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**An Institute for Civil Services**

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**16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020**



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01	<b>POLITICAL SCIENCE ADVANCE</b> 2020 BY: Dr. PIYUSH CHAUBEY	STARTS	<b>14</b> OCTOBER
02	<b>GS MAINS QIP 2020</b> (QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME)	STARTS	<b>14</b> OCTOBER
03	<b>ETHICS &amp; ESSAY</b> TEST SERIES 2020 BY: MANOJ K. JHA	STARTS	<b>17</b> OCTOBER
04	<b>POLITICAL SCIENCE</b> TEST SERIES 2020 BY: Dr. PIYUSH CHAUBEY	STARTS	<b>18</b> OCTOBER
05	<b>HISTORY</b> TEST SERIES 2020 BY: PIYUSH KUMAR	STARTS	<b>18</b> OCTOBER
06	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> TEST SERIES 2020 BY: PRINCE MISHRA	STARTS	<b>17</b> OCTOBER
07	<b>GS MAINS</b> TEST SERIES 2020 (SECTIONAL + MOCK)	STARTS	<b>18</b> OCTOBER
08	<b>GS MAINS MOCK</b> TEST SERIES 2020 (TOTAL 20 TESTS)	STARTS	<b>01</b> NOVEMBER

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1

## The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020

### CONTEXT:

- Parliament passed the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020 .

### Key-highlights of the Bill

- **The bill** seeks to provide for the creation of an ecosystem where the farmers and traders enjoy the freedom of choice relating to sale and purchase of farmers' produce which facilitates remunerative prices through competitive alternative trading channels to promote efficient, transparent and barrier-free inter-State .
- It also seeks to-
  - provide intra-State trade and commerce of farmers' produce outside physical premises of markets or deemed markets notified under various State agricultural produce market legislations
  - provide a facilitative framework for electronic trading and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

### BACKGROUND:

- Farmers in India suffered from various restrictions in marketing their produce. There were restrictions for farmers in selling agri-produce outside the notified APMC market yards.
- The farmers were also restricted to sell the produce only to registered licensees of the State Governments.
- Further, barriers existed in free flow of agriculture produce between various States owing to the prevalence of various APMC legislations enacted by the State Governments.

### One India, One Agriculture Market

- The Bill basically aims at creating additional trading opportunities outside the APMC market yards to help farmers get remunerative prices due to additional competition. This will supplement the existing MSP procurement system which is providing stable income to farmers.
- It will certainly pave the way for creating One India, One Agriculture Market and will lay the foundation for ensuring golden harvests for our hard working farmers.

### Benefits:

- **Enabling ecosystem:** The new legislation will create an ecosystem where the farmers and traders will enjoy freedom of choice of sale and purchase of agri-produce.
- **Barrier free trade:** It will also promote barrier-free inter-state and intra-state trade and commerce outside the physical premises of markets notified under State Agricultural Produce Marketing legislations.
- **More options for farmers:** It will open more choices for the farmer, reduce marketing costs for the farmers and help them in getting better prices.
- **Better prices & consumers:** It will also help farmers of regions with surplus produce to get better prices and consumers of regions with shortages, lower prices. The Bill also proposes an electronic trading in transaction platform for ensuring a seamless trade electronically.
- **Reduction in charges:** The farmers will not be charged any cess or levy for sale of their produce under this Act.

- **Separate mechanism:** Further there will be a separate dispute resolution mechanism for the farmers.

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## The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020

### CONTEXT:

- Parliament passed the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020.

### Main objective of the Bill

- The Bill seeks to provide for a **national framework** on farming agreements that protects and empowers farmers to engage with agri-business firms, processors, wholesalers, exporters or large retailers for farm services and sale of future farming produce at a mutually agreed remunerative price framework in a fair and transparent manner and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

### The need of the Bill

- Indian Agriculture is characterized by fragmentation due to small holding sizes and has certain weaknesses such as weather dependence, production uncertainties and market unpredictability.
- This makes agriculture risky and inefficient in respect of both input & output management.

