



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

5th August 2026



Mining Buffer for Wetland Reserves



CONTEXT: The article highlights the importance of Wetlands in Natural ecosystem and argue for a better conservation strategy of Wetlands in India & Globally

Mains Heading 1: What is Ramsar Convention 1971?

Context of News :

- ❑ SC : "Direction banning mining activities within a 10km radius of the **Asan wetland** conservation reserve, a Ramsar site in Uttarakhand
- ❑ Would **apply to other wetland reserves across the country** for the sake of parity

Ramsar Sites

Wetland designated as one of "International Importance" under Ramsar Convention signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971

Ramsar Convention :

2nd February:
World Wetland Day

Theme 2026 : Wetland & Traditional Knowledge : Celebrating Cultural Heritage

1974 : First Ramsar Site :
Cobourg Peninsula in Australia

1975 : Convention came into force with UNESCO as depository

1981 : Chilika Lake & Keoladeo NP declared Ramsar Sites

Wetlands Conservation & Management Rules 2017

Includes

- Area of marsh, fen, peatland or water
- Whether **natural or artificial**
- Whether **permanent or temporary**
- Water that is **static or flowing**
- Fresh, brackish or salt
- Marine water = Depth of which at low tide **does not exceed 6 meters**

Does NOT Include

- River channels
- Paddy fields
- Human made water bodies or Tanks
- Structure created for Aquaculture, salt production & Irrigation



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Ravindra Sinha's Petition :

Definition of "Wetlands" in Rule 2(g) of 2017 Law is inconsistent with Ramsar Convention

"Includes both Natural & Artificial Wetlands whether permanent or temporary" without any distinction

Excluded water bodies constructed for drinking water, irrigation, salt production & Paddy cultivation

Weakens the existing legal protection & move substantial majority of Wetlands from protection framework

Importance of Wetlands :

43. "If rainforests and tropical forests are the lungs of the Earth, then surely wetlands function as its kidneys." Which one of the following functions of wetlands best reflects the above statement ?

- (a) The water cycle in wetlands involves surface runoff, subsoil percolation and evaporation.
- (b) Algae form the nutrient base upon which fish, crustaceans, molluscs, birds, reptiles and mammals thrive.
- (c) Wetlands play a vital role in maintaining sedimentation balance and soil stabilization.
- (d) Aquatic plants absorb heavy metals and excess nutrients.

Mains Heading 2 : What are importance of Wetlands for Environment Conservation?

Act as **"Biological Supermarkets"**

Natural sponges against surface water runoff, flood control etc

Ecosystem services by Wetlands

Filtering of Nutrients : "Kidneys of Earth"

