India’s share of river water will no more go to Pakistan: Modi

This belongs to farmers of Haryana and Rajasthan and we will get it, says PM
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<th>News Articles</th>
<th>Page Number*</th>
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<td>For a wider food menu (OPED)</td>
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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; H – Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram
For a wider food menu

Dependency on a few crops has negative consequences for ecosystems and health.

Announcing in his Meet RI Visit to address that September is to be observed as ‘Rashtriya Food Day’, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged people to support the government’s nutrition campaign to ensure a healthy future for women and children. He said that both poor and affluent families are affected by malnutrition due to lack of awareness.

Concerned efforts by the government have led to a decline in malnutrition by two percentage points over a decade. However, according to the 2017 Global Burden of Hunger Index by the University of Washington, malnutrition is among the leading causes of death and disability in India, followed by diarrhea and lack of proper diet choices. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that 14.4 million people in India, about 14.3% of the total population, are undernourished. The Global Hunger Index 2018 ranks India 103 out of 119 countries on the basis of three leading indicators: the prevalence of wasting and stunting in children under five years of age, child malnutrition rate under five years of age, and the proportion of undernourished in the population.

Pradhan Mantri, India’s flagship programme to improve nutritional outcomes for children, adolescents, pregnant women and lactating mothers is an amalgamation of scientific principles, political will, and technical efficiency. The key nutrition interventions and strategies, which form the core of the programme, contribute to the targets of the World Health Assembly for nutrition and the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly the goal of “zero hunger”.

Achieving zero hunger requires not only addressing hunger, but also the associated aspect of malnutrition. World Food Day is observed annually on 16th October to address the problem of global hunger. The theme this year is “Our Actions are Our Future—Feeding the Planet, Nutrition for All.”

Consumption patterns

Healthy diets are an integral component of food and nutrition security. Food consumption patterns have changed substantially in India over the past few decades. This has resulted in the disappearance of many nutritious native foods such as millets. While food grain production has increased over the years since Independence, it has not sufficiently addressed the issue of malnutrition. For, long, the agriculture sector focused on increasing food production, particularly staples, which led to lesser production and consumption of indigenous traditional crops, grains, fruits, and vegetables, impairing food and nutrition security in the process. FAO’s work has demonstrated that dependence on a few crops has negative consequences for ecosystems, food security, and health. Food insecurity increases the risk of malnutrition. So, we must move food and agriculture more nutritious, sensitiv and climate-resilient.

Agricultural biodiversity

Diversity of a few staple crops coupled with low dietary diversity is a leading cause of persistent malnutrition. Additionally, intensive, monoculture agricultural practices can permeate the food and nutrition security problem by degrading the quality of food, water, and the food derived from it. Those who have the capacity to make adaptive food choices will have to be more conscious of their choice of food and its health benefits. Those who cannot choose must be enabled to exercise that choice. Lifestyle in other parts of the country, urban or rural, is also a key contributor to diet-related problems. Urban food-planning needs to incorporate nutritional security and climate resilience.

Agricultural biodiversity ensures a wider food menu to choose from. Small farmers, indigenous and local keepers in India are on the front line of conserving the unique biodiversity of the country. The loss of globally significant species and genetic diversity has an adverse impact on diets and impoverishes the government’s efforts to strengthen biodiversity conservation, agricultural production and local development for healthy diets and a healthy planet.

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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.

- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- Issues relating to poverty and hunger.

PAPER-IV

General Studies—III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

- Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems, storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.
- Change in diets and eating habits due to globalisation, urbanisation and increase in income
  - unhealthy diets and sedentary lifestyle
  - coexistence of obesity and hunger
  - unhealthy diet
    - non-communicable diseases

**World Food Day - October 16**
- Founding day of FAO in 1945
- Theme:
  - ‘Our Actions are Our Future
    - Healthy diet for a #ZeroHunger World’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Agency of UN - International effort to defeat Hunger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Aim: To achieve food security + Regular access to high quality food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important studies:**
- 2017 - Global Burden of Disease Study, University of Washington
  - Malnutrition and dietary risks - leading cause of death and disability in India

- State of food security and nutrition in the World Survey - 2019 - FAO
  - 194.4 million in India - Undernourished
Global Hunger Index

