

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES**Ayushman Bhav: May All Be Free of Illness**

In Context: Ayushman Bharat programme was started by the Government of India in 2018 to address the need for universal health coverage. In order to push the Ayushman Bharat programme further, a new campaign - Ayushman Bhav, was recently launched by the Government of India.

Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)

- ✓ It is a flagship health protection scheme launched by the Government of India in 2018.
- ✓ It aims to provide universal health coverage to the poor and vulnerable sections of society by ensuring access to quality healthcare services.
- ✓ It has the potential to transform the healthcare landscape of the country by reducing poverty, enhancing productivity, and promoting social justice.

Objectives of AB-PMJAY

- ✓ The mission will reduce the financial burden of out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE) on healthcare for the beneficiaries.
- ✓ It will improve the access and affordability of healthcare services for the beneficiaries.
- ✓ The mission will help in enhancing the quality and efficiency of healthcare delivery systems in the country.
- ✓ And it will promote preventive, promotive, and curative health interventions for the beneficiaries.

Challenges of Ayushman Bharat Mission

- ✓ **Lack of Awareness:** The scheme faces a low awareness level among the potential beneficiaries, especially in rural areas. Many eligible beneficiaries are not aware of their entitlements or how to avail them. Hence, there is a need to increase the outreach and communication efforts of the scheme to create more awareness and demand.
- ✓ **Supply-Side Constraint:** The scheme faces supply-side constraints due to the uneven distribution and availability of healthcare infrastructure and human resources in the country. Many states have a shortage of empanelled hospitals, especially in remote and tribal areas.
- ✓ **Reimbursement Issues:** The scheme faces a challenge of ensuring timely and adequate reimbursement of claims to the empanelled hospitals, especially private ones. Many hospitals have complained of delayed payments, low package rates, high denial rates, and cumbersome processes.

Ayushman Bhav: A New Campaign

- ✓ It is not just about devising a new healthcare programme the goal should be to make sure everyone benefits.
- ✓ That is where the new campaign Ayushman Bhav comes in. It was launched by the President on September 13.
- ✓ It focuses on comprehensive coverage, developing awareness about PM-JAY, creating health account IDs, and providing health services.
- ✓ It will also include disease screenings and management of multiple illnesses such as tuberculosis, hypertension, sickle cell disease and diabetes in villages as well as urban wards.

Objectives of Ayushman Bhav Campaign

- ✓ **In Line with the Antyodaya Principle**
- ✓ Ayushman Bhav's primary mission is to reach over 6.45 lakh villages and 2.55 lakh gram panchayats.
- ✓ It is designed in line with the antyodaya principle to make sure that no one is left behind in the quest for universal health coverage.
- ✓ To facilitate this, the campaign will have activities such as sewapakhwada, which would include organ donation drives, cleanliness drives (swachhataabhiyan) and blood donation initiatives.
- ✓ To Enhance Ground Delivery Service
- ✓ Strengthening the groundwork for delivery of healthcare services, this campaign broadens Ayushman Bharat's reach using three core pillars:
 - Ayushman Apke Dwar 3.0,
 - Ayushman Sabha,
 - Ayushman Mela.
- ✓ These pillars enhance service delivery by focusing on comprehensive coverage, collaborative awareness-building, and community-centred efforts.

How Will the Three Pillars Enhance the Ground Delivery Service?**Ayushman Apke Dwar 3.0**

- ✓ It will build on the success of its earlier versions (1.0 and 2.0) by expanding Ayushman card distribution with enhanced utilisation of Ayushman Bharat services, ensuring widespread coverage.
- ✓ The Ayushman-Apke Dwar initiative will commence with an extensive country-wide drive on September 17 and run until December 3.
- ✓ It will ensure the provision of Ayushman cards to around 60 crore beneficiaries under the PM-JAY scheme.
- ✓ Through Ayushman Apke Dwar, every eligible family in the country will be registered for Ayushman cards.

- ✓ The primary objective of this pillar is to ensure that every eligible beneficiary receives their Ayushman card, leaving no one without access to affordable healthcare services.

Ayushman Sabah

- ✓ Ayushman Sabhas will promote awareness of various healthcare schemes and services available in the country and will be spearheaded by the village health, sanitation, and nutrition committees (VHSNCs).
- ✓ Ayushman Sabhas will convene on October 2 with a subsequent round taking place before December 31 spanning villages and urban wards.
- ✓ Ayushman Sabhas will serve as a platform for citizens to gain knowledge about communicable and non-communicable diseases and voice their concerns about healthcare services.
- ✓ Also, these sabhas will promote social accountability of healthcare systems and exemplifying the principle of “janbhagidari se jankalyan”.
- ✓ These gatherings will include activities like distributing PM-JAY cards, showcasing empanelled hospitals, creating Ayushman Bharat Health Account IDs, screening services, and organising talks to raise awareness about various diseases.
- ✓ These sabhas will see participation from MPs/MLAs, PM-JAY beneficiaries, Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres beneficiaries, and tuberculosis champions and more to motivate the community.

