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<th>News Articles</th>
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<td>The monk who shaped India’s secularism (OPED)</td>
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<td>Delhiites breathe easy as AQI remains ‘satisfactory’</td>
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<td>NRC is an internal matter, Jaishankar tells Bangladesh</td>
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<td>@end of the video</td>
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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi ; T – Thiruvananthapuram
**Indian Secularism**

- Secular ideals have their roots in the constitution
- Sarva dharma Sama bhava - Equal respect for all religions
- Early day Hindu Nationalists opposed this idea

**Secularism and Swami Vivekananda**

- Proponent of a multicultural nation rooted in religious tolerance and modernity
- Social reformer - established Vedanta Society in 1894
- All religions lead to same goal

**Three important and novel facets of Hindu life**

1. Indian tradition believed not only in toleration but also in acceptance of “all religions as true”
2. Hinduism is incomplete without Buddhism and vice versa
3. Help and not fight; Assimilation and not destruction, and harmony & peace

**Ramakrishna Mission - 1897**

- a large no. of American and European followers were behind Vivekananda

- Emphasized that India needed to trade Indian spirituality for the West’s material and modern culture
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy</th>
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| * **firmly** behind India’s Scientific modernisation  
  • Supported Jagdish Chandra Bose’s scientific projects  
  • American disciple - Sara Bull - helped patent Bose’s discoveries in the U.S  
  • Inspired Jamsetji Tata to establish Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Tata Iron & Steel company  
  • *Irish Teacher*  
    • Margaret Noble, rechristened as sister Nivedita  
    • to uplift condition of Indian women  
    • She inaugurated a girls’ school in Calcutta  |
| * **Influence on makers of modern India**  
  • M. Gandhi, J. Nehru and S.C. Bose challenged ‘Two-Nation Theory’  
  • he used the term ‘Draupadi Narayan’ meaning ‘Service to the poor is service to god’ later inspired Gandhi to address the socially oppressed people as ‘Children of god’ (Hanjan)  
  • Reading Vivekananda – Gandhi’s love for India grew thousand-fold  |

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| ⚜ Birthday of Swami Vivekananda  
  • remembered/declared as ‘National Youth Day’  
  • should remember his fiery modern spirit that rediscovered and reformed India’s past  
  • Roots of India’s Secular nationalism were also in his beliefs  |
Delhites breathe easy as AQI remains ‘Satisfactory’

Air quality may slip to ‘moderate’ category over the next two days, says SAFAR

Delhi’s air quality has not been much of a concern recently. However, the Air Quality Index (AQI) is likely to slip to the ‘moderate’ category over the next two days, according to the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) – which operates the air quality monitoring network of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC). The AQI is currently at 50, which means the air quality is ‘good’.

Possible Health Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQI</th>
<th>Remark</th>
<th>Color Code</th>
<th>Possible Health Impacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-50</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Minimal impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-100</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>Green to Yellow</td>
<td>Minor breathing discomfort to sensitive people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-200</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Yellow to Orange</td>
<td>Slight discomfort to sensitive people, respiratory illness among asthmatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-300</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Orange to Red</td>
<td>Breathing discomfort to most people on prolonged exposure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-600</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
<td>Red to Maroon</td>
<td>Breathing discomfort to most people on prolonged exposure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600-900</td>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Maroon</td>
<td>Breathing discomfort to most people on prolonged exposure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National Air Quality Index

- Launched by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC) in October 2014
- One number - One colour - One description for the common man
- Released by Central Pollution Control Board

8 pollutants

PM 1.0

PM 2.5

NO₂

SO₂

CO

O₃

NH₃

Pb

A QI Categories | AQI | Concentration range
---|---|---
Good | 0 - 50 | 0 - 10 - 20 - 30 - 40 - 50 - 0 - 1.0 - 0 - 0 - 200 - 0.5 - 0.0
Satisfactory | 51 - 100 | 51 - 60 - 70 - 80 - 90 - 100 - 1.0 - 2.0 - 2.5 - 3.0 - 3.5 - 4.0
Poor | 201 - 300 | 201 - 250 - 300 - 350 - 400 - 450 - 500 - 550 - 600 - 650 - 700
Very poor | 301 - 400 | 301 - 350 - 400 - 450 - 500 - 550 - 600 - 650 - 700 - 750
Severe | 401 - 600 | 401 - 450 - 500 - 550 - 600 - 650 - 700 - 750 - 800

* CO in mg/m³ and other pollutants in µg/m³; 24-hour average values for PM₁₀, PM₂.₅, NO₂, SO₂, NH₃, Pb, and 8-hourly values for CO and O₃.

