



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

4th January 2025



4th January 2025

CONTEXT: Statement of the EAM.

Basics

Challenges in the Neighbourhood

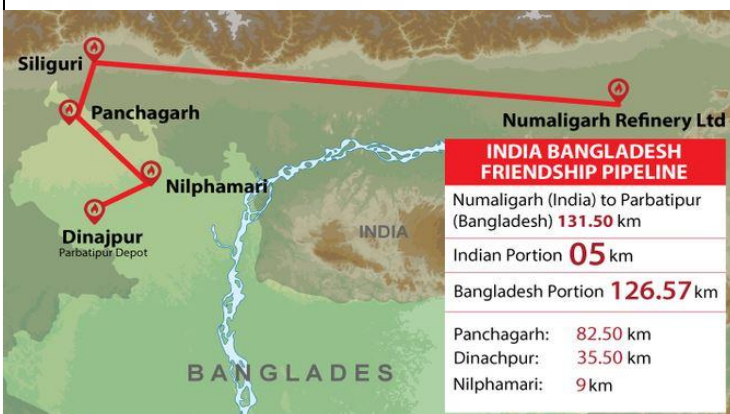
- Myanmar’s Military Coup (2021)
- Taliban Takeover in Afghanistan (2021)
- Political Instability in Sri Lanka (2022)
- Change in Government in Nepal (2022)
- Electoral Change in the Maldives (2023)
- Bangladesh’s Turmoil (2024)
- Rise of China
- Border Disputes - Pak & China
- Economic Disparities & Power Asymmetry
- Delayed Implementation of Dev Projects

Objectives of NFP

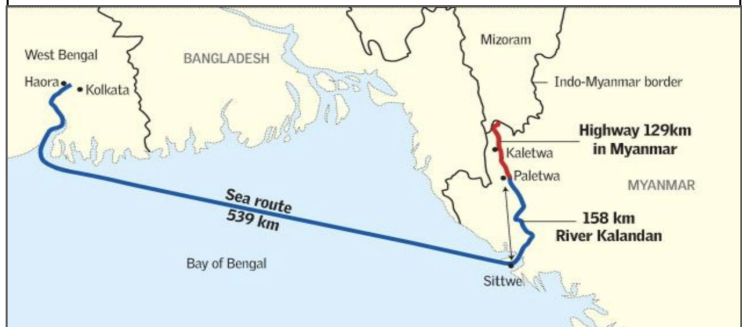
- Strengthening Bilateral Ties
- Regional Stability
- Economic Integration
- People-to-People Connectivity

Initiatives in NFP

- **Energy Cooperation**
 - Nepal - Power Exchange Agreement, Hydropower Projects - Arun III, Upper Karnali
 - Bhutan - Long Term Power Purchase Agreements, Hydro Projects - Tala, Chukha



- Bangladesh - Bheramara Behrampur Transmission Line
- Myanmar - Tamanthi Dam Project
- Sri Lanka - Trincomalee oil terminal, Solar & Wind projects
- **Infrastructure & Connectivity**
 - Nepal - Motihari Amlekhganj Petro pipeline, ICPs
 - Bangladesh - Maitree & Bandhan Express
 - Myanmar - IMT Trilateral Highway



- **Economic Assistance & Aid**
 - Sri Lanka - Housing projects, Emergency relief in disasters
 - Maldives - Greater Male Connectivity Project, Covid-19 vaccines
- **Security Cooperation**
 - CBMs - border agreements
 - Joint Military ops - Myanmar counter insurgency
- **Humanitarian Assistance**
 - Vaccine Maitri initiative - PPE kits
 - Disaster Relief - Nepal EQ (Op Maitri 2015), Bangladesh Cyclone Amphan
 - Dev Assistance - Afghanistan
 - Food Aid - Sri Lanka in 2022, Yemen