Diversify Economic Portfolio of the region

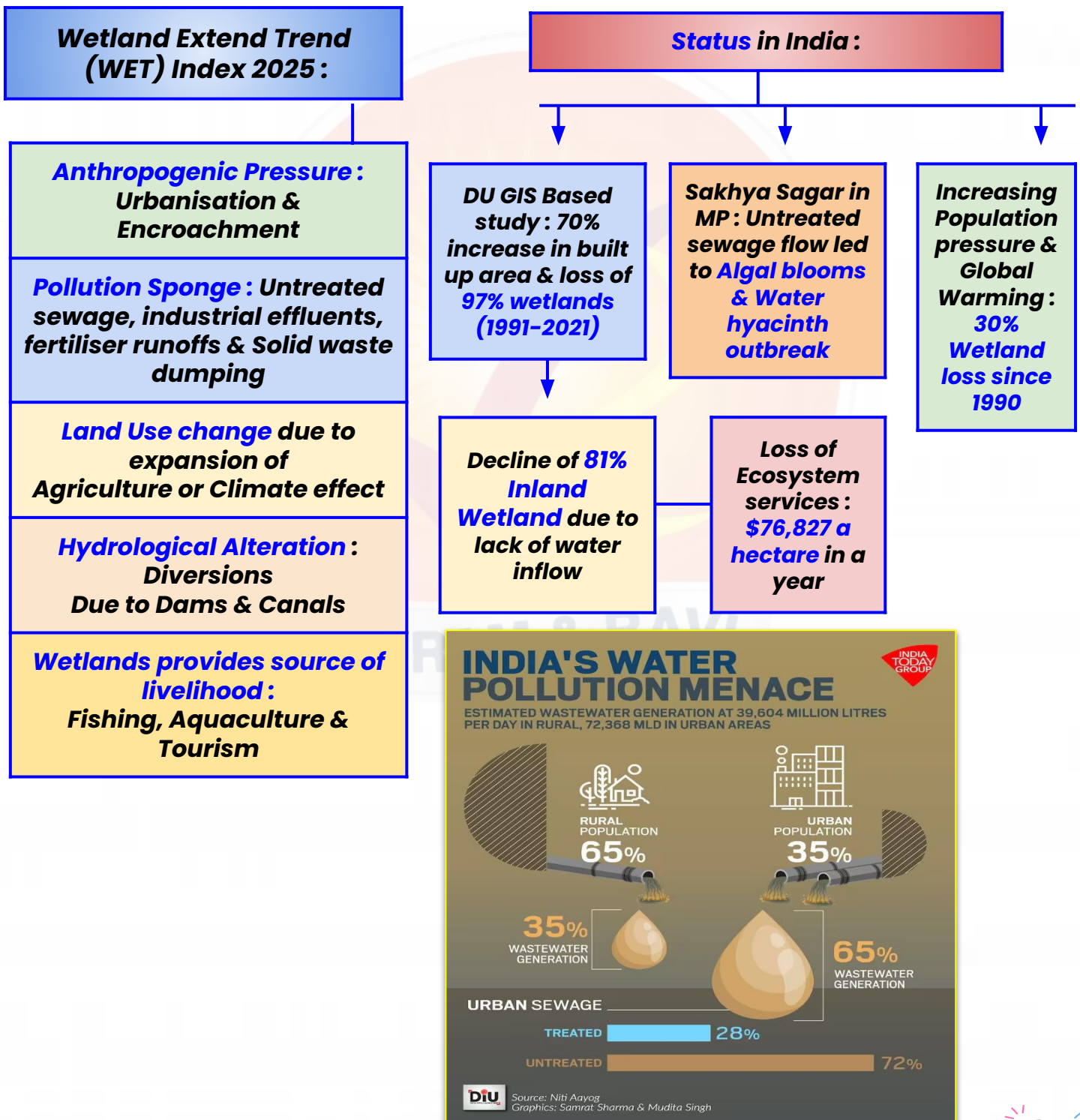
Helps in Carbon Sequestration



Mining Buffer for Wetland Reserves

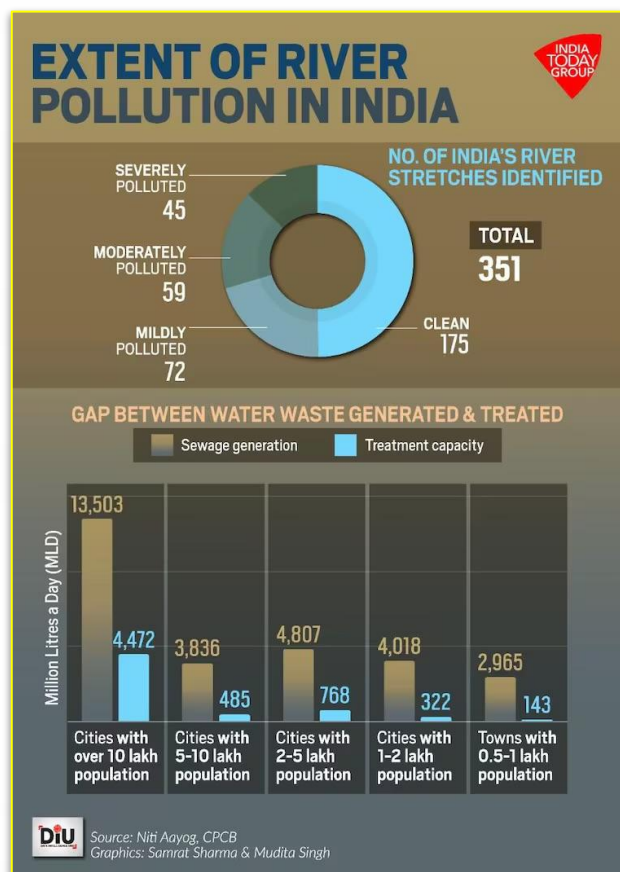
CONTEXT: The article highlights the importance of Wetlands in Natural ecosystem and argue for a better conservation strategy of Wetlands in India & Globally

Mains Heading 3 : Causative Factors behind loss of Wetlands in India?



Mining Buffer for Wetland Reserves

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Cumulative total reduction in value (billions 2023 Int\$) resulting from loss of wetlands 1975-2025. Values are derived using median values per unit area

WETLAND TYPE	VALUE (BILLIONS 2023 INT\$)
Coral reefs	142.7
Seagrass	74.8
Kelp forest	16.5
Estuarine waters	71
Tidal flat	44.0
Salt marshes	9.5
Mangroves	24.7
Rivers and streams	62.1
Lakes	1,959.4
Inland marshes & swamp	1,929.8
Peatlands	870.2
Total	5,140.9



Mains Heading 4 : Steps taken for Conservation of Wetlands :

Global Efforts

COP 14 : Preparation of 5th Ramsar Strategic Plan

Aligning it with UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

Freshwater Challenge : Columbia, Ecuador & Zambia

Development of Sponge Cities in China

UNEA : Lake & Natural Based solutions



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Efforts by GOI :

Amrit Dharohar Scheme

MISHTI Scheme

Mission Sahbhagita

An initiative **MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes)** will be taken up for **mangrove plantation along the coastline and on salt pan lands**

The government will promote **Amrit Dharohar**, a scheme to **encourage optimal use of wetlands, and enhance bio-diversity, carbon stock, eco-tourism opportunities**



Prelims 2027 Factsheet :

India (99 sites)
➤ surpassed
China (82
Ramsar sites)

Largest Ramsar Site in India :
Sundarbans Wetland

Largest Ramsar site in the World :
Ngiri- Ndombe Wetland Complex in DRC

Smallest Ramsar Site :
Renuka Lake in Himachal Pradesh

State with most Ramsar Sites :
Tamil Nadu (20 sites) > UP (12 sites)

Country with largest number Of Ramsar Sites : UK (175)



CONTEXT: The article highlights the importance of Wetlands in Natural ecosystem and argue for a better conservation strategy of Wetlands in India & Globally



Mains Practise Question

Question : What is **Ramsar Convention 1971**? What are the ecosystem services provided by Wetlands? Analyse the status of conservation of wetlands in India? (150 words, 10 marks)

17. Comment on the National Wetland Conservation Programme initiated by the Government of India and name a few India's wetlands of international importance included in the Ramsar Sites. (Answer in 250 words) 15



NATO : New Strategic Era of Transformation

CONTEXT: The editorial argues that “For India, NATO’s transformation is less about Europe than about the redistribution of American strategic attention”

Chapter 1: Decoding the NEWS : Shift in functioning of NATO?

Context of News :

- ❑ For the first time since the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1949
- ❑ Washington is asking Europe not merely to **spend more on defence** but also to **assume primary responsibility for its own security**
- ❑ Fundamental shift in transatlantic compact and signals the emergence of a new phase in the Alliance’s evolution

US is shifting away from “Sole Military backbone” of Europe

National Security Strategy Of USA (Nov,2025)

“NATO is US’s **principal transatlantic alliance**” v. Burden sharing & collective defence responsibilities

USA (\$967 billion) v. European allies (\$506 billion) = US spend **65%** of total NATO expenditure

2014 **Wales summit** Target = Increase defence spending to **5%** of respective GDP

“More Atma - Nirbhar Europe to devote greater strategic attention to **Indo - Pacific**”

Chapter 2: The “Evolution” of NATO?

To All Workers, Soldiers and Peasants. The Soviet authority will at once propose a democratic peace to all nations and an immediate armistice on all fronts. It will safeguard the transfer without compensation of all land—landlord, imperial, and monastery—to the peasants' committees; it will defend the soldiers' rights, introducing a complete democratisation of the army; it will establish workers' control over industry; it will ensure the convocation of the Constituent Assembly on the date set; it will supply the cities with bread and the villages with articles of first necessity; and it will secure to all nationalities inhabiting Russia the right of self-determination ... Long live the revolution!

