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The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

19th October 2025



CONTEXT: The article highlights the improvements made for “Women healthcare” in India under the provisions of Ayushman Bharat Yojana although challenges persists

Chapter 1: What is the **Status of Healthcare** for Women?

Context of News :

Women account for 49% of total hospital admissions under the government's flagship health insurance scheme, the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), according to the annual report for 2024-25 of the National Health Authority. This signals improved access to institutional healthcare for women, the report said.

01

NHFS - 5
(2021-23) : 57%
women (15-49
years) are
Anemic

02

India's Maternal
Mortality Ratio
(MMR) = 93 per
1,00,000 women

03

State with
Highest MMR =
Madhya Pradesh
(175)

WHO Report 2024
: One maternal
death occurred
almost every 2
minutes in 2023

Chapter 1: What is the **Status of Healthcare** for Women?

Tribal Health Report 2023 :

65% Tribal women
(15-49 years)
suffers from
Anemia

25% Pregnant &
lactating
mothers have
sufficient Calorie
& Protein Intake

Rate of
Institutional
Delivery = 70%

MMR = Beyond
100 against India
Level = 93

Under 5 Mortality Rate = 57.2
per 1000 live births

Poor status of Health
Infrastructure

Inadequate Maternal & Children Care

Medical illiteracy in Rural areas

Low Skill Accumulation =
“IRSO” Mismatch

Vicious cycle of Poverty



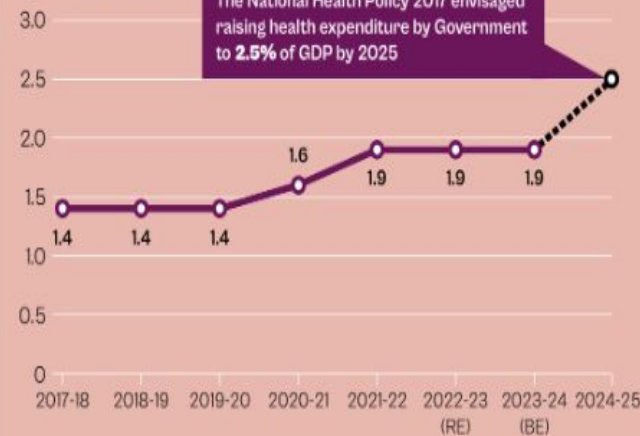
CONTEXT: The article highlights the improvements made for "Women healthcare" in India under the provisions of Ayushman Bharat Yojana although challenges persists

Chapter 2: Causes behind "Poor status" of Healthcare?

Govt's Response?

Combined Health Expenditure Of Central And State Governments

(Figures as % of GDP)



The National Health Policy 2017 envisaged raising health expenditure by Government to **2.5%** of GDP by 2025

BE: Budget Estimate RE: Revised Estimate
Source: Economic Survey 2023-24

the
Secretariat

Factor 2: "Unaffordability" of Healthcare:

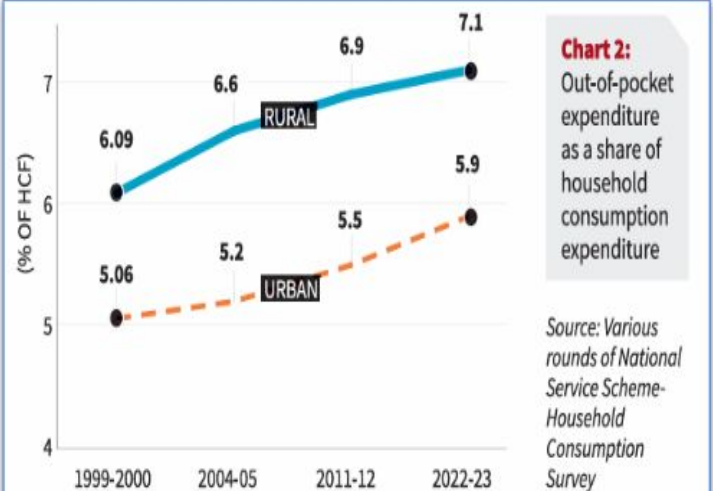


Chart 2:
Out-of-pocket expenditure as a share of household consumption expenditure

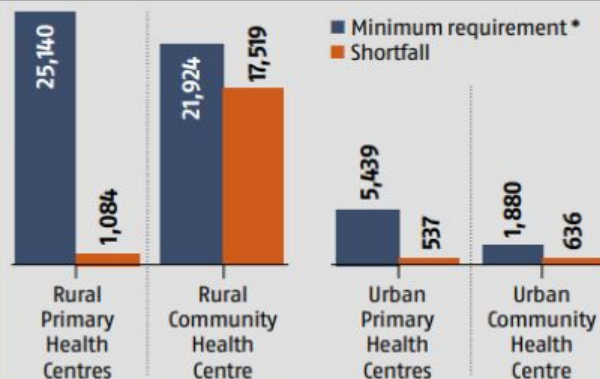
Source: Various rounds of National Service Scheme-Household Consumption Survey

Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI): 55 million Indians pushed into poverty (2014-2020) due to catastrophic healthcare costs

Chapter 2: Causes behind "Poor status" of Healthcare?

