

**GOVERNANCE- WELFARE SCHEMES, E-GOVERNANCE, SERVICES ETC.****Sukanya**

Kolkata Police started the third edition of its 'Sukanya' project at 100 city-based schools and colleges situated in Kolkata Police jurisdiction.

**About:**

- Sukanya is an initiative of the Kolkata Police's Community Policing Wing to provide self-defence training to girl students of city-based schools, colleges and universities.
- Girl students of VIII, IX, XI and girls studying in the first year at educational institutions in this area will be part of it.
- The initiative is funded by Women and Child Development and Social Welfare Department of the state government.

**UJALA; SLNP**

Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) and Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP) of the central government has completed five successful years on January 5, 2020.

**About:**

- Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP) is the world's largest streetlight replacement programme and Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) is the world's largest domestic lighting project.
- Both have been spearheaded and implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of PSUs under the Ministry of Power, Government of India.
- Under the SLNP programme, over 1.03 crore smart LED streetlights have been installed till date, enabling an estimated energy savings of 6.97 billion kWh per year.
- Through the UJALA initiative, over 36.13 crore LED bulbs have been distributed across India. This has resulted in estimated energy savings of 46.92 billion kWh per year and an estimated GHG emission reduction of 38 million t CO<sub>2</sub> annually.

**Related Info:**

- Apart from this, the Government of India initiated the Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (GSA) in 2018, which was aimed at promotion of social harmony by apprising rural communities of various government welfare schemes and initiatives.
- As a part of GSA, 21,058 Indian villages with a significantly large number of poor households were able to buy LED bulbs for a special price under UJALA programme.

**Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**

Maharashtra has become the first state in the country to integrate its land records with the web portal of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

- This will help in checking the cases of "over-insurance" — insurance of more land than in possession — as well as insurance of ineligible people.
- Maharashtra also counts itself among the top five states in the country in terms of payment of claims under the PMFBY.
- During the financial year 2018-19, the state had 1.39 crore farmers opting for the scheme and the total premium collected was Rs 4,778.30 crore.

**Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**

- The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana was launched in 2016 and is being administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- It provides a comprehensive insurance cover against failure of the crop thus helping in stabilising the income of the farmers.
- Scope: All food & oilseed crops and annual commercial/horticultural crops for which past yield data is available.
- Premium: The prescribed premium is 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all rabi crops. In the case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium is 5%.
- The scheme is compulsory for loanee farmers availing Crop Loan /Kisan Credit Card (KCC) account for notified crops and voluntary for others.
- The scheme is implemented by empanelled general insurance companies. The selection of the Implementing Agency (IA) is done by the concerned State Government through bidding.

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS- BILATERAL, GROUPINGS, ORGANISATIONS****Ethical Veganism**

An employment tribunal in the United Kingdom has ruled that "ethical veganism" is a philosophical belief protected by British law against discrimination.

**About:**

- Broadly, a vegan person does not consume meat products and also products that are derived from animals (such as milk, eggs, etc). Veganism is a lifestyle choice to refrain from eating meat as well as products made from or by animals.
- Ethical veganism, on the other hand, has been defined as the view that attaches a positive ethical valuation to a vegan lifestyle.

There are two types of ethical veganism:

- broad absolutist veganism, under which it is always wrong to use any product made by or from animals, and
- modest ethical veganism, under which it is typically wrong to use products made from or by a range of animals including cats, dogs, cows, pigs, etc.

Related Info:

- Ethical veganism is different from ethical vegetarianism — the latter makes a distinction between products made from animals, such as meat, and products made by animals, such as milk. Ethical vegetarianism is opposed to products made from animals in particular.
- There is also an ethical omnivorism, which permits the use of some animal products and may restrict the use of others based on some ethical criterion, say the authors of the Food Ethics paper.

## **INDIAN ECONOMY**

### ITR Forms

The government of India notified new tax return forms for assessment year 2020-21 (income earning year April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020).

About:

- As per the notification, returns in ITR-1 Sahaj can be filed by an ordinary resident individual whose total income does not exceed ₹ 50 lakh, while form ITR-4 Sugam is meant for resident individuals, HUFs and firms (other than LLP) having a total income of up to ₹ 50 lakh and having presumptive income from business and profession.
- According to the new notification, an individual taxpayer cannot file return either in ITR-1 or ITR-4 if he is a joint-owner in house property.
- Also, the ITR-1 form is not valid for those individuals who have deposited more than ₹ 1 crore in bank account or have incurred ₹ 2 lakh or ₹ 1 lakh on foreign travel or electricity respectively. Such taxpayers will have to use different forms, which will be notified in due course.
- An individual who “owns a house property in joint ownership with two or more persons” is required to furnish a return of income.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY- EVERYDAY SCIENCE, SPACE, NUCLEAR, DEFENCE ETC**

### Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR)

During the 107th Indian Science Congress, head of the Climate Change Programme under Department of Science and Technology, spoke about the Centre’s policy on implementing scientific social responsibility (SSR).

About:

- Under the Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) programme, researchers who are working on a science project funded by any of the Ministries under the Central government will have to undertake activities to popularise science and make it more accessible to the public.
- The Department of Science and Technology (DST) would draw up a list of activities which could be taken up under the SSR programme. This could range from going to colleges delivering lectures, writing an article in a magazine or doing something beyond the curriculum.
- The science outreach would be mandatory and researchers had to include this as part of their outcome report.
- It will be implemented this year after a consultation meeting with all stakeholders.