—Lenin's political programme, October 1917^[183]

Russian Revolution 1917 & Aftermath?

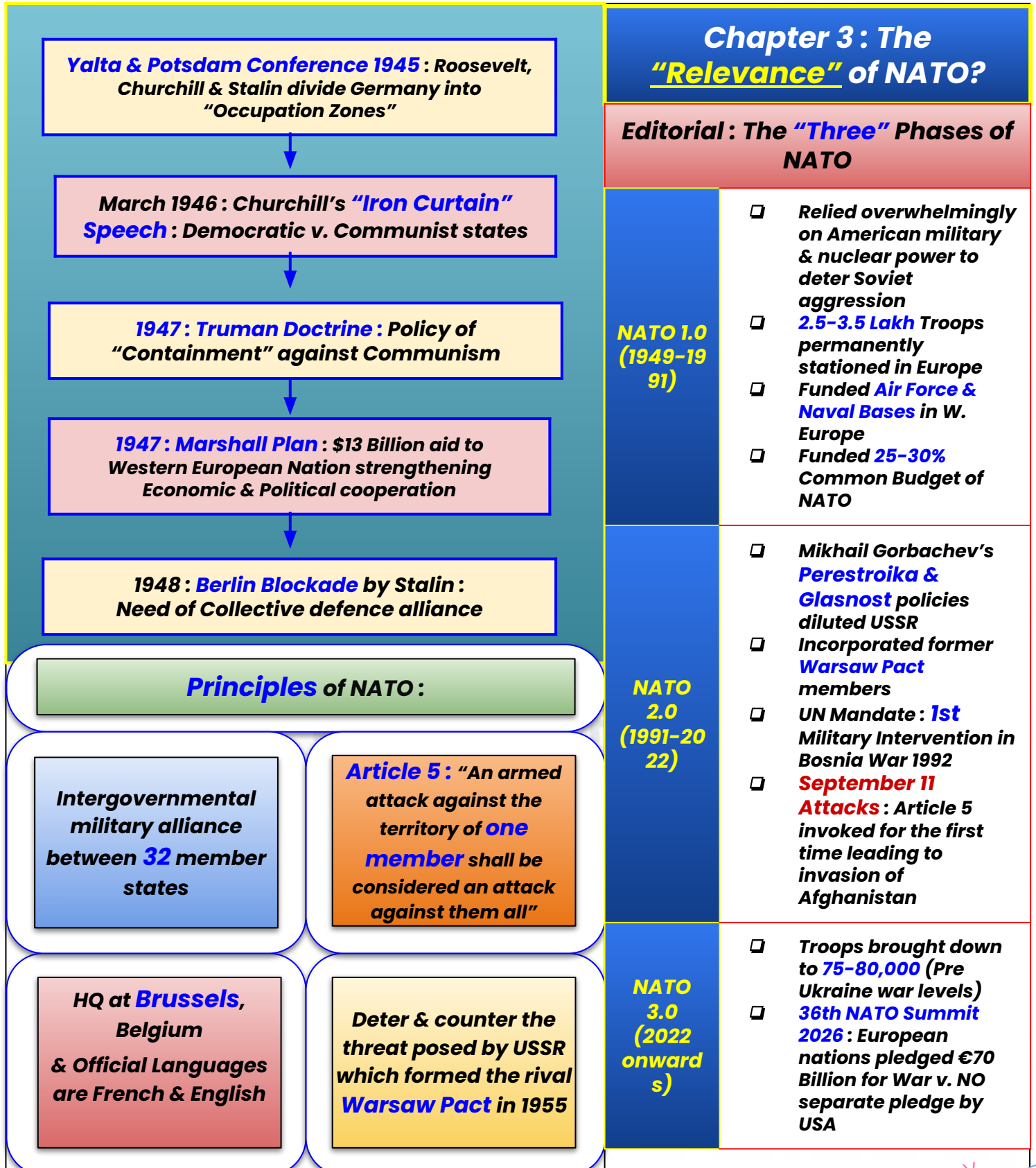
Bolshevik Revolution led by Stalin & Lenin adopted the “Socialist” economy of Karl Marx	New Economy Policy (1921) & 5-year plans by Stalin in USSR	Great Depression (1929-32) : Global GDP shrank by 15% & trade fell by 50%	Strengthened idea of “Socialist economy” : Karachi Session 1931
World War 2 ends in 1945 : Both USSR & USA emerges as “Victors”	Stalin aims to spread wings of Communism in Eastern Europe	Ideological Rivalry : Capitalism & Democracy v. Communism & “One Party” Rule	Fear in Western Europe & USA : Policy of Laissez Faire



NATO : New Strategic Era of Transformation



CONTEXT: The editorial argues that "For India, NATO's transformation is less about Europe than about the redistribution of American strategic attention"



