VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

31st January 2025

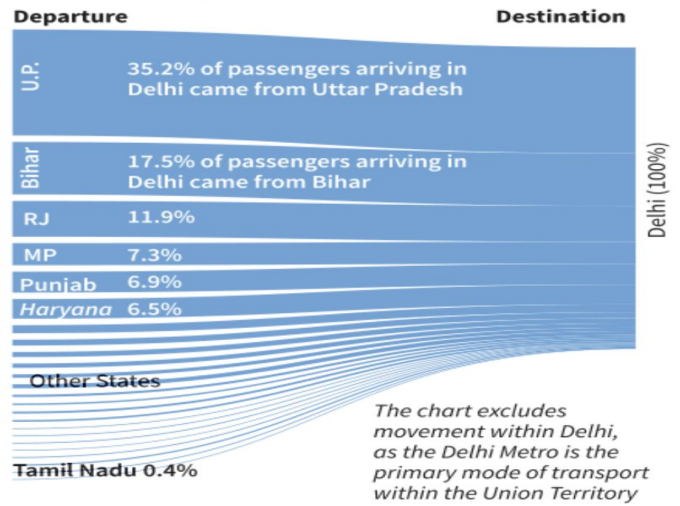# Tracking migration movement

CONTEXT: Statistics reveal migration patterns in India.

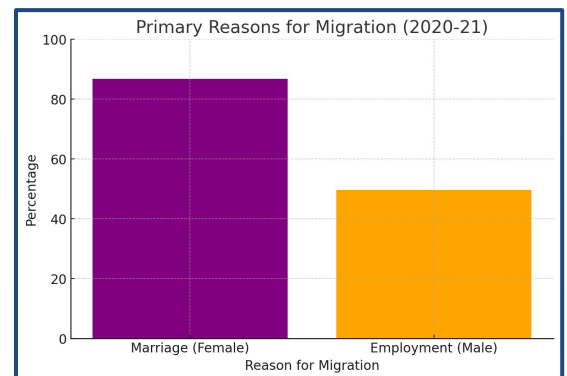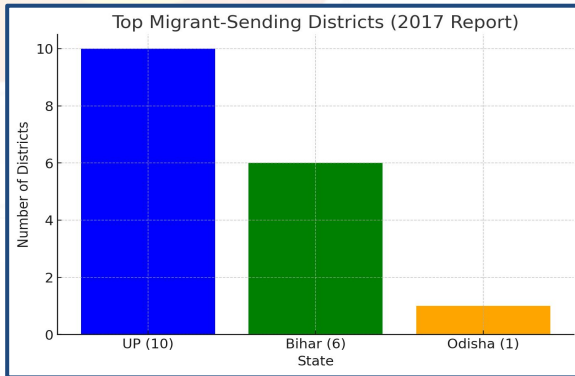## SHARE OF MIGRANT WORKERS AMONG TOTAL WORKERS BY MAJOR SECTORS

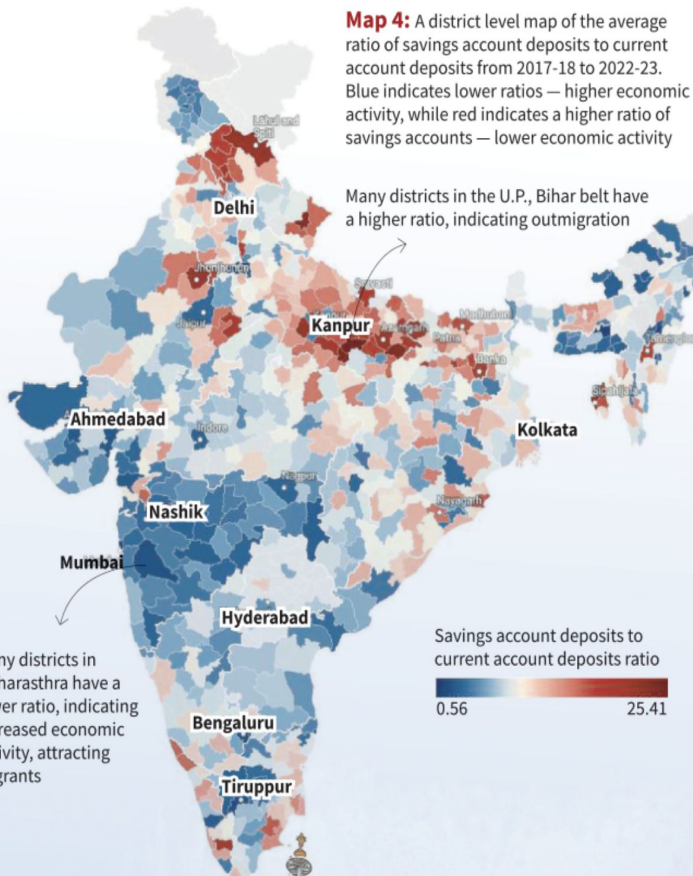| Sector	RURAL		URBAN	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Primary	4%	75%	20%	65%
Manufacturing	13%	59%	38%	51%
Public Services	16%	69%	40%	56%
Construction	8%	73%	32%	67%
Traditional Services	10%	65%	29%	55%
Modern Services	16%	66%	40%	52%
Total	6%	73%	33%	56%

Chart 1: The share of passengers arriving at various train stations in Delhi in 2023 with unreserved tickets, based on their departure stations.

