

INTERNAL SECURITY

❖ **UNREST IN MANIPUR**

❖ **CONTEXT: Violence in Manipur & Meitei community's Demand for ST status and Manipur's ethnic faultlines.**

➤ From the hill district of Churachandpur to the capital Imphal, violence between Manipur's Kuki tribe and the majority Meitei community continued to rage for the second day in several parts of the state, after the Army and Assam Rifles were deployed to quell the situation on Wednesday night. As the situation worsened on Thursday, the state's Home Department issued "shoot-at-sight" orders "in extreme cases"

➤ Manipur is no stranger to violent protests, but the ongoing violence between the Kuki-Zomi tribals and the largely Hindu Meiteis is the first time in three decades that the state has witnessed direct clashes between two ethnic groups.

➤ In 1993, Hindu Meiteis clashed with Pangals (Muslims), and there was horrific violence involving the tribal Nagas and Kukis, which saw more than a hundred Kukis massacred in a single day, and thousands driven from their homes.

➤ **Background**

- Manipur was boiling since February 2023
- Manipur has been restive since February when the state government launched an eviction drive seen as targeting a specific tribal group.
- The drive led to protests but not on the scale of the one seen recently.
- While the forest eviction and demand for ST status for Meiteis have been the most prominent recent triggers, the divide between the Meiteis and tribals on a number of issues has widened over the past decade.

➤ **Why people are protesting?**

- 'The participants were protesting the demand for inclusion of the state's Meitei community in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category, following an April 19 Manipur High Court directive'

➤ **High Court's order as a trigger point:**

- The recent protests were triggered by the Manipur High Court's direction to the State to pursue a 10-year-old recommendation to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the non-tribal Meitei community.
- The Court's order has brought the historical tensions between the valley-dwelling Meitei community and the state's hill tribes to a boil.

➤ **Violence started:**

- A 'tribal solidarity march' was organised by the All Tribal Students' Union of Manipur (ATSUM) against the order of the High Court.
- Violent clashes broke out at various places in Manipur during the course of this march.

➤ **Major communities residing in Manipur:**

- The Meiteis are the largest community in Manipur. There are 34 recognized tribes, which are broadly classified as 'Any Kuki Tribes' and 'Any Naga Tribes'.
- The central valley in the state accounts for about 10% of the landmass of Manipur, and is home primarily to the Meitei and Meitei Pangals who constitute roughly 64.6% of the state's population. This area yields 40 of the State's 60 MLAs.
- The remaining 90% of the state's geographical area comprises hills surrounding the valley, which are home to the recognized tribes, making up about 35.4% of the state's population. This area sends only 20 MLAs to the Assembly.

➤ **Why does the Meitei community want ST status?**

- There has been an organised push in support of this demand since 2012, led by the Scheduled Tribes Demand Committee of Manipur (STDCM).
- In their plea before the High Court, it was argued that the Meitei community was recognised as a tribe before the merger of the princely state of Manipur with the Union of India in 1949.
- It lost its identity as a tribe after the merger.
- The demand for ST status arose from the need to preserve the community, and save the ancestral land, tradition, culture and language of the Meiteis.
- As per the arguments forwarded by the community in the court:
 - ✓ The community has been victimised without any constitutional safeguards to date.
 - ✓ The Meitein/Meitei have been gradually marginalised in their ancestral land.
 - ✓ Their population which was 59% of the total population of Manipur in 1951 has now been reduced to 44% as per 2011 Census data.

➤ **Why are tribal groups against ST status for Meiteis?**

- Tribals including Nagas, Zomis, and Kukis against the ST status for Meitei.

- They comprise around 40 per cent of the state's population. The Meiteis are a dominant group controlling the state and its apparatuses.
- Hence, the claim that Meiteis need ST status to protect their culture and identity is self-defeating.
- They feel the ST status to the Meiteis would lead to loss of job opportunities and allow them to acquire land in the hills and push the tribals out.
- The Manipuri language of the Meiteis is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.
- Sections of the Meitei community — which is predominantly Hindu — are already classified under Scheduled Castes (SC) or Other Backward Classes (OBC).

