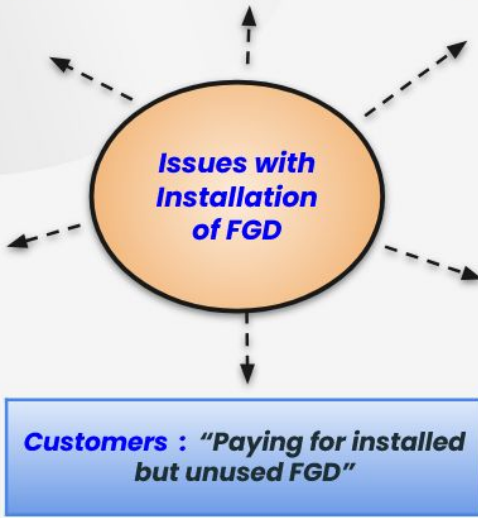
Mains Heading 4 : Issue of Extension of Deadlines:

Lack of Public - Private Partnership

No accountability mechanism on CPCB & SPCB

CEA Review Report : "One mole of CO₂ is released for absorption of One mole of SO₂"

CSE : "Lack of coordination between MoP, MoEFCC & TPPs"



Long gestation period & High installation cost

Customers : "Paying for installed but unused FGD"

CSIR - NEERI Study:

- Recommended against installing additional FGD Systems
- "SO₂ emission norms are not important to achieve Good Ambient Air Quality"
- Focus on reducing Particulate emissions
- Indian coal has lower sulphur content

Mains Heading 5 : Other Steps Taken :

National Clean Air Programme :

Other Steps Taken :

National Clean Air Programme

SATAT & FAME Scheme

Ban on use of Pet Coke & Furnace Oil as fuel

Technical Interventions : Happy Seeder

Adoption of GREEN Crackers : SWAS, STAR & SAFAL

- ❑ Target : 40% reduction in PM Levels by 2025-26 under NCAP from 2017 level
- ❑ Cities to be covered : 102
- ❑ 131 cities to be ranked on actions to reduce air pollution
- ❑ City specific air pollution abatement action plan
- ❑ International Support Agencies : World Bank, Swiss Development Corporation etc



Mitigating SO₂ from Coal power plants



CONTEXT: The article highlights the challenges & opportunities of controlling SO₂ Emissions which contribute to the PM 2.5 Pollution in the country

Mains Practise Question

**Practise Question : What are Primary & Secondary Pollutants?
What are the issues revolving installation of Flue Gas
Desulphurisation Technique in the Thermal Power Plants?
Provide suggestive measures.
(10 Marks, 150 words)**



Chief Minister refused to relinquish Office



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity & Constitution
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 8

Context of News :

The story so far:

A day after the Trinamool Congress lost the West Bengal elections to the BJP, party chairperson Mamata Banerjee on May 5 said she would not resign as Chief Minister, alleging that the verdict was the result of a “conspiracy” rather than the people’s mandate. Addressing a press conference, Ms. Banerjee claimed the elections had not been conducted fairly and accused the BJP of misusing central forces to “forcibly capture” booths and influence the outcome. She added that the party would challenge the results and continue its political fight.

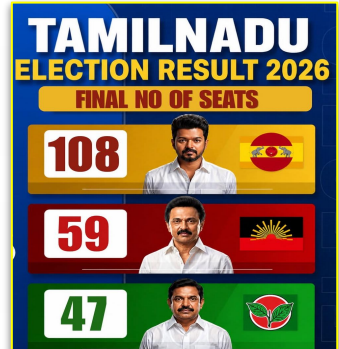
Chief Minister refused to relinquish Office

THE GIST

Though Article 164 states that the Council of Ministers holds office “during the pleasure of the Governor”, this is not absolute; in practice, a Chief Minister can continue only so long as they enjoy the confidence of the Legislative Assembly.

The majority of a Chief Minister is determined through a floor test in the House, and if they fail to prove support, they must resign.

What is a “Hung Assembly” ?



What are “Constitutional Directives” in front of Governor?