### Benefits

- Empowering farmers: The new legislation will empower farmers for engaging with processors, wholesalers, aggregators, wholesalers, large retailers, exporters etc., on a level playing field without any fear of exploitation.
- Reducing risk: It will transfer the risk of market unpredictability from the farmer to the sponsor.
- Reducing cost: It will reduce cost of marketing and improve income of farmers.
- Attracting investment: This legislation will act as a catalyst to attract private sector investment for building supply chains for supply of Indian farm produce to national and global markets, and in agricultural infrastructure.
- Modern technologies: Farmers will get access to technology and advice for high value agriculture and get ready market for such produce. It will also enable the farmer to access modern technology and better inputs.
- Elimination of intermediaries: Farmers will engage in direct marketing thereby eliminating intermediaries resulting in full realization of price.
- Effective mechanism: Effective dispute resolution mechanism has been provided for with clear time lines for redressal.

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## Destination North East 2020

### CONTEXT:

- The Ministry of Home Affairs inaugurated "Destination North East-2020" through virtual medium.

### ABOUT:

- Destination North East is a calendar event of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.
- It is conceptualized with the objective of taking the North East Region to other parts of the country and bringing them closer together in order to strengthen national integration.
- **Theme:** For Destination North East 2020, the theme is “The Emerging Delightful Destinations” which speaks of the tourism destinations emerging stronger and more attractive when the Sector picks up momentum.
- The programme focused mostly on Tourism and coincides with ‘World Tourism Day’ which was on 27th September 2020.

### The region offers:

- **Eco-tourism** - North Eastern Region is ideal for both passive and adventure forms of Eco-Tourism with wildlife sanctuary/parks, good scenic beauty, waterfalls, forests etc. The region has much to offer for the active adventure segment including river rafting among others, trekking of various grades and levels, rock climbing, hang gliding etc.
- **Culture** - Culture is an important aspect and has the potential to attract selective culture tourists to North Eastern Region.
  - The diverse and rich tribal heritage and culture is what differentiates North East with the rest of India. Another major differentiator is the rich and varying Arts and Crafts across the 8 North Eastern States. Here unlike most places, handicrafts are part of everyday life.
  - One significant aspect is the local community’s active participation towards increasing tourist-community cultural interfaces.
- **Heritage** - Heritage tourism has picked up considerably in the Region with a participatory approach where tourists also get to actively participate than just seeing the monuments, old tea estates etc.
- **Religious pilgrimage** - The region has many famous and old religious spots, which have been integrated with national tourism circuits for the benefit of the pilgrims.
- **Business** - In view of attractive natural environment and growing trends of outbound business meets, the NER also offers ample opportunities for business tourism segment. Domestic and international connectivity, High-end hotels, Convention Centres, resort based convention facilities etc. have all contributed to the expansion of this Sector.

## 3 Air Bubble Agreements

### CONTEXT:

- India has entered into Air Bubble agreements with 10 countries viz. USA, Canada, France, Germany, UK, Maldives, UAE, Qatar, Afghanistan and Bahrain.

### ABOUT:

#### • Key-takeaways from the Agreement

The essential details of Air Bubbles agreements are as follows:

- These are temporary agreements between two countries aimed at restarting commercial passenger services when regular international flights are suspended as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- They are reciprocal in nature i.e. airlines from both countries enjoy similar benefits.

- Tickets for the flights are sold through the airlines' website, travel agents and Global Distribution Systems.
- In view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there are restrictions on international flight operations to/from India.
- The Indian aviation and health infrastructure is currently trying its best to efficiently handle the large scale Vande Bharat Mission and Air Bubble operations.
- Limited quarantine and other related health facilities to be provided by the State Governments is a factor that has to be taken into account before regular commercial scheduled international operations are allowed.

**4****E-Gram Swaraj Portal****CONTEXT:**

- With a vision to strengthen digitalization in Panchayats for the purpose of empowering rural India, a unified tool e-Gram SWARAJ has been developed by the Ministry for effective monitoring and evaluation of works taken up in the Gram Panchayats.

**ABOUT:**

- e-Gram SWARAJ unifies the planning, accounting and monitoring functions of Gram Panchayats.
- It's combination with the Area Profiler application, Local Government Directory (LGD) and the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) renders easier reporting and tracking of Gram Panchayat's activities.
- It provides a single window for capturing Panchayat information with the complete Profile of the Panchayat, details of Panchayat finances, asset details, activities taken up through Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), Panchayat information from other Ministries/ Departments such as Census 2011, SECC data, Mission Antyodaya survey report etc.
- For the year 2020-21, around 2.43 lakh Gram Panchayats have finalized their GPDP on e-Gram SWARAJ.

