

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS****INDIA ARGENTINA RELATIONS**

**In Context:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held talks with the visiting Minister of Defence of Argentine Republic in New Delhi on July 18, 2023.

**Highlights**

- ✓ Both Ministers discussed the ongoing defence cooperation initiatives, including measures to enhance defence industrial partnership.
- ✓ The Argentine Defence Minister visited the National War Memorial and laid a wreath while paying homage to the fallen heroes.
- ✓ A Tri-service Guard of Honour was also presented to the visiting dignitary.
- ✓ He arrived on a four-day visit to India.
- ✓ The Argentine Defence Minister visited BrahMos Aerospace and is scheduled to interact with leading think-tanks in Delhi.
- ✓ He will also travel to Bengaluru and visit the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) facilities and separately interact with the defence start-ups in an event organised by Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX).

**Background****Political Relations**

- ✓ India-Argentina relations were **elevated to the level of Strategic Partnership in 2019** during the State Visit of the President of Argentina.
- ✓ The two countries have strengthened their ties in various areas, including political, economic, cultural, and scientific cooperation.
- ✓ India established a **Trade Commission in Buenos Aires in 1943, which later became one of its first embassies in South America.**
- ✓ Argentina also has diplomatic representations in India. The leaders of both countries have engaged in high-level visits and meetings to enhance bilateral relations.

**Bilateral Exchanges**

- ✓ There have been significant exchanges at the highest level between India and Argentina.
- ✓ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Alberto Fernandez had their first bilateral meeting in 2022**, and earlier, President Mauricio Macri and President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner had visited India.
- ✓ The foreign ministers of both countries have also held meetings and engaged in discussions to strengthen bilateral ties. These exchanges demonstrate the commitment of both nations to enhancing their relationship.

**Economic and Commercial Relations**

- ✓ Bilateral trade between India and Argentina has witnessed steady growth.
- ✓ **In 2022, the trade volume reached a historic peak of USD 6.4 billion, with India becoming the fourth-largest trading partner of Argentina.**
- ✓ Major items of India's exports to Argentina include petroleum oils, agrochemicals, textiles, and organic chemicals, while India imports vegetable oils, leather, cereals, and chemicals from Argentina.
- ✓ Several Indian companies, including TCS, Mahindra Comviva, and Infosys, have established operations in Argentina, while Argentine companies such as Globant and OLX have a presence in India.
- ✓ Both countries have also signed agreements to promote cooperation in sectors like oil, energy, and defense.

**Cultural Relations and People-to-People Contact**

- ✓ **India's culture, yoga, philosophy, and spiritual practices have had a significant impact in Argentina.**
- ✓ Indian organizations like Brahmakumaris, Art of Living, and ISKCON have a strong following in the country.
- ✓ Cultural programs, including India Weeks, India Days, and International Day of Yoga celebrations, are organized in Argentina to promote cultural exchanges.
- ✓ The Indian diaspora in Argentina, consisting of NRIs and PIOs, plays an important role in fostering people-to-people contact between the two nations.

**Technical and Development Cooperation**

- ✓ India has been extending technical and economic cooperation to Argentina through scholarships, training programs, and capacity-building initiatives.
- ✓ The **Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program** has provided opportunities for Argentine nationals to participate in various courses in India.
- ✓ Additionally, an **India-Argentina Center of Excellence in IT** has been established in Buenos Aires to promote cooperation in the IT sector.
- ✓ The two countries have also collaborated in the field of space research and agriculture.

**Indian Community**

- ✓ Argentina is home to a significant number of NRIs and PIOs, with most of them residing in Buenos Aires.
- ✓ These individuals work in various sectors, including IT, finance, and multinational corporations.
- ✓ The Indian community actively contributes to the cultural vibrancy of Argentina and serves as a bridge between the two nations.

**Potential of Relations**

- ✓ **Science and Technology:** India and Argentina can collaborate in research and development in the field of science and technology, including space exploration, biotechnology, and nanotechnology. Joint projects can lead to significant advancements and mutually beneficial outcomes.
- ✓ **Multilateral Forums:** As founding members of G20 and participants in various multilateral forums, India and Argentina can strengthen cooperation on global issues like climate change, sustainable development, and global governance.
- ✓ **Defence Cooperation:** Exploring opportunities for defence cooperation can enhance the security ties between the two countries and foster mutual strategic interests.
- ✓ **Cultural Exchanges:** Promoting cultural exchanges, academic partnerships, and people-to-people interactions can deepen the understanding of each other's rich heritage and traditions, fostering stronger bonds.