Factor 2: Poor Health Infrastructure:

GOVERNMENT HEALTH CENTRES FACE SHORTFALL



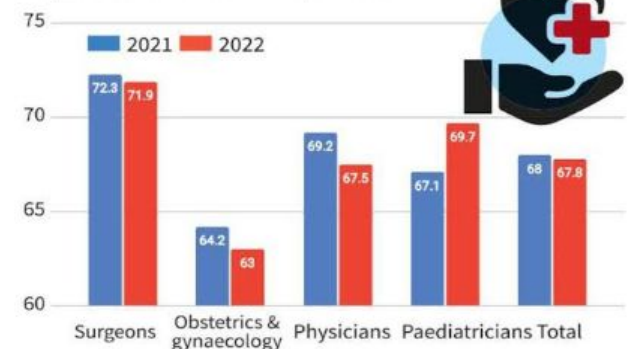
*WHO standard that mandates the minimum requirement of doctors based on population
Source: IndiaSpend, Rural Health Statistics 2020-21

Lack of Government Medical Facilities:

Glaring gap

Skewed - Doctor Patient Ratio:

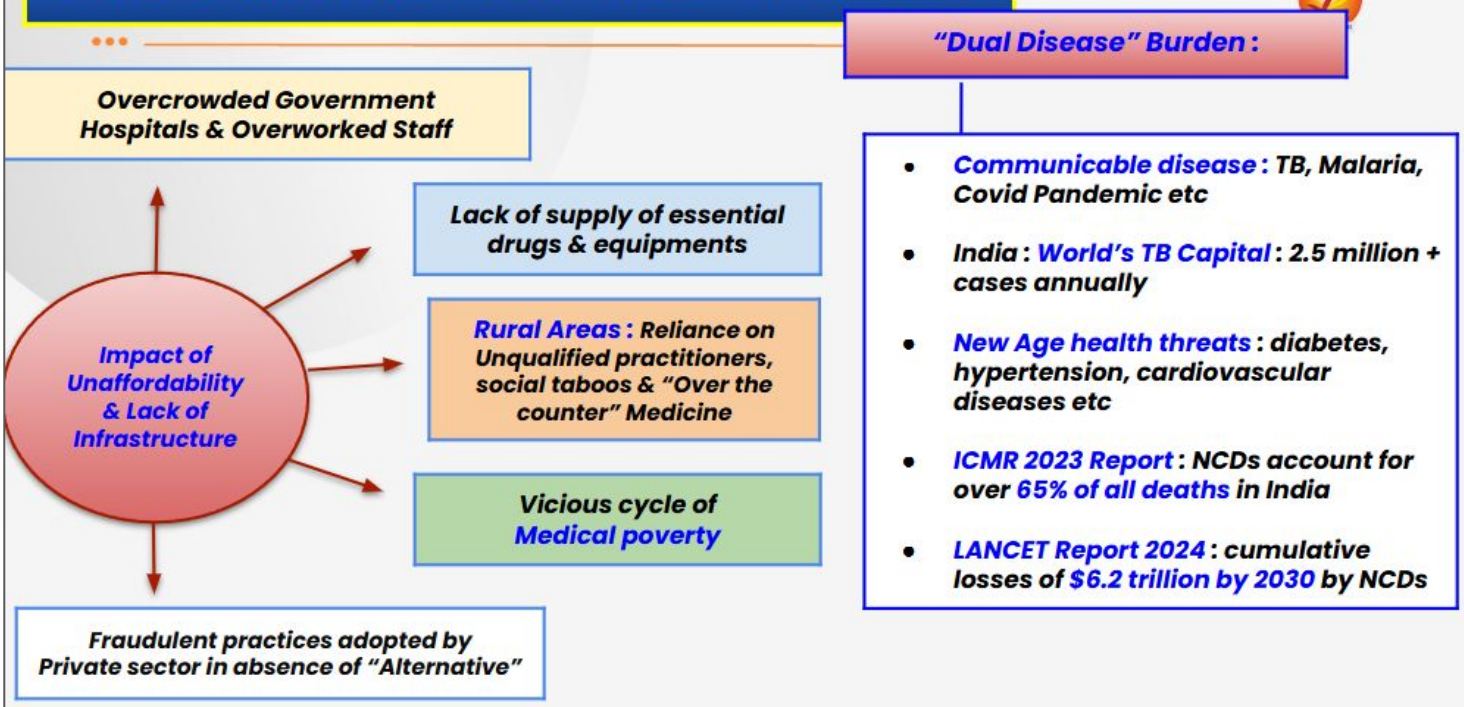
Overall, 67.8% sanctioned posts of specialists at Community Health Care Centres in India are vacant, according to Rural Health Statistics 2021-22. The chart shows vacancies (in %) of specialists in CHCs across specialities



**WHO : 1 : 1000 v.
India : 1 : 1834 (NITI Aayog)**

CONTEXT: The article highlights the improvements made for "Women healthcare" in India under the provisions of Ayushman Bharat Yojana although challenges persists

Chapter 2: Causes behind "Poor status" of Healthcare?



Chapter 3: What Government of India has done so far?

Janani Suraksha Yojana

- National Health Mission
- **PHC + Private** = ₹1400 (Urban) & ₹1000 (Rural)
- **SC/ST women** = Low & High performing state
- **BPL household** = **HPS**
- **Only** above **19 years**
- **Only** upto **2** live births

Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram

- Eliminate OOP for pregnant women
- Free Delivery including surgery & medicines

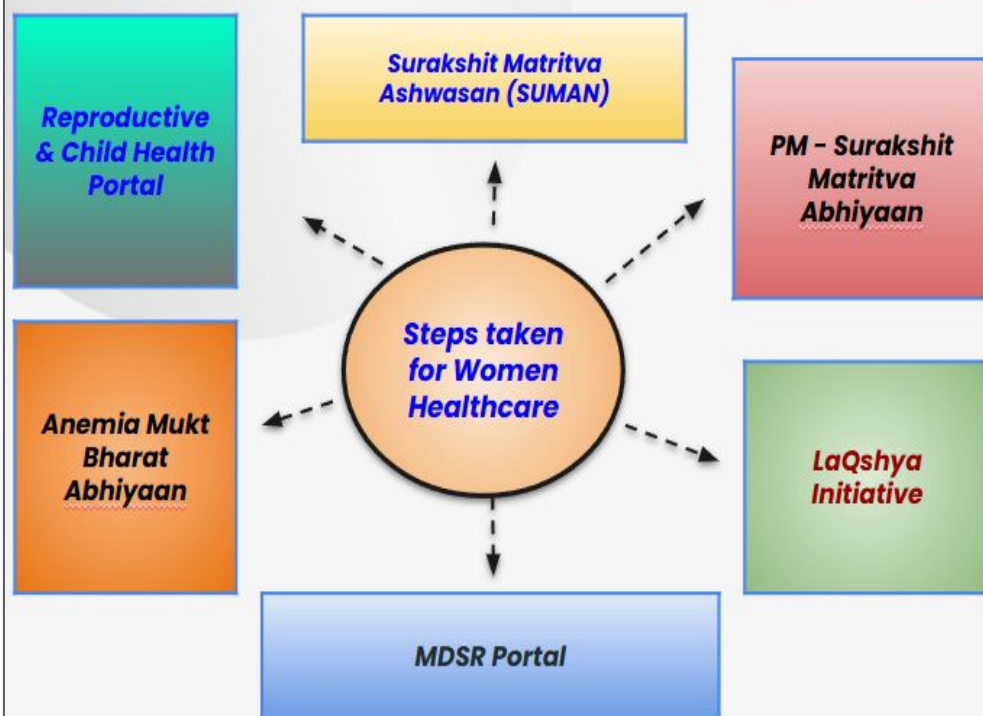
Matru Vandana Yojana

- **Maternity benefit** to pregnant & lactating women
- **₹5000** = **3** installments
- **Registration** = **₹1000**
- **6 months & antenatal** = **₹2000** checkup
- **Immunisation** of child = **₹2000**
- **Centrally Sponsored**



CONTEXT: The article highlights the improvements made for “Women healthcare” in India under the provisions of Ayushman Bharat Yojana although challenges persists

Chapter 3 : What Government of India has done so far?



Way Forward : Bijoya Chakravarti 2018

- Expand the efficiency of **Insurance & Digital healthcare** to Tier 2 & Tier 3 cities
- Robust Primary & Secondary Healthcare
- Reduce curative care load at Tertiary Level
- Case study of Thailand
- Telemedicine with use of AI
- Finland's Health education model

Chapter 4 : What is PM - JAY : Ayushman Bharat?

Provisions of the Scheme:

- ₹5 Lakh per family per year
- Secondary & Tertiary Healthcare
- Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- Both Public - Private Healthcare sector
- Identification of beneficiaries: SECC 2011
- No Restriction on family size & gender
- ASHA, Anganwadi & All citizens above 70+ years
- Inter - State Operability
- Nodal Agency : NHA
- National Anti Fraud Unit (NAFU)

Prelims Corner 2026 :

Expenses Covered

- Medical Examination & Consultation
- Pre - Hospitalisation
- Post - Hospitalisation
- Intensive Care
- Medical Implantation

Nurture the Mother



CONTEXT: The article highlights the improvements made for “Women healthcare” in India under the provisions of Ayushman Bharat Yojana although challenges persists

Mains Practise Question

Question : What is the status of *Healthcare for Women in India?* Highlight the *steps taken* by the Government of India and the *futuristic measures* which shall be adopted at the District level.
(10 Marks, 150 words)



Relevance of Rangarajan Line



CONTEXT: The article throws light on the data gaps which persist in the terms of Poverty estimation in the country and the reforms which are required.

Pillar 1: Estimating Poverty in India :

Committee	Methodology	Poverty
Alagh Committee 1979	Basis of Nutritional Requirement & related Consumption Expenditure	1/3rd of the Population
LAKDAWALA COMMITTEE 1993	- Basis of Consumption pattern of poor as per CPI - IW, AL - Expenditure on Calorie consumption	36% of the Population
TENDULKAR COMMITTEE 2011	- Consumption Expenditure on Basket of Goods - Include Private Expenditure on Health & Education	Poverty Line: ₹33/day (Urban) & ₹27/day (Rural) : 21%
RANGARAJAN COMMITTEE 2014	- Survey of households by CMIE - Calories: 2155 Kcal (Rural) & 2090 Kcal (Urban)	Poverty Line: ₹47/day (Urban) & ₹32/day (Rural) : 29%

Today's Article :
Department of Economic & Policy Research

Updation of Poverty line for 20 major states using HCES 2022-23

Biggest decline in Poverty (2011-23) : Odisha (47% to 8%)

Decline in Urban Poverty : Bihar (50.8% to 9.1%)

Rural poverty : Lowest in HP (0.4%) & Highest in Chhattisgarh (25%)

Pillar 1: Estimating Poverty in India :

Estimation of Poverty by DEPR, RBI

Did not used CPI - C Inflation for adjustment of Poverty

Why? Weight of Food in Rural Rangarajan PLB : 57% v. Rural CPI : 54%

Created New Price Index : Constituent items same as RPLB with Inflation level from 2012

Compared with Household expenditure As per HCES Data 2022-23

Impetus shall be on Multidimensional Poverty

HCES 2023-24

Statement 1: Average MPCE (Rs.) and share of food and non-food items in 2023-24: All-India

