DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

12.11.2021

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.

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Q- Start-up led disruption is good. Explain how with a recent example?

INTRODUCTION = General Electric this week announced that it will split into three companies. It’s not alone. Europe is in midst of similar changes, turning the spotlight on underlying shifts in the economic structure.

- Industrial-era conglomerates are giving way to internet-era conglomerates, most of whom are less than three decades old. But they have transformed economic and social activity.

Advantages -
1. Old conglomerates combined innovation and scale economies to transform the supply side.
2. Internet-era platforms have transformed the demand side through their network effects.
3. The underlying force driving these changes across eras is innovation, which neutralises advantages conferred by size and longevity.
4. It’s not just platforms where it’s visible. A 12-year old EV maker, Rivian Automotive, debuted in the US stock markets this week, generating a value that exceeded iconic American auto firms.

The bet once again is on a technology-led transformation driven by rank outsiders that will change fundamentals of an industry. India too is in the midst of a transformation. A clutch of new entrepreneurs have shaken the economy by leveraging the internet to disrupt many businesses.
Challenges to address -

Exciting and beneficial as this is, it’s important to acknowledge some differences in the Indian disruption –

1. It’s based on stellar execution on a large scale rather than creating technology that disrupts.
2. Consequently, some of India’s industrial-era conglomerates are in dominant positions in new economic domains because of their execution abilities.
3. A related aspect is that none of India’s disruptors shake up global markets, even in a way that Chinese firms did in communications network infrastructure.

Why does it matter?

Because the nature of India’s disruption is a microcosm of a larger national imperative. The World Bank identified “grey matter” as a country’s main durable resource. One way to understand it is that a country’s competitive advantage increasingly depends on its knowledge-based economy, a catchall term for intellectual capital. Disruption based on new ideas and innovations generates durable prosperity. India should take pride in its unicorns but simultaneously raise the bar.

GS 2

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Q- Discuss in brief the migrant crisis over at the Belarus-Poland border?

BACKGROUND = Belarus’s strongman leader Alexander Lukashenko vowed to respond to any new sanctions imposed over the migrant crisis on the country’s border with Poland, including by potentially cutting off the transit of natural gas to Europe.
Pressure is building to address the plight of hundreds of migrants, mainly Kurds from West Asia, who are stuck at the Belarus-Poland border in freezing weather.

- The West accuses Mr. Lukashenko of luring the migrants to Belarus to send them across the border, in revenge for sanctions imposed last year after a heavy crackdown on the opposition.
- Belarusian Foreign Minister Vladimir Makei said Minsk wanted the crisis “resolved as quickly as possible” and was ready to talk to the EU, but the bloc was refusing dialogue.
- Poland has deployed 15,000 troops along the border, put up a fence topped with barbed wire and approved construction of a wall on the frontier with Belarus.
- Meanwhile, Ukraine said it would deploy thousands of border guards and security personnel to its border with Belarus “to counter a potential crisis with migrants”.

Polity

Q- Reminisce on the role of ‘Governors’ in Indian Polity?
President Ram Nath Kovind called upon Governors to play the role of a “friend, philosopher and guide” in their States.

He was speaking at the 51st conference of Governors, Lieutenant-Governors and Administrators at the Rashtrapati Bhavan -

1. Governors played an important role in creating awareness of national goals and ensuring participation of the public. India’s goals for climate action, including net zero emissions by 2070, as national goals that the Governors could motivate people to reach for.
2. Mr. Modi said the institution of the Governor was a “critical connect between the Centre and the State”.
3. The Governor’s office should be “lively and active” and they should travel to remote villages, particularly in border States, to spend time with residents.
4. Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu urged Governors to proactively “monitor and guide” State Governments in the implementation of Central programmes. Governance and public life should be marked by strict adherence to the philosophy and provisions of the Constitution.

GS 3

❖ Environment

Q- What are India’s goals out of COP 26 and what are its requirements to meet the deadlines?

BACKGROUND = India has demanded a trillion dollars over the next decade from developed countries to adapt to, and mitigate, the challenges arising from global warming, and has kept this as a condition for delivering on climate commitments made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

India’s five-fold plan (see box) aims at reducing the carbon intensity of its economy and eventually achieving net zero by 2070–

**Net zero** is when a country’s carbon emissions are offset by taking out equivalent carbon from the atmosphere, so that emissions in balance are zero. However, achieving net zero by a specific date means specifying a year, also called a peaking year, following which emissions will begin to fall.
**Our NDCs (Nationally Determined Contribution)** are conditional, that is, subjected to the availability of this amount [$1 trillion] in climate finance. NDCs can be submitted with conditions. NDCs are voluntary targets that countries set for themselves, which describe the quantum and kind of emission cuts they will undertake over a fixed period to contribute to preventing runaway global warming.

India’s last NDC was submitted following the 2015 Paris deal. Before COP26 began on November 1, nations were expected to provide updated NDCs. India, however, did not furnish one. Developing countries, as a group, had demanded $1 trillion annually.

**Conclusion**

Delivering on climate finance is among the stickiest points of contention between developed and developing countries because developed countries, as a group, have failed to provide $100 billion annually by 2020, as promised from a decade ago. With the conference scheduled to draw to an end, nearly 200 countries are yet to finalise an agreement.

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**Q- What is that best defines the idea of ‘equality’ in a liberal democratic society?**

a. Elimination of all forms of differences.
b. Opportunities enjoy by citizens must not be pre-determined by birth or socioeconomic contribution.
c. Unrestricted access to all public and private goods and services to all citizens.
d. None of the above

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**Q- Who among the following is known to have escaped to the jungles of central India and continued to fight a guerrilla war against Britishers during the 1857 revolt?**

a) Bakht Khan  b) Veer Kunwar Singh  c) Dhondu Pant  d) Ramachandra Pandurang Tope

**Answer: d**

Ramachandra Pandurang Tope, also known as Tantia Tope, escaped to the jungles of central India and continued to fight a guerrilla war with the support of many tribal and peasant leaders. He was captured, tried and killed in April 1859. Hence, option (d) is correct.
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