### The Hindu News Analysis – 19th July & 20th July 2019 – Shankar IAS Academy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7,000 species added to IUCN ‘Red List’</td>
<td>18 - 22 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The threat of Ebola</td>
<td>8 8 10 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wayanad’s tribal hamlets one step from 100% literacy</td>
<td>1 1 1 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>RTI Bill introduced amid Opposition flak</td>
<td>15 15 13 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Women in CRPF will soon get specially designed body gear</td>
<td>11 11 9 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lok Sabha clears Bill on NHRC constitution</td>
<td>14 14 12 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Practice cum Revision - MCQs</td>
<td>@end of the video</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; T – Thiruvananthapuram
7,000 species added to IUCN ‘Red List’

Habitat destruction and hunting by humans are reasons for fall in numbers

Many of the species most vulnerable to extinctions are also those that are best known, as they are often the most conspicuous and have been studied for their beauty or economic importance. In many cases, however, the decline in population has been so rapid that the species has not even had the chance to be recorded in scientific literature.

IUCN: Established in 1964

* IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
  * World’s most comprehensive information
    * Source → global conservation status of animal, fungi and plant species
  * Indicator of health of world’s biodiversity
  * Powerful tool → inform about conservation
    * Catalyze action for conservation and policy changes
  * Information → range, population size, habitat and ecology, use and trade, threats, conservation actions

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- General issues on Environmental ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change - that do not require subject specialization.
- General Science.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER IV


* Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
Numbers change due to 2 reasons

1. Non-genuine reasons:
   - New information available
   - Taxonomic revision

2. Genuine reasons:
   a) Status improved to better category
      - Threats no longer present
      - Conservation measures successful
      - reintroduction
      - habitat protection / restoration
      - legal protection
      - harvest management, etc.
   b) Status deteriorated
      - Threats continue unabated
      - Threats increased
      - New threats have developed

India:

- Threatened: 1081 species
  - Plants 399 species
  - Animals 682 species
  - Fungi & Protist 0 species

Other Facts:

- Wedgefishes & giant Guitarfishes = 'Rhino Rays'
  - Most imperilled marine families on Earth
  - Elongated Snouts
  - Related to Sharks
  - Live in Shallow waters
  - Indian Ocean & East Atlantic Ocean
  - West Pacific Ocean to Mediterranean Sea

Threats:

- Unregulated Coastal fishing
  - Caught as 'bycatch'
  - Meat sold locally
  - Fins are internationally traded for shark fin soup

Primates:

- Seven species closer to extinction
  - Rolaway Monkeys
    - Critically Endangered
    - Endemic to Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana
    - Only 2000 surviving individuals
    - Threats
      - Meat and skin - target for hunters
The threat of Ebola

The health emergency declared by the WHO can counter the risk of a global spread.

A

At least 10 (30) days of fever, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, and then 10-45 days of bleeding, haemorrhage, and bleeding symptoms. Some cases may develop a cough or sore throat. The incubation period of the disease is 2 to 21 days.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- General Science.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

Ebola Virus Disease:

* Caused by 6 Species of viruses of genus Ebolavirus under the family Filoviridae
  - Zaire
  - Sudan
  - Reston
  - Bundibugyo
  - Tai
  - Bombali

* Natural Hosts - Fruit bats of Pteropodidae

* Transmission:
  - Animal to Human Transmission
    - Fruit Bats → Wild Animals → Humans → Other Humans
  - Human to Human Transmission
    - Contact with infected person
    - Touching the contaminated objects

* Incubation Period - 2 to 21 days

Symptoms:

- Fever
- Muscle Pain
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Headache

Other Symptoms:

- Vomiting, Diarrhoea, rashes
- Impaired functioning of kidney and livers
- Internal & External bleeding in some cases

Treatment:

- No proven treatment available
- Supportive care provided
- Multi-drug randomized control trials in process

Vaccines:

2015 - rVSV-ZEBOV-GP candidate Vaccine
**Public Health Emergency of International Concern:**
- Declared by WHO
- Public health risk to other countries when the disease spreads internationally
- Potential requirement of coordinated international response

**Editorial:**
- WHO has declared Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo as a ‘Public Health Emergency of International Concern’