Ayushman Mela

- ✓ To advance the Ayushman Bhav initiative, Ayushman Melas will serve as an efficient platform to tackle a broad spectrum of health concerns, efficiently reaching a large audience and boosting healthcare service utilisation.
- ✓ Ayushman Melas will be held every week at 1.6 lakh HWCs in villages. They will also take place at community health centres, organised by medical colleges at the block level.
- ✓ This will be pivotal to spreading awareness of healthcare services among vulnerable and impoverished populations.

Anticipated Outcome of the Ayushman Bhav Mission

- ✓ The anticipated outcome is the transformation of every village and urban ward into an Ayushman Gram Panchayat or Ayushman Urban Ward, advancing holistic and sustainable development at the grass roots level.
- ✓ The mission is to certify villages that achieve 100 per cent coverage of selected schemes under each pillar.

Conclusion: In the context of optimum healthcare delivery vision, the unwavering pursuit of comprehensive healthcare coverage is not just a goal, it is a commitment in the service of humanity in line with Indian ancient wisdom. Ayushman Bhav is the embodiment of the same commitment to delivering healthcare. It fosters the prospects of robust health for every citizen and the nation as a whole.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**India's Push for Defence Sector Indigenisation**

In context: Recently, the Indian Air Force (IAF) received the first of the 56 C295 aircraft, which are set to replace its ageing Avro-748 aircraft fleet.

Background:

- ✓ In September 2021, India signed a deal with a European Corporation named Airbus Defence and Space to procure 56 C295 aircraft to replace the Indian Air Force's ageing Avro-748 planes, which entered service in the early 1960s.
- ✓ Under the agreement, Airbus will deliver the first 16 aircraft in 'fly-away' condition from its final assembly line in Seville, Spain within four years.
- ✓ The subsequent 40 aircraft will be manufactured by Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) in India as part of an industrial partnership between the two companies.
- ✓ The 16 fly-away aircraft are scheduled to be delivered to the IAF between September 2023 and August 2025.
- ✓ The first Made-in-India aircraft will be rolled out of the manufacturing facility in September 2026 and the remaining 39 will have to be produced by August 2031.
- ✓ After the completion of the delivery of 56 aircraft to the IAF, Airbus Defence and Space will be allowed to sell the aircraft manufactured in India to civil operators and export to countries which are cleared by the Government of India.
- ✓ All 56 aircraft will be fitted with an indigenous electronic warfare suite to be developed by Bharat Electronics Ltd and Bharat Dynamics Limited.

Current Status of C295 Manufacturing in India:

- ✓ The 40 C295 aircraft are being made in India at Vadodara, Gujarat.
- ✓ Last year, TASL had set up a factory in Hyderabad where the manufacturing of the major airframe components, such as fuselage and tail, started in July this year.
- ✓ After the major sections of the aircraft are assembled at the Hyderabad facility, they will be transported to the Vadodara facility next year.

- ✓ The factory or the final assembly line in Vadodara will have a capacity of producing 12 aircraft per year.

Significance of the C295 Deal:

- ✓ The acquisition of the aircraft is significant for two reasons:
- ✓ First, it will replace the Avro-748 aircraft fleet of the IAF, which was acquired in the 1960s. Hence, it will provide a fillip to the IAF's air transport duties in carrying troops and material to different parts of the country.
- ✓ Secondly, the acquisition sets into motion India's first-ever 'Make in India' Aerospace programme in the private sector.
- ✓ So far, the state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has had a monopoly over the manufacture of military aircraft in India.
- ✓ This deal will boost India's aerospace sector with 15,000 high-skilled jobs and 10,000 indirect jobs in the next 10 years.

Indigenisation of Defence Production in India:

- ✓ The Central Government has taken several policy initiatives in the past few years under 'Make in India' program and brought in reforms to encourage indigenous design, development and manufacture of defence equipment in the country.
- ✓ To make India self-reliant in the Defence sector, the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) was split into seven different companies in October 2021.
- ✓ These seven new Defence PSUs are 100 per cent government-owned corporate entities and will help in improving the country's self-reliance in defence preparedness.