NATO : New Strategic Era of Transformation

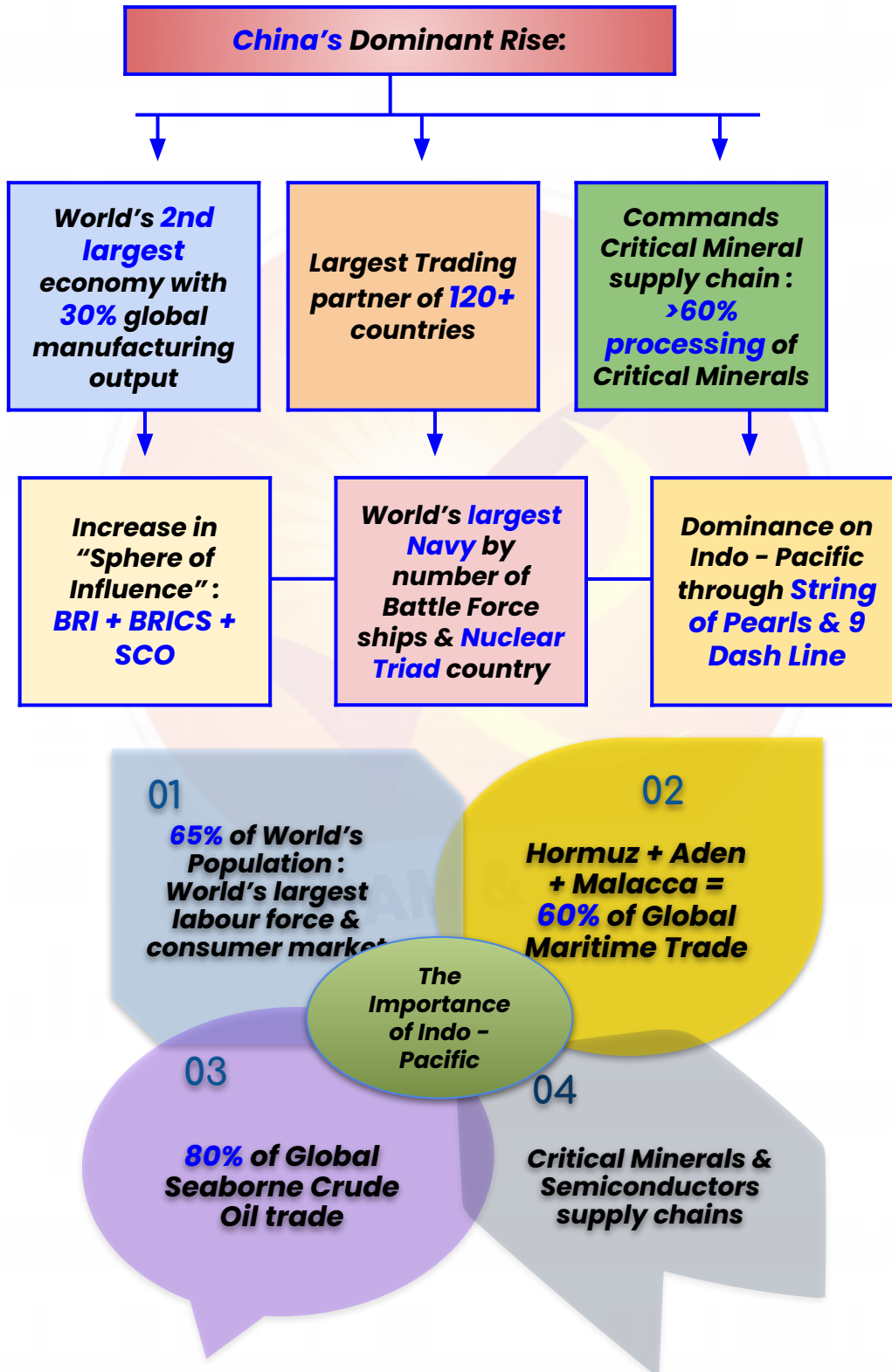
CONTEXT: The editorial argues that "For India, NATO's transformation is less about Europe than about the redistribution of American strategic attention"

★ 5 MAJOR CONFLICTING POINTS ★		
BETWEEN NATO & RUSSIA		
OVER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES' MEMBERSHIP		
1 Ukraine's NATO Membership 	NATO SAYS  Ukraine has the right to pursue membership. No third country has a veto over NATO's "Open Door Policy."	RUSSIA SAYS  Ukraine's accession to NATO is an unacceptable security threat due to shared border and strategic importance.
2 NATO's Eastward Expansion 	NATO SAYS  Enlargement is a voluntary choice by sovereign states seeking collective security.	RUSSIA SAYS  NATO's expansion toward Russia's borders violates political assurances and undermines our strategic security.
3 Georgia's Prospective Membership 	NATO SAYS  At the 2008 Bucharest Summit, NATO declared Georgia would eventually become a member, without setting a timeline.	RUSSIA SAYS  NATO's presence in the South Caucasus threatens our regional security interests.
4 NATO's Military Presence in Eastern Europe 	NATO SAYS  Deployments of multinational battlegroups, missile defence systems and rotational forces are defensive & intended to reassure allies after Russia's actions in Georgia (2008) & Ukraine (2014, 2022).	RUSSIA SAYS  These deployments are a direct military threat that reduces our strategic depth and destabilises the region.
5 Spheres of Influence vs. Sovereign Choice 	NATO SAYS  NATO rejects the concept of "spheres of influence". Every independent nation can freely determine its own foreign and security policy.	RUSSIA SAYS  We seek to preserve a strategic buffer zone and oppose NATO's expansion into countries that are part of our traditional sphere of influence.



NATO : New Strategic Era of Transformation

CONTEXT: The editorial argues that “For India, NATO’s transformation is less about Europe than about the redistribution of American strategic attention”



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Chapter 4 : Emerging Concept of "NATO +":

India's External Affair Minister : "NATO Template Does NOT apply to India"

What is NATO +?

- ❑ Enhance defence cooperation in **Indo-Pacific**
- ❑ Win strategic competition with **China**
- ❑ Increase India's security umbrella

India's Balancing Act with NATO

- ❑ Signing FTA with EU
- ❑ EU : **Largest** Trading Partner of India
- ❑ **SIPRI Report 2025** : 30% defence imports from France & 13% from USA

Issues in Inclusion?

- ❑ Robust strategic partnership with **Russia**
- ❑ Russia moderates China's stand & safeguards as **Permanent member**
- ❑ Black Swan Event : "**First point of Contact**"

India's Balancing Act with **Russia**

- ❑ **40%** defence imports from Russia
- ❑ **33-35%** Oil imports from Russia despite sanctions
- ❑ **VOSTRO** accounts for Ruble - Rupee trade mechanisms

Raisina Dialogue | 'Huge potential for India, NATO to collaborate,' says NATO Secretary General

Jens Stoltenberg talks about shared values

India should refuse America's 'NATO Plus' bait

The focus of this NATO framework is on containing China, and joining it has the potential to undermine India's autonomy

Warning signals for India from NATO's Ankara summit

Europe's defence revival and commitments may create new challenges for India's defence needs

Mains Practise Question

Question : "The expansion of NATO has become one of the principal drivers of geopolitical tensions in Europe". Critically examine the implications of NATO's eastward expansion for regional stability and India's strategic interests. (10 Marks, 150 words)

'The expansion and strengthening of NATO and a stronger US-Europe strategic partnership works well for India.'

What is your opinion about this statement ? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.

