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+91-90000 36699 / 90000 66690

Email: info@sosinclasses.com

H.No. 1-10-196

Ashok Nagar X Road, Hyderabad

Telangana 500020.

DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

22.01.2022

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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Essay Paper

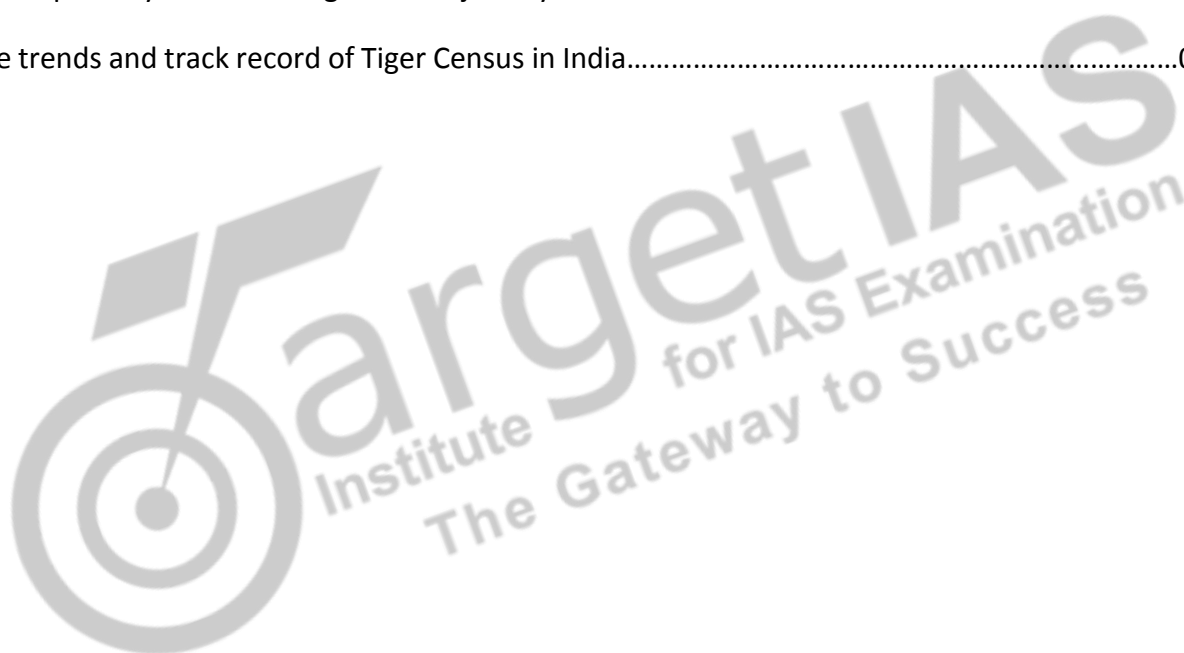
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ESSAY PAPER

Editorial

Q- What is the landmark change brought about in Hindu Succession Act, 1956 and its effect upon Indian women?

INTRODUCTION = In another win for women's right to inheritance of property, the Supreme Court has ruled that **daughters will have equal rights to their father's property even prior to the enactment of the Hindu Succession Act (HSA) of 1956.**

- In fact, it clarified that if a property of a male Hindu dying intestate is a self-acquired property or obtained in partition of a coparcenary or family property, the same would devolve by inheritance to daughters, and not by survivorship as was the case before 1956.
- The apex court has been progressively interpreting the 2005 amendment to the HSA and in 2020 clarified that daughters had coparcenary rights by birth.