News

- Air Quality → Oscillating between ‘good’ and ‘Satisfactory’ in last week
- due to widespread rains

CPCB

- Central Pollution Control Board
- Statutory Organisation
- Constituted in 1974
  - Under water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
  - Entrusted with powers & functions under Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- Principal Functions
  - Promote the cleanliness of streams and wells in different areas of the states by preventing, controlling and abating of water pollution
  - Improve the quality of air, and to prevent, control or abate air pollution in the country

PAC

- Paper A – Preliminary Examination
- General Science

PAPER IV

- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy
* Also provides technical services to MoEF&CC as per Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986

* Comes under MoEF&CC

**SAFAR**

* System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting

* Introduced by Ministry of Earth Sciences

* Developed by Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune & Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) + National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF)

* Provides location specific information on air quality

  In near real time and its forecast 1-3 days in advance

* AQI parameters considered for reporting the air quality; advisories for human health released

**News**

* Delhi's overall air quality - "Satisfactory"

  ▶ Lead pollutant - PM10
Citizenship Rules, 2003

- Rule 4A - Preparation of NRC in Assam is through receiving applications from the citizens
- Rest of the country - Through enumeration

NRC Update Process in Assam

- Enlisting the names of those persons or their descendants whose names appear in any of the stipulated admissible documents issued on or before the midnight of 24th March, 1971
- Checks the illegal immigration will be detected & deported to the country of origin

Timeline

- Final draft of NRC - July 2018 - 40 lakh people excluded
- Final list of NRC:
  - Planned → 31st July 2018
  - Extension by Supreme Court → 31st August 2019

News

- Adequate arrangements will be made by the Assam govt. to help the excluded persons from NRC to appeal against their non-inclusion
- Appellate authority - Foreigners tribunals

Foreigners Act, 1946

- Foreigner - Person who is not a citizen of India
- Sec 3 - C. Govt → Powers to make orders
  - Introduced Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964
    - Empowered to declare a person as a foreigner

- Assam govt would make arrangements to provide legal aid to the needy people
- Adequate numbers of foreign tribunals are being established at locations wherever necessary
- Time of Appeal to be increased from 60 to 120 days
II. News

* Meeting of External Affairs Ministers of India & Bangladesh at Dhaka
  * No joint statement issued
  * NRC: Fate of 1.60 lakh persons - unknown

* Indian External Affairs Minister:
  * NRC process in Assam is an internal matter of India
**Population Explosion**

Growth Slows: India's population growth rate peaked between 1961 and 1971 and has been falling since. The Census of 2011 counted 121 crore people in India.

- Population (crore) vs Rate of change (%, right axis)

**TFR - Total Fertility Rate**

Total number of children born or likely to be born to a woman of child-bearing age in her lifetime.

**Fewer Children**: While TFR in rural areas remains higher than in urban areas, it has been declining at a faster rate than the latter, according to National Family Health Surveys (NFHS).

- Urban
- Rural
- Total

**Replacement FFR**

State of Fertility:

- Among bigger States, J&K and Delhi registered the biggest drop in TFR (in % terms) from 2007 to 2017, while Kerala & T.N. showed no change. Size of the circle indicates the state's population as a % of the total.

- Avg. no. of children born by a woman in her lifetime; **As given by Sample Registration Survey**
- **The TFR at which a population exactly replaces its numbers from one generation to the next (without migration)**

**UN - Population Division Estimates**

- 2.1 Children per woman is the replacement level fertility, or replacement TFR.

**Population Change**

Increase in population was highest in Bihar between 2001 and 2011 and lowest in Kerala. The table lists the top and bottom three States (in % terms).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Population increase 2001-2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>25.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J&amp;K</td>
<td>23.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>22.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>13.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>13.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>4.91%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Q1. Consider the following statements about National Air Quality Index (AQI).

1. There are six AQI categories which are decided based on the ambient concentrations of air pollutants and their likely health impacts.
2. Both PM2.5 and PM10 are part of the air pollutants that are measured as a part of this index.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only  
b) 2 only  
c) Both 1 and 2  
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q2. Consider the following statement about Central Pollution Control Board.

1. It is a non-statutory body.
2. One of its principal functions is to improve the quality of air and to prevent, control or abate air pollution in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only  
b) 2 only  
c) Both 1 and 2  
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims
Q3. Consider the following statements.

1. Total fertility rate means the total number of children born or likely to be born to a woman of child-bearing age in her lifetime.

2. As per National Family Health Survey – 4 data, the total fertility rate of India is higher in the urban areas when compared to the rural areas in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Practice Question – Prelims
Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to the ‘National Register of Citizens (NRC).

1. It contains the names of Indian citizens.

2. The update process in National Register of Citizens is presently being conducted only for the state of Assam.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2