



IASBABA

IASBABA'S PEP 2024

VALUE ADD HANDOUTS


IDEA BEHIND THIS DOCUMENT

Every year UPSC is going beyond the typical and conventional ways of asking questions in Prelims. Questions are based on various facts and information that sometimes require knowing multiple data. Many a times, one question has more than 3-4 different aspects or concepts to be unearthed to solve it correctly.

Conventional current affairs that you read and cover on a daily or monthly basis doesn't seem enough to solve the UPSC Prelims questions. Considering the change and pattern of UPSC which is dynamic and unpredictable, we have come across a new feature under PEP-2024 programme wherein the coverage in these documents will be to prepare you for the worst.

The whole idea is to provide concepts/data/information which you may miss while covering the conventional current affairs. This document will also cover the concepts asked in the previous years either in the form of questions or the given options.



Location	News	Additional Information
<p>Gangavaram Port</p> 	<p>Located in Visakhapatnam.</p> <p>Acquired by Adani Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is the deepest all-weather port in India with round the clock operations.• The port is located where Borramma Gedda river joins the sea.
<p>Simlipal Biosphere Reserve</p>	<p>Deaths of Forest Guards</p> <p>Rare Black Tiger Death</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is Asia's second largest Biosphere Reserve.• Similipal is Odisha's oldest tiger reserve.• It is also part of the Mayurbhanj Elephant Reserve and is home to several species including tiger, elephant, gaur and deer.• Two tribes, the Erengas Kharias and the Mankirdias, inhabit the reserve's forests and practise traditional agricultural activities (the collection of



seeds and timber).

- It is also part of the Similipal Biosphere Reserve which lies within two biogeographical regions: the Mahanadian east coastal region of the Oriental realm and the Chhotanagpur biotic province of the Deccan peninsular zone.
- Similipal which is Asia's second-largest biosphere reserve is also a UNESCO world heritage site.

Mamallapuram or Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu)



Mahabalipuram Shore Temple is India's first Green Energy Archaeological Site.

- The town's religious centre was founded by a 7th-century **Hindu Pallava King Narasimhavarman**, also known as Mamalla for whom the town was named.
- It contains many surviving 7th- and 8th-century Pallava temples and monuments, chief of



which are the sculptured rock relief popularly known as “**Arjuna’s Penance,**” or “**Descent of the Ganges,**” a series of sculptured cave temples, and a Shiva temple on the seashore.

- The **town’s Five Rathas,** or **monolithic temples,** are the remnants of seven temples, for which the town was known as Seven Pagodas. The entire assemblage collectively was designated a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984.**

Central Asia

The Caucasus and Central Asia



The five countries of this region are

- Kazakhstan
- Uzbekistan
- Tajikistan
- Kazakhstan
- Turkmenistan



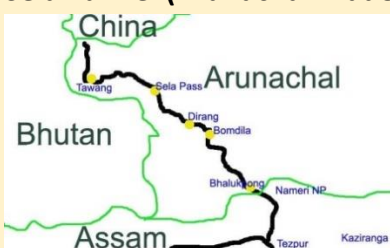

- India was among the first countries to recognize the five Central Asian states. It established diplomatic relations with them after they gained independence in 1990s.
- India now considers the Central Asian countries as part of its '**extended and strategic neighbourhood**'.
- At present the five



