

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

04th October 2025



On Dams, take the China way



04th October 2025

CONTEXT: The editorial provides the comparative analysis of Hydropower generation in China & India & suggests how India can borrow a leaf from China's hat for ensuring water & energy security

Pillar 1: Who won the race to build "Temples of Future"?

Context of News:

India became independent in 1947 and the People's Republic of China was founded in 1949. In the 1950s, both countries started to construct large dams. India constructed its two major dams, Hirakud and Bhakra, in 1957 and 1963. Similarly, China constructed its major dam, Sanmenxia, in 1960.

The results of these constructions were very different. Hirakud and Bhakra were successful. India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, proudly proclaimed such large dams to be the "temples of modern India". In contrast, the record of Sanmenxia was not so good. The dam lost 17 per cent of its storage capacity during the first flood it faced due to excessive sedimentation. Over the next several decades, its design and operating procedures were changed several times for it to remain functional.

Case of India:

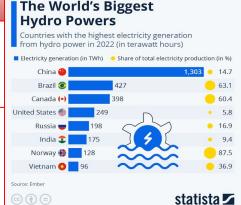
- 1990s: Lost decade for Dam construction in India
- **Policymakers:** Rainwater harvesting & Check dams
- **Environmental** challenges: SC stay over Sardar Sarovar Dam for 6 years
- **Lack of Finance: WB** & ADB stopped financing construction of large dams

Case of China:

- **Large Dams: Ensure Water & Energy security**
- 2000: India (21 **GW) Hydropower** v. China (77 GW)
- 2024: India (42 **GW)** v. China (435 GW)
- 2024: 60% (14 GW) of total Global addition (24 GW)

Steps taken by China: Targeted increase of 140 GW in 12th FYP conventional hydropower By its end, China's total installed capacity (2011–2015) reached 319 GW Transmit power from the water surplus but economically underdeveloped West - East western provinces (Sichuan & Yunnan) **Electricity** To high-demand, energy-starved eastern

- Transfer **Project**
- coastal industrial hubs (Shanghai)
- Building massive Ultra High Voltage (UHV) transmission lines
- Mega-Dams as **National** "Flagship Projects"
- Three Gorges Dam (2012): 22.5 GW installed capacity (World's largest power station)
- Renewable **Energy Law**
- Mandatory connection and purchase policy for Renewable generators
- National feed-in tariff (FIT) system: guaranteeing hydropower plants a fixed & favorable price for their electricity



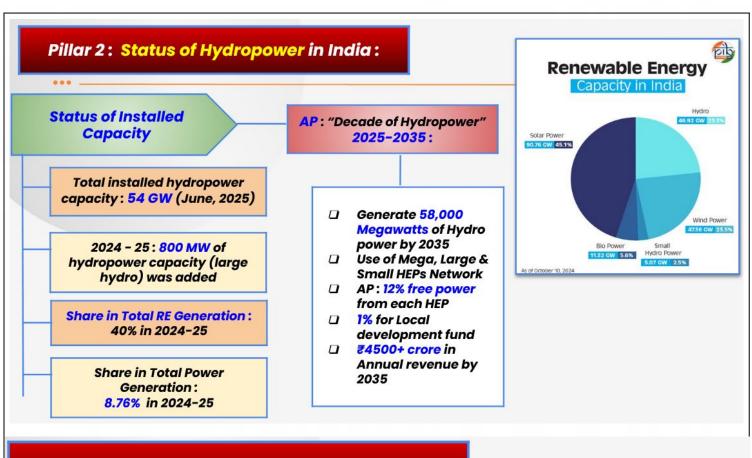


On Dams, take the China way



04th October 2025

<u>CONTEXT</u>: The editorial provides the <u>comparative analysis</u> of Hydropower generation in <u>China & India & suggests how India can borrow a leaf from China's hat for ensuring water & energy security</u>



Pillar 3: Issues with Hydropower Generation:



Climatic Factors:

India's hydropower output records steepest fall in nearly four decades

Hydropower's share in India's total power output fell to a record low of 8.3% during the fiscal year ended March 31, government data shows

High Dependence on Rainfall

EWE due to Climate Change

Glacier Melt & Thawing of Permafrost

Today's Editorial:

- China & India: Monsoon countries
- Inconsistent rainfall: Cherrapunji: Annual rainfall of 10,820 mm: 80% occur in 120 hours
- EWE: Intense rainfalls over very short periods
- Lack of Storage Infrastructure: Chain of Large, medium & small dams
- Irony: Cherrapunji faces water scarcity in Non - Rainy seasons
- by 2050

 UN WPR 2024 : Estimated 1.7 billion
- India: 4% Water reserves to cater 18% world's population

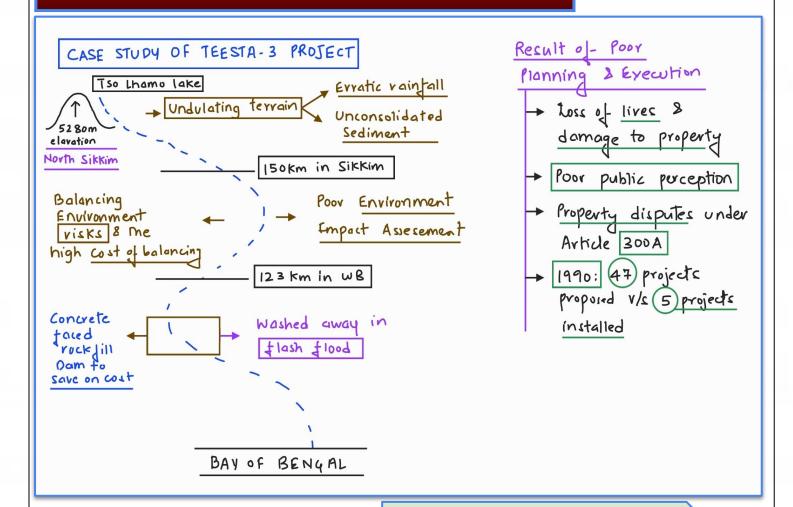


On Dams, take the China way



<u>CONTEXT</u>: The editorial provides the <u>comparative analysis</u> of Hydropower generation in <u>China & India & suggests how India can borrow a leaf from China's hat for ensuring water & energy security</u>

Pillar 3: Issues with Hydropower Generation:



Ravi Chopra Committee

Explained | Why are hydropower projects in the Himalayas risky?

Environment Ministry told the SC earlier this month that 7 hydroelectric power projects can go ahead

- Aftermath of Kedarnath Floods 2013
- "Irreversible impact" on Ecology of Region
- Ministry of Jal Shakti Report 2019: "HEPs can alter the ecological flow downstream"
- Increasing water usage & wastage = Low Reservoir Levels

On Dams, take the China way



04th October 2025

<u>CONTEXT</u>: The editorial provides the <u>comparative analysis</u> of Hydropower generation in <u>China & India & suggests how India can borrow a leaf from China's hat for ensuring water & energy security</u>

Pillar 4: Implication of Low Hydropower Generation: IMPORT DEPENDENCY (%) CRUDEOIL **NATURAL GAS** INDIA'S PEAK POWER DEMAND OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS AND THE SHORTAGE 87.6 88.2 51.5 2024 2023 2024 Source: PPAC, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas Total and per capita emissions of CO2 per year China 8.1 EU India 2019 data, EU includes UK One megatonne = 1,000,000 tonnes Source: EC, Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research BBC

AGRI BUSINESS

50% of districts in India could face 'severe' water scarcity by 2050, says report

Country's existing water sources facing increasing pressure: DCM Shriram-Sattva Knowledge report

India's rising water stress can dent its sovereign credit profile: Moody's Ratings

The country is among those most vulnerable to water management risks, and has the poorest access to basic services, including water, among G-20 economies, the rating major flagged

Pillar 5: Steps taken by GOI:



Steps Taken:

Large Hydropower projects (>25 MW): Renewable Energy Projects

Hydro Purchase Obligations (HPO) for DISCOMS

Inter- State Transmission (ISTS) Charges has been waived off

Promotion of Pumped Storage Projects (PSP)

Budgetary support for cost of enabling infrastructure: railways, transmission lines etc

Dam	River	State
Nagarjunasagar	Krishna	Andhra Pradesh
Baira - Siul	Baira	Himachal
Sardar Sarovar	Narmada	Gujarat
Bhakra Nangal	Sutlej	Himachal
Tehri	Bhagirathi	Uttarakhand
Nathpa Jhakri	Sutlej	Himachal



On Dams, take the China way



<u>CONTEXT</u>: The editorial provides the <u>comparative analysis</u> of Hydropower generation in <u>China & India & suggests how India can borrow a leaf from China's hat for ensuring water & energy security</u>

Mains Practise Question

Question: What is India's current *Hydropower potential?* What are the *challenges* that hinders the Hydropower generation in the country? *Provide measures* taken by the Government of India to boost hydropower supply.

