



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

17th April 2025

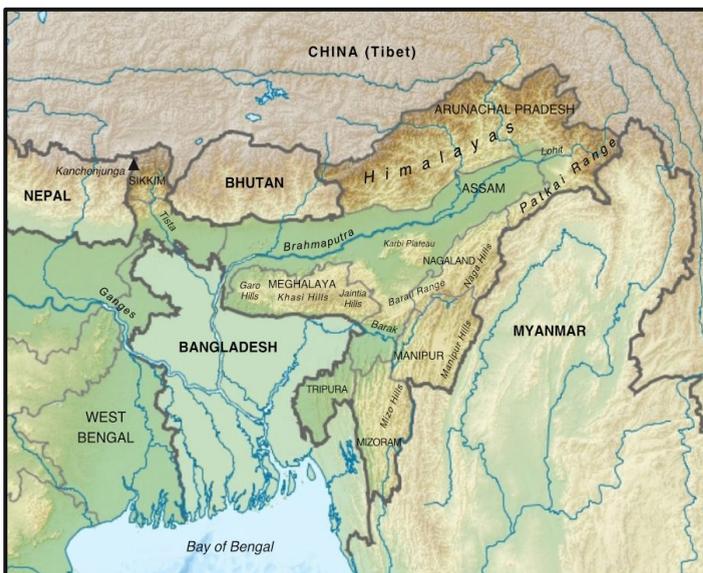
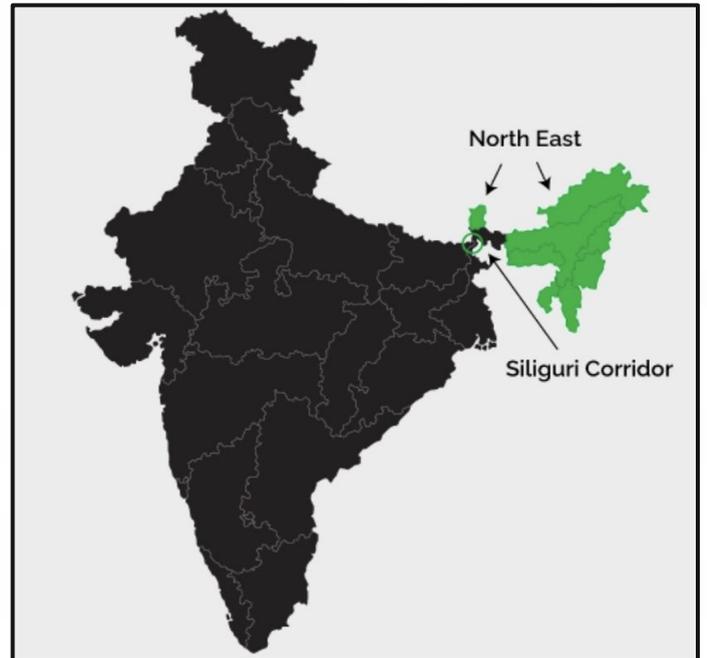


Northeast Region: Gateway to Southeast Asia

CONTEXT: The northeastern region is at the heart of many key Indian policies – it could be 'neighbourhood' first, Act East or BIMSTEC.

Northeast Region: Gateway to Southeast Asia:

- 'land of seven sisters'
- Wide Range - Physiographic and Climatic Conditions
- 3.8% - 8%
- Dominance - Tribal Groups
- 6th Schedule
- Neighbouring Countries - Siliguri Corridor
- Integration - NE India