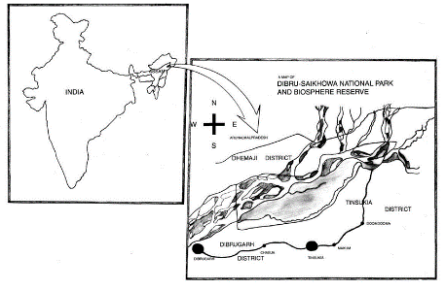
		<p>Central Asian republics account for trade of only about \$2 billion with India.</p>
<p>Uranium Mines in India</p>	<p>Uranium contamination in Andhra Pradesh's Kadapa. India's biggest uranium mine, run by UCIL, is in Tummalapalle of Kadapa District, AP. Natural uranium contains 0.7% of the U-235 isotope. The remaining 99.3% is mostly the U-238 isotope which does not contribute directly to the fission process. Most reactors are light water reactors (of two types – PWR and BWR) and require uranium to be enriched from 0.7% to 3-5% U-235 in their fuel. This is normal low-enriched uranium (LEU). There is some interest in taking enrichment levels to about 7%, and even close to 20% for certain special power reactor fuels, as high-assay LEU (HALEU).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presently, a major portion of uranium for domestic production comes from the Jaduguda mines in Jharkhand. • India currently imports uranium from Kazakhstan, Canada, France and Russia. Recently India also signed deal with Uzbekistan to get Uranium supply. • In India, Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL) under the Department of Atomic Energy, is the only organisation responsible for mining and processing of uranium ore for commercial purposes. • Uranium mined by the UCIL is used for weapons and civil nuclear programmes both. The imported uranium is used for civil nuclear energy purposes only.



IASBABA

<p>Borno</p> 	<p>Conflict in Borno state.</p> <p>Borno borders the Republic of Niger to the north, Lake Chad (and the Republic of Chad) to the northeast, and Cameroon to the east; on the south and west it borders the Nigerian states of Adamawa, Gombe, and Yobe.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borno State, is a state in north-eastern Nigeria. Its capital and largest city is Maiduguri. • It is the central fragment of the old Bornu empire of the Kanuri people. Its name is said to mean "Home of the Berbers".
<p>Kelp Forests</p> 	<p>According to a recent study, Climate change could lead to decline of underwater kelp forests.</p> <p>Kelps are large brown algae seaweeds. They grow in "underwater forests" (kelp forests) in shallow oceans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally speaking, kelps live further from the tropics than coral reefs, mangrove forests, and warm-water seagrass beds. • Although kelp forests are unknown in tropical surface waters, a few species have been known to occur exclusively in tropical deep waters.
<p>Sela Tunnel (Arunachal Pradesh)</p> 	<p>Almost 90 per cent of the construction works of the strategically important Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh have been completed.</p>	<p>The Sela Tunnel once completed will offer the world the longest bi-lane tunnel at an altitude above 13,000 feet.</p>
<p>Kaziranga National Park (Assam)</p> 	<p>The Supreme Court has banned all mining activities along the Kaziranga National Park and catchment area of rivers originating in Karbi Anglong Hills in Assam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaziranga National Park was formed in 1908 the park is located on the edge of the Eastern Himalayan biodiversity hotspots - in the Golaghat and Nagaon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is world's major stronghold of the Indian one-horned rhino, having the single largest population of this species, currently estimated at over



	<p>districts of Assam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The southern border of the park is roughly defined by the Mora Diphlu River. Further south are the hills of Barail and the Mikir. • The Brahmaputra River constitutes the dynamically changing Northern boundary of the park. • The other rivers in Kaziranga are Diphlu and Mora Dhansiri. 	<p>2,000 animals (approximately 2/3rd of their total world population).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With increase in tiger population every year, the government authorities declared Kaziranga as a Tiger Reserve in the year 2006. • In the year 1985, the park was declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. • Also, the park is recognized as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International for the conservation of avifaunal species.
<p>Dibru-Saikhowa National Park</p> 	<p>Flood affected the wildlife in Assam's Dibru-Saikhowa National Park.</p> <p>It is situated in the floodplain of the Brahmaputra River in Assam.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is a national park in Assam, India, located in Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts. • It was designated a Biosphere Reserve in July 1997.
<p>Mandarin Duck</p>	<p>The mandarin, widely regarded as the world's most beautiful duck, is a native of China and Japan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandarins favour small wooded ponds and avoid lakes or large bodies of open water.



IUCN status: Least Concerned

Cyclone

Recent cyclone Biparjoy - a cyclone over the Arabian Sea

The Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) is a long-term ocean fluctuation of the Pacific Ocean. The PDO waxes and wanes approximately every 20 to 30 years.

