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ILP 2020-REVISION VAN-6

TOPICS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

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ILP-2020 CURRENT AFFAIRS-REVISION VAN 6 | IASBABA

INDIAN POLITY, POLICIES, SCHEMES, DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL ISSUES

Topic	Key Aspects	Value Addition
FASTag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: Deadline for mandatory FASTag extended • FASTag is an electronic toll collection system in India, operated by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI). • It employs Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology for making toll payments directly from the prepaid or savings account linked to it or directly toll owner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is affixed on the windscreen of the vehicle and enables to drive through toll plazas without stopping for transactions. • Indian Highways Management Company Limited (IHMCL) (a company incorporated by NHAI) and National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) are implementing this program
Inner Line Permit > CAA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: The provisions Citizenship Amendment Act will not apply to two categories - states protected by the 'Inner Line', and areas covered under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution • Inner Line Permit: This is a special permit that citizens from other parts of India require to enter a state protected by the ILP regime. • It is issued by the concerned State government for a limited period • It is based on the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act , 1873. • States having ILP system: Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Mizoram 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sixth Schedule contains special provisions for the administration of tribal areas in the four north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.  <p>The map shows the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under ILP regime: Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram. Areas under Sixth Schedule: Shillong (Meghalaya), Imphal (Manipur), Aizawl (Mizoram). Not exempted from CAB: Assam, Tripura. Two of Assam's three Autonomous District Councils (Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao) are also under ILP. Bodoland Territorial Areas Districts are also under ILP. <p>LEGEND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under ILP regime (Blue) Areas under Sixth Schedule (Green) Not exempted from CAB (White) <p>STATEWISE SUMMARY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARUNACHAL PRADESH: Entire state under ILP regime NAGALAND: Entire state under ILP regime TRIPURA: Sixth Schedule covers 70% of geographical area MEGHALAYA: Almost entire state covered under Sixth Schedule, except a part of Shillong ASSAM: 3 Autonomous District Councils under Sixth Schedule MANIPUR: Entire state under ILP regime MIZORAM: Entire state under ILP
Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is an umbrella scheme which will provide Minimum Support Price assurance to farmers Components of PM-AASHA 1. Price Support Scheme (PSS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) for procurement of paddy, wheat and nutri-cereals/coarse grains and of Ministry of Textile for

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the PSS, Central nodal agencies will procure pulses, oilseeds and copra with proactive role of state governments. • FCI and NAFED will help implement the scheme • The government will procure 25% of the marketable surplus of farmers for eligible crops <p>3. Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under PDPS, the state will provide the difference between the prices prevailing in mandis and the MSP. • There will be no physical procurement of crops <p>3. Pilot of Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPPS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selected private agency shall procure the commodity at MSP in the notified markets whenever the prices in the market fall below the notified MSP and whenever authorized by the state/UT government. 	<p>cotton and jute will be continued for providing MSP to farmers for these crops.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PDPS component of PM-AASHA scheme is modelled on the Bhawantar Bhugtan Yojana that has been implemented by the Madhya Pradesh state government as well as Bhavantar Bharpai Yojana of Haryana Government. • According to a survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) in the 70th round in 2013, only 6% of farmers are able to sell their produce at MSP. <p>Other schemes which are directed at increasing farmers welfare & doubling of farmers income by 2022 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up of Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) • Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana • Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana • Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana • Soil Health Card scheme
<p>National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAFED is registered under the Multi State Co-operative Societies Act. • It was setup in 1958 with the object to promote Co-operative marketing of Agricultural Produce to benefit the farmers. • Agricultural farmers are the main members of NAFED, who have the authority to say in the form of members of the General Body in the working of NAFED. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objectives of the NAFED shall be to organize, promote and develop marketing, processing and storage of agricultural, horticultural and forest produce, distribution of agricultural <u>machinery</u>, implements and other inputs, undertake inter-state trade, import and export trade etc.
<p>India Skills Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a joint initiative by PeopleStrong, a Global Talent 	<p>Key findings:</p>