Budgetary Allocation:

- ✓ For the year 2023-24, the budgetary allocation for defence is Rs 5.94 lakh crore, 13 per cent of the government spending and 2.04 per cent of the GDP.
- ✓ Though Rs 5.94 lakh crore allocation is 4.43 per cent more than the previous year, a major chunk, around 63 per cent of the capital procurement budget is earmarked for the domestic industry in 2022-23.

Exports:

- ✓ India's defence exports have recorded nearly a six-fold increase between 2017 and 2021, growing from Rs. 1,520 crore to Rs. 8,435 crore.
- ✓ Defence items being exported by India include missiles, the advanced light helicopter, offshore patrol vessels, personal protective gear, surveillance systems and a variety of radars.
- ✓ The value of defence production in Financial Year (FY) 2022-23 has crossed the figure of Rs 1 lakh crore for the first time ever.
- ✓ A number of policy reforms have been taken to achieve the objective of ease of doing business, including the integration of MSMEs and start-ups into the supply chain.

Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020:

- ✓ The DAP 2020 has been established as a potential catalyst for the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, in the sector of defence manufacturing.
- ✓ The DAP focuses on simplifying the defence acquisition and institutionalising monitoring mechanism for selection of best equipment in a transparent and competitive manner.

Conclusion: As a result of such policies, the industries, including MSMEs and start-ups, are forthcoming in defence design, development and manufacturing. There is almost a 200 per cent increase in the number of defence licenses issued to the industries in the last 7-8 years by the Government. These measures have given a boost to the defence industrial manufacturing ecosystem in the country and generated tremendous employment opportunities.

PRELIM FACTS

1. Vishwakarma Scheme:

In Context: The "PM Vishwakarma" scheme represents the government's commitment to traditional artists and crafters, cultural heritage preservation, and local workmanship.

Details: The program aims to improve and empower people who work in traditional crafts. This focus is motivated by two goals: offering financial assistance to craftsmen and craftspeople and maintaining and honoring India's age-old traditions, culture, and rich heritage through indigenous products, art, and crafts.

The "PM Vishwakarma" scheme's key features

- ✓ The Union Government has completely financed PM Vishwakarma with an allocation of Rs 13,000 crore. This substantial financial assistance is intended to improve and empower traditional artisans and craftspeople.
- ✓ **Registration:** Vishwakarma, or artisans, can register for the initiative for free. They can do so by using the PM Vishwakarma biometric site, which is available in Common Services Centres. This digital registration process streamlines artisan onboarding.
- ✓ Registered artisans will receive formal recognition in the form of a PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card. This designation attests to their involvement in traditional crafts as well as their eligibility for scheme benefits.

- ✓ **Skill Development:** The strategy prioritizes skill development for craftspeople. It provides possibilities for both basic and advanced training to assist artists develop their craft and talents. This ensures that traditional workmanship is always improved.
- ✓ **Toolkit reward:** Artisans will get a \$15,000 toolkit reward. This financial assistance is provided to craftsmen to aid them in purchasing or maintaining the tools and equipment required for their skill. It ensures they have the resources they need to pursue their traditional talents.
- ✓ **Collateral-free Credit:** Through the scheme, Vishwakarma can obtain collateral-free credit support. They are eligible for up to 1 lakh in credit in the first tranche and 2 lakh in the second tranche. The interest rate on this credit is fixed at a low 5%.
- ✓ **Digital Transaction Incentives:** PM Vishwakarma pushes artisans to embrace digital commerce. The scheme offers rewards for digital transactions in order to promote cashless and online payments. This promotes the use of current payment methods, which makes transactions more efficient and secure.
- ✓ **Marketing Assistance:** As part of the initiative, artisans will receive marketing assistance. This aid is intended to assist craftsmen in expanding their reach and connecting with a larger customer base. Effective marketing can improve demand for traditional crafts and products, benefiting artisans in the long run.

2. STORM SHADOW MISSILES:

In context: Ukrainian strike that damaged a Russian submarine and ship at a major naval port in Crimea, British-made Storm Shadow missiles were utilized.

The Missile and its Properties

- ✓ The Storm Shadow is a low-observable, long-range, stealth air-launched cruise missile developed by France and the United Kingdom since 1994.
- ✓ The weapon is known as "Storm Shadow" in the United Kingdom and SCALP-EG in France.
- ✓ The missile is based on the Apache anti-runway cruise missile produced by France, although it varies in that it carries a unitary payload rather than cluster munitions.
- ✓ The missile weighs around 1,300 kilograms and has a conventional warhead weighing 450 kilograms.
- ✓ It has a wingspan of three metres and a maximum body diameter of 48 cm.
- ✓ A Microturbo TRI 60-30 Turbojet propels it at Mach 0.8.
- ✓ It has a range of roughly 560 kilometers and is powered at Mach 0.8 by a Microturbo TRI 60-30 Turbojet Engine.
- ✓ The missile is set on Fire and Forget before launch.
- ✓ It cannot be controlled or instructed to self-destruct once launched, and its target information cannot be modified.
- ✓ The missile travels semi-autonomously to the target region on a low flight path guided by GPS and terrain mapping.