15



Newspaper: The Hindus **Page Number:** 13

Transport, pharma and biotech
become India's biggest research investors

R & D Statistics 2025-26 by DoST : "India's spending on R&D surged to 0.83% of GDP in 2021-22 with private industry accounted for 45.5% of national R&D spending"

Logistic Performance Index (LPI) 2023
released by World Bank

Context of News :

R & D Statistics 2025-26 by DoST : "India's spending on R&D surged to **0.83%** of GDP in 2021-22 with private industry accounted for **45.5%** of national R&D spending"

India ranked **38th** out of 139 countries
Improving from 44th in 2018

Key Dimensions : Custom efficiency,
Quality of Export, Logistic services &
Timeline of Delivery

India ranked **22nd** globally in
Terms of International Shipments

Economy of Logistic : **14%** total cost of
MRP in transportation



Newspaper: The Hindustan **Page Number:** 13

Steps Taken to ensure the Status?

- ❑ **PLI scheme** for complex generics & high value added medicines
- ❑ **100% FDI** through Automatic route
- ❑ **Bulk Drug Parks** for Specialised Industrial Zones
- ❑ **NIPER** : Advanced research in Bio - Pharma & Repurposed drugs
- ❑ **Section 83 of Patent Act** : Promote research & innovations in Bio - Tech products

"Pharmacy of the World"

3rd largest in terms of Volume & 11th largest in Value

Producing **>60%** of Global demand for Vaccines & Sells pharmaceuticals to **>200 countries**

Projections : **\$130 billion** exports by 2030
\$1 Trillion Industry by 2047



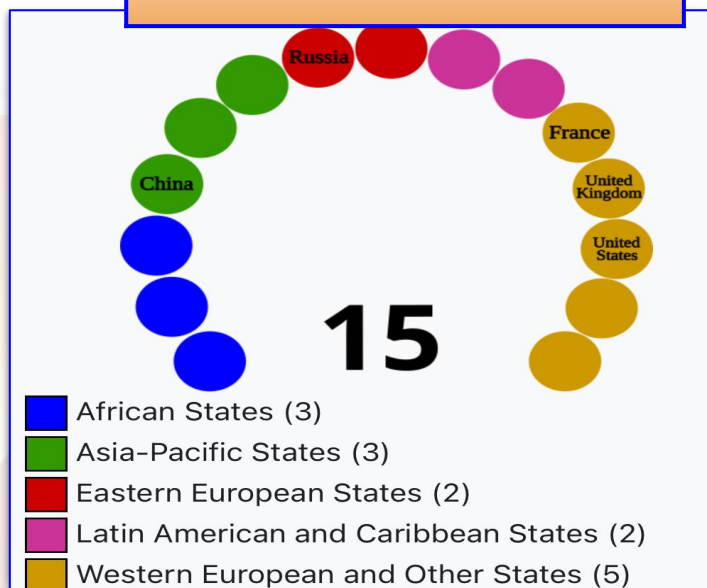
SYLLABUS: *Prelims:* Important News of National & International Importance;
Newspaper: Indian Express; *Page Number:* EXPLAINED

UN's Secretary General

Context of News :

- ❑ **UNSC** held poll for choosing the next Secretary General of UN (UNSG)
- ❑ **Article 97** of UN Charter : UNSG shall be appointed by UNGA on recommendation of UNSC
- ❑ **Term of UNSG : 5 years** (1st Jan, 2027)
- ❑ **Majority Required? 9/15 Votes**
- ❑ **Secret Ballot** : Slips doesn't disclose name of Voting member states
- ❑ "Encourage", "Discourage" or "Leave Blank"

Chapter V : Article 23 - 32



United Nations : 24th Oct, 1945

General Assembly:
Main policy making & representative body with 193 members

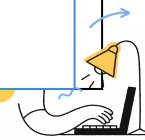
Security Council:
Maintenance of International peace & security with 15 members

Economic & Social Council
:
Coordination & Policy review on Economic & Environment issues

Trusteeship Council:
Provide International supervision for "11 Trust territories" under 7 states

International Court of Justice:
To resolve disputes among the member states

Secretariat:
Secretary - General & staff members who carry out day - day work as mandated by UNGA



SYLLABUS: *Prelims:* Important News of National & International Importance;
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A "Non - Permanent" member :

- Elected by **UNGA**
- Candidate : Must receive at least **2/3rd of all votes cast**
- In case of **Tie** :
 - **1979** : Cuba - Colombia withdrew for Mexico as "compromise candidate"
 - **2016** : Italy & Netherland shared the term for 1 year each
- Term : **2 years** starting from 1st January
- **5 members** are replaced every year
- A retiring member is **NOT eligible** for immediate re - election

Important functions of UNSC

Chapter 6 Article 33-38

- Empowers the council to act as "**Mediator**" in International dispute
- Seek solution through mediation, negotiation & "**arbitration**"

Chapter 7 Article 39-51

- "**Enforceable action**" to determine any threat to existence of peace
- Imposing sanctions or authorising "**Military forces**"

Chapter 8 Article 52-54

- Peace settlement of local disputes through regional organisations like **NATO**, **African Union** of Arab League

Resolution 1674

- Responsibility to protect populations from **genocide**, **war crimes**, **ethnic cleansing** and **crimes against humanity**

Expanding permanent category with veto critical to real reform of UNSC: India

New Delhi has underscored that it rightly deserves a permanent seat at the horse-shoe table

How does "Voting" works?

Article 27:
Affirmative vote of **9 (60%)** of the members

Abstention is not regarded as a veto though **all 5 PM must vote** for adopting any amendment of the UN Charter

Procedural matters can **NOT** be vetoed



How RBI decides Monetary Policy?



SYLLABUS: **PRELIMS:** Indian Economy & Issues

Newspaper: Indian Express; **Page Number:** EXPLAINED

What is
"Retail Inflation"?

- Rate at which General price level increases over the **past 12 months**
- What does inflation rate of **4%** implies?

What are the
CAUSES?

- **Fuel or Energy Inflation** : LPG & Crude Oil prices increased due to West Asia Crisis
- Increase in cost of "**Substitute Goods**" due to Demand - Pull inflation
- Effect on Transport or Logistic Inflation

Impact on
Indian Economy?