(10 Marks, 150 words)



Young & Angry in Leh



04th October 2025

<u>CONTEXT</u>: The article provides insight into the issues being faced by the youth of Ladakh that has led to protests & violence in the Union Territory amidst demand of the 6th Schedule status for the UT

Chapter 1: What is happening in Ladakh? Issues highlighted by Article: Youth frustrated with What does Article lack of jobs say about Leh? SSC in 2022: 700 jobs actually 24th September: announced v. 12,000 promised Protest which began as Hunger Strike by ABL & KDA: Demand of environmentalist "Statehood" for Ladakh Sonam Wangchuk at Martyr's ground in Inclusion in 6th schedule Leh spun out of control leading to violence Establish LSC & 2 Parliamentary seats: Leh & Karqil

LADAKH PROTESTS: A TIMELINE

August 5, 2019: Ladakh becomes UT

December 2019: Ladakh Students' Environmental Action Forum (LEAF), a joint student initiative, holds protests in Leh demanding Sixth Schedule

2020: Apex Body Leh (ABL) is formed to steer People's Movement for Sixth Schedule; Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) joins in

2020: ABL gives a call to boycott Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) polls. Its team is flown to Delhi, boycott withdrawn on Centre's assurances

2020: Wangchuk joins agitation, provides outside support to ABL

October, 2020: BJP includes Sixth Schedule in its LAHDC poll manifesto

January, 2021: MHA announces high-powered committee to discuss Ladakh issues, but its constitution is delayed January 2023: HPC finally constituted, structured talks begin

March 2024: Wangchuk sits on a 21day fast in sub zero temperatures in Ladakh

May 2025: Centre, ABL reach an agreement; govt notifies domicile policy for Ladakh, reserves 85% jobs for locals

July 2025: Wangchuk joins ABL, chairman Thupstan Chhewang resigns, Delhi stalls talks

September 2025: Wangchuk decides not be on the talks table with Delhi, Chhewang returns as ABL chair

September 10, 2025: Wangchuk begins hunger strike in Leh

September 20, 2025: MHA announces next date of talks as October 6

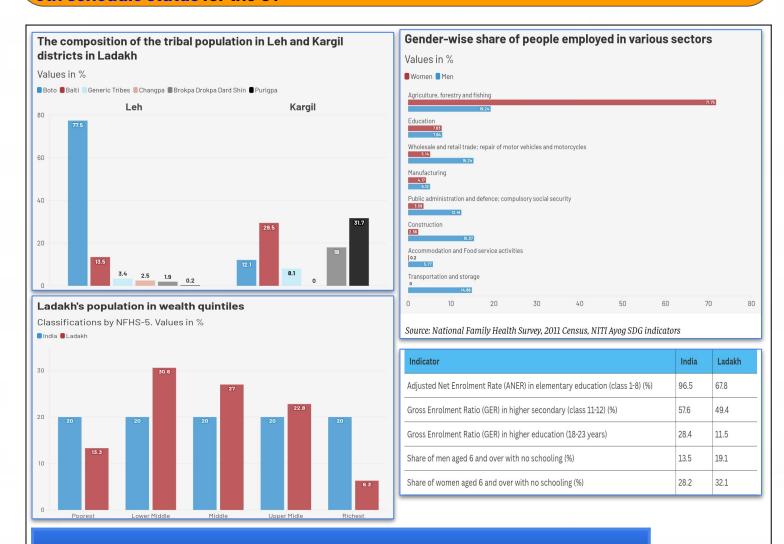
September, 24, 2025: Youth at Wangchuk's protest engage in violence, four killed in police firing

Young & Angry in Leh



04th October 2025

<u>CONTEXT</u>: The article provides insight into the issues being faced by the youth of Ladakh that has led to protests & violence in the Union Territory amidst demand of the 6th Schedule status for the UT



Chapter 2: Difference between 5th & 6th Schedule?

