

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. Indian Navy commemorates 130th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's 'Satyagraha' in Durban ( June 12, 2023 )**

**INS Trishul**, a flagship warship of the Indian Navy, celebrated the **130th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's 'Satyagraha'** at the **Durban port in South Africa**.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- The purpose of its visit was to commemorate the **130th anniversary** of an incident that took place on **7 June 1893 at Pietermaritzburg railway station**.
- The incident led to Mahatma Gandhi being **ejected from a train** and played an important role in his fight against discrimination.
- INS Trishul's visit to **Durban harbour** serves as a commemoration of Gandhi's '**Satyagraha**'.
- 'Satyagraha' refers to Gandhi's doctrine of nonviolent resistance.
- By celebrating 'Satyagraha' on board INS Trishul, the Indian Navy pays tribute to the principles of Gandhi and inspires generations to come.

#### **About the visit of INS Trishul warship to Durban**

- Its visit to Durban is part of the Navy's celebrations for **India's 75th Independence anniversary** and the resumption of diplomatic relations between India and South Africa 30 years ago.
- The visit included a commemorative meeting at Pietermaritzburg Railway Station, paying homage to the Gandhi Plinth and a performance by the **Indian Navy Band**.
- A '**Gandhi-Mandela-King Conference**' will be organised in association with the **Pietermaritzburg Gandhi Foundation** and the **University of KwaZulu-Natal**.

#### **Mahatma Gandhi Satyagraha**

- **Satyagraha was a nonviolent resistance movement** initiated by **Mahatma Gandhi** during the Indian independence struggle **against British rule**.
- Satyagraha was first employed in **South Africa in 1915** when Gandhi led a successful resistance against discriminatory racial laws.
- The movement gained momentum in India during the **1920s and 30s**, leading to important civil disobedience campaigns such as the **Salt March and the Quit India Movement**.
- The principles of satyagraha were also applied to other struggles around the world, including the **fight against colonialism in Africa and Latin America**.
- Mahatma Gandhi's Satyagraha is considered one of the most powerful and successful tools for social and political change, adopted by people across the world.

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### **3. CACP recommends Centre to bring urea under NBS regime ( June 12, 2023 )**

urea-under-NBS-regime

The **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)** has recently **recommended the Centre to bring urea under the nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) regime** to address the problem of imbalanced use of nutrients.

#### **An overview of the news**

- The purpose of this recommendation is to address the problem of **nutrient imbalance in agriculture.**
- **Nutrient-based subsidy (NBS)** scheme was introduced in **2010** for non-urea fertilisers.
- Presently urea has been kept out of NBS scheme which has led to **inequitable use and deterioration in soil health.**
- The CACP believes that this would help address the problem of imbalanced use of nutrients, which has adversely affected **soil health and crop productivity.**
- According to CACP fertiliser subsidy has been rising over the years, while fertiliser response and efficiency have been declining.
- **In December 2022**, the government informed Parliament that there was no proposal to shift urea to NBS.

#### **Imbalanced use of fertilisers**

- Urea, containing nitrogen, is the only fertiliser whose price is **regulated directly by the government.**
- Other fertilisers like **DAP and NPK**, containing **phosphorus and potassium**, have prices determined by market forces.
- The government provides a **fixed subsidy per tonne of fertilisers** based on their nutrient content.
- Due to the price difference, urea is significantly cheaper compared to other fertilisers, incentivizing farmers to use more urea than necessary.
- Excessive use of urea and lower application of other essential nutrients create an **imbalance in soil fertility, leading to soil degradation.**

#### **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)**

- It was **formed in January 1965**.
- It is an expert body that recommends **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** to the government after taking into account the cost of production, trends in domestic and international prices.
- It is a **statutory body** of the **Ministry of Farmers Welfare**.
- It recommends MSP for **22 Kharif and Rabi crops**.
- Its recommendations are **not binding on the government**.

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### **5. Second summit of Supreme Audit Institutions of G20 countries began in Goa ( June 12, 2023 )**

G20-countries-began-in-Goa

The **second summit of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs)** of the G20 countries began on 12 June in **Panaji, the capital of Goa.**

#### **An overview of the news**

- The inaugural address at the summit was delivered by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) **Girish Chandra Murmu.**
- Goa Governor **PS Sreedharan Pillai** and India's G20 Sherpa **Amitabh Kant** also attended the meeting.
- SAIs from **Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Spain, UAE, Morocco and Poland** participated in the summit.
- Apart from the proceedings of the summit, the CAG is expected to sign MoUs with SAIs of **Indonesia and Turkey** to strengthen cooperation and knowledge sharing.
- Apart from SAI, over 80 national and international delegates as well as representatives from Think20 and Youth20 Engagement Groups are participating in the three-day summit.

