

**SosinClasses**

**INSTITUTE FOR IAS EXAMINATION**

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DAILY NEWS DIARY

Of

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**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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**GS 2****❖ INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS****Q) Elucidate the significance of the International North – South Transport Corridor to India.****Context:**

Iran started the first transfer of Russian goods to India via a new trade corridor which transits the West Asian nation, people on the Iranian side familiar with the developments told news outlets. The cargo will travel through the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

The cargo ship departed St. Petersburg for the Caspian Sea port city of Astrakhan. It will reach the northern Iranian port of Anzali and then will be transferred by road to the southern port of Bandar Abbas on the Persian Gulf. From Bandar Abbas it will reach via ship to India at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT).

**International North–South Transport Corridor (INSTC):**

- The INSTC is a 7,200 km-long multimodal transportation network encompassing sea, road, and rail routes to offer the shortest route of connectivity.
- It was established on 12th September 2000 in St. Petersburg, by Iran, Russia and India for the purpose of promoting transportation cooperation among the Member States.
- It links the Indian Ocean to the Caspian Sea via the Persian Gulf onwards into Russia and Northern Europe.
- It will move freight between India, Iran, Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russia, Central Asia and Europe.

**Significance of INSTC:**

1. Trade facilitation: INSTC is aimed at reducing the carriage cost between India and Russia by about 30 per cent and bringing down the transit time by more than half.

2. New corridor in making: It has the potential to transform the economies of countries along the corridor into specialized manufacturing, logistics, and transit hubs by facilitating access to newer markets.
3. Multimodal transit: The recent Suez Canal blockade, which cost the global economy hefty damage amounting to US\$9 billion, has amplified the optimistic outlook towards the INSTC as a cheaper and faster alternative multimodal transit corridor.

**Benefits offered to India:**

- Export promotion: The INSTC connects India with Central Asia, and Russia, and has the potential to expand up to the Baltic, Nordic, and Arctic regions, increasing the scope of trade manifold.
- Ease of trade: For India, it provides a shorter trade route with Iran, Russia, and beyond to Europe, creating scope for increased economic engagement.
- Alternative Route to Central Asia: It opens up a permanent alternative route for India to trade with Afghanistan and Central Asia, given the hurdles in the direct route through Pakistan.

**Source: Business Line**

**Q) Analyse the features and objectives of the BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility.****Context:**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the PM has approved a Memorandum of Association (MoA) by India for the establishment of the BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility (TTF).

**BIMSTEC:**

- The BIMSTEC formed in 1997 is an international organisation of seven South Asian and Southeast Asian nations, housing 1.73 billion people and having a combined gross domestic product of \$3.8 trillion (2021).
- The BIMSTEC member states – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand – are among the countries dependent on the Bay of Bengal.
- Leadership is rotated in alphabetical order of country names. The permanent secretariat is in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- A BIMSTEC free trade agreement is under negotiation (c. 2018), also referred to as the mini-SAARC.

**BIMSTEC TTF:**

1. The agreement was signed by the BIMSTEC member countries at the 5th BIMSTEC Summit held at Colombo, Sri Lanka on 30th March, 2022.
2. The main objectives of the BIMSTEC TTF are to coordinate, facilitate and strengthen cooperation in technology transfer among the BIMSTEC Member States.
3. It aims to promote the transfer of technologies, sharing of experiences and capacity building.
4. The TTF shall have a Governing Board and the overall control of activities of the TTF shall be vested in the Governing Board.
5. The Governing Board shall consist of one nominee from each Member State.

**Expected outcomes:**

The expected outcomes of the BIMSTEC TTF are:

- ✓ Databank of technologies available in BIMSTEC Countries,
- ✓ Repository of information on good practices in the areas of technology transfer management, standards, accreditation, metrology, testing and calibration facilities,
- ✓ Capacity building, sharing of experiences and good practices in development, and
- ✓ Transfer and use of technologies among BIMSTEC countries.

**SNIPPETS****GS-2****❖ POLITY & GOVERNANCE**

**Q) Write a short note on the amendment of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act 1958.**

**Context:**

Union Culture Minister said the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was working on an amendment to make the law that provides for the preservation of monuments and archaeological sites “more flexible and people-friendly”.

The ASI is working to amend Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act 1958. It particularly seeks to change the current 100-metre prohibited area around protected monuments to site-specific limits.

**AMASR Act:**

- The AMASR Act provides for the preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance.
- It also provides for the regulation of archaeological excavations and for the protection of sculptures, carvings and other like objects.
- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) functions under the provisions of this act.
- The rules stipulate that area in the vicinity of the monument, within 100 metres is prohibited area.
- The area within 200 meters of the monument is regulated category. Any repair or modifications of buildings in this area requires prior permission.

**Source: The Hindu**

**Q) Explain the significance of the Nanhi Pari Programme.****Context:**

The 'Nanhi Pari' programme was recently launched by the Northwest Delhi district administration.

**Nanhi Pari Programme:**

- Nanhi Pari programme aims to provide a one-stop solution to parents, eliminating their need to visit various offices to obtain documents.
- Under the programme, essential services such as the provision of a birth certificate, Aadhaar card registration and opening a bank account for girls are completed and delivered in government hospitals in the district before the mother and baby are discharged.
- The programme will help in getting registration of baby girls and mothers under various schemes such as the Sukanya Samridhi Account scheme, the Ladli scheme and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana at the hospital itself.

**Significance of the Programme:**

- ✓ The programme makes the processes for schemes as simple as possible for all children and mothers.
- ✓ Parents would not have to go from here to there, trying to avail themselves of the essential schemes.
- ✓ Apart from ensuring that schemes reach target beneficiaries and protecting the interests of girl children, the programme also aims to promote institutional deliveries.

**Source: Indian Express**

**Q) Which of the following best describes Agnipath scheme?**

- a. Recruitment of youth in Indian Armed Forces
- b. Enabling use of renewable energy for power generation
- c. Facilitating skill development training programs
- d. Developing programs for advanced missile technology

 **Hey from Yesterday –**

**Q) The term ‘Peace clause’ is used frequently with respect to which of the following international organizations?**

- a. International Monetary Fund
- b. United Nations Security Council
- c. World Trade Organization
- d. International Atomic Energy Agency

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- A peace clause is a mechanism that protects a developing country’s food procurement programs against action from World trade organization (WTO) members in case subsidy ceilings are breached.
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