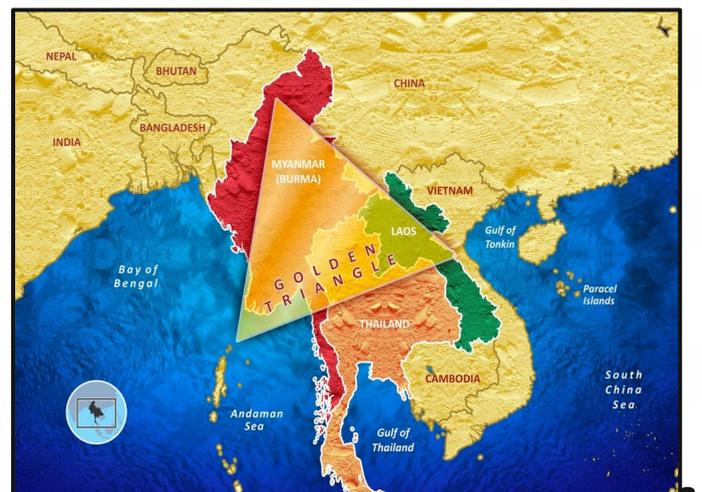
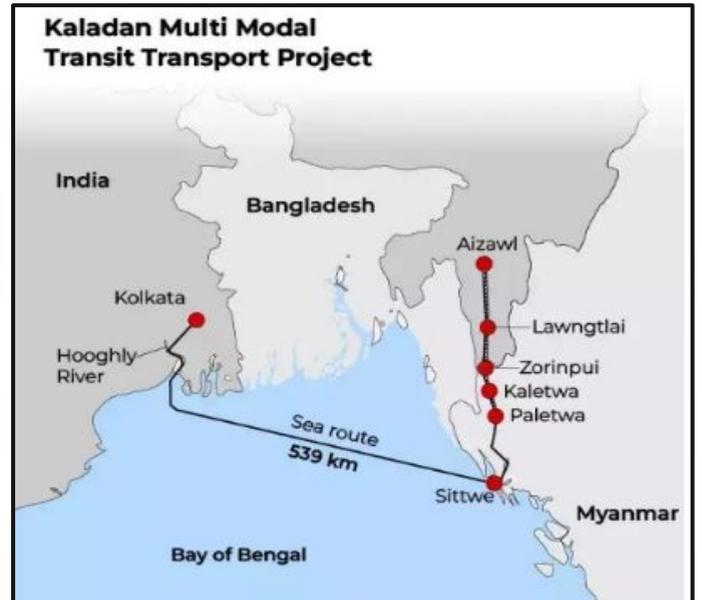
CONTEXT: The northeastern region is at the heart of many key Indian policies – it could be 'neighbourhood' first, Act East or BIMSTEC.

Significance of North East for India

- **Strategic Geopolitical Location:** 'land-bridge' - Gateway to East; NE States - eastward engagement; Projects - IMT; Kaladan - 'More than just connectivity'
- **Rich Biodiversity and Natural Resources:** One of BHs - endemic & rare; diverse ecosystems; Reserves of HCs, HP Potential, "TOT"
- **Cultural Diversity:** >200 ETs; popular festivals; folk dances; sacred groves - **India's pluralistic identity** - cultural heritage - CT
- **Agricultural and Horticultural Potential:** diverse agro-climatic - significant potential
- **Human Resource:** high literacy rate - demographic dividend

Major Challenges - India's Northeast Region

- **Persistent Insurgency and Ethnic Conflicts:** Despite peace accords - Manipur and parts of Nagaland; inter-ethnic relations; hinder development and investments
- **Agricultural Challenges:** Sikkim - OF - Limited - Various factors
- **China's Growing Influence and Border Disputes:** China's claims - its infrastructure development; growing economic influence
- **Climate Change and Environmental Degradation:** GW - CC - Weather Patterns - Assam Floods



CONTEXT: The northeastern region is at the heart of many key Indian policies – it could be ‘neighbourhood’ first, Act East or BIMSTEC.

- **Infrastructure Deficit and Connectivity Issues:** Road & Rail; slow progress of key projects – IMT; Impacts Social dimensions
- **Economic Underdevelopment and Unemployment:** limited industrialization; NEIDS, 2017; High youth unemployment – Fuels social unrest
- **Drug Trafficking and Cross-border Crime: proximity – Golden Triangle** – surge in drug seizures; **drug addiction**
- **Political Instability and Governance Issues:** Frequent changes in government – Policy Paralysis; Controversies – CAA

Ways to Strengthen Integration of Northeast India

- **"Northeast to Southwest" Cultural Exchange Program:** Students, Artists, Businessmen – Personal & Commercial
- **"Digital Silk Road" Initiative:** cutting-edge digital infrastructure – digital innovation; specialized digital skills – connect further to SEA
- **Transnational Indigenous Knowledge University:** studying and preserving indigenous cultures, traditional medicine, etc. ; “cultural and intellectual bridge”
- **Northeast Olympic Training Center:** sports enthusiasts – NE; national and international attention.