3. Yashobhoomi

In context: PM Modi will inaugurate a state-of-the-art convention center named YashoBhoomi under the first phase of India International Convention and Expo Centre in Delhi.

About

- ✓ The convention center is Built across more than 73,000 sq m of area and boasts of having one of the world's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) facilities and the largest LED media facade in the country.
- ✓ **Architecture:**The Convention Center Comprises 15 convention rooms including the Main auditorium, the Grand ballroom and 13 meeting rooms with a total capacity of holding 11,000 delegates.
- ✓ **Cost:** Yashobhoomi, is developed at a cost of around Rs. 5400 crore. It is the second convention center with world class infrastructure for exhibitions and conferences, after the Bharat Mandapam.
- ✓ **Material used:** Consisting of materials and objects inspired from Indian culture, the center incorporates terrazzo floors and brass inlay representing rangolis patterns.
- ✓ **Commitment to sustainability:** Yashobhoomi is equipped with a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment system with 100% wastewater reuse and provisions of rainwater harvesting. Also its campus has received Platinum certification from CII's Indian Green Building Council (IGBC).
- ✓ YashoBhoomi also offers one of the largest exhibition halls in the world, which could be utilized for hosting exhibitions, trade fairs, and business events.

4. Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Awards

In context: Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the one-time Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Awards to 84 artistes from the field of performing arts.

About:

- ✓ The awards are given to Indian artistes aged above 75 years who have not been accorded any national honour in their career so far.

- ✓ The recipients are selected by the Akademi's General Council, consisting of distinguished musicians, dancers, theatre artists and scholars in these disciplines and nominees of the Central government, state governments, and Union Territories.
- ✓ The award carries a purse of Rs 1 lakh, besides a 'Tamrapatra' and 'Angavastram'.

5. International Day of Democracy

In context: The International Day of Democracy is celebrated around the world on 15 September each year.

About

- ✓ It was established through a resolution passed by the UN General Assembly in 2007, encouraging governments to strengthen and consolidate democracy.
- ✓ The International Day is an opportunity to review the state of democracy around the world. Each year highlights a specific theme.
- ✓ Theme 2023: "Empowering the next generation," focuses on young people's essential role in advancing democracy and ensuring that their voices are included in the decisions that have a profound impact on their world.

6. First RajBhasha Kirti Puraskar, 2022-23

In Context: Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) has been conferred the prestigious First Raj Bhasha Kirti Puraskar, 2022-23.

About

- ✓ This is the second consecutive year wherein Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has received the honor of being the best performing Department in the category of Ministries/ Departments with less than 300 employees.
- ✓ The RajBhasha Kirti Puraskar is a prestigious award conferred every year on a department which stands first among all the Ministries/Departments with less than 300 employees during the Akhil Bhartiya Raj Bhasha Sammelan and Hindi Diwas celebrations organized by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs.

ANSWER WRITING

Q. "Knowledge is the only virtue" because "once a man knows good from evil, nothing on earth can compel him to act against that knowledge."- Socrates. Comment.

- Socrates was a great Greek Philosopher. Ethics is born out of inquisitiveness of Socrates. He said that an unexamined life isn't worth living. Human should question each & everything in his surrounding on basis of reasoning & rationality. They should have art of questioning. His philosophy was further propagated by Plato & Aristotle.
- Human being has five senses through which it receives information and knowledge. E.g. tongue gives knowledge about taste. We see through eyes and listen through our ears and gather information. The information and knowledge received from senses is understood with the help of previous knowledge and it's understanding.
- The understanding of knowledge and its application in life leads to reasoning ability in human's life. People start to critically question on the basis of understanding of knowledge. This ultimately result in acquiring sixth sense i.e. wisdom and values like truthfulness, selflessness, nonharmfulness.
- **Wisdom: knowledge+ understanding+ right application**
- According to Aristotle, as human progresses in life, he/she improve conduct and moves towards chief good which is wisdom (Indian philosophy of Nirvana or enlightenment). Enlightenment, wisdom brings highest level of happiness and not the materialistic pleasures. E.g. Buddha,
- Vivekananda achieved wisdom through enlightenment which made them happy or satisfied in life. Wisdom extracts meaning and significance from information/knowledge by understanding interrelationships and their implications. Wisdom is a profound understanding of our existence, the human situation, our possibilities, and especially our limitations. Thus when person gets wisdom, nothing in the world can stop him to do right or what is ethical.
- Example-1: Socrates was himself punished for speaking his mind to his disciple. He was asked to either leave the territory or face the death. He did not leave the territory and faced death as he considered speaking true knowledge as ethical thing to do and even death could not stop to act against his knowledge.
- Example-2: Wisdom helps to build strong character of a person. Person with strong character takes ethical decisions, they have good inter-personal relations, people start appreciating and respecting that person.
- Although there are exceptions when knowledge is used for evil results, the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge is predominantly a positive thing; advanced knowledge is often crucial to success. There are countless examples from history, science, and literature in which having knowledge plays a vital role in success and a lack of knowledge plays a significant role in failure.

