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DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

09.11.2021

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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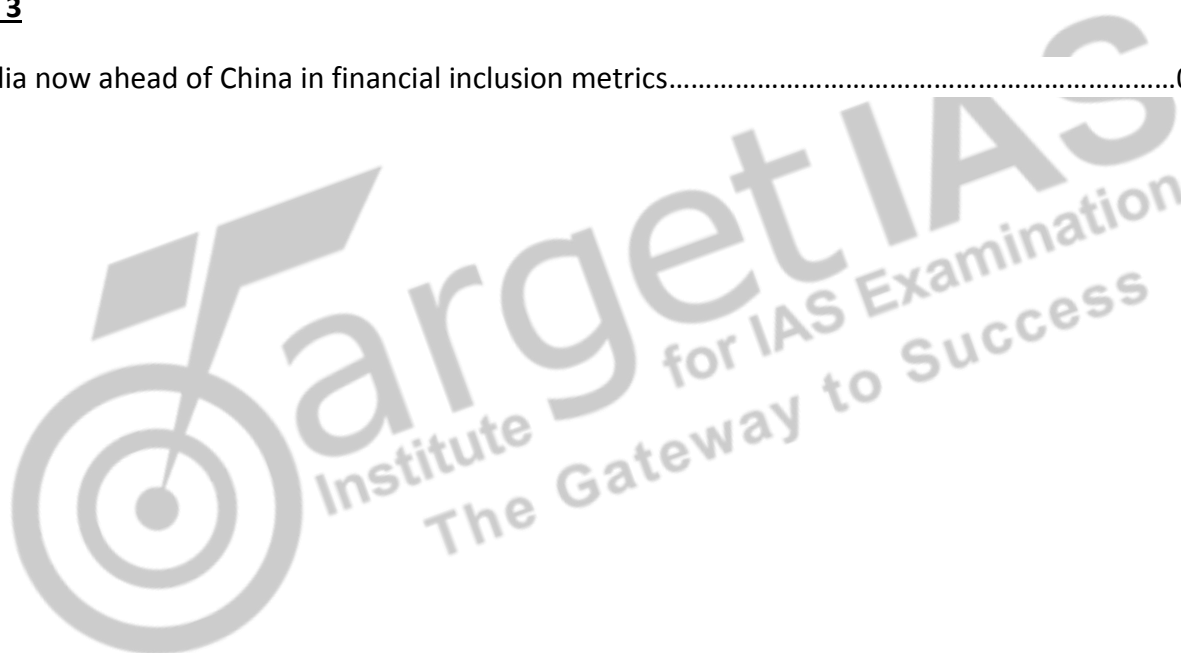
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## ESSAY PAPER

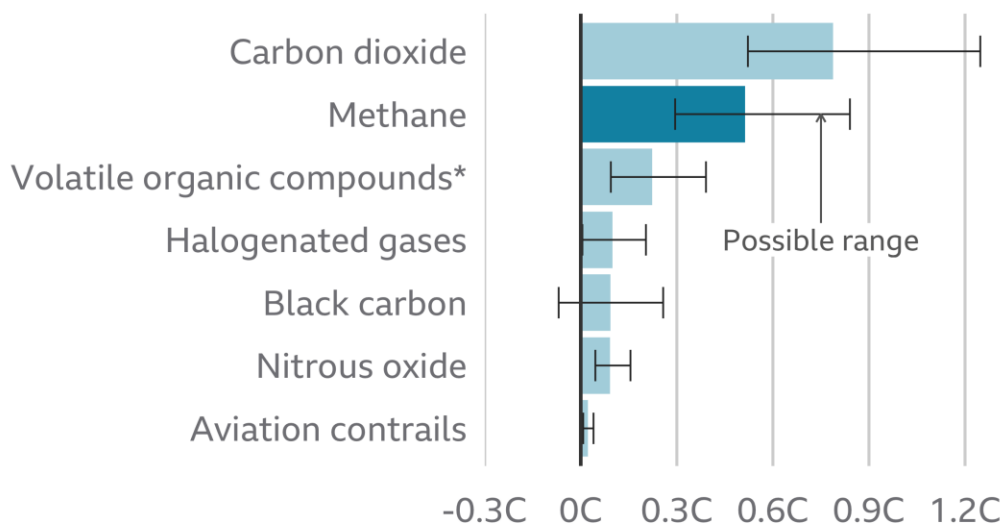
### Editorial

**Q- It is easier to cut CH<sub>4</sub> than CO<sub>2</sub>. Suggest solutions for India to do its bit?**

**INTRODUCTION** = Amidst several question marks, one meaningful accomplishment of the COP26 summit is that 105 countries have **pledged to reduce their methane emissions by 30% from 2020 levels, by 2030**. CO<sub>2</sub> after all is not the only greenhouse gas of concern; IPCC research puts as much as a quarter of global warming at the doorstep of CH<sub>4</sub> instead.

