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DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

13.09.2021

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



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ESSAY PAPER

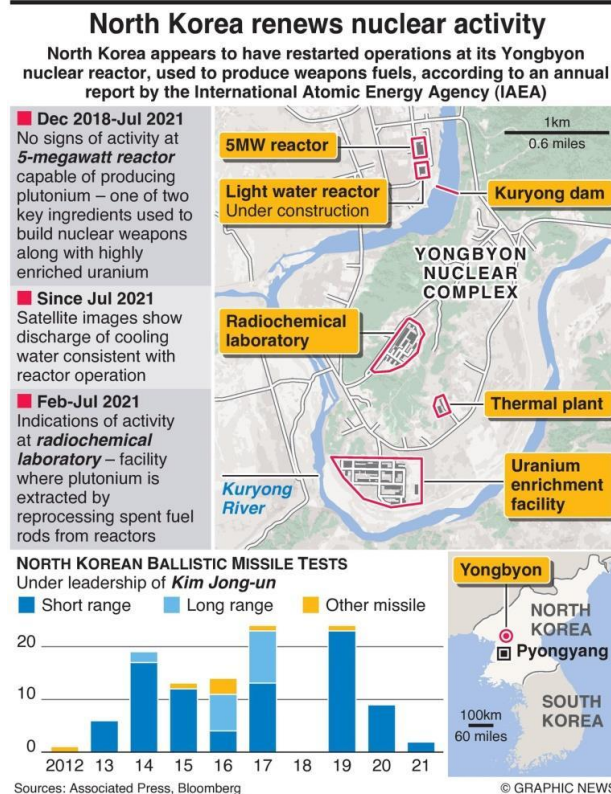
Editorial

Q- The protracted stand-off over North Korea reinforces the hollowness of the doctrine of deterrence. Discuss?

INTRODUCTION = The resumption of North Korea's largest fissile material production reactor, after operations were ceased in December 2018, has sparked speculation about its real and symbolic significance.

About the Ban -

- The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has underlined that the restart of activity in Yongbyon constitutes a violation of UN Security Council resolutions.
- **This is the same reactor that the North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, in a bilateral summit in 2019 with then U.S. President Donald Trump, offered to fully dismantle in exchange for securing complete relief from international economic sanctions, but to little avail.**
- The ageing five-megawatt reactor at the Yongbyon complex has been central to the North Korean reprocessing of spent fuel rods to generate plutonium, besides the production of highly enriched uranium for the development of atomic bombs.



Acts that reinforced the hollowness of the doctrine of deterrence -

1. Indeed, the **opaque nature of Pyongyang's nuclear programme** partly accounts for the current confusion over the motives behind the restart of the reactor.
2. In June 2008, in order to buttress its denuclearisation commitment to the U.S. and four other countries, **Pyongyang blew up the cooling tower at the Yongbyon complex**. In 1994, Pyongyang barred IAEA access to the Yongbyon complex amid suspicions that the country was generating plutonium from spent fuel.
3. But it nevertheless led former **U.S. President George W. Bush to ease some sanctions against North Korea**, which he had in 2002 dubbed part of the "axis of evil".
4. More controversial was **Washington's decision to revoke, less than two years after Pyongyang's first nuclear explosion of 2006, the designation of "state sponsor of terrorism"**. North Korea was placed on the terrorism list after the 1987 bombing of a South Korean airplane.
5. A few months after blowing up the cooling tower in 2008, Pyongyang barred IAEA inspectors access to its reprocessing plant in the Yongbyon complex and eventually expelled them the following April.

The above sequence of developments was almost a rerun of events nearly a decade earlier. The so-called 1994 Agreed Framework, an executive agreement signed by President Bill Clinton, required Pyongyang to freeze all nuclear activity and allow inspection of its military sites in return for the construction of two light water reactors. The accord broke down in 2002.

Way Forward

The **UN treaty on complete abolition of atomic arms**, whose deliberations were boycotted by all nuclear weapons states, is the morally superior alternative.