Item Group	Rural India		Urban India	
	Average MPCE (Rs.)	Share in MPCE (%)	Average MPCE (Rs.)	Share in MPCE (%)
Food	1,939	47.04	2,776	39.68
Non-food	2,183	52.96	4,220	60.32

Relevance of Rangarajan Line



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Pillar 1: Estimating Poverty in India :

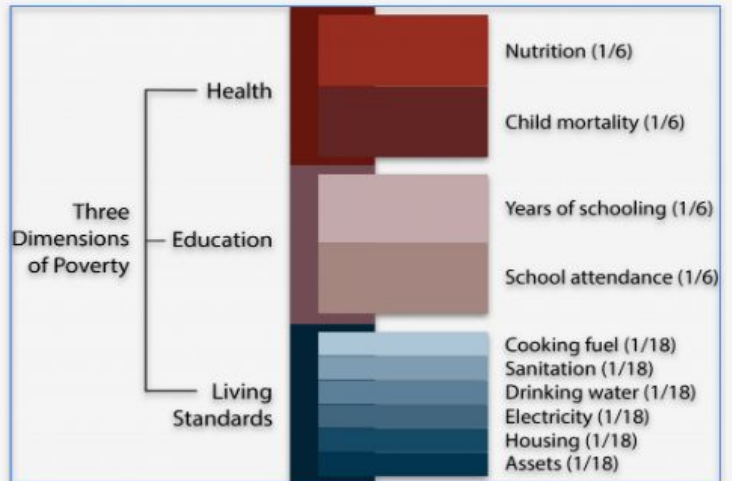


MDPI 2023 released by UNDP

Poverty based on 3 categories

2023 - 18% population -
230 million people are MDP

Declined sharply from 55% in 2005-06



Pillar 2: Causes of Poverty in India?

"Poverty Decline in India after 2011-12" :

- GDP Growth (2011-2023) = 5.7% thus slower decline in Poverty
- Wage Rates in Rural India (WRI) = Annual wage rate growth fell by 2.3% per year (2011-23)
- 68 million workers added in Agriculture sector since 2017-18

Jobless Growth

Mechanisation of Labour Force

Low skill set of Labour Force

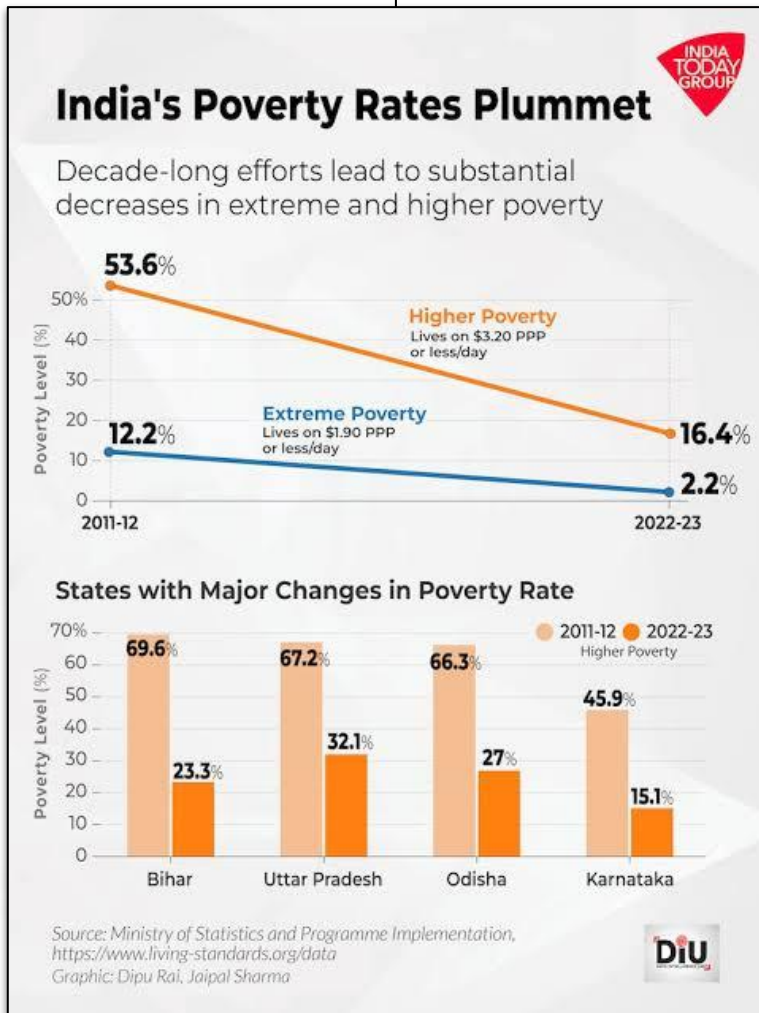
Vicious Cycle of Poverty

Rankings in GHI & HDI



Relevance of Rangarajan Line

CONTEXT: The article throws light on the data gaps which persist in the terms of Poverty estimation in the country and the reforms which are required.



Pillar 3 : Steps taken by GOI?

Budget 2024 : Employment Linked Incentive Scheme

Scheme A	Scheme B	Scheme C
₹15,000 in Two installments to all employee entering in formal sector only - Salary eligibility : Below ₹1 Lakh / month - Compulsory online Financial literacy course	- Wage subsidy for 1st timers - Additional employment in Manufacturing sector 8-24% incentive to both employer & employee	- Additional employment in all sectors ₹3000 / month reimbursement to employer for providing jobs



Relevance of Rangarajan Line

CONTEXT: The article throws light on the data gaps which persist in the terms of Poverty estimation in the country and the reforms which are required.

Pillar 3 : Steps taken by GOI?