**Article
163 (1)**

There shall be **COM with CM at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions, except in so far as he is by or under this Constitution required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion**

**Article
163 (2)**

If any question arises whether any matter is or is not a matter under which Governor is required to act in his discretion, the **decision of the Governor in his discretion shall be final & validity of anything done by the Governor shall not be called in question**

**Article
164 (1)**

Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister

**Article
164(2)**

Council of Ministers “shall be collectively responsible to the legislative assembly of the state”.
It requires the **House not be against the government.**

**Article
164 (3)**

Before a Minister enters upon his office, the Governor shall administer to him the oaths of office and of secrecy according to the forms set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule

**Article
174**

Governor shall from time to time summon the House to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit but 6 months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session



Chief Minister refused to relinquish Office



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity & Constitution
Newspaper : The Hindu, Page No : 8

Rameshwari Prasad v. UOI 2005

Sarkaria Commission : Order of Preference

**An alliance of parties that was formed
prior to the elections**

**Single largest party staking a claim to form
the government with the support of others
including independents**

A post-electoral coalition of parties

**Post electoral alliance of parties with some of the
parties in the alliance forming a government & the
remaining parties, including independents,
supporting the government from outside**

**SR Bommai v.
UOI 1994**

- **Majority shall be tested on the Floor** in the case of doubt prevails and **NOT** in Raj Bhavan
- **Governor's subjective satisfaction is limited**
- **Floor test must be held at the earliest practicable date**
- **Article 361: Governor has personal immunity from being sued but his action can be reviewed & set aside by the courts**

Article 172

- **Assembly shall continue for 5 years** from date appointed for its 1st meeting
- **Expiration of said period of 5 years shall operate as Dissolution of Assembly**
- **Formal resignation is a matter of convention**



India's Semiconductor Mission



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Economy & Government Policies
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No :** Explained

India's Semiconductor Mission

Context of News :

THE UNION Cabinet on Tuesday approved two new semiconductor plants, including one that could be the country's first display fabrication facility, in a boost to India's chip-making ambitions. A display fabrication facility is a specialised, high-investment, clean-room environment designed to create electronic screens (such as LCD and OLED) by layering materials on glass semiconductor bases.

With this, the government has approved a total of 12 chip plants under the first leg of its India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), an ambitious Rs 76,000-crore plan to kickstart chip manufacturing, after managing to localise smartphone assembly.

About Semiconductor

Material whose conductivity properties lies between **Conductor & Insulator**

Silicon, Germanium, Gallium, Arsenide etc

Low Operating Voltage & Less expensive than conductors

India's Semiconductor Market : \$300 Billion by 2030

Indigenous Market share in Total Market : 17% by 2026

Why it is Important for India?

Mineral	Importance	Import Dependency
Bismuth	Pharmaceutical and chemicals	85.6%
Lithium	EV batteries and energy storage	82%
Silicon	Semiconductor & solar panels	76%
Titanium	Aerospace & defence applications	50%
Tellurium	Solar power & thermoelectric devices	42%



India's Semiconductor Mission



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Economy & Government Policies
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No :** Explained

INDIA SEMICONDUCTOR MISSION (ISM)

Administrative Ministry

Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeiTY)

Government of India

Central Sector Scheme

- ✓ Fully Funded by:
- ✓ Government of India
- ✓ Financial Outlay:

₹76,000 Crore
(approx. USD 10 Billion)

Locations of Fabrication & ATMP Units

Gujarat

- ✓ Dholera Region
- ✓ Key Semiconductor Manufacturing Hub

Telangana

- ✓ Semiconductor Packaging & Testing Unit

Approved

Fiscal Incentive Structure

Category	Fiscal Support
Semiconductor Fabrication Plants	Up to 50% of Project Cost
Display Fabrication Units	Up to 50% of Project Cost
ATMP/OSAT Units	Up to 50% of Capital Expenditure
Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme	Up to 50% of Eligible Expenditure

Incentive

Up to **50%** Fiscal Support

Fis all argale proveds



India's Semiconductor Mission



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Economy & Government Policies
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No :** Explained

India's Semiconductor Mission

What is Pax Silica?

It is **NOT** a
Formal Treaty

US Led Initiative
to counter China's
dominance in
Critical Minerals &
Semiconductors

QUAD,
Netherland,
Singapore & South
Korea

EU & OECD as
"Observers"

China + 1:
Securing global technology &
AI Supply chains

Other Initiatives by USA

- **CHIPS Act 2022:** Subsidies for Semiconductor manufacturing
- Export restrictions on Advanced AI Chips
- **Chip 4 Alliance Framework** : U + J + SK + Taiwan
- **"Friend shoring"** strategy

Other Initiatives by India

- **PLI Scheme** for Semiconductors
- **KABIL** : To secure overseas Mineral assets
- **Deep Ocean Mission** for Ocean Exploration



Acid attack victim in Disabilities Act

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Government Policies & Acts
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No :** Explained

Acid attack victim in Disabilities Act

Context of News :

THE SUPREME Court on Monday held that persons who were forced to consume acid and thus suffered internal injuries, without visible scars, would be considered acid attack victims under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016.

The top court's ruling was necessitated by the fact that the Act's definition of acid attack victims appears to confine itself to external "disfigurement".

The bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi said the clarification would apply retrospectively — that is, from the day the Act came into force.

UNCRPD :
 "Invisible Minority"

WHO : "Impairment, activity learning & participation restrictions" normal for other human beings

Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016

1.3 Billion globally

MoSJ reply in LS 2024 :
 2.68 crore or 2.21% of population

80% : Developing countries

Movement : 54 Lakh
 Hearing & Seeing : ~ 50 Lakhs each

21 categories

Acid attack victim in Disabilities Act

Types of Disabilities :

- Blindness
- Leprosy cured person
- Locomotor disability
- Dwarfism
- Intellectual disability
- Mental illness
- Specific learning disability
- Hearing Impairment
- Muscular dystrophy
- Acid attack victims
- Parkinson's disease
- Thalassemia
- Hemophilia
- Sickle cell disease
- Autism spectrum disorder

Article 14 : Right to Equality, Accessibility & Reasonable accommodation

Section 3 : "No person shall be discriminated on ground of disability"

Increased Quota of Reservation :
 4% in Government Jobs & 5% in Higher Education

Right to Education Act 2009 : Free education from 6-18 years

Faster Adjudication under Special Courts

High Penalties for Serious Offences : Imprisonment upto 6 months - 5 years

Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Government Policies & Acts
Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No: Explained

Reflection on Ground?

Falling short

■ Despite the 2016 law raising reservation from 3% to 4%, the strength in Union govt. jobs have never crossed 1.1%.



Group-wise representation (2022)

Group A: Lowest share

Group B: 1.53%

Group C (non-Safai Karmachari): 1.1%

Group C (Safai Karmachari): 1.93%

■ Their numbers have stayed between 20,000–22,000 from 2016 to 2022, making up just about 1% of the workforce

Pending acid attack cases

● The Supreme Court has flagged an 'alarming increase' in the number of acid attack cases since 2013.

● According to compliance affidavits filed in the top court, Uttar Pradesh has the highest backlog of acid attack cases at 198, followed by West Bengal (160) and Gujarat (114). Bihar reported 68 pending cases.

UPSC 2025 Result :

4. Appointment to the various Services will be made according to the number of vacancies available with due consideration to the provisions contained in the Rules for the Examination. The number of vacancies reported by the Government to be filled is as under:

SERVICES	GEN	EWS	OBC	SC	ST	Total
I.A.S.	74	18	47	28	13	180
I.F.S.	22	06	15	08	04	55
I.P.S.	60	15	42	22	11	150
Central Services Group 'A'	211	48	141	73	34	507
Group 'B' Services	79	17	61	27	11	195
Total	446	104	306	158	73	1087*