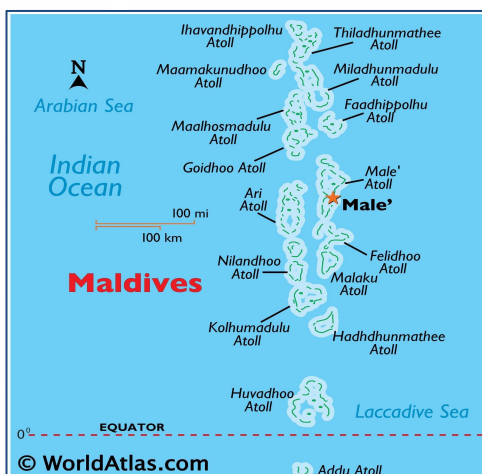
4th January 2025

CONTEXT: Statement of the EAM.

- **Cultural & P-P connect**
 - Scholarships
 - Tourism Promotion - Buddhist sites
- **Multilateral Fora**
 - SAARC satellite
 - BIMSTEC disaster management exercises

Maldives Significance

- **Geo-Economic**
 - strategically located
 - 80% of India's energy imports through SLOCs nearby
 - 2nd largest trade partner, Infrastructure projects
- **Geo-Political Significance**
 - member of Colombo Security Conclave (CSC), IORA, SAARC, SAGAR
 - UNSC
- **Security Significance**
 - Line of defence against terrorism, piracy on the high seas, drug trafficking, narcotics
 - 'toll gate' between the choke points
 - Exercises - Ekuverin, Operation Shield
- **Diaspora**
 - Humanitarian assistance - High Impact Community Development Projects, Operation Sanjeevani



Challenges

- **Political Challenges:** military presence, hydrography agreement
- **Radicalisation:** IS, Pakistan
- **Growing Chinese Influence**
- **Climate Change:** low-lying island, marine heatwaves

Suggestions For NFP

- Doctrine of Non-reciprocity - Gujral
- Developmental Diplomacy - LoCs, aids
- Proactive, fast-track diplomacy - expedite implementation
- No Big-brotherly approach
- Soft power - e.g. Buddhism
- **PSC Recommendations**
 - Implementation of developmental projects: establish a Cell to identify specific initiatives, projects
 - Regional development fund for connectivity infrastructure
 - Disaster Relief Fund
 - Synergy with Act East Policy - connectivity, economic development and security of NER

For Maldives

- **Engage & Convince**
- **More development assistance:** larger impact, goodwill
- **No delays of Infrastructure Projects**
- **Upgradation of Infrastructure:** commissioned INS Jatayu naval base in Lakshadweep and upgraded facilities in Mauritius's Agaléga islands
- **Financial Assistance to Sri Lanka**

Mains Practice Question: 'Neighbourhood First' policy aims to strengthen ties with its immediate neighbors and promote regional stability. Discuss the key initiatives taken under this policy, particularly in the context of Maldives. Also give suggestions to enhance the effectiveness of the 'Neighbourhood First' policy in the region.



4th January 2025

CONTEXT: Draft rules released by the Govt on data protection.

Draft Rules

Significant Data Fiduciaries - restrictions:

- Defined by volume, sensitivity of data processed, Risks to sovereignty, electoral democracy, security, public order

Data Processing

- Government committee to specify which data can be processed
- Personal and traffic data not allowed to leave India

Safeguards:

- Data processing by government subject to lawful manner

Parental Consent for Children's Data:

- Companies to collect verifiable parental consent for children's data - No government mechanism; companies to adopt their own system

Data Breach and Security Measures:

- Fiduciaries must inform individuals of breaches "without delay"
- Penalties up to Rs 250 crore for insufficient breach safeguards
- Mandatory security measures (encryption, access control, backups)

Notice Requirements for Data Fiduciaries:

- Clear, standalone, understandable notice to data principals
- Itemized list of collected data and processing purposes

Data Localisation

Arguments in favor of data localisation

- Law-enforcement - treaties
- Foreign attacks and surveillance, data sovereignty
- Tax Internet giants.
- Domestic-born technology companies - Encouragement of data-centric industries (e.g., cloud storage, data centers)
- Compliance

Arguments against data localization

- Cost intensive
- Possible misuse by the state - authoritarian
- Risk of creating a fragmented regulatory environment
- Trade distortive - U.S. criticised
- Discouraging investments
- Domino effect - FTAs
- Definition of data misuse - scales from profiling to national security.