**WHO’s announcement comes at a time when it is believed that the virus could spread to other countries**

**WHO’s declaration of Global Emergency:**
1. H1N1 virus disease outbreak - April 2009
2. Polio - May 2014
3. Ebola Outbreak - August 2014 (W. Africa)
4. Zika Outbreak - February 2016
5. Ebola Outbreak - July 2019 (C. Africa)

**Challenges:**
- Reluctance in the community
- Attacks on health workers
- Delays in case detection and isolation
- Tracing the contacts

**Availability of vaccine has greatly helped in preventing the Spread of Ebola Virus**

**Ring Vaccination Strategy used:**
- Contacts and contacts of contacts of the infected individuals who have high risks to get infected
- 97.5% efficacy

**G7 countries must fulfil the promise to WHO to contain the spread of Ebola Disease Outbreak**

**WHO’s declaration of Ebola outbreak will help bringing the funds**
Wayanad's tribal hamlets one step from 100% literacy

The focus is on preparing residents of 1,300 habitations to take the test by 2020.

Kerala's State Literacy Mission
- Wayanad Literacy Equivalency Programme
- Samagra Framework - Tribal Literacy and Continuing Education Programme
- Improving literacy among people belonging to tribal communities

Educators are among the residents of the tribal hamlets
- to effectively communicate in indigenous languages

Tribal Populations ↔ Indigenous People
- Resolve to maintain and reproduce their ancestral environments and systems
- have different language, culture and belief
- have strong link to the territories and natural resources surrounding them

Problems faced by Indigenous people:
1. Lack of Political representation
2. Lack of Political participation
3. Economic marginalisation & Poverty
4. Lack of access to Social Services
5. Discrimination

Literacy rate of Kerala
- 2011 Census - 93.41%
- 1951 Census - 47.18%

Aims to attain 100% literacy rate
- Challenging - as people from tribal communities are lagging behind
- Aims to achieve 100% literacy among tribal populations by end-2020

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance.
- Economic and Social Development—Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
Kerala State Literacy Mission
- To promote literacy among
  a) illiterates
  b) neo-literates
  c) those discontinued school education
  d) those interested in lifelong education

RTI Bill introduced amid Opposition flak
Centre to set service terms of panel

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I—(200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance—Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-III
General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.
- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance—applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

PAPER-V
General Studies-IV: Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude
- Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration; accountability and ethical governance
- Probit in Governance: Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information
### News:
- Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019
  - Power to set the Service conditions & Salaries of Information Commissioners → Union Govt

### RTI Act of 2005:
- Right to Information to Citizens
- Securing access to information under control of public authorities
- To promote transparency and accountability
- Constitution of Central Information Commission & State Information Commission

### Public Authority
- Authority / body / institution of self-govt constituted under
  - Constitution
  - Law by Parliament
  - Law by State Legislature
  - Notification / Order by Govt
  - Any body owned, controlled or substantially financed - funds provided by government
  - NGOs substantially financed - funds provided by government

### Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioner
- **Section 13:**
  - Term of Office → 5 years
    → age 1 65 years
  - Conditions of Service → Not eligible for reappointment
  - Salaries and allowances and other terms & conditions of service → same as that of Chief Election Commissioner & Election Commissioner

### State CIC & State EC
- **Section 16**
  - Term of Office → 5 years
    → age 1 65 years
  - Reappointment → not eligible
  - Salaries & allowances and other terms and conditions → Election Commissioner and Chief Secretary to State Govt, respectively

### Salaries & allowances and other terms & conditions
- CEC & EC = Judge of Supreme Court
  - ICs, SCICs

### Functions ECI and CIC & SEC
- Totally different
- ECI - Superintendence, direct & control of elections, electoral rolls
- CIC & SEC → Statutory Bodies
Amendment:

- Term of Office
- Salaries & Allowances
- Other terms & Conditions of Services
- Opposition → threat to independence of CIC
  - Chief IC can be removed any time
  - If do not work to the will of ruling party
  - dilutes working of CIC
  - "RTI elimination Bill"

Women in CRPF will soon get specially designed body gear

Idea first mooted in 2016 they have been using gear designed for men

Part A—Preliminary Examination
Paper I - (200 marks)
- Current events of national and international importance
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-II
General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.
- Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

PAPER-III
General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary—Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

PAPER-IV
General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management
- Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.
News:

* Women officer in CRPF to get specially designed body gear
* National Conference for Women in Police, 2016
  * Proposed gender specific protective gears
* Ministry of Home Affairs → Setup a committee
* Gear was developed by Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIRDO) and CRPF
* Study of Women troopers in Rapid Action Force
  * Ergonomically design the body protector for women
  * Anthropometric data - to ensure protection of vital organs of women

Protective Gear:

→ Designed to cover all the soft parts of human body
  * Rib cage
  * Inner calf
  * Groin Area
  * Back of arm
  * Thigh
→ Anti-Stab - protects from knives, spikes, bullets, fragments, blunt impacts
→ Anti-acid - protects from acids
→ Ensures mobility of women troopers
→ Greater comfort

* 8,000 women troopers and officers to get the protector.