Departure — **Destination**

- U.P.: 35.2% of passengers arriving in Delhi came from Uttar Pradesh
- Bihar: 17.5% of passengers arriving in Delhi came from Bihar
- RJ: 11.9%
- MP: 7.3%
- Punjab: 6.9%
- Haryana: 6.5%
- Other States
- Tamil Nadu 0.4%

Delhi (100%)

The chart excludes movement within Delhi, as the Delhi Metro is the primary mode of transport within the Union Territory

- **Internal migrants**: 45.36 crore - n37%
- **annual net migrant flows :** 1% of the working age population.
- **Females recorded a higher share of migration rate** of 47.9%; 48% in rural and 47.8% in urban areas.
- Migration rate for **males** was 10.7%, with 5.9% in rural and 22.5% in urban areas

Map 4: A district level map of the average ratio of savings account deposits to current account deposits from 2017-18 to 2022-23. Blue indicates lower ratios — higher economic activity, while red indicates a higher ratio of savings accounts — lower economic activity
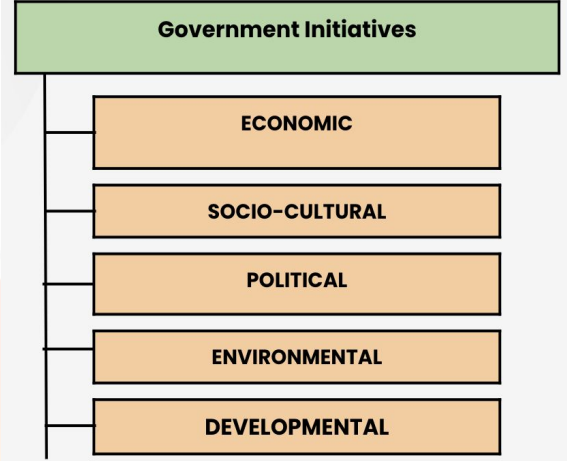
Many districts in the U.P., Bihar belt have a higher ratio, indicating outmigration

Many districts in Maharasthra have a lower ratio, indicating increased economic activity, attracting migrants

Savings account deposits to current account deposits ratio

0.56 — 25.41

Top Migrant-Sending Districts (2017 Report)

Number of Districts / State: UP (10), Bihar (6), Odisha (1)

Primary Reasons for Migration (2020-21)

Percentage / Reason for Migration: Marriage (Female), Employment (Male)

Tracking migration movement

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CONTEXT: Statistics reveal migration patterns in India.

Push-factors
Countries of origin
⇒ Population growth, young age structure
⇒ Inadequate educational institutions, medicare and social security
⇒ Unemployment, low wages
⇒ Poverty, low consumption and living standard
⇒ Dictatorships, shadow democracy, bad governance, political upheaval
⇒ Conflict, (civil) war, terrorism, human rights violation, oppression of minorities
⇒ Ecologic disaster, desertification, lack of natural resources, water shortage, soil erosion, lack of environmental policy
⇒ Decisions of the family or the clan
⇒ Information flows, media,

Pull-factors
Countries of destination
⇒ Stable population, population decline, demographic ageing
⇒ Welfare state benefits, educational institutions, medicare, social security
⇒ Labour demand, high wages
⇒ Welfare, high consumption and living standard
⇒ Democracy, rule of law, pluralism, political stability
⇒ Peace, security, protection of human and civil rights, protection of minorities
⇒ Better environment, environmental policy, protection of natural resources and environmental protection
⇒ Diaspora, ethnic community
⇒ Information flows, media, transferred picture of

Government Initiatives

- ECONOMIC
- SOCIO-CULTURAL
- POLITICAL
- ENVIRONMENTAL
- DEVELOPMENTAL

POSITIVE IMPACTS :

- **Economic Growth**: Migration fills labor gaps, boosts productivity, and increases consumer spending; remittances aid economies.
- **India's Remittances:** In 2022, India received $111 billion in remittances, narrowing the current account deficit.
- **Social Change:** Migrants spread new ideas like education and family planning, bridging urban-rural divides.**Quality of Life**
- **Innovation**: Migrants bring new skills, ideas, and technologies, driving entrepreneurship and progress.
- **Labor Flexibility**: Migration balances labor markets, addressing skilled worker shortages.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS :

- **Demographic Shift:** Rural out-migration skews age and skill distribution, feminizing agriculture.
- **Environmental Strain:** Overcrowding and slums from rural-urban migration strain urban infrastructure and increase pollution.
- **Social Tensions:** Migration causes job competition, cultural clashes, and discrimination.
- **Family Separation:** Emotional distress and social network disruptions arise when families are left behind.

Way Forward

- **Social Security**: Ensure migrants' rights and welfare.
- **Basic Amenities**: Provide housing, healthcare, education, jobs.
- **Integration & Inclusion**: Foster social cohesion, reduce discrimination.
- **Skill Development**: Train rural workers, create jobs.
- **Counter Magnet Cities**: Develop regional cities, ease congestion.
- **Labour Market Policies**: Protect migrants' rights and wages.
- **Worker Protection**: Enforce fair wages, safe conditions

BEST PRACTICES ACROSS WORLD

- **Spain** - African countries
- **Ukrainian refugee integration**
- **Guatemala** : circular migration program

Question : "Internal migration can be driven by push/pull factors. Highlighting the issues related to internal migration in India, discuss the need for a national policy on internal migration." (250 words, 15 marks)"

Discuss the changes in the trends of labour migration within and outside India in the last four decades. (UPSC 2015)

Clearing backlogs in Judiciary

CONTEXT: The Supreme Court Thursday relaxed its earlier condition to appoint ad hoc judges in High Courts to clear the backlog of pending criminal cases, and said vacancies in HCs needn't be more than 20 per cent of its sanctioned strength.

earlier condition on appointment of retired judges, allowing High Courts to appoint ad hoc judges even if their vacancies were less than 20 per cent of the sanctioned strength.