Feature	5th schedule	6th schedule
Application	Tribal areas in 10 states	Applies to Tribal areas in 4 North Eastern states
Administration	Tribal Advisory Council (TAC)	ADCs & ARCs
Power	TAC is created by State Legislative Assemblies	Executive, Legislative & Judicial powers
Emphasis	Tribal rights under FRA 2006	Democratic devolution
PESA 1996	Applicable	Not applicable

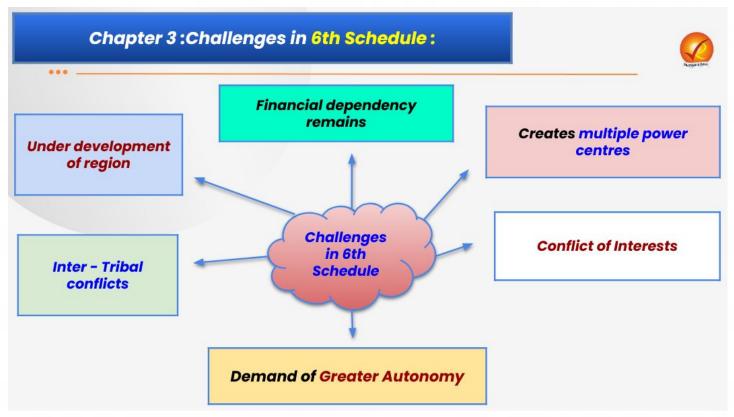
Young & Angry in Leh



04th October 2025

CONTEXT: The article provides insight into the issues being faced by the youth of Ladakh that has led to protests & violence in the Union Territory amidst demand of the 6th Schedule status for the UT

Chapter 3: Provisions of 6th Schedule: "Democratic Devolution of Power" **Article 244 (2) of the Constitution** Power to make "Laws" **Provisions Power of ADCs** Preservation of Cultural Article 244 (2) & Councils = 26 **Practices & Languages Article 275 (1)** elected + 4 **Currently 4 Nominated** Village councils or Courts members states: ATM 2 **Grant in Aids by FC** Creation of Term = 5 years **Autonomous** Imposition & Collection of **District Councils** "Pleasure of (ADCs) **Taxes Administrative** Governor" Licensing for extracting Regional minerals Councils (ARCs)





Young & Angry in Leh



04th October 2025

<u>CONTEXT</u>: The article provides insight into the issues being faced by the youth of Ladakh that has led to protests & violence in the Union Territory amidst demand of the 6th Schedule status for the UT

Chapter 4: Steps by Government of India:

Ladakh CS Decentralisation & Recruitment Regulation 2025

- Domicile requirement for recruitment in Government jobs
- Lived for 15 years + Studied for 7 years
- Appeared in Class 10th or 12th examination
- Children of Central Govt's employee = Served for 10 years

AHDC Regulation 2025

- Amended LAHDC Act 1997
- 1/3rd seats reserved for women of Leh & Kargil

Reservation for Jobs Regulation 2025

- 85% reservation = SC + ST + OBC + Educationally Backward
- Earlier 50%
- 10% reservation for EWS
- Reservation in Jobs, Engineering & Medical colleges

Official Language Regulation 2025

- English + Hindi + Urdu + Bhoti + Purgi = Official language
- Institutional support for promoting Shina, Brokskat, Balti & Ladakhi

Issues that Persists:

Lack of Constitutional Protection:

Article 240 : President can make regulations
For Union Territories

Executive decisions: Amended or withdrawn
By Centre anytime unlike 6th Schedule guarantee

No restrictions on Land ownership by Non-Domiciles: Climate vulnerability

No local council with law making power

No cultural protection roadmap: No provision for use of local languages in administration

Mains Practise Question

What is the 6th schedule of the Constitution? What are the advantages and disadvantages of bringing the UT of Ladakh into the 6th schedule? What are the recent steps taken by the Government of India? 10 Marks, 150 words