LAW & POLICY

- ❖ **The PoSH Act, and the procedure for complaint against sexual harassment at the workplace.**
 - ❖ **CONTEXT: An investigation published in The Indian Express revealed that more than half-16 of India's 30 national sports federations do not have an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), a legal requirement under the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) Act, 2013.**
 - The government's committee headed by boxer M C Mary Kom that looked into the allegations of the wrestlers who have been protesting at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the BJP MP who runs wrestling in India, has flagged the absence of the ICC at the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) as a "major finding".
 - **What exactly is the law against sexual harassment of women at the workplace?**
 - The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, commonly known as the PoSH Act, was passed in 2013. It defined sexual harassment, lay down the procedures for complaint and inquiry, and the action to be taken in cases of sexual harassment.
 - **How did the PoSH Act come about?**
 - The 2013 law broadened and gave legislative backing to what are known as the **Vishaka Guidelines**, which were laid down by the Supreme Court in a judgment passed in 1997.
 - The case in question was filed by women's rights groups, including one called Vishaka, over the alleged gangrape of a social worker from Rajasthan named Bhanwari Devi. Bhanwari had fought against the marriage of a one-year-old baby girl in 1992, and had been allegedly gangraped as retribution.
 - The Vishaka Guidelines defined sexual harassment and imposed three key obligations on institutions — **prohibition, prevention, redress**. The Supreme Court directed that they should establish a Complaints Committee, which would look into matters of sexual harassment of women at the workplace. The court made the guidelines legally binding.
 - **What does the PoSH Act say about the complaints committee?**
 - The PoSH Act subsequently mandated that every employer must constitute an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) at each office or branch that had 10 or more employees. It defined various aspects of sexual harassment, and lay down procedures for action in case of a complaint.
 - The aggrieved victim under the Act can be a woman "of any age whether employed (at the workplace) or not", who "alleges to have been subjected to any act of sexual harassment". In effect, the Act protects the rights of all women who are working or visiting any workplace, in any capacity.
 - **What constitutes sexual harassment under the PoSH Act?**
Under the 2013 law, sexual harassment includes "any one or more" of the following "unwelcome acts or behaviour" committed directly or by implication:
 - Physical contact and advances
 - A demand or request for sexual favours
 - Sexually coloured remarks
 - Showing pornography
 - Any other unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of sexual nature.
- In addition, the PoSH Act mentions five circumstances that amount to sexual harassment:
- Implied or explicit promise of preferential treatment in her employment;
 - Implied or explicit threat of detrimental treatment;
 - Implied or explicit threat about the complainant's present or future employment status;
 - Interference with the complainant's work or creating an offensive or hostile work environment;
 - Humiliating treatment of the complainant that is likely to affect her health or safety.
- **What is the procedure for complaint under the Act?**
 - It is not compulsory for the aggrieved victim to file a complaint for the ICC to take action. The Act says that she "may" do so — and if she cannot, any member of the ICC "shall" render "all reasonable assistance" to her to complain in writing.

- If the woman cannot complain because of “physical or mental incapacity or death or otherwise”, her legal heir may do so.
 - Under the Act, the complaint must be made “within three months from the date of the incident”. However, the ICC can “extend the time limit” if “it is satisfied that the circumstances were such which prevented the woman from filing a complaint within the said period”.
 - The ICC “may”, before inquiry, and “at the request of the aggrieved woman, take steps to settle the matter between her and the respondent through conciliation” — provided that “no monetary settlement shall be made as a basis of conciliation”.
 - The ICC may either forward the victim’s complaint to the police, or it can start an inquiry that has to be completed within 90 days. The ICC has powers similar to those of a civil court in respect of summoning and examining any person on oath, and requiring the discovery and production of documents.
 - When the inquiry is completed, the ICC must provide a report of its findings to the employer within 10 days. The report must also be made available to both parties.
 - The identity of the woman, respondent, witness, any information on the inquiry, recommendation and action taken, should not be made public.
- **What happens after the ICC has filed its report?**
- If the allegations of sexual harassment are proved, the ICC will recommend to the employer to take action “in accordance with the provisions of the service rules” of the company. These may vary from company to company.
 - The ICC may also recommend that the company deduct the salary of the person found guilty, “as it may consider appropriate”. The compensation is determined based on five aspects: **suffering and emotional distress caused to the woman; loss in career opportunity; her medical expenses; income and financial status of the respondent; and the feasibility of such payment.**
 - If either the aggrieved woman or the respondent is not satisfied, they may appeal in court within 90 days.
- **What protection is available in the Act against a false complaint of sexual harassment?**
- Section 14 of the Act deals with punishment for false or malicious complaint and false evidence.
 - In such a case, the ICC “may recommend” to the employer that it take action against the woman, or the person who has made the complaint, in “accordance with the provisions of the service rules”.