## Methane is a major contributor to global warming

Contribution to warming in degrees Celsius



Figures are for contributions to 2010-2019 warming relative to 1850-1900

\*Volatile organic compounds and carbon monoxide

Source: IPCC Sixth Assessment Report 2021

**BBC**

Also, of significance is why the Biden administration has taken co-lead in this global methane pledge – with support from even some of the larger oil and gas producers. **In many ways this is the really low-hanging fruit in combating climate change.**

### Possible Solutions -

- Whether it is to **plug leaky natural-gas pipelines or to cut emissions** at the point of fuel-extraction from Earth's crust, tech solutions for reducing methane emissions of the fossil fuel industry are readily at hand.

- Even better, the UN's latest assessment is that over 50% of available targeted measures have negative costs – they quickly end up saving money. The question here is whether the industrialised meat production system will be part of the reform – globally 32% of anthropogenic methane emissions come from the livestock sector. **Changing how we produce meat must be part of the climate solution.**

### **Why hasn't India signed on yet?**

Perhaps because of livestock and paddy cultivation (8% of CH<sub>4</sub> emissions) issues. But India can upgrade both its large cattle and paddy economies. There is a lot of promise in experiments to get more grain for the same amount of methane as well as to reduce methanogenic activity in bovines and sheep.

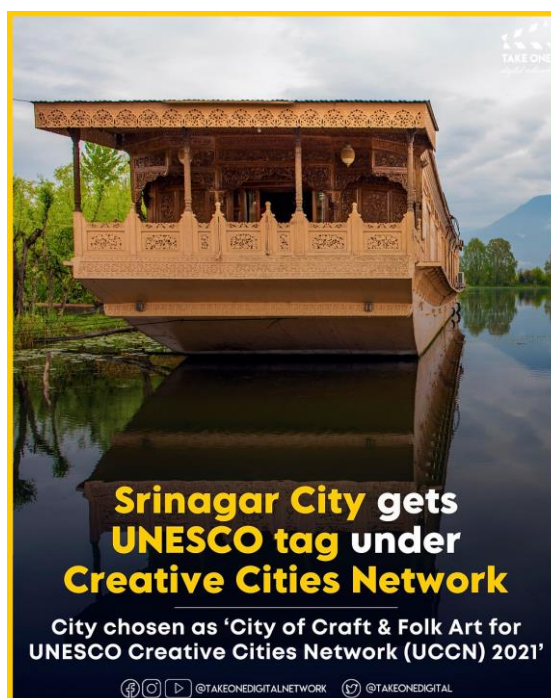
ICMR for example has developed a feed supplement that cuts down their methane emissions by 17-20%. We must also be active participants in a future of "green meats" or laboratory meats. Technology for this is already available, and given India's startup culture, this is a potential green winner in India.

## **GS 1**

### **❖ Art & Culture**

### **Q- Srinagar joins the UNESCO Creative Cities Network. Comment?**

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has picked Srinagar among 49 cities as part of the creative city network under the Crafts and Folk Arts category.



- The process of nomination of Srinagar under the UNESCO 'Creative City Network' was undertaken and funded under the World Bank-funded Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project. This is the recognition of the historical crafts and arts of the city.
- The inclusion is likely to pave way for the city to represent its handicrafts on the global stage through UNESCO.
- The network involves folk art, media, film, literature, design, gastronomy and media arts.
- Srinagar was among one more city from India competing for the coveted recognition this year. The dossier for its nomination was filed first in 2019 and then again in 2021.
- **Other UCCN Creative Cities -**
- Only Jaipur (Crafts and Folk Arts) in 2015, Varanasi and Chennai (Creative city of Music) in 2015 and 2017 respectively have so far been recognised as members of the UCCN for creative cities.

