



+91-9989966744 / 9000066690

Email:targetiasweb@gmail.com

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

Ashok Nagar X Road, Hyderabad

Telangana 500020.

---

## DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

**17.07.2021**

# 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  
BUSINESS LINE - BL  
ECONOMIC TIMES - ET  
TIMES OF INDIA - TOI



# INDEX

## Essay Paper

1. Economic fallout of second wave is less than was anticipated.....04

## GS 2

### ❖ Governance

1. Judicial Scheme – FASTER.....05

### ❖ International Relations

2. To tackle Afghan situation, India and China have no choice but to work together.....05

## Snippets:

1. Features of China’s launch of the long-awaited carbon trading scheme.....06
2. “Operation Monte Carlo” .....06

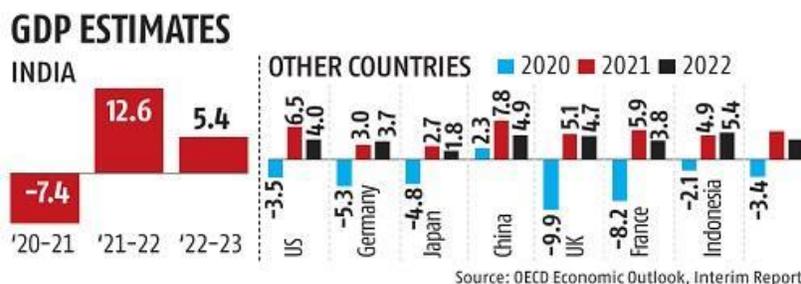


## ESSAY PAPER

### Editorial

**Q- Economic fallout of second wave is less than was anticipated. Yet economy is struggling to regain momentum. Why ?**

**INTRODUCTION** = In early June, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had projected that the Indian economy will grow at 18.5 per cent in the first quarter (April-June) of the current financial year. Growth for the full year was pegged at 9.5 per cent.



But an analysis by economists at the RBI now suggests that the economy is likely to have fared better than previously expected. Several indicators seem to be indicating a faster recovery from the lows observed during the peak of the second wave as states lifted restrictions with the second wave showing signs of ebbing.

**Growth is now expected to touch 22.1 per cent in the first quarter –**

**i. On the demand side, as the restrictions imposed on activities began to ease -**

1. And the vaccination drive picked up,
2. Mobility indicators began to register an uptick,
3. And aggregate demand began to recover.
4. According to RBI average daily e-way bill collections improved substantially from June 20, reflecting the underlying improvement in economic activity.
5. Automobile sales have registered an uptick, as have tractor and two-wheeler sales, indicators of rural demand.
6. Fuel and power consumption also seems to be picking up pace.
7. Data from CMIE indicates that unemployment has fallen.

**ii. On the supply side, though, the incipient recovery in manufacturing and services was cut short by the second wave.**

1. As the RBI notes, the manufacturing purchasing managers index (PMI) fell to 48.1 in June — the first contraction in the last 11 months.
2. Similarly, the service PMI also declined to 41.2 in June. However, the Nomura India Business Resumption Index rose to 95.7 for the week ending July 11 — it is now back to levels seen prior to the second wave of infections, and only 4.3 percentage points below the pre-pandemic level.

Yet, there continues to be cause for concern. The disruption in activities due to the second wave, while less severe than before, has interrupted a nascent recovery, leading to a sequential contraction in the April-June quarter of the current financial year. Even if the economy grows at 22.1 per cent in the first quarter — the higher of the two forecasts — it will be considerably lower than the levels observed in the fourth quarter of the last financial year (January-March 2020-21), as well as levels seen in the first quarter in 2019-20.

As rating agency ICRA notes, volumes of most non-financial indicators in June are lower than levels observed in April, and even in June 2019. In its report, the RBI also sounds a note of caution, pointing

out that “the economy is struggling to regain the momentum of recovery that had started in the second half of 2020-21”, and that “a solid increase in aggregate demand is yet to take shape”.

## GS 2

### ❖ Governance

#### **Q- Discuss the need for and key features of the Judicial Scheme – FASTER?**

**BACKGROUND** = Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana said people given bail by courts, even by the Supreme Court, have to wait for days before prison authorities release them.

