DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

27.11.2021

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
INDEX

Essay Paper
1. New Covid Strain spreading in South Africa................................................................. 04

GS 2
1. Indo-Pacific gap of recent emergence............................................................................... 05
2. Need for ‘National Courts of Appeal’.............................................................................. 06

GS 3
1. EXIM Bank Fight against the Pandemic ........................................................................... 07
Q- Comment on the New Covid Strain spreading in South Africa and its consequences affecting its national economy?

INTRODUCTION = The World Health Organization (WHO) classified the B.1.1.529 variant detected in South Africa as a SARS-CoV-2 “variant of concern”, saying it may spread more quickly than other forms.

- Preliminary evidence suggested that there is an increased risk of reinfection and there had been a “detrimental change in COVID-19 epidemiology”.
- Infections in South Africa had risen steeply in recent weeks, coinciding with the detection of the variant now designated as omicron.

The new Covid-19 variant: B.1.1.529

More mutations may make it spread faster

This variant has been detected at faster rates than previous surges in infection, suggesting that this variant may have a growth advantage.
Consequences faced -

1. While medical experts warned against any overreaction before the variant was better understood, nations raced to halt air travel, markets fell sharply and scientists held emergency meetings to weigh the exact risks.
2. Belgium is the first European Union (EU) country to announce a case of the variant. The 27-nation EU imposed a temporary ban on air travel from southern Africa, and stocks tumbled in Asia, Europe and the U.S.
3. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped more than 1,000 points. The S&P 500 index was down 2.3%, on pace for its worst day since February. The price of oil plunged nearly 12%.

Israel, one of the world’s most vaccinated countries, announced that it also detected its first case of the new variant in a traveller who returned from Malawi.

Way Forward -

Some experts said the variant’s emergence illustrated how rich countries’ hoarding of vaccines threatens to prolong the pandemic. Fewer than 6% of people in Africa have been fully immunised against COVID-19, and millions of health workers and vulnerable populations have yet to receive a single dose. Those conditions can speed up spread of the virus, offering more opportunities for it to evolve into a dangerous variant.

GS 2

❖ International Relations

Q- Describe in brief the Indo-Pacific gap of recent emergence?

BACKGROUND = The virtual meeting between the Foreign Ministers of Russia, India and China revealed the inherent differences among the three countries on the future of the Indo-Pacific
region. The countries considered Indo-Pacific an exclusive concept, while favouring the notion of “Asia-Pacific region” that they consider “inclusive”.

1. Described the Indo-Pacific region as “not a partnership of equals” and supported the notion of the Asia-Pacific as a more “inclusive and harmonious” framework.
2. India, along with the U.S., Japan and Australia, has formed the quadrilateral framework to ensure free and open maritime lanes in the Indo-Pacific region.
3. However, China’s statement indirectly disapproved of such initiatives and referred to such groupings as reminiscent of the Cold War. The statement referred to the “patchwork of small circles”, while indirectly referring to the Quad initiative and urged all three countries to jointly deal with global challenges. It referred to the Sino-Russian-Indian spirit of openness, solidarity, trust and cooperation”, which can fight epidemics, and provide stability to the world.

**Governance**

Q- Make a case for the challenges in place and the need for ‘National Courts of Appeal’?

**BACKGROUND** = A 11-year-old proposal to set up national courts of appeal in four regions of the country is up-

- Four courts of appeal with 15 judges each could act as intermediate appellate courts between the State High Courts and the Supreme Court.

**Advantages** -

1. They would absorb matrimonial disputes, rent control cases and other such cases that clog the Supreme Court, adding to pendency.
2. The judgments of these courts of appeal would be final.
3. These courts would also mean adding 60 judges who would be taking over these cases.
4. Pendency would be cut down to a very great extent. Cases could be disposed of in three or four years’ time.
5. This would unburden the Supreme Court, which could focus on interpreting constitutional questions of law, references and death sentence cases.
6. Supreme Court judges could hear cases leisurely, read and write better judgments with time on their hands.
7. In fact, the Supreme Court would not need 34 judges. Just 15 would be ample. These judges of the Supreme Court could sit in three Constitution Benches.

There has to be rethinking of the entire structure of the Supreme Court as it exists today. No point brushing it under the carpet. Are we aware of the suffering litigants undergo? We have inherited a system that is extremely cumbersome. Government and judiciary have to put their heads together. We have included access to justice as a fundamental right, but we are probably violating the fundamental right by continuing with this system.

He said cases remain pending in the Supreme Court for 10 years. It would have reached the Supreme Court after spending a decade each at the trial and high court levels.

**GS 3**

**Snippets**

- **Economic Development**

  Q - What is the role of EXIM Bank in helping fight against the Pandemic?
  
  - The Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) will be disbursing $100 million by way of project finance to COVID-19 vaccine makers in the country this fiscal.

  - “It is not only project financing, we support a lot of multilateral institutions so that they import from India. The bank is extending a $250-million credit line for Africa to procure the vaccines.”
• Much of the $100-million loan had been disbursed and the rest would be issued by March, adding that only a few firms were making vaccines or related products in the country.
• On the credit line, the India Exim Bank has offered $150 million to the African Exim Bank and $100 million to Africa Finance Corporation.

Q - The idea of co-operative federalism indicates a constitution.
   a. Which would be both federal and unitary according to requirements of time and circumstances.
   b. Where the general government is dependent upon the regional governments.
   c. Where the regional governments are subordinated to the general government.
   d. Where both general government and regional governments are coordinate and independent bodies

Q - The Indian Army’s Project-75I’s purpose is for the procurement of?
   a) Submarine
   b) Light Weight Helicopters
   c) Rifles
   d) Indigenous Rocket

Answer – a

EXPLANATION - The Navy currently has 16 conventional and one nuclear submarine in service. It includes eight Russian Kilo class submarines, four German HDW submarines, four French Scorpene submarines and the indigenous nuclear ballistic missile submarine INS Arihant.

The new INS Vela carries forward the legacy of its namesake, the erstwhile Vela which was commissioned on August 31, 1973 as the lead boat of Vela class submarines and was decommissioned on January 25, 2010.
Six Scorpene submarines are being built under Project-75 by Mazgaon Dock Limited (MDL), Mumbai, under technology transfer from Naval Group of France under a $3.75 bn deal signed in October 2005.
The first submarine INS Kalvari was commissioned in December 2017, second submarine INS Khanderi in September 2019 and third one INS Karanj in March 2021. The fifth submarine, Vagir, was launched in November 2020 and is undergoing sea trails while the sixth one Vagsheer is in advanced stage of outfitting.
Parallely, the Navy recently issued the Request For Proposal for procurement of six advanced submarines under Project-75I.
## UPSC - CSE

### COMPREHENSIVE & FOUNDATION COURSE

|---------------------------|-------------------------|

**COURSE INCLUDES:**

- NCERT
- Prelims & Mains
- GS Foundation
- CSAT
- Daily Tests & Writing Practice
- Optional (ANTHROPOLOGY / TELUGU LIT.)
- Nine Months Course
- Mentoring with Individual Focus
- SAVVY Sessions
- IAO Certification of Quality

## OPTIONALS

### NEW OFFLINE COURSES

**ANTHROPOLOGY** by **Mrs. SOSIN REVELLA**

From: 15th of December 2021

### NEW ONLINE COURSES

**ANTHROPOLOGY** by **Mrs. SOSIN REVELLA**

From: 24/11/2021

### NEW OFFLINE COURSES

**TELUGU LITERATURE** by **DR. GARIKIPATI SUBRAMANYAM**

Around 15/11/2021 – 18/11/2021