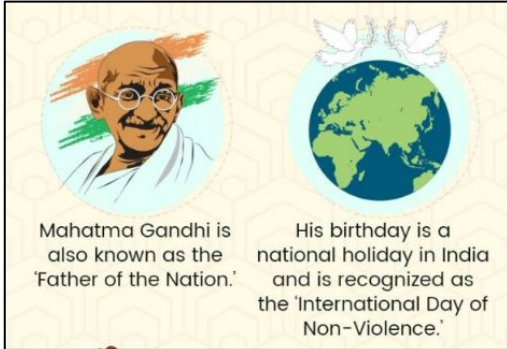


# Relevance of Gandhian Thoughts Today

**CONTEXT:** Rajghat Consensus among G20 leaders highlight the fact that Gandhian values are relevant even today.



## What were Gandhian ideologies ?

Gandhian ideologies are a set of **religious, social, and political ideas** developed by Mahatma Gandhi, the leader of the Indian independence movement. Gandhian thought is based on the principles of **truth, nonviolence, and Sarvodaya, or the uplift of all.**



## About:

### Non-Violence

policy of non-violence was based on the concept of **compassion**. Against colonial violence, he proposed a nonviolent response. In his view, a **calm, nonviolent response reduces the attacker's wrath and frustration** and is a more potent weapon than violence.

### Satyagraha

It is the expression of the **purest spiritual power** against all injustice, oppression, and exploitation. Satyagraha was thought of as the **moral alternative to war**. Gandhi has shown us how to **solve problems and conflicts** from the **micro to the macro level** and has proved to be an effective remedy.

### Self-Reliance

Indigenous peoples focus on **political and economic action** inside and outside their communities. It is the **interdependence of community and self-reliance**. Gandhi's thought of swadeshi is still prevalent in our society, by taking steps towards **making India self-reliant** (eg: Atmanirbhar Bharat).

### Education System

He mainly aims at the **education in mother tongue** an education should be make the children skilled and independent. More than ever before, Gandhiji's teachings are valid today, **when people are trying to find solutions to the rampant greed, widespread violence, and runaway consumptive style of living**

### Communal Harmony

Gandhism was **tolerant of all religions**. Today, the world needs more and more religious and intelligently tolerant people in societies where violence is perpetrated in the name of religion.

### Decentralisation

The Gandhian idea of **decentralization** was implemented in the Indian democracy through the 73rd and 74th amendments, which empowered local self-governments at the grassroots level

### Cleanliness

Gandhi paid great attention to purity, or cleanliness and was a staunch advocate of 'Swachhata'. He used to say, "Cleanliness hi Seva."

### Sustainable environment

Gandhi always spoke of **minimization of wants and advocated a nature-friendly idea**.



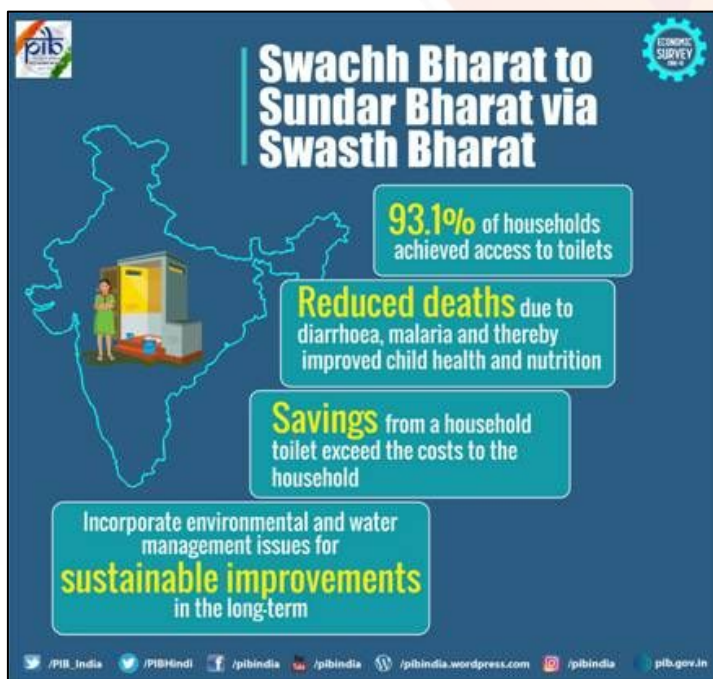
**CONTEXT:** Over 9.2 lakh sites host cleanliness drive, as PM appeals for swachhata.

## What is Swachh Bharat Mission?

The Swachh Bharat Mission (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or Clean India Mission) is a **country-wide campaign** initiated by the Government of India in **2014** to **eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management**.

## Swachh Bharat Mission has two components:

- **Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen):** focuses on rural sanitation and aims to make all villages open defecation free (ODF).
- **Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban):** focuses on urban sanitation and aims to improve solid waste management and make all urban areas ODF.