- The Supreme Court’s exasperated at prison authorities who insist on receiving by hand the “authentic” hard copy of the bail order regardless of the fact that the personal liberty of people suffers.
- In this age of information and communication technology, we are still looking at the skies for the pigeons to communicate the orders.

So, as a solution, the Chief Justice, flanked by Justices L. Nageswara Rao and A.S. Bopanna, announced in open court the **rolling out of a new scheme called ‘FASTER’ or ‘Fast and Secure Transmission of Electronic Records’ by which the Supreme Court would instantly, directly, securely and electronically transmit bail and other orders to jail authorities, district courts and High Courts.**

- Despite the orders being there anyway uploaded on the court website, the idea behind the scheme is to transmit orders securely.

#### **Need –**

1. Recently, 13 prisoners in Agra Jail, who suffered imprisonment for up to two decades despite the Juvenile Justice Board declaring them ‘juveniles’ at the time of commission of their crimes, were granted bail by the Supreme Court on July 8, but were released by the prison authorities after a delay of four days.
2. Again, Pinjra Tod activists Devangana Kalita and Natasha Narwal and Jamia Millia Islamia student Asif Iqbal Tanha walked out of Tihar Jail nearly two days after the Delhi High Court granted them bail.
3. The Supreme Court has made concerted moves in the recent months to de-congest prisons amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Where a Bench led by Chief Justice Ramana had ordered the police to limit arrests during the pandemic to prevent over-crowding in jails and urged courts to not order detention in a mechanical manner.

#### **Challenges and solutions -**

1. The State governments were asked to file their reports about the Internet connectivity in their jails to prevent technical glitches in future.
2. The Secretary General of the Supreme Court was directed to submit a comprehensive report formulating the scheme within two weeks.
3. The hearing was based on a suo motu case, ‘In Re: Delay in release of convicts after grant of bail’, registered on the initiative of Chief Justice Ramana to confront the problem which affects the liberty and dignity of prisoners.

### ❖ International Relations

#### **Q- To tackle Afghan situation, India and China have no choice but to work together. Explain why?**

**BACKGROUND** = China has said that it is ready to seek a mutually acceptable solution to the border issue with India. Although an agreement to pull back from the Pangong Tso area was reached this February, negotiations to resolve the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh have stalled. And even if the Indian army has denied any flare up of tensions along the LAC since February, it cannot be denied that India-China relations are at a low point.

But there is much mutual benefit in New Delhi and Beijing resolving the border issue. That the foreign ministers of the two countries recently met to discuss the situation in Afghanistan as part of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation mechanism shows that regional stability requires India and China to cooperate.

**The risks involved are -**

1. For, if the Taliban do take over in Afghanistan and choose to go back to their old ways, then they could pose a security problem for both New Delhi and Beijing.
  2. Afghanistan could become a haven for terrorists targeting Kashmir and Xinjiang.
  3. True, China may think it could use Pakistan to control the Taliban. The latter, however, are not completely subservient to Islamabad.
  4. On the contrary, Pakistan has its own security concerns about the Taliban.
- Therefore, in such a complex situation it is up to India and China to work to stabilise Afghanistan and ensure that it doesn't become a terror launchpad in the region. After all, India and China are neighbours and cannot escape their geographical realities. It would be best to restart the border negotiations and resolve the LAC once and for all.

**Snippets**

**GS 2**

❖ **International Relations**

**Q- List the key features of China's launch of the long-awaited carbon trading scheme?**

- China introduced its long-awaited emissions trading system, a key tool in its quest to drive down climate change-causing greenhouse gases and go carbon neutral by 2060.
- The scheme was unveiled with China, the world's biggest carbon emitter, seeking to take a global leadership role on the climate crisis in the lead up to a crucial UN summit in November.
- China has hailed it as laying the foundations for what would become the world's biggest carbon trading market, forcing thousands of Chinese companies to cut their pollution or face deep economic hits.
- Analysts and experts say much more needs to be done if China is to meet its environmental targets, which includes reaching peak emissions by 2030.
- **Key Features -**
- The scheme will set pollution caps for big-power businesses for the first time, and allows firms to buy the right to pollute from others with a lower carbon footprint.
- The market will initially cover 2,162 big power producers that generate about a seventh of the global carbon emissions from burning fossil-fuels, according to data from the International Energy Agency.

