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GS Paper 2

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CIVIL SERVANTS

Syllabus: Role of Civil Services in a Democracy

Context: Specially designed Conduct Rules govern a civil servant's behaviour and conduct.

What are the civil services?

- **There are 3 All India Services** (governed by [Article 312](#) of the Indian Constitution) - the IAS, IPS and the Indian Forest Service (IFoS) - with officers allotted to various state cadres by the central government.
 - The Centre then gets a certain percentage of officers from each state on **central deputation**.
- **Other services** are called Central Civil Services (such as the Indian Foreign Service, the Indian Revenue Service, Customs and Central Excise Service, etc).
 - These are **under the central government with no state cadre system**.

Rules governing civil services:

- There are two sets of rules for civil servants - one for AISs (The AIS Conduct Rules, **1968**) and the other for CCSs (The CCS Conduct Rules, **1964**).
- These were framed based on recommendations from a committee - **Committee on Prevention of Corruption headed by K Santhanam** - constituted in 1962.

Code of conduct highlighted in the rules:

- Every member of the Service shall -
 - **Maintain high ethical standards**, integrity and honesty; political neutrality; accountability and transparency; fairness and impartiality; responsiveness to the public, etc.
 - **Use public resources efficiently**, effectively and economically; declare any private interests relating to his public duties to resolve any conflict of interest.
 - **At all times maintain devotion to duty**, and do nothing which is unbecoming of a member of the Service.
- No member of the Service shall -
 - **Use his/her position to secure employment** for any of his/her family members with any private undertaking/NGO;
 - Give or take or abet the giving or taking of **dowry**.
- **A member of the service may accept gifts** from his near relatives or friends having no official dealings with them.
 - But, he shall report to the government **if the value of such gift exceeds Rs.25,000**.

- While members can hold personal political beliefs, these rules restrict the degree to which they can act on them. **For example**, members not allowed -
 - To be part of, assist political parties; interfere with or take part in an election to any legislature or local authority.
 - To criticise any current policy or action of the government. However, civil servants are allowed to express their opinion on official documents.

GS2

WATER DISPUTE BETWEEN ANDHRA PRADESH AND TELANGANA

Syllabus: Inter-State water dispute

Penalties for transgressions:

- Major penalties can include “dismissal” from the service as well.
- Besides, there are also the penal provisions mentioned under the [Prevention of Corruption Act \(POCA\)](#).

Issues with the Conduct Rules:

- **Vague:** For example, while the promotion of casteism is not covered under any specific Conduct Rules, casteist behaviour can be interpreted as “unbecoming of a member of the Service”.
- **Ambiguous:** Ideas like personal integrity are not well defined. That is why evils like taking dowry are banned but seemingly common.
- **There is no ethical code for civil servants in India.**

Context: The [water dispute](#) between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, stemming from the **Krishna River**, remains unresolved even after **nine years since the bifurcation** of the combined state.

About the Dispute:

The dispute began with the erstwhile **Hyderabad and Mysore states** and later continued between successors Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. It originated from the **Gentlemen’s Agreement signed in 1956**, which aimed to protect the **Telangana region’s interests regarding water resources**. In 1969, the **Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT)** was set up under the [Inter-State River Water Dispute Act, of 1956](#), and presented its report in 1973. It divided water between **Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh**.

After the bifurcation of the state, both states have proposed new projects (e.g., the project to increase **Krishna water utilization above the Srisailem Reservoir**) without proper clearance from **river boards and authorities** as required by the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014**. This led to **complaints and disputes** between the two states. Also, Telangana has been **pushing for an equal share**.

Legal Provisions:

The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 mandates for the **constitution of an Apex Council by the Central Government** for the supervision of the functioning of the **Godavari River Management Board and Krishna River Management Board**. The Apex Council comprises the **Union Water Resources Minister and the Chief Ministers of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**.

Constitutional provisions:

Inter-State River Water Disputes: Under Article 262, Parliament may by law provide for the **adjudication of any dispute or complaint** with respect to the use, distribution and control of waters of any inter-state river and river valley. The Parliament enacted two laws, **the River Boards Act (1956) and the Inter-State Water Disputes Act (1956)**.