	<p>Assessment Company, in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) along with partners like UNDP, AICTE, and AIU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report also consists of an in-depth study of employability amongst the fresh candidates joining the workforce • Top three states in terms of employability: Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. • According to NSSO Report 2011-12, India's formally trained workforce stand at merely 2.3% in comparison to economies like South Korea which are at a mammoth share of 96%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 46.21% students were found employable or ready to take up jobs in 2019, compared with 33% in 2014, and 47.38% in 2018. • Female employability witnessed an upward trend at 47% in 2019 from 38 % in 2017 and 46 % in 2018, while that of male workforce declined from 47.39% in 2019 to 46% this year. • Rising share of gig workers in the economy at 13% share in the overall hiring intent by employment type. • Top 5 skills that Employers emphasize on are domain knowledge, adaptability to the environment, learning agility and positive attitude and interpersonal skills.
<p>National Sample Survey Office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: In May 2019 government cleared the formation of an overarching body — National Statistical Office (NSO) — through the merger of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) with the Central Statistics Office (CSO). • Objective of restructuring: To streamline and strengthen the present nodal functions of the ministry and to bring in more synergy by integrating its administrative functions within the ministry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSSO was set up in 1950 to conduct large-scale sample surveys throughout India. The employees of the NSSO are from the Indian Statistical Service (appointed through the UPSC) and the Subordinate Statistical Service (appointed through the Staff Selection Commission). • CSO is responsible for the coordination of statistical activities in India, and evolving and maintaining statistical standards. • Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is conducted by Industrial Statistics (IS) wing of the Central Statistics Office (CSO)
<p>C. Rangarajan Committee, 2000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2000, a committee headed by former RBI governor C. Rangarajan suggested the establishment of two bodies— National Statistical Office (NSO) by merging CSO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsequently, NSC was set up as a non-statutory body and it was entrusted with the responsibility of acting as a Nodal and empowered body for all core statistical activities of the country. It was also given

	<p>and NSSO and National Statistical Commission (NSC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It had recommended that NSO should function 'as the executive wing of the Government in the field of statistics and act according to the policies and priorities, laid down by NSC 	<p>the supervisory powers over the NSSO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • However, the proposal of <u>setting up National Statistical Office (NSO)</u> was not taken into consideration then.
<p>Zero FIR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every police station has jurisdictional area for which they can take up the investigation if commission of cognizable offence area found under their jurisdiction. • But in Zero FIR, any police station can register FIR irrespective of jurisdictional area but the investigation will be taken up the police in which place of occurrence reported in FIR. • The police station can register the zero FIR marking it serial number zero and transfer to the competent jurisdictional area which can carry out the investigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cognizable offence -an offence in which police can take suo moto action and no prior approval from court is required • The sanctity of legal process remains same in zero FIR. It is very helpful for people as it facilitates them by not allowing to make rounds of different police station for lodging the FIR. • Zero FIR was emphasised in Justice Verma Committee Report as way to speed up judicial process for victims • The police officers who fail to comply with the registration of Zero FIR may invite prosecution under Section 166A of IPC and also departmental action.
<p>Fugitive Economic Offenders (FEO) Act, 2018</p> <p>In News: A special Prevention of Money Laundering Act court declared diamond trader Nirav Modi, an accused in the Punjab National Bank scam case, a fugitive economic offender.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the act, Fugitive Economic Offender (FEO) is defined as an individual who has committed offences involving an amount of 100 crore rupees or more and has ran away from India to avoid criminal prosecution. • Special Court: A special court will be established under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002 to declare a person as a FEO • Attachment of property: Special courts can direct the Central government to seize assets of FEO 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective of the act is to deter economic offenders from avoiding the process of Indian law by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts. • Nirav Modi is the second person to be declared a fugitive economic offender, under the new Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, after liquor baron Vijay Mallya • The declaration of person as FEO would help in the extradition proceedings pending before foreign courts