Data Protection Law

- **Applicability** - definition, within/outside India
- **Consent** - processed only for a lawful purpose, notice, may be withdrawn
- **Rights and duties of data principal** - obtain information, seek correction and erasure, and grievance redressal.
- **Obligations of data fiduciaries** -
 - accuracy and completeness
 - Safeguards, inform if breach
 - storage limitation
- **Transfer of personal data outside India** - blacklisting
- **Exemptions**
- **Data Protection Board of India** - adjudicate non-compliance, appointment
- **Penalties**

Issues

- Exemptions to State on broad grounds - proportionality - interception - *PUCL vs Union of India* - safeguards: necessity, purpose, storage
- Differential treatment to private entities
- UK data protection law safeguards
- Data Protection Board - statutory, appointments
- No right to be forgotten
- Verifiable consent - age, implications



4th January 2025

CONTEXT: Draft rules released by the Govt on data protection.

- for anonymity, child definition
- No compensation
- Splinternet
- Protectionism may backfire

Suggestions

- **Flexible Data Localisation Requirements**
 - Only for sensitive or critical data
 - Stored outside India - security measures and regulatory oversight
- **International Collaboration on Data Standards**
 - Align rules with standards like GDPR
- **Investment in Data Infrastructure**
 - Incentives for data centers and cloud services

- **Public and Stakeholder Consultation**
 - tech companies, privacy advocates, and civil society, in the rule-making process
 - Regularly review to keep up with technological advancements and international trends
- **Focus on Cybersecurity**

Mains Practice Question

India's Data Protection Law, particularly through its 2025 draft rules, introduces significant changes in the processing and localisation of personal data. Discuss the key provisions of the same, with a focus on data localisation requirements. Suggest ways to balance data sovereignty with global business interests



4th January 2025

Syllabus: GS 2: India and its Neighborhood- Relations;
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No. 1;** Indian Express, **Page No. 9**

ON DECEMBER 25, China approved the construction of the world's largest hydropower project on the Yarlung Tsangpo (or Zangbo) river in Tibet. On completion, the 60,000 MW project will have the capacity to produce three times the amount of electricity as the world's largest hydro project, the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze in central China.

From Tibet, the Yarlung Tsangpo enters Arunachal Pradesh, where it is known as the Siang. In Assam, it is joined by tributaries such as Dibang and Lohit, and is called the Brahmaputra. The river then enters Bangladesh, and makes its way to the Bay of Bengal.

Why does China want this mega project?

China has said the dam will help it move away from conventional energy sources and achieve net carbon neutrality by 2060. The Yarlung Tsangpo is ideal for hydroelectricity generation — its steep descent from high mountains ensures a "remarkable flow rate", Dr Nithiyanandam said.

Some recent additions to China's network of tens of thousands of dams are staggering in scale. The immense weight of the volume of water stored in the Three Gorges Dam reservoir is suspected to have caused blips in gravity anomaly maps, Dr Nithiyanandam said. Water released from the dam has had severe environmental impacts — "the scientific community believes the massive storage of water can create earthquakes; and, more than all, it has displaced more than a million people... due to changes made in the river morphology," he wrote in an article for Takshashila in July 2023.

What are the specific concerns for India?

The dam (or dams) could impact the flow of water from China to India, the lower riparian state, Kantha said. The bulk of the water in the Brahmaputra system comes from Tibet.

Also, "going by the experience of other large dams, they always lead to other nega-

carbon neutrality by 2060

- Yarlung Tsangpo's ideal conditions for hydroelectric generation - steep descent
- 3-gorges dam - gravity anomaly

tive consequences," Kantha said. The flow of silt, crucial for agriculture, can get interrupted, and changes in river flow can impact the local biodiversity.