A Bench of Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna and Justices B R Gavai and Surya Kant said the ad hoc judges would sit on a Bench presided over by a sitting HC judge and decide "pending criminal appeals". It restricted such appointments to "between two to five in number but not exceeding 10 per cent of the sanctioned strength".
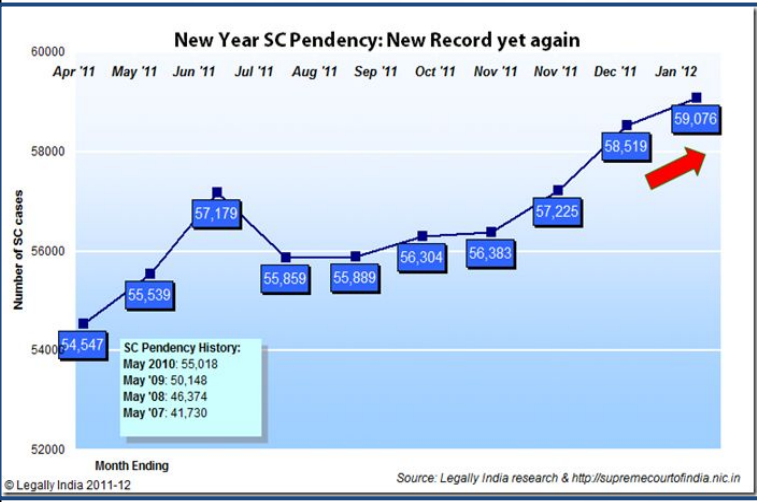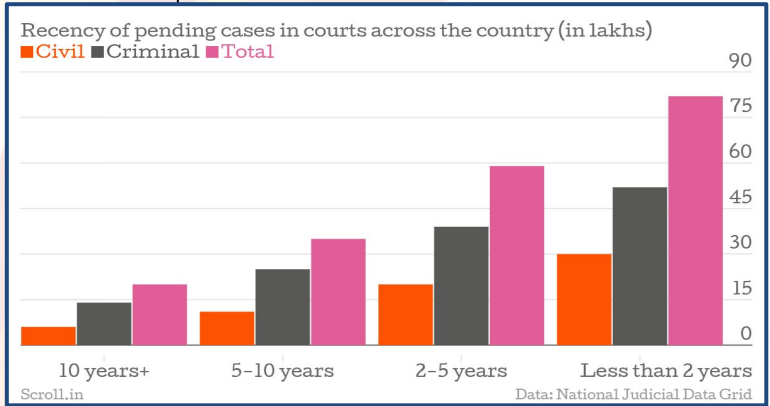
In April 2021, the Supreme Court had allowed the appointment of ad hoc judges under Article 224 of the Constitution "to deal with the unprecedented situation arising from the backlog of cases pending in the High Courts". It had, however, specified that High Courts could take recourse to Article 224A only if their vacancies exceeded 20 per cent. "For the time being, dependent on the strength of the High Court and the problem faced by the Court, the number of ad hoc judges should be in the range of two to five in a High Court," it had said.

Article 224A, which deals with the appointment of retired judges for HC sittings, states: "The Chief Justice of a High Court

The Chief Justice of a High Court may start the procedure of recommending a name if:

- The number of **vacancies is more than 20 % of** the sanctioned strength.

- Cases in a particular class are pending **for over five years**.

- More than **10 % of pending cases** are over five years old.

- Percentage of the rate of disposal is beneath the institution of the cases either in a particular subject matter or in the court.

Recency of pending cases in courts across the country (in lakhs)
■Civil ■Criminal ■Total

Scroll.in   Data: National Judicial Data Grid

JUSTICE DELAYED, DENIED

Almost a quarter of the sanctioned positions remain vacant in subordinate courts which are thronged by poor litigants

	Supreme Court	High Courts	District & Sub Courts
Sanctioned Strength	31	1,079	21,017
Current Strength	26	615	16,851
Vacancies	**5**	**464**	**4,166**
Backlog	60,000	38,91,076	2,30,79,723

New Year SC Pendency: New Record yet again

SC Pendency History:
May 2010: 55,018
May '09: 50,148
May '08: 46,374
May '07: 41,730

© Legally India 2011-12

Source: Legally India research & http://supremecourtofindia.nic.in

Top five Indian states with highest backlog of cases

State	Cases pending at district courts	Judges at district courts	Judges per/mn people
UTTAR PRADESH	53,63,613	2,068	10
MAHARASHTRA	31,54,681	2,353	21
GUJARAT	21,98,280	1,205	20
BIHAR	14,33,511	1,361	13
WEST BENGAL	13,42,122	744	8

Source: 2010 Comparative Litigation Rates by J Mark Ramseyer & Eric B Rasmusen of Harvard Law School

In other countries
■ Judges per million population

France	124
USA	108
Australia	40
Canada	33
England	22
India	17

Clearing backlogs in Judiciary

CONTEXT: The Supreme Court Thursday relaxed its earlier condition to appoint ad hoc judges in High Courts to clear the backlog of pending criminal cases, and said vacancies in HCs needn't be more than 20 per cent of its sanctioned strength.