**5****Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme****CONTEXT:**

- Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19' extended for another 6 months.

**ABOUT:**

- The 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19' was announced on 30 March 2020 for a period of 90 days.
- The scheme has now been extended for another 180 days i.e. 6 months.
- This Central Sector Scheme provides an insurance cover of Rs. 50 lakh to healthcare providers, including community health workers, who may have to be in direct contact and care of COVID-19 patients and therefore at risk of being infected. It also includes accidental loss of life on account of contracting COVID-19.



- The scheme also covers private hospital staff/ retired/volunteer/ local urban bodies/contract/daily wage/ ad-hoc/outsourced staff requisitioned by States/ Central hospitals/autonomous hospitals of Central/States/UTs, AIIMS & INIs/ hospitals of Central Ministries drafted for COVID-19 related responsibilities.
- The insurance provided under this scheme is over and above any other insurance cover being availed of by the beneficiary.
- There is no age limit for this scheme and individual enrolment is not required. The entire amount of premium for this scheme is being borne by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- The benefit/claim under this policy is in addition to the amount payable under any other policies.

## 6 The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill 2020

### CONTEXT:

- The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill 2020 has been passed by Rajya Sabha.

### ABOUT:

- The Bill was earlier passed in Lok Sabha in March, 2020. This paves the way to establish a state-of-the-art Ayurvedic institution called the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA) at Jamnagar, Gujarat, and to confer the status of Institution of National Importance (INI) to it.
- The ITRA is sought to be established by conglomerating the presently existing Ayurveda institutes at Gujarat Ayurved University campus Jamnagar.
- It is expected that the enactment of the proposal will further provide autonomy to the institute to develop patterns of teaching in undergraduate and postgraduate education in Ayurveda and Pharmacy.
- The synergies among the different constituent institutions will help ITRA to demonstrate high standards of such education and to emerge as a lighthouse institution to the entire AYUSH Sector.

### Significance of the Bill

- It is expected to provide the highest level of training of personnel in all important branches of Ayurveda including Pharmacy, and to take up in-depth study and research in the field of Ayurveda.
- ITRA will be the first institution with INI status in the AYUSH Sector, and this will enable the institution to be independent and innovative in the matter deciding course content and pedagogy.
- The decision comes at a time when global interest in health solutions based on traditional wisdom is at an unprecedentedly high level and ITRA is poised to take Ayurveda education to new vistas.

## 7 Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef program

### CONTEXT:

- Global Initiative to reduce Land Degradation and Coral Reef program launched at G20 Environment Ministers Meet.

**ABOUT:**

- The Environment Ministerial Meeting (EMM) of the G20 countries took place through video conferencing under the Presidency of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- The Global Initiative on Reducing Land Degradation aims to strengthen the implementation of existing frameworks to prevent, halt, and reverse land degradation within G20 member states and globally, taking into account possible implications on the achievement of other SDGs and adhering to the principle of doing no harm.
- The Global Coral Reef R&D Accelerator Platform is an innovative action-oriented initiative aimed at creating a global research and development (R&D) program to advance research, innovation and capacity building in all facets of coral reef conservation, restoration, and adaptation, and strengthen ongoing efforts and commitments made to enhance coral reefs conservation and their further degradation.

**G20:**

- The G20 is an international forum for the governments and central bank governors from 19 countries and the European Union (EU).
- Founded in 1999 with the aim to discuss policy pertaining to the promotion of international financial stability, the G20 has expanded its agenda since 2008 and heads of government or heads of state, as well as finance ministers and foreign ministers, have periodically conferred at summits ever since.
- It seeks to address issues that go beyond the responsibilities of any one organization.
- With the G20 growing in stature after its inaugural leaders' summit in 2008, its leaders announced on 25 September 2009 that the group would replace the G8 as the main economic council of wealthy nations.
- The heads of the G20 nations held summits twice in 2009 and twice in 2010. Since the November 2011 Cannes summit, G20 summits have been held annually.

8

**Long-Term, Time-Bound, National Level Strategy to Tackle Air Pollution-National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)****CONTEXT:**

- The Central Government launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long-term, time-bound, national level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner with targets to achieve 20% to 30% reduction in Particulate Matter concentrations by 2024 keeping 2017 as the base year for the comparison of concentration.