This region is among the world's most ecologically fragile and earthquake-prone. Kantha recalled that a landslide in 2004 had created the glacial Parechu Lake in the Tibetan Himalayas near Himachal Pradesh. After the Chinese alerted India, the level of the lake was monitored daily. The lake burst in June 2005 and sent a large volume of water down the Sutlej, but timely coordination and planning helped limit the damage.

"Even if there is no *mala fide* involved, such incidents become very serious. In the Tsangpo case, you're talking about a large dam in an earthquake-prone area. Chinese scholars have also raised these concerns extensively, such as in the case of Three Gorges," Kantha said.

To prevent disasters, coordination and exchange of information between countries is essential, Kantha said. "China doesn't feel the need to cooperate more closely with lower riparians. In the Mekong river basin, China has constructed 12 large dams with negative consequences for countries downstream," he said.

What coordination mechanism do India and China have on transboundary rivers?

There is an umbrella Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation on trans-boundary rivers, and two separate MoUs on the Brahmaputra and Sutlej, Kantha said.

The need for the Sutlej MoU was felt after the Parechu incident — however, China did not agree to round-the-year provision of data, and the MoU is currently pending renewal.

The Brahmaputra MoU, renewable every five years, lapsed in 2023. The renewal process is ongoing through diplomatic channels, the Jal Shakti Ministry says on its website.

The umbrella MoU was signed in 2013, and has no expiry date. But at present, there is "no activity being undertaken under this MoU", says the Ministry's website. An Expert Level Mechanism set up in 2006 provided for annual meetings between the two sides, but the process has seen interruptions.

Within these limited avenues of cooperation, the 1997 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses can play a role.

"Neither India nor China is a signatory, but we abide by its key features, including the equitable and reasonable utilisation of waters," Kantha said. Under the convention framework, the upper riparian does not have a free run, and one country's actions cannot significantly harm another.

Yarlung Tsangpo Hydropower Project:

- World's largest hydropower project (60,000 MW)
- 3 times the electricity of the Three Gorges Dam
- River flows through Arunachal Pradesh (Siang), Assam (Brahmaputra), and Bangladesh

China's Motivation for the Project:

- Shift to hydroelectric power for

4th January 2025

Syllabus: GS 2:India and its Neighborhood- Relations;
Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No. 1;** Indian Express, **Page No. 9**

Concerns:

- Potential impact on millions' livelihoods and ecology in downstream regions
- EQ-prone, ecologically fragile area - Parechu
- Disruption in water flow to India - lower riparian
- Risks of interrupted silt flow affecting agriculture and local biodiversity
- River morphology, displacement, seismicity
- China's lack of transparency and consultation with downstream countries

Coordination Mechanisms Between India and China:

- Umbrella MoU on transboundary rivers, and separate MoUs on Brahmaputra and Sutlej
- Brahmaputra MoU expired in 2023, renewal ongoing
- Sutlej MoU pending renewal, due to lack of data-sharing commitment from China

- Expert Level Mechanism for annual meetings but with interruptions
- UN Watercourses Convention as a framework, but no binding agreement between India-China

Suggestions for India:

- Challenge Chinese claims of minimal downstream impact on Brahmaputra
- Highlight concerns over environmental and geopolitical consequences
- Engage China in honest dialogue, dissuade
- Push for transparent data-sharing and cooperation, aligning with international frameworks
- Elevate water security as a priority in bilateral relations with China
- China's formation of two counties in Hotan Prefecture
- Report by Chinese news agency Xinhua on December 27, 2024
- Counties: He'an and Hekang - In India's Aksai Chin region
- India reiterates non-acceptance of China's occupation of Indian territory
- Region illegally occupied by China
- Part of ongoing territorial tensions post-Galwan clashes (June 2020)
- Protest lodged through diplomatic channels

So what options does India have?

"The larger problem is that understanding (between the countries) is very limited and narrow in scope," Kantha said. "The Chinese are unwilling to discuss any agreement which should involve major commitments on their part."