REASONS

- LACK OF JUDGES
- LACK OF INFRA
- COMPLEXITY OF CASES
- Weak enforcement of court orders

Challenges

- increase the number of judges
- Expand alternative dispute resolution methods
- Streamline the legal process
- Strengthen the enforcement of court orders

Steps Taken:

- Virtual court system
- e-Courts portal
- E-filing
- e-Payment of court fees and fines
- Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)
- Fast track courts
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
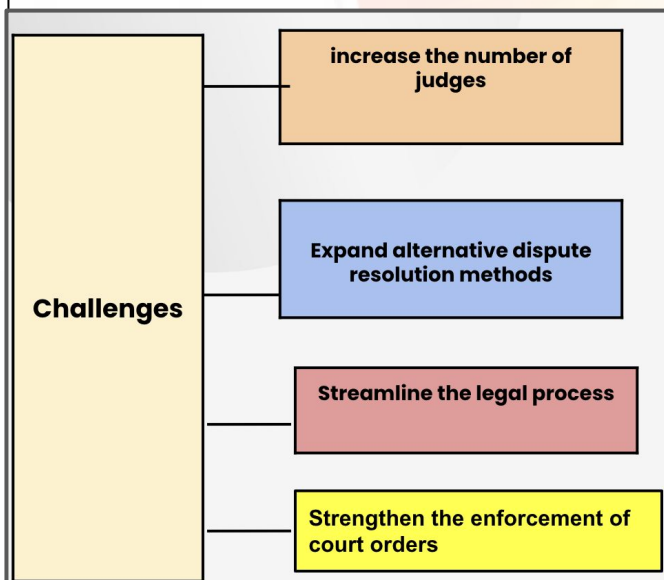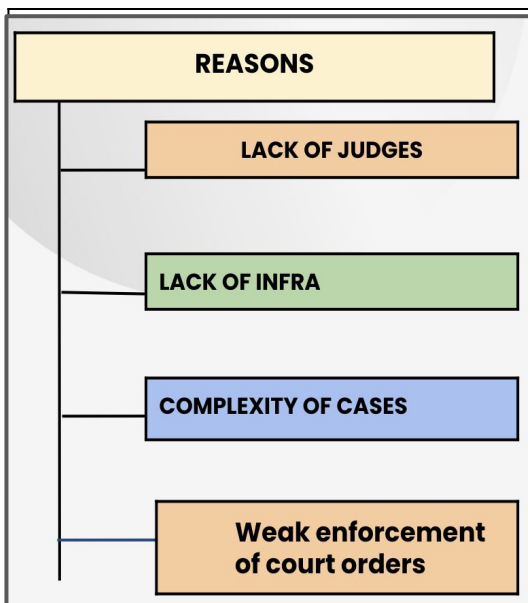
Article 224A: Appointment of Retired Judges in High Courts

- The Chief Justice of a High Court, with the **President's prior consent**, can request a retired judge of that or any other High Court to serve as a judge in that state's High Court.
- Such judges will have **the same jurisdiction, powers, and privileges** as regular judges but will not be considered permanent judges.
- Their allowances will be determined by the **President's order**.

Lok Prahari versus Union of India

- In *Lok Prahari v. Union of India* (2021), the Supreme Court invoked Article 224-A of the Constitution to allow the appointment of ad hoc judges in High Courts to address the backlog of cases.
- It set guidelines ensuring such appointments occur only after efforts to fill regular vacancies.
- The Chief Justice of a High Court may exercise this discretion if:
    a. vacancies exceed 20% of the sanctioned strength,
    b. cases in a category have been pending for over five years,
    c. over 10% of pending cases are older than five years, or
    d. the disposal rate is lower than the rate of new case filings.

Mains Practice Question

Analyze the reasons behind judicial pendency in India. Also, give some practical solutions to remedy this malady. (15 Marks, 250 words)

Sikkim GLOF

THE COLLAPSE of a 14.7-million cubic metre mass of rock, ice and sediment into the South Lhonak glacial lake was the trigger behind the devastating 2023 Sikkim flood that destroyed a hydropower dam on the Teesta, reveal the findings of a year-long study published in the prestigious *Science* journal on Friday.

Crucially, the study found no evidence of a "triggering cloudburst event" in the vicinity of the lake. The Sikkim government had told the National Green Tribunal last year that a cloudburst had possibly preceded the glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF).

Waiting to Happen! What was the Trigger?

As South Lhonak glacier continued to retreat amid global warming by another 400 m between 2008 and 2019, lakes only grew

Glacial lake outburst flood (Glof) like disaster was waiting to happen

Trigger could be anything from cloudburst to landslide, avalanche or earthquake

Mitigation Steps

First field expedition of glacial lake conducted in August 2014, followed by another in 2016 which resulted in a project to start siphoning off lake water

