



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

25th April 2025



Why India Needs Strong Public Schools?



CONTEXT: Fee hikes by Private Schools, Detention of students, Accessibility & Affordability issues, Surveillance by Law Enforcement Authorities – all point towards the serious issues confronting our School Education System.

Constitutional & Policy Framework

- Article 21A
- RTE Act, 2009
- NEP 2020

Present Status of the Public Education System in India

- **Scale and Reach** – 14.9 lakh ~ 10.2 lakh – U-DISE Plus 2021-22; >65–70% of school-going children ~ 12 Crores
- **Public Spending on Education** – 2.9% of GDP (2022–23); States – major share
- **Infrastructure and Resources** – DATA
- **Learning Outcomes and Quality** – ASER 2022 – Only 42.8% of Class 5 students, Only 20.5% of Class 5 students – steady '*learning deficit*'
- **Teacher Availability** – > 1 mn Vacancies; high percentage of contract/parateachers; Pupil-Teacher Ratio – 26:1
- **Enrolment and Dropouts** – DATA; Dropouts – Girls, SC/ST/OBC
- **Digital Divide** – < 30% – rural India – ASER 2021; COVID-19 – widened learning inequalities

According to U-DISE+ (2021-22):

- 82% of schools have functional girls' toilets.
- 92.3% of schools have drinking water facilities.
- 75.8% have electricity connections.
- Computer availability: Only in 41% of schools.
- Internet access: A dismal 25.6% of schools.

• Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) as per UDISE+ 2021-22:

- Elementary (I–VIII): 104.8%
- Secondary (IX–X): 79.6%
- Senior Secondary (XI–XII): 57.6%

• Dropout rates:

- Upper Primary (VI–VIII): 2.6%
- Secondary (IX–X): 12.6%
- Senior Secondary: Over 17%

Importance of the Public Education System

- **Ensures Equitable Access to Education** – ~70%; SEDGs – Acts as a 'leveller'; ASER 2022
- **Promotes Social Justice & Inclusion** – Constitutional Mandate; Shared Learning Spaces
- **Safeguards Democratic Values** – nurtures & inculcates values
- **Reduces Inter-Generational Poverty** – Poverty Elimination; Equips children with Vocational Skills
- **Builds Human Capital at Scale** – Lays the Foundation; India's demographic dividend; 250 mn – Largest
- **Acts as a Check on the Commercialisation of Education** – non-profit alternative; Protects from Exploitation
- **Public Accountability & Transparency** – unlike many private schools; SMCs

Current Issues and Challenges in Education System

- **High Dropout and Pushout Rates** – "pushed out" rather than "dropping out"; Girls face higher dropout rates; Detention – School Rankings
- **Impact of No-Detention Policy Rollback** – Post-Amendment (2019) + NEP 2020 – increased dropouts
- **Fee Hikes and Commercialisation in Private Schools** – "*money-making machine*"; Stratification of Schools



Why India Needs Strong Public Schools?

CONTEXT: Fee hikes by Private Schools, Detention of students, Accessibility & Affordability issues, Surveillance by Law Enforcement Authorities – all point towards the serious issues confronting our School Education System.

- **Inadequate Infrastructure and Basic Facilities** – functional toilets, electricity, etc. – Learning Outcomes
- **Teacher Vacancies and Training Gaps** – Training, Pedagogical methods
- Low Public Investment in Education – Below Global Avg. ; Target; Model Schools v. Regular Schools
- **Policy Contradictions and Centralisation** – RTE Act v. NEP 2020; NEP's model schools – PM SHRI
- **Criminalisation and Surveillance of Dropouts** – Delhi Government shares dropout lists with Delhi Police; 'criminalising children'
- **Language Barriers and Rote Learning** – Mother-Tongue; alienates first-generation learners; Emphasis on rote memorisation