- **Floating Markets Tourism Circuit:** unique Indian twist – major tourist attraction
- **Bamboo Revolution Program:** ‘cultivation and product development’ in the Northeast – eco-friendly innovation
- **Himalayan Medicinal Research Corridor:** specialized R&D corridor – traditional Himalayan medicine
- **Autonomous Vehicle Testing Ground:** challenging terrains. – attract global auto and tech companies



Mains Practise Questions:

“The Northeastern region of India holds immense strategic, cultural, and economic significance for the country. However, it continues to face a range of challenges that hamper its full integration into the national mainstream. Discuss the importance of the Northeastern region for India, the key challenges it faces, and suggest a holistic way forward.”
(15 Marks, 250 words)



Appointment of SC Judges



CONTEXT: CJI Sanjiv Khanna, who is set to retire on May 13, on Wednesday recommended Justice B.R. Gavai to the government for appointment as the 52nd CJI.

Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna, who is set to retire on May 13, on Wednesday recommended Justice B.R. Gavai to the government for appointment as the 52nd Chief Justice of India.

Justice Gavai was elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court on May 24, 2019. He is due to retire on November 23, 2025, leaving him with a tenure of little over six months.

Justice Gavai is the next in line to be Chief Justice of India in accordance with the seniority norm with Chief Justice Khanna is scheduled to retire on May 13.

Under the Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of Chief Justice of India and Supreme Court Judges, the Law Ministry seeks the recommendation of the outgoing Chief Justice about the next appointment.

The letter from the government kickstarts the appointment process for the next Chief Justice of India.

Born on November 24, 1960 at Amravati, Justice Gavai joined the Bar on March 16, 1985.

Justice Gavai's father, Ramkrishna Suryabhan Gavai, also known as 'Dadasaheb', was a former Governor of Bihar and a prominent Dalit leader.

He was elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court on May 24, 2019 and is due to retire on November 23, 2025.

If the government notifies his appointment as the next CJI, Justice Gavai would have a tenure of little over six months.

Justice Gavai, as a Supreme Court judge, was part of many impactful decisions, including the upholding of abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and the striking down of the electoral bonds scheme. The judge laid down pan-India guidelines against illegal demolitions or the 'bulldozer culture' of States.



CONTEXT: CJI Sanjiv Khanna, who is set to retire on May 13, on Wednesday recommended Justice B.R. Gavai to the government for appointment as the 52nd CJI.

How are Supreme Court Judges Appointed?

- **Composition and Strength of the Supreme Court:**
 - Originally -SC - eight judges (one CJ and seven others).
 - The Parliament - increased the number of judges
 - The current strength - 34 judges (one CJ and 33 others)
- **Qualifications for Appointment as a Judge:**
 - According to **Article 124(3)**, a person can be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court if he or she:
 - A person must be a **citizen of India**.
 - Must have served as a **judge of a HC** for at least **five years** or two such courts in succession.
 - Alternatively, must have been an **advocate** of a High Court for **at least ten years** or two or more such courts in succession.
 - Must be a **distinguished jurist** in the opinion of the president.
- **Appointment:**
 - The Judges of the SC are appointed by the President under clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution.
 - The President **consults with judges of the SC & HCs** to make informed appointments.

■ **Oath of Office:**

- Every appointed judge must make and subscribe to an oath **before the President** or an appointed person.
- The oath includes commitments to **uphold the Constitution, sovereignty and integrity of India**, and perform duties **without fear or favor**.

■ **Tenure and Resignation:**

- There is **no prescribed minimum age limit** for a judge's appointment.
- A judge of the SC serves until they reach the age of 65 years.
 - However, a judge **may resign** before reaching the age of 65 years by tendering their **resignation to the President**.

IV

Form of oath or affirmation to be made by the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India:—

"I, A.B., having been appointed Chief Justice (or a Judge) of the Supreme Court of India (or Comptroller and Auditor-General of India) do swear in the name of God solemnly affirm

Constitution of India as by law established, [that I will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India,] that I will duly and faithfully and to the best of my ability, knowledge and judgment perform the duties of my office without fear or favour, affection or ill-will and that I will uphold the Constitution and the laws."



Appointment of SC Judges



CONTEXT: CJI Sanjiv Khanna, who is set to retire on May 13, on Wednesday recommended Justice B.R. Gavai to the government for appointment as the 52nd CJI.

■ Collegium System for Judicial Appointments:

- Judges of the higher judiciary are appointed through the collegium system.
 - The collegium, **consisting of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court**, decides on **appointments, elevations, and transfers** of Judges.
 - The term "**collegium**" is **not mentioned** in the Indian Constitution but has been established through **judicial pronouncements**.

