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DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

14.10.2021

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



INDEX

Essay Paper

1. Nutrition-related indicators have worsened in most States.....04

GS 3

1. Current extent of Border Security Force.....06

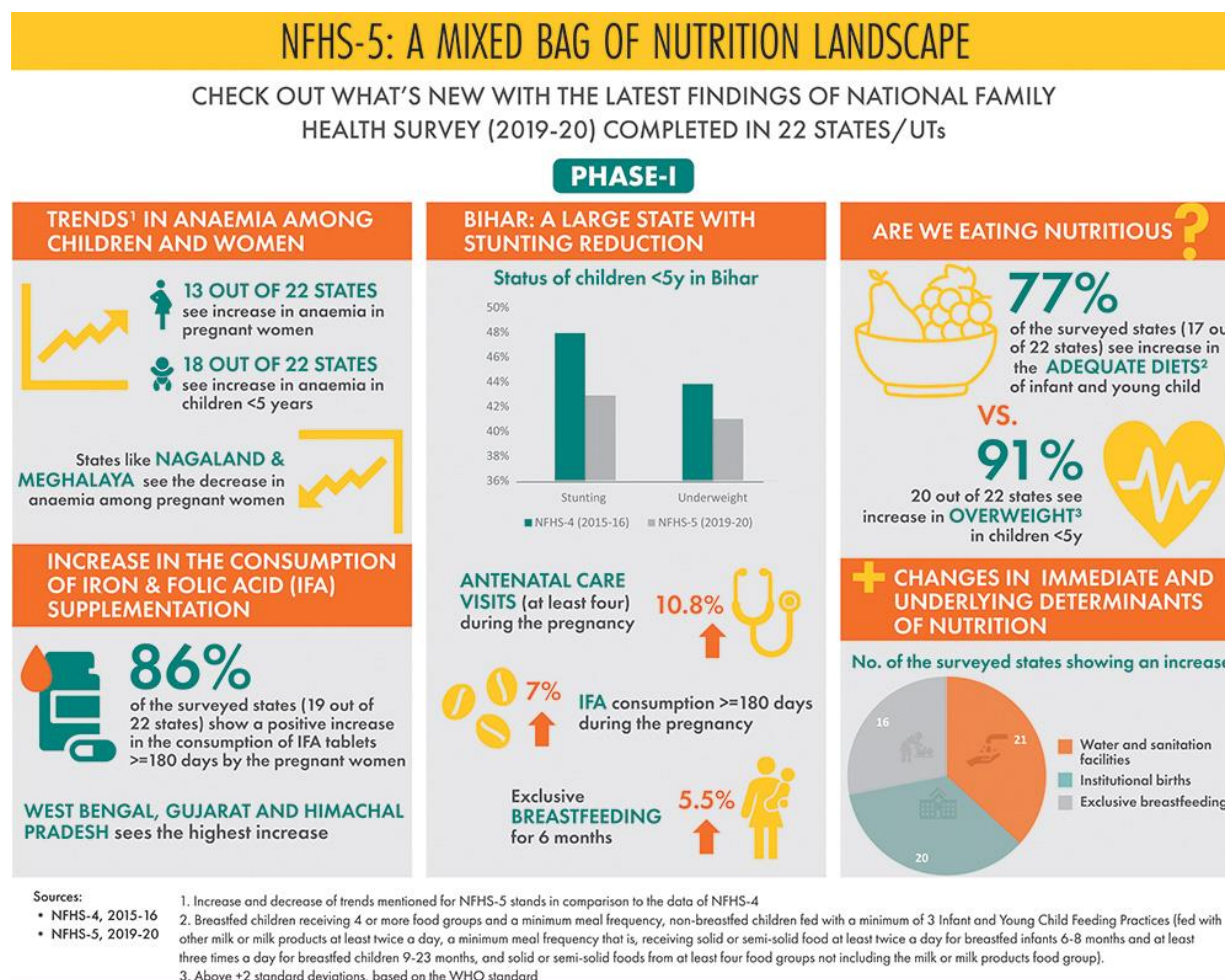


ESSAY PAPER

Editorial

Q- Agri-food systems need a transformative change for better production, nutrition, environment and life. Substantiate?

BACKGROUND = The health of a country's agri-food systems determines the health of its people. The findings from the first round of the Fifth National Family Health Survey suggest that **nutrition-related indicators have worsened in most States.**



The survey covers 17 States and five Union Territories, which comprise 54% of India's population. In addition, findings from the Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (2016-18) have highlighted **the role of micro-nutrient malnutrition.**

A multi-pronged approach

1. For Indians to eat better, India must sow better.
2. A structural shift in dietary pattern and nutrition requires a shift in production.