About River board:

The River Boards Act provides for the establishment of **river boards by the Central government for the regulation and**

CODE OF ETHICS VERSUS CODE OF CONDUCT

CODE OF ETHICS	CODE OF CONDUCT
Code of ethics is a set of principles based on values and morals by which a company makes decisions about what is right or wrong	Code of conduct is a set of rules and regulations that explain appropriate behaviour in specific situations
Explains how decisions are made	Dictates how employees must act
Focuses on values	Focuses on rules and compliance
Has a narrower scope	Has a broader scope
Publicly disclosed	Usually only accessible to employees
Visit www.PEDIAA.com	

Insta Links: [PUBLIC SERVICE ETHICS/ADMINISTRATIVE ETHICS](#)

Mains Links:

Q. Has the Cadre-based Civil Services Organization been the cause of slow in India? Critically examine. (UPSC 2014)

development of inter-state rivers and river valleys. **A River Board is established** at the request of state governments concerned to advise them.

About Inter-State Water Disputes Act:


It empowers the Central government to set up an **ad hoc tribunal for the adjudication of a dispute** between two or more states in relation to the waters of an inter-state river or river valley. The decision of the tribunal **is final and binding on the parties** to the dispute. **Neither the Supreme Court nor any other court is to have jurisdiction** in respect of any water dispute which may be referred to such a tribunal under this Act.

Way forward:

To address water disputes effectively, it is **necessary to establish a permanent tribunal with Supreme Court’s appellate jurisdiction and amend Article 262** and the Inter-State Water Disputes Act. Communication channels must be improved for **consensus-building**, and the central body should represent states adequately. The Ministry of Jal Shakti has issued a gazette notification **defining the jurisdiction of river management boards**, which can help overcome challenges. **Clear demarcation of power** for each state should be followed.

Other Inter-State River Water Sharing Disputes:

River (s)	States
Ravi and Beas	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan
Narmada	Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan
Krishna	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana
Vamsadhara	Andhra Pradesh, Odisha
Cauvery	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry
Godavari	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha
Mahanadi	Chhattisgarh, Odisha
Mahadayi	Goa, Maharashtra, Karnataka
Periyar	Tamil Nadu, Kerala

About	Description
<p>Godavari River</p> 	<p>The river (Source: Trimbakeshwar near Nasik; Length: 1465km) extends over the states of Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha in addition to smaller parts in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and the Union territory of Puducherry. Its tributaries are: Pravara, Purna, Manjra, Penganga, Wardha, Wainganga, Pranhita (combined flow of Wainganga, Penganga, Wardha), Indravati, Maner and the Sabri</p>

Krishna River



The river (source: Mahabaleshwar (Satara); Length: 1400 km; third-longest river in India, after the Ganges and Godavari; fourth-largest in terms of water flows, after the Ganges, Indus and Godavari). It runs from four states **Ma-harashtra, North Karnataka and the rest of its journey** in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh before it empties into the Bay of Bengal. **Its tributaries** are Tungabhadra, Mallaprabha, Koyna, Bhima, Ghataprabha, Yerla, Warna, Dindi, Musi and Dudhganga.

S r i s a i l a m project

It is constructed across the **Krishna River in Nagarkurnool district, Telangana and Nandyal district, Andhra Pradesh**. It is the **2nd largest** (1670 MW; after Koyna Dam 1960 MW) capacity working hydroelectric station in India. The dam was constructed in a deep gorge in the **Nallamala Hills**.

Insta link:
[Krishna River water dispute](#)

Mains Links:

Q. Write a critical note on the Krishna River water dispute and critically evaluate the successes of tribunals in resolving river water disputes in India. (250 Words)

Prelims Links:

Q. Consider the following pairs: (UPSC 2019)
 Famous place River
 1. Pandharpur Chandrabhaga
 2. Tiruchirappalli Cauvery
 3. Hampi Malaprabha
 Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
 (a) 1 and 2 only
 (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only
 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Q. Consider the following rivers: (UPSC 2015)
 1. Vamsadhara
 2. Indravati
 3. Pranahita
 4. Pennar

Which of the above are tributaries of Godavari?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 2, 3 and 4
- (c) 1, 2 and 4
- (d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: D

GS Paper 3

THE 2023-2033 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR ADVANCING CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH SCIENCE

Syllabus: Conservation, Environmental Pollution and Degradation

Context: The World Meteorological Congress, the supreme body of the [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#), is currently holding its 19th session (Cg-19).

The outcome of the Congress: It recognised climate change as a threat to human health and endorsed a 10-year plan - *The 2023-2033 Implementation Plan for Advancing Climate, Environment and Health Science and Services by the WHO-WMO*, to scale up health services.

About the plan:

Aim: To achieve better health and well-being for people facing existing and emerging extreme weather events, climate change and environmental risks.