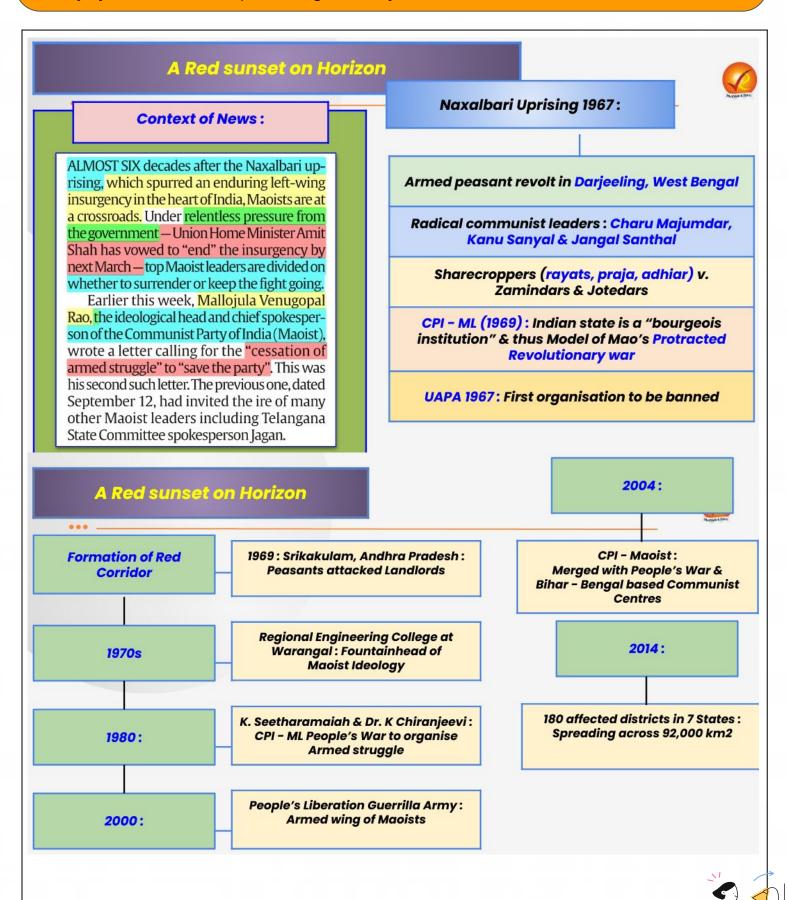
A Red sunset on Horizon



04th October 2025

SYLLABUS: GS 3: Internal Security

Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No: Explained



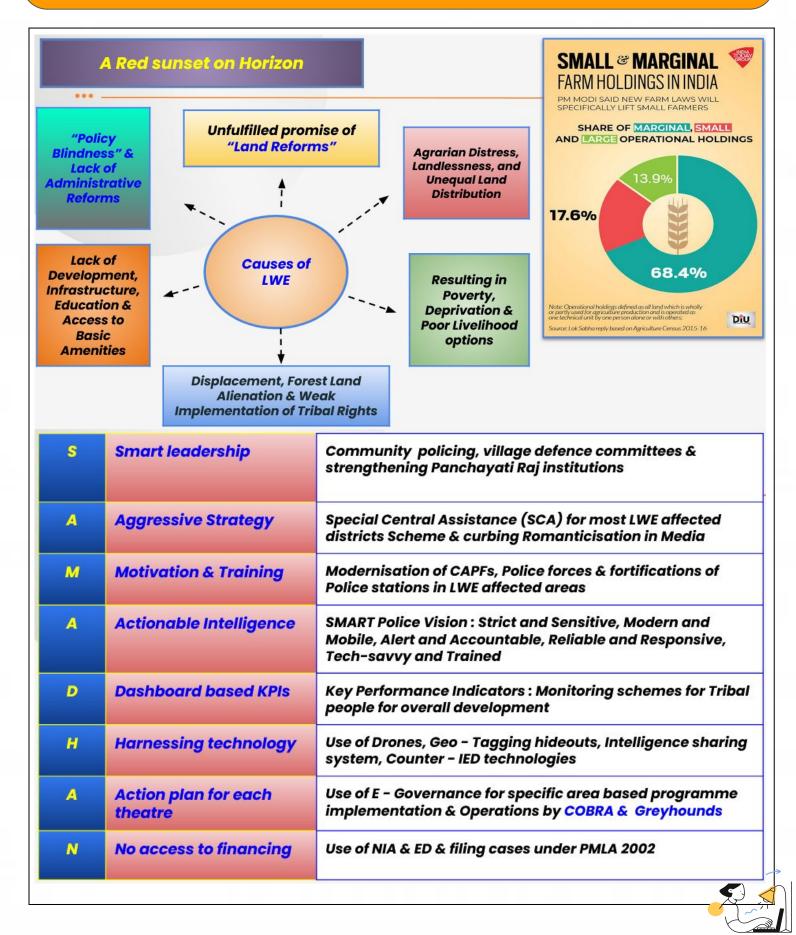
A Red sunset on Horizon



04th October 2025

SYLLABUS: GS 3: Internal Security

Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No: Explained



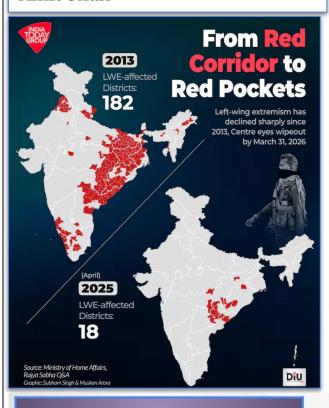
A Red sunset on Horizon

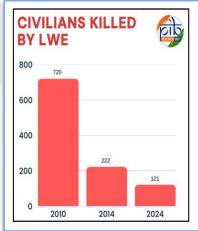


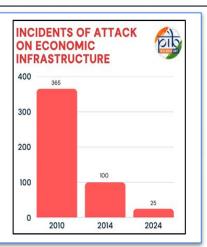
SYLLABUS: GS 3: Internal Security

Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No: Explained

Number of Left Wing Extremism districts reduced to 6 from 12: Amit Shah



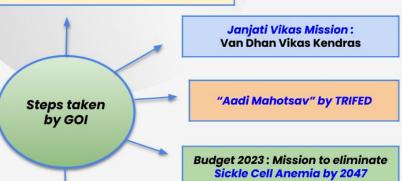




A Red sunset on Horizon

Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana

Eklavya Residential Model School (ERMS)



"It is true that Maoist violence had stalled the progress of many districts in central and eastern India. That is why in 2015, our government formulated a comprehensive 'National Policy and Action Plan' to eradicate Maoist violence. Along with zero tolerance towards violence, we have also focused on a massive push to infrastructure and social empowerment to bring a positive change in the lives of the poor people in these regions."