Evolution of Collegium System:

- **First Judges Case (1981):** "primacy" of the CJI's recommendation - refused for "cogent reasons." - Primacy to Executive
- **Second Judges Case (1993):** SC introduced - Collegium system - "consultation" = "concurrence"; not the CJI's individual opinion - consultation with the two senior-most judges SC
- **Third Judges Case (1998):** SC - President's reference - expanded the Collegium - five-member body
- **Fourth Judges Case (2015):** The 99th CAA, 2014 and JAC Act, 2014 - replaced collegium system - NJAC; SC - Unconstitutional

Memorandum of Procedure (MoP):

- ❖ The MoP is the **list of rules and procedures** for the appointment of judges to the SC & HCs. It is a document framed by the government and the judiciary together.
- ❖ The Union government framed an MoP on **30 June 1999**.
- ❖ It states that all appointments of judges to the Supreme Court **must be recommended by the Collegium**, composed of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court. This recommendation is then sent to the central government. The **law minister will forward it to the prime minister**, who is to advise the President on the appointment.

Revised MoP: In 2015, the Supreme Court instructed the central government to **develop a new MoP** to ensure transparency in the collegium's proceedings. In 2017, although the MoP was finalized, the **government did not adopt it**, citing a need to reconsider the matter.

Mains Practise Question:

"What do you mean by "Collegium System? Elaborate upon the various cases which led to the evolution of Collegium System?"

(10 Marks, 150 words)



SYLLABUS : GS 2: Statutory Bodies

Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 12

The National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken *suo motu* cognisance of the situation in West Bengal's Murshidabad district and has formed a team to investigate the violence over the Waqf (Amendment) Act. A parallel crisis is unfolding at the relief camps in adjacent Malda district as displaced residents reportedly face a severe shortage of essential medicines.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the NCW stated that there were reports of women being harassed amid communal clashes in the district. The statement added: "The NCW Chairperson has taken *suo motu* cognisance of a deeply disturbing report from Murshidabad, West Bengal, where several women were reportedly molested amid communal violence, triggering the exodus of hundreds of women. The

Chairperson has also constituted an Inquiry Committee to investigate the incident."

The commission's Chairperson, Vijaya Rahatkar, is set to visit the violence-hit areas and speak to survivors on April 19. The team will arrive in West Bengal on Thursday.

National Commission for Women

The National Commission for Women (NCW) is an autonomous and statutory body established in 1992 under the **National Commission for Women Act, 1990**, to protect and promote women's rights in India.

- It is responsible for reviewing and addressing issues related to the rights of women and for making recommendations for the protection and promotion of these rights.

NCW Composition

As per **Section 3** of the National Commission for Women Act 1990, the Commission shall consist of a **Chairperson**, **5Members**, and a **Member-Secretary** who are nominated by the **Central Government**.

Composition	Eligibility
Chairperson	Committed to the cause of women
5 Members	Amongst persons of ability, integrity, and standing who have had experience in law or legislation, trade unionism, women's voluntary organizations , administration, health, education, etc. Note: At least one Member shall be from amongst persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes , respectively.
Member-Secretary	An expert in the field of management, organizational structure, or sociological movement (or) an officer who is a member of a civil service of the Union or of an all-India service or holds a civil post under the Union with appropriate experience.



SYLLABUS : GS 2: Statutory Bodies

Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 12

- **Term:** The Chairperson and every Member shall hold office for a period of **three** years.
- **Removal:** The **Central Government** may by order remove the Chairperson or any other Member from office if the Chairperson or any other member:
 - Is adjudged insolvent.
 - Engages during his term of office in any paid employment outside the duties of his office.
 - Refuses to act or becomes incapable of acting.
 - Is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a competent court.
 - Has so abused his office as to render his continuance in office detrimental to the public interest.
 - Is convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for an offense which in the opinion of the Central Government, involves moral turpitude.

Note: No person shall be removed until that person has been given an opportunity of being heard in the matter.

National Commission for Women Functions and Responsibilities

As per **Section 10** of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, The commission shall perform all or any of the following functions:

- **Investigate** and examine all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws.
- **Present** to the Central Government annually reports upon the working of these safeguards.
- **Make in such reports** recommendations for the effective implementation of those safeguards for improving the conditions of women by the union or any state.
- **Review** the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments thereto so as to suggest remedial legislative measures to meet any lacunae, inadequacies, or shortcomings in such legislations.
- **Take up cases** of violation of the provisions of the Constitution and of other laws relating to women with the appropriate authorities.
- **Look into complaints** and take suo moto notice of matters relating to the deprivation of women's rights and non-implementation of laws enacted to provide protection to women.
- **Undertake** promotional and educational research.
- **Participate** and **advise** on the planning process of socio-economic development of women.