Way Forward: Strengthening Public Education in India

- **Increase Public Investment in Education** – Better Infra, Salaries, Learning Resources
- **Ensure Full Implementation of the RTE Act** – infrastructure norms; teacher vacancies, inclusion of disadvantaged groups
- **Reviving and Strengthening the No-Detention Policy** – Contradicts CCE – RTE Act; CCE-based progression
- **Improve Quality of Teaching and Learning** – Universal in-service training, Enhanced Recruitment; Use mother tongue/local languages
- **Curb the Unregulated Growth of Private Schools** – Fee regulatory authorities – Transparency; Strict Action
- **Modernize Infrastructure & Reduce Digital Divide** – digital infrastructure; Provide smart classrooms

- **Prevent Dropouts and Pushing-Outs** – Identify early warning signs; Avoid criminalising children; Expand NIOS
- **Integrate Vocational Education** – NEP 2020 – skill development as an additional option
- **Community Participation and Accountability** – Empower SMCs, Social Audits.



Mains Practise Question:

"A strong and inclusive public education system is the cornerstone of social justice and democratic development in India, yet it remains underfunded and increasingly neglected." Critically examine the present status of the public education system in India. Discuss the key challenges it faces and suggest a robust way forward.

(15 Marks, 250 words)

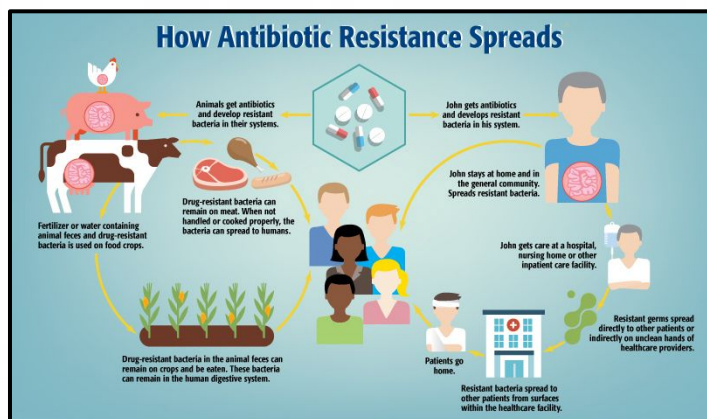


The menace of Antimicrobial Resistance

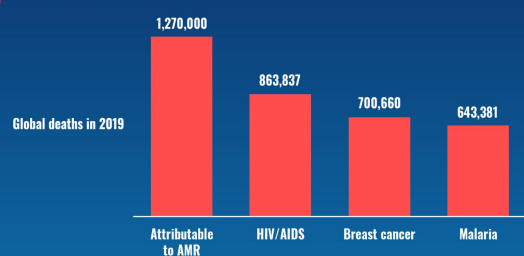
CONTEXT: Infectious diseases experts have flagged the overuse of a potent antibiotic leading to it losing its efficacy, and drug resistance.

What is Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)?

- “resistance acquired by any microorganism against antimicrobial drugs”
- Consequence – standard treatments – ineffective, infections persist – spread
- natural phenomenon – bacteria evolve – drugs – less effective; Aggravated – Injudicious Use
- ‘SUPERBUGS’
- WHO – AMR – one of the top ten – threats to global health.



AMR requires urgent action from policymakers and the healthcare community to **avoid further preventable deaths**



Global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in 2019: a systematic analysis, *The Lancet*, Jan 2022

#AMRSOS

What are the Reasons for the Spread of AMR?

- **High Prevalence of Communicable Diseases:** tuberculosis, diarrhoea, respiratory infections, etc.
- **Overburdened Public Health System:** Limits – laboratory capacity & targeted treatment.
- **Poor infection Control Practices:** Hygiene lapses in hospitals and clinics – Nosocomial
- **Injudicious use:** Overprescription; self-medication, incomplete antibiotic courses & unnecessary use – broad-spectrum antibiotics
 - **Easy Access:** Unregulated OTC availability
- **Lack of Awareness**
- **Limited Surveillance:** Difficult to track

What are the Implications of the Spread of Antimicrobial Resistance?

- **Healthcare Impact:** Can render antibiotics ineffective – increased mortality rates.
- **Increased Healthcare Costs:** resistant infections – more expensive and prolonged therapies
- **Challenges in Medical Procedures:** riskier – Surgeries, cancer chemotherapy, and organ transplants
- **Limitations in Treatment Options:** previously manageable infections become untreatable – fatalities



The menace of Antimicrobial Resistance



CONTEXT: Infectious diseases experts have flagged the overuse of a potent antibiotic leading to it losing its efficacy, and drug resistance.