	<p>including those that are proceeds of the crime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeal against the orders of the special court will lie before the High Court. 	
<p>Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR) Act</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of the act is the establishment of an effective system for the protection of plant varieties, the rights of farmers and plant breeders and to encourage the development of new varieties of plant. • The act establishes PPV&FR Authority under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, whose major function includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration of new plant varieties; • Documentation of varieties registered; • Preservation of plant genetic resource; • Maintenance of the National Register of Plant Varieties • Maintenance of National Gene Bank (for conserving seeds of registered varieties). 	<p>Rights under the Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeders' Rights: Breeders (Seed Producers) will have exclusive rights to produce, sell, market, distribute, import or export the protected variety. • Researchers' Rights: Researcher can use any of the registered variety under the Act for conducting R&D • Farmers' Rights: A farmer who has evolved or developed a new variety is entitled to registration and protection in like manner as a breeder of a variety • There is also a provision for compensation to the farmers for non-performance of variety. • The farmer shall not be liable to pay any fee in any proceeding before the Authority or Registrar or the Tribunal or the High Court under the Act.
<p>International Union for Protection of New Plant Varieties (UPOV Convention)</p> <p>The Convention was adopted in Paris in 1961 and it was revised in 1972, 1978 and 1991.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPOV is an intergovernmental organization established by UPOV Convention, with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland • The UPOV Convention provides the basis for members to encourage plant breeding by granting breeders of new plant varieties an intellectual property right: the breeder's right. • In the case of a variety protected by a breeder's right, the authorization of the breeder is required to propagate the variety for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only the breeder of a new plant variety can protect that new plant variety. It is not permitted for someone other than the breeder to obtain protection of a variety. • There are no restrictions on who can be considered to be a breeder under the UPOV system: a breeder might be an individual, a farmer, a researcher, a public institute, a private company etc. • India is not a member.

	commercial purposes. The breeder's right is granted by the individual UPOV members.	
Green Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: Gujarat ambulances to get sensors to help create 'green corridor' • Green Corridors are Special road route that enables harvested organs meant for transplants to reach the desired destination (Hospital). • All the street signals between the hospital where the organ is harvested and the hospital where it is to be transplanted are manually operated to avoid red signals. 	<p>Green Corridors in Railway Sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Green Corridor ensures zero toilet discharge on rail tracks as part of its commitment to clean environment under the 'Swachh Rail-Swachh Bharat' initiative • Trains in the section have been equipped with bio-toilets to ensure zero discharge of human waste on the rail tracks and preventing corrosion of the tracks.
Mission Parivar Vikas (MPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was launched by Union Health Ministry in 145 high focus districts having the highest total fertility rates(TFR) in the country • Objective: To accelerate access to high quality family planning choices based on information, reliable services and supplies within a rights-based framework. • The scheme aims for immediate, special and accelerated efforts to reach the replacement level fertility goals of 2.1 by 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These 145 districts are in the seven high TFR states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Assam • These 145 districts have TFR of more than/equal to 3.0 and are home to 28% of India's population (about 33 Crores).
Sarkeguda Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a judicial commission report constituted to probe the killings in Sarkeguda village in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district in June 2012. • Security forces had claimed that 17 'Maoists' were killed after a fierce encounter at Sarkeguda on June 28, 2012 • Chhattisgarh government had constituted a judicial panel to probe the encounter as there 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The one-man commission, led by former Madhya Pradesh High Court judge Justice VK Agarwal, had submitted its findings to the government in November 2019.

	<p>were allegations that those killed could be tribals</p>	
Swajal Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swajal is a community owned drinking water programme for sustained drinking water supply. • It was launched by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation in June 2018 • The scheme seeks to provide water to 115 aspirational districts in India to help them in meeting their basic needs such as drinking, cooking and other domestic essentials. • The aim is to help ebb the scarcity of water in rural areas and help them get sustained access to consumable, treated water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The water hygiene and sanitation will also be taken care of in this scheme as it will be implemented through fitted pipes. • While the government is funding 90% of the scheme, the remaining 10% is being fulfilled by communities that will receive its benefits. • It will involve an outlay of Rs 700 crores through flexible-funds under the existing National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) budget
Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In January 2018, the Centre launched the Transformation of Aspirational Districts programme to quickly and effectively transform the country's 115 least developed districts that together have 8,603 gram panchayats. • These districts have been selected based on six socio-economic parameters dealing with agriculture and water resources, education, health and nutrition, financial inclusion and skill development, and basic infrastructure. • The objective of the program is to monitor the real-time progress of aspirational districts • With States as the main drivers, ADP seeks to focus on the strength of each district, identify low-hanging fruits for immediate improvement, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the Government of India level, the programme is anchored by NITI Aayog. In addition, individual Ministries have assumed responsibility to drive the progress of districts. <p>The broad contours of the programme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convergence (of Central & State Schemes) which brings together the horizontal and vertical tiers of the government. • Collaboration (of Central, State level 'Prabhari' Officers & District Collectors) which enables impactful partnerships between government, market and civil society. • Competition among districts driven by a spirit of the mass movement, it fosters accountability on district governments.