FOREIGN RELATION

- ❖ **INDIA-UAE CEPA COMPLETES ONE YEAR**
- ❖ **Context:** The historic **India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** which came into force on May 1st, 2022, has recently completed one successful year.
- **What is the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)?**
 - A **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** was signed between India and UAE a year ago **to strengthen the trade ties** between the two nations.
 - The agreement aimed to **increase the total value of bilateral trade in goods to over US\$100 billion and trade in services to over US\$ 15 billion** within five years.
- **Significance of the Agreement:**
 - Keeping in mind that **the gems and jewellery sector** contributes a substantial portion of India’s exports to the UAE, the agreement is **expected to significantly benefit this sector** by providing **tariff concessions**.
 - Overall, India is expected to benefit from **preferential market access** provided by the UAE on **over 97 percent of its tariff lines** which account for **99 percent of Indian exports to the UAE** in value terms, particularly from labor-intensive sectors such as: Gems and jewelry, textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, plastics, furniture, agricultural and wood products, engineering products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and automobiles.
- **Review of the 1st year of India-UAE CEPA**
 - According to the reports, this was the **Fastest Executed Bilateral Agreement** where imports and exports increased between India and United Arab Emirates (UAE).
 - **India’s global export rose by 5.3 percent and exports to UAE increased by 11.8 percent.**
 - Similarly, imports also increased from the UAE by 18.8 percent. The nation’s non-oil imports from UAE increased by 4.1 percent and global imports increased by 7.8 percent.
 - **Certificate of Origin:** The report further stated that **CEPA ranked second in issuing Certificate of Origin**— a document that confirms the 'nationality' of a product and serves as a declaration to satisfy customs or trade requirements— in the last 11 months.

➤ **India-UAE Relations**

• **Beginning of diplomatic relations:**

- ✓ India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) established diplomatic relations in **1972**.
- ✓ UAE opened its **Embassy in Delhi in 1972** & India opened its Embassy in Abu Dhabi in 1973.

• **2015:**

- ✓ The traditionally strong bilateral relations enjoyed by India & UAE received an impetus with the visit of PM Modi to UAE on 16-17 August 2015 which marked the beginning of a new strategic partnership between the two countries.

• PM Modi's last visit to the UAE was in August 2019, when he received the UAE's highest award, 'Order of Zayed'.

• **2022:**

- ✓ In February 2022 both sides signed a **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)**.
- ✓ The Dubai-based DP World and India's **National Skills Development Council** signed an agreement to set up a **Skill India Centre in Varanasi** to train local youth in logistics, port operations and allied areas so that they can pursue overseas employment.

• **Trade:**

- ✓ **Bilateral trade in FY 2021-22** was about **US\$ 72 billion**.
- ✓ UAE is **India's third largest trade partner** and **second largest export destination**.
- ✓ UAE's FDI in India has increased over the past few years and currently stands at over \$12 billion.

• **Defence and Security Cooperation:** Bilateral Defence Interaction between India and UAE has been steadily growing in accordance with other aspects of the bilateral relationship.

- ✓ India and UAE signed a **comprehensive strategic partnership in 2017**, and hold **annual defence dialogues**.
- ✓ More recently, UAE is a **key part of the Indian Ocean Region dialogue**.
- ✓ Both sides take part in **military exercises** with each other and there have been several **Military chiefs visits**.

• **Technology partnerships:**

- ✓ India and the UAE have signed a number of **digital innovation, technology partnerships**, and also plans for **ISRO and UAESA** to cooperate on missions like the Red Moon mission.
- ✓ The Emirates has offered "**golden visa**" **residency permits for doctors, engineers, PhD scholars and specialists** in high-end technology fields such as artificial intelligence (AI), Big Data, virology and epidemiology, and brought over the former ISRO chief K. Radhakrishnan to their space agency.