GOAL OF GENDER JUSTICE ACHIEVED'

- SC irons out confusion arising from its own conflicting interpretations of the amended Section 6 (in force since Sept 9, 2005) of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956
- Spells out daughters' equal coparcenary rights in Hindu Undivided Family properties even if they were born before the 2005 amendment & regardless of whether their father coparcener died before '05
- But the daughters won't get the right to question ancestral properties already disposed or alienated by then existing coparceners prior to December 20, 2004
- Rights of other relatives to remain unaffected as prevailed in the proviso to Sec 6 before amendment. It's only a case of enlargement of daughters' rights

Who is a coparcener? A Hindu who inherits property from his/her father, grandfather or great grandfather. Only a coparcener has the right to demand partition of property

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“ The classic Shastric Hindu law excluded the daughter from being coparcener... (this) injustice has now been done away with by amending the provisions in consonance with the spirit of the Constitution. The goal of gender justice, as constitutionally envisaged, is achieved, though belatedly

– Supreme Court

Significance -

In a country where women face massive social and legal hurdles to inheritance, this is a big win –

1. Thanks to deep patriarchal mores and rural-agrarian settings, property, which is seen as a primary source of wealth, is largely inclined to be passed on to male heirs. This in turn deprives women of agency, financial independence and entrepreneurship.
2. True, the recently released National Family Health Survey-5 says that 43% of women respondents reported owning house/land alone or jointly.
3. But doubts remain about women's ability to actually access and control property. In fact, a 2020 University of Manchester working paper found barely 16% of women in rural landowning households own land.

4. Plus, inheritance laws for agricultural land remain a minefield with conflicting central personal laws and state laws. In this regard, states such as Punjab, Haryana, UP and even Delhi have regressive inheritance provisions. In fact, Haryana twice tried to take away the progressive rights given to women through HSA, while in UP since 2016 married daughters aren't considered primary heirs.
5. Add to this ground-level resistance to registering land for women in several north Indian states. Thus, women's empowerment and property rights remain an unfinished project.

GS 2

❖ International Relations

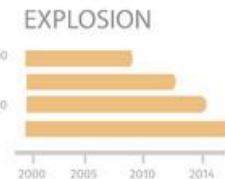
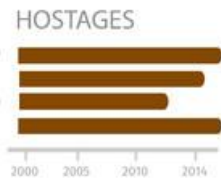
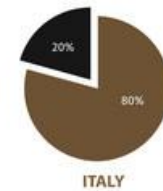
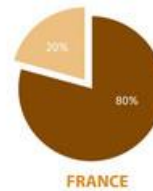
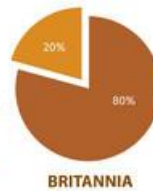
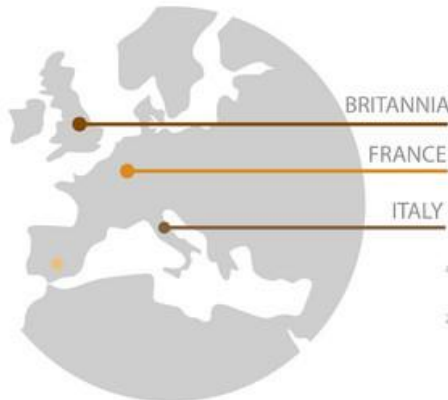
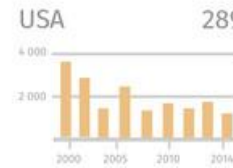
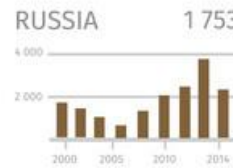
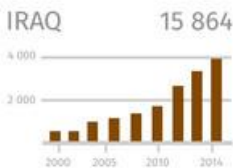
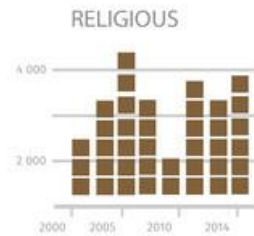
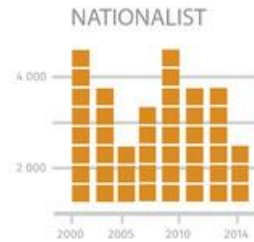
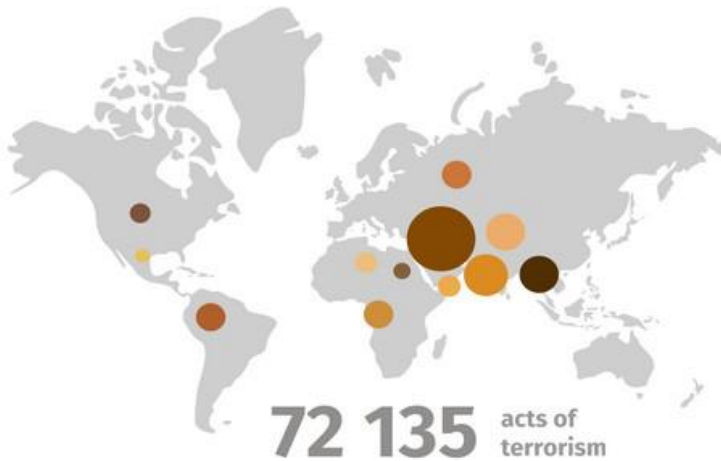
Q- Global Co-operation needed to combat terror. Justify.