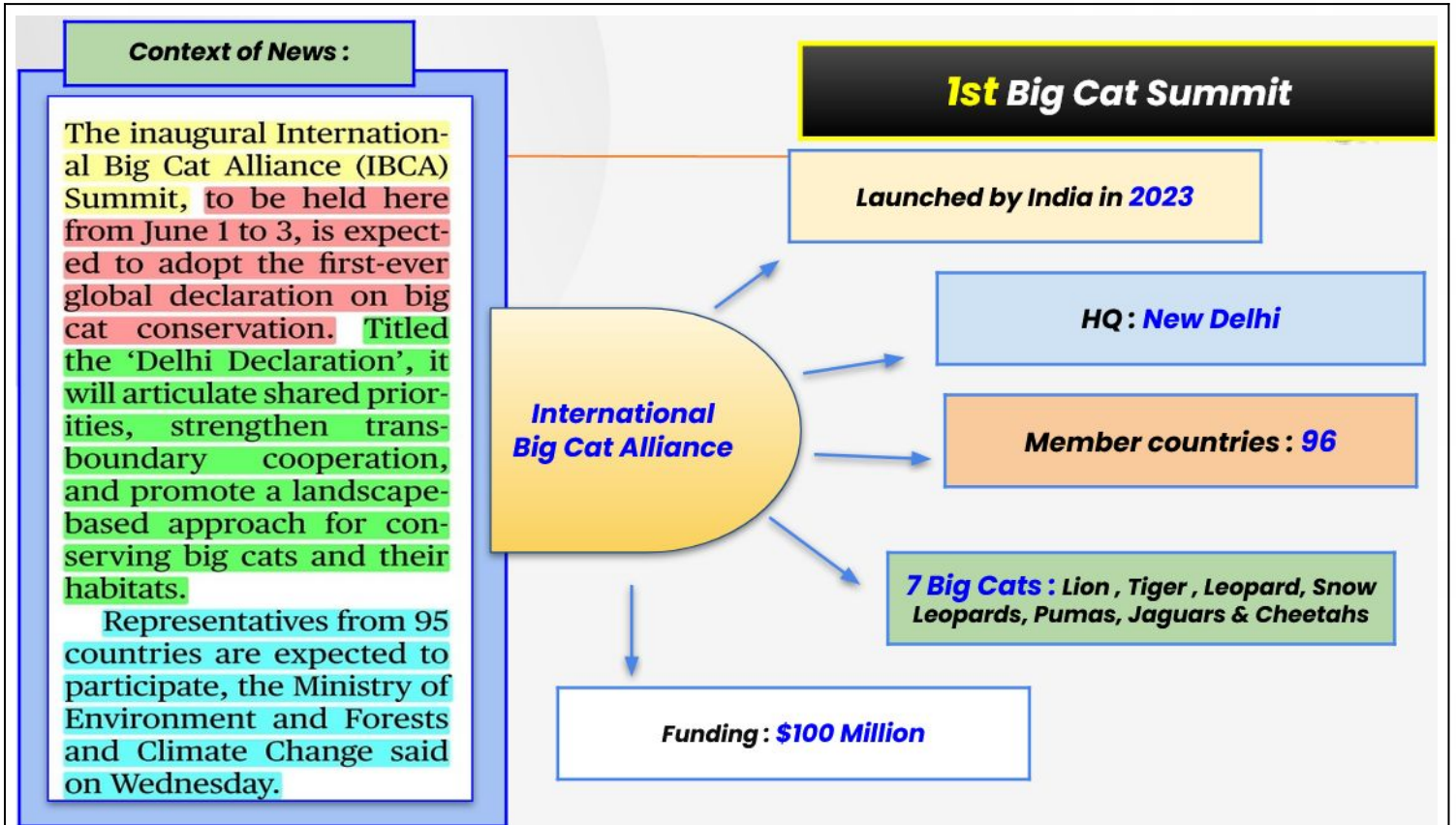
*includes 42 PwBD vacancies (10 PwBD-1, 14 PwBD-2, 09 PwBD-3 & 09 PwBD-5)



1st Big Cat Summit



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Environment
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 12**



7 Big Cats	WPA 1972	IUCN	CITES
Tiger	Schedule 1	Endangered	Appendix 1
Lion	Schedule 1	Vulnerable	Appendix 1
Cheetah	Schedule 1	Critically Endangered	Appendix 1
Leopard	Schedule 1	Vulnerable	Appendix 1
Snow Leopard	Schedule 1	Vulnerable	Appendix 1
Jaguar	Not Applicable	Near Threatened	Appendix 1
Puma	Not Applicable	Least Concern	Appendix 1



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Environment
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No : 12**

TYPES OF BIG CATS & THEIR LOCATIONS

 LION	 TIGER
AFRICA AND EURASIA	ASIA
 JAGUAR	 CHEETAH
AMERICAS	AFRICA
 LEOPARD	 SNOW LEOPARD
AFRICA, ASIA, AND MIDDLE EAST	ALPINE REGION OF SOUTH-CENTRAL ASIA
 COUGAR	
NORTH AMERICA	

1st Big Cat Summit

Asiatic Lions :


Vulnerable on IUCN

Found **ONLY** in India

ONLY in Gir, Gujarat

Appendix 1 of CITES

Schedule 1 of WPA 1972



ASIATIC LION

POPULATION RISES TO 891 IN 2025 CENSUS
A MAJOR CONSERVATION MILESTONE

INDIA RECORDS A 32% RISE IN ASIATIC LIONS SINCE 2020

IM



Hantavirus is deadlier than COVID



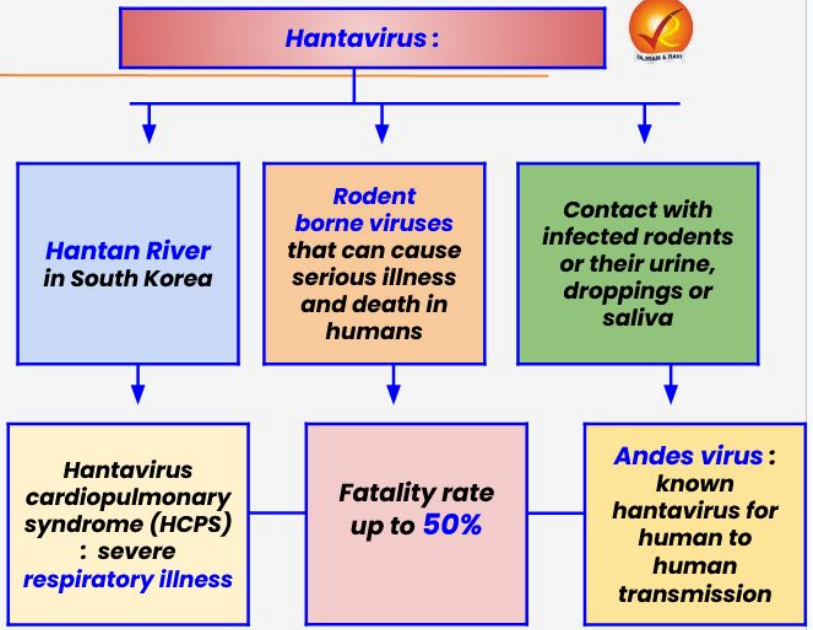
SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important National & International Events
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No :** Explained