	measure progress, and rank districts	
Section 67 of the IT Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: Police arrests people under Section 67 of IT Act for spreading rumours on Citizenship Amendment Act • The section deals with Punishment for publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form • On first conviction, the punishment is imprisonment upto 3 years & fine upto 5 Lakh Rupees. In the event of subsequent conviction it may extend to 5 years and 10 Lakh Rupees respectively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 66A of the Information Technology (IT) Act was struck down by the Supreme Court in Shreya Singhal v. Union of India case on grounds of violating the freedom of speech guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India. • Section 66A of IT Act, 2008 dealt with Punishment for sending offensive messages through communication service
Justice J.S. Verma Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was constituted to recommend amendments to the Criminal Law so as to provide for quicker trial and enhanced punishment for criminals accused of committing sexual assault against women. • The Committee submitted its report on January 23, 2013. • It made recommendations on laws related to rape, sexual harassment, trafficking, child sexual abuse, medical examination of victims, police, electoral and educational reforms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was a three-member Committee headed by Justice J.S. Verma, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. • The other members on the Committee were Justice Leila Seth, former judge of the High Court and Gopal Subramaniam, former Solicitor General of India.
Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was enacted to prescribe even more stringent penal provisions including death penalty for rape of a girl below the age of 12 years, the minimum punishment is 20 years in jail. • Another new section was also inserted in the IPC to specifically deal with rape on a girl below 16 years. The provision made the offence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In January 2018, an eight-year-old girl in Rasana village near Kathua in Jammu and Kashmir was abducted, raped and murdered by a group of men. • This led to the passing of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 • The minimum jail term for rape, which has remained unchanged since the introduction of the IPC

	<p>punishable with minimum imprisonment of 20 years which may extend to imprisonment for life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Act also inter-alia mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months each 	<p>in 1860, was increased from seven to 10 years</p>
<p>Indra Sawhney (1992) Case</p> <p>SC/ST Creamy Layer</p> <p>In News: A PIL filed by Samta Andolan Samiti, which represents the poor strata of the SCs/STs in Rajasthan, wants the creamy layer or Rich among the SCs/STs to be excluded from the benefits of Reservation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1992, a nine-judge Bench of the court in the Indra Sawhney case (also known as the Mandal case), upheld the caste-based reservation for the OBCs as valid. • The court also said the creamy layer of the OBCs (those earning a specified income) should not get the benefits of reservation. • The ruling, however, confined the exclusion of the creamy layer to the OBCs and not the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A five-judge Constitution bench in 2018 had held that well-off members of SC/ST community cannot be granted the benefits of reservation in college admissions & government jobs. • Union government has argued that the creamy layer concept couldn't be applied to SCs/STs and urged the case be referred to a seven-judge bench for review. <p>Arguments given by govt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backwardness can never be changed and that there were still instances of upper castes not employing lower castes in their homes. • An intense investigation is undertaken before notifying the community under Articles 341 and 342.
<p>Recycling of Ships Bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: Parliament has passed the Recycling of Ships Bill, 2019 • The bill restricts the use of hazardous materials on ships and regulates recycling of ships. • It defines ship recycling as dismantling it at a facility to recover the components and materials for reuse and taking care of the hazardous material so produced. • Under the legislation, every ship recycler must ensure safe and environmentally sound removal and management of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On contravening these provisions, the ship recycler will be liable to pay environmental damages and cleanup operation compensation as prescribed. • 10% steel requirement of the country is fulfilled from the recycling of ships. • India is the leader in the global ship recycling industry, with a share of over 30% of the market. • Hong Kong International Convention for Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships was adopted in 2009 to ensure that ships, when being recycled after reaching the end of