Whenever India has raised concerns about such projects, the standard Chinese response has been that these are primarily run-of-the-river projects – meaning they did not involve major impounding of water, Kantha said.

He said that India must "challenge" Chinese statements such as the recent "completely wrong" claim by the foreign office spokesperson that the Tsangpo mega dam would not have negative impacts downstream. "We need to say that publicly – otherwise, it will become a *fait accompli* and a huge problem for India down the road," Kantha said. "India needs to have an honest dialogue and essentially dissuade them from taking up a project of this magnitude."

According to Kantha, water "will become, and should become, a major issue in India's engagement with China" – and "it should be made very clear to the Chinese side that if they're not mindful of our interests and concerns, it will have a serious, negative impact on relations."



Fresh row: New counties in Hotan will have no bearing on India's sovereignty over the area, says MEA spokesperson. GETTY IMAGES

chal Pradesh and Assam.

"We have never accepted the illegal Chinese occupation of Indian territory in this area. Creation of new counties will neither have a bearing on India's long-standing and consistent position regarding our sovereignty over the area nor lend legitimacy to Chi-

na's illegal and forcible occupation of the same," said Mr. Jaiswal. "We have lodged a solemn protest with the Chinese side through diplomatic channels," he said.

The protest from the Indian side came after Chinese news agency Xinhua reported on December 27,

2024 that the authorities in northwest Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region had declared the formation of He'an County and Hekang County, in the Hotan prefecture. The Hotan prefecture contains parts of Aksai Chin that India accuses China of occupying and formation of the two new counties appears like Beijing firming up administrative measures in the region.

The protest from the Indian side is significant as it comes against the backdrop of the December 18, 2024 meeting between the Special Representatives for the border mechanism – National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

4th January 2025

Syllabus: GS2: Welfare Schemes for Vulnerable Sections;
Newspaper : Indian Express, Page No. 9

Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019

- **Definition**
- **Prohibits discrimination** in employment, education etc.
- **Allows self-perception of gender identity** – But certificate of identity issued by DM.
- **Criminalises begging.**
- **Prescribes offences along with the penalties.**
- **National Council for Transgender Persons** – MoSJ&E as Chairperson.

• **Functions:**

- Advise on policies, legislation
- Monitor and evaluate the impact.
- Redress grievances

Critic

- Spirit of NALSA Judgment – self determination, reservation
- Livelihood alternative?
- Silent on Civil Rights – marriage, adoption, succession
- Focus more on Transwomen – intersex, gender queer?
- Punishment inequality

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 3

FIVE YEARS after the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 (TPA) came into force, the Karnataka High Court last week stepped in to allow a trans woman to change the name and gender on her birth certificate. Despite being explicitly permitted under the 2019 Act (and subsequent rules), she was previously not allowed to do so by the authorities concerned.

The case of Ms X

The petitioner in *Ms X vs State of Karnataka* (2024) was diagnosed with gender dysphoria, a condition in which a person experiences significant distress due to the mismatch in one's gender identity and sex assigned at birth (based on sex organs). Consequently, the pe-

itioner chose to undergo a sex-reassignment surgery, and to change her name.

To ensure her official documentation reflected this, she had her name and gender identity changed on her Aadhaar, driving licence, and passport. But her application to change her name and gender identity on her birth certificate was rejected. The Registrar of Births and Deaths in Mangalore cited Section 15 of The Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, and said that the law only permits changing a birth certificate if the information is "erroneous" or entered "fraudulently or incorrectly".

This led the petitioner to challenge the Act in the Karnataka HC. In her petition, she argued that Section 15 was "extremely restrictive" and curtailed her right to life with dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution. She also said that documents showing different identities "leads to a dual life...

[which] is and can be in the future a cause for harassment and discrimination".