**Challenges and Obstacles:**

- ✓ **Geographical Distance:** The geographical distance between India and Argentina poses logistical challenges and adds to the cost of trade and travel. Improved connectivity and transportation can mitigate this obstacle.
- ✓ **Language Barrier:** Language differences can hinder effective communication and exchange of ideas. Encouraging language training and cultural exchanges can bridge this gap.
- ✓ **Competing Priorities:** Both countries have diverse foreign policy priorities and engagements. Aligning their agendas and carving out shared areas of interest can be challenging.
- ✓ **Limited People-to-People Contact:** The lack of direct people-to-people contact and cultural understanding can hamper deeper engagement between the two societies.

**Way Forward:**

- ✓ **Economic Diplomacy:** Both countries should focus on enhancing economic diplomacy by exploring untapped sectors for trade and investment. Organizing trade fairs, business forums, and joint economic commissions can facilitate greater engagement between the business communities of India and Argentina.
- ✓ **Sectoral Cooperation:** Identifying specific sectors of mutual interest, such as agriculture, pharmaceuticals, information technology, and renewable energy, can provide a clear roadmap for collaboration.
- ✓ **Policy Coordination:** Regular dialogues between policymakers and government officials from both countries can help align their policies and priorities, ensuring better coordination on global issues.
- ✓ **Virtual Diplomacy:** Leveraging digital platforms and virtual diplomatic engagements can overcome the challenges of geographical distance and language barriers, promoting direct interactions between stakeholders.
- ✓ **Public Diplomacy:** Conducting cultural festivals, film festivals, and educational exchange programs can create a greater awareness and appreciation of each other's culture and values.
- ✓ **Joint Research and Development:** Encouraging joint research and development projects in areas of mutual interest can lead to technological advancements and shared expertise.
- ✓ **Enhanced Connectivity:** Investing in better connectivity, such as direct flights, can facilitate increased people-to-people contact and foster tourism and business ties.

**Conclusion:** India-Argentina relations offer ample scope for growth and cooperation, given their shared values as democratic nations committed to multilateralism and sustainable development. While there have been positive steps in various sectors, addressing the challenges and obstacles is essential to realize the full potential of this bilateral partnership. Strategic efforts, focused diplomacy, and people-to-people engagement can pave the way for a stronger and mutually beneficial India-Argentina relationship in the future.

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**CRIMEAN BRIDGE AND ODESA PORT**

**In Context:** Recent escalation of tensions and military actions between Russia and Ukraine

**Details**

- ✓ Russia launched missile and drone strikes on southern and eastern Ukraine.
- ✓ Ukrainian officials reported damage to infrastructure in the **Black Sea port of Odesa**, a key grain exporting port.
- ✓ Falling debris and blast waves caused damage to homes and port infrastructure in Odesa.
- ✓ No deaths were reported, but an elderly man was wounded.

**Ukrainian Defense Response**

- ✓ Ukraine's air force successfully shot down all six Kalibr missiles and 31 out of 36 drones.
- ✓ The majority of the downed missiles and drones were in the Odesa and Mykolaiv regions.
- ✓ Remaining missiles and drones were destroyed over the eastern regions of Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Dnipropetrovsk.

**Retaliation and Accusations**

- ✓ The attack on Odesa followed Russia's pledge of retaliation after a bridge explosion on Monday that Moscow blamed on Ukraine.
- ✓ Russian foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova accused Ukraine, along with the "direct participation" of the United Kingdom and the United States, for orchestrating the attack.

**Importance of the Crimea Bridge**

- ✓ **The Crimea Bridge, also known as the Kerch bridge,** is a crucial transportation link between Russia and the Crimean Peninsula.
- ✓ It is the only direct route connecting Russia's transport network to Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014.
- ✓ The bridge supplies fuel, food, and other products to the region, including the port of Sevastopol, the historic home base of Russia's Black Sea Fleet.