GS 2

❖ Governance

Q- The judicial appointments to NCLT and ITAT were due over a long time. Comment?

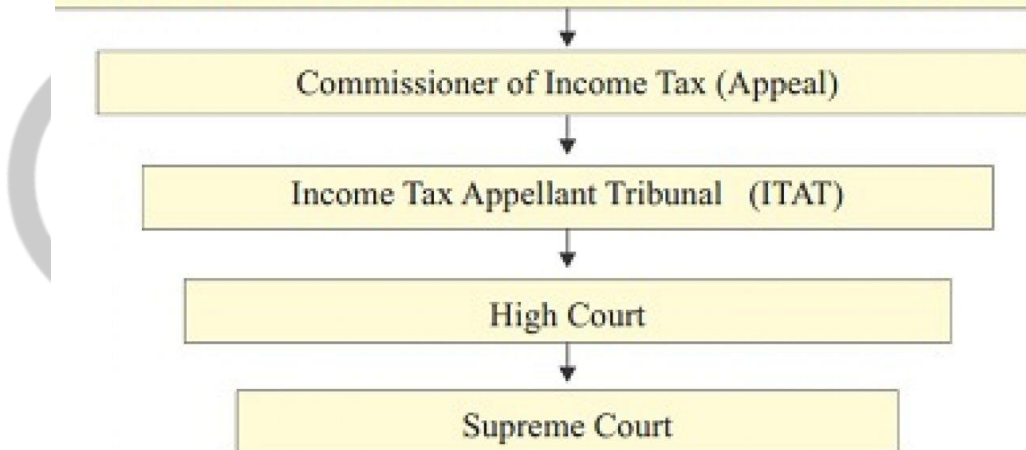
BACKGROUND = The government has appointed 31 people as judicial, technical and accountant members at the NCLT and the ITAT, amid the Supreme Court flagging concerns about vacancies in various tribunals.

- The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) deals with matters mainly related to companies law and the insolvency law.
- The appointments will be for five years from the date of assumption of charge or till attaining the age of 65 or until further orders.

<h3>National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)</h3> <p>NCLAT was established in 2013 under Section 410 of the Companies Act and is the appellate authority for decisions, instructions, or orders issued by the NCLT, the IBBI, and the CCI.</p>	
<h4>Why in news?</h4> <p>NCLT will review the banks' offer of a one-time settlement for Siva Industries.</p> 	<h4>Benefits of NCLT and NCLAT</h4> <p>The establishment of the NCLT and the NCLAT is a key step toward achieving a quick and effective settlement of issues involving Indian corporate.</p>
<h3>National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)</h3> <p>NCLT was constituted under Section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013 and is a quasi-judicial body that adjudicates problems connected to Indian corporations.</p>	<h3>Tribunals</h3> <p>Tribunals were intended to be temporary solutions to the problem of judicial delays.</p> 

- While the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) deals with income tax matters.
- The appointments in the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal were for four years.

r – Income Tax Officer / Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax / Deputy Tax / Joint Commissioner of Income Tax / Additional Commissioner of Inc



- There are around 250 posts lying vacant at various key tribunals and appellate tribunals such as the NCLT, the DRT, the TDSAT and the SAT.
- As many as eight judicial and 10 technical members have been appointed to the NCLT while 13 judicial and seven accountant members have been appointed to the ITAT, according to separate communications issued by the Department of Personnel and Training based on decisions taken by the Appointments Committee of Cabinet.

GS 3

❖ Security

Q- Describe the features of the most superior design amongst the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) series LCA-MK2?

BACKGROUND = The configuration for the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)-Mk2 detailed design is complete. Roll-out of the aircraft (Mk2) is planned next year and the first flight in early 2023.

In February, the Defence Ministry signed a ₹48,000-crore deal with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) to supply 83 LCA-Mk1A to the Indian Air Force. In August, the HAL signed a \$716 million deal with GE Aviation of the U.S. for 99 F404 aircraft engines and support services to power the Mk-1A. The Mk2 will be powered by a more powerful GE-414 engine.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has one squadron of the LCA in initial operational clearance and deliveries of the second squadron in final operational clearance configuration are under way.