Special vs general laws

Section 6 of the TPA states that trans persons can be issued a "certificate of identity" as proof of their identity, and Section 7 states that this can be revised if they choose to opt for a sex-reassignment surgery. The 2019 law explicitly says the gender of a trans person "shall be recorded in all official documents" per this certificate, and that they "shall be entitled to change the first name in the birth certificate and all other official documents relating to the identity of such person". The detailed procedure for obtaining this certificate can be found under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Rules, 2020. Referring to the TPA and subsequent

EXPL
LA

rules, the Karnataka HC held that the 1969 Act as a "general enactment" must comply with the 2019 Act which is a "special enactment". General enactments refer to laws which apply broadly to a range of situations, whereas special laws govern specific sub-

jects like the TPA, which is specifically to do with trans persons, or the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, which specifically deals with the crime of money laundering.

By stating that the 1969 Act must comply with the 2019 Act, the Karnataka HC implemented a well-settled rule of legal interpretation called *generalia specialibus non-derogant*, which roughly translates to "the special shall prevail over the general". The idea is that a general law should not get in the way of a law meant to deal with a specific issue, such as how people accused of money laun-

dering or terrorism must overcome a higher bar to receive bail, in comparison to those accused of an offence under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

The Karnataka HC held that the registrar must recognise a certificate under the TPA, and issue a birth certificate with the name and gender identity corrected "until suitable amendments are made to the Act of 1969".

Application process

To receive a certificate of identity under the TPA, the person must follow the process provided in the Transgender Persons Rules, 2020. They must first file an application with the District Magistrate, along with an affidavit declaring their gender identity. The DM will process this affidavit and issue an identification number to the applicant that can be shown as proof of application. The rules state the certificate of identity and a transgender

identity card will be issued within 30 days of receiving the application and the affidavit, or the Magistrate will reject the applications with reasons within the same period.

Similarly, if a person undergoes a reassignment surgery, they can ask the Medical Superintendent or the Chief Medical officer to issue a medical certificate so they can apply again to the DM for a revised certificate of identity, which may be issued within 15 days. If a person has already recorded a change in gender before the Act came into force, they do not need to apply for a certificate.

Any authority responsible for issuing an official document (such as Aadhaar, driving licence, birth certificate etc.) is required to change "the name or gender or photographs or any of this information of the applicant in the official documents" within 15 days of receiving an application from a transgender person with a valid certificate of identity.

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Syllabus: GS2: Governance;
Newspaper :Indian Express, Page No. 7

IN A recent decision, the Supreme Court held that CBI does not require the sanction of a state government to register a case under a Central legislation like the Prevention of Corruption Act against a Central government employee working within the territory of the state concerned.

considered the fact that after the A.P. Reorganisation Act came into force on June 2, 2024, general consent was given only by Andhra Pradesh and concluded that as on the date of registration of the FIRs, there was no power vested with the CBI in Telangana and also to conduct investigation thereon.

The SC, however, noted that even before the bifurcation, the undivided state of AP had given general consent to CBI to probe cases. It held that the HC's view that laws made by AP prior to bifurcation would pertain only to Andhra Pradesh post bifurcation "cannot be the correct law and the legal fiction should be that such laws would be in force in the new

State unless altered or repealed or amended by it, in accordance with law". The judgment said that "irrespective of the place of posting," the accused duo "were Central Government employees and allegedly committed serious offence under PC Act, which is a Central Act" and "therefore the question is in such circumstances merely because such an employee works within the territory of a particular State, to register an FIR by the CBI in connection with commission of an offence under a Central Act whether consent from the state concerned is required or not?" The bench said that this was answered by the SC in its decisions in other cases.

- Central Government can authorise CBI to investigate - but only with the consent of State
- police and public order - state subjects
- Section 6 of DSPE
- suo-moto investigate - UTs
- SC and HCs order - no consent
- Types of Consent - case-specific or general
- General consent - corruption cases against central government employees
- WB, Rajasthan, Kerala - withdrawn the general consent
- Withdrawal of general consent - can't register any fresh case involving central government officials or private persons in a particular state without the prior permission of that state.