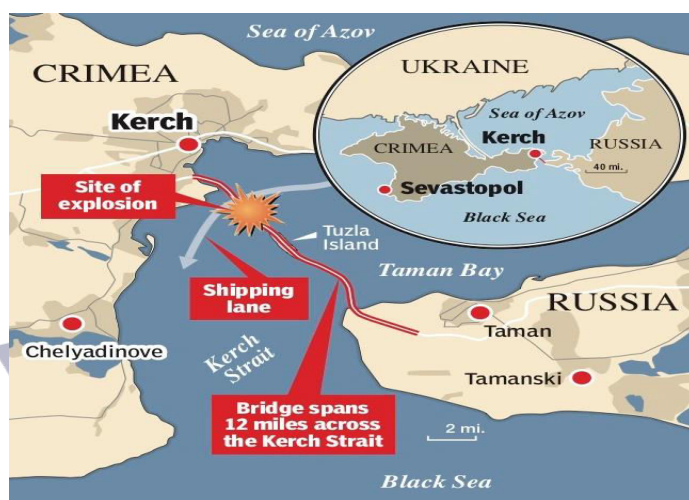
**Previous Attacks on the Crimea Bridge**

- ✓ This is the second time the bridge has been targeted.
- ✓ In October 2022, it was temporarily shut down after a massive explosion.
- ✓ The bridge's significance increased during the Russia-Ukraine war as it became a supply route for Russian forces in southern Ukraine.

**Moldova's Condemnation and International Response**

- ✓ Moldova, Ukraine's neighboring country, condemned the attacks and Russia's decision to terminate the Black Sea grain deal.
- ✓ S. aid chief Samantha Power, who announced humanitarian assistance, was expected to visit Odesa.
- ✓ The international community expresses concern over the escalation of violence and its impact on regional stability.

**About Kerch Bridge**



- ✓ **The Kerch Bridge, also known as the Crimea Bridge,** is a crucial infrastructure project connecting Russia and the Crimean Peninsula.
- ✓ It serves as the only direct transportation link between the Russian mainland and Crimea.
- ✓ The bridge spans across the Kerch Strait, connecting the Taman Peninsula in Russia's Krasnodar Krai with the Crimean Peninsula.

**Importance and Significance**

- ✓ The Kerch Bridge plays a vital role in facilitating the movement of people, goods, and resources between Russia and Crimea.
- ✓ It serves as a major supply route, allowing the transportation of essential commodities, including fuel, food, and other products, to Crimea.
- ✓ The bridge is of significant military importance as it provides a direct connection for Russian forces stationed in Crimea, particularly the Black Sea Fleet based in Sevastopol.

**Impact of the Bridge**

- ✓ **Economic Benefits:** The Kerch Bridge has positively impacted the economy of Crimea, allowing for increased trade and tourism between Crimea and Russia.
- ✓ **Controversy and International Response:** The construction of the bridge and its annexation of Crimea by Russia have been widely criticized by the international community, leading to sanctions against Russia.

**Previous Attacks and Security**

- ✓ The Kerch Bridge has been subject to targeted attacks in the past, including explosions and attempts to disrupt the transportation flow.
- ✓ Due to its strategic importance, the bridge is closely guarded and monitored by security forces to prevent any potential threats or disruptions.

**Geopolitical Implications**

- ✓ The construction of the Kerch Bridge solidified Russia's control over Crimea after its controversial annexation in 2014.
- ✓ The bridge's existence and control by Russia have contributed to ongoing tensions between Russia and Ukraine, particularly regarding territorial integrity and sovereignty.

**About Odesa Port**



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- ✓ **Odesa Port is one of Ukraine's major seaports**, located on the Black Sea coast.
- ✓ It serves as a vital hub for **maritime trade**, particularly for the export of grain and other commodities

**Strategic Location and Access**

- ✓ Odesa Port benefits from its strategic location, providing access to the Black Sea and beyond.
- ✓ The port serves as an **important link between Europe, Asia, and the Mediterranean**, facilitating international trade and shipping.

**Export of Grain**

- ✓ Odesa Port plays a significant role in Ukraine's agricultural sector as a major port for exporting grain, including wheat, corn, and barley.
- ✓ The port's infrastructure and facilities enable efficient loading and shipping of grain to international markets.