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi



"Swadeshi" Modules for Students



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Modern History

Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No: 9

"Swadeshi Modules" for Students

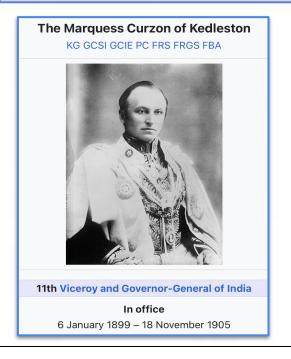
Context of News:

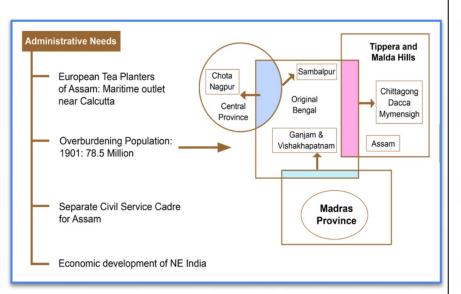
IN A world marked by tariff barriers, climate concerns and shifting power equations, swadeshi inspires us to balance global engagement with local strength, says NCERT's new module on 'swadeshi' for middle and secondary stage school students, echoing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's renewed call to be "vocal for local" and buy products made in India.

RC DUTT: "Gold & Silver flowing out of country as consequence of adverse BOT"

- British Mercantilist policy & Laissez Faire
- 1700 -1757: Britishers imported £20 million to India
- 1914: India was consuming 85% British cotton & 17% Steel & Iron
- Surplus profits = Investments
- Home Charges = 24% of total revenue (1897-1901)
- Poverty & Un British Rule in India: Per Capita Income: ₹20
- Prosperous British India: Drain of Wealth: £1000 million

Curzon: "Congress is tottering to its fall, & i would assist it to its peaceful demise" Precursor to Swadeshi:
Partition of Bengal: 16th October, 1905:





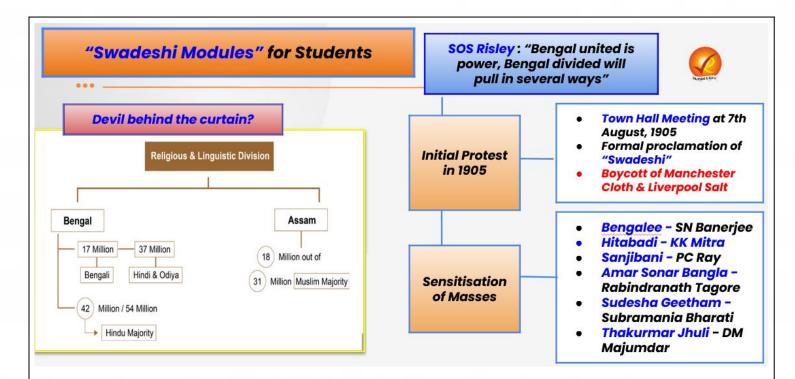
"Swadeshi" Modules for Students



04th October 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Modern History

Newspaper: The Indian Express, **Page No:9**



"Swadeshi Modules" for Students

Abdul Rasul: "What we could not have accomplished in 50 years, Bengal Partition did for us in 6 months"

Benaras Session 1905

- President: GK Gokhale
- Condemned Partition of Bengal & reactionary policies of Curzon
- Anti Partition & Swadeshi Movement launched
- "Rakhi" as symbol of Unity



Calcutta Session 1906

- President : Dadabhai Naoroji
- Goal of Swaraj: Self Government like colonies of Australia & Canada
- 4 Adopted Resolution:
 - Anti Partition
 - Self Government
 - Swadeshi Movement
 - Boycott of Government schools, colleges, councils
- Swadesh Bandhab Samiti by AK Dutta
- Vande Mataram Movement by Harisarvothama Rao & PL Narayana

The module refers to what Mahatma Gandhi, Tagore, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Deendayal Upadhyaya, said about swadeshi. For Gandhi, it was about building a strong foundation at home instead of relying on the world, while Vinoba Bhave linked swadeshi with the "welfare of all".

It also refers to Jamnalal Bajaj (founder of the Bajaj Group), who blended philanthropy with Swadeshi values in business; activist Rajiv Dixit, who revived the call for Swadeshi in modern India by inspiring youth to boycott foreign goods and trust in indigenous traditions; and Dattopant Thengadi, RSS ideologue and founder of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, who championed workers' rights and economic nationalism".



100 Aspirational Agri Districts



SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: Important Government Schemes

Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No: 8

PM - Dhan - Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PM - DDKY)

Context of the News

THE CENTRE on Friday announced 100 Aspirational Agriculture Districts to be developed under the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) across 29 states and UTs, with Uttar Pradesh accounting for the most 12 districts.

The government also released the operational guidelines of the scheme and appointed 100 Central Nodal Officers (CNOs) — most of them joint secretaries — for monitoring the scheme's performance across the selected districts. The order was issued by the Department of Personnel and Training on Friday.

UP > Maha (9) > MP (8) = Raj (8) > Bihar (7)

Parameter for Identification? Low productivity of crops

Moderate crop intensity & Below average access to credit

Number of Districts in States:
Net cropped area & operational landholdings

36 schemes of 11 departments will be converged to implement scheme

PM - Dhan - Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PM - DDKY)

Snapshot on Agriculture Sector

Employs 46% of India's Workforce Largest Producer : Milk, Pulse & Jute

2nd Largest: Rice, Wheat & Sugarcane 2nd in Global Agricultural Production

Agricultural Exports: \$51 Billion in 2024-25: 4th largest in the world

Schemes to increase Crop Productivity

- Nutrient Based
 Subsidy Scheme
- Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
- Soil Health Card Scheme
- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana
- Krishi Vigyan Kendras

Schemes to Increase Credit Disbursement

- SWAMITVA
 Scheme
- Fasal Bima
 Yojana
- Kisan Credit Card
- Agriculture Infrastructure Fund
- PM Formalisation of Micro Food Enterprises
- PM KISAN
 Scheme

Global Governance Index



SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: Important International Institutions

Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No:1

DAMINI NATH

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 3

OVERTHE past few years, several global indices have portrayed India in a negative light and the government has questioned their methodology. Now, as the current president of the International Institute of

Administrative Sciences (IIAS), India has proposed a new international governance index, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

India, which won the presidency of the Brussels-based IIAS for the first time in June this year, has pitched for research on establishing this index. As India completed 100 days of its three-year presidency, IIAS released

Prelims Corner 2026

Critical Themes: Digital governance, public sector innovation, ethics & administrative reforms

