

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. DGCA slaps Rs 30 lakh fine on Air India ( May 13, 2023 )**

**DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation)** has imposed a **fine of Rs 30 lakh on Air India** for violating the rules.

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

- In the violation in question, an Air India pilot allowed a female friend into the cockpit during a Dubai-Delhi flight.
- The **aviation watchdog** had issued a show cause notice to **Air India CEO Campbell Wilson** for lapse in reporting the incident.
- Air India has been fined ₹30 lakh for not promptly and effectively addressing a safety-sensitive issue.
- The **incident took place on February 27, 2023** when a cabin crew member lodged a complaint with the DGCA.
- The DGCA has suspended the pilot's license for three months for violating regulations and **"misuse of his authority."**

#### **Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**

- It is a **statutory body** and formed under the **Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020**.
- It is **headquartered in New Delhi** and functions under the **Ministry of Civil Aviation**.
- It investigates aviation accidents and enforces all regulations related to aviation.
- It registers and provides certificates to civil aircrafts.
- It coordinates all regulatory functions with the **International Civil Aviation Organisation**.

#### **About Air India**

- Establishment of Air India - **1932**
- Air India Headquarters- **New Delhi**
- Founder of Air India- **Ratan Tata**
- President of Air India- **N Chandrasekaran**

### **2. 728 Railway Stations across States and UTs covered under One Station One Product ( May 13, 2023 )**

Under the **One Station One Product' (OSOP) scheme** of Indian Railways, **728 stations are covered with 785 OSOP outlets in 21 States and 3 Union Territories** across the country so far.

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

- Its aim is to promote the government's '**Vocal for Local**' vision.
- Under this scheme, OSOP stalls at railway stations offer a diverse range of unique products related to **handicrafts, textiles, traditional wear and local agricultural produce and processed food items.**
- The stalls have been uniformly designed through the **National Institute of Design** to ensure sustainability and promote visibility and accessibility of the scheme.

### **About One Station One Product Scheme**

- The scheme was launched with a vision to promote '**Vocal for Local**'.
- This will help local manufacturers sell their products and create additional income opportunities for the marginalized sections of the society.
- Under the scheme, allotment is made to all the eligible applicants on a rotation basis.
- The scheme was launched on **25 March 2022 in pilot mode.**
- This scheme is doing welfare of **local artisans, potters, weavers, tribals etc.**

### **The products under the OSOP scheme**

- Food items (Seasonal or Processed or semi processed foods)
- Handicrafts
- Artefacts
- Textiles
- Handlooms
- Traditional Garments
- Local agricultural produce
- Local toys
- Leather products
- Local Gems and Jewellery

### **3. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways ranked 2nd on Data Governance Quality Index ( May 13, 2023 )**

The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)** has been **ranked second among 66 ministries in the Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)** assessment for the **December quarter (Q3) of FY23**.

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

- The **ministry scored 4.7 out of 5**, indicating its commitment to excellence in data governance.
- Conducted by the **Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog**, the DGQI survey aims to measure the maturity level of administrative data systems and their use in decision making of various ministries and departments on the implementation of central sector schemes.
- MoPSW's success in DGQI assessment was aided by the concerted efforts of the National **Technology Center for Ports, Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC)** at IIT Madras, which was tasked to improve MoPSW's Management Information System (MIS) in compliance with DGQI standards I went.

### **Six key indicators**

- The DGQI assessment covers six key themes including data generation, data quality, use of technology, data analysis, access and dissemination, data security and human resource capability, and case studies.

### **Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)**

- The Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI) survey is conducted by NITI Aayog's Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office.
- The survey aims to evaluate the performance of different Ministries /Departments in implementing Central Sector Schemes (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).

## **4. 1st Ministerial meeting of India-EU Trade and Technology Council ( May 13, 2023 )**

The first ministerial meeting of the **India and the European Union Trade and Technology Council (TTC)** will be held in **Brussels** on 16 May.

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

- The meeting will be co-chaired by the **Ministers of External Affairs**, Commerce and Industry and Communications, Electronics and Information Technology from the Indian side.
- **India is only the second country after the US with which the European Union (EU) has a TTC**, and the two sides agreed to launch the strategic mechanism during the visit of European Commission President **Ursula von der Leyen** to India in April 2022.
- The TTC aims to deepen trade and investment ties between India and the European Union, as well as foster greater cooperation on technology and innovation.

## **About India-EU Trade and Technology Council**

- The trade and technology council was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen during Ms Leyen's visit to India in April 2022.