**Infrastructure and Facilities**

- ✓ Odesa Port has extensive infrastructure to accommodate large cargo vessels, including bulk carriers and container ships.
- ✓ The port features specialized terminals for various types of cargo, including grain terminals equipped with modern handling equipment.
- ✓ Odesa Port provides extensive storage capabilities, including grain silos, warehouses, and transit storage areas.

**Economic Importance**

- ✓ Odesa Port is a significant contributor to Ukraine's economy, generating substantial revenue through maritime trade activities.
- ✓ The port provides employment opportunities for a large number of people, both directly and indirectly, supporting the local economy.

**Security and Safety Measures**

- ✓ Odesa Port maintains robust security measures to ensure the safety of cargo, vessels, and personnel.
- ✓ The port enforces strict customs and border control procedures to regulate trade and prevent illicit activities.

**Historical Significance and Tourism**

- ✓ Odesa is a historic city known for its rich cultural heritage and architectural landmarks, attracting tourists and cruise ships.
- ✓ Odesa Port serves as a port of call for cruise ships traveling in the Black Sea region, contributing to the local tourism industry.

**Ongoing Challenges**

- ✓ Odesa Port, like other Ukrainian ports, has faced challenges due to the ongoing geopolitical tensions between Ukraine and Russia.
- ✓ Efforts are being made to modernize and upgrade the port's infrastructure to enhance its operational efficiency and competitiveness.

**PRELIM FACTS**

**1. Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary**

**In context:** Recently, several people injured over clash between forest team and illegal encroachers at Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary.

**About Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary:**

- ✓ It is located on the southern bank of river Brahmaputra in the Sonitpur district, Assam.
- ✓ It is a part of the Laokhowa-Burachapori eco-system.

**Flora:**

- ✓ It comprises of a mosaic of wet alluvial grassland, riparian and semi-evergreen forests dotted by wetland and river systems.
- ✓ The grassland is also rich in various kinds of medicinal herbs and plants.

**Fauna:**

- ✓ It is home to the Great Indian one-horned rhinoceros, tiger, leopard, wild buffalo, hog deer, wild pig, and elephants.
- ✓ It includes the highly endangered Bengal Florican.
- ✓ It also makes it an ideal breeding place for several species of migratory birds during the winter season.

**2. Rock Art in A.P.'s Rudragiri**

**In context:** A site in Rudragiri hills showcases a fascinating fusion of rock art from different cultures.

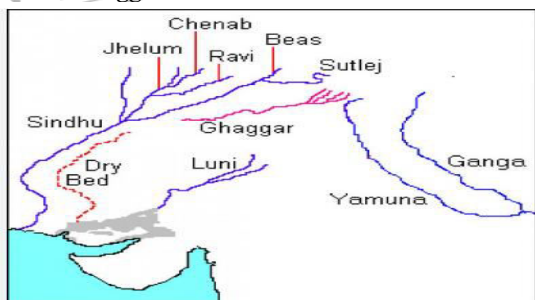
- **Location:** Rudragiri hillock, nestled amidst the Eastern Ghats, features five naturally formed rock shelters at its foothills, facing westward. It is located in the village of Orvakallu, in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh. This site unveils a combination of prehistoric rock paintings from the Mesolithic period around 5000 B.C., and exquisite artwork from the Kakatiya dynasty.
- **Physical Condition:** These caves showcase the artistic brilliance of the Kakatiya period. While many have suffered damage over time due to exposure to the elements, some sketches and outlines have managed to survive.
- **Colours:** The paintings, adorned with a variety of colours derived from white kaolin and different pigments, depict captivating scenes from the epic Ramayana.
- The first cave, starting from the southern end of the hillock, presents a narrative mural portraying the intense battle between the Vanara brothers — Vali and Sugriva.
- In the middle cave, a grand sketch of Lord Hanuman is accompanied by sacred symbols of the conch (Sankha) and the fire altar (Yagna Vedi). Hanuman is depicted carrying the Sanjeevani hill in his hand, symbolizing his mission to save Lakshmana's life.
- The Kakatiya artist chose the same rock shelter to superimpose the figure of Hanuman, who is portrayed in a unique 'Anjali' posture, folding his hands in a divine offering.
- The third cave houses the prehistoric rock paintings from the Mesolithic era.