Conclusion: People should strive to achieve wisdom in life. It can be achieved through acquiring right knowledge and understanding & applying it for the right cause at right time and place. The Civil Service

(Conduct) Rules, 1964 also suggests that Civil Servants should apply their wisdom while taking best possible action when law is not clear about the issue.

MCQs

1. Consider the following statements about the Storm Shadow Missile.
 1. It is an air-launched stealth cruise missile.
 2. It cannot be controlled or instructed to self-destruct, nor can the target information be modified.
 3. It is armed with cluster munitions.
 4. It has a range of about 1000 kilometers.
 How many of the following are correct?
 - a) Only 1
 - b) **Only 2**
 - c) Only 3
 - d) All of the above
2. Considered the following statement regarding:
 1. World Lymphoma Awareness Day is observed every year on September 15th.
 2. The objective is raising awareness about lymphoma, a type of cancer that affects the lymphatic system.
 3. The lymphatic system comprises in the red blood cells.
 4. The theme for World Lymphoma Awareness Day in 2023 is "We Can't Wait to Focus on Our Feelings."
 How many of the above statement is/are correct?
 - a) Only 1
 - b) Only 2
 - c) **Only 3**
 - d) All of the above
3. Take a look at the following statements about the Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Award:
 1. It is given to an Indian performing artist who is over the age of 75.
 2. The recipients are chosen by the General Council of the Sangeet Natak Akademi.
 Which of the following assertions is/are correct?
 - a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) **1 and 2 are both correct.**
 - d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct.
4. With reference to the International Day of Democracy, consider the following statements:
 1. It is celebrated on the 15th of September every year around the world.
 2. It was established through a resolution passed by the UN General Assembly in 2007.
 3. The theme for 2023 was 'strengthening the voices of citizens'.
 How many statements given above are correct?
 - a) Only 1
 - b) **Only 2**
 - c) Only 3
 - d) None of these
5. Consider the following statements regarding the Unified Portal for Agricultural Statistics:
 1. It is developed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (DA & FW).
 2. It aims to provide real-time, standardized and verified data on agricultural commodities.
 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. Consider the following statements regarding the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 2023:
 1. It provides for the digital records of all births and deaths in India through a portal.
 2. It allows the central database to be used for the updation of the National Population Register (NPR) and electoral rolls.
 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. Considered the following statement regarding PM Vishwakarma scheme.
 1. Its comes under Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana.
 2. It is aim to support traditional artisans and craftsmen.
 3. It is fully funded by central government.
 How many of the above statement is/are correct?
 - a) Only 1
 - b) Only 2
 - c) **Only 3**
 - d) None of these
8. Considered the following statement regarding, recently inaugurated statue of Adi Shankaracharya.
 1. It is 108 feet tall statue in Omkareshwar, Uttar Pradesh.
 2. It called as statue of Oneness.
 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
9. With reference to 'Leptospirosis', consider the following statements
 1. It is a potentially fatal zoonotic disease caused by a bacterium called Leptospira interrogans
 2. It is a contagious disease in animals but can be transmitted to humans under certain environmental conditions
 Select the correct statement(s)
 - a) 1 only
 - b) 2 only
 - c) **Both 1 and 2**
 - d) Neither 1 nor 2
10. Consider the following statements
 1. Rubber trees require moist and humid climates with heavy rainfall of more than 200 cm.
 2. Coastal regions of Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra are the traditional rubber growing areas In India
 3. India is the largest producer of Rubber in the world
 How many of the statement(s) given above are correct?
 - a) **Only one**
 - b) Only two
 - c) All three
 - d) None of these