



+91-9989966744 / 9000066690

Email:targetiasweb@gmail.com

H.No. 1-10-196 (New No.177)

Ashok Nagar X Road, Hyderabad

Telangana 500020.

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## DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

**08.07.2021**

# FOR PRELIMS AND MAINS

Warm Greetings.

- DnD aims to provide every day news analysis in sync with the UPSC pattern.
- It is targeted at UPSC – Prelims & Mains.
- Daily articles are provided in the form of Question and Answers
- To have a bank of mains questions.
- And interesting to read.
- Providing precise information that can be carried straight to the exam, rather than over dumping.

Enjoy reading.

THE HINDU - TH  
INDIAN EXPRESS - IE  
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ECONOMIC TIMES - ET  
TIMES OF INDIA - TOI



## INDEX

### Essay Paper

1. Steps taken by the judiciary in ensuring the migrants in lockdown.....04

### GS 2

#### ❖ International Relations

1. Bilateral relations shared by China-Sri Lanka.....05

### GS 3

#### ❖ Economic Development

1. Global implications of U.S Inflation risk.....06



## ESSAY PAPER

### Editorial

**Q- Critically analyse the plight of migrants during lockdown and the adequacy of the steps taken by the judiciary in ensuring their safety?**

**INTRODUCTION** = Thousands of landless labourers had started walking towards their home States due to the loss of employment and income. The Supreme Court took cognisance of the matter on May 26 that year and acknowledged the plight of the workers in light of the strict lockdown.



The court has laid down numerous guidelines to provide relief to workers and efficiently tackle the problem till the threat of COVID-19 subsides. Two of the most important components to protect the migrants during this time were the food and travel arrangements insisted on by the court.

1. In the orders pronounced in May this year, it laid down that **dry ration be provided to migrants** who want to return to their homes.
2. Further, the court said that **identity proof should not be insisted upon by the governments** since the labourers might not be able to furnish it.
3. Secondly, the court called upon the State governments **to arrange transportation for workers** who need to return to their homes.
4. The Supreme Court fixed July 31 as the deadline for the States to implement **the 'One nation One Ration Card' scheme**. Under this scheme, the States are to complete the registration of migrant workers in order to provide dry ration to them. But it is unlikely that a standardised system can be developed within the deadline prescribed by the court.
5. Apart from dry ration, the top court also directed the State **governments to run community kitchens for migrant workers**.

However, there arise **administrative problems** in implementing these measures –

1. First, migrant workers keep moving in search of employment and it is difficult to cover them all under the scheme.
2. Second, many States do not have the necessary infrastructure to run and maintain community kitchens on such a large scale.

### **Guidelines laid by the Supreme Court in 2021 -**

1. Under the **National Food Security Act**, migrant workers are issued ration cards and they are entitled to dry ration under various government programmes, such as the Atmanirbhar Bharat scheme, during the pandemic.

- In the order passed on June 29, the court affirmed the **Right to Food under Article 21** of the Constitution. In furtherance of this, the court asked the **States to formulate their own schemes and issue food grains to migrants**. This is an indispensable step to keep more than a fourth of the population of the country safe and healthy during the pandemic.
- However, there are no normative data that would allow the States to identify eligible migrants. The court took cognisance of the issue and directed the Ministry of Labour and Employment to ensure that the **National Database for Unorganised Workers is updated by July 31**.
- Finally, the top court recognised **the need for direct cash benefit transfer** to workers in the **unorganised sector**. But it did not issue any guidelines for the same as the workers need to be covered by the States themselves.

### STEPS ANNOUNCED FOR WORKERS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Migrants covered under the National Food Security Act or through any state government scheme will be provided 5 kilograms of grains and 1 kg of <i>chana</i> per family in a month</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ MGNREGA work to be continued during the monsoon season as well; state governments advised to provide work to migrants through MGNREGA</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana for migrant labour or urban poor to provide ease of living at an affordable rent</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Labour law changes to be made by taking the legislative route</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ National portability of public distribution cards by March 2021</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A special credit facility to help 5 million street vendors with a working capital of up to ₹10,000 crore</li> </ul>                              |

#### Why they are inadequate -

The Supreme Court has given a purposive declaration in the case but the bulk of **the judgment seems declaratory rather than mandatory**.