BACKGROUND = Lack of counter-terrorism cooperation between countries only "emboldens" terrorists, as one can cite the –

1. 26/11 Mumbai attacks in which people of several nationalities were killed;
2. last week's Texas Synagogue shootout involving a British citizen of Pakistani origin;
3. as well as the drone attack by Yemeni Houthis in the United Arab Emirates where two Indians died, as examples of this.

In particular, without directly naming Pakistan, the Texas attack proved that terrorism in India's neighbourhood is active.

INFOGRAPHICS TERRORISM



TERRORIST

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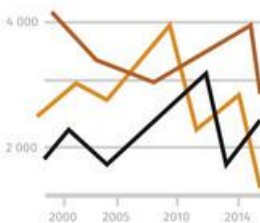
HOSTAGE

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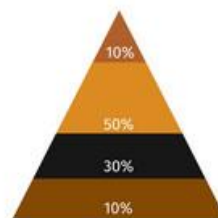
WEAPON

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EXPLOSIVE

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The recent incident in Texas, United States once again demonstrates that the international network of terror, with its epicentre in India's neighbourhood, is very much active and has long lasting implications. "This is a global threat that requires an unambiguous, undivided, effective and collective response".

- On January 16, Malik Faisal Akram, a 44-year-old British citizen, took four people hostage at a Texas synagogue in a ten-hour standoff that ended after U.S. security forces shot him. All four hostages were unharmed. During the hostage crisis, which was live-streamed, Malik Akram had made a demand for the release of Pakistani-American physicist Aafiya Siddiqui, who is serving a life term in prison for an attack on U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan. The synagogue case is under investigation in the U.S. and the U.K., where British police have arrested two people. The motivation of terrorists must not be used to undermine the fight against terrorism.

The Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean region, it is the new epicentre of global politics and economics.

GS 3

❖ Economic Development

Q- Discuss the idea of "Enabling People to Invest in Nation's Infrastructure Projects"?

BACKGROUND = The Union government is awaiting approval of the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for enabling common citizens to invest at least ₹1 lakh in infrastructure projects under a new model for asset monetisation.

- Most of the pension funds and foreign investors are investing in the projects. But taking the cooperation of Indian people means well, so that the common man can invest in NHAI (National Highways Authority of India).
- To give him an assured income of 7.5% to 8%.

Benefits -

1. Benefit to the poor people of this country, who can invest in their economy, because in India we have problems in pension, insurance and share economy. For that reason, if small people can invest in infrastructure and get 7.5% to 8% interest, it can be a great thing for them to contribute to infrastructure development and at the same time benefit from that.
2. On the upcoming Union Budget, it is hopeful that the proposals will expedite India's growth to make it the largest economy in the world. The Indian industry and entrepreneurs should seize the opportunity arising from the "problems" facing China and "go for more exports" riding on the back of talent, availability of raw materials, power, and good infrastructure, to make the economy strong.
3. Stressing that agriculture was the "most important priority" of the government, several initiatives taken, including creation of more irrigation facilities, and raising the

contribution of agriculture to the GDP from 12% to 20%, which will create more jobs in rural, tribal and 120 aspiring districts.

- India's ethanol production is currently 400 crore litres. This year, it's likely to go up to 550 crore litres as against a basic requirement of 4,000 crore litres. The government was working on biofuel and alternate fuel to save on India's huge oil import bill, besides acting as a bulwark for the greening of the automobile industry.