What are the Measures Taken to Address AMR ?

■ India:

- National Programme on AMR containment
- National Action Plan on AMR
- AMR Surveillance and Research Network (AMRSN)
- AMR Research & International Collaboration: ICMR Initiatives
- Antibiotic Stewardship Program: ICMR – pilot project across India to control misuse and overuse of antibiotics in hospital wards and ICUs; DCGI

■ Global Measures:

- World Antimicrobial Awareness Week
- The Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System

Way Forward:

- **Public Education Campaigns:** mass media, community outreach programs
- **Antibiotic Stewardship Programs:** track and optimize antibiotic use
- **Regulation of Antibiotic Sales:** stricter regulations on the sale of antibiotics
- **Expand AMR Surveillance:** Establish a nationwide AMR surveillance system
- **Develop New Technologies**

Mains Practise Question:

“Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is not just a medical challenge, but a silent pandemic with economic, social, and developmental implications.” In this context, examine the causes and consequences of AMR in India. Suggest a multi-pronged strategy to address the crisis at national and global levels.”

(10 Marks, 150 words)



SYLLABUS : GS 2: International Organisations
Newspaper : Indian Express Page Number : 16

Move 'swiftly' to resolve trade tensions: IMF chief

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, APRIL 24

THE HEAD of the International Monetary Fund urged countries to move "swiftly" to resolve trade disputes that threaten global economic growth.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said the unpredictability arising from US



IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva in Washington, D.C.

Reuters

President Donald Trump's aggressive campaign of taxes on foreign imports is causing companies to delay investments and consumers to hold off on spending. "Uncertainty is bad for business," she told reporters Thursday in a briefing during the spring meetings of the IMF and its sister agency, the World Bank.

Georgieva's comments came two days after the IMF down-

graded the outlook for world economic growth this year. The 191-country lending organisation, which seeks to promote global growth, financial stability and to reduce poverty, also sharply lowered its forecast for the United States. It said the chances that the world's biggest economy would fall into recession have risen from 25 per cent, to about 40 per cent.

When was the IMF founded?

The IMF was conceived in July 1944 at the United Nations Bretton Woods Conference. The 44 countries in attendance sought to build a framework for international economic cooperation and avoid repeating the competitive currency devaluations that contributed to the Great Depression of the 1930s.

What kind of financial assistance does the IMF offer?

Providing loans and concessional financial assistance to member countries experiencing actual or potential balance-of-payments problems is a core responsibility of the IMF.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) works to achieve sustainable growth and prosperity for all of its 191 member countries. It does so by supporting economic policies that promote financial stability and monetary cooperation, which are essential to increase productivity, job creation, and economic well-being. The IMF is governed by and accountable to its member countries.

The IMF has three critical missions: furthering international monetary cooperation, encouraging the expansion of trade and economic growth, and discouraging policies that would harm prosperity. To fulfill these missions, IMF member countries work collaboratively with each other and with other international bodies.

What are SDRs?

The IMF issues an international reserve asset known as [Special Drawing Rights](#), or SDRs, that can supplement the official reserves of member countries. Total global allocations are currently about SDR 204.2 billion, about \$293 billion. IMF members can voluntarily exchange SDRs for currencies among themselves.

What other assistance does the IMF offer?

The IMF provides capacity development, which is [technical assistance and training](#) of government officials to help member countries strengthen economic institutions and statistics, as well as capacities in areas such as taxation and administration, expenditure management, monetary and exchange rate policies, financial system supervision and regulation, and legislative frameworks.

Who runs the IMF?

The IMF is accountable to its member country governments. At the top of the [organizational structure](#) is the [Board of Governors](#), consisting of one governor and one alternate governor from each member country, usually the top officials from the central bank or finance ministry. The Board of Governors meets once a year at the [IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings](#). Twenty-five of the governors serve on the International Monetary and Financial Committee, or IMFC, which advises the IMF's Executive Board.