Key Features -

1. The aircraft features enhanced range and endurance including an onboard oxygen generation system, which is being integrated for the first time
2. Heavy weapons of the class of Scalp, Crystal Maze and Spice-2000 will also be integrated on the Mk2.
3. The LCA-Mk2 will be a heavier and much more capable aircraft than the current LCA variants.
4. The Mk2 is 1,350 mm longer featuring canards and can carry a payload of 6,500 kg compared to 3,500 kg the LCA can carry.

THE NEW TEJAS

The long-awaited indigenous fighter Tejas Mk II, which will be manufactured by HAL, will go into production by 2025-2026

17.5 ton
Tejas Mark II will be the same weight as the Mirage, Jaguar and Gripen

ADDITIONS THE NEW GEN

- Heavier stand-off weapon capacity
- State-of-the-art AESA radar
- Indigenously developed air-to-air missile Astra (with a range of 70km)

WHEN: Set to go into production after the Tejas LCA order of 123 aircraft to replace the IAF's ageing MiG-21s is completed

ALSO IN THE WORKS

Advanced medium combat aircraft (AMCA) given a go-ahead by IAF late last year

25-ton fighter will be powered by two engines capable of super-cruise speeds

Will have advanced tech to ensure minimum radar signatures

The HAL has already set up a second assembly line to ramp up production from eight aircraft a year to 16. Order for 83 Mk-1A is expected to be completed by 2028-29.

LCA-MK2 as AMCA -

- Stating that the initial design of the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) was started way back in 2009, it would be a twin engine stealth aircraft with an internal

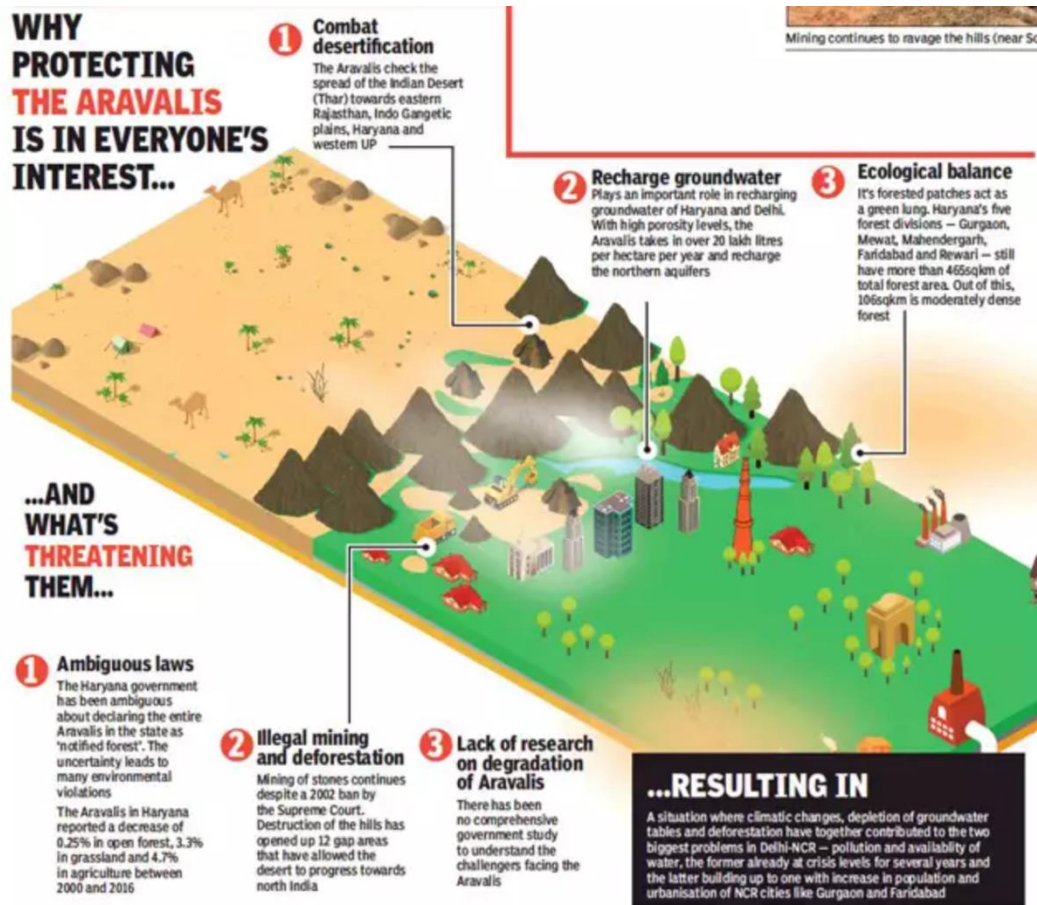
weapons bay and a diverterless supersonic intake, which has been developed for the first time for which the design is complete.