## Success

- **Reduction in open defecation** (550 million to 320 million, 2019 )
- **Infrastructure Development** (Sulabh International – 20,000 toilets in schools & 8,500 public toilets )
- **Behavioural change** (National annual rural Sanitation Survey, 2018-19 – Grameen, 93% & 96% )
- **Health and economic benefits** (Economic Survey 2018-19)
- **Women issues** e.g. Benda village, U.P.
- **River Contamination**
- **Waste Segregation at Source** ( Swachh Survekshan, 41% to 60% )

## Issues

- **Ensuring Sustenance** (Bangladesh took 15 years to become ODF, while Thailand took 40 years )
- **Waste segregation** (Indore and Mozaffarpur)
- **Waste processing** (Door-to-door collection in 86% of wards but only 51% of 53.1 million metric tonnes is processed, earlier – 18%)
- **Manual scavenging** (Only 66% districts in country free of manual scavenging: Social Justice Ministry report)
- **Construction issues** (51st report by Parliamentary Standing Committee)



**CONTEXT:** Mohamed Muizzu was elected as the new President of Maldives as he beat the India-friendly incumbent Ibrahim Mohamed Solih.

## Significance of Maldives to India

- **Geographical Location** (Gulf of Aden & Strait of Hormuz and Strait of Malacca)
- **Economic significance** (97% - volume & 75% - Value)
- **Strategic significance**
- **Indian Diaspora**



## Areas of Cooperation

- **Maritime Security** (Maritime Domain awareness & Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief)
- **Military** (Landing assault Craft, US \$50 million Line of credit & Comprehensive Action Plan for defense, 2016)
- **Economic** (4th in 2018 to 2nd, 2021, 31% rise in bilateral trade compared to 2020, US \$500 million grants for maritime connectivity)
- **Infrastructure** (Greater Male Connectivity Project, Airport Redevelopment Project at Hanimaadhoo international Airport)

- **Humanitarian Assistance** (2019 - HICDPs, Covishield vaccines, Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital)
- **Education and Technology** (National knowledge Network)

## Challenges

- **Political Instability** (Ibrahim Mohamed Solih and Abdulla Yameen)
- **Radicalisation** (Maldivian citizens joining Islamic State)
- **Chinese Influence** (String of Pearls, Allowing Docking of Chinese submarines)
- **Issues in Economic Cooperation** (Favouring China, No FTA)
- **Misunderstanding of India's efforts** (UTF Harbour Project maintain a coastguard harbour and dockyard, would turn into an Indian Naval Base)



## Way Forward

- Increase **developmental assistance**
- **Perception** management (Indian High Commission)
- Remain **Vigilant**
- **Cooperate** on maritime and climate issues

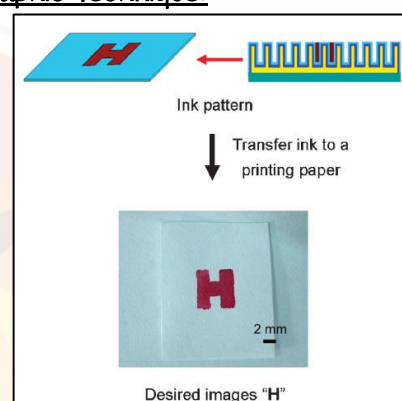


**CONTEXT:** On the eve of Gandhi jayanti lets understand how the image of gandhi appeared on indian currency notes.

- How the image was selected ?
  - 1946, Lord Frederick William Pethick-Lawrence
  - Department of currency management, RBI
- When did Gandhi first appeared ?
  - 1969 & 1987
- Who appeared before him ?
  - King George VI
  - Farm Mechanisation on ₹ 5, Aryabhata satellite on ₹ 2 and Konark Wheel on ₹ 20.
- Since when Gandhi's portrait featured on every banknote ?
  - 1996
  - Reprographic Techniques



### Reprographic Technique:



## Protecting Protected Monuments

**CONTEXT:** The Department-related standing committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture has recommended pruning the list of centrally protected Monuments.

- The ASI is the premier organization for the archaeological researches and protection of the cultural heritage of the country.
- It functions under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Culture.
- Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Established: 1861 by Alexander Cunningham.
- It regulates all archaeological activities as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
- It also regulates the Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972.

### The Report Suggests

- What the report suggests ?
  - Many of 3,691 monuments are minor e.g. 75 graves of colonial officials.
  - Reasons for de-notifying such monuments
- Can monuments be dropped from the protected list ?
  - Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958
- About ASI Functioning:
  - Out of 531 monuments encroached, from only 9 encroachments have been removed since 2015.
  - Use LiDAR, 3D Scanning and Ground-penetrating radar.
  - ASI & India Heritage Development Corporation
- Monument Mitras (4 out of 24)