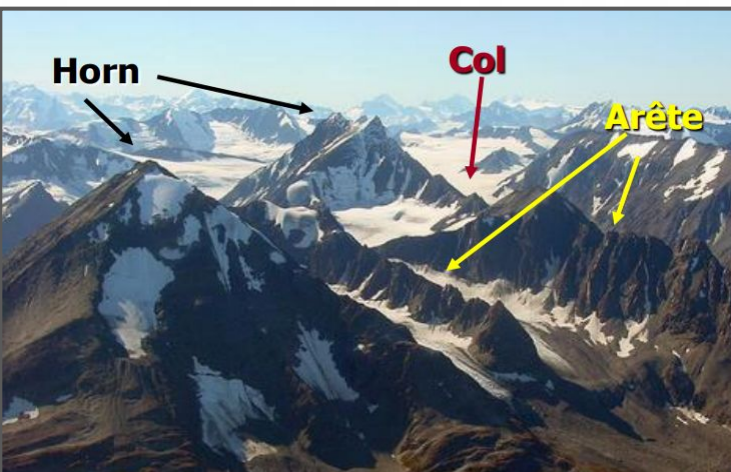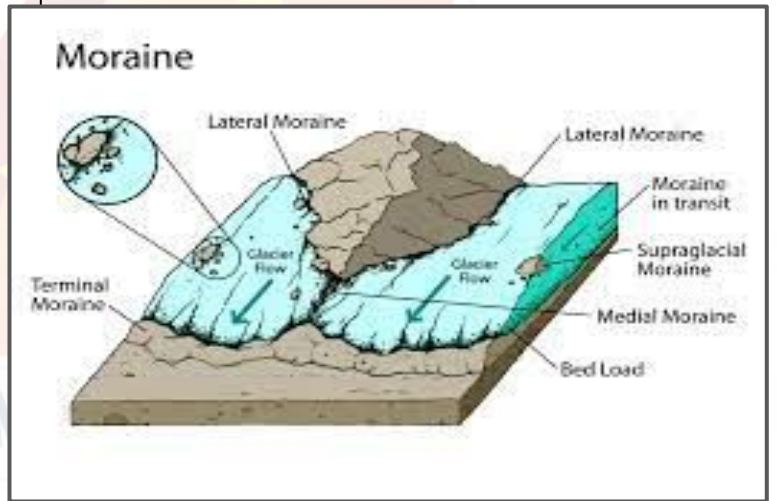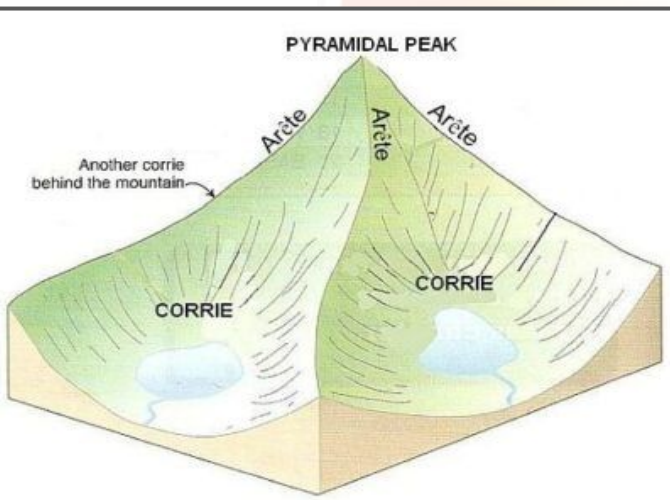**Three pipelines were installed** to siphon off 150 mlitres of water per second at that time

Early warning system was set in place in some locations by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing

Central Water Commission initiated an advisory to evaluate the South Lhonak glacier

Himalayan Problem

Problem of receding glaciers and the spectre of Glof devastation faces the entire Himalayan region as global warming provides new triggers in the young mountain ranges

Add to that the build- up of infrastructure, habitation, road networks and hydropower plants

A 2021 study warned that 'both the existing and planned hydropower plants are exposed to potential outburst floods from glacial lakes'

PYRAMIDAL PEAK

Another corrie behind the mountain

CORRIE

CORRIE

Arête

Moraine

Lateral Moraine — Lateral Moraine — Moraine in transit — Supraglacial Moraine — Medial Moraine — Bed Load — Terminal Moraine — Glacier Flow

Horn

Col

Arête

Practise question

	Dam often seen in the news	Associated River
1.	Ujani	Krishna
2.	Idukki	Periyar
3.	Chungthang	Brahmaputra

Guillain-Barre Syndrome

Three fresh cases of suspected Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) were reported in Pune district of Maharashtra, according to data released by the Public Health Department on Thursday. The total number of cases rose to 130. Two deaths have been reported so far, while 20 patients are on ventilator.

GBS is a rare condition that causes sudden numbness and muscle weakness, with symptoms including severe weakness in the limbs, loose motion, and so on. Bacterial and viral infections generally lead to GBS as they weaken the immunity of patients, according to doctors.

About :

- autoimmune disorder
- 1–2 per 100,000 people annually.
- Campylobacter jejuni (a cause of gastroenteritis), influenza, Epstein-Barr virus, Zika virus, or, in rare cases, vaccinations
- No definitive cure
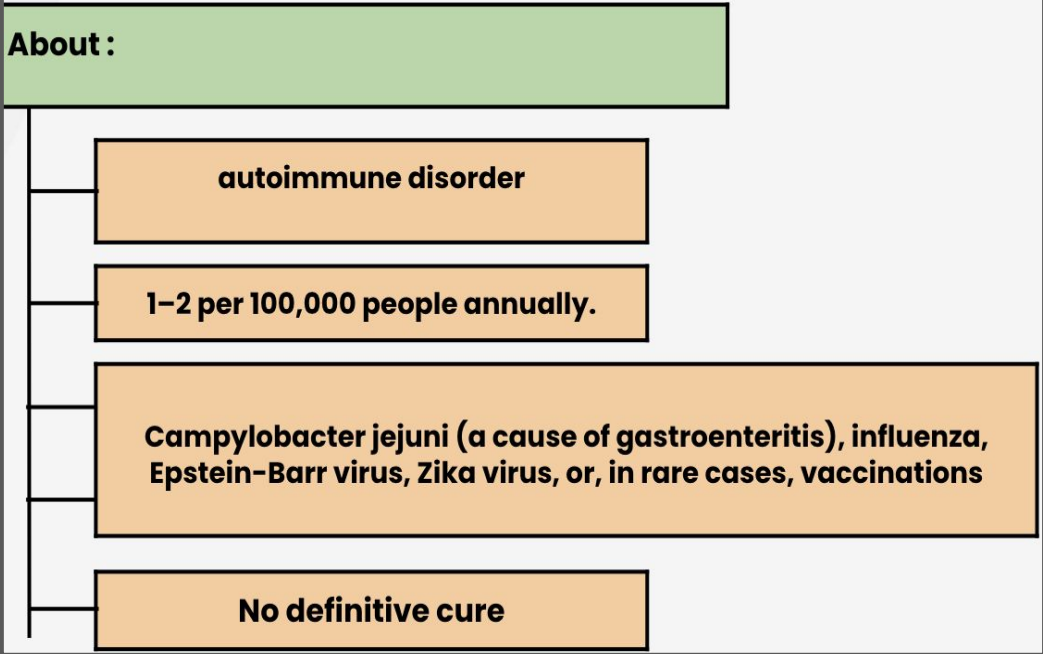
GUILLAIN-BARRE SYNDROME

Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) is a rare neurological disorder that happens when the immune system attacks peripheral nerves

Normal — Myelin sheath — Damaged

The peripheral nervous system (PNS) is made up of nerves that branch out from the brain and spinal cord (central nervous system) which sends and receives impulses from organs and other parts of the body.
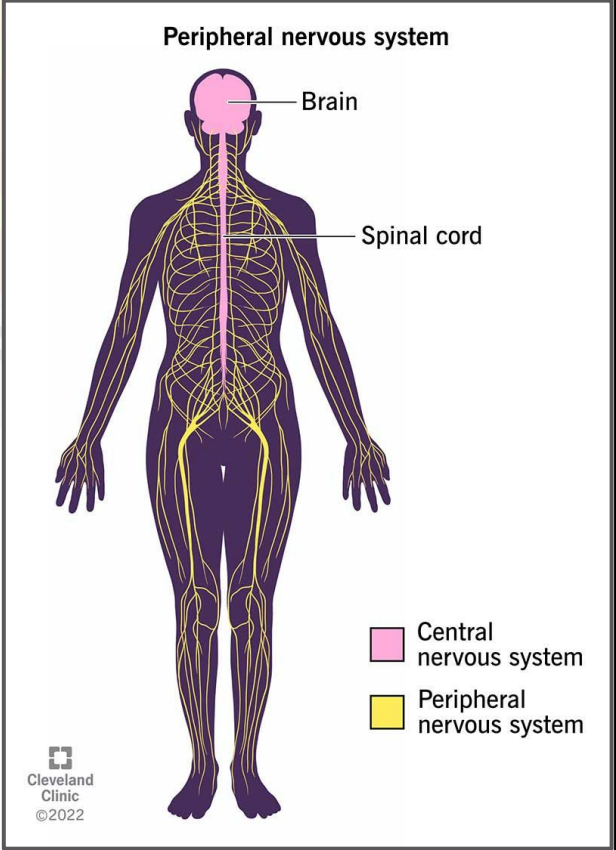
SYMPTOMS

Weakness

As a consequence of damage to the myelin sheath, the brain is unable to transmit electrical signals to the muscles properly, causing weakness

Changes in sensation

A pins and needles sensation, as well as pain in the back of the legs

CAUSE :

Unknown | Not infectious | Not inherited

Estimated to affect **1 PERSON IN 100,000** each year

Peripheral nervous system

- Brain
- Spinal cord

- Central nervous system
- Peripheral nervous system

Cleveland Clinic ©2022

First, the facts. The water coming from Haryana is the only source of drinking water in Delhi and anxieties about its potability affect citizens, particularly when accountability is opaque. The supply of drinking water becomes a crisis in Delhi every few months. The capital receives its drinking water from several key inlets that all originate in Haryana, chief among them the Wazirabad Barrage, where raw water from the Yamuna is received in Delhi. The flow at Wazirabad depends on the releases from Haryana's Hathni Kund Barrage.

During the lean seasons, water levels often drop, leading to ammonia contamination and water shortages in Delhi. The city's drinking water depends on these inlets. Treatment at Delhi's Wazirabad, Chandrawal, Okhlam Haiderpur and Bawana treatment plants rests entirely on the availability of water from Haryana. When the water supply is depleted, what goes into the treatment plants becomes

The second issue is of pollutants, apart from ammonia. This is largely due to sewage flowing in the stormwater drains, the discharge of industrial effluent mainly from unlicensed household industries, and solid waste dumping. During the period 2018 to 2021, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) set up the Yamuna Monitoring Committee (YMC) to monitor the abatement of pollution in the river. Five reports were given to the NGT, which pinpointed the roles and responsibilities of 16 stakeholders who contribute substantially to pollution. During the life of the committee, each of the stakeholders — which included the Delhi Jal Board, Delhi Development Authority, and the governments of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh — committed to a slew of measures. These have not been undertaken.