❖ Economic Development

Q- Comment on the Start Up Eco system in India and its growth trajectory?

BACKGROUND = Start-ups raised a record \$24.1 billion in 2021, a two-fold increase over pre-COVID-19 levels, according to a new study by NASSCOM and Zinnov.

According to the study, 'Indian Tech Start-up Ecosystem: Year of The Titans', more than 2,250 start-ups were added in 2021, over 600 more than what was added in the previous year.

2021: RECORD BREAKING YEAR FOR INDIAN STARTUPS

	2020	2021	
Number of startups	22,800 – 23,800	25,000 – 26,000	2250+ added, 600+ more than what was added in 2020
Deep-Tech	2700+	3000+	300+ new Deep-Tech start-ups, 11% higher than 2020
Total Funding	\$8.2 billion	\$24.1 billion	2X from pre-COVID high, biggest year ever
Total Unicorns	39	70	Highest additions in a single year, with a cumulative valuation of \$ 90Bn# (42 added this year)
IPOs	0	11	Most number of tech IPOs in a year, ~ \$47.Bn market cap (9 set-up before 2011)
M&A	84	185	80% led by Global or Indian start-ups
Cumulative Valuation	\$150-170 billion	\$320-330 billion	2X growth in cumulative valuation of startups
Job creation	6 lakh direct	6.6 lakh direct	Startups enabled 34 lakh indirect jobs in 2021, 70% of them enabled by e-commerce, mobility and food-tech

Source: NASSCOM Report



Reasons for the Boost -

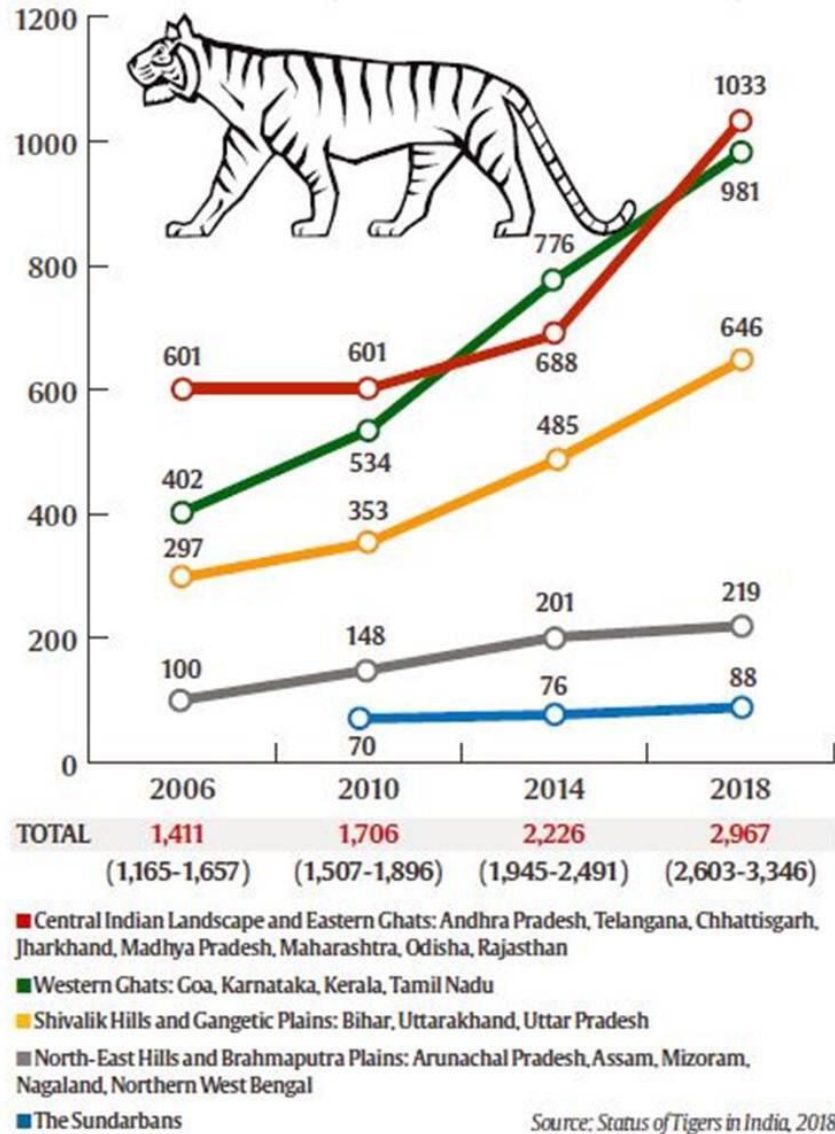
1. While the U.S. remains the leading source of foreign direct investment (FDI) in start-ups, worldwide involvement is also growing. About 50% of the deals had at least one India-domiciled investor.
2. More than \$6 billion has been raised via public markets with 11 start-up IPOs in 2021.
3. The start-up ecosystem saw a 2X gain in cumulative valuation from 2020 to 2021, with an estimate of \$320-\$330 billion, demonstrating the sector's development and recovery throughout the pandemic.
4. In the last decade, the ecosystem has played a key role in growing direct and indirect job opportunities, providing 6.6 lakh direct jobs and more than 34.1 lakh indirect jobs, adding that the industries that saw the most net new job creation were BFSI (banking, financial services and insurance), ed-tech, retail and retail tech, food-tech, supply chain management, and logistics and mobility.
5. On the back of Internet commerce, freelancers, and service industries, indirect jobs have also recovered.