• **Cultural Relations:**

- ✓ The importance given to Indian culture by the UAE was further highlighted in April, 2019 when India participated as the **Guest of Honour Country in Abu Dhabi International Book Fair 2019**.
- ✓ **Indian cinema/ TV / radio channels** are easily available and have good viewership; major theatres/cinema halls in the UAE screen **commercial Hindi, Malayalam and Tamil films**.
- ✓ **The Emirati community** also participates in our **annual International Day of Yoga events** and **various schools of yoga & meditation centres** are running successfully in the UAE.

PRELIMS

1. **Amendment in Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)**

- **In News-**Chartered accountants, Company secretaries, and cost and works accountants who carry out financial transactions on behalf of their clients are now under the ambit of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Recent Amendment

- An activity will be recognized under the PMLA if these professionals carry out financial transactions on behalf of their client such as buying and selling of any immovable property; managing of client money, securities or other assets; management of bank, savings or securities accounts; organization of contributions for the creation, operation or management of companies; creation, operation or management of companies, limited liability partnerships or trusts, and buying and selling of business entities.
- The reporting entities would also be expected to conduct KYC before commencement of each specified transaction and will have to examine the ownership and financial position including sources of funds of the client and to record the purpose behind conducting the specified transaction.
- The financial professionals who have obtained certificates of practice as chartered accountants, company secretaries, cost and work accountants would be defined as relevant persons for reporting transactions on behalf of their individual clients.

- The reporting entities shall be expected to maintain the record of all transactions and would be required to furnish these to the Director (Financial Intelligence Unit).

Criticism of the Amendment

- Tax experts said given the onerous compliance, and low conviction rate under the law, the inclusion of CAs, CS, and CWAs, was uncalled for.
- Concerns amongst financial professionals that they could possibly not just face penalty for non-compliance but could also have potential run-ins with investigative agencies like ED.

Other recent changes

- Over a month ago, in March, the government had widened the ambit of reporting entities under money laundering provisions to incorporate more disclosures for non-governmental organizations and defined politically exposed persons (PEPs).

About Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)

- The Parliament enacted the PMLA as a result of international commitment to sternly deal with the menace of money laundering of proceeds of a crime having transnational consequences and on the financial systems of the countries.

Objectives:

- The PML Act seeks to combat money laundering in India and has three main objectives:
- To prevent and control money laundering
- To confiscate and seize the property obtained from the laundered money;
- To deal with any other issue connected with money laundering in India.

2. ‘Food Street Project’

In News

- The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare reviewed the ‘Food Street Project’ to develop 100 healthy and hygienic food streets across the country with senior officers of the Health Ministry and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

About the ‘Food Street Project’

- The National Health Mission (NHM) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will provide assistance of Rs. 1 crore per Food Street as a pilot project to support 100 such food streets at different locations across the country to operationalize the food streets.
- The grant will be routed under NHM, in the ratio of 60:40 or 90:10, with the condition that branding of these food streets will be done as per FSSAI guidelines.
- Financial assistance would be provided for activities such as the provision of safe drinking water, hand washing, toilet facilities, tiled flooring of common areas, appropriate liquid & solid waste disposal, provision of dustbins, using billboards, façade preparation and signage of permanent nature, common storage space, lighting, specialized carts for a specific type of trades, branding etc.
- The initiative will be implemented through NHM in convergence with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), apart from FSSAI’s technical support

Need and Significance

- Street food has been an integral part of the Indian food culture and has played an immense role in sustaining and shaping the Indian food economy.
- Therefore the aim of this project is to encourage safe and healthy food practices among food businesses and community members, thus, reducing food borne illnesses and improving overall health outcomes.

Other Related Initiatives

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has taken various steps to improve the hygiene and food safety standards protocols for food street hubs.
- These initiatives include training of food handlers, independent third-party audits, and certification under the Clean Street Food Hub initiative of the Eat Right India movement.

3. Washington Declaration

In News

- U.S.-South Korea has signed the “**Washington Declaration**” as a nuclear deterrence strategy.

What is the Washington Declaration?

- **Purpose of the Agreement:**
 - ✓ To protect the Korean Peninsula from a nuclear attack by North Korea.
- **Provisions:**
 - ✓ An **American nuclear ballistic submarine** would be deployed in the Korean peninsula.
 - ✓ A **nuclear consultative group** would be formed to formulate principles of joint response tactics.
 - ✓ South Korea would **receive Intel from the U.S.** regarding nuclear advancements.