The day-to-day work of the IMF is overseen by its 25-member [Executive Board](#), which represents the entire membership and is supported by IMF staff. The Managing Director is the head of the [IMF staff](#) and Chair of the Executive Board and is assisted by four Deputy Managing Directors.



SYLLABUS : GS 2: International Organisations
Newspaper : Indian Express **Page Number : 16**

How is the IMF funded?

IMF funds come from three sources: member quotas, credit arrangements, and bilateral borrowing agreements.

MEMBER QUOTAS

Member quotas are the primary source of IMF funding. A member country's quota reflects its size and position in the world economy. Read more on the IMF regularly reviews quotas.

[READ MORE](#)

NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO BORROW

New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB) between the IMF and a group of members and institutions are the main backstop for quotas. In January 2020, the IMF Executive Board agreed to double the size of the NAB to SDR 365 billion, or \$504 billion.

[READ MORE](#)

BILATERAL BORROWING AGREEMENTS

Member countries also have committed resources through bilateral borrowing agreements (BBAs). In 2020, the IMF Executive Board approved a new round of BBAs, totaling SDR 138 billion, or \$190 billion.

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The World Bank publishes several important reports focusing on various aspects of global development. Key reports include the **World Development Report (WDR)**, **Global Economic Prospects**, and the **Poverty and Shared Prosperity series**. Additionally, the World Bank releases the Doing Business report, which ranks countries based on the ease of doing business. [🔗](#)



SYLLABUS : GS 2: Health

Newspaper : Indian Express **Page Number : 17**

ARUN JANARDHANAN

CHENNAI, APRIL 24

CITING PUBLIC health risks, the Tamil Nadu government has banned the manufacture, storage, distribution, and sale of mayonnaise made using raw egg. The one-year ban came into effect on April 8.

What is mayonnaise?

The government notification banning mayonnaise described the condiment as a “semi-solid emulsion containing egg yolk, vegetable oil, vinegar, and other seasonings”.

Traditional mayonnaise contains three basic ingredients: oil, egg yolk, and an acid, usually lemon juice or vinegar. It is made by whisking egg yolks with oil, which is added in small quantities, till one gets a thick, pale yellow mixture. A dash of vinegar is added at the end.

Mayonnaise is an ubiquitous ingredient in fast food around the world. From being used as a sandwich or burger spread, mayonnaise today is served with all kinds of foods, whether it be Levantine *shawarmas* or Nepali *momos*.

Why was egg mayonnaise banned?

Eggs are known to carry many pathogens, which are usually neutralised in the cooking process (through the application of heat). But mayonnaise uses raw eggs. The Tamil Nadu government notification said:

“mayonnaise made of raw eggs is a high-risk food as it carries a risk of food poisoning”.

This is especially relevant in Indian conditions, where “improper preparation and storage” amid hot and humid weather creates additional risk of “contamination by microorganisms”. The government noti-

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cation specifically mentions two common bacteria.

SALMONELLA: This is “a leading cause of foodborne illness, hospitalisations, and deaths” worldwide. Warm, humid weather is the ideal condition for salmonella to grow. Symptoms of salmonella infection include watery diarrhoea, vomiting, and stomach cramps.

E. COLI: While most *E. coli* strains are harmless — they are in fact important to the digestive process — certain kinds can cause severe illness. These are known to infect the gut, the urinary tract, as well as other parts of the body.

While these bacteria can affect everyone, they pose more acute risks to “immunocompromised individuals, children, and the elderly”, Dr Daphnee Lovesley, chief clinical dietitian at Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, told *The Indian Express*.

What will be the impact of this move?

Over the past two decades, mayonnaise has become a staple in urban Indian fast food culture. The ban will likely force food businesses to switch to eggless or pasteurised-egg versions, at least until a comprehensive risk assessment is done. Note, however, that the mayonnaise market in India is dominated by eggless versions anyway.

Tamil Nadu is not the first state to ban egg mayonnaise — Telangana had imposed a one-year ban last November. The TN government’s decision follows similar bans on *gutkha* and *paan masala*, both identified as hazardous food products.