Exceptions to General Consent

- continue to investigate cases in a state registered before the withdrawal of the consent.
- investigate cases registered in other states/UTs and involve people residing in that state
- Approval of the High Court and Supreme Court



Syllabus: Geograpgy;
Newspaper : Indian Express, **Page No. 7**

Glacial Lakes

- body of water that originates from a glacier
- Usually at the foot of a glacier, but may form on, in, or under it.
- ISRO categorised
 - Moraine-dammed
 - Ice-dammed
 - Erosion-based
 - others
- Dams formed by moraines - dense and stable, holding sizable lakes behind them for years
- Leaky - lake drain slowly into nearby rivers
- crucial sources of freshwater for rivers
- Risks of GLOFs
 - release large volumes of meltwater due to failure of natural dams

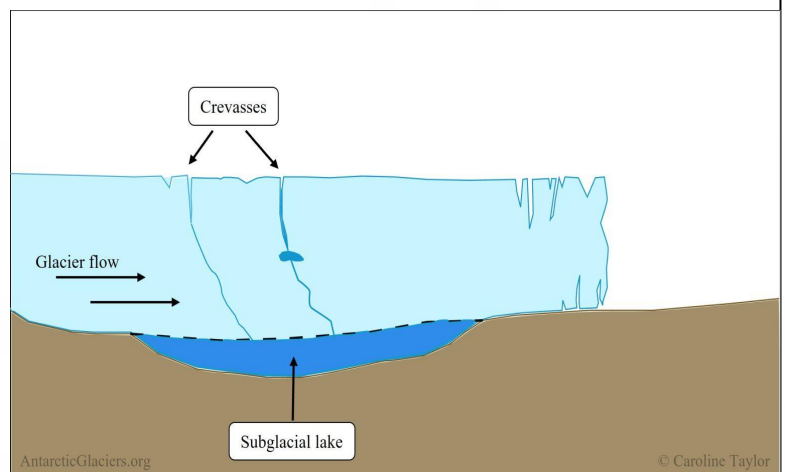
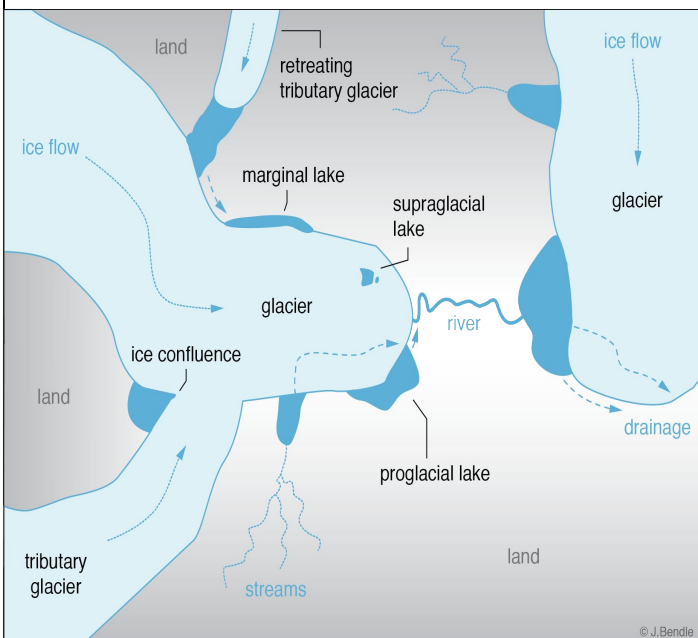
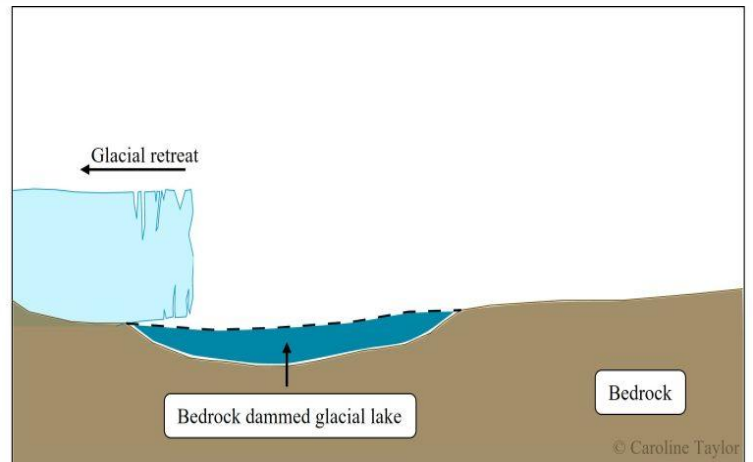
AISWARYARAJ
DEHRADUN, JANUARY 3