- In order to efficaciously implement the orders of the court, the State governments need to work with the Centre closely.
- With the third wave of COVID-19 infections looming, it is imperative to ensure that government machinery works to its full potential and robust systems are developed to withstand the challenges.

#### GS 2

##### ❖ International Relations

**Q- Comment on the bilateral relations shared by China-Sri Lanka in light of the recent events?**

**BACKGROUND=** In a rare diplomatic gesture, Sri Lanka has issued a commemorative coin marking the centenary of the Chinese Communist Party.

- The country's Central Bank on Tuesday said it has minted two coins in gold and silver, in connection with the Party's 100th anniversary, and 65 years of Sri Lanka-China relations.
  - The coins have been issued at the request of the government of Sri Lanka as an accolade for long-standing friendship and mutual trust between the two countries.
- One of the coins, of LKR 1,000 denomination, bears the words 'Communist Party of China' in Sinhala, Tamil and English, and the years 1921-2021, along with the anniversary year 100.



2. While the other has a view of the China-built Nelum Pokuna Mahinda Rajapaksa Theatre [located in Colombo], with national flags of Sri Lanka and China, and the words ‘Sri Lanka-China 65 Years’ and year 2022 inscribed.

#### **Motive behind the move –**

1. The apex bank’s move comes amid substantial economic assistance from China to Sri Lanka. While Sri Lanka already owes China over \$5 billion from past loans, Beijing sanctioned an additional \$1 billion in loan and about \$1.5 billion in a currency swap to help Colombo combat its economic crisis since the pandemic hit the island nation in March 2020.
2. Further, commending China on its poverty eradication programme, China always believed that improving infrastructure would “provide new ways and new strengths for the people”. “Therefore, we have constantly invited China to help develop the infrastructure”.

### **GS 3**

#### **❖ Economic Development**

##### **Q- What are the global implications of U.S Inflation risk?**

**BACKGROUND** = An accelerated recovery from the pandemic in the U.S., where growth is seen reaching 7% in 2021, would benefit many countries through increased trade, but rising inflation could be more sustained than expected. The IMF forecasts global growth of 6%.

According to the International Monetary Fund–

1. Fiscal support in the United States could fuel inflationary pressures and warned that the risk of a sustained rise in prices could require raising interest rates earlier-than-expected.
2. Higher U.S. interest rates could lead to a sharp tightening of global financial conditions and significant capital outflows from emerging and developing economies.
3. The IMF’s assessment of U.S. inflation risks comes amid sharp criticism by Republican lawmakers of President Joe Biden’s multi-trillion-dollar plans to boost spending on infrastructure, child care, community college tuition and expanded coverage of home care for the elderly and disabled. Other countries face rising commodity and food prices, which are now at their highest level since 2014, putting millions of people at risk of food insecurity.



Which of the following is patentable under the Indian Patent system?

- Novel
- Cinematographic works
- Inventions relating to atomic energy
- None of the above



Consider the following statements is/are correct regarding the to be – Ministry of Co-operation?

- It is being developed by the government with the aim of 'Sahkar se Samridhhi'
- It will work to streamline the processes for ease of doing business for cooperatives and enable development of multi-State cooperative societies.

Choose the correct answer from the code given below –

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both
- Neither

Answer – C

**NOTE:** This decision was taken in the recent Cabinet Reshuffle, amidst which eight States got new Governors –

## New roles

A look at the changes/new appointments announced on Tuesday



**Off to Raj Bhavan:** Union Minister Pralhad Joshi greeting Thawarchand Gehlot, right, after he was appointed Governor of Karnataka, in New Delhi on Tuesday. ■ PTI

■ **Thawarchand Gehlot**, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, will be Governor of Karnataka

■ **Hari Babu Kambhampati**, BJP veteran from Andhra Pradesh, will be Governor of Mizoram

■ **P.S. Sreedharan Pillai**, Governor of Mizoram, transferred and appointed Governor of Goa

■ **Satyadev Narayan Arya**, Governor of Haryana, transferred and appointed Tripura Governor

■ **Ramesh Bais**, Governor of Tripura, transferred and appointed Governor of Jharkhand

■ **Bandaru Dattatreya**, Governor of Himachal, transferred and appointed Haryana Governor

■ **Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel** will be Governor of Madhya Pradesh

■ **Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** will be Governor of Himachal Pradesh

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