How?

- Through the **effective integration** of climate, environment and health science and services across the world.
- It will promote a **coordinated approach** to managing the impact of climate, weather, air pollution, ultraviolet radiation, extreme events, etc., on health.

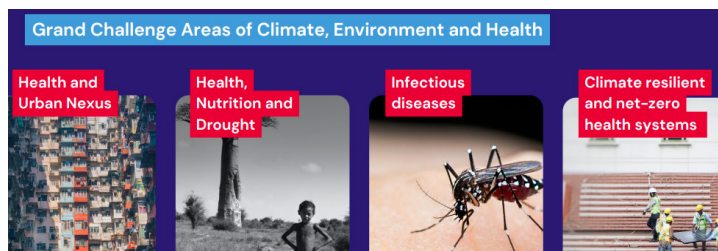
Significance: It is significant when

- **Climate-related illnesses** (like malaria and dengue), premature deaths, malnutrition and threats to mental health and well-being are increasing.
- Climate-related cascading risks of **extreme heat** (15,000 people died in Europe in 2022), **wildfire and air quality**-related health risks are increasing.

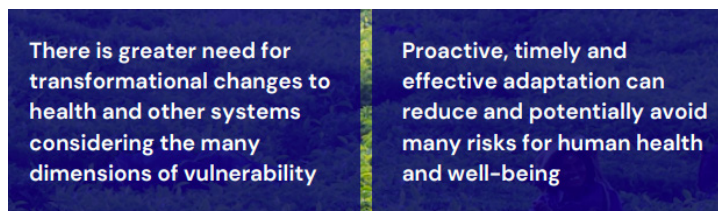
Significance for India:

- In 2022, India recorded its **hottest March** which triggered an **early onslaught of heat waves** across north, central and east India from March-May.
- **Extreme heat will oust 600 million Indians** from their climate niche, exposing them to extreme temperatures by 2030.

Challenges:



Way ahead:



- **The Early Warnings for All initiative:** Extreme heat is a focus area of this UN initiative, which is one of the top strategic priorities at Cg-19.

Insta Links: [Is climate change affecting global health?](#)

Content for Mains Enrichment (CME)

L. ELAYAPERUMAL

L. Elayaperumal, a late Dalit leader, played a crucial role in the **abolition of hereditary priesthood** in Tamil Nadu. The recommendations of the committee headed by Elayaperumal formed the basis for the **historic amendment to the Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act**, passed by the Tamil Nadu Assembly in 1970. This amendment aimed to **abolish the system of hereditary priesthood** and allow individuals of all castes to become priests.

Usage: Values that we can use from his life: Equality; Social justice; Human dignity; Integrity; etc.,

TINA TURNER

Tina Turner, the **legendary musician**, passed away at the age of 83. She was a trailblazer, especially as an **African-American woman in rock and roll**. Her singing talent and on-stage persona highlighted the pivotal role of **African-American women in the genre**.

Tina's journey, marked by her **escape from an abusive marriage**, served as an inspiration to many. Her reinvention as a **pop icon in the 1980s** solidified her place in music history. Tina Turner's contributions were widely celebrated, and she received numerous accolades, including **Grammy Awards and induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame**. Her impact **extended beyond music**, with a **bestselling autobiography and a stage show** based on her life. Tina Turner's legacy as a **pioneer across genres will continue to resonate**.

Usage: Her life can be used as a story in an Essay paper. Also, values from her life e.g., Resilience and Perseverance; Overcoming Obstacles; Self-Belief and Empowerment; Embracing Change and Reinvention; etc. can be used in the Ethics paper

Facts for Prelims (FFP)

MIGRATION, MOBILITY PACT WITH AUSTRALIA (MMPA)

Context: [India and Australia](#) signed a migration partnership agreement during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Australia.

Features of the Agreement:

- **Aim:** It is aimed at promoting **two-way exchange of students, graduates, researchers, and business people**, and expanding people-to-people ties.

- **New Pathway:** Their mobility will be facilitated through a new skilled pathway named **MATES (Mobility Arrangement for Talented Early Professionals Scheme)** specifically created for India.

Other developments:

- India announced the **opening of a consulate in Brisbane**, adding to its existing consulates in Perth, Melbourne, and Sydney.
- The India-Australia hydrogen task force was established, to explore opportunities in green hydrogen and address energy targets.