Hantavirus is deadlier than COVID

Context of News :

A GROUP of people on a Dutch cruise ship was found to be infected by the deadly hantavirus earlier this week. Seven cases — two laboratory confirmed and five suspected — have been identified among the 147 passengers and crew onboard the MV Hondius, which was travelling from Argentina to Spain. Three of them have died while one is seriously ill. Three others are reporting mild symptoms, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

The vessel is currently stationed in Cape Verde, off West Africa. The WHO said Wednesday that three suspected patients had been evacuated from the ship to receive medical care in the Netherlands. These cases created global concern, though WHO said that at this stage the “overall public health risk remains low”.



2

Particles from infected droppings and urine can become airborne*

3

Infection occurs when those particles are inhaled

1

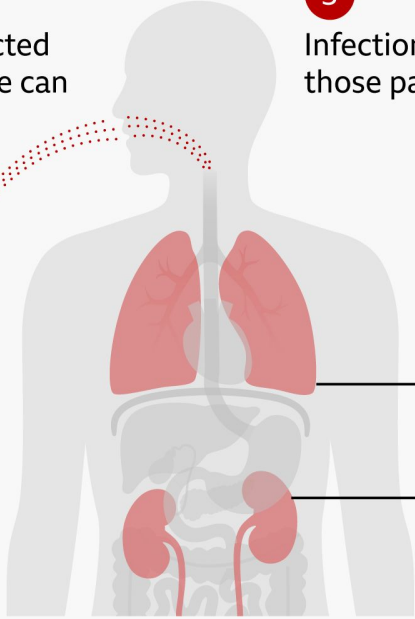
The virus is often carried by rodents

4

It can cause two severe illnesses that can lead to:

Respiratory issues and lung damage

Internal bleeding and kidney failure



*It can also be transmitted through cuts, the eyes or from a bite by a rodent

B B C



Hantavirus is deadlier than COVID

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important National & International Events
Newspaper : The Indian Express, **Page No :** Explained

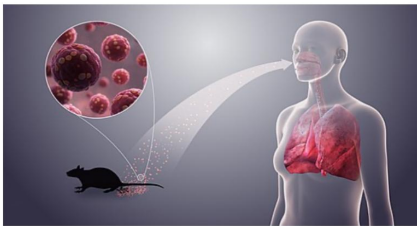
SYMPTOMS AFTER EXPOSURE



TREATMENT

No vaccine or antiviral treatment exists. Care focuses on clinical monitoring and managing any complications. Outcomes improve significantly with early access to medical care

Sources: WHO, NCCID



Hantavirus transmission



The **bank vole**, the natural reservoir of Puumala virus



Q1. With reference to the India Semiconductor Mission, consider the following statements:

1. It is fully funded by the Government of India.
2. The mission is administered by the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
3. It provides fiscal incentives for semiconductor fabrication plants and display fabrication units.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the Governor of a state:

1. If any question arises whether a matter falls within the Governor's discretionary powers, the Governor's decision shall be final.
2. In cases of doubt regarding majority support, the Governor may conclusively determine majority strength in the Raj Bhavan itself.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

Q3. With reference to Persons with Disabilities, consider the following statements:

1. Around 80% of persons with disabilities live in developing countries.
2. According to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, persons with disabilities constitute about 2.21% of India's population.
3. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, provides 4% reservation in government jobs and 5% reservation in higher educational institutions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: d

Q4. With reference to Asiatic Lions, consider the following statements:

1. They are listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
2. They are found only in India.
3. They are protected under Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: a

Q5. With reference to Hantavirus, consider the following statements:

1. Hantaviruses are rodent-borne viruses that can cause severe illness in humans.
2. Humans may get infected through contact with infected rodents or their urine, droppings, or saliva.
3. Hantavirus infections have fatality rates of 100%.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b





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