Steps Taken :

PM - MUDRA Yojana

SVANIDHI Scheme

Make in India & Stand Up India

E - Shram Portal

Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 & Vishwakarma Yojana

Way Forward :

"Make in India"
& "Make for
World"

Strengthening
of MSME Sector

Agriculture &
Rural based
Industries

Pillar 4 : What is SVANIDHI Scheme?

Provisions of the Scheme :

Central Sector Scheme

Ministry of Housing & Urban
Affairs (MoHUA)

Affordable working capital
loans without collateral to
Urban street vendors

Tranches :

- ☐ 1st Loan : 10,000
- ☐ 2nd Loan : 20,000
- ☐ 3rd Loan : 50,000

Prelims Corner 2026 :

Timely payment: Interest
subsidy of 7% per annum

Lending Institutions: Banks,
NBFC, MFI & SHG

Eligibility : States which have
notified rules under Street
Vendors Act 2014

Eligibility : All street vendors
engaged in Urban areas

Relevance of Rangarajan Line



CONTEXT: The article throws light on the data gaps which persist in the terms of Poverty estimation in the country and the reforms which are required.

Mains Practise Question

Question : What is the **level of poverty** in India as per various methodologies? What are the **causes** behind prevailing Poverty in India? What **steps you will take** as a future bureaucrat to deal with the issue of Poverty?
(10 Marks, 150 words)



Days before Diwali, Delhi Gasps

SYLLABUS : GS 3 : Air Pollution & Environment Conservation
Newspaper The Indian Express Page Number : 05

Days before Diwali, Delhi Gasps

"High pollution levels surged before Diwali"

Context of the News :

WHO Report 2024 :
3rd most polluted country

Delhi : World's most polluted capital city

96% population exposed to high level of PM 2.5

LANCET Report 2023 :
Air pollution : 11% deaths per annum in Delhi

While the World Health Organisation's (WHO) 24-hour guideline for PM 10 is $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, Delhi's hourly readings were already over 16 times higher, showing how high pollution levels surged before the festival night.

HOW WAS THE AIR IN NCR

	OCTOBER 18		OCTOBER 17	
Place	AQI	Main pollutant	AQI	Main pollutant
Delhi	268	PM10	254	PM10
Gurgaon	258	PM10, PM2.5	266	PM10, PM2.5
Ghaziabad	324	PM10	306	PM10, PM2.5
Noida	293	PM10	278	PM10, PM2.5

● 201-300 Poor ● 301-400 Very Poor

AIR QUALITY WORSENS

NATIONAL 24-HOUR PERMISSIBLE LIMIT

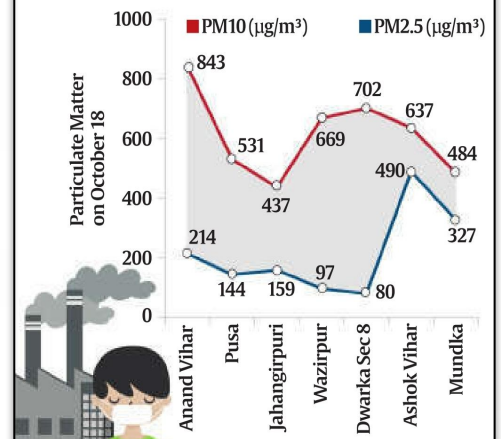
PM10: $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

PM2.5: $60 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

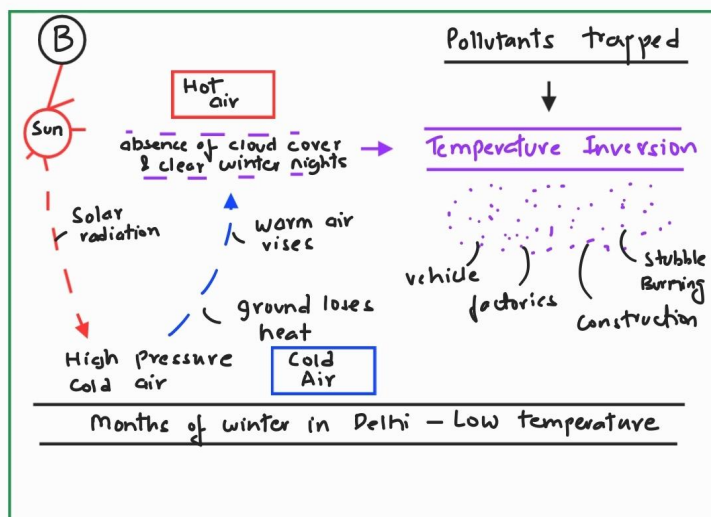
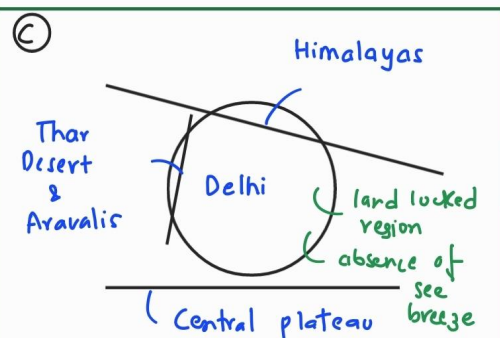
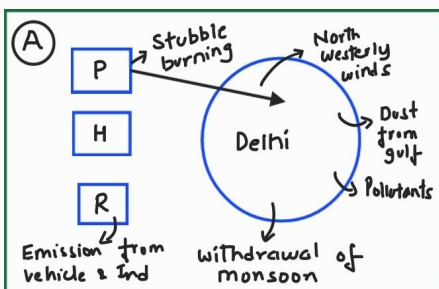
WHO'S 24-HOUR PERMISSIBLE LIMIT

PM10: $45 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

PM2.5: $15 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



CAUSES OF POLLUTION IN DELHI



- Expansion of "Grey" Infrastructure
- Absence of Green-Blue spaces
- Land use changes
- Rapid Urbanisation



Days before Diwali, Delhi Gasps



SYLLABUS : GS 3 : Air Pollution & Environment Conservation
Newspaper The Indian Express Page Number : 05

Air pollution impacting Red Fort walls, finds study

Nation

Delhi world's most polluted capital city again, India has third worst air quality out of 134 countries: Report

Delhi's PM2.5 levels worsened from 89.1 micrograms per cubic metre in 2022 to 92.7 micrograms per cubic metre in 2023.

