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Excess rain washes out IMD’s methods

Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)

- Established in 1875
- Ministry of Earth Sciences
- Principal agency - Meteorology & Seismology

Mandates

- Forecast weather - optimum operation of weather-sensitive activities
- Warn against severe weather phenomena
- Provide meteorological statistics for agriculture, industries

Monsoon Mission Coupled Forecasting System (CFS) of IMD - failed to predict monsoon in 2019

Average South West monsoon rainfall between 1991 - 2000

89 cm

- In 2019
  - Actual rainfall - 110% of LPA
  - Forecasted rainfall
    - Statistical model - 96% of LPA
    - CFS Model - 94% → 99% of LPA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Statistical model (% of LPA)</th>
<th>CFS model (% of LPA)</th>
<th>Actual rainfall (% LPA)</th>
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**UPSC Prelims Question – 2017**
(For Reference only)

Q. With reference to ‘Quality Council of India (QCI)’, consider the following statements:

1. QCI was set up jointly by the Government of India and the Indian Industry.
2. Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister on the recommendations of the industry to the Government.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy
U.S. warns partners of sanctions risk
Tells allies to forgo deals with Russia

A Day when External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said that the U.S. was "taking all necessary steps" of persuading the U.S. to accept India's objection on the purchase of Russian S-400 missile defense system. This could trigger sanctions on the purchase of such arms.

India agreed to purchase the S-400 system from Russia in 2016 for about $5.2 billion, risking sanctions under the CAATSA. Sanctions could kick in when the first payment for the equipment is made, or when the system is deployed.

"Wavers not automatic" U.S. government officials have repeatedly said, in the Indian context, that waivers should not assume that waivers are automatic. They had said before a visit to Washington, including Secretary of State Michael Pompeo and Secretary of Defense Mark Esper. The State Department, however, said Michael Pompeo had not made any decision regarding India's transaction, when asked about it.

General Assembly high-level week in New York, has held or will hold meetings with Indian allies, including Secretary of State Michael Pompeo and Secretary of Defense Mark Esper. The State Department, however, said Michael Pompeo had not made any decision regarding India's transaction involving India. If we cannot persuade whether a specific transaction would result in sanctions, a spokesperson told The Hindu.

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President to honour service to seniors

TN, govt. among those to be awarded

A Madya Pradesh municipality, which runs a daycare centre for senior citizens, an NGO in Kerala that has sensitised thousands to the need for taking care of elders and the State of Tamil Nadu, which has established maintenance tribunals in each sub-division, are among those to be honoured on Thursday for their services to senior citizens, government sources said.

Yogeshwarinda Surin, the annual national award of the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, will be given away to 15 individuals and organisations by President Ram Nath Kovind. The award distribution is one of the Ministry’s events to mark the International Day of Older Persons, which fell on Tuesday.

Tamil Nadu is expected to be given the award for the best State in implementing the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2005, and providing services to senior citizens. According to the Act, the State has set up maintenance tribunals under the Act in each sub-division, but half of the cases are resolved through conciliation.

The municipal council of Udaipur, in Udaipur district of Madya Pradesh, will receive the award for the best urban local body. It provides medical services, income generation schemes and pensions to senior citizens. It has also opened a daycare centre, Amrit Ghar, fitted with recreation facilities.

Gandhishthan International Trust, a non-profit in Kolamb, Kerala, is set to be honoured for providing care to 1,400 needy people, including 350 senior citizens, and for conducting awareness programmes for the youth. So far, 60,000 people have attended the programme.

Among the individuals are Hardev Singh, a senior citizen sportsperson; Ishwarand Chintamani, a 95-year-old Kannada writer, freedom fighter Chilum Ram Sharma, 85, and Padma Shri awardee B. S. Ahmed.
**Senior Citizens/Older persons/Elderly persons**
- Individuals aged 60 years and above
- India’s elderly age population

**Graph:**
- Population (in crore)
- Time (Year wise)
- UN-International Day of Older Persons
  - Celebrated every year on 1st October
  - 2019 Theme: The Journey to Age Equality
    - Aligned with SDG Goal 80

**Governing India celebrates by conferring ‘Vayoshreshtha Samman’**
- Instituted by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

**Vayoshreshtha Samman**
- Award for senior citizens
- Conferred to eminent senior citizens & institutions
- In recognition of service towards the elderly persons
- Conferred by President of India, every year

- 13 Categories
  - 7-Institutions (Public/Private)
  - 6-Individuals
- Recipients from diverse fields

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**Probable Awardees - 2019**
- Best State in implementing the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 and providing services and facilities to Senior Citizens - Tamil Nadu
- Best Urban Local Body - Unhel, Ujjain District, Madhya Pradesh
- Best Private Sector Organisation
  - Gandhi Bhavan International Trust, Kollam, Kerala
Furthering this neighbourhood friendship

There is scope for India-Bangladesh ties to move to the next level, based on cooperation, coordination and consultation. Bangladesh Prime Minister Hasina Wazed and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally sealed a comprehensive cooperation agreement in November 2020, in the presence of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The cooperation agreement covers various sectors, including trade, transit, energy, transport, education, health, agriculture, and tourism. This agreement is a significant step towards enhancing bilateral cooperation and strengthening the India-Bangladesh relationship.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I (-200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance
- Indian and World Geography: Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- India and its neighborhood-relations.
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.