Lok Sabha clears Bill on NHRC constitution

Piecemeal and cosmetic, says Tharoor

The Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2019 by voice vote. The Bill expands the process of appointment of Chairperson and members of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and provides for, among others, including the Chairperson of the National Commission for Rural Development and the Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Secretary of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, and the Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Child Development as members of the NHRC.

In reply to a question in the House, Minister of State for Home Affairs and Law and Justice, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, said that the government was sensitive to the rights of humanity and was committed to strengthening the commission.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance—Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER III

General Studies—II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Statutory, Regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
Lok Sabha clears Bill on NHRC Constitution:


→ The Bill was passed using voice vote
  * Speaker: Say Aye, Say No

→ Comparison of 1993 Act and 2019 Bill
  a) Composition of NHRC:
    * Chairperson:
      1) 1993 Act - retired CSI
      2) Bill - CSI or a former judge of SC
    * Members with knowledge on HR:
      1) 1993 Act - 2 such members:
      2) Bill - 3 such members; at least 1 woman

b) Chairperson of SHRC:
  1) 1993 Act - retired Chief Justice of a High Court
  2) Bill - retired Chief Justice of High Court or former judge of a High Court

Ex-officio members:

→ 1993 Act: Chairpersons of National Commission (NC) of Minorities, NC for SCs, NC for STs and NC for Women

→ Bill: In addition to the above members - chairpersons of NC for Backward classes, NC for protection of Child Rights, Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities

c) Term of Office:
  1) 1993 Act: 5 years or 70 years of age, whichever is earlier; eligible for reappointment for 5 years.
  2) Bill: 3 years or 70 years of age, whichever is earlier; eligible for re-appointment (No time limit)

d) Powers of Secretary General:
  → Bill - gives more administrative and financial powers (not judicial) to Secretary General

e) Regarding UTs:
  → Bill - Central Government may confer on a State the human rights functions being discharged by UT

Way Forward:

1. Make recommendations enforceable
2. Give jurisdiction even after 1 year, if complaints are genuine
3. Fill Vacancies + Quick delivery of justice

An advisory body; Recommendations are not enforceable

Weaknesses
of HR Commission

Limited Mandate in J&K

Insufficient Funding

No jurisdiction if complaints are made after 1 year of incident

Non-filling of Vacancies
Practice Question – Prelims
Q1. Consider the following statements.

1. The Right to Information does not include the Right to Inspect the work, documents, and records of a public authority.
2. The Central Information Commission or State Information Commission, has the power to require the public authority to compensate the complainant for any loss or other detriment suffered.

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
Q2. Consider the following statements about Ebola Virus.

1. Mosquitoes are the natural hosts of this virus.
2. Human to human transmission of this virus is possible.

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. With reference to the Defence Institute of Physiology & Allied Sciences (DIPAS), which among the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a defence laboratory under Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
2. Its principal purpose is identification of high-altitude physiology, nutrition and biochemistry of human in severe stress environment.
3. It was constituted at the time of formation of the DRDO.

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2
c) 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Practice Question – Prelims

Q4. Consider the following statements.

1. The salaries and allowances of the Chief Election Commissioner are equal to a Judge of the Supreme Court.
2. The salaries and allowances of the Chief Information Commissioner are equal to a Judge of the Supreme Court.

Which among the above statements is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Mains

GS-II

Q. National Human Rights Commission in India is doing a commendable job of protecting the inalienable rights of people. Despite all its commendable work, it is called as a ‘toothless tiger’. Discuss on the problems associated with NHRC and the suggestions to make it more efficient.

Practice Questions – Prelims Answers

19th July & 20th July 2019

1. Option ‘b’
2. Option ‘b’
3. Option ‘b’
4. Option ‘c’