Punjab records 27 incidents of stubble burning in five days

State intensifies awareness campaign; hotspots identified; govt. sanctions 15,613 crop residue management machines against 16,837 applications

Precedent for Government :

**Stockholm Declaration 1972 :
Right to Clean Environment**

**Article 48 A :
Protect Environment**

**Article 51 A (g) :
Duty of citizen to protect
environment**

**MC Mehta v. UOI 1988 :
Polluters Pay Principle**

Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)

- ❑ **Statutory body**
- ❑ **Commission for Air Quality Management Act 2021**
- ❑ **Prevention of Air pollution in *Delhi - NCR* and adjoining areas**
- ❑ **Accountable to *Parliament***
- ❑ **Chairperson : *Secretary***

"Pollution is measured as per NAQI developed by CPCB":

- ❑ **Particulate Matter (2.5 & 10)**
- ❑ **Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)**
- ❑ **Sulphur**
- ❑ **Carbon Monoxide (CO)**
- ❑ **Ammonia (NH₃)**
- ❑ **Lead (Pb)**
- ❑ **Ozone (O₃)**



Days before Diwali, Delhi Gasps



SYLLABUS : GS 3 : Air Pollution & Environment Conservation
Newspaper The Indian Express Page Number : 05

Steps Taken :

National Clean Air Programme

SATAT & FAME Scheme

Ban on use of Pet Coke & Furnace Oil as fuel

**Technical Interventions :
Happy Seeder**

**Adoption of GREEN Crackers :
SWAS, STAR & SAFAL**

National Clean Air Programme :

- ❑ **Target : 40% reduction in PM Levels by 2025-26 under NCAP from 2017 level**
- ❑ **Cities to be covered : 102**
- ❑ **131 cities to be ranked on actions to reduce air pollution**
- ❑ **City specific air pollution abatement action plan**
- ❑ **International Support Agencies : World Bank, Swiss Development Corporation etc**



Elephants face a Jumbo Challenge



SYLLABUS : Prelims: Important Fauna
Newspaper The Hindu **Page Number : 09**

Elephants face a Jumbo Challenge

Context of News :

The story so far:

The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) released its report, the 'Status of Elephants in India', on October 14. The estimation of 22,446 elephants across four landscapes elicited comparison with the 2017 figure of 29,964, although the report said the DNA-based method, used for the first time to estimate elephants, "may be treated as a new monitoring baseline for further research".

1st Elephant population estimation, 1929

In modern day UP & Uttarakhand :
Direct total count method

Project Elephant 1992

Tracking based total count + water hole count + transect count + dung count

Synchronous All India Elephant Estimation (SAIEE)

Adopted in 2021: **29,964 elephants**

SAIEE 2025

Total population : **22,446**
25% decline in population

Elephants face a Jumbo Challenge

Snapshot on Elephants for Prelims :

Elephas Maximus Indicus is **smaller** than African elephant

Grasslands, dry deciduous & evergreen forests

IUCN :
Endangered List

Schedule 1 of WPA 1972

Gestation Period : **22 months** (longest gestation period of any animal)

Lifespan : 40-65 years

Western Ghats : 53% of total elephants in India

Highest :
Karnataka
> Assam > TN > Kerala



Elephants face a Jumbo Challenge

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Fauna
Newspaper The Hindu Page Number : 09

THE IMPORTANCE OF ELEPHANTS

Savannah elephants are the largest living land mammals. They are intelligent, have close family bonds and complex social networks. Elephants play an important role in maintaining healthy ecosystems, benefiting people and other species.

SEED DISPERSAL

Elephants disperse seeds from the fruit they eat in the dung they deposit. Their dung also helps fertilise these plant seedlings. As elephants travel large distances, they support tree renewal over very large areas.

ECOSYSTEM REGULATION

Elephants are known as 'ecosystem engineers'. They break and fell trees as they feed and travel - opening up vegetation for new seedlings and grassland to thrive. In dry times they dig for water in river beds, creating pools that other animals can drink from. Their impacts help support numerous other species.

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Well managed safari tourism can bring significant income to communities, businesses and the national economy. Protecting elephants and their habitat supports ecosystem services such as water catchment, pollination and soil conservation which support agriculture and community wellbeing.