THE UTTARAKHAND State Disaster Management Authority (USDMA) is developing a detailed action plan for the comprehensive study and regular monitoring of glacial lakes in the state.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has identified thirteen glacial lakes in Uttarakhand – one in Bageshwar, four in Chamoli, six in Pithoragarh, one in Tehri and one in Uttarkashi district.

Disaster Management and Rehabilitation Secretary Vinod Kumar Suman said efforts are underway to develop a fool-proof system for monitoring glacial lakes with various equipment like water level sensors, automatic weather stations, and thermal imaging devices.

USDMA Joint Chief Executive Officer Obaidullah Ansari said,



Syllabus: GSI: Indian Society; **Newspaper :**The Hindu, **Page No. 10**

the Commission six weeks to collect the data on how many Central, State, deemed and private universities and institutions of higher learning have set up Equal Opportunity Cells under the UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations of 2012; the number of complaints received by them; and action taken on these grievances.

The order was passed on a petition filed six years ago by the mothers of Rohith Vemula and Payal Tadvi, who had appealed to the Supreme Court to act against the "rampant" caste discrimination in universities which claimed their children's lives.

Rohith Vemula, a PhD scholar at Hyderabad Cen-

tral University, and Payal Tadvi, a tribal student of Topiwala National Medical College, died by suicide in January 2016 and May 2019, respectively, after being subject to on-campus caste bias.

Meanwhile, as a stark reminder that caste bigotry was still claiming lives of young scholars in the country's higher educational campuses, the family of Darshan Solanki joined hands with the two mothers in the Supreme Court on Friday.

Mr. Solanki, a Scheduled Caste student at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB), died by suicide in February 2023. His death was linked to casteist insults he had suffered on campus. Justice Kant

- Denial of mobility & Varna based hierarchies
- Thorat committee in 2007 - around 72% of SC and ST students - discrimination experienced in classroom
- **Challenges**
 - a. Enrolment & Dropout Rates
 - b. Quota in private institutions
 - c. Poor academic performance
 - d. Economic status
 - e. Unconventional discrimination
 - f. Infrastructure - EOCs



Q1. Regarding India's Neighbourhood Policy, consider the following statements:

1. The SAARC framework is the only multilateral platform through which India engages with its South Asian Neighbours.
2. The 'Neighbourhood First' policy prioritises economic integration and connectivity with India's immediate neighbours.
3. India's Neighbourhood Policy includes security partnerships but excludes cultural diplomacy initiatives.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019:

1. The Act allows transgender persons to self-perceive their gender identity without requiring certification from any authority.
2. It prohibits discrimination against transgender persons in employment, education, healthcare, and access to public places.
3. The Act mandates the establishment of a National Council for Transgender Persons.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI):

1. The CBI derives its powers of investigation from the Delhi Special

investigation from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, of 1946.

2. The CBI is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Glacial Lakes:

1. Glacial lakes are formed by the melting of glaciers and are often located in mountainous regions.
2. Moraine-dammed lakes are a common type of glacial lake, where the natural dam is made of rock debris deposited by the glacier.
3. Glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) are primarily caused by tectonic activities in the region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Brahmaputra River:

1. The Brahmaputra River originates from the Chemayungdung glacier in Tibet and is known as the Yarlung Tsangpo in its upper course.
2. The Brahmaputra is a perennial river and does not form any river islands along its course.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a





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