The third issue is environmental flow. The National Mission for Clean Ganga under the Ministry of Jal Shakti had asked for a report from the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH) in Roorkee. The NIH study was aimed at assessing the flow of water necessary to maintain ecological balance and support essential riverine functions. The NIH concluded that the current water withdrawals upstream significantly reduce the river's flow through Delhi, exacerbating pollution levels and harming aquatic life. It recommended regulating water releases from upstream barrages, especially during lean seasons, to maintain a minimum environmental flow.
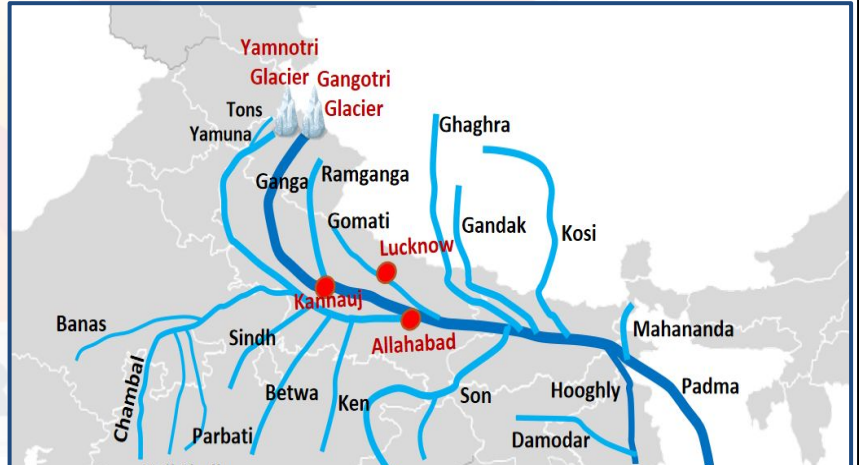
Prelims 2019

consider the following pairs:

Glacier	River
Bandarpunch:	Yamuna
Bara Shigri:	Chenab
Milam:	Mandakini
Siachen:	Nubra
Zemu:	Manas

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?
(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
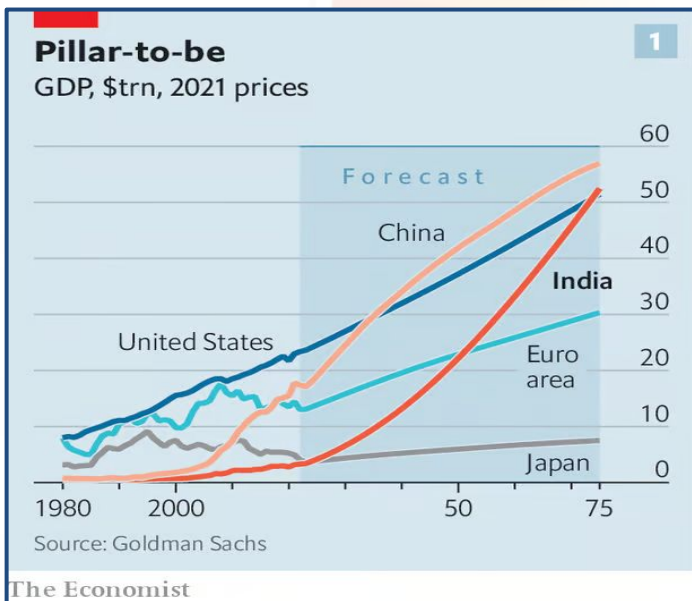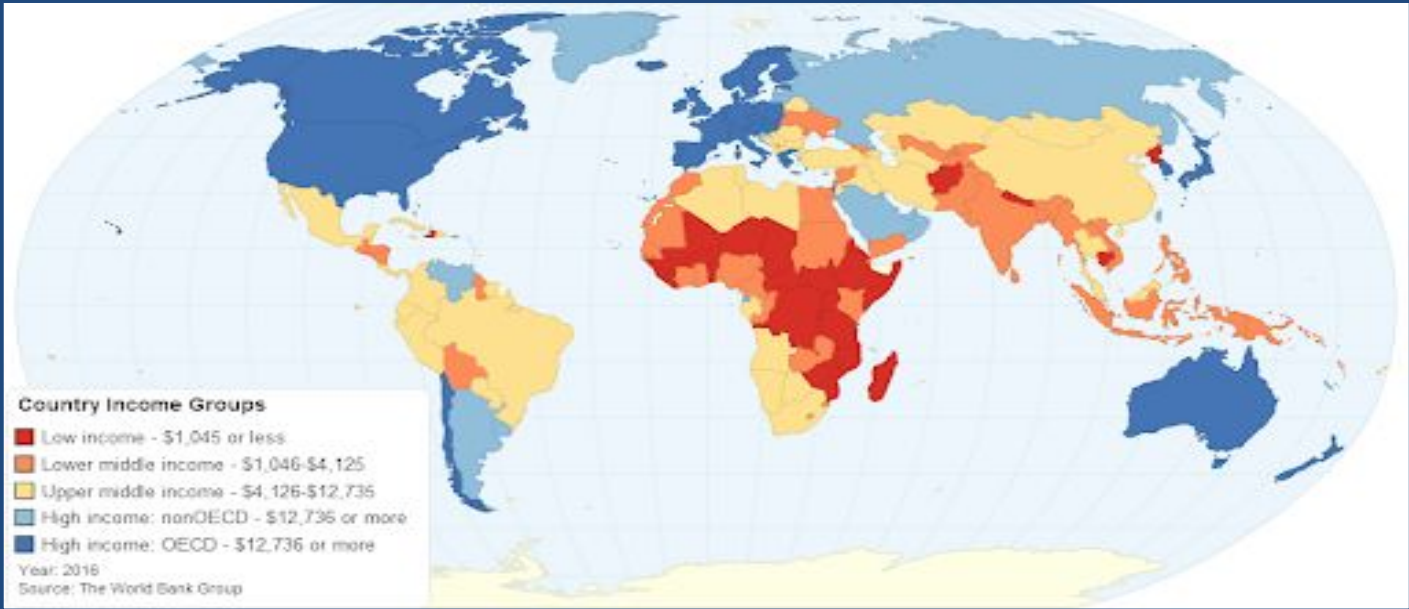(c) 2 and 5 only
(d) 3 and 5 only