Wildlife Conservation Society

Issues as per SAIEE Report :

- **Habitat fragmentation & loss of traditional elephant corridors**
- **Disruption of Movement : Railway lines, Highways & Power Infrastructure**
- **Encroachments, fencing of agricultural land & plantation expansion**
- **Mining operations in Central India**
- **Data collection in NE due to difficult terrain**

Steps Taken :

- **Project Elephant 1992 : Technical & Financial support to states**
- **33 Elephant Reserves & 100+ identified Elephant Corridors**
- **"Gaj Yatra" Campaign : Public awareness campaign to celebrate Elephant as India's National Heritage Animal**
- **MIKE Programme : Launched by CITES**
- **Listing in Appendix 1 of CMS**

Elephants face a Jumbo Challenge

Nilgiri ER	TN, Kerala & Karnataka
Periyar ER	Kerala
Mayurbhanj ER	Odisha
Kaziranga ER	Assam
Rajaji - Corbett ER	Uttarakhand



Elephants face a Jumbo Challenge

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Important Fauna
Newspaper The Hindu **Page Number :** 09

Elephants face a Jumbo Challenge

Objective:

International agreement to ensure International trade in animals and plants

Specifications :

Drafted by **IUCN**

Entered into force in 1975

India became signatory in 1976

Secretariat is administered by **UNEP** & located at Geneva, Switzerland

CITES is legally binding but not self executing

With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IUCN is an organ of the United Nations and CITES is an international agreement between governments.
2. IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage natural environments.
3. CITES is legally binding on the States that have joined it, but this Convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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



SYLLABUS : Prelims Important Fauna
Newspaper The Indian Express Page Number : 09

Context of News :

IN 2018, officials at Chhattisgarh's Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary embarked on an ambitious venture: to revive the blackbuck population 50 years after it had become "locally extinct". It was a gamble: the habitat loss, human encroachment and forest fragmentation that contributed to the animal's erasure from the state still existed, and officials were unsure if their efforts would pay off. They did — Barnawapara now boasts 190 blackbucks, and officials plan to replicate the conservation model across the state.

2021-2026 Revival Plan

Translocated 50 BB's from National Zoological Park, Delhi

Translocated 27 from Kanan Pendari Zoological Garden, Bilaspur

Dramatic Decline : Habitat Loss & Anthropogenic activities

Chattisgarh : Species completely disappeared by 1970s & remained locally extinct for "50 years"



Image 28 "Roads vs. Wildlife: A Doully Encounter" Chital grassland, Biker © Roshikesh Pansar

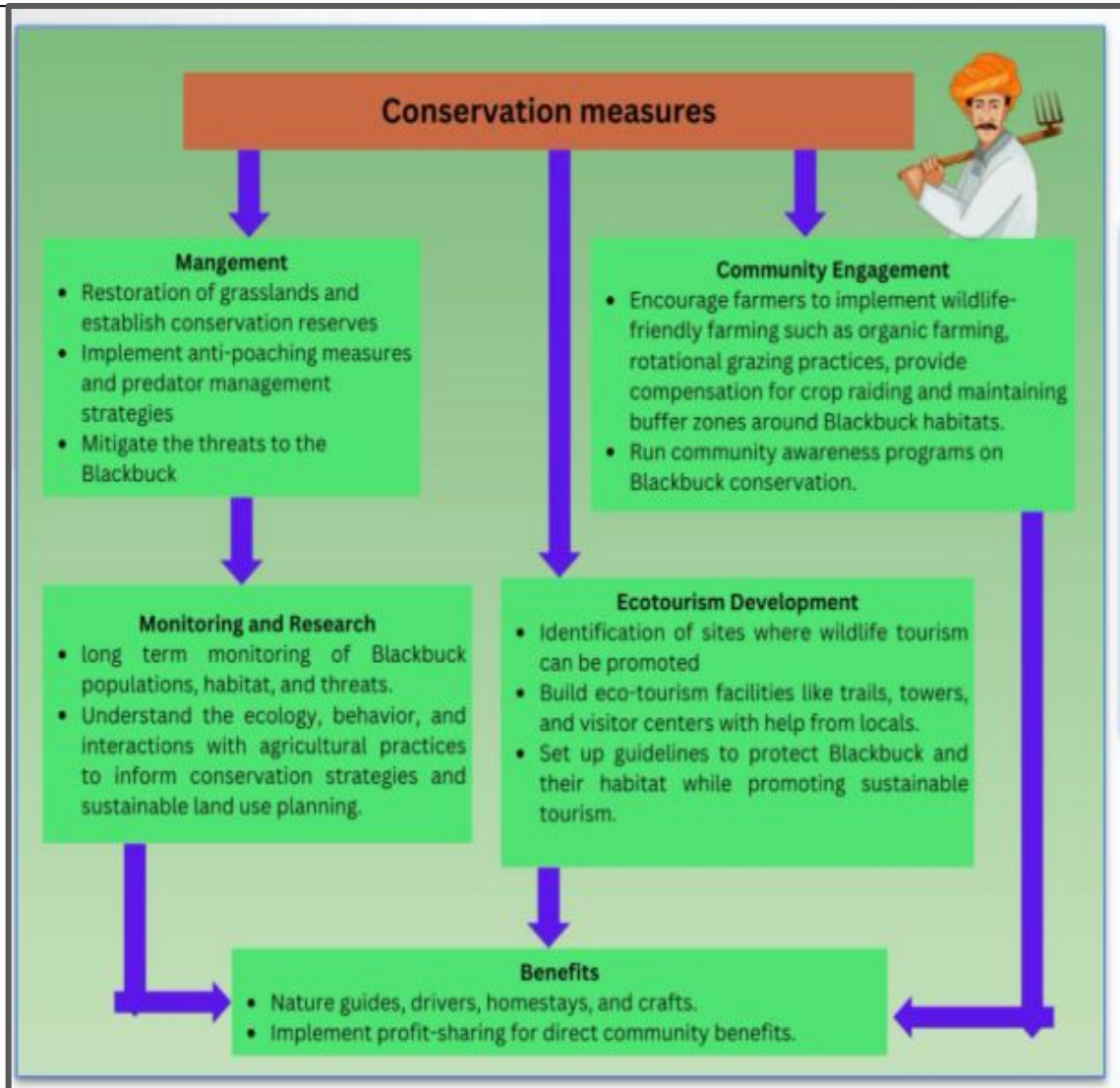
Snapshot on Blackbuck for Prelims :