Algeria



Argentina



Algeria and Argentina have been officially recognized by WHO as malaria-free.

Focus on the location of these two countries.

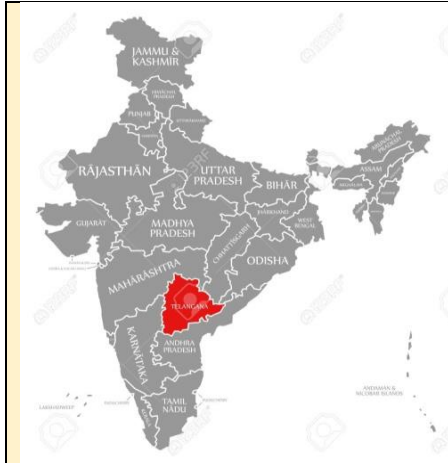
Kaleshwaram, Telangana

The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation project was inaugurated in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district of Telangana. Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation (KLIP) Project will be world's

Lift irrigation is a method of irrigation in which water instead of being transported by



IASBABA



largest multi-stage, multipurpose lift irrigation. It is being built across Godavari River.

natural flow (as in gravity-fed canal systems) requires external energy through animal, fuel based or electric power using pumps or other mechanical means. The advantage of lift irrigation is the minimal land acquisition problem and low-water losses.

Persian Gulf



The Persian Gulf, sometimes called the Arabian Gulf, is a mediterranean sea in West Asia. The body of water is an extension of the Indian Ocean located between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula.

It is connected to the Gulf of Oman in the east by the Strait of Hormuz.

Gulf of Oman



India, France and UAE have concluded their first-ever trilateral Maritime Partnership Exercise between three navies in Gulf of Oman

A gulf that connects the Arabian Sea with the Strait of Hormuz, which then runs to the Persian Gulf.

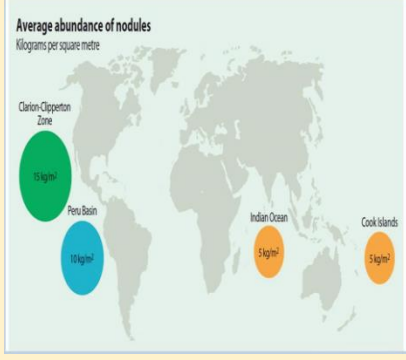


It borders Iran and Pakistan on the north, Oman on the south, and the United Arab Emirates on the west and in some countries, it is known as Makran Sea.

Polymetallic Nodules in Oceans

According to the Ministry of Mines, the GSI has been exploring India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in Andaman and Arabian sea and has observed occurrences of ferro manganese crusts.

Polymetallic nodules, also called manganese nodules, are rock concretions formed of concentric layers of iron



	<p>A recent survey around Cherbaniani, Byramgore, Perumul Par and Bitra Par Reefs, Lakshadweep Trough in the Arabian Sea brought out the occurrences of seamount associated crusts and nodules between 1,200 metres and 1,500 metres water depth along the flanks of reefs and small seamounts in the northern part of Laccadive Ridge system.</p>	<p>and manganese hydroxides around a core. It has been estimated that 380 Million Metric Tonnes of PMN are available at the bottom of the seas in the Central Indian Ocean.</p>
<p>Sargosso Sea</p> 	<p>Recently it was found that Sargasso seaweed algae belt is increasingly growing in Sargosso Sea. It is named for a genus of free-floating seaweed called Sargassum. The Sargasso Sea is a spawning site for threatened and endangered eels, as well as white marlin, porbeagle shark, and dolphinfish. Humpback whales annually migrate through the Sargasso Sea.</p>	<p>The Sargasso Sea lies within the Northern Atlantic Subtropical Gyre. While all other seas in the world are defined at least in part by land boundaries, the Sargasso Sea is defined only by ocean currents.</p>
<p>Lake Chad</p> 	<p>One of Africa's largest freshwater bodies, the Lake Chad, has shrunk by 90 per cent.</p> <p>Over 10 million people across the region are in need of emergency assistance.</p> <p>The United Nations has term the Lake Chad crisis as "one of the worst in the world".</p>	<p>Lake Chad in the Sahel straddles Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon and is home to 17.4 million people.</p> <p>It is blessed with rich aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity.</p> <p>The Lake Chad basin comprises biosphere reserves, World Heritage and Ramsar sites as well as wetlands of international conservation importance.</p>
<p>Jhelum River</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Jhelum rises from a deep spring at Vernag, in western Jammu and Kashmir union territory, in the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hydrology of the Jhelum River is largely