**ABOUT:**

- Under NCAP, 122 non-attainment cities have been identified across the country based on the Air Quality data from 2014-2018.
- A list of Smart Cities under the Smart Cities Mission, which are non-attainment cities under National Clean Air Program (NCAP), is attached at Annexure-I.
- The city specific action plans have been prepared which, inter-alia, include measures for strengthening the monitoring network, reducing vehicular/industrial emissions, increasing public awareness etc.
- Implementation of the city specific action plans are regularly monitored by Committees at Central and State level namely Steering Committee, Monitoring Committee and Implementation Committee.

- Air quality of cities is monitored by State Pollution Control Boards which publishes their results from time to time. Some Smart Cities have established Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) which are also connected to Air Quality Monitors (AQMs) for effective monitoring.

#### **The Air Quality Monitoring System (AQMS):**

- ▶ It is a facility to measure wind speed, direction, other weather parameters, concentration of air pollutants (such as SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, O<sub>3</sub>, THC etc), and particulate matters continuously all year round.
- ▶ Mobile AQMS can also be customized to monitor multiple sites via one system.

## **9 Neutrino Observatory in the country**

### **CONTEXT:**

- Government to set up Neutrino Observatory in the country.

### **ABOUT:**

- India based Neutrino observatory (INO) will observe neutrinos produced in the atmosphere of the Earth.
- This observation will tell us more about the properties of neutrino particles, whose main source is the Sun and the Earth's atmosphere.
- The neutrino detector will be a magnetized iron calorimeter, which will be the heaviest one made by any country.
- The site identified is in Bodi West Hills, in Theni district, Tamil Nadu.

#### **Neutrino:**

- ▶ A neutrino is a subatomic particle that is very similar to an electron, but has no electrical charge and a very small mass, which might even be zero.
- ▶ Neutrinos are one of the most abundant particles in the universe. Because they have very little interaction with matter, however, they are incredibly difficult to detect.
- ▶ Nuclear forces treat electrons and neutrinos identically; neither participate in the strong nuclear force, but both participate equally in the weak nuclear force.

## **10 Indian Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe)**

### **CONTEXT:**

- The Government has launched the Indian Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) to promote private investment and innovation in the space sector.

**ABOUT:**

- IN-SPACE is the Institutional and Regulatory mechanism established by Government to facilitate greater private participation.
- It is to be established as a single window nodal agency, with its own cadre, which will permit and oversee the following activities of NGPEs.

**Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Space activities including building of launch vehicles and satellites and providing space based services as per the definition of space activities.
- Sharing of space infrastructure and premises under the control of ISRO with due considerations to on-going activities.
- Establishment of temporary facilities within premises under ISRO control based on safety norms and feasibility assessment
- Establishment of new space infrastructure and facilities, by NGPEs, in pursuance of space activities based on safety norms and other statutory guidelines and necessary clearances.
- Initiation of launch campaign and launch, based on readiness of launch vehicle and spacecraft systems, ground and user segment.
- Building, operation and control of spacecraft for registration as Indian Satellite by NGPEs and all the associated infrastructure for the same.
- Usage of spacecraft data and rolling out of space based services and all the associated infrastructure for the same.

IN-SPACE will facilitate and support the Private Sector in the following ways:

- Provide technical support
- Share cash intensive facilities
- Allow to establish temporary facilities in DOS premises
- Allow to bid for requirements coming from NSIL
- Partner in science and space exploration missions

**Private players can participate in:**

- Building satellites
- Building launch vehicles
- Carry out launches
- Develop Applications & provide space based services
- Develop subsystem and systems for space sector activities

**11****Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020****CONTEXT:**

- Parliament passed the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

**ABOUT:**

- The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2020 with provisions to remove commodities like cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onion and potatoes from the list of essential commodities was passed by Rajya Sabha .

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- The EC (Amendment) Bill 2020 aims to remove fears of private investors of excessive regulatory interference in their business operations.
- The freedom to produce, hold, move, distribute and supply will lead to harnessing of economies of scale and attract private sector/foreign direct investment into agriculture sector.
- It will help drive up investment in cold storages and modernization of food supply chain.
- The Government, while liberalizing the regulatory environment, has also ensured that interests of consumers are safeguarded.
- It has been provided in the Amendment, that in situations such as war, famine, extraordinary price rise and natural calamity, such agricultural foodstuff can be regulated.
- However, the installed capacity of a value chain participant and the export demand of an exporter will remain exempted from such stock limit imposition so as to ensure that investments in agriculture are not discouraged.