Established in 1930 in Madrid, Spain Brussels
based
international
organization
with a global
membership

31 member countries (Japan, China, Germany & Saudi Arabia), Corporate & Individual members

Promote development, exchange & practice of public administration

Global Governance Index (GGI):

India: Core activity of IIAS

Methodology: WB, OECD & UN - DESA

V- Dem : Places India at same level since Emergency period

"Need of Greater transparency & Accountability"

Indicators: Political stability, Absence of Terrorism, Rule of Law & Control of Corruption POLITIC

India Falls Further in Liberal Democracy Index, at 100 of 179 Countries: V-Dem



The Wire Analysis



Its report, which classifies India as an

is report, which classifies mad as an 'electoral autocracy', finds further confirmation of India's democratic backslide.

India up three spots to 130 among 193 nations in Human Development Index, but inequality persists

UNDP's 2025 Human Development Report highlights the critical role of AI in shaping the next chapter of human development, particularly in fast-growing economies, including India

India ranks 96 out of 180 countries in Corruption Perceptions Index 2024

Denmark topped the list of being the least-corrupt nation, followed by Finland and Singapore

India ranks 111 out of 162 countries on personal freedom index

The index put China at 129 rank, Bangladesh at 139 and Pakistan at 140.



Inflation Targeting by RBI



04th October 2025

SYLLABUS: PRELIMS: Monetary Policy

Newspaper: The Indian Express, Page No: 13

EVEN AS the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) flexible inflation targeting framework is being reviewed, Governor Sanjay Malhotra said on Friday that the central bank has no independence in setting the inflation target.

- Finance Act 2016 amended RBI Act 1934:
 Inflation targeting as primary objective of Monetary policy
- Target Range: 4% CPI Inflation (+/- 2% tolerance band)
- Target range validity: 31st March, 2026
- Accountability Clause: "Fails to keep inflation within band for 3 consecutive quarters": Report to Government about reasons & remedial actions
- Authoritative Body: MPC:
 - RBI Governor + Deputy Governor + RBI official
 - 3 members nominated by Government

How RBI controls inflation?		
Repo Rate Adjustment	 Hike Repo Rate = Borrowing gets costlier = Reduces demand = Low Inflation Cut Repo Rate = Cheaper Borrowing = Boost demand = High Inflation 	
Reverse Repo Rate	 Increase RRR = High incentive for Banks to "park money" with RBI = Low inflation 	
High CRR & SLR	 Low money with Banks to give loans = Less money supply = Low inflation 	
Open Market Operations	RBI buy Government securities = Money with Government to do capital expenditure = High money supply = High Inflation	



Daily Quiz



04th October 2025

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Hydropower in India:

- 1. Hydropower projects with capacity greater than 25 MW are designated as non-renewable energy sources.
- As of June 2025, India's total installed hydropower capacity stands at around 54 GW.
- 3. In 2024–25, hydropower accounted for about 8.76% of total power generation.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding 5th and 6th Schedule:

- The 5th Schedule applies to tribal areas in 4 North-Eastern states, while the 6th Schedule applies to tribal areas in 10 states.
- 2. Administration in 5th Schedule areas is through Tribal Advisory Councils (TACs), while in 6th Schedule areas it is through Autonomous District Councils (ADCs).
- 3. The PESA Act, 1996 is applicable to both 5th and 6th Schedule areas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q3. Match the following publications with their authors:

Publication	Author	
A. Bengalee	1. Rabindranath Tagore	
B. Hitabadi	2. S.N. Banerjee	
C. Sanjibani	3. K.K. Mitra	
D. Amar Sonar Bangla	4. P.C. Ray	

Select the correct match using the codes given below.

- a) A-2, B-3, C-4, D-1
- b) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- c) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3
- d) A-1, B-4, C-3, D-2

Answer: a

Q4. Consider the following statements:

- India is the second-largest producer of milk, pulses, and jute in the world.
- 2. India is the largest producer of rice, wheat, and sugarcane.
- 3. India ranks fourth globally in agricultural exports.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Q5. Which of the following measures are used by the Reserve Bank of India to control Inflation?

- 1. Buying Government Securities in the open market.
- 2. Decreasing the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR).
- 3. Raising the Reverse Repo Rate to absorb liquidity.

Select the answer from codes given below:

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

Answer: d





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