- 2018: India - 103 / 119
- 2019: India - 102 / 117

By Concern Worldwide + Welthungerhilfe

**Reasons for India's low ranking**

1. Consumption pattern
   - Disappearance of nutritious native food
   - Food production focussed on few crops
   - Need: Nutrition sensitive and climate resilient agriculture

2. Over reliance on few staple crops
   - Intensive monoculture
   - Low dietary diversity
   - Degradation of quality of land, water, food
   - Need: Agricultural biodiversity
- Efforts to be taken by people
  - Selection of food
  - Change in lifestyle

- Recent initiatives of Indian Government
  - POSHAN Abhiyan - National Nutrition Mission
  - POSHAN Maah - September, 2019
Shutdown in Manipur over 1949 merger

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Parts of Manipur shut down on Tuesday against the merger of the State with the Indian Union 70 years ago. The response to a bandh for the same reason in Tripura was lukewarm.

Two Manipur-based umbrella extremist organisations - the Coordination Committee and the Alliance of Socialist Unity, Kangleipak - and the Tripura-based National Liberation Front of Tripura announced the shutdown to mark the “forced merger” of the two States with India on October 15, 1949.

The shutdown, ranging from 12 to 18 hours, affected six districts in the plains of Manipur dominated by the Meitei community.

The impact was minimal, although life was affected because of disruption of communication with Imphal. “The shutdown was largely ignored in Tripura,” a police officer in Agartala said, adding there were reports of remote areas being affected.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper 1 - (200 marks)

- History of India and Indian National Movement.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present- significant events, personalities, issues.

- Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
News

- Two Manipur based umbrella extremist organisations announced a shutdown in Manipur
- ‘Forced merger’ of Manipur and Tripura with India on October 15, 1949.
- Princely states: Junagadh, Hyderabad and J&K.
- These princely states did not sign the instrument of accession with India, before 15th August 1947.

Manipur

- Maharaja of Manipur (Maharaja Bodhachandra Singh) signed Instrument of Accession with India, before Independence.
- In June 1948, Manipur became a Constitutional monarchy.
- Manipur was the first part of India to hold elections based on universal adult franchise.
- Merger Agreement: between the Maharaja of Manipur and the Central Government was signed on 21st September 1949 at Shillong.
- Since 15th October 1949, Manipur was placed under military occupation by the Central Govt.
- Merger agreement was carried out without consulting the elected Legislative Assembly of Manipur.
Gujarat, T.N. top performers under PM-JAY health scheme

States availed treatment worth nearly ₹7,901 crore

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI
Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh have emerged as the top performing States with free secondary and tertiary treatment worth nearly ₹7,901 crore availed under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), the flagship health assurance scheme of the Government in just over a year.

"Half-a-crore hospital treatments have been provided and there are 9 hospit-

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- 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.

- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
### News
- Gujarat, Tamil Nadu are the top performers under PM-JAY health scheme.

### Ayushman Bharat
- Part of National Health Policy 2017
- SDG (3): "Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages"

**Ayushman Bharat**

- Health and Wellness Centres (HWC)
- PM-Jan Arogya Yojana (NHPM)

**PM-Jan Arogya Yojana**
- Aims to provide health protection cover to poor and vulnerable families.
- Subsumes Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) and the Senior Citizen Health Insurance Scheme (SCHIS)
- Identification based on Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data
- Deprived rural families and occupational categories of urban workers' families
- Rs. 5 Lakh/family/year (No family size cap)
- Almost all secondary care and most of tertiary care procedures
Implementation of PM-JAY

- In Jan-2019, National Health Agency was dissolved, replaced with
  - National Health Authority (NHA)

- NHA - registered society
  Governing Board chaired by
  Union Health and Family Welfare Minister

- Functions - NHA
  - Formulates operational guidelines
  - Determines the central ceiling for premium

- Present status
  - All States/UTs except Telangana and Odisha are implementing the scheme.
Capital unable to breathe easy as air quality remains poor

AQI up from 252 to 270; stubble burning in neighbouring States sees slight rise

The Air Quality Index (AQI) in Delhi went up to 270 on Tuesday, after it was 252 on Monday. This is the first time since the onset of winter season that AQI crossed the 200 mark in Delhi. The AQI at other prominent sites also crossed 250, with the peaks hitting 296 at Ghaziabad, 272 at Faridabad, 252 at Noida, and 234 at Gurgaon.