❖ **Governance**

**Q- What is "Operation Monte Carlo" and why is it in recent news?**

- The Big Boys Toys Racket was unearthed as part of an exercise codenamed "Operation Monte Carlo", following a tip-off that a group had been smuggling high-end cars in the names of diplomats and diverting them to private persons, thereby evading Customs duty
  - Gurugram-based dealership in the sale of used luxury cars, for their alleged role in the smuggling of high-end vehicles into India in the names of foreign diplomats.
  - The agency suspects that the syndicate brought over 20 luxury vehicles into the country in the past five years using the same modus operandi, leading to duty evasion of over ₹25 crore.
  - **Legislation in place to check the Smuggling -**
1. Imports made by foreign diplomats and Missions in India are governed by the Foreign Privileged Persons (Regulation of Customs Privileges) Rules, 1957.

2. Motor cars are classifiable under chapter heading 8703 having duty structure of BCD (Basic Customs Duty) — 125%, IGST (Integrated Goods & Services Tax) — 28% and 12.50% SWS (Social Welfare Surcharge).
3. The net Customs duty on import of cars works out to 204%.



**The recently in news “Mekedatu dam project on the Cauvery river” has been contested between which of the following states?**

- a. Karnataka – Kerala
- b. Tamil Nadu – Kerala
- c. Telangana – Karnataka
- d. Karnataka – Tamil Nadu



**Consider the following statements:**

1. Information Fusion Centre (IFC) has been established by the Indian Navy only for the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
2. All countries that have signed white shipping information exchange agreements with India are India’s IFC partners.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 & 2
- d. None of the above

**Answer: C**

Information Fusion Centre (IFC) has been established by the Indian Navy at the Indian Navy’s Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC) in Gurugram, Haryana for the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). Hence, statement 1 is correct. All countries that have signed white shipping information exchange agreements with India are India’s IFC partners. Hence, statement 2 is correct. Information Fusion Centre- Sharing Maritime Data The Information Fusion Centre for the Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) that was set up last year (in 2018) has started functioning as an information-sharing hub of maritime data. The centre will set up a line of action for incident responses to maritime security situations through a collaborative approach. The centre is administering a website to undertake the collection and dissemination of information on a daily basis and host the Monthly Maritime Security Update (MMSU) highlighting analysis on incidents, warnings, and advisories issued in the IOR. It is actively interacting with the maritime community and has already built linkages with 18 countries and 15 multinational/maritime security centres. All countries which have signed white shipping (commercial shipping information about the movement of cargo ships) information exchange agreements with India are IFC partners. Several Indian Ocean littoral states that have joined the coastal radar chain network include Maldives, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, and Seychelles.

**UPSC - CSE****COMPREHENSIVE & FOUNDATION COURSE****OFFLINE From: 22.03.2021****ONLINE From: 29.03.2021****COURSE INCLUDES:**

- NCERT
- Prelims & Mains
- GS Foundation
- CSAT
- Daily Tests & Writing Practice
- Optionals (ANTHROPOLOGY / SOCIOLOGY/TELUGU LIT.)
- Nine Months Course
- Mentoring with Individual Focus
- SAVVY Sessions
- IAO Certification of Quality

**OPTIONALS****NEW OFFLINE COURSES****ANTHROPOLOGY by Mrs. SOSIN REVELLA****From: 23/06/2021****OPTIONALS****NEW ONLINE COURSES****ANTHROPOLOGY by Mrs. SOSIN REVELLA****From: 24/03/2021****OPTIONALS****NEW OFFLINE COURSES****SOCIOLOGY by DR. HARSHAVARDHAN****From: 22/02/2021****OPTIONALS****NEW OFFLINE COURSES****TELUGU LITERATURE by DR. GARIKIPATI SUBRAMANYAM****From: 27/01/2021**