3. Pathways for nutritional security consist of improving dietary diversity, kitchen gardens, reducing post-harvest losses, making safety net programmes more nutrition-sensitive, women's empowerment, enforcement of standards and regulations, improving Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, nutrition education, and effective use of digital technology.
4. Addressing the complex problem of malnutrition is a colossal task for which we need to look at agri-food systems as a whole and adopt a multi-pronged approach.
5. While COVID-19 has exacerbated the nutrition issue, climate change has challenged agricultural production itself. However, the country's agri-food systems are facing new and unprecedented challenges, especially related to economic and ecological sustainability, nutrition and the adoption of new agricultural technologies.
6. The edifice of India's biosecurity remains vulnerable to disasters and extreme events,.

The agri-food systems are the most important part of the Indian economy. India produces sufficient food, feed and fibre to sustain about 18% of the world's population (as of 2020). Agriculture contributes about 16.5% to India's GDP and employs 42.3% of the workforce (2019-20).

Steps to be taken –

1. There is an urgent need for reorientation of the long-term direction of agri-food systems to not only enhance farm incomes but also ensure better access to safe and nutritious foods.
2. Additionally, the agri-food systems need to be reoriented to minimise cost on the environment and the climate. This need is recognised by the theme of World Food Day 2021: 'Our actions are our future. Better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life'.
3. The four betters represent the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals and other high-level aspirational goals.

In January this year, FAO in collaboration with NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Agriculture convened a National Dialogue to evolve a framework for the transition to a more sustainable agri-food systems by 2030 and identify pathways for enhancing farmers' income and achieving nutritional security. A sustainable agri-food system is one in which a variety of sufficient, nutritious and safe foods are made available at an affordable price to everyone, and nobody goes hungry or suffers from any form of malnutrition. Less food is wasted, and the food supply chain is more resilient to shocks. Food systems can help combat environmental degradation or climate change. Sustainable agri-food systems can deliver food security and nutrition for all, without compromising the economic, social and environmental bases.

GS 3

❖ Security

Q- What is the current extent of Border Security Force and why is there conflict in extending its powers?

BACKGROUND = The Union Home Ministry has enhanced the powers of the Border Security Force (BSF) to “arrest, search and seize” within 50 km from the international boundary in Assam, West Bengal and Punjab.



Such operational powers to the BSF, a Central Armed Police Force under the Union, will also be applicable to the newly created Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

- Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi criticised the move as an attack on federalism, and sought a rollback of the decision. As -
 1. Earlier, the BSF's limit was fixed up to 80 km from the international boundary in Gujarat and 15 km in Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal and Assam.
 2. The October 11 notification replaces a 2014 order under the BSF Act, 1968, which also covered the States of Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya.
 3. Though the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir that was bifurcated into two Union Territories in August 2019 was not mentioned in the 2014 order, references to it exists in a previous such amendment in 1973. The October 11 order specifically mentions the two Union Territories.
 4. The violations for which the BSF carries out search and seizure include smuggling of narcotics, other prohibited items, illegal entry of foreigners and offences punishable under any other Central Act among others. After a suspect has been detained or a consignment seized within the specified area, the BSF can only conduct "preliminary questioning" and has to hand over the suspect to the local police within 24 hours. The BSF does not have the powers to prosecute crime suspects.

Policing in the hinterland is not the role of a border guarding force, rather it would weaken the capacity of the Border Security Force in discharging its primary duty of guarding the international border.

- The Shiromani Akali Dal also termed the Union's move "the imposition of the President's rule through the back door in nearly half of Punjab. This virtually turns the State into a de facto Union Territory.



Q- Moved by the Swadeshi movement, which famous painter painted the famous image depicting Bharat Mata?

- a. Abanindranath Tagore
- b. Ravi Verma
- c. Rabindranath Tagore
- d. AmritaShergill



Q- Which of the following European Nations have planned a \$35 billion investment plan for developing innovative technology and industrial activity to making its economy carbon-neutral by 2050?

- a. Germany
- b. France
- c. Italy
- d. Switzerland

Ans – b

NOTE: French President Emmanuel Macron unveiled a five-year, €30 billion (\$35 billion) investment plan for developing innovative technology and industrial activity, including building small nuclear reactors, electric cars and greener airplanes.

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