**3. Ghaggar and its Tributaries**

**In context:** Recently, the Ghaggar River and its tributaries in Haryana, caused havoc in the region after a breach in their embankments.

**About Ghaggar-Hakra River**



- ✓ **Origin:** Dagshai Village, Himachal Pradesh in the Shivalik hills.
- ✓ **Tributaries:** Kaushalya, Tangri, Markanda, Beghna, Sarsuti, Chautang and Sukhna rivers.
- ✓ **Cities:** Cities like Panchkula, Derabassi, Ambala and Shahabad lie on the banks of these rivers.
- ✓ **Nature:** Seasonal river that flows through the plains of northern India in the western direction.
- ✓ **States:** Flows south through the states of Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan, eventually entering Pakistan where it dries out before reaching the Arabian Sea.
- ✓ The channel is divided into two lengths by the Ottu barrage, near Sirsa. The part of the river to the east of the barrage is called Ghaggar and the other half Hakra.
- ✓ Paleogeographic studies indicate the existence of a wide channel in place of the current Ghaggar-Hakra. The paleo channel of this river was drained by the Saraswati and discharged into the Rann of Kutch.
- ✓ Studies indicate that the river has shrunk in magnitude. Previously, it is believed to have been a brimming river, watering the Bronze Age civilizations. The vestigial channel boasts of relict sites of Indus Valley settlements.

- ✓ Even today, the Ghaggar-Hakra River constitutes an important source in terms of irrigation for Haryana in particular.

**4. Bacteriophages**

**In Context:** Not all viruses are killers as with bacteria, “good” or “friendly” viruses (bacteriophages) can also be beneficial for health.

**About Bacteriophages:**

- ✓ The vast majority of viruses inside us are bacteriophages.
- ✓ Bacteriophages are viruses that kill bacteria in our microbiomes.
- ✓ Bacteriophages, also known as phages, are harmless to human cells as they do not recognize them as their bacterial prey.
- ✓ They work by hunting down bacteria and attaching themselves to the surface of a bacterial cell, before injecting viral DNA material into the cell.
- ✓ The viral DNA then replicates inside the bacteria, sometimes by borrowing the DNA replication hardware of the bacteria.
- ✓ Once enough new viruses have been created inside the bacterial cell, the cell then bursts to release the new viral particles.

**Significance of Phage therapy**

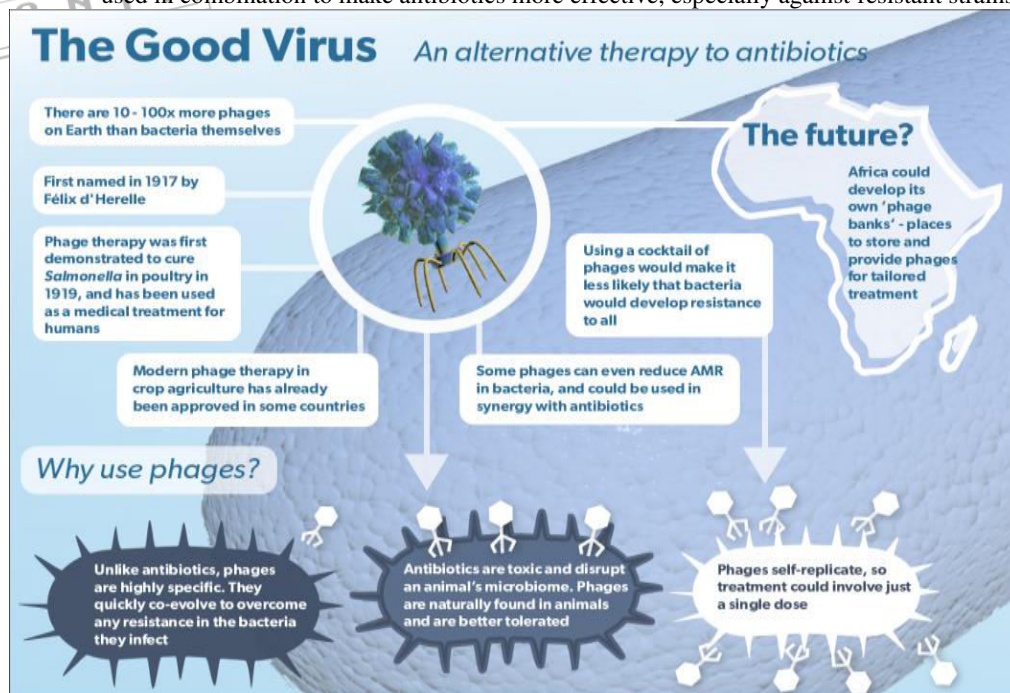
- ✓ The advantages of phages lie in their effectiveness against every multi-resistant pathogen.
- ✓ Phages are extremely precise in their elimination of bacterial strains — so much so that it don’t disturb the gut microbiome, as is the case with antibiotics.
- ✓ In theory, then, phages could be a huge boon in the fight against antibacterial resistance.
- ✓ For eg., Georgia has developed into one of the global centers of phage therapy, hosting one of the largest therapeutic collections of bacteriophages in the world.

