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RAPID REVISION SERIES (RRS)

500 HIGH PROBABLE TOPICS FOR UPSC PRELIMS 2020

TOPIC 16-30

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Rapid Revision Series of 500 HIGH PROBABLE TOPICS for PRELIMS 2020

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TOPICS TO REVISE

16. Biorock or Mineral Accretion Technology
17. Corals and Coral Reefs
18. Band-tail scorpionfish
19. Lonar Lake
20. Blockchain
21. ISRO’s NSIL
22. IN-SPACe
23. Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
24. Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme and Credit Guarantee Fund Trust
25. Credit Guarantee Fund
26. Mudra Shishu loan and Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency (MUDRA)
27. PM SVANidhi
28. Axone and Sumi tribe
29. Pollutants in news
30. Oussudu Bird Sanctuary
Topic 16: Biorock or Mineral Accretion Technology

Key points:

1. Coral restoration in Gulf of Kachchh
2. Produce natural building materials in the sea
3. Electro accumulation of minerals dissolved in seawater on steel structures
4. Make artificial reefs - restore coral reefs
5. Wolf Hilbertz; Tom Goreau; Global Coral Reef Alliance
Topic 16: Biorock or Mineral Accretion Technology

How a Biorock™ Reef works

When a positively charged anode and a negatively charged cathode are suspended in sea water with an electric current flowing between them, calcium ions combine with carbonate ions and adhere to the structure (cathode). The result is calcium carbonates. Corals adhere to CaCO3 and grow quickly.
Topic 17: Coral reefs

Key points:

1. Schedule I Wildlife Protection Act
2. Corals - invertebrate animals
3. Polyps and zooxanthellae
4. Cover less than 1 percent of the ocean floor, home to about a third of all marine life
5. Rainforests of the sea
6. Conditions for its survival – Sunlight; Clear and Clean water; Warm water temperature; Saltwater
7. Distribution
Topic 17: Coral reefs

Figure: Distribution of Corals along the Indian Coast.
Key points:

1. Sethukarai coast in the Gulf of Mannar
2. Commonly found in the Indo-West Pacific region
3. Unique features
4. Scientific name: Scorpaenopsis neglecta
5. Deposited in National Marine Biodiversity Museum of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)
Topic 19: Lonar Lake

Key points:

1. Located in Maharashtra

2. 56,000-year-old Lonar crater sanctuary lake

3. Pink colour due to salinity and presence of salinity and salt-loving ‘Haloarchaea’ microbes

4. Created during Pleistocene Epoch

5. Only known hyper velocity meteorite crater in basaltic rock anywhere on Earth

6. Notified as National Geo-heritage Monument in 1979
Topic 20: Blockchain

Key points:

1. Series of data linked together
2. Uses cryptographic principles and unique identifier codes
3. Applications
4. Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Blockchain Technology
5. NITI Aayog recommendations
HOW DOES BLOCKCHAIN WORK

1. A wants to send money to B
2. The transaction is represented offline as a block
3. The block is broadcasted to every party in the network
4. The network approves the transaction
5. The block is added to the existing blockchain in a transparent and unalterable way
6. The transaction is complete
Topic 21: ISRO’s NSIL

Key points:

1. About New Space India Ltd.
2. PSE announced in Budget 2019
3. Objective – technology transfer and private manufacturing
4. Difference between NSIL and Antrix
Key points:

1. About Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)

2. Objective - Promote private industries in space sector

3. Difference between IN-SPACe and ISRO

4. Difference between IN-SPACe and NSIL
Key points:

1. Special economic package worth ₹20 lakh crore
2. Aim - make India self-reliant
3. Total allocation = 10% of GDP

Five Pillars of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
1. Economy,
2. Infrastructure
3. Systems
4. Demography and
5. Demand
Key points:

1. Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGS)
2. Collateral-free credit
3. Coverage – Both existing and new enterprises
4. Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE)
5. Estd. By MoMSMEs and SIDBI
Key points:

1. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006

2. 2 classifications -
   1) investment in plant and machinery for enterprises engaged in manufacturing or production of goods
   2) investment in equipment for enterprises providing services

New definition

1. Micro enterprise : investment < 1 cr and turnover < 5 cr

2. Small enterprise : investment < 10 cr and turnover < 50 cr

3. Medium enterprise : investment < 50 cr and turnover < 250 cr
**Topic 26: Mudra Shishu loan and Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency (MUDRA)**

**Key points: Mudra Shishu loan**

1. **For small businesses and cottage industries**

2. **1500 crore interest subvention**

3. **2% interest rate subvention for a period of 12 months**

4. **Benefits small borrowers (loans up to ₹50,000)**

**Key points: Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency**

1. **Non-Banking Financial Company**

2. **Provides refinance support to Banks / MFIs (Loans upto 10 lakh)**

3. **Provides refinance to micro business under the Scheme of Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana**
MUDRA offers incentives through these interventions:

- Technology Enabler
  - Shishu [upto Rs, 50,000/-]

- Refinance for micro units to Commercial Banks / NBFCs / RRBs / SFBs / MFIs
  - Kishor [Rs, 50,000/- to Rs, 5 Lakh]

- Credit Guarantee for MUDRA loan (through NCGTC)
  - Tarun [Rs, 5 lakh to Rs, 10 Lakh]

- Development and Promotional Support
  - Sectoral Development
  - Financial Literacy
  - Institution Development
Key points:

1. PM SVANidhi - PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi

2. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

3. Special Micro-Credit Facility Scheme

4. Features -
   1) capital loan of up to Rs. 10,000
   2) repayable in monthly instalments (1 year tenure)
   3) interest subsidy at 7% per annum
   4) no penalty on early repayment
   5) Beneficiaries - Street vendors from peri-urban/rural areas
   6) MFIs/ NBFCs/ SHG Banks
Key points:

1. Axone is fermented soya bean of Nagaland

2. It is used to make pickles and chutneys, or curries of pork, fish, chicken, beef etc.

3. It is particularly popular among the Sumi (also Sema) tribe.
Key points:

1. Dioxins, Furans, Mercury and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (BCPs) : Toxic Pollutants from Plastic Waste

2. Dicofol, Phorate, HBCD, PFOA : COP 9 to Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

3. Malathion, parathion, diazinon, fenthion, dichlorvos, chlorpyrifos, ethion : organophosphate chemicals to tackle Locust Attack
Topic 30: Oussudu Bird Sanctuary

Key points:

1. Man-made lake (located in TN and Puducherry) - Coromandal Coast

2. It is a wetland and Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ)

3. Asian wetland Bureau declared Oussudu as one of significant wetlands in Asia

4. Lake is identified as a wetland of National importance

5. Designated as Important Bird Area (IBA) of India

6. Identified as a heritage sites by IUCN
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