Recently, Punjab’s Food and Drug Administration also imposed a one-year ban on the sale of caffeinated energy drinks to children and near schools, citing “serious health risks linked to caffeine and other stimulants.” A scientific study has been launched there to assess the impact on minors.

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Tamil Nadu bans Mayonnaise



SYLLABUS : GS 2: Health

Newspaper : Indian Express Page Number : 17

About Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

- It is an **autonomous body** established under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, Government of India.
- The **FSSAI** has been established **under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**, which is a **consolidating statute related to food safety and regulation in India**.
- **Vision:** Build a new India by enabling citizens to **have safe and nutritious food, prevent diseases**, and lead a healthy and happy life.
- **Mission:** Set **globally benchmarked standards for food**, encourage and ensure that food businesses adhere to these standards, **adopt good manufacturing and hygiene practices**, and ultimately **enable citizens to access safe and right food**.

Functions of FSSAI

- FSSAI is responsible for protecting and promoting public health through the **regulation and supervision of food safety**.
- It **lays down standards and guidelines** in relation to **articles of food**, and **provides for licensing, registration, and accreditation for food business operators**.
- **Anyone selling or importing food** in India **needs a food licence issued by FSSAI**.
- FSSAI also **directly monitors compliance of food regulations, especially** in the area of **food imports to India**.
- FSSAI officers **carry out food import controls** and ensure that the contain no harmful ingredients. To do this, they send selected test products from the import to accredited laboratories for inspection.
- The FSSAI is also **responsible for the accreditation of food testing laboratories** throughout India.
- The FSSAI is **responsible for the Food Certification in India**.
- It is **mandated to specify systems for enforcing its standards**, for accreditation of certification systems, and for certification of food safety management systems for food businesses.



SYLLABUS : G.S.2 : Regulatory Bodies

Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 14

Ramya Kannan

CHENNAI

Infectious diseases experts have flagged the overuse of a potent antibiotic leading to it losing its efficacy, and drug resistance. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has been urged to lay down strict pathways for these newer antibiotics, so that they are not misused by practitioners.

Abdul Ghafur, infectious diseases specialist and founder of the AMR Declaration Trust, has written to Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi, DCGI, about ceftazidime-avibactam. "One of the most potent antibiotics currently available in our armamentarium is rapidly losing its efficacy due to extensive, irrational, and uncontrolled use."

The drug which was in-



Two new, powerful antibiotics are about to enter the Indian market.

Initially registered with the U.S. FDA in 2015 and approved in India three years later is a last-line antibiotic. It is to be used as targeted therapy for certain carbapenem-resistant gram-negative infections and not prescribed as a broad spectrum antibiotic.

Dr. Ghafur, however, claims it is already being misused in the community.

"To overcome this resistance, aztreonam is often added to ceftazidime-avibactam, unfortunately, resistance has now emerged even to this combination, due to irrational use."

The problem, he explains, is that while the DCGI has licenced the drug, it has only provided indications for use. There are no clear-cut pathways laid out, and nothing to deter mis-prescriptions.

This trend could erode the huge gains secured in India primarily with the ban on use of colistin as a growth promotion drug amongst poultry, in recent times.

Rational use

There are two new very powerful antibiotics that are about to enter the Indian market, Cefierocol

and Cefepime-zidebactam. Dr. Ghafur urges the DCGI to kick in with antibiotics stewardship: "We need these drugs in India. However, their use must be restricted strictly to infections where no other effective alternatives exist. Education alone is not enough; we need a clear regulatory pathway to ensure the rational use of these molecules from the moment they are licenced."

"If we do not act now, we risk losing the few therapeutic options left. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is already a serious crisis in our country. Without urgent and strong action, it may escalate to an unmanageable level. We cannot change the past – but we still have time to act for the immediate future," he says.

What is the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)?

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) leads the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO). This organisation comes under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). They derive their powers from the Drugs and Cosmetics Act of 1940.