	<p>hazardous materials from a ship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Provisions of the Hong Kong Convention will be implemented under the provisions of the Recycling of Ships Bill, 2019 and rules and regulations framed there under. 	<p>their operational lives, do not pose any unnecessary risks to human health and safety and the environment.</p>
<p>Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Sixth Amendment) Bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bill allows for continuing the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies for another 10 years, up to January 25, 2030. • The reservation for SCs, STs and Anglo-Indians given for the past 70 years in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was due to end on January 25, 2020. • The reservation for Anglo-Indians in the form of "nomination"(Article 331 & 333) is set to expire on January 25 next year as this Bill does not extend the facility to the community. • Currently, only some state Assemblies like Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand etc. have one Anglo-Indian member each. The Amendment does away with this as well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 330 provides for the reservation of seats for SC and ST in the House of the People • Article 332 provides for reservation of seats for SC & ST in the legislative assemblies of the states. • Also, there is no bar on SC/STs candidates contesting from general seats. • Article 334 originally provided that reservation of seats and special representation would cease 10 years after the commencement of Constitution. But this was extended every 10 years (8th,23rd,45th,62nd,79th and 95th amendments) • Since, the 126th amendment falls within the purview of Article 368(2)(d) dealing with representation of states in Parliament, it is required to be ratified by the Legislature of not less than half of the States by simple majority.
<p>PUCL vs State of Maharashtra, 2014</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the SC was dealing with writ petitions questioning the genuineness of 99 encounter killings by the Mumbai Police in which 135 alleged criminals were shot dead between 1995 and 1997. • The Supreme Court through this judgement laid down the following 16 point guidelines as the standard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Court directed that the requirements/norms given must be strictly observed in all cases of death and grievous injury <u>in police encounters</u> by treating them as law declared under Article 141 of the Indian Constitution.

	<p>procedure to be followed for thorough, effective, and independent investigation in the cases of death during police encounters</p>	
<p>Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: Rape convicts under POCSO Act shouldn't be allowed to file mercy petition: President Kovind • The POCSO Act, 2012 was enacted to Protect the Children from Offences of Sexual Assault, Sexual harassment and pornography with due regard for safeguarding the interest and well-being of children. • The Act defines a child as any person below 18 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital punishment would be meted out to those who are convicted of a violent crime against those under 12 years old under POCSO Act • The Act stipulates that a case of child sexual abuse must be disposed of within one year from the date the offence is reported • The Act also casts the police in the role of child protectors during the investigative process. • POCSO e-Box was launched in 2016 as an online complaint box for reporting child sexual abuse.
<p>Andhra Pradesh Disha Bill, 2019</p> <p>Also known as Andhra Pradesh Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2019).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bill provides for awarding death sentence for offences of rape and gangrape and expediting trials of such cases to within 21 days. • The AP Disha Act also prescribes life imprisonment for other sexual offences against children and includes Section 354 F and 354 G in IPC. • In cases of harassment of women through social or digital media, the Act states two years imprisonment for the first conviction and four years for second and subsequent convictions • The government will establish exclusive special courts in each district to ensure speedy trial. The government will also appoint a special public prosecutor for each exclusive special court 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disha is the name given to a veterinarian who was raped and murdered in Hyderabad on November 27, 2019. <p>Other Provisions of Act are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP government will establish, operate and maintain a registry in electronic form, to be called the 'Women & Children Offenders Registry'. This registry will be made public and will be available to law enforcement agencies • The government will constitute special police teams at the district level to be called District Special Police Team to be headed by DSP for investigation of offences related to women and children
<p>Incheon Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background: Governments of the UN Economic and Social 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incheon Strategy has been adopted to achieve the goals

	<p>Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) region gathered in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 29 October to 2 November 2012 to chart the course of the new Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities for the period 2013 to 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Incheon strategy provides set of regionally agreed disability-inclusive development goals. • It comprises 10 goals, 27 targets and 62 indicators, including ensuring disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and management. • The ESCAP secretariat is mandated to report every three years until the end of the Decade in 2022, on progress in the implementation of the Incheon Strategy. 	<p>mentioned in UN Convention for Rights or Persons with Disabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Incheon strategy builds on the Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and the Biwako millennium framework for action and Biwako plus five towards an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific. • It is intended to enable the Asian and Pacific region to track progress towards improving the quality of life, and the fulfilment of the rights, of the region's 650 million persons with disabilities • India's Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan is based on the principles outlined in the Incheon Strategy
<p>Scheme for Protection and Preservation of Endangered Languages of India</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was instituted by Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2013 • The sole objective of the Scheme is to document and archive the country's languages that have become endangered or likely to be endangered in the near future. • The scheme is monitored by Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) located in Mysuru, Karnataka. • University Grants Commission (UGC) provides financial assistance for creation of centres for endangered languages at Central and State Universities to undertake research projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the census 1961, India has around 1652 languages. But by 1971, only 808 languages were left. • Government of India currently defines a language as one that is marked by a script and effectively neutering oral languages. Therefore, government recognizes 122 languages which is far lower than the 780 counted by the People's Linguistic Survey of India • GOI does not recognize languages with less than 10,000 speakers
<p>Restricted Area Permit (RAP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign nationals are not normally allowed to visit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to RAP, there is also Protected Areas Permit which