Middle Income Trap

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Country Income Groups

- Low income - $1,045 or less
- Lower middle income - $1,046-$4,125
- Upper middle income - $4,126-$12,735
- High income: nonOECD - $12,736 or more
- High income: OECD - $12,736 or more

Year: 2016
Source: The World Bank Group

Pillar-to-be

GDP, $trn, 2021 prices

Forecast

China

United States

India

Euro area

Japan

1980   2000   50   75

Source: Goldman Sachs

The Economist

'An East Asian Renaissance: Ideas for Economic Growth'. - WB (2017

Reasons : Untapped Human Capital
Rising Income inequality
Stagnated Industrialization

Solution : 3i strategy Investment, Infusion of global technologies, and Innovation

AI foundational model of India

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India braces for AI challenge, Govt says own foundational model in 4-8 months

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 30

DAYS AFTER an upstart Chinese artificial intelligence (AI) lab launched DeepSeek, a low-cost foundational model, India has decided to build a domestic large language model (LLM) of its own as part of the Rs 10,370 crore IndiaAI Mission, Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said Thursday.

The government has also se-

Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

lected 10 companies to supply 18,693 graphics processing units or GPUs — high end chips needed to develop machine learning tools — that can go into

developing a foundational model. This is more than the initial aim of the IndiaAI Mission, under which the government was looking to procure 10,000 GPUs.

The companies empaneled to provide the GPU services include Jio Platforms, the Hiranandani Group-backed Yotta, Tata Communications, E2E Networks, NxtGen Datacenter, CMS Computers, Ctrls Datacenters, Locuz Enterprise Solutions, Orient Technologies, and Vensysco Technologies.

IndiaAI Mission
Cabinet approves comprehensive national-level IndiaAI mission

CABINET DECISION
07th March, 2024

❖ Budget outlay of Rs.10,371.92 crore.

❖ Mission aims to establish a comprehensive ecosystem catalyzing AI innovation through strategic programs and partnerships across public and private sectors

❖ To be implemented by 'IndiaAI' Independent Business Division (IBD) under Digital India Corporation

Mission components

01. IndiaAI Compute Capacity - to build a high-end scalable AI computing ecosystem

02. IndiaAI Innovation Centre - to undertake development and deployment of indigenous Large Multimodal Models

1/2

IndiaAI Mission
Cabinet approves comprehensive national-level IndiaAI mission

CABINET DECISION
07th March, 2024

03. IndiaAI Datasets Platform - to streamline access to quality non-personal datasets for AI Innovation

04. IndiaAI Application Development Initiative - to promote AI applications in critical sectors for problem statements sourced from Central Ministries, State Departments, and other institutions

05. IndiaAI FutureSkills - to mitigate barriers to entry into AI programs and will increase AI courses in undergraduate, masters-level, and Ph.D. programs

06. IndiaAI Startup Financing - to support and accelerate deep-tech AI startups

07. Safe & Trusted AI - to enable implementation of Responsible AI projects including development of indigenous tools and frameworks, self-assessment checklists for innovators, and other guidelines and governance frameworks

2/2

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding internal migrants in India:

1. According to the Census 2011, most internal migrants in India are women, primarily due to marriage-related migration.
2. The Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, of 1979, provides social security benefits and regulates the working conditions of inter-state migrant labourers.
3. The One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme aims to ensure food security for migrant workers by enabling access to subsidized food grains across states.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) Only One
b) Only Two
c) All Three
d) None

Answer: c

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs):

1. GLOFs occur due to the sudden failure of natural or artificial dams containing glacial lakes, leading to a rapid discharge of water.
2. Climate change has no significant impact on the frequency or intensity of GLOFs.
3. GLOFs can be triggered by factors such as ice avalanches, earthquakes, or heavy rainfall.
4. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of India has issued guidelines for managing and mitigating GLOF risks.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) Only One
b) Only Two
c) Only Three
d) All Four

Answer: c

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Yamuna River:

1. The Yamuna River originates from the Yamunotri Glacier in Uttarakhand.
2. The major tributaries of the Yamuna include the Chambal, Ken, and Betwa rivers.
3. The Yamuna flows through Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Delhi before merging with the Ganges at Prayagraj.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: d

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS):

1. Guillain-Barré Syndrome is a rare neurological disorder where the body's immune system attacks the peripheral nervous system.
2. It is commonly triggered by viral infections, particularly the influenza virus.
3. The symptoms of GBS typically begin with muscle weakness in the lower limbs and may progress to paralysis in severe cases.
4. GBS can only occur after a respiratory infection, and its onset is always gradual.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 1, 2, and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer: b

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the IndiaAI Mission:

1. IndiaAI is an initiative launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI) in India.
2. The IndiaAI mission focuses on advancing AI research, skill development, and fostering collaborations between government, academia, and industry.
3. The mission primarily aims to develop AI for defence applications and does not focus on AI's role in social and economic sectors.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: a

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Institute for IAS Examination

A unit of Vajiram & Ravi IAS Study Centre LLP

9-B, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar,
New Delhi - 110060 • Ph.: 41007400, 41007500

New No. 62, P Block, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar,
Chennai - 600040 • Ph.: 044-4330-2121
Visit us at : www.vajiramandravi.com