Central Drugs Standard Control Organization

Directorate General of Health Services

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Government of India

About Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO):

- It is the **National Regulatory Authority (NRA)** of India for the **medical devices industry** under the provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules.
- It works under the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**.
- **Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI)** is the head of the CDSCO.
- Headquarters: New Delhi.
- **Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, CDSCO is responsible for,**
 - **Approval of New Drugs;**
 - **Conduct of Clinical Trials;**
 - **Laying down the standards for Drugs;**
 - **Control over the quality of imported Drugs** in the country;
 - **Coordination of the activities of State Drug Control Organizations;**
- **CDSCO, along with state regulators, is jointly responsible for the grant of licenses for certain specialized categories of critical drugs, such as blood and blood products, I. V. Fluids, Vaccine and Sera.**



SYLLABUS : GS 3: Indian Economy

Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 5

Veena diverted CMRL funds to repay her firm's loan: SFIO

Chargesheet claims Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's daughter colluded with Sasidharan Kartha, chairman and managing director of Cochin Minerals and Rutile Ltd., to misappropriate funds

K S Sudhi
KOCHI

T Veena, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's daughter, diverted the funds she received from Cochin Minerals and Rutile Limited (CMRL) to settle the debt of her firm Exalogic Solutions Private Limited with Empower India Capital Investments Private Limited (EICIPL), a company run by Sasidharan Kartha, managing director of CMRL, and caused a financial loss to CMRL, a publicly held company, according to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).



T. Veena

The SFIO's final complaint filed before a Special Court in Kochi early this month noted that the diversion of funds "effectively transferred a ₹50 lakh liability from EICIPL to CMRL, causing financial loss to CMRL."

The report pointed out that EICIPL had extended Exalogic a bank loan of ₹25 lakh on August 5, 2015. The payment was transferred to the account of Exalogic on August 6, 2015. The repayment was scheduled to begin on August 1, 2016 in 24 instalments with an interest rate of 12%.

"However, Exalogic did not make any repayment as on 28/8/2016. Despite this, EICIPL sanctioned another loan of ₹25 lakh to Exalogic, which was disbursed on 29/8/2016. It was after the second loan that Exalogic repaid ₹4 lakh to EICIPL on 13/11/2016," the SFIO reported.

The agency had report-

ed that CMRL had made a monthly payment of ₹5 lakh to Ms. Veena and ₹3 lakh to her firm, Exalogic, as retainer for IT and marketing consultancy services. "The bank records indicated that funds paid by CMRL to Exalogic were redirected to cover Exalogic's debt with EICIPL," according to the complaint.

The "investigation uncovered the collusion between T. Veena and Sasidharan Kartha to misappropriate funds," the SFIO alleged.

Mr. Kartha is the first accused and Ms. Veena the 11th accused in the case booked under the Companies Act.

About Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO):

- It is a corporate **fraud investigating agency** set up by the Government of India.
- The SFIO was established on 21st July, 2015. Section 211 of the **Companies Act, 2013**, accorded **astatutory status** to the SFIO.
- SFIO is a **multi-disciplinary organization** under the **Ministry of Corporate Affairs**, consisting of **experts** in the fields of accountancy, forensic auditing, law, information technology, investigation, company law, capital markets and taxation **for detecting and prosecuting or recommending for prosecution white-collar crimes/frauds**.
- SFIO takes up for **investigation cases characterized by:**
 - Complexity and having interdepartmental and multidisciplinary ramifications.
 - Substantial involvement of public interest to be judged by size, either in terms of monetary.
 - The possibility of investigation leading to or contributing towards a clear improvement in systems, laws, or procedures.
 - Investigate serious cases of fraud received from Department of Company Affairs.
 - Investigation** into the affairs of a company is assigned to SFIO, where the Government is of the opinion that it is necessary to investigate into the affairs of a company-
 - on receipt of a **report of the Registrar or inspector** under section 208 of the Companies Act, 2013
 - on **intimation of a special resolution passed by a company** that its affairs are required to be investigated
 - In the **public interest**; or on request from any department of the Central Government or a State Government
- The SFIO **can also take up cases on its own** when decided by the Director of the SFIO, and also giving the reasons for taking up the case in writing.
- Upon assignment of a case** to the SFIO, **no other investigative agency can proceed withan investigation** for any offence under the Act.
- SFIO is **headed by a Director** as Head of Department in the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India.
 - The Director is assisted by Additional Directors, Joint Directors, Deputy Directors, Senior Assistant Directors, Assistant Directors, Prosecutors, and other secretarial staff.
- The **headquarters** of SFIO is at **New Delhi** with its regional offices at Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Kolkata.