High cost of Goods & Services >
Decrease propensity to consume >
Less demand for Products > Less Profit
incentives for Companies > Less
requirements of Factors of Production
> Less Employment level

How RBI decides **Monetary Policy?**

Context of News :

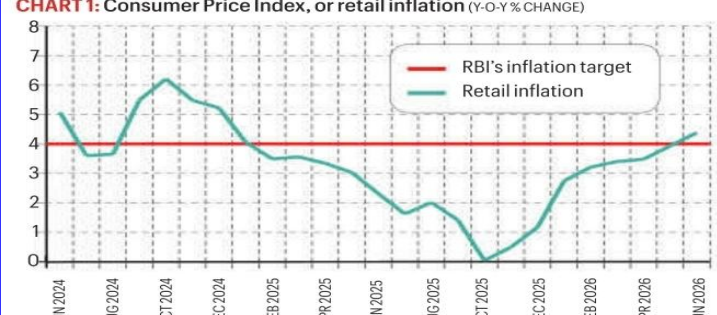
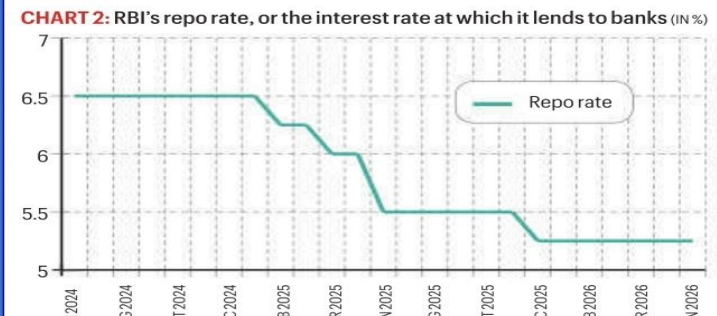
Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) : Retail inflation rate is set to breach the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) **target level of 4%**



How RBI decides Monetary Policy?

SYLLABUS: **PRELIMS:** Indian Economy & Issues

Newspaper: Indian Express; **Page Number:** EXPLAINED

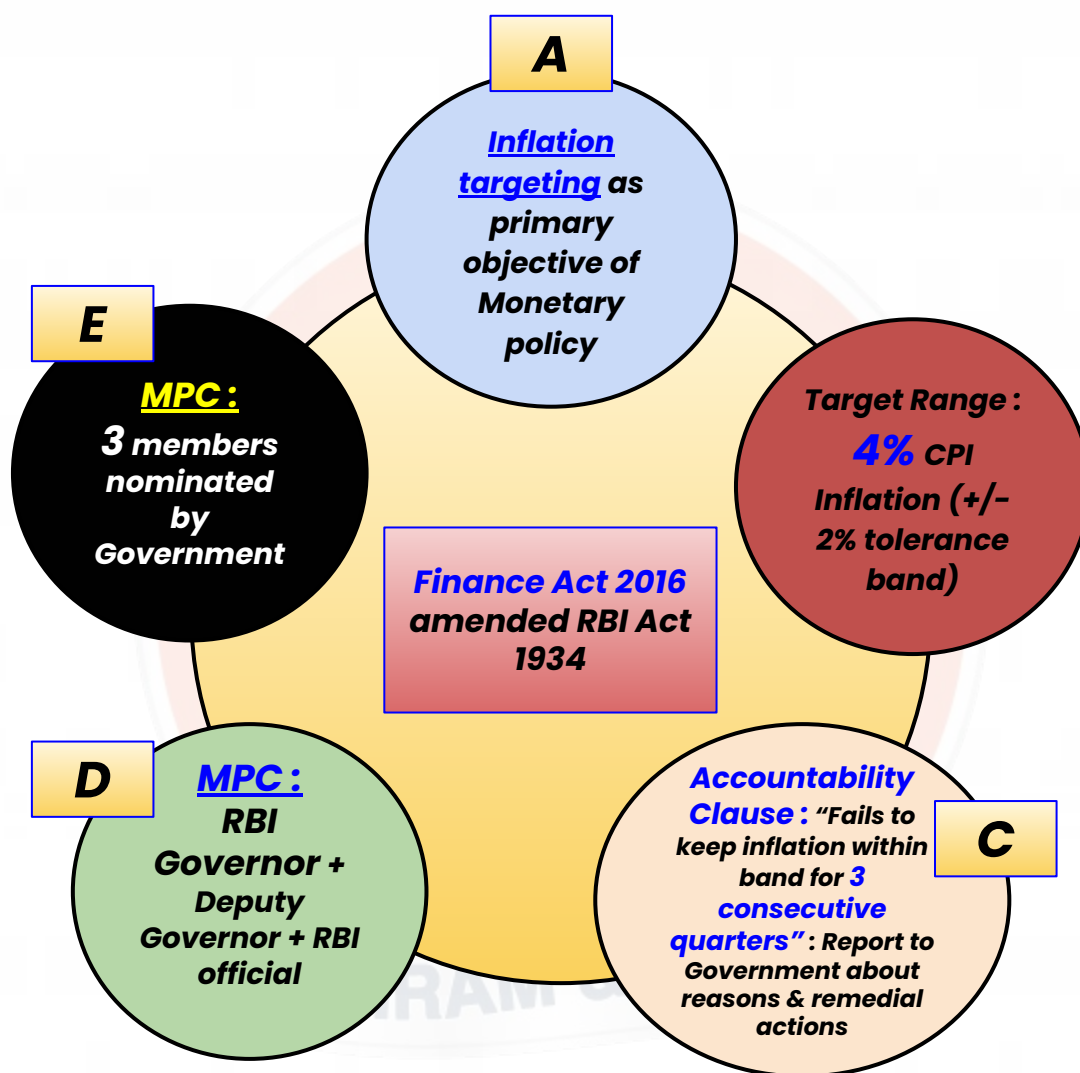
CPI	WPI	• Retail inflation creeping up CHART 1: Consumer Price Index, or retail inflation (Y-O-Y % CHANGE) 
• Price changes from perspective of Retail buyer • Goods & Services • Weight of Food Items : 36.75% • NSO under MoSPI • Base Year : 2024 • MPC uses CPI Data to control inflation	• Price changes in goods sold & traded by wholesale business • Only Goods • Weight of Food Items : 24% • Office of Economic Advisor (OEA) • Base Year : 2022-23	• Repo rate steadily coming down CHART 2: RBI's repo rate, or the interest rate at which it lends to banks (IN %) 
		Why the band of 2-6%? ❑ High enough to incentivise producers to produce more & earn profits ❑ Low enough to sustain a continuous consumer demand ❑ Economic Shocks in Last 6 years : Pandemic, Russia - Ukraine War & West Asia Crisis ❑ Developing Threat : El - Nino Year ❑ Supply Shortage : Rise in food inflation ❑ Reduced farmer income : Less propensity to consume



How RBI decides Monetary Policy?