	<p>protected or restricted area unless Government is satisfied that there are extra-ordinary reasons to justify their visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAP regime was notified under the Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order, 1963. Under it, the following areas have been declared as `Restricted Areas':- (i) Andaman & Nicobar Islands-Entire Union Territory. (ii) Sikkim - Part of the State • Foreigners have to obtain Restricted Area Permit from the designated authorities (or Ministry of Home Affairs) before they can travel into these restricted areas 	<p>was notified under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected Areas are located in the following States: - i. Whole of Arunachal Pradesh ii. Parts of Himachal Pradesh iii. Parts of Jammu & Kashmir iv. Whole of Manipur v. Whole of Mizoram vi. Whole of Nagaland vii. Parts of Rajasthan viii. Whole of Sikkim (partly in Protected Area and partly in Restricted Area) ix. Parts of Uttarakhand
<p>Sarvatra Kavach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: Army Major gets Army Design Bureau (ADB) excellence award for developing Sarvatra bulletproof jacket • Sarvatra Kavach is indigenously developed bulletproof jacket that can provide protection against various ammunition including that of sniper rifles. • It provides protection from neck to ankle and upper arms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project was sanctioned in June 2017 and initially the design and development of a Level IIIA soft body armour suit was sanctioned. • It was subsequently revised to include a Level IV hard armour panel inserts.
<p>Locusts</p> <p>In News: The migratory insect locust- locally known as tiddis - swarmed the northern parts of Gujarat, causing significant damage to agriculture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A locust is a large, mainly tropical grasshopper with strong powers of flight. • Locusts have a high capacity to multiply, form groups, migrate over relatively large distances (they can fly up to 150 km per day). They can rapidly reproduce and increase some 20-fold in three months. • Threat to Vegetation: Locust adults can eat their own weight every day, i.e. about two grams of fresh vegetation per day posing threat to crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The locusts emerged in February 2019 from Sudan and Eritrea in Africa's Red Sea Coast and travelled through Saudi Arabia and Iran to enter Pakistan. From here they moved into Rajasthan and Gujarat, where south western monsoon had prolonged this time. • Locust Warning Organisation (LWO), Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, is responsible for monitoring, survey and control of Desert Locust in Scheduled Desert Areas

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locust invasions usually occurs in areas that receive less than 200 mm of rain annually. This is about 16 million sq km consisting of about 30 countries. 	<p>mainly in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat.</p>
<p>Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth (CCIG)</p> <p>In News: CCIG held its first meeting to discuss issues related to the slowdown in the economy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Committees are extra-constitutional in emergence i.e. not mentioned in the Constitution • However, the Rules of Business provide for their establishment. • These Rules emerge out of Article 77(3) which empowers the President to make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government • The Prime Minister constitutes these Committees and sets out the specific functions assigned to them. He can add or reduce the number of committees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are two types of Cabinet committees—standing (permanent) and ad hoc (temporary) • All Cabinet Committees except Cabinet Committee on Accommodation and Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs are headed by Prime Minister. • Alongside CCIG, a Cabinet Committee on Employment & Skill Development was also constituted in response to rising unemployment in the country. • The Periodic Labour Force Survey had shown the overall unemployment rate to be 6.1% during 2017-18.
<p>E-Bkray</p> <p>In News: Union Finance Minister launches eBkray which is a common e-auction platform</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The eBkray platform enables the online auction of the attached assets transparently and cleanly for the improved realization of value by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs). • The platform is equipped with navigational links to all PSB e-auction sites. • It also provides single-window access to information on properties up for e-auction as well as facility for comparison of similar properties. • The e-auction platform has also now been linked to the Indian Banks Auctions Mortgaged Properties Information (IBAPI) portal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eBkray enhances user experience through seamless access to information by search based on the type and location of property put up for e-auction by banks in India • IBAPI is an initiative of Indian Banks Association (IBA) under policy of Department of Financial Services (DFS), Union Ministry of Finance. • It provides details of mortgaged properties to be auctioned online by banks, starting with PSBs

