

CONTEXT: 10 year agreement with Iran to develop and operate the Chabahar port.

Basics

- Historical
- Geo Strategic
- Political - Friendship treaty 1950
- Economic - \$2.5bn trade in 2022
- Energy Security
- Cultural



Challenges

- US Sanctions
- China 25 year agreement
- Security concerns
- Israel Factor
- Afghanistan Equation



Chabahar Port Significance

- Dependence on Suez canal
- Afghanistan Link
- Counter to Gwadar
- Regional Trade
- INSTC

US- Iran Tensions

- Nuclear Issue
- Iranian Missile Program
- Iran's Military Expansionism

Way Forward

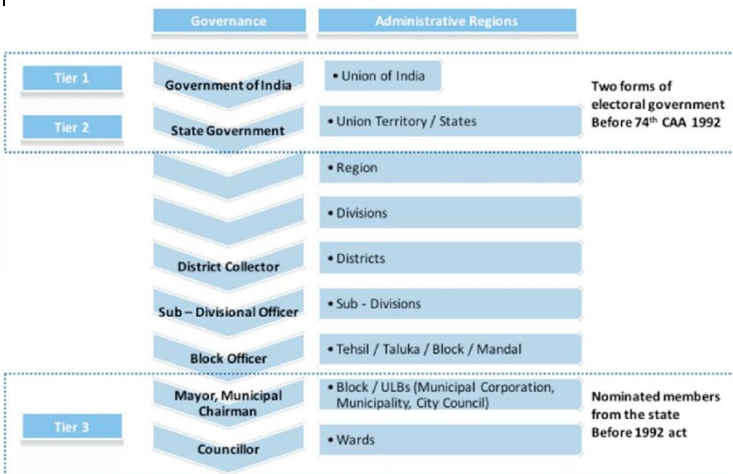
- Energy Security - TAPI pipeline
- Trade PTAs
- Invest in Infrastructure
- Connectivity - INSTC
- Utilise Multilateral Fora



CONTEXT: Ghatkopar Hoarding Crash

Basics

- Gandhian Ideal
- 74th Constitutional Amendment Act
- Part IX A 'The Municipalities' - Article 243 P To Article 243 ZG
- Twelfth Schedule with 18 functional items of municipalities



Challenges

- 2nd ARC - 3F
- Devolution of powers
- State and Union finance commission recommendations
- Revenue sources
 - Tax assessment
 - Collection efficiency
 - Less avenues for taxation

- Parallel and parastatal bodies
- Urban development policy & planning
- Monitoring system

Suggestions

- 2nd ARC
- A local body Ombudsman
- Funds
 - Direct transfer from Centre to ULBs
 - Additional avenues for tax revenue realisation- 14th FC
 - Credit rating of ULBs by independent third party
- Separate Standing Committee of the State Legislature
- Fiscal incentives to states
- Article 243W
- Elected mayor model
- Eliminate overlapping of functions among 3 tiers



CONTEXT: Little progress in economic reconstruction of Sri Lanka

About

Background

- 1987 peace accord
- End of war in 2009
- Resolutions & Sanctions
- Current State - Forex, Debt, Inflation



What led to present Sri Lankan

Economic Crisis

- Tourism
- Populist policies

- Economic mismanagement - twin deficits
- Organic Agriculture
- Speculators
- Debt trap
- Cascading impacts

India's Interests

- Refugees
- Fishermen
- 13th amendment
- Strategic location

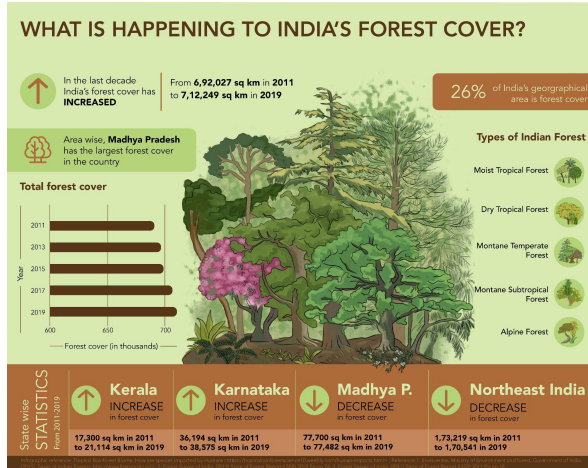
India's Steps

- MoU for hybrid power projects in three islands off Jaffna
- \$1 billion credit line for importing essentials
- High impact community dev projects
- Written financing assurances to IMF for EFF
- Neighborhood First



CONTEXT: From 2019 to 2022, India may have lost close to 5.8 million full-grown trees in agricultural lands.