SYLLABUS : GS 2: Statutory Bodies

Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 12

National Commission for Women Powers

The Commission, while investigating, shall have all the powers of a **civil court** in respect of the following matters:

- **Summoning** and **enforcing** the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him/her on oath.
- **Requiring** the discovery and production of any document.
- **Receiving** evidence on affidavits.
- **Requisitioning** any public record or copy thereof from any court or office.
- **Issuing** commissions for the examination of witnesses and documents.



SYLLABUS: GS I: Indian Society

Newspaper: The Hindu **Page Number:** 12

The Supreme Court has said it is a “pitiable digression from reality” to believe that Hindi is the language of the Hindus and Urdu of the Muslims. A language is only a means of communication and does not represent a religion, it stated.

“Language is not religion. Language does not even represent religion. Language belongs to a community, to a region, to people; and not to a religion. Language is culture. Language is the yardstick to measure the civilisational march of a community

and its people. So is the case of Urdu, which is the finest specimen of Ganga-Jamuni *tahzeeb*, or the Hindustani *tahzeeb*, which is the composite cultural ethos of the plains of northern and central India,” a Bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Vinod Chandran said in a judgment.

The order stemmed

from an appeal filed against the use of Urdu on the signboard of a new building of the Municipal Council, Patur, in Akola district of Maharashtra. The signage ‘Municipal Council, Patur’ was written in Marathi and then in Urdu. The appellant, Varshatai, a former Municipal Council member, said Marathi was the official language of the State of Maharashtra and that the use of Urdu was “wrong”.

The court said Urdu was not an alien language. It was born and nurtured in India, and reached greater refinement and became a language of choice for poets in India. “The prejudice against Urdu stems

from the misconception that Urdu is alien to India. This opinion, we are afraid, is incorrect as Urdu, like Marathi and Hindi, is an Indo-Aryan language,” Justice Dhulia said.

The court said Hindi and Urdu were fundamentally one language. “When we criticise Urdu, we are in a way also criticising Hindi... True, Urdu is mainly written in Nastaliq and Hindi in Devanagari; but then scripts do not make a language. What makes languages distinct is their syntax, their grammar and their phonology. Urdu and Hindi have broad similarities in all these counts,” the top court said.

The fusion of the two languages, Hindi and Urdu, met a roadblock in the form of the puritans on both sides and Hindi became more Sanskritised and Urdu more Persian, Justice Dhulia explained.

The common man’s everyday Hindi was peppered with Urdu terms, the judge noted.



SYLLABUS : GS 1: Indian Society

Newspaper : The Hindu **Page Number : 12**

Part XVII of the Constitution deals with the official language in **Articles 343 to 351.**

Articles	Provisions
1. Language of the Union	
Article 343(1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script. The form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union shall be the international form of Indian numerals.
Article 343(2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">For a period of fifteen years from the commencement of the Constitution, the English language shall continue to be used for all the official purposes of the Union for which it was being used immediately before the commencement of the constitution.<ul style="list-style-type: none">However, the President may authorize the use of the Hindi language in addition to the English language for any of the official purposes of the Union.
Article 344	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Official language commission to be constituted by the President.
2. Regional Languages	
Article 345	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Legislature of a State can adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the State or Hindi as the language to be used for any of the official purposes of the State.
Article 346	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Official language for communication between one State and another or between a State and the Union.
Article 347	<ul style="list-style-type: none">President can direct any language that shall also be officially recognized throughout that State or any part of the state.



SYLLABUS : GS 1: Indian Society

Newspaper : The Hindu **Page Number : 12**

3. Language of the Judiciary

Article 348(1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Until Parliament by law provides English should be used in the following areas all the proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court, the authoritative texts of all bills and ordinances shall be in the English language.
Article 348(2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Governor of a State, with the previous consent of the President, authorizes the use of the Hindi language or any other language to be used for any official purposes of the State in proceedings in the High Court having its principal seat in that State.• However, the judgments, decrees, and orders of the high court must continue to be in English only.
Article 348(3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A state legislature can prescribe the use of any language (other than English) with respect to bills, acts, ordinances, etc.• However, a translation of the same in the English language is to be published.