**Challenges:**

- ✓ A central problem is that there is no standardization of therapy.
- ✓ Phage therapy must be precisely tailored to the bacteria that cause an infection in a patient.
- ✓ Infections can be caused by bacteria with various properties, so you need a cocktail of different phages as a therapy, and that mix of phages has to be available very quickly before the infection gets out of hand.
- ✓ Bacteria do also develop resistance to phage therapies.

**Conclusion:**

- ✓ Phage therapies have good safety records.
- ✓ Humans ingest billions of phages every day with our food without any relevant side effects.
- ✓ That means our bodies should be able to tolerate phage therapies very well.
- ✓ The next steps should include large-scale research and clinical projects to nail down effective phage therapies for different types of infections.
- ✓ For now, bacteriophages are unlikely to replace antibiotics. But scientists are optimistic they could be used in combination to make antibiotics more effective, especially against resistant strains of bacteria.



**ANSWER WRITING**

**Q. Though seen as the game changing reform for the Indian economy, there are stillgaps between expectation and actual implementation of the GST. Analyse.**

**Introduction:** Goods and Service Tax (GST) is an indirect tax levied on the supply of goods and services. This law has replaced many indirect tax laws that existed earlier in the country. GST is one indirect tax for the whole of India. GST is currently levied on every product except petroleum, alcohol, tobacco, and stamp duty on real estate in four slabs of 5, 12, 18, and 28 percent.

**GST as a game changer**

- Monthly collection: Monthly GST collections for July 2017, the first month for GST, was Rs 92,200 crore. In 2018-19, the average monthly collection was Rs 97,100 crore with collections breaching Rs 1 lakh crore regularly.
- Rationalization of taxes: Currently, around 97.5% articles are covered by 18% or lower GST slab, a significant reduction from tax rates under the VAT regime where standard VAT rate was 14% and excise duty was 12%.
- Refund: The process of refund has been fairly streamlined. The issue of working capital blockage due to refusal of the GST refund in the initial period has now been fairly sorted
- Re-engineering of supply chain: Introduction of E-Way Bills has enabled hassle free movement of goods
- The longer-term benefits include the GST's impact on financial inclusion. Small businesses can build up a real time track record of tax payments digitally, and this can be used for credit rating and lending purposes.

**Gaps between expectation and actual implementation of the GST**

- List of exclusions: Petroleum products (crude oil & natural gas), diesel, petrol, aviation turbine fuel, potable alcohol and real estate, which contribute 30-40% of indirect tax revenue, are still out of GST's ambit.
- Notices for reconciliation: Periodic notices for differences in Input Tax credit claimed by the traders and as appearing in the GSTN network are putting a strain on trade and industry. Business and professionals are further confused as figures appearing in their GST Return, GSTR 2A appearing on the GSTN network, and figures stated in the notice sent by the department is different.
- Shortfall of revenues: The economic slowdown had reduced both GST and cess collections in FY 2019-20, resulting in a 40% shortfall between the compensation paid and cess collected. It aggravated due to Covid-19.
- The 15th Finance Commission has highlighted several areas of concern in the GST regime relating to multiplicity of tax rates, shortfall in GST collections vis-à-vis the forecast, high volatility in GST collections, inconsistency in filing of returns, dependence of States on the compensation from Centre and so on.
- Small and medium businesses are still grappling to adapt to the tech-enabled regime.