Basics



Impact

- Loss of Biodiversity
- Water Cycle Disruption
- Soil Erosion
- Faster Global Warming

- Livelihoods lost – Baigas in Madhya Pradesh
- Disruption in Local Climate
- Increased Flood Risk – Kerala in 2018
- Air Pollution

Steps taken to counter

- Indian Forest Act, 1927 – declaration
- Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – diversion
- Forest Rights Act, 2006 – Niyamgiri Hills
- National Forest Policy, 1988
- Environment Impact Assessment (EIA), 1994
- National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 – compensation
- The Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act, 2016



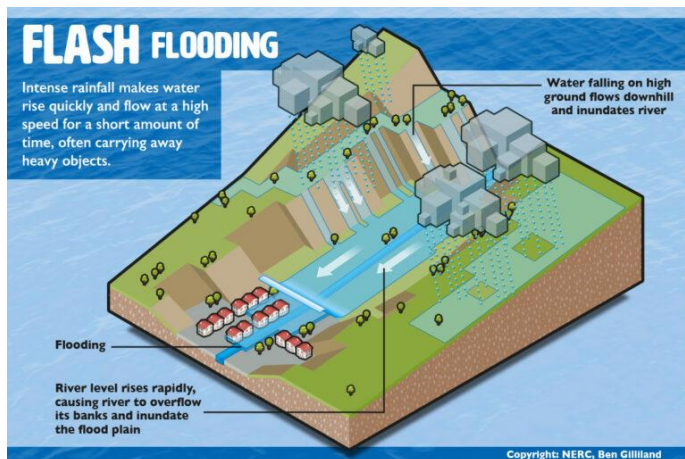
CONTEXT: Flash floods in Tamil Nadu's Tenkasi triggered by a sudden downpour.

Basics

- Sudden, intense rainfall
- Short span
- NDMA - monsoon season
- Flood Prone Area
- Localised - intensity, debris load
- Mumbai 2005, Uttarakhand 2013, Chennai 2015, Kerala 2018

Causes

- Dam capacity
- Cloud burst
- Melting glaciers



- Landslides
- Urbanisation
- Deforestation

Initiatives

- IMD's Flash flood guidance services - Doppler Radars
- ISRO landslide Atlas
- NDMA guidelines - embankments, real time data exchange, check dams, mitigation models
- National Remote Sensing Agency

Suggestions

- Early warning
- Infrastructure & Drainage
- Afforestation
- Land Management



1. Rules for using State-funded Media during Polls

- Since 1998 Lok Sabha Elections
- National parties, all put together – min 10 hours of telecasting time on Doordarshan
- 10 hours of broadcasting time on the national hook-up of AIR
- ECI allots time
- Guidelines on content
 - submit transcripts
 - forbid “criticism of other countries; attack on religions or communities; anything obscene or defamatory; incitement of violence; anything amounting to contempt of court; aspersions against the integrity of the President and judiciary; anything affecting the unity, sovereignty and integrity of the nation; and any criticism by name of any person”

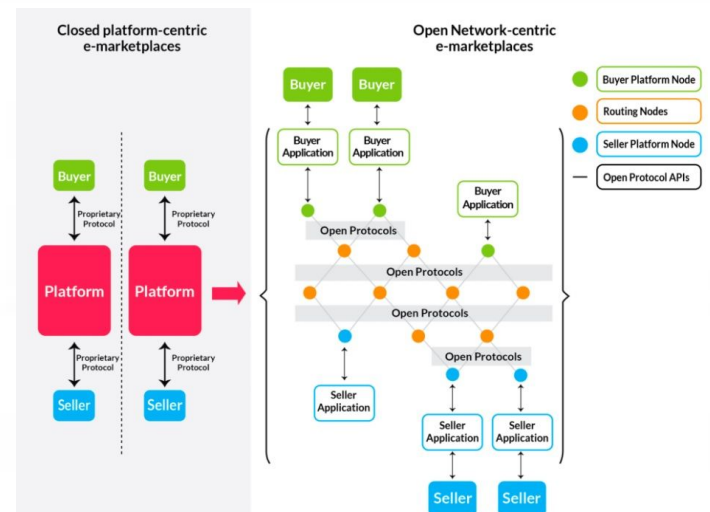
2. Orcas

- largest member of the Delphinidae family, or dolphins
- Killer Whales
- Attacking boats
- highly social, and most live in social groups called pods
- rely on underwater sound to feed, communicate, and navigate



3. ONDC

- open-source network – buyers and sellers to transact with each other irrespective of the e-commerce platform on which either of them are registered
- Initiative of DPIIT



4. Asset Reconstruction Companies