4. Special directives

Article 350	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language to be used in representations for redress of grievances.
Article 350A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilities for instruction in mother-tongue at primary stage
Article 350B(1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Officer for linguistic minorities.
Article 351	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Directive for development of the Hindi language



SYLLABUS : GS 1: Indian Society
Newspaper : The Hindu **Page Number : 12**

8th Schedule of Indian Constitution Languages

Eighth Schedule of the Constitution consists of the following 22 languages:

Assamese	Bengali	Gujarati	Hindi	Dogri (2004)
Kannada	Kashmiri	Konkani (1992)	Malayalam	Maithili (2004)
Manipuri (1992)	Marathi	Nepali (1992)	Oriya	Bodo (2004)
Punjabi	Sanskrit	Sindhi (1967)	Tamil	Santhali (2004)
Telugu	Urdu			

Benefits of inclusion under the Eighth Schedule:

- The **National Sahitya Akademi** recognizes the languages of the Schedule as literary languages by default.
- The Eighth Schedule has played the important role of an arbitrator in deciding the **medium of instruction in secondary schools**. The languages used should be modern Indian languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution as well as English.
- The **All-India level competitive examinations** are conducted for entrance into higher and technical education and employment by different organizations. The Eighth Schedule languages are used by them in selected spheres.



SYLLABUS : G.S.2 : International Relations
Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 15

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The World Trade Organization (WTO) on Wednesday revised sharply its global merchandise trade volume growth forecast for 2025 – from a continued expansion it had expected when the year dawned – to a decline by 0.2%, amid fears over the U.S. tariff developments.

The volume of world merchandise trade is expected to decline by 0.2% under current conditions,

Solid blow

A slide under current conditions, would be three percentage points lower than expected under a low tariff baseline scenario



■ If U.S. goes ahead with reciprocal tariffs, global merchandise trade volume growth may reduce by 0.6 percentage points this year

■ Additionally, the spreading trade policy uncertainty could shave off another 0.8 percentage points

which would be nearly three percentage points lower than what would have been expected under

a low tariff baseline scenario, it said. Trade could shrink even further to 1.5% in 2025, if the situation de-

teriorates, it said in the **Global Trade Outlook and Statistics report**. This will be in sharp contrast to 2024 when the volume grew by 2.9%. Risks to the merchandise trade forecast persist, WTO said. **If the U.S. goes ahead with the reciprocal tariffs, it expects the move would reduce global merchandise trade volume growth by 0.6 percentage points this year.** Additionally, the spreading trade policy uncertainty could shave off another 0.8 percentage points. Together, reciproc-

cal tariffs and spreading trade policy uncertainty would lead to a 1.5% decline in world merchandise trade in 2025, WTO said.

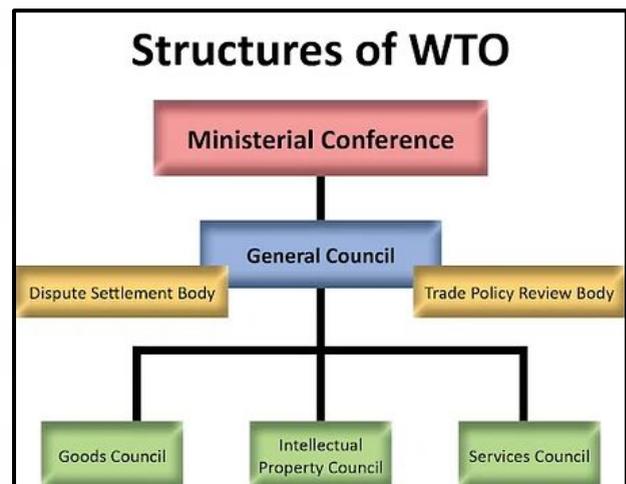
Earlier on Wednesday, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development said it expected global growth to slow to 2.3% in 2025. This will mark a shift toward a recessionary path. Subdued demand, trade policy shocks, financial turbulence and systemic uncertainty are bound to intensify pressures, particularly for developing countries.