- ✓ The U.S. will strengthen South Korea's **nuclear deterrence capabilities** through joint military training programs and an annual intergovernmental simulation.

Significance of the Declaration

- ✓ The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities and would instead focus on **deterrence measures through an alliance-based approach**.
- ✓ It also mandates the U.S. President as the only 'sole authority' to use the nuclear arsenal of the U.S. in the event of a nuclear confrontation. While the existence of the agreement is based on the security needs of South Korea, the policy reflects **big power politics where the interests of the larger power (U.S.) takes precedence**.
- ✓ The declaration makes it possible for both countries to establish a Nuclear Consultative Group (NCG) as it is there between the US and NATO. It would be possible for **South Korea** through this group to have **more control over nuclear response related planning and coordination**.
- ✓ The Washington Declaration also demonstrated South Korea's seriousness to its objective to become a '**global pivotal power**' through its proactive approach.
- ✓ It also mentioned the '**need for peace and stability**' in the water around Taiwan and the **status-quo in the Indo-Pacific** must be maintained and any unlawful maritime claims, militarization of reclaimed features and coercive activities must not be allowed.
- ✓ Overall, the Washington Declaration is an important step in the direction of **creating a more overt and close coordination among the US allies in the Indo-Pacific** to deal with not only North Korea but also moves of China and Russia.

Need for the Agreement

- ✓ In January 2021, North Korea set forth a plan to add **new types of capabilities to the country's nuclear arsenal**.
- ✓ Next year North Korea **started testing more missiles**, which forced South Korea and the U.S. to restart large-scale military exercises that were previously halted to incentivize diplomacy, and North Korea responded with even more missile activity. North Korea has steadily added to its stock of **intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs)** capable of reaching U.S. cities, most recently testing a solid-fuel ICBM and **altering its nuclear doctrine** to include the option to carry out pre-emptive strikes.
- ✓ In January 2023, South Korea's President said continued North Korean provocations could prompt the acquisition of nuclear weapons or push the U.S. to **strengthen its extended deterrence commitment**.
- ✓ Seoul, then opted for Washington extended deterrence or the **Washington nuclear umbrella** in the form of the Washington Declaration.

Why is the U.S. not keen on South Korea having a nuclear arsenal?

- ✓ **Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty:** South Korea's nuclear development programme was hindered due to U.S. pressure. In the 1990s, the U.S. **withdrew one hundred nuclear weapons from South Korea** as part of their Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty.
 - The U.S. made an erroneous assumption that it could deter the weapons production of North Korea by extracting South Korea's nuclear capacity.
- ✓ **Dilemma for USA:** The Nuclear Posture Review 2022 reflects a shift in the U.S. narrative where it is now concerned about the progressing nuclear capacities of North Korea.
 - North Korea creates deterrence dilemmas for the United States and its Allies and partners, and that a crisis or conflict on the Korean Peninsula could involve a number of nuclear-armed actors, raising the **risk of broader conflict**.
- ✓ **Goal of non-proliferation:** The U.S. wants to **control global nuclear arms production**. It has been reluctant to allow South Korea to develop their own nuclear arsenal as it would hinder the prolonged efforts of controlling nuclear production in the world.
 - The assurance that the U.S. and its nuclear weapons would protect its allies by being responsible for maintaining stability in the region aligns with the **larger goal of non-proliferation**.

What is the domestic response?

- The South Korean public is sceptic about U.S. support. A poll by the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations reported that 71% of South Koreans want to build their own nuclear weapons. With an aggressive North Korea in the neighbourhood, they would prefer their own deterrence.

ANSWER WRITING

Q. What is emotional intelligence? Discuss its relevance in the context of public service.

Ans-

- Emotional intelligence refers to the ability to understand, manage and express one's emotions effectively, and to recognize and respond appropriately to the emotions of others. In the context of public service, emotional intelligence is essential for building strong relationships, resolving conflicts, and fostering trust and collaboration among stakeholders.
- Emotional intelligence has several key components that are relevant in the context of public service. These include:
 - ✓ **Self-awareness:** The ability to recognize and understand one's own emotions, strengths, and weaknesses.
 - ✓ **Self-regulation:** The ability to manage one's own emotions, thoughts, and behaviors effectively.
 - ✓ **Motivation:** The drive to achieve personal and organizational goals, and to maintain a positive attitude and outlook.
 - ✓ **Empathy:** The ability to understand and respond appropriately to the emotions of others.
 - ✓ **Social skills:** The ability to communicate effectively, build relationships, and resolve conflicts.