### The need

- While India has become surplus in most Agri-commodities, farmers have been unable to get better prices due to lack of investment in cold storage, warehouses, processing and export as the entrepreneurial spirit gets dampened due to Essential Commodities Act.
- Farmers suffer huge losses when there are bumper harvests, especially of perishable commodities.
- The legislation will help drive up investment in cold storages and modernization of food supply chain. It will help both farmers and consumers while bringing in price stability.
- It will create competitive market environment and also prevent wastage of agri-produce that happens due to lack of storage facilities.

## 12

### Passage Exercise (PASSEX)

#### CONTEXT:

- Passage Exercise (PASSEX) took place between Royal Australian Navy and Indian Navy in East Indian Ocean Region.

#### ABOUT:

- The Indian Navy (IN) undertook a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with Royal Australian Navy (RAN) in the East Indian Ocean Region.
- The exercise involved participation of HMAS Hobart from the Australian side and Indian Naval Ships *Sahyadri* and *Karmuk*.
- The exercise, aimed at enhancing interoperability, improving understanding and imbibing best practices from each other, would involve advanced surface and anti-air exercises including weapon firings, seamanship exercises, naval manoeuvres and Cross Deck Flying Operations.
- PASSEXs are regularly conducted by *IN* with units of friendly foreign navies, whilst visiting each other's ports or during a rendezvous at sea.
- This exercise being conducted in the East Indian Ocean Region, reflects the growing strength of Indo-Australian bilateral relations as comprehensive strategic partners, particularly in defence cooperation in the maritime domain.
- The exercise, which is in keeping with the strong bond shared by the two navies, would be another step towards strengthening Indo-Australia defence relations and the continued efforts of both Governments to work closely to enhance safety and security of the global commons in accordance with international regulations.

- The two navies have built a robust relationship through regular exercises such as AUSINDEX conducted biennially.

## 12 Laser Guided ATGM

### CONTEXT:

- Laser Guided Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) was successfully test fired from MBT Arjun Tank at KK Rangesn.

### ABOUT:

- In these tests, the ATGM successfully defeated a target located at 3 km.
- Laser guided ATGMs lock and track the targets with the help of laser designation to ensure precision hit accuracy.
- The missile employs a tandem HEAT warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA) protected armoured vehicles.
- It has been developed with multiple-platform launch capability and is currently undergoing technical evaluation trials from gun of MBT Arjun.

## 13 RAISE 2020

### CONTEXT:

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and NITI Aayog will organize a Mega Virtual Summit on Artificial Intelligence (AI), **RAISE 2020- 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020'**.

### ABOUT:

- RAISE 2020 will be a global meeting of minds to exchange ideas and chart a course for using AI for social transformation, inclusion and empowerment in areas like Healthcare, Agriculture, Education and Smart Mobility, among other sectors.
- At the RAISE 2020 Summit, delegates and experts in research, policy and innovation on Artificial Intelligence will join from across the globe.
- Keynote speeches and panel discussions will frame the summit, on cross-sector subjects like 'Leveraging AI for Pandemic Preparedness', 'The Impetus that Innovation Places on Digitisation', 'Inclusive AI', 'Partnerships for Successful Innovation' etc.
- The RAISE 2020 Summit will also feature some of the most exciting startups working in Artificial Intelligence-related fields.
- Startups chosen through the AI Solution Challenge will showcase their solutions in the AI Startup Pitch fest scheduled on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020.
- This is part of Government of India's continuing support to tech entrepreneurs and startups by providing exposure, recognition and guidance.

### RAISE 2020:

- ▶ RAISE 2020 is a first of its kind, global meeting of minds on Artificial Intelligence to drive India's vision and roadmap for social transformation, inclusion and empowerment through responsible AI.

- ▶ Organized by Government of India along with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, the event will witness robust participation from global industry leaders, key opinion makers, Government representatives and academia.

## 14 JIMEX 20

### CONTEXT:

- The 4<sup>th</sup> edition of India - Japan Maritime bilateral exercise JIMEX, which was conducted biennially between the Indian Navy and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) was held in North Arabian Sea.