World Trade Organization:

- **About:** WTO is an international institution formed to regulate the rules for global trade among nations.
 - It was formed under the Marrakesh Agreement signed on 15th April 1994 by 123 countries after the Uruguay Round negotiations (1986-94) of the GATT, leading to the birth of WTO in 1995.
 - WTO succeeded the GATT which had regulated world trade since 1948.
 - GATT focused on trade in goods, while WTO covers trade in goods, services, and intellectual property, including creations, designs, and inventions.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Members:** 166 countries, representing 98% of global trade.
- **Key Bodies:**
 - **MC:** Highest decision-making authority.
 - **DSB:** Resolves trade disputes.

Key WTO Agreements:

- **TRIMS:** Prohibits measures that discriminate against foreign products, e.g., local content requirements.
- **TRIPS:** Resolves disputes over intellectual property rights.
- **AoA:** Promotes agricultural trade liberalization, focusing on market access and domestic support.
- **Other Agreements:**
 - SPS
 - GATS
 - GATT



SYLLABUS: GS 2: Health
Newspaper: Indian Express Page Number: 11

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS

PUNE, APRIL 16

TYPE 5 DIABETES, which affects lean and undernourished young adults in low- and middle-income countries, has at last been officially recognised as a distinct form of the disease by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF).

Neglected for decades in research, and frequently misdiagnosed, it has taken a long time for Type 5 diabetes, caused by malnutrition-induced lowering of insulin production, to gain official recognition.

What is Type 5 diabetes?

Type 5 diabetes is a form of diabetes affecting lean and malnourished teenagers and young adults in low- and middle-income countries.

Dr Nihal Thomas, professor of endocrinology at Christian Medical College, Vellore, is among the members of the Type 5 Diabetes Working Group. He told *The Indian Express* that the disease causes pancreatic beta cells to function abnormally, leading to insufficient production of insulin.

This is unlike Type 2 diabetes, the most prevalent form of the disease, where the main problem is insulin resistance — while the pancreas continues to produce insulin, the body does not respond properly to the hormone.

The term 'Type 5' diabetes was introduced and endorsed by Prof Peter Schwarz, president of the IDF, in January this year. On April 7, it was officially recognised at the 75th World Congress for Diabetes in Bangkok.

However, this is not a new disease. It was first reported in Jamaica as early as

1955 under the moniker J-type diabetes. In 1985, the World Health Organization (WHO) classified the condition as "malnutrition-related diabetes mellitus". But this classification was done away with in 1999 for the want of evidence of a causal link to malnutrition, which is among the definitive features of what is now known as Type 5 diabetes.

It was subsequently reported in many countries, such as India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Uganda, Ethiopia, Rwanda, and Korea, mostly in the Global South. It currently affects an estimated 25 million people globally.

Its official recognition comes on the back of recent research, which has brought renewed attention to the impact of malnutrition on pancreatic development and insulin function, particularly in individuals with poor

EXPL
HEA

nutrition in childhood and early adulthood.

What are markers of Type 5 diabetes?

According to Dr Thomas, this unique form of diabetes, observed in Asian Indians, has no evidence of autoimmune or genetic causes.

"Affected individuals have a significantly lower body-mass index (BMI) — of less than 18.5 kg/m² — than those reported in previous Indian studies. Insulin secretion is severely reduced,

much lower than typical Type 2 diabetes and just above levels seen in Type 1 Diabetes," he said.

"Body scans also reveal a substantially lower percentage of body fat compared to Type 2 diabetes cases. Additionally, dietary intake of proteins, fibre and essential micronutrients is significantly low," Dr Thomas added.

So, what causes Type 5 diabetes?

Malnutrition. And it all begins in the womb.

Dr C S Yajnik, director, Diabetes Unit, KEM Hospital Pune, and a key member of the Type 5 Diabetes Working Group, explained how malnutrition begins in the mother's womb.

"If a baby does not get the right amount of nutrition while growing in the womb, it can increase the risk of diabetes later in life. For a long time, many Indians were undernourished due to hard labour, colonisation, and famines. But in the past 50 years, with rapid urban growth and development, overeating has also become a problem. When a baby is under or over nourished before birth and then gains too much weight later, it can lead to Type 2 diabetes. But if the baby stays undernourished both before and after birth, it can lead to this malnutrition-

related diabetes, or as now christened, Type 5 diabetes," he said.

How can Type 5 diabetes be treated?

Given it has only now been officially recognised, specific diagnostic criteria and therapeutic guidelines are yet to be finalised. This is what the aforementioned Working Group will be doing over the next two years, by looking at diverse populations, especially in low-income, low-resource settings.

