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RAPID REVISION SERIES (RRS)

**500 HIGH PROBABLE
TOPICS FOR UPSC
PRELIMS 2020**

TOPIC 106-120



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Session 8

**Rapid Revision Series
of
500 HIGH PROBABLE TOPICS
for
PRELIMS 2020**



TOPICS TO REVISE

106. Flamingo festival held at Pulicat lake
107. Senna Spectabilis
108. Marakkar and Kunjali Marakkar
109. Hojagiri and Bru(Reang) people
110. Mamallapuram
111. Indian Data Relay Satellite System (IDRSS)
112. GAGANYAAN
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114. ADITYA-1 & ADITYA-L1
115. Good Governance Index
116. National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)
117. Green Growth Equity Fund
118. Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules
119. Basel Convention
120. Rotterdam Convention



Topic 106: Flamingo festival held at Pulicat lake

Key points:

1. Flamingo Festival was held at Pulicat lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh
2. It is held every year
3. Pulicat lake is the second largest brackish water ecosystem
4. The lake encompasses Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary



Topic 107: Senna Spectabilis

Key points:

1. Senna Spectabilis : : Invasive alien plants
2. Found in Nilgiri Biosphere Region
3. 1992 Rio de Janeiro Convention on Biodiversity
4. Niligir Tahr (enadangered species)



Topic 108: Marakkar

Key points:

1. South Asian Muslim community
2. They were a powerful maritime spice trading community in the medieval South Asia
3. Traded with South Asia and S-E-Asian countries
4. Kunjali Marakkars - Muslim naval chief of the Zamorin of Calicut
5. Marakkars are credited with organizing the first naval defense of the Indian coast



Topic 109: Hojagiri and Bru(Reang) people

Key Points:

1. Brus, aka Reangs, are spread across Tripura, Mizoram and southern Assam
2. Ethnic violence between Brus and Mizos
3. The Bru are the second most populous tribe of Tripura
4. Hojagiri is a folk dance, performed in the state of Tripura by the Bru



Topic 110: Mamallapuram

Key points:

1. Also known as Seven Pagodas or Mahabalipuram
2. Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal
3. Associated with Pallava kingdom
(also Narasimhavarman I)
4. UNESCO World Heritage site
5. Some important structures include: Thirukadalmallai, Descent of the Ganges or Arjuna's Penance, Shore Temple, Varaha Cave Temple and Pancha Rathas



Topic 111: Indian Data Relay Satellite System (IDRSS)

Key points:

1. Tracks and maintains continuous communication link with India's remote sensing/earth observation satellites
2. Particularly low-earth orbits which have limited coverage of earth and GSLV Mk III
3. Under IDRSS, 2 satellites will be launched in geostationary orbit
4. They would be covering the same area on earth
5. Reduces the dependence on the ground stations in tracking satellites



Topic 112: GAGANYAAN

Key points:

1. India's 1st Human spaceflight programme
2. To be launched in 2022 (includes two unmanned flights to be launched in 2020 and 2021)
3. It will carry 3 astronauts to a low earth orbit
4. It will make India the 4th country (after the Russia, USA and China)
5. Rocket: GSLV Mk-III
6. Pad Abort Test - Crew Escape System

2022: India's space odyssey

What is the Human Space Flight Project all about?

- In 2022, 3 Indian astronauts, mostly flight test pilots from the IAF, will circle earth for seven days from a distance of 300-400 km

- They will travel in a 7,000-kg crew capsule. A GSLV-MkIII launch vehicle will lift them to their orbit

- The flight will take off from a refurbished launchpad at Sriharikota

- The entire project could cost roughly between ₹7,000 to 9,000 crore



ALSO PROPOSED

- Food, suits and other life systems for crew

- Astronaut selection & training

- Two unmanned trials, the first in two years

- A new command & tracking centre at ISTRAC, Bengaluru

- Improved launchpad at SDSC, Sriharikota



Topic 113: VYOMMITRA

Key points:

1. ISRO's humanoid robot that will test-flight Gangayaan in December 2020.
2. It is a Gynoid (female humanoid).
3. Built by ISRO's Inertial Systems Unit, Thiruvananthapuram.
4. Objective



Topic 114: ADITYA-1 & ADITYA-L1

Key points:

1. India's 1st first mission to study the Sun
2. Objective - study the solar corona
3. About Corona
 - 1) It is the outermost region of the Sun's atmosphere
 - 2) It has high temperatures of more than 1 million degree Kelvin
 - 3) Corona ejects millions of tonnes of high-speed solar wind
4. Aditya 1 – corona and Aditya L1 – corona, chromosphere and photosphere
5. It is called L1 because it is placed in L1 orbit (Lagrange point)



Topic 115: Good Governance Index

Key points:

1. Was launched on 'Good Governance Day'
2. 25th December - birth anniversary of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee
3. GGI is a nation-wide comparative study of States on governance
4. GGI is a nation-wide comparative study of States on governance

GGI takes into consideration ten sectors:

1. Agriculture and Allied Sectors,
2. Commerce & Industries,
3. Human Resource Development,
4. Public Health,
5. Public Infrastructure & Utilities,
6. Economic Governance,
7. Social Welfare & Development,
8. Judicial & Public Security,
9. Environment and
10. Citizen-Centric Governance



Topic 116: National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)

Key points:

1. Investment plan for enhancing infrastructure (includes economic and social infrastructure projects)
2. Period of five years from 2020-25
3. Helps India to become \$5 trillion economy by 2025
4. \$1.4 trillion have been allotted to NIP
5. Funding = 39:39:22 ratio



Topic 117: Green Growth Equity Fund

Key points:

1. Promoted jointly by India and the UK
2. Private sectors investment to finance green infrastructure
3. Specifically designed to promote sustainable energy projects
4. To raise up to £500 million from institutional investors
5. It is a sub-fund of National Investment and Infrastructure Fund of India (NIIF)



Topic 118: Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules

Key points:

1. MoEFCC amended Hazardous and Other Wastes Rules
2. Solid plastic waste has been prohibited from import (including SEZs and EOUs)
3. Exporters of silk waste gets exemption from requiring permission from the Ministry
4. Electrical and electronic assemblies and components manufactured in and exported from India, if found defective can now be imported back into the country, within a year of export, without obtaining permission.
5. Industries which do not require consent under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, are now exempted from requiring authorization also from the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016



Topic 119 and 120: Basel Convention and Rotterdam Convention

Basel Convention

1. International treaty to reduce the movements of hazardous waste
2. Esp. prevent transfer of hazardous waste from developed to less developed countries
3. It does not address the movement of radioactive waste
4. Aims to minimize the amount and toxicity of wastes generated
5. US and Haiti are not party to the treaty

Rotterdam Convention

1. Multilateral treaty to promote shared responsibilities in relation to importation of hazardous chemicals
2. Calls on exporters of hazardous chemicals to use proper labeling
3. Includes directions on safe handling, and inform purchasers of any known restrictions or bans
4. US – Non member state



Topic 119 and 120: Basel Convention and Rotterdam Convention

Basel Convention : : Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Rotterdam Convention : : Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

In 2019, outcome of COP Basel and COP Rotterdam Convention

1. technical guidelines on e-waste - Basel Convention (COP 14)
2. inclusion of plastic waste in the PIC procedure - Rotterdam Convention (COP 9)
3. Further Basel Convention has also adopted partnership on plastic

These steps will help prevent the illegal dumping of plastic wastes in developing countries.