### ABOUT:

- JIMEX series of exercises commenced in January 2012 with special focus on maritime security cooperation. The last edition of JIMEX was conducted in October 2018 off Visakhapatnam, India.
- Naval cooperation between India and Japan has increased in scope and complexity over the years.
- Advanced level of operations and exercises planned during JIMEX-20 are indicative of the continued upswing in Indo-Japanese defence relations and continued efforts by both Governments to work closely for a more secure, open and inclusive global commons, in accordance with international regulations.
- JIMEX 20 showcased high degree of inter-operability and joint operational skills through conduct of a multitude of advanced exercises, across the spectrum of maritime operations.
- Multi-faceted tactical exercises involving weapon firings, cross deck helicopter operations and complex surface, anti-submarine and air warfare drills will consolidate coordination developed by the two navies.
- JIMEX 20 further enhanced the cooperation and mutual confidence between the two navies and fortify the long standing bond of friendship between the two countries.

## 15 Defence Acquisition Procedure – 2020

### CONTEXT:

- Raksha Mantri unveiled the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) – 2020 in New Delhi.

### ABOUT:

- The first Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) was promulgated in the year 2002 and has since been revised periodically to provide impetus to the growing domestic industry and achieve enhanced self reliance in defence manufacturing.
- Raksha Mantri had approved constitution of Main Review Committee under Chairmanship of DG (Acquisition) Shri Apurva Chandra in Aug 2019 for preparation of DAP-2020. DAP 2020 will be applicable with effect from 01 October 2020.
- DAP 2020 has been aligned with the vision of the Government of **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and empowering Indian domestic industry through **Make in India** initiative with the ultimate aim of turning India into a global manufacturing hub.



- With the new Foreign Direct Investment policy announced, DAP 2020 has adequately included provisions to encourage FDI to establish manufacturing hubs both for import substitution and exports while protecting interests of Indian domestic industry.
- Provisions contained in the document are meant to ensure that India turns into a global manufacturing hub.
- Some of the changes that have been incorporated include exploring the willingness of prospective foreign vendors to undertake manufacturing and set up an indigenous eco-system at the spares or sub-component level when the Request for Information (RFI) is issued for the acquisition of a platform.

### Important Features

- It also has provisions to encourage a foreign vendor to set up a subsidiary in India for the manufacture of either the entire platform or part of it, or its spares or the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility for the equipment. This section is titled "New Category of Buy (Global – Manufacture in India)."
- It also includes the buyer's right to optimise life cycle support costs and system enhancements through the indigenous eco system incorporated.
- India is one of the top defence hardware purchasers in the world, spending billions of dollars each year according to various estimates. There has been an emphasis on boosting domestic manufacturing including defence production.
- Under the DAP 2020, **the offset guidelines** have also been revised, facilitating preference to firms offering to manufacture products in India over relevant components.
- The policy also provides for a single stage accord of AoN (Acceptance of Necessity) in all cases up to ₹500 crore to avoid delays in approval of acquisition proposals.
- Under the new policy, leasing of platforms can now be done "to enable operating of assets without owning thereby, substitute huge initial capital outlays .

#### Defence offsets:

- ▶ In simplest terms, the offset is an obligation by an international player to boost India's domestic defence industry if India is buying defence equipment from it. Since defence contracts are costly, the government wants part of that money either to benefit the Indian industry, or to allow the country to gain in terms of technology.
- ▶ The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) defined offsets as a "mechanism generally established with the triple objectives of:
  - partially compensating for a significant outflow of a buyer country's resources in a large purchase of foreign good
  - facilitating induction of technology
  - adding capacities and capabilities of domestic industry".
- ▶ An offset provision in a contract makes it obligatory on the supplier to either "reverse purchase, execute export orders or invest in local industry or in research and development" in the buyer's domestic industry.

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## BrahMos Missile

### CONTEXT:

- BrahMos Missile Featuring Indigenous Booster Successfully Flight Tested.

**ABOUT:**

- BrahMos surface-to-surface supersonic cruise missile featuring indigenous Booster and Airframe Section along with many other 'Made in India' sub-systems was successfully flight tested from ITR, Balasore in Odisha.
- It is one more major step in enhancing the indigenous content.
- The BrahMos Land-Attack Cruise Missile (LACM) was cruising at a top speed of Mach 2.8.
- Successful launch has paved the way for the serial production of the indigenous booster and other indigenous components of the powerful BrahMos Weapon System realising Atmanirbhar Bharat pledge.