Meanwhile, stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh continues to cause concern. The government is mulling over imposing a fine of Rs 2,500 on every household that burns gobar gathiya. The fine is set to be registered under the Panchayat (Extension to the Union Territory) Act of 1994.

From November, measures under "very poor" and "severe" categories of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) will be implemented in the city and other major cities in the region. The measures include restrictions on the use of private vehicles, closing of schools and colleges, and restrictions on industrial activities.

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday visited the industrial belt near Okhla and New Friends Colony to inspect the progress of the implementation of the measures. He said that the government is working on a comprehensive package to tackle air pollution in the city.

Deputy officials to update on stubble burning

The Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA) has asked officials to update on the progress of stubble burning control measures.

The CSE has also launched the "Delhi Air Quality Index" to provide real-time updates on air quality.

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.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

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

- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.

PAPER-IV


- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
Air Quality Index

- Six categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 50</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 - 100</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 - 200</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201 - 300</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301 - 400</td>
<td>Very poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401 - 500</td>
<td>Severe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graded Response Action Plan

- Notified by Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority (EPCA).

- Set of guidelines to be followed when the air quality deteriorates.

- Action plans and responsible/implementing agencies notified.

Action plan in news:

- Ban on Diesel Generator Sets
- First time ban in NCR towns
  - Ban effected without proper arrangements
**How the Govt. Will Work to Curb Bad Air**

Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) will be put in place from today and will be in force until February-end, 2018. People would be made aware about this through mass media.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>ACTION PLAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moderate to Poor</strong></td>
<td>➢ Stop garbage burning, impose heavy fines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM2.5—61-120 μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Enforce pollution regulations in all industries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM10—101-350 μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Do periodic mechanised road sweeping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Stop plying of visibly polluting vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Enforce SC order on diversion, ban on crackers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Ensure fly ash ponds are watered every alternate day from Mar–May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Use apps to inform people and register complaints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Very Poor</strong></td>
<td>➢ Stop use of diesel gensets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM2.5—121-250μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Enhance parking fee by 3-4 times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM10—351-430 μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Increase bus and Metro services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Stop use of coal/firewood in hotels and restaurants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ RWAs to provide electric heaters to security staff to stop bonfires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Issue media alerts and advisories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Severe</strong></td>
<td>➢ Close hot mix plants, stone crushers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM2.5—250 μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Shut down Badarpur power plant and maximise generation from natural gas-based plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM10—430 μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Intensify public transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Mechanised cleaning of road and sprinkling of water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emergency</strong></td>
<td>➢ Stop entry of trucks except those carrying essential commodities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM2.5—300μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Stop construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM10—500 μg/m³</td>
<td>➢ Introduce odd-even scheme without exemptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>➢ Task Force to decide on additional steps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EPCA**

- Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority
- Constituted under Section 3(3) of Environment Protection Act, 1986 → Statutory Body
- Objective: (in NCR)
  1. Protect & improve the quality of the environment
  2. Prevent and control the environment pollution
- Assist Supreme Court in various environment related matters in NCR
- Advisory / Fact Finding Authority
- Implementing Agency
- Tenure - Extended from time to time
  - As per C.Govt. notification
Functions
- Exercise powers and discharge functions for protecting and improving the quality of the environment and also for preventing, controlling and abating air pollution.
- Power to take up matters suo-motu, or on the basis of complaints made by an individual, representative body or organisation functioning in the field of environment.
- Steps to control vehicular pollution.
- Ensure the maintenance of ambient noise standards.

Second news article
- NGT has directed U.P., Haryana & Punjab to depute officers to deal with Stubble burning
- NGT - National Green Tribunal
- Statutory body (NGT Act, 2010)
- Purpose:
  - Effective and speedy disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and
  - forest conservation and also other natural resources
- Mandated to take necessary steps for speedy disposal of applications or appeals within 6 months of filing
- Delhi - Principal place of sitting
Jio, Bharti spar again on IUC

Row follows TRAI deciding to review scrapping of charge

YUHTHA BHEARGAVA
NEW DELHI

A fresh war of words has broken out between Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel over the former charging users for voice calls to other networks following TRAI's decision to review the scrapping of interconnect usage charge from January 2000.