**Suggestions**

- With oil prices sky-rocketing across the country, the policymakers need to contemplate the inclusion of petroleum and related products within the GST net.
- It is vital to finally constitute the GST Appellate Tribunal as it is obvious that all taxpayers do not have the finances or means to approach the High Court for every practical difficulty faced.
- Streamlining of anti-profiteering measures and simplification of compliance procedures also needs to be revisited to ensure that the cost efficiency and reduction in prices envisaged under GST law finally reaches the common man.
- Modal rate with a small list of exemptions is the ideal GST structure that Government should try to achieve.

**Conclusion:** India has served as an example to the world by successfully implementing one of the most complex tax transformation projects for the country. However it is important that the shortcomings be swiftly resolved. The Government should continue to take measures to deliver on its promise of a 'Good & Simple Tax' in the times to come.

**MCQ**

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| <p>1. Consider the following statements regarding Gomti river:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gomti river is a major tributary of Yamuna</li> <li>2. The Gomti River originates in the Himalayas</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct statements using the codes below:</p> <p>(a) 1 only<br/>(b) 2 only<br/>(c) Both 1 and 2<br/>(d) Neither 1 nor 2</p> <p>2. With reference to Enforcement Directorate consider the following statements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is a statutory body which works under the Ministry of Home Affairs.</li> <li>2. It is mandated with the task of enforcing the provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act and Prevention of Money Laundering Act.</li> <li>3. The minimum tenure of director of Enforcement Directorate is two years which can be extend upto five years.</li> </ol> | <p>Which of the above statements is/are correct?</p> <p>a) 1 and 2<br/>b) 2 only<br/>c) 2 and 3<br/>d) All of the above</p> <p>3. Which of the following countries shares boundaries with black sea</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ukraine</li> <li>2. Georgia</li> <li>3. Bulgaria</li> <li>4. Russia</li> </ol> <p>Select the correct answer using the code given below.</p> <p>a) 1, 2, and 3 only<br/>b) 2, 3, and 4 only<br/>c) 2 and 4 only<br/>d) All of the above</p> <p>4. Consider the following statements</p> |
|--|--|

1. A bacteriophage is a duplodnaviria virus that infects and replicates within bacteria and archaea
2. The vast majority of viruses inside human body are bacteriophages
3. Bacteriophages are harmless to human cells as they do not recognize them as their bacterial prey.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2and 3only
- d) **All of the above**

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Salsola Oppositifolia Desfontania

1. It is a perennial shrub that grows in saline, arid to semi-arid environments of Tamil Nadu.
2. It is the first salt water plant species discovered in India.
3. It is used as a raw material for manufacturing soda ash.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) **Only 1**
- b) Only 2
- c) Only 3
- d) None

6. Considered the following statement regarding Ghaggar River.

1. It is origin at Dagshai Village, Himachal Pradesh in the Shivalik hills.
2. Its tributaries are, Beghna, Sarsuti, Chautang and Sukhna rivers.

Which of the following statement is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) **Both 1 and 2**
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

7. Considered the following statement regarding About Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It is located on the southern bank of river Brahmaputra in the Arunachal Pradesh
2. It is a part of the Laokhowa-Burachapori ecosystem

Which of the following statement is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) **Only 2**
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

8. Considered the following statement regarding the concept of Desiccation-tolerant (DT).

1. DT plant varieties are found in both flowering and non-flowering species,
2. DT plant varieties are found in both temperate and tropical climates.
3. They are usually found in rocky outcrops and can recover quickly when water supplies are restored.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2

- c) **Only 3**

- d) None

9. Tankai' method recently in news considered the following statement:

1. It is Shipbuilding Technique and construction of the stitched ship.
2. A new agreement has been signed by Indian Navy with Ministry of culture.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) **Both 1 and 2**
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. Considered the following statement regarding Crimea Bridge.

1. The Kerch Bridge, also known as the Crimea Bridge it connected Russia and the Crimean Peninsula.
2. It serves as the only direct transportation link between the Russian mainland and Crimea.
3. The bridge spans across the Kerch Strait.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) **Only 3**
- d) None