**BrahMos Missile:**

- ▶ The BrahMos is a medium-range ramjet supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarine, ships, aircraft, or land.
- ▶ It is the fastest supersonic cruise missile in the world.
- ▶ It is a joint venture between the Russian Federation's NPO Mashinostroyeniya and India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), who together have formed BrahMos Aerospace.
- ▶ It is based on the Russian P-800 Oniks cruise missile and other similar sea-skimming Russian cruise missile technology.
- ▶ The name BrahMos is a portmanteau formed from the names of two rivers, the Brahmaputra of India and the Moskva of Russia.
- ▶ It is the world's fastest anti-ship cruise missile in operation.

**Cruise missile:**

- ▶ A cruise missile is a guided missile used against terrestrial targets, which remains in the atmosphere and flies the major portion of its flight path at approximately constant speed.
- ▶ Cruise missiles are designed to deliver a large warhead over long distances with high precision.
- ▶ Modern cruise missiles are capable of travelling at supersonic or high subsonic speeds, are self-navigating, and are able to fly on a non-ballistic, extremely low-altitude trajectory.

Characteristics	Ballistic Missiles	Cruise Missiles
Range	From low to very high <i>Up to 15000 KM</i>	Mostly around 1 000 km <i>Up to 4 000 km</i>
Attitude	High <i>Easily detectable</i>	Low <i>Hard to detect</i>
Precision	Low - around a few hundred meters <i>Fit for large targets</i>	High - a few meters <i>fit tor small and mobile targets</i>
Speed	Up to 25 000 km/h at impact <i>Very hard to intercept</i>	Around 1 000 km/h <i>Possibility to intercept</i>

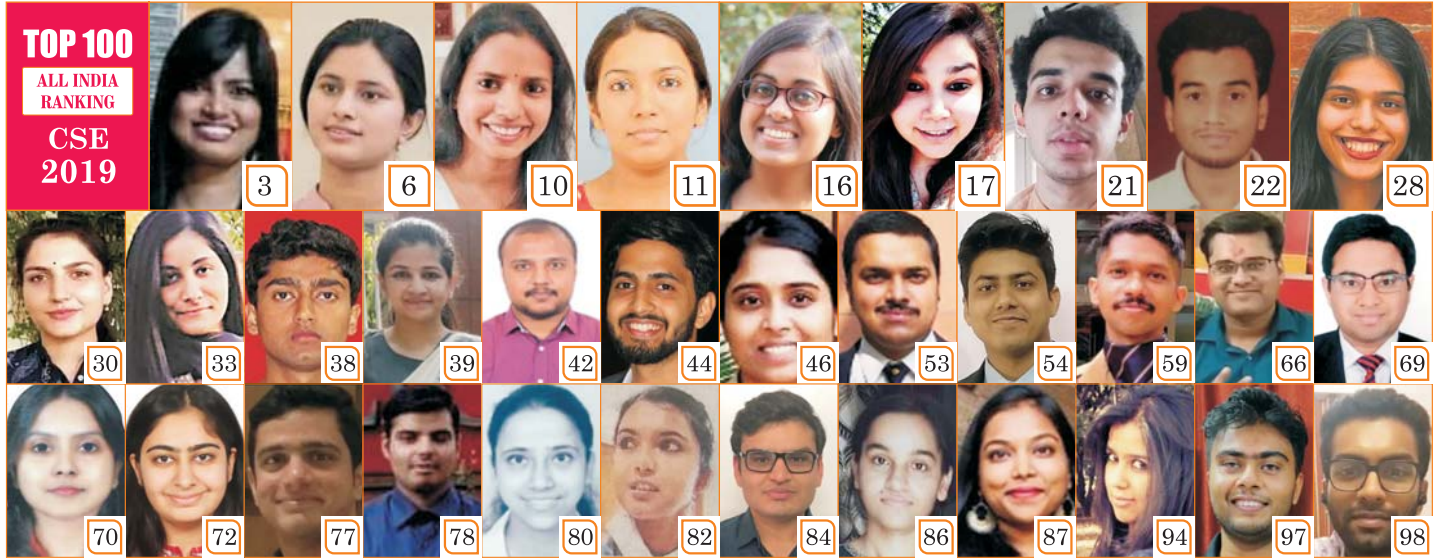
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# GS SCORE

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## CSE RESULTS



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