Relevance of Emotional Intelligence for Public Servant

- By cultivating emotional intelligence, public servants can improve their ability to manage themselves and their relationships with others.
- This can help them to build stronger, more effective teams, to communicate more clearly and persuasively, and to develop stronger relationships with stakeholders.
- Emotional intelligence can also help public servants to navigate complex and emotionally charged situations with greater confidence and resilience.

Conclusion

Emotional intelligence is a crucial component of effective public service. By developing their emotional intelligence, public servants can improve their ability to work collaboratively, communicate effectively, and build strong relationships with stakeholders.

MCQs

- Washington declaration is in news recently, which of the following country is/are signed this declaration?
 - Japan and India
 - South Korea and Japan
 - U.S and South Korea**
 - Japan and U.S
- Considered the following statement regarding The River Cities Alliance (RCA) global seminar?
 - The River Cities Alliance (RCA) is a joint initiative of the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) & the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA),
 - National Mission for Clean Ganga organises River-Cities Alliance Global Seminar this year.
 - It is open to all river cities of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

 - only 2
 - 1 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - All of the above**
- Considered the following statement regarding Optical tweezers.
 - Optical tweezers are scientific instruments that use a highly focused laser beam to hold and move microscopic and sub-microscopic objects like atoms, nanoparticles and droplets in a manner similar to tweezers.
 - The development of optical tweezing by Arthur Ashkin was lauded with the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics
 - Optical tweezers are used in, biology and medicine, nanoengineering, nanochemistry, quantum optics and quantum optomechanics.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

 - 1, and 2
 - 1 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - All of the above**
- Considered the following statement regarding India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)
 - The agreement aimed to increase the total value of bilateral trade in goods to over US\$100 billion and trade in services to over US\$ 15 billion within five years.
 - UAE is India's third largest trade partner and second largest export destination.
 - India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) first time happened this year.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

 - 1, and 3
 - 1 only
 - 1 and 2 only
 - All of the above**

5. Consider the following statements about Food Street Project
1. It is aimed at developing 500 healthy and hygienic food-streets across the country.
 2. To operationalize the food streets, the National Health Mission will provide assistance of one crore rupees per food street.
 3. It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Health and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- Choose the correct statements:
- a) **1 only**
 - b) 2 and 3
 - c) 1, 2 and 3
 - d) 1 and 3
6. Consider the following statements
1. It is an integrated mobile application developed by the Indian government for the agriculture sector.
 2. It provides geospatial data and other relevant information to farmers, policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders in the agriculture sector.
- Which of the above statements are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) **Both 1 and 2**
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
7. Consider the following statements
1. The Meitei community (living in the valley) wants to be included in the state's Scheduled Tribes list.
 2. The demand has been led by the Scheduled Tribes Demand Committee of Manipur (STDCM) since 2012.
 3. They argue that being left out of the ST list has caused the community to be victimized without any constitutional safeguards.
- Choose the correct option using the code given below.
- a) 1 only
 - b) 2 and 3
 - c) **1, 2 and 3**
 - d) 1 and 3
8. Recently channapatna toys in news, which is also protected as a Geographical Indication (GI) belongs to which state?
- a) **Karnataka**
 - b) Andhra Pradesh
 - c) Tamil Nadu
 - d) Kerala
9. Consider the following statements
1. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, commonly known as the PoSH Act, was passed in 2013.
 2. It defined sexual harassment, lay down the procedures for complaint and inquiry, and the action to be taken in cases of sexual harassment.
- Choose the correct option using the code given below.
- a) 1 only
 - b) only 2
 - c) **Both 1 and 2**
 - d) None of the above
10. The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) recently released its 2023 Annual Report. Consider the following statements
- 1) It highlights the status of religious freedom across the globe during 2022.
 - 2) It is headquartered in Washington DC.
- Choose the correct option using the code given below.
- a) 1 only
 - b) only 2
 - c) **Both 1 and 2**
 - d) None of the above