PAPER-IV


- Security challenges and their management in border areas - linkages of organized crime with terrorism.
- Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.

Bangladesh

- Got independence from Pakistan in 1971
- India - 1st country to recognise Bangladesh as an independent State and to establish diplomatic relations
- India shares longest border with Bangladesh - 4097 km

International Land Border

- Indo-Bangladesh (1018 km)
- Indo-Bhutan (695 km)
- Indo-Mynamar (2103 km)
- Indo-Bangladesh (10026 km)
- Indo-Bangladesh (1260 km)

- States of India neighbouring Bangladesh
  - West Bengal
  - Assam
  - Meghalaya
  - Tripura

I. Security & economic relations of India - Bangladesh

A. Security relations

- Land Boundary Agreement
- Signed in 1974
- 2011 - Protocol to the agreement signed
- Passing of 106th Constitutional Amendment Act in 2015
- Peaceful exchange of territories between India and Bangladesh
- Effective cross border co-operation
- 2017 - Defence pact
- 2018 - Line of Credit - $500 mn to purchase armaments
- MoU - Naval forces
II. Pressing Issues

A. Teesta Water Sharing Agreement

-1983 - Deal proposed for equitable share of Teesta waters by Bangladesh
- Not agreed till now
- Lack of water downstream in Bangladesh
  - Soil contamination
  - Farming - Less profitable

B. NRC Process of Assam

- 1.4 Lakh people left out from the list
- Illegal immigrants from Bangladesh
- Bangladesh - Sure that no migrants travelled to Assam illegally
  → Likely to affect bilateral relations in the future

- Issue:
  - Border killings → Have reduced; but
  - BSF - Act of self-defence against cattle trafficking
  - Author - Serious violations of human rights

8. Economic relations

- Overall bilateral trade in FY 2017-18 - $9 bn
- Electricity sector
  - 1400 MW power station developed exclusively to transmit power to Bangladesh
- Transportation Sector → Measures to boost land travel
  - 85.6% Bangladeshis prefer land travel

- Additional bus services
- Tourism sector
  - Bangladesh - Top Source Country for India
    - 2017 - 21.49%
  - 83.7% - Tourists
  - 10.3% - Medical tourism
- Overall healthy economic relations

Non-tariff barrier
- Removal will help improve
  - Bangladeshi exports to India
C. Rohingyas
- Muslim minority in Myanmar facing religious persecution → reached Bangladesh as refugees
- India is not playing a positive role in regional leadership (should mediate between Bangladesh and Myanmar)

D. Bureaucratic Red Tape
- Only 6% of the approved Line of Credit has been disbursed by India
- Bangladesh → slow in implementing the projects

III. Way Forward
- Need for existing challenges to be resolved by the political leadership
- Strengthening of 3Cs
  - Cooperation
  - Coordination
  - Consolidation

PRACTICE QUESTIONS
DISCUSSION
**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q1. Consider the following statements.

1. Long Period Average is the average rainfall received during the whole year all over India between 1951 and 2001.

2. According to Indian Meteorological Department, Long Period Average is 89 cm for south west monsoon.

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

**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q2. Which of the following Ministry releases the “Swachh Rail – Swachh Bharat 2019 ranking”.

(a) Ministry of Jal Shakti.

(b) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

(c) Ministry of Railways in partnership with Quality Council of India.

(d) Ministry of Railways in partnership with Ministry of Drinking water and Sanitation.

**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q3. Consider the following statements with reference to “Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act”.

1. It is aimed at Russia, Iran, Yemen and Syria.

2. Any person knowingly doing significant transaction with the targeted countries can be sanctioned under the Act.

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

**Practice Question – Prelims**

Q4. International Day of Older Persons is celebrated every year by UN on 1st October. Consider the following statements in this regard.

1. The Theme for 2019 is ‘The Journey to Age Equality’.

2. To celebrate this day, Ministry of Human Resources and Development has instituted ‘Vayoshreshtha Samman’ which is conferred to eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition for their service to the elderly persons.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Mains
GS - II
Q. “Land Border Agreement between India and Bangladesh is one of the landmark bilateral agreement”. Discuss the various challenges in the bilateral relations between the two countries in the context of above statement. (150 words – 10 marks)