### SARAS Mk 2

National Aerospace Laboratory (NAL) told the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology that the government needs to be the “launch customer” to make Saras Mk2 commercially viable.

About:

- Saras Mk2 is the first indigenous light transport aircraft of India.
- It has been developed by the National Aerospace Laboratory (NAL).
- The 19-seater aircraft, developed with a target cost of ₹ 50 crore, is at least 20-25% lower in cost than other aircraft in the similar category.

Timeline:

- The aircraft has been in the making for long. The first prototype flew in 2004.
- But without the initial push from the government, the manufacturing capacity required for commercial production could not be set up.

- Presently, the NAL has only one order from the Indian Air Force for 15 aircraft.
- The NAL has been pitching Saras Mk-2 for the government's UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik), since it has the capacity to operate in "ill-equipped", "semi-prepared" and "unpaved airstrips". The scheme, launched in October 2016, is aimed at linking areas that have no air connectivity.

**PRELIMS SPECIFIC FACTS- INDICES, DAYS, EVENTS, AWARDS ETC****Challakere**

India's world-class facility for training astronauts will be established at Challakere, on the Bengaluru-Pune NH4 in Chitradurga district of Karnataka.

About:

- Challakere is a village in Chitradurga district in the state of Karnataka, India.
- Challakere is also known as the 'oil city' or "second Mumbai" of India because it is the second largest producer/supplier of edible oil after Mumbai. There are as many as 60+ oil industries in Challakere.
- Challakere is known for the kambali (woven blankets) made by the local Kuruba people.

**DAILY ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE**

Qns. In case of conflict between human values and other fundamental values, the former should triumph. Do you agree? Justify your argument with an appropriate example.

Values are enduring belief system which guides people's behaviour. Such values are acquired on the basis of socialization, knowledge, awareness, experiences etc.

Values can be roughly categorized as-

- Family value
- Civil services value
- Organizational values
- Professional values
- Moral
- Ethical
- Societal
- Personal
- Human

Human values:

- These are values which are essential for people to behave like humans. Since a person is born as human different from animals therefore, society has evolved some values due to human interface, interaction with other fellow humans.
- They are values which guide the behaviour of two or more humans. Compassion, empathy, solidarity are some examples of human values.

Significance of Human Values

- Since the human element is common among all people, human values will also be common to all across situations, circumstances, conditions. While other values like socio-cultural values may change from place to place.
- Human values are related to the core identity of human i.e. dignity and respect.
- Human values are present inherently in human beings by virtue of being a human while other values are inculcated in human beings through the process of socialization.
- Human values are more responsible for binding people to live in a society or country as there are many divisive forces because of different socio-cultural values.
- Peaceful co-existence of entire human civilisation rests on adherence to human values.
- When forces of Nationalism and Patriotism try to take the front seat, there is a kind of hostility, protectionist feelings generated among the people of different countries. Therefore, Humanity should be always at a higher pedestal than other such values.

**Conclusion:** Adherence to human values such as love and compassion is required in today's world which is affected by many conflicts such as civil wars, refugee crises and terrorism. It is with those human values that one becomes truly able to put into practice his/her ethical values, such as justice, integrity, refusal of violence and ban to kill – even in a crisis situation. Human values convey a positive and affective surge, which reinforces the rationale of moral values. They are the values that permit us to live together in harmony and personally contribute to peace. Human values are a tool to manage human relations and a tool for peace when the tension is high.

**DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQs**

1. With reference to the Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA), consider the following statements:
  1. It is the world's largest streetlight replacement programme.
  2. It is implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of PSUs under the Ministry of Power, Government of India.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
2. Sukanya is an initiative of which of the following City Police's Community Policing Wing to provide self-defence training to girl students of city-based schools, colleges and universities?
  - (a) Delhi
  - (b) Mumbai
  - (c) Chennai
  - (d) Kolkata**
3. With reference to the Ethical veganism, consider the following statements:
  1. It is defined as the view that attaches a positive ethical valuation to a vegan lifestyle.
  2. Ethical veganism and ethical vegetarianism are same.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
4. India's world-class facility for training astronauts will be established at:
  - (a) Nellore
  - (b) Challakere**
  - (c) Thumba
  - (d) Cuddalore
5. With reference to the Saras Mk2, consider the following statements:
  1. It is the first indigenous light transport aircraft of India.
  2. It has been developed by the DRDO.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
6. With reference to the new tax return forms for assessment year 2020-21, consider the following statements:
  1. Returns in ITR-1 Sahaj can be filed by an ordinary resident individual whose total income exceeds Rs. 50 lakh.
  2. According to the new notification, an individual taxpayer cannot file return either in ITR-1 or ITR-4 if he is a joint-owner in house property.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
7. With reference to the Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) programme, consider the following statements:
  1. Under this programme, researchers who are working on a science project funded by any of the Ministries under the Central government will have to undertake activities to popularise science and make it more accessible to the public.
  2. All the organizations with a net profit of INR 5 crore or more, to spend 1 percent of their average net profits of three years on SSR.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