According to Dr Thomas, a high protein diet is important. Depending on the person's low BMI and physical activity levels, an adequate amount of carbs and fats are also needed to ensure weight gain.

"Anti-diabetic medicine or insulin is considered based on the level of glucose and the therapeutic response on a case-by-case basis," he said.

MINED
LTH



SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2: Education
Newspaper : Indian Express Page Number : 8

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, APRIL 16



**Kerala
Education
Minister V
Sivankutty**

LANGUAGE TEXTBOOKS have been named after musical instruments and classical ragas because these elements of "India's rich musical heritage are common across all linguistic and cultural traditions", the NCERT said in response to Kerala Education Minister V Sivankutty's criticism of Hindi titles being given to English textbooks. Sivankutty had said Monday that NCERT's move was "against federal principles and Constitutional values", and it was

"absolutely wrong" to alter English titles used for decades.

"Kerala... is committed to protecting linguistic diversity and giving priority to regional cultural freedom. The titles of the textbooks... shape the perception and imagination of children. English medium students deserve English titles. Education should not be an instrument of imposition but of

empowerment and consensus," the CPI(M) leader said.

NCERT said that its language books were named after Indian musical instruments and classical ragas like Bansuri, Malhar, Sarangi, Mridang, Veena, Santoor, Poorvi, Khyal and Deepakam. "These elements of India's rich musical heritage are common across all linguistic and cultural traditions of the country... This approach aligns with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 emphasising joyful learning, cultural rootedness and the integration of arts and music into education." New books aligned with the NEP

and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) 2023 are being developed by NCERT.

The English book for class 6 (introduced last year) and the new one for class 7 are titled Poorvi. The previous class 7 English book was Honeycomb and the older class 6 book was Honeysuckle. The old class 4 English book was called Marigold and the new one is Santoor. The class 1 and 2 English textbooks are called Mridang... " ... the mathematics textbook titled Ganit Prakash draws from India's rich mathematical heritage," the NCERT said.

About NCERT:

- The NCERT is an **autonomous organisation** set up in 1961 under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860** by the Government of India to **assist and advise the Central and State Governments** on policies and programmes for **qualitative improvement in school education**.
- **The major objectives of NCERT and its constituent units include:**
 - undertake, promote and coordinate **research in areas related to school education**;
 - prepare and publish **model textbooks**, supplementary material, newsletters, journals and develops educational kits, multimedia digital materials, etc.
 - organise **pre-service and in-service training of teachers**; develop and disseminate innovative educational techniques and practices;
 - **collaborate and network** with state educational departments, universities, NGOs and other educational institutions;
 - act as a **clearing house for ideas and information** in matters related to school education; and act as a nodal agency for achieving the goals of Universalisation of Elementary Education.
 - As per the NEP 2020, it acts as the nodal agency to develop National Curriculum Frameworks NCFs for ECCE.
- The NCERT has been granted the status of **deemed to be university** by the Central Government recently for its excellence in a new or emerging area of knowledge.
- NCERT is an implementation agency for **bilateral cultural exchange programmes** with other countries in the field of school education.



Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the appointment of Supreme Court judges:

1. As per the Constitution, a person must be a distinguished jurist, in the president's opinion, to be appointed as an SC Judge.
2. Judges of the higher judiciary are appointed through the collegium system, which consists of four members.
3. The term "collegium" is explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution.

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

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

Answer: a

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the National Commission for Women:

1. It is an autonomous and statutory body established in 1992.
2. The Chairperson and every Member hold the office for five years.
3. The Central Government can remove the Chairperson or any Member, but only after giving them a fair opportunity to be heard.

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: b

Q3. Which of the following statements regarding the NCERT is NOT correct?

- a) It was established in 1961 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- b) It conducts and promotes research in school education.
- c) It has recently been granted 'deemed to be a university' status by the UGC.
- d) It provides both pre-service and in-service teacher training.

Answer: c

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding languages listed in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution:

1. Languages in the Eighth Schedule are automatically recognised by the Sahitya Akademi as eligible for literary honours and support.
2. These languages are also used in various all-India level competitive examinations for admission to higher and technical education.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q5. Consider the following statement regarding the WTO:

1. It succeeded the GATT, which had regulated world trade since 1948.
2. Its headquarters are located in The Hague, Netherlands.
3. TRIPS Agreement recognises that certain investment measures can restrict and distort trade.

How many of the above statements is/are NOT correct?

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

Answer: b





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