## GS 2

### ❖ Governance

#### **Q- Write in brief the features of the Karnataka Minor Minerals Concessions Rules 2021?**

**BACKGROUND** = The State Cabinet approved the Karnataka Minor Minerals Concessions Rules 2021 and –

1. Fixed the sand price at ₹300 per tonne for consumers at the gram panchayat (GP) level.
2. Similarly, price of sand extracted from riverbeds and streams and sold in urban areas/towns/cities has been fixed at ₹700 per tonne.
3. A 25% of the royalty collected from the sale of sand will have to be provided to the GP concerned through an appropriate Budget provision.
4. In the coastal regulation zone (CRZ) areas of coastal districts, the Government had permitted extraction of sand by using traditional practices. It banned the use of machinery in extraction of sand in CRZ areas.
5. Under the new rules, sand extracted from local streams, tanks and lakes will be permitted to be utilised for local community works, low-housing construction works or government works.
6. Sand for government construction works will be sold at concessional rates.
7. Extraction of sand from patta land has been banned. Only the district sand committee will take a decision on granting permission to extract sand from patta land.
8. A person who holds a licence for extraction and stocking of sand should establish an office, computer facility, close-circuit television cameras, weigh bridge, security at the dump yard or stock yard of the sand.
9. Sand extracted from streams or rivers can be transported anywhere in the State. The period of extraction will be five years or exhaustion of permitted quantity, whichever is earlier, the rules specify.
10. The rules have envisaged constitution of the district sand committee headed by the Deputy Commissioner. The members of the 11-member committee include the ZP CEO,

the Superintendent of Police, officials of the Water Resources, PWD, Forest, and other departments.

## GS 3

### ❖ Economic Development

#### Q- India now ahead of China in financial inclusion metrics. How?

**BACKGROUND** = India is now ahead of China in financial inclusion metrics –

1. With mobile and Internet banking transactions rising to 13,615 per 1,000 adults in 2020 from 183 in 2015.

	<u>Internet Banking</u>	<u>Mobile Banking</u>
What is it?	✓All financial transactions are conducted through your bank's secure website via a computer or laptop.	✓All transactions are conducted via a smartphone or tablet by logging on to your bank's mobile website or via their application
Which device would you use?	✓Over the internet, most commonly via the computer or laptop	✓On the mobile, i.e. smartphone Internet Banking:
How are funds transferred?	✓Fund transfer through NEFT, RTGS or IMPS	✓Fund transfer through NEFT or RTGS
How many <u>banking functions</u> are offered?	✓More comprehensive features and functions when compared to mobile banking.	✓Limited number of features and functions.
What do you need to connect?	✓Only requires a browser and an internet connection to connect to your bank's website.	✓Requires a banking application, SMS services or mobile banking website.
How are you likely to access your account?	✓Requires access to internet, typically through Wi-Fi or a wired connection	✓Requires access to internet, either through Wi-Fi or a data connection.

2. And the number of bank branches inching up to 14.7 per 1 lakh adults in 2020 from 13.6 in 2015, which is higher than in Germany, China and South Africa, as per a report.



**Advantages -**

- States with higher financial inclusion / more bank accounts have also seen a **perceptible decline in crime,**
- Along with a meaningful **drop in consumption of alcohol and tobaccos,**
- Under the no-frills accounts scheme, **the number of persons with deposit accounts at banks has significantly increased,** becoming comparable with emerging economy peers and even some of the advanced economies.
- In the use of digital payments also, there has been noteworthy progress. The number of no-frills bank accounts opened has reached 43.7 crore with ₹1.46 lakh crore in deposits as of October 20, 2021. Of these, almost two-thirds are operational in rural and semi-urban areas and more than 78% of these accounts are with state-owned banks, 18.2% with regional rural banks, and 3% are opened by private sector banks.

**Way Forward**

- Fine-tuning the banking correspondent (BC) model by making it uniform across all banks for, there is a need to make the BCs interoperable. The number of banking outlets in villages / BCs had risen from 34,174 in March 2010 to 12.4 lakh in December 2020.







**Q- Consider the following statements:**

1. Indian National Congress (INC) was under the control of the Extremist when World War-I broke out in 1914.
2. The INC decided to support the British war efforts in World War-I, both as a matter of duty and in a spirit of bargaining to get concession.

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2



**Q - "Neptune Declaration", which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which sector?**

- |             |                      |
|-------------|----------------------|
| a) Aviation | b) Migrant Labourers |
| c) Maritime | d) Space             |

**Ans – c**

**EXPLANATION** - The Neptune Declaration on **Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change** aims to **promote and protect the welfare of seafarers**. It was launched in response to the crew change crisis, which has resulted in around 400,000 seafarers stranded on ships because of coronavirus-related travel bans.

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