- It will be a 25-tonne aircraft with internal carriage of 1,500 kg of payload and 5,500-kg external payload with 6,500 kg of internal fuel.
- On the current status of the AMCA, the configuration had been frozen, preliminary service quality requirements finalised and preliminary design review completed.
- The AMCA will have stealth and non-stealth configuration and will be developed in two phases, AMCA Mk1 with existing GE414 engine and an AMCA Mk2 with an advanced, more powerful engine to be developed later along with a foreign partner.
- The manufacturing and production of the aircraft will be through a special purpose vehicle, which will also have participation of private industry.

❖ Environment

Q- Discuss the case of another blatant attempt by the Haryana State to shrink the Protected Area by redefining Aravallis?

- The Haryana government has advised the district committees for 'ground-truthing' of National Conservation Zone in the districts falling in the National Capital Region to not consider gair mumkin pahar (uncultivable land), outside Old Gurugram district, as Aravalis.
1. In a State-level meeting held under the chairmanship of A.K. Singh, Principal Secretary (Town and Country Planning Department), regarding ground-truthing of NCZ in Haryana Sub-Region of the NCR, the district-level sub-committees were **advised to identify the Aravali strictly as per the 1992 Aravali notification** of the Environment Ministry, thus, effectively **keeping gair mumkin pahar outside the National Conservation Zone.**
 2. While a special meeting of the NCR Planning Board on December 20, 2016, had decided that 'specified areas' under Aravali 1992 notification be included while identifying Aravalis in NCR making it clear that gair mumkin pahar, rada, beher fall under NCZ, and it was reiterated in the 37th NCR Planning Board meeting in December, 2017
- The move would effectively mean that gair mumkin pahar outside Old Gurugram would not be considered Aravali and would be open for real estate activity.



 Q- Consider the following pairs of Institutions along with personalities who established them:

Institutions Established	by
1. Sanskrit College at Benares	Jonathan Duncan
2. Madarasa Aliya or Calcutta Madrasa	Warren Hastings
3. East India Association	Dadabhai Naoroji

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

a. 1, 2 and 3 b. 1 and 3 only
c. 2 only d. 2 and 3 only



Q- Which of the following schemes are scrip-based schemes relating to relief to exporters of Indian Manufacturing Sector?

1. The Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) Scheme
2. Service Export from India Scheme
3. The Scheme for Rebate of State Levies (RoSL)
4. *Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)*
5. Refund of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products Scheme

- a. 1, 2 and 4 b. 4 and 5
c. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 d. 1, 2, 4 and 5

Ans – C

NOTE: The Centre will release ₹56,027 crore in the current fiscal to disburse all pending export incentives. In a release on Thursday, the government said the benefits will be disbursed to more than 45,000 exporters, of which 98% are MSMEs.

“This amount includes claims relating to MEIS, SEIS, RoSL, RoSCTL, other scrip-based schemes relating to earlier policies and the remission support for RoDTEP and RoSCTL for exports made in the 4th quarter of FY 20-21.

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