Blackbuck (Antelope Cervicapra) ancestors came from Saharo - Arabian region	IUCN Status : Least Concerned	"Endangered" under Schedule I of the WPA 1972	Raj, Punjab, Gujarat, MP, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Odisha, TN, Andhra Pradesh
Habitat : Open Grasslands, Semi - Arid plains & Scrublands	Maintains grassland ecology : Prey for wolves, jackals etc	Highest population : Rajasthan	Largest Blackbuck population : Velvadar NP, Gujarat



Comeback of Blackbucks

SYLLABUS : Prelims Important Fauna
Newspaper The Indian Express **Page Number : 09**



Conservation method adopted by Raipur Forest Division :

Managment	Role
Forest Department	Habitat management, Anti-poaching, compensation for crop raiding by Blackbuck to the farmers
Agriculture Department	Farmers support, encouragement for Wildlife friendly farming
District Administration Tourism department	Ecotourism and promotion of sustainable and control tourism through community engagement
Research Organization & NGO	Monitoring, Research, Awareness programs



SYLLABUS : Prelims Important Festivals

Newspaper The Hindu **Page Number** : News in Frames

Context of the News :



As the winter approaches, the women of Telangana pay floral tributes to Mother Nature in a unique way.

Bathukamma is a celebration of the intrinsic bond between earth, water, and humankind. Observed according to the Satavahana calendar, the nine-day festival begins on Bhadracharya Purnima (also known as Mahalaya Amavasya or Pitru Amavasya) and concludes on Durgashtami, typically falling in September or October.

Bathukamma, Telangana

- Latter half of monsoon, before onset of Winter
- Abundant flowers are 'Gunuka' & 'tangedu'
- Great attraction is 'Shilpakka pandlu': Custard apples or 'poor man's apple'
- Flowers arranged in Brass Plate 'taambalam': Carried by women
- 'Boddemma': a deity of Gowri 'mother Durga' made with earthly mud immerse it in the pond

Important Festivals

Pongal, Tamil Nadu	Worshipping sun, rain & harvesting	Mim Kut, Mizoram	Worshipping "Spirit of Nature"
Magh Bihu, Assam	Harvest festival worshipping nature for crops fertility	Sair e Gul Faroshan	"Phool walo ki Sair": 3 day festival of Flowers in Delhi
Nuakhai, Odisha	Thanking "Mother Earth" for Good harvest	Losong, Sikkim	Celebration of Harvest festival
Sarhul, Jharkhand	Tribal festival worshipping Trees & Nature	Kharchi Puja, Tripura	To honour the Earth & 14 deities
Wangala, Meghalaya	Thanking Sun God "Misi Saljong" for blessing crops	Losar Festival, Arunachal	Worshipping Agriculture & Animal husbandry by Monpa Tribe



Neelakurinji blooms again

SYLLABUS : Prelims Important Flora
Newspaper The Hindu **Page Number : 09**

Context of News :

Gudalur is shrouded in mist and kurinji. These clusters of bell-shaped flowers have burst over the hills after eight years, painting them violet

“What is special is that it has bloomed at Tamil Nadu’s newly notified reserve forest in Gudalur, the Nilgiris,” says Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests. The kurinji is not just a rare flower but also an indicator of climate change. The flowering off-

“Excellent barometer of the Grasslands”

ISFR 2023 = Forest & Tree Cover in India : 25.17%

NFP 1988 = 33% of total geographical area under F & T Cover

Highest % of forest cover as total Geographical area = Lakshadweep (91%) > Mizoram (85%) > A & N

Highest area under Forest cover : MP > Arunachal > Chhattisgarh

Decoding the Article :

Strobilanthes Kunthiana

Neelakurinji : Blooms once every 12 years in high altitude grasslands

Endemic to Western Ghats

Strobilanthes Sessilis : Blooms every 12 years

But lower than 1,300 metres altitude

Karinkurinji : Blooms every year

Sustains butterflies, honeybees & insects

450 species in world : 150 found only in India

Kurinji plants flower only ONCE in lifetime

FOUND ONLY IN THE WESTERN GHATS

2/6

THIS RARE FLOWER IS ENDEMIC TO THE WESTERN GHATS, WITH NILGIRIS BEING ONE OF THE FEW PLACES WHERE THIS BOTANICAL PHENOMENON OCCURS.



Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Tribal Health Report 2023:

1. The rate of institutional delivery among tribal populations is 95%.
2. Only 25% of pregnant and lactating mothers have sufficient calorie and protein intake.
3. The Under-5 Mortality Rate is 57.2 per 1000 live births.

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

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

Answer: b

Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. The Alagh Committee (1979) estimated poverty based on nutritional requirements and related consumption expenditure.
2. The Tendulkar Committee (2011) excluded private expenditure on health and education from its methodology.
3. The Rangarajan Committee set the urban poverty line at ₹47/day and rural at ₹32/day.

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: c

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Elephants in India:

1. *Elephas maximus indicus* (Indian Elephant) is larger than the African elephant.
2. The gestation period of elephants in India is more than 22 months.
3. Karnataka has the highest population of elephants in India.

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: b

Q4. Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in which of the following states?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Odisha
- d) Jharkhand

Answer: b

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Bathukamma festival:

1. Bathukamma is celebrated in the latter half of the monsoon, before the onset of winter.
2. The deity Boddemma is associated with Goddess Durga.

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: c





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