SYLLABUS: **PRELIMS:** Indian Economy & Issues

Newspaper: Indian Express; **Page Number:** EXPLAINED



Fugitive Economic Offenders Act 2018



SYLLABUS: **PRELIMS:** Important Acts & Policies of the Government
Newspaper: Indian Express; **Page Number:** 12

Context of News :

- ❑ **Union Home Ministry :** India has brought back **274** fugitive criminals from 36 countries over the past 7 years
- ❑ **"Previous governments lacked the political will to bring back fugitives"**
- ❑ While Government had made the extradition of fugitives a **"national priority"**.

Who is a Fugitive Economic Offender?

Defined under
Section 2(1)(f),
FEOA, 2018

Total value
involved is **₹100**
crore or more

Has left India to
avoid criminal
prosecution

**Enforcement
Directorate (ED)**
files an application
before a **Special
Court**

How Can a Fugitive Economic Offender Be Brought Back to India?

Fugitive Mehul Choksi challenges extradition in Belgium Supreme Court

India has given a number of assurances to Belgium regarding Choksi's safety, the charges that he would face during trial in India, prison arrangements, human rights and medical needs.

**Extradition Treaties
(bilateral agreements)**

Interpol Red Corner Notices

**Mutual Legal Assistance
Treaties (MLATs)**

**Diplomatic Pressure & Asset
Freezing**



Fugitive Economic Offenders Act 2018



SYLLABUS: **PRELIMS:** Important Acts & Policies of the Government
Newspaper: Indian Express; **Page Number:** 12

Does India have any law for
"Extradition"?

Extradition Act 1962	<u>Dual Criminality Principle</u> : Offence can be extradited only if it is "Crime" in both India & Requesting country
Applies to	- Foreign states with which India has extradition treaties - Certain non-treaty states on basis of reciprocal arrangements
Extradition Treaties with 48 countries	India & Bangladesh has signed "Extradition Treaty" in 2013 which allows extradition based on police warrant without requiring full evidence
Refused under certain conditions	Offence is "Political" in nature or there exist chance of "Unfair trial"



Hexavalent Vaccine for India's UIP



SYLLABUS: **PRELIMS:** Health Sector

Newspaper: The Hindu; **Page Number:** 121212

Hexavalent Vaccine for India's UIP

Context of News :

- ❑ Ministry of Health : Introducing the **hexavalent** (six-in-one) vaccine into India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) could improve the efficiency of childhood immunisation programme
- ❑ A hexavalent vaccine is a combination that protects infants against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), Hepatitis B, polio, and Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) in a single injection

Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) by WHO :

Increased coverage
of **DPT**

Coverage increased from 5% (1974)
to **85%** by 2024

Smallpox eradicated
By 1980

99% Polio Eradication :
Endemic in Pak & Afghanistan

Global Vaccination Efforts
for **COVID 19**

by 2030,
the Immunization
Agenda aims to

Reduce by
50%
the number
of children
missing out
on all vaccines

Achieve
90%
coverage
for essential
vaccines given
in childhood
and adolescence

Introduce
500
new vaccines
in low and
middle-income
countries

#VaccinesWork
IMMUNIZATION AGENDA 2030



Hexavalent Vaccine for India's UIP

SYLLABUS: **PRELIMS:** Health Sector

Newspaper: The Hindu; **Page Number:** 121212

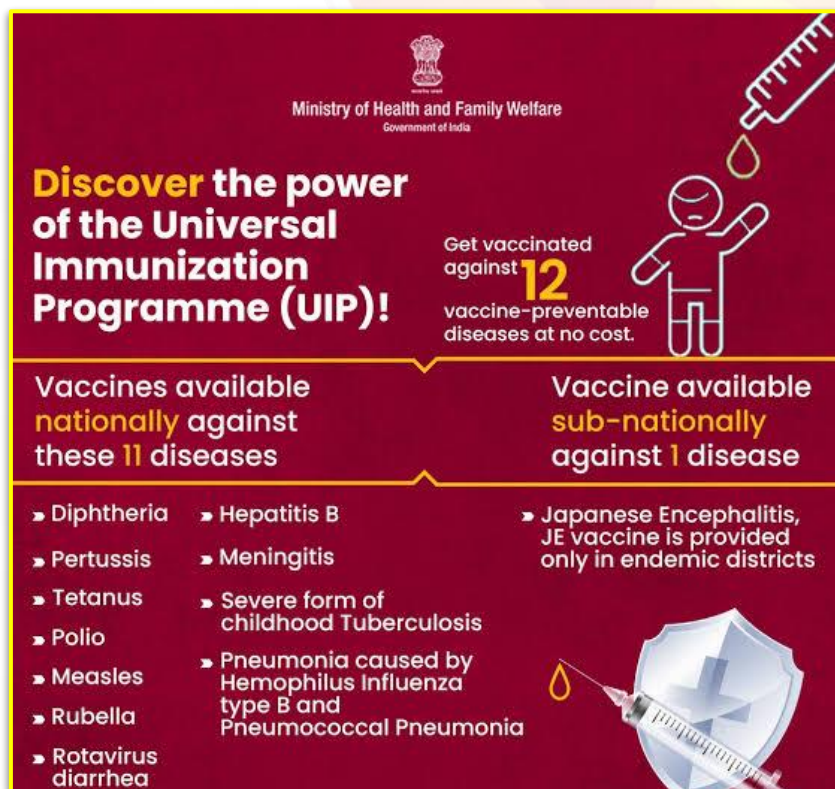
Expanded Programme on Immunisation in
1978 : Limited only in Urban areas

Renamed as **UIP** : Expanded
beyond Urban Areas

Central Sector Scheme :
Entry 6 of State List : Public Health

Entry 29 of Concurrent List :
Prevention of contagious disease from
One state to another

MoHFW : Target **3 crore** + pregnant
women & **2.7 crore** + newborns annually



Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Government of India

**Discover the power
of the Universal
Immunization
Programme (UIP)!**

Get vaccinated
against **12**
vaccine-preventable
diseases at no cost.