## **Three Working Groups under the TTC**

1. A Working Group on Strategic Technologies, Digital Governance and Digital Connectivity
2. A Working Group on Green and Clean Energy Technologies
3. A Working Group on Trade, Investment and Resilient Value Chains

## **India-EU Trade relation**

- **India is the 10th largest trading partner** of the European Union, accounting for **2.1% of the total trade in goods.**
- **The EU is India's third largest trading partner**, accounting for **€88 billion in goods trade in 2021** or a little over 10% of total Indian trade.
- Trade in services between the two sides reached **€30.4 billion in 2020.**

## **About European Union**

- The European Union is a group of **27 European countries.**
- The United Kingdom which was the founding member of the European Union has left the organisation.
- It was **founded on 1 November 1993**
- Headquarters: **Brussels, Belgium**

## **5. Smriti Zubin Irani launches “Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi” ( May 12, 2023 )**

Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi

Union Women and Child Development Minister, **Smriti Zubin Irani** launched “**Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi**”, an Early Childhood Care and Education program under **Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0** on 12th May.

## **An overview of the news**

- Under this campaign, work will be done in **Anganwadis across the country** to provide **nutrition as well as better education to children in the age group of 3 to 6 years.**
- There are about **13 lakh 90 thousand Anganwadis** across the country, in which work is being done to provide better nutrition as well as better education to the students.

- Anganwadi workers are being trained by **NIPCID** regarding the mental development of children aged 3 to 6 years under the **National Education Policy 2020**.
- **More than 51 lakh activities** have been conducted by the Ministry in Gram Panchayats, as well as emphasis is being laid on early education for children coming to Anganwadis through toys made in India.

### **About Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0**

- The scheme was approved by the Government of India for implementation during the **15th Finance Commission period 2021-22 to 2025-26**.
- It is an Integrated Nutrition Support Programme.
- It has been implemented to address the challenges of **malnutrition among children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers**.
- The restructured scheme consists of ICDS, **POSHAN Abhiyaan, Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) and National Creche Scheme**.

### **Objectives of Poshan 2.0**

- Address challenges of malnutrition
- Contribute to the development of human capital of the country
- Promote nutrition awareness and good eating habits for better health
- Addressing nutritional deficiencies through key strategies

## **6. Monkeypox no longer a global health emergency: World Health Organization ( May 12, 2023 )**

Monkeypox no longer a global health emergency: World Health Organization

The **World Health Organization** declared the **end of a global health emergency** on 11 May for the rare but potentially serious disease **mpox**, formerly known as **monkeypox**.

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

- According to WHO Director-General **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, countries have reported about **90% fewer cases in the past three months**.
- The **emergency declaration was issued in July 2022** amid a major global surge in cases.
- Mpox belongs to the **family of poxviruses**, which also includes smallpox, and people with the disease often develop a **rash on various parts of the body**.
- According to WHO, **since January 2022**, there have been more than **87,000 mpox cases and 140 deaths in 111 countries**.

## **What Is Monkeypox?**

- It is a **viral zoonotic disease** that is transmitted from **animals to humans**.
- Monkeypox virus is an **orthopoxvirus** similar to **smallpox**.
- It has been identified as a **smallpox-like disease in monkeys**, hence it is called **monkeypox**.
- It was **first observed in 1958**, in monkeys in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, and in humans in **1970**.
- The disease outbreak in **Nigeria in 2017** was the largest ever.
- The monkeypox virus mutates at a high rate but is treatable once symptoms appear.

## **Symptom of disease**

- Fever, intense headache, muscle aches, back pain, low energy, swollen lymph nodes and a skin rash or lesions.
- Infected people develop a rash resembling smallpox.
- In the early stages of the disease, monkeypox and smallpox can be differentiated because the monkeypox lymph gland enlarges.

## **Transmission of disease**

- It spreads through close face to face, skin to skin and direct contact.
- The disease can be spread through contact with bodily fluids, sores on the skin or internal mucous surfaces, such as the mouth or throat, respiratory droplets and contaminated objects.

## **Treatment and Vaccine**

- There is no specific treatment or vaccine available for monkeypox infection.
- The anti-smallpox vaccine has been shown to be **85% effective in preventing monkeypox**.

## **7. CBIC rolls out Automated Return Scrutiny Module for GST returns ( May 12, 2023 )**

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs

The **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** has recently **launched** the **Automated Return Scrutiny Module for GST returns**.

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

- This module will enable tax officers to scrutinize GST returns of centrally administered taxpayers based on data analytics and risks identified by the system.
- The module identifies **discrepancies in the returns** and shows them to the tax officer, who can communicate with the taxpayer through the **GSTN Common Portal** to resolve any issues.
- The **Automated Return Scrutiny Module** will help in **streamlining the GST return** scrutiny process and ensure that it is more efficient, transparent and effective.
- According to the Finance Ministry, the introduction of this module is a significant step towards creating a more **technology-driven tax administration system**, which will not only improve compliance but also reduce the compliance burden for taxpayers.