On Tuesday, Mathew Oommen, president, network, global strategy and service development, Reliance Jio, termed TRAI's move as regressive, adding that it will "distortive and technological progress" and harm consumer interest.

Reliance Jio had earlier said that it had been "compelled" to recover interconnection usage charges (IUC) of 6 paisa per minute from customers. However, Bharti Airtel MD and CEO for India and South Asia Gopal Vittal on Tuesday said Jio had nothing to do with tariff.

Mr. Vittal said, "It is a clearing house meant to do with cost of carrying calls. It is a bilateral thing between carriers. Over the last 20 years, IUC has always been absorbed in the cost of doing business;"

Reliance Jio earlier said it was "compelled" to recover IUC charges of 6 paisa per minute from customers.

Mr. Oommen said that the tariffs in the sector are "unsustainable" and need to rise.

IUC is levied by an operator for completing incoming calls from other networks. TRAI had earlier said that IUC will be brought down to zero from January 1, 2020, but has now released a consultation paper to see if there is a need to revise the implementation date.

Mr. Oommen said that the delay in implementation of zero IUC will act as an incentive for other telcos to stay away from new and more efficient technologies, adding that any regulatory intervention at this stage would benefit the incumbents.

Jio, Bharti spar again on IUC

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

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

- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.

PAPER-IV


- Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
- Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC)
  - Charge for interconnection between networks
  - Service providers connect their equipment, networks and services
    - Customer of A → Service Provider A → call tariff → Customer of B → Service Provider B → IUC
  - IUC - a main source of income for telecom companies

- IUC - Regulated by TRAI
  - Telecom IUC Regulation - 2003
    - Amended in 2017
    - TRAI - Zero termination charge since 1st January 2020
      - Bill and keep regime (BAK Regime)
    - TRAI to review the date of applicability of BAK Regime
- Reliance Jio: recover 6 paise per minute from customers
  - opposed by other network providers
• Jio
  ➔ have to pay IUC to others
  ➔ not getting IUC from others
  ➔ supports Bill and Keep regime

• Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
  ➔ TRAI Act - 1997
  ➔ Mission
    - Nurture growth of telecommunications
    - Ensure level playing field for fair competition

• Telecommunications Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TOSAT) - 2000
  ➔ To adjudicate disputes between
    - licensor and licensee
    - two or more service providers, etc.
PRACTICE QUESTIONS
DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims
Q1. Consider the following statements.
1. The princely states of Junagadh, Hyderabad, Manipur and Jammu & Kashmir did not sign the instrument of accession before 15th August, 1947.
2. Manipur was the first part of India to hold an election that was based on universal adult franchise.
Which of the given above statement 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 with reference to National Health Authority.
1. It is the apex body responsible for implementing India’s flagship public health insurance/assurance scheme, Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
2. It is a registered society and governed by Governing board headed by Prime Minister of India.
3. At present all the states/UTs are implementing the PM-JAY.
Select the correct answer using the codes given below.
(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) All statements except 1
(c) All statements except 2
(d) 1 only
Practice Question – Prelims
Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Graded Response Action Plan, frequently seen in news.

1. This plan specifies actions required for controlling particulate matter (PM) emissions from various pollution sources and prevent PM10 and PM2.5 levels to go beyond ‘moderate’ national Air Quality Index (AQI) category.

2. This action plan is applicable throughout India.

Which of the above statement(s) 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 about Environment Pollution (Prevention & Control) Authority.

1. The objective of EPCA is to protect and improve the quality of the environment and prevent and control the environment pollution in the National Capital Region.

2. It is statutory body.

3. It assists the Supreme Court and the High Courts across India in various environment related matters in the National Capital Region.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 1 and 2 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 2 only
Practice Question – Prelims

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Telecommunications Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT).

1. It has the power to adjudicate the dispute between a service provider and a group of consumers.
2. It was established as per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 2000.

Which of the statement(s) given above 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. “The food production in India has increased several times since independence. But still, especially the most vulnerable sections of the society are struggling from malnutrition”. Suggest measures to improve the nutritional status of vulnerable sections of the society.

Practice Questions – Prelims

16-10-2019

1. b, 2 only  
2. d, 1 only  
3. a) 1 only  
4. b) 1 and 2 only  
5. c) Both 1 and 2
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