**Vaccines available
nationally** against
these **11** diseases

- Diphtheria
- Pertussis
- Tetanus
- Polio
- Measles
- Rubella
- Rotavirus diarrhea
- Hepatitis B
- Meningitis
- Severe form of childhood Tuberculosis
- Pneumonia caused by Hemophilus Influenza type B and Pneumococcal Pneumonia

**Vaccine available
sub-nationally**
against **1** disease

- Japanese Encephalitis, JE vaccine is provided only in endemic districts



Q1. Consider the following statements regarding global wetland conservation frameworks:

1. The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030) aligns with the 5th Ramsar Strategic Plan.
2. The Freshwater Challenge aims to protect and restore 300,000 km of rivers and 350 million hectares of wetlands globally by 2030.
3. The UNEA resolution on "Lake and Nature-Based Solutions" mandates the complete removal of all human settlements within a 50 km radius of all natural lakes.

Which one of the following conclusions based on the above statements is correct?

- a) All three statements are correct.
- b) There are two correct statements that include statement 3.
- c) There are two correct statements that include statement 1.
- d) There is only one correct statement.

Answer: c

Q2. Consider the following statements:

- I. The US National Security Strategy emphasizes the need for Europe to assume primary responsibility for its own conventional defence.
- II. The United States spends roughly \$967 billion on defence, while European NATO allies collectively spend about \$506 billion.
- III. This burden-sharing disparity necessitates a fundamental shift in the transatlantic compact to ensure long-term alliance sustainability.

Which of the following relationships among the above statements is/are correct?

1. Statement II provides the empirical basis that validates the strategic urgency expressed in Statement I.
2. Statement III contradicts Statement I by suggesting that Europe should rely more on US financial backing.

3. Statement I and Statement III together establish the premise for the dissolution of NATO.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: a

Q3. 'X' and 'Y' are debating the rules of re-election for non-permanent members of the UN Security Council. 'X' argues that since non-permanent members serve a short two-year term, a retiring member should be allowed immediate re-election to maintain institutional memory and regional continuity. 'Y' points out that the UN Charter explicitly prohibits immediate re-election of retiring members to ensure equitable geographical rotation and prevent the monopolisation of seats by a few influential states within a regional group.

Based on the above information, select the correct conclusion from the options given below:

- a) 'X' is correct in the interpretation of UN electoral rules.
- b) The view of 'Y' that immediate re-election is prohibited is not correct.
- c) The views of both 'X' and 'Y' are correct.
- d) The view of only 'Y' is correct.

Answer: d

Q4. With reference to the factors influencing the RBI's monetary policy decisions, which of the following statements is not correct?

- a) Persistent changes in consumer prices guide the RBI's assessment of inflationary pressures in the economy.
- b) Variations in food prices, affected by monsoon performance and agricultural output, can influence the policy stance.



- c) To neutralise supply disruptions in agriculture and global markets by directly setting production targets and import prices.
- d) Exchange rate movements, global commodity prices, and external economic shocks are also considered while framing monetary policy.

Answer: c

Q5. Identify the specific disease targeted by the newly introduced hexavalent vaccine based on the following information:

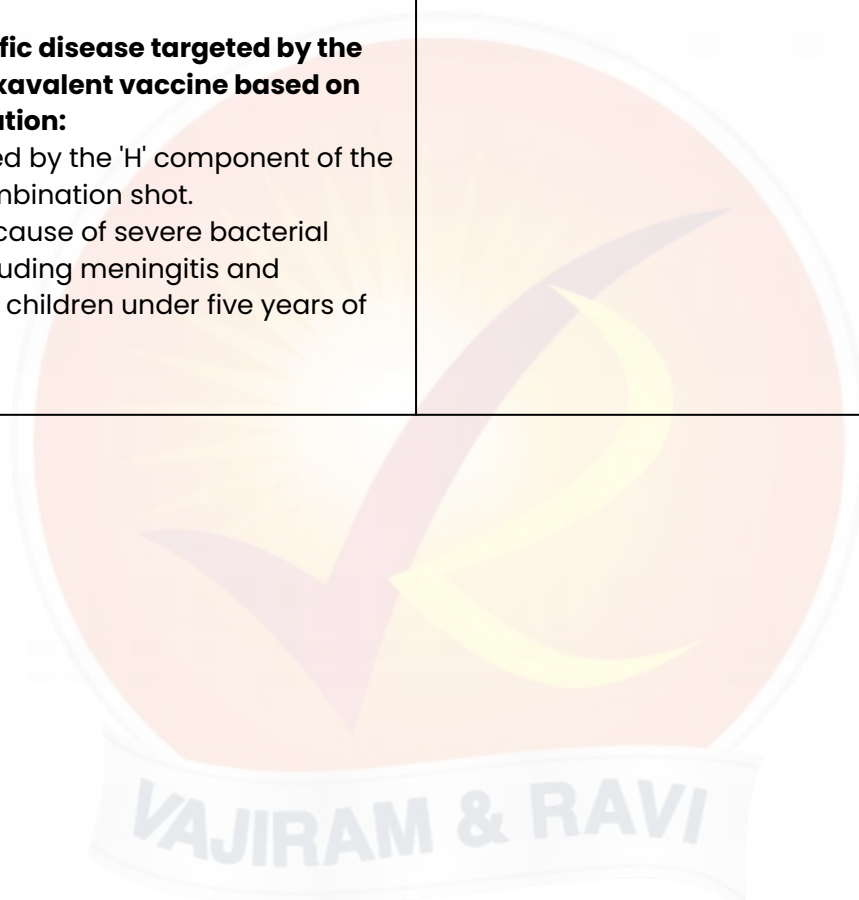
- 1. It is represented by the 'H' component of the six-in-one combination shot.
- 2. It is a leading cause of severe bacterial infections, including meningitis and pneumonia, in children under five years of age globally.

- 3. It is a bacterium, not a virus, and the vaccine utilises a conjugate mechanism to elicit a strong immune response in infants.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a) Hepatitis B
- b) Haemophilus influenzae type b
- c) Human Papillomavirus
- d) Helicobacter pylori

Answer: b





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