#### **Summit Focus Areas**

- The two primary areas of focus at the summit will be **Blue Economy and Responsible Artificial Intelligence**, with Girish Chandra Murmu discussing these topics.
- The concept of blue economy revolves around the **conservation and utilization of oceans, seas and marine resources** for sustainable development.

- Responsive Artificial Intelligence (AI) enables **fraud detection, automates redundant auditing processes and identifies high-risk transactions.**

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## **7. UN suspends food aid to Ethiopia over diversion of supplies ( June 12, 2023 )**

United Nations World Food Program

The **United Nations World Food Program** has temporarily **suspended food aid to Ethiopia** on June 9 because it is not reaching those in need in the African country.

### **An overview of the news**

- America had also made a similar announcement a day earlier. WFP executive director **Cindy McCain** said the transfer of food aid is completely unacceptable.

- About **20 million Ethiopians** out of the country's population of about 120 million are dependent on food aid due to drought and conflict.
- Much of this aid comes from the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Food Program.**
- Ethiopia has a population of about **120 million**. This move by the United Nations agency is expected to increase malnutrition in Africa's second most populous country.

### **United Nations World Food Program**

- It is an **international organization** within the **United Nations.**
- It provides **food assistance** worldwide.
- It is the world's largest **humanitarian organization** and the leading provider of school meals.
- It was **founded in 1961.**
- Its Headquarter is in **Rome, Italy.**
- **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** are the founders of WFP.

### **8. Sarbananda Sonowal lays Foundation Stone of Cochin Fisheries Harbour ( June 11, 2023 )**

The foundation stone for the **modernization and upgradation works** of the **Cochin Fishing Harbour** was laid at **Willingdon Island in Kochi** on 11 June.

#### **An overview of the news**

- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, **Parshottam Rupala**, and Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, **Sarbananda Sonowal**, jointly laid the foundation stone for the project.
- **The modernization project is expected to be completed next year**, enhancing the infrastructure and capabilities of the Cochin Fishing Harbour.
- The project aims to modernize and upgrade the Cochin Fishing Harbour at a **cost of 169 crore rupees.**
- Rupala mentioned the **Sagar Parikrama program** which aims to identify ground-level gaps and make necessary policy changes.

#### **Significance of Cochin Fisheries Harbour**

- The modernization of the Cochin Fishing Harbour will **boost fish and fish product exports**, estimated to reach **1500 crore rupees per annum.**
- Coastal economic development is a key aspect of the **Sagar Mala Project.**

- Government initiatives will **empower fishermen** to contribute further to the country's economy.
- The upgraded harbour will enable increased **trade and export opportunities** for fish and fish products, benefiting the local economy and the livelihoods of fishermen.

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## **10. PM Modi inaugurated first-ever National Training Conclave in New Delhi ( June 11, 2023 )**

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **first-ever National Training Conclave** at the **International Exhibition and Convention Centre at Pragati Maidan** in New Delhi on 11 June.

### **An overview of the news**



- The Conclave is aimed **to enhance capacity building in the civil services** and is organised under the auspices of the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) - '**Mission Karmayogi.**'
- The Conclave is being hosted by the **Capacity Building Commission.**
- More than **1500 representatives** from various training institutes, including Central Training Institutes, State Administrative Training Institutes, Regional and Zonal Training Institutes, and Research institutes are participating in the conclave.
- Civil servants from central government departments, state governments and local governments as well as experts from the private sector are participating in the deliberations.
- During the conclave, **eight-panel discussions** will take place, each focusing on key concerns pertinent to civil services training institutes.

### **Topics of discussion**

- It includes faculty development, training impact assessment, content digitisation, and other significant areas that contribute to the enhancement of civil services training.

### **About Mission Karmayogi Scheme**

- Mission Karmayogi Yojana was launched on **2nd September 2020.**
- This scheme is operated under the leadership of Prime Minister **Narendra Modi.**
- The main objective of the Mission Karmayogi scheme is **to develop the capabilities of government employees.**
- Under the Mission Karmayogi scheme, a budget of **Rs 510.86 crore** has been set by the government for a **period of 5 years** for about 46 lakh central employees.
- For the successful operation of the scheme **iGOT Karmayogi platform** has also been formed through which online contact is made available.