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DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

12.10.2021

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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TIMES OF INDIA - TOI



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ESSAY PAPER

Editorial

Q- 2021 economics prize acknowledges data's role in understanding the real world. Explain how?

INTRODUCTION = The year's economics Nobel award has been split between three economists. David Card got one half of it for his empirical contribution to labour economics. The remaining 50% has been jointly awarded to Joshua Angrist and Guido Imbens for their methodological contribution to teasing out the cause and effect of natural experiments, or situations in the real world that resemble randomised experiments.

Nobel Prize in Economics 2021

NEW INSIGHTS ABOUT THE LABOUR MARKET AND WORK ON NATURAL EXPERIMENTS

David Card
Canada-US
Born in 1956

- PhD from Princeton University (US), 1983
- Class of 1950 Professor of Economics, University of California, Berkeley (US)

• "For his empirical contributions to labour economics"

Joshua Angrist
Israel-US
Born in 1960

- PhD from Princeton University (US), 1989
- Ford Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US)

Guido Imbens
Netherlands-US
Born in 1963

- PhD from Brown University (US), 1991
- The Applied Econometrics Professor and Professor of Economics, Stanford University (US)

• "For their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships"

Source: nobelprize.org

- In the age of big data, it's an acknowledgment of their work over decades that catalysed improvements in methods to make sense of masses of information. If policy is to be driven by evidence, the three winners made handy contributions to building its foundation.
- Card arguably has made the biggest contribution. In 1993, Card and Alan Krueger used a natural experiment in the US to show that an increase in minimum wage did not have a negative impact on employment, a finding that challenged conventional wisdom.
- The blowback left an "extremely bad taste", admitted Card. But the study did catalyse work on plausible explanations that didn't necessarily undermine conventional wisdom. It led

to a greater understanding of less visible costs that employers consider, like costs of training new employees.

- The combined effort of Card, Angrist and Imbens built on rudimentary work done by an earlier generation to uncover causal relationships based on observations that occur in real life. Advances in this strand of knowledge cannot be overemphasised because mixing correlation with causation often leads to poor policy choices. Another reason their work is important is that often it's not possible to rely on randomised control trials, the gold standard in this area. Like the study by Card on the impact of immigration on the labour market in the US that showed low-skilled immigrants don't depress wages for existing workers.

Also, to be noted is that policy choices are not just affected by confusion between correlation and causation. They may also be adversely influenced by an oversimplified extrapolation of research, particularly when it fits a preconceived notion. That is the subtext of the decades-long work of this year's winners.

GS 2

❖ Governance

Q- Why Rajasthan's marriage registration Bill has kicked up a storm?

BACKGROUND = A Bill passed by the Rajasthan Assembly, **which amended a 2009 law** on mandatory registration of marriages, including child marriages, has been embroiled in controversy. Amid demands to withdraw the Bill, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said Monday that the government would request the Governor to return the Bill.

What is the Amendment –

The Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages (Amendment) Bill, 2021 amends Section 8 of the Rajasthan Compulsory Registration of Marriages Act, 2009, which deals with "Duty to submit Memorandum".

- The Act itself defines Memorandum as the "Memorandum for registration of marriage." **Prior to the amendment**, Section 8 read: "The parties, or in case the parties have not completed the age of twenty-one years, the parents or as the case may be, guardian of the parties, shall be responsible to submit the memorandum within a period of thirty days from the date of solemnization of the marriage to the Registrar within whose jurisdiction the marriage is solemnized or both or any of the parties resides.
(2) A memorandum, which is not submitted within the time limit specified in sub-section (1), may be submitted at any time on payment of penalty as may be prescribed."

- **After the amendment**, which changes a key aspect in the age prescribed, Section 8 now reads: The parties to the marriage, or in case the bridegroom has not completed the age of twenty one years and/or bride has not completed the age of eighteen years, the parents or, as the case may be, guardian of the parties shall be responsible to submit the memorandum, in such manner, as may be prescribed, within a period of thirty days from the date of solemnization of the marriage to the Registrar within whose jurisdiction the marriage is solemnized, or the parties to the marriage or either of them are residing for at least thirty days before the date of submission of the memorandum.

Why has the amendment been made?

The state government, which has termed the amendment a “technical” one, argues that this would bring the age in line with central legislation which recognises the age of 18 as majority for a girl and 21 for a boy. Registration of child marriages would help in their faster annulment and help the government reach out to more victims, particularly widows.

Why has it been criticised?

Critics say compulsory registration of child marriage would legitimise it. Activists have also said the marriage certificate might in fact, contrary to government claims, become a hurdle in getting an annulment later as courts could cite lack of a marriage certificate as a reason to not grant an annulment. Child marriages are conducted mostly away from the public glare and could be hard to prove. But even prior to the amendment, registration of child marriages was compulsory under Section 8. The amendment only restricts its scope to women till the age of 18.