<p>National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)</p> <p>In News: NCLAT has held that the removal of Cyrus Pallonji Mistry from the post of Executive Chairman of Tata Sons in 2016 was illegal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCLAT was constituted under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013 to hear appeals against the orders of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). • NCLT is a quasi-judicial body that adjudicates issues relating to companies. • Any person aggrieved by any order of the NCLAT may file an appeal to the Supreme Court 	<p>NCLAT is the Appellate Tribunal for hearing appeals against the orders passed by –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Company Law Tribunal(s) under Section 61 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC) • Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) under Section 202 and Section 211 of IBC. • Competition Commission of India (CCI) – as per the amendment brought to Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013
<p>Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System (PPRTMS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is launched recently by Election Commission of India • PPRTMS will be implemented through an online portal to facilitate tracking of status of application. • The applicant is required to provide contact mobile number and email address of the party / applicant in application if wishes to track the progress of the application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration of political parties is governed by the provisions of section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. • ECI registers political parties for the purpose of elections and grants them recognition as national or state parties on the basis of their poll performance. • The other parties are simply declared as registered-unrecognised parties.
<p>Right to Fair Trial</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supreme Court has held that the routine practice of investigating agencies producing documents in sealed covers and the judges reproducing them as judicial findings of their own will affect the right to a fair trial of accused. • SC noted that it was open for a judge to receive the documents in sealed cover to either “satisfy its conscience that the investigation is proceeding on the right lines” or to grant bail, however the judge cannot reproduce the 	<p>Article 22 of the Constitution confers the following rights on a person who is arrested or detained under an ordinary law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to be informed of the grounds of arrest. • Right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner. • Right to be produced before a magistrate within 24 hours, excluding the journey time. • Right to be released after 24 hours unless the magistrate authorises further detention. <p>However, the above safeguards are not available to an enemy alien or</p>

	material as his own findings in a judicial order.	a person arrested or detained under a preventive detention law.
Breast Milk Banks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. They are set up under "National Guidelines on Establishment of Lactation Management Centres in Public Health Facilities The first Breast Milk Bank of India was established in 1989 at Mumbai. Breast milk is the optimum source of nutrition for the first six months of life of an infant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breast milk prevents infections like diarrhoea and acute respiratory infections in early infancy and thus reduces infant mortality. Breast milk also decreases the risk of mothers developing breast cancer, ovarian cancer, type 2 diabetes, and heart disease. MAA - "Mothers Absolute Affection" is a nationwide programme of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to promote breastfeeding. Vatsalya, a National Human Milk Bank and Lactation Counselling Centre has been established in collaboration with the Norwegian government.

ECONOMY

Topic	Key Aspects	Value Addition
Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has been constituted by RBI in 2014 to collect, store, and publish data on all borrower's credit exposures Banks will have to provide credit information to CRILC about their borrowers with an aggregate fund-based and non-fund based exposure of and over Rs.5 Crores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It helps financial institutions and banks to assess their non-performing assets (NPAs) and also share this information with other institutions.
Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Product (RoDTEP) scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scheme will replace the existing Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and create a fully automated route for Input Tax Credit (ITC) in the GST to help increase exports in India. RoDTEP scheme is designed to reimburse all taxes and duties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue forgone in RoDTEP is expected to be Rs 50,000 Crore. ITC is provided to set off tax paid on the purchase of raw materials, consumables, goods or services that were used in the manufacturing of goods or services. This helps in avoiding