	<p>Indian-administered portion of the Kashmir region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The river meanders northwestward from the northern slope of the Pir Panjal Range through the Vale of Kashmir to Wular Lake at Srinagar, which controls its flow.	<p>controlled by snowmelt from the Karakoram and Himalaya ranges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is the westernmost of the five rivers of the Punjab region, and flows through the Kashmir Valley. It is a tributary of the Chenab River and has a total length of about 725 kilometres.• The Sanskrit name for the river is Vitasta.• Alexander the Great and his army crossed the Jhelum in BC 326 at the Battle of the Hydaspes River, where he defeated an Indian king, Porus.
<p>Voice Vote</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The voice vote is used in the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha and state assemblies to vote for certain resolutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is used when there is a wide agreement on issues and in some cases where the house is not in order. <i>It was used during the formation of the Indian state</i>



		<i>of Telangana in 2014.</i>
Climate Polycrisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2023 uses the term, to explain how, "present and future risks can also interact with each other to form a 'polycrisis' – a cluster of related global risks with compounding effects, such that the overall impact exceeds the sum of each part".	
Wular Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wular Lake in Kashmir, is one of the largest fresh water lakes in South Asia.• It is located near Bandipora town in the Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The lake basin was formed as a result of tectonic activity and is fed by the Jhelum River and stream Madhumati and Arin.• In ancient times, Wular Lake was also called Mahapadmasar.• The lake is one of the 75 Indian wetlands designated as a Ramsar site.
Krishna River	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Krishna River is a river in the Deccan plateau and is the third-longest river in India, after the Ganges and Godavari.• The river rises in western Maharashtra state in the Western Ghats range near the town of Mahabaleshwar.• It is also the fourth-largest in terms of water inflows and river basin area in India, after the Ganges, Indus and	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It runs for about 1300-1400 kilometres across the peninsula, from west to east, passing through Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.



	<p>Godavari.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Its principal tributaries include the Ghataprabha River, Malaprabha River, Bhima River, Tungabhadra River and Musi River.
<p>Congo Basin</p>	<p>The Congo Basin is the sedimentary basin of the Congo River. The Congo Basin is located in Central Africa, in a region known as west equatorial Africa.</p>	<p>Countries wholly or partially in the Congo region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Angola• Gabon• Burundi• Cameroon• Central African Republic• Democratic Republic of the Congo• Republic of the Congo• Rwanda• Tanzania• Zambia
<p>The inaugural India Art, Architecture & Design Biennale (IAADB)</p>	<p>To be held from December 9-15, will feature seven "especially-curated" thematic displays located in three British-era barracks on the grounds of the Mughal-era monument at Red Fort Delhi.</p>	<p>The day-wise seven themes are listed in this sequence: 'Doors of India', 'Gardens of India', 'Baolis of India', 'Temples of India', 'Architectural Wonders of Independent India', 'Indigenous Design' and 'Women in Architecture and Design'.</p>



IASBABA

		Once concluded, these themes will be covered in detail.
Gara Embroidery	Parsi Gara, also known as Parsi Gara embroidery or Parsi Gara work, is a traditional embroidery style originating from the Parsi community in India.	It is known for its intricate and highly detailed floral and nature-inspired designs. Typically, Parsi Gara embroidery is done on silk or georgette fabrics using colourful silk threads.

Copyright © by IASbaba

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of IASbaba.