How can a child marriage be registered?

- Child marriages are not illegal per se, although there is a legal framework to prevent them. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, allows a child marriage to be annulled by either the bride or the groom who was a minor at the time of marriage when they attain the age of majority. So essentially, it gives them an option to roll back the marriage as if it never happened. If the parties do not wish to annul the marriage, it would be considered a legitimate marriage. This shield is given to essentially ensure rights of minor girls in access to the marital home, marital property and ensure the legitimacy of offspring.
- Child marriages under certain conditions however, are considered void automatically. This could be where the minor is forced, kidnapped for marriage, or is married for the purpose of human trafficking.

Then how does the law strive to prevent child marriage?

- Under Section 9, Prohibition of the Child Marriage Act, male adults shall be punished with imprisonment up to two years and/or a fine of Rs 1 lakh for marrying a minor girl. Under Section 10, “Whoever performs, conducts, directs or abets any child marriage shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment which may extend to two years and shall be liable to fine which may extend to one lakh rupees unless he proves that he had reasons to believe that the marriage was not a child marriage.” This enables the police to arrest not just the adult groom or parents facilitating a child marriage, but anyone who participates in solemnising such a marriage.

- In Independent Thought v Union of India (2017), the Supreme Court refused to extend the protection of marital rape to child marriages. The court held that intercourse with a minor girl, even under marriage, would amount to rape. While marital rape is not punished under the law, intercourse with a minor is considered rape.

Does registration make a marriage legal?

In Seema v Ashwini Kumar (2006), the Supreme Court ruled that registration of marriage must be made compulsory. Some states such as Karnataka and Uttarakhand have similar provisions for registering and recording child marriages. In 2019, the Kerala High Court also ruled that there is no bar in the law to register a child marriage, upholding a 2008 government circular framing rules for such registration.

GS 3

❖ Science & Technology

Q- Discuss the aims and objectives of the newly launched 'Indian Space Association'?

BACKGROUND = The Prime Minister remarked that the Government's approach to space reforms is based on 4 pillars.

1. First, the freedom of innovation to the private sector.
2. Second, the role of the government as an enabler.
3. Third, preparing youth for the future.
4. And fourth, to see the space sector as a resource for the progress of the common man

This comes in the backdrop of the government opening up the space sector for private sector participation, and cleared the creation of a new entity, Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe), to encourage private companies to use India's space infrastructure.

- Through the suggestions of the gathering today and active engagement of the stakeholders very soon a better Spacecom policy and Remote Sensing Policy will emerge
- The space sector is a major medium for the progress of 130 crore countrymen.
- For India, the space sector means better mapping, imaging and connectivity facilities for the common people. Also, the space sector means better speed from shipment to delivery for entrepreneurs, this also means better security and income for fishermen and better forecast of the natural calamity.

- The government is moving ahead with a clear policy regarding public sector enterprises and is opening most of these sectors to private enterprises where the government is not required. The decision regarding Air India shows our commitment and seriousness.

During the last 7 years, space technology has been converted into a tool of last-mile delivery and leakage-free, transparent governance. He gave examples of the use of geotagging in housing units for the poor, roads and infrastructure projects.



The infographic features a dark space background with a large Earth on the left and a rocket launch on the right. In the bottom right corner, a portrait of PM Narendra Modi is shown with his arms crossed. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

myGov
मेरी सरकार

“
**OUR SPACE SECTOR IS
A MEDIUM OF
PROGRESS FOR
130 CRORE INDIANS**
”

PM Modi at ISpA launch (2/3)

- Space sector means better mapping, imaging & connectivity facilities for the common man
- For entrepreneurs, it means better speed from shipment to delivery
- For farmers, it means better forecast & protection of ecology

Development projects are being monitored by satellite imaging. The space technology is being used in settlement of Fasal Bima Yojna claims, NAVIC system is helping fishermen, disaster management planning is also being carried out through this technology.

Way Forward

- As part of the government’s attempt for greater participation from youth and students in space sector Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog has launched the ATL Space Challenge 2021 for all Indian school students in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).



Q- STATEMENT: A bio-decomposer capsule, developed by Pusa Institute is to be used in ploughing the field with a rotavator.

REASONING: This helps supply ample water so that the stubble can decompose and be converted into healthy compost.

- a. Both the Assertion and the Reason are correct and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- b. The Assertion and the Reason are correct but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- c. Our Assertion is true but the Reason is false.
- d. The statement of the Assertion is false but the Reason is true.



Q- Which of the Chola king conquered Ceylon?

- a) Aditya 1
- b) Rajaraja 1
- c) Rajendra
- d) Vijayalaya

Ans - b

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