	<p>paid on inputs consumed in exports in sync with the WTO norms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also by adopting to RoDTEP scheme, Indian exporters will be able to meet the international standards for exports as affordable testing and certification will be made available to exporters within the country instead of relying on international organizations. 	<p>double taxation and the cascading effect of taxes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) was not WTO rules compliant. It was introduced in the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 with the objective to offset infrastructural inefficiencies and associated costs involved in exporting goods which are produced in India
<p>Trade Margin Rationalization (TMR)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade margin is the difference between the price at which the manufacturers/importers sell to trade (price to trade) and the price to Consumers (MRP). Trade Margin Rationalization restricts trade margin on the selling price (MRP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The issue of unreasonably high trade margins in medical devices has been adversely affecting both the industry as well as consumer interest. As a result, in August 2018 NITI Aayog recommended to cap trade margin at 65% for medical devices. In Feb 2019, Government of India brought 42 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs under price control, capping trade margin at 30 %, which would reduce their retail prices by up to 85 %.
<p>ATM Skimmers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skimming is a procedure in which criminals clone ATM cards with stolen data. A skimmer is a device designed to look like and replace the card insertion slot at an ATM. The skimmers have circuitry that read and store the data on the magnetic strip of an ATM card even as the ATM processes the same data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically, fraudsters also install pinhole cameras in inconspicuous places like the top of the cash dispenser or just above the keyboard to steal the PIN for the card. <div data-bbox="954 1525 1385 1798" style="text-align: center;"> <p>HOW IT WORKS</p> <p>1 Duplicate card reading device placed over existing one</p> <p>2 Device reads your card while a pinhole camera records you entering PIN</p> <p>3 Device removed and attached to a laptop to download card details</p> </div>
<p>National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAPA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has been constituted under Section 171 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functions of NAPA: It will identify GST taxpayers who have not passed on such benefits

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective: To ensure that any reduction in GST rates is passed on to the consumers by a commensurate reduction in the price of goods and services. • The NAA will be headed by a senior officer of the level of Secretary to the Government of India. There will be four Technical Members from the Centre and/or the States. 	<p>by reducing prices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of a taxpayer not reducing prices, the NAPA may order a reduction in prices, impose penalties or cancel the registration of a person. •
National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPCI is an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India. • Established by: RBI & Indian Banks' Association (IBA) • Established in: 2008. • It is not-for-profit organisation registered under section 8 of the Companies Act 2013. 	<p>NPCI's current and future service portfolio includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Financial Switch (NFS), • Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), • RuPay • National Common Mobility Card, • Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) • Unified Payments Interface (UPI) • BHIM • Bharat Bill Payment System
National Financial Switch (NFS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Financial Switch facilitates routing of ATM transactions through inter-connectivity between the Bank's Switches, thereby enabling the citizens of the country to utilize any ATM of a connected bank. • NFS brought about interconnectivity of ATMs across the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was conceptualized, developed and implemented initially by Institute of Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad • However, the operations of NFS was taken over by National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) in 2011
National Infrastructure Pipeline(NIP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIP published on December 31, 2019 by the Department of Economic Affairs fleshes out India's infrastructure investment requirements till 2025 in terms of individual sectors and projects • It is estimated that India would need to spend \$4.5 trillion on infrastructure by 2030 to sustain its growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIP includes both economic and social infrastructure projects.

	<p>rate. The endeavour of the NIP, is to make this happen in an efficient manner.</p>	<p>Sector - wise breakup of the NIP</p> <p>(given values are in Rs. Lakh Crores)</p>
<p>Future Skills Prime (Programme for Reskilling/Upskilling of IT Manpower for Employability).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In News: Ministry of Electronics and IT along with NASSCOM, have approved the expansion of the Future Skills initiative -Future Skills PRIME • In February 2018, Future Skills Initiative was announced to reskill the IT industry workforce in emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Blockchain, etc. • Now, Future Skills initiative is extended as PRIME to industry professionals across different segments, higher education students and government officials, with the goal to train 4 lakh professionals in next three years. 	<p>In addition to skilling under the scheme each learner will get</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills Passport where competencies acquired by the learner will get accumulated. • Skills Wallet where he/she will have the opportunity to get upto Rs. 12,000 from the Government of India as an incentive upon certification. • Through this new initiative, Government aims to create India Digital Talent Stack that will propel India into a leadership position in the digital world.
<p>Draft national Statistics Commission (NSC) Bill</p> <p>In News: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has sought suggestions on the Draft NSC Bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In pursuance of the recommendations of Rangarajan Commission, National Statistical Commission was set up as an interim measure by a Notification dated 1st June 2005. • In the absence of any legislative framework, the NSC has faced challenges in implementing its recommendations. 	<p>Salient features of the Bill are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Composition of NSC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fulltime Chairman and five full time members (appointed by the Central Government on the recommendation of the Search Committee) • Deputy Governor, RBI as nominated by Governor, RBI • Chief Statistician of India (the position was created by the same executive order that