❖ Environment

Q- What have been the trends and track record of Tiger Census in India?

BACKGROUND = Tiger census will commence at Bandipur and at Nagarahole as part of the **All-India Tiger and Mega Herbivore Estimation** -

1. This is part of the nation-wide enumeration that is held once in four years and is the fifth such exercise being taken up — the earlier ones being held in 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018.
2. The authorities at Bandipur have divided the 912.04 sq km national park into three blocks to carry out the enumeration. While the enumeration exercise will be held in block 1 from January 22 to 27, it will be held in block 2 from January 28 to February 2 and the tiger count exercise in block 3 will be taken up from February 3 to 8.
3. This year's enumeration exercise entails the use of MSTRIPES (Monitoring System for Tigers Intensive Protection and Ecological Status) app and apart from the tiger counts, the exercise will also throw up data on mega herbivores, including elephants and gaurs. The use of apps ensures that the data is not only digitised but is uploaded on a real-time basis and is robust.
4. The training was imparted by experts from Wildlife Institute of India and the enumeration is being held as per the protocols stipulated by the National Tiger Conservation Authority.
5. The authorities have deployed only the department officials and frontline field staff apart from members of the Special Tiger Force squad for the exercise. While nearly 300 people will be on duty at Bandipur, around 350 will take part in the exercise at Nagarahole.
6. The sign survey, includes tiger scat, pug marks etc., for carnivores. The enumeration would also throw up data of the tiger numbers in non-protected areas. In view of the census, the safari has been affected, including cancellation of a few trips at Nagarahole.
7. In the 2018 census, there were 125 tigers in Nagarahole whereas there were 72 tigers in the 2014 exercise which was a big jump.



- But experts believe the tiger numbers at both Bandipur and Nagarhole may have reached their optimum levels and could have stabilised or shown a marginal increase this year.



Q- He emphasised that although the Indian students should remain connected to their own roots, they should also take the fullest advantage of learning modern scientific discoveries and Western experiments and education. He started two weeklies viz. the Karmayogin in English and the Dharma in Bengali. He was:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. Aurobindo Ghose | b. Subhash Chandra Bose |
| c. Surendranath Banerjea | d. Rabindranath Tagore |



Q- Which of the following are functions of NITI Aayog?

- 1) Fostering cooperative federalism
- 2) Platform for resolution of inter-sectoral and inter departmental issues
- 3) Instrument to bring outside ideas into policy-making.

- | | |
|---------|---------------------|
| a) 1, 3 | b) 1, 2 |
| c) 2, 3 | d) All of the above |

ANSWER - d

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