SYLLABUS : GS 3: Internal Security
Newspaper : The Hindu Page Number : 14

CISF takes over security of Lengpui airport in Mizoram

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took over the security of Mizoram's Lengpui Airport on Thursday. Lengpui became the 69th airport in India to come under the protection of the national civil aviation security force. The CISF said it would work closely with local authorities and other stakeholders to develop and implement advanced security protocols that were effective, convenient and people-friendly. "These enhanced measures aim to provide passengers with a secure and seamless travel experience, while proactively addressing emerging threats such as terrorism, smuggling and other unlawful activities," it said.

About Central Industrial Security Force (CISF):

- It is a **Central Armed Police Force (CAPF)** in India.
- It was **set up under an Act** of the Parliament of India on **10 March 1969** with a strength of 2,800.
- CISF was subsequently made an armed force of the Republic of India by another Act of Parliament passed on 15 June 1983.
- The force has since grown into a premier multi-skilled organization with a **present strength** of more than **1,88,000 personnel**.
- It is **directly under** the Union **Ministry of Home Affairs**, and its **headquarters** are at **New Delhi**.
- The CISF at present **provides security cover to 359 establishments** across the country.
- **Organisation Structure:**
 - CISF is **headed by an Indian Police Service officer** with the rank of **Director-General**, assisted by an IPS officer in the rank of Addl. Director-General.
 - The force is **divided into seven sectors** (Airport, North, North-East, East, West, South, and Training), and **also has a Fire Service Wing**.

• Functions:

- The CISF **security umbrella includes** India's most **critical infrastructure facilities** like nuclear installations, space establishments, airports, seaports, power plants, etc.
- The specialized **task of airport security** was assigned to CISF in the year 2000 in the **wake of the hijacking of Indian Airlines Flight IC-814 to Kandahar**.
- In addition, the CISF also **protects important government buildings**, iconic **heritage monuments**, **Delhi Metro**, **Parliament House Complex**, and Central Jails of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The CISF also has a **specialized VIP Security vertical**, providing round-the-clock security to important protectees.
- CISF is one of the largest **Fire Protection Service providers** in the country. CISF is the only force with a **customized and dedicated fire wing**.
- Post the Mumbai terror attack in November 2008, the mandate of CISF was broadened to **provide security cover to private corporate establishments** also.
- The CISF also provides **security consultancy services to private entities** and its services are much in demand.
- The CISF is the **only CAPF with a daily public interface** - in the airports, in the Delhi Metro, and in the iconic monuments.



Q1. Which of the following best describes the term "Antimicrobial Resistance"?

- a) The body's ability to fight infections without medication.
- b) Resistance acquired by any microorganism against antimicrobial drugs
- c) The process of creating new antibiotics from microbes.
- d) A method to enhance immunity through vaccination.

Answer: b

Q2. Consider the following statement regarding the International Monetary Fund:

- 1. It was established in the aftermath of the Great Depression of the 1930s.
- 2. Its Board of Governors meets twice in a year.
- 3. IMF releases the Global Financial Development Report.

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

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

Answer: a

Q3. Which of the following statements regarding the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is NOT correct?

- a) It operates under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- b) It was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- c) Importers of food products in India are exempted from obtaining an FSSAI license.
- d) It is the nodal agency for food certification in the country.

Answer: c

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)?

- 1. It is an agency established in 2015 to investigate corporate fraud.
- 2. It functions under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

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

Q5. Which of the following statements regarding the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) is NOT correct?

- a) It works under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- b) The Drugs Controller General of India is the head of the CDSCO.
- c) It is responsible for laying down the standards for Drugs.
- d) Its headquarters are located in Mumbai.

Answer: d





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