### **About Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**

- In India, it is a part of the **Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance**.
- CBIC is responsible for the administration of indirect taxes such as **GST, Customs Duty and Excise Duty in India**.
- The **board was formed in 2019** as a result of the merger of the **Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC)** and the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**.
- CBIC is headed by a **Chairman** who is assisted by a number of members responsible for various areas such as **GST, Customs, Legal and Administration**.
- The main functions of CBIC include **policy-making, implementation, and administration of indirect taxes, and prevention of smuggling and evasion of taxes**.
- CBIC works towards creating a fair and efficient tax administration system, which is transparent and taxpayer friendly.
- CBIC plays a vital role in ensuring **compliance of tax laws and regulations in India**.

### **8. 6th Indian Ocean Conference- 2023 ( May 12, 2023 )**

6th Indian Ocean Conference- 2023

The **6th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC)** is taking place in **Dhaka, Bangladesh** from May 12-13, 2023.

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

- The sixth edition of the conference is being organized by the **India Foundation** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh and the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies**.

- The theme of this year's conference is '**Partnership for Peace, Prosperity and a Resilient Future**'.
- The conference was inaugurated by Bangladesh **Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina**.
- According to Bangladesh Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaha ryar Alam, around **150 foreign guests** including representatives from D8, SAARC and BIMSTEC will participate in the conference.
- The IOC is expected to provide a forum for discussion on a wide range of issues related to the Indian Ocean including **trade, security, climate change and regional connectivity**.
- The summit is an important event for Bangladesh, as it showcases t he country's growing role in regional affairs and highlights efforts to promote **peace, stability and prosperity in the Indian Ocean region**.

### **Aim of the conference**

- The aim of the conference is to bring together high-level government delegations and think tanks from around 25 countries to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation among countries in the Indi an Ocean region.

### **About Indian Ocean Conference**

- It has been launched by the Delhi-based think tank **India Foundation** along with its partners from **Singapore, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh**.
- The aim of the conference is to bring together Heads of States/Governments, Ministers, thought leaders, scholars, diplomats, bureaucrats and practitioners from across the region on a single platform.

## **9. Exercise Ajeya Warrior-23 ( May 11, 2023 )**

The **7th edition** of the joint military exercise "**AJEYA WARRIOR-23**" between **India and the United Kingdom** was conducted at **Salisbury Plains, United Kingdom** from **27 April to 11 May 2023**.

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

- Indian Army soldiers chanted '**Bajrang Bali Ki Jai**' along with '**Bharat Mata Ki Jai**' during the 7th edition of Ajeya Warrior-23.
- Army soldiers were seen shouting these slogans loudly with guns in their hands.
- The exercise is part of an initiative to develop **interoperability and share expertise with friendly foreign nations**.
- Military forces of both countries participate in this **joint military exercise**.

### **About Exercise Ajay Warrior 2023**



- It is a bilateral training exercise between the armies of **India and UK**.
- The exercise saw the participation of an infantry company from India and a unit of **similar strength from the British Army**.
- The armies of both countries practiced each other's **weapons, battle tactics, equipment and procedures** to conduct joint military operations under difficult conditions.
- In addition, expert academic discussions were also held on several topics of common interest such as joint weapon concepts, operation logistics, experience sharing of joint forces, etc.

### **Aim of the exercise**

- It aims to improve interoperability between the two forces while working in accordance with the mandate of the United Nations.
- Its objective is to provide training to soldiers of both countries in counter-terrorist operations.

## **10. Indian Council of Medical Research and Ministry of AYUSH signed MoU ( May 11, 2023 )**

**Indian Council of Medical Research and AYUSH Ministry** on 11 May signed an **MOU for collaborative and cooperative momentum on health research** in the field of **Integrated Medicine**.

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

- The MoU was signed by **Rajesh Kotecha**, Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH and **Dr. Rajiv Bahl**, Secretary DHR & DG, ICMR in the presence of **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare.
- The MoU envisages collaboration in areas of **convergence and synergy between the two organizations** to strengthen integrated health research and research capacity.
- The MoU also envisages exploring the possibility with the **Ministry of AYUSH and ICMR** to work on **public health research initiatives** to address diseases of national importance.
- A Joint Working Group will be formed between the Ministry of AYUSH and ICMR which will meet quarterly to explore other areas of collaboration and work on deliverables.
- Both the institutes will formulate and implement joint research projects and programmes.

### **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**

- It is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world headquartered in New Delhi for the coordination and promotion of biomedical research.

- It works under the **Department of Health Services (DHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.**
- It was **established in 1911** as **Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA).**
  - Later in 1949 its name was **changed to ICMR.**