To know details of India-Australia relations: [Click here](#)

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRES (IFSCS)

Context: The Indian finance ministry has announced that **courses in financial management, fintech, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)** offered by foreign institutions in **International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs)** (such as **GIFT City**) will be exempt from **certain provisions of the University Grants Commission Act** and the All-India Council for Technical Education Act.

Regulation: Regulatory framework of the **respective home country shall apply** in all academic matters in such FIs. Also, the regulatory authority for IFSCs, the **IFSC Authority (IFSCA)**, will have limited jurisdiction over these courses.

Aim: This move aims to provide **flexibility and encourage the participation** of foreign institutions in offering specialized courses in the financial and technology sectors within IFSCs.

About IFSCs:

International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) are designated areas within a country that **facilitate the conduct of global financial services**. They are designed to attract international financial institutions, banks, and other financial service providers by offering a business-friendly environment and a range of tax benefits. It caters to customers **outside the jurisdiction of the domestic economy**.

Examples: Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC); GIFT City; Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC); Shanghai International Financial Centre (SIFC)


INDIA'S CHILD WASTING

Context: According to the latest UN inter-agency estimates, India has **the highest child-wasting rate globally, with over 18% of Indian children** affected by wasting in 2020.

Other findings:

- India had a **stunting rate of 31.7 per cent** in 2022, down from **41.6 per cent** in 2012
- India had an **overweight percentage of 2.8 per cent in 2022**, compared to **2.2 per cent** in 2012.
- India is the **largest country in southern Asia**, where **half of all children** with wasting in the world live
- More than **three-quarters of all children** with severe wasting live in Asia
- There is **insufficient progress** to reach the **2025 World Health Assembly (WHA) global nutrition targets** and UN-mandated Sustainable Development Goal **target 2.2**.

Comparison of stunting, wasting, and malnutrition:

	Stunting	Wasting	Malnutrition
Definition	Low height-for-age due to chronic or recurrent undernutrition	Low weight-for-height due to recent and severe weight loss	Deficiencies or excesses in nutrient intake, imbalance of essential nutrients, or impaired utilization
Causes	Poverty, poor maternal health and nutrition, frequent illness, inappropriate feeding and care in early life	Inadequate food intake and/or frequent illnesses	Inadequate nutrition, poor dietary diversity, poverty, food insecurity
Impacts	Physical and cognitive developmental delays	Increased risk of mortality, weakened immunity	Impaired growth and development, weakened immunity, increased susceptibility to diseases
Prevalence	Globally, over 22% of children under 5 were affected by stunting in 2022 (148.1 million children)	Globally, around 7% of children under 5 were affected by wasting in 2022 (45 million children)	The double burden of malnutrition affects many countries , with undernutrition and overweight/obesity coexisting
Long-term consequences	Stunting can lead to permanent physical and cognitive impairments , reduced productivity in adulthood	Severe wasting without timely treatment can result in death	Malnutrition can have long-term health consequences, including increased risk of noncommunicable diseases
Interventions	Improving maternal health and nutrition, promoting breastfeeding, access to nutritious food, improving sanitation and hygiene, health education	Timely detection and treatment, therapeutic feeding, access to healthcare services	Promoting balanced and nutritious diets, improving food security, and addressing socioeconomic factors
			
World Health Assembly (WHA) global nutrition targets	In 2012, the World Health Assembly identified six nutrition targets to be met by 2025. These are: Reduce stunting by 40% in children under 5; Reduce the prevalence of anaemia by 50% among women in the age group of 19-49 years; Ensure 30% reduction in low-birth-weight; Ensure no increase in childhood overweight; Increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months up to at least 50%; Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5% .		

SAMARTH CAMPAIGN

Context: SAMARTH campaign was launched to [promote digital transactions](#) at Gram Panchayat Level

About the Campaign:

The SAMARTH campaign is an initiative launched by the **Ministry of Rural Development**, Government of India, to promote

digital transactions at the Gram Panchayat level in rural areas.

Aim:

- To increase the **adoption of digital payment methods**, particularly among women, in 50,000 Gram Panchayats across the country.
- It seeks to **empower rural communities** by enabling them to participate in the digital economy and access the benefits of digital transactions.

It is part of the larger **AmritMahotsav** celebrations and is being implemented under the AzadiKaAmritMahotsav, which commemorates **75 years of India’s independence**.

Don’t get confused with a similar named initiative: [Samarth Scheme \(search in FFP section\)](#) (under Ministry of Textiles)

INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Context: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India have signed a **\$ 141 million loan agreement** to support the development of infrastructure in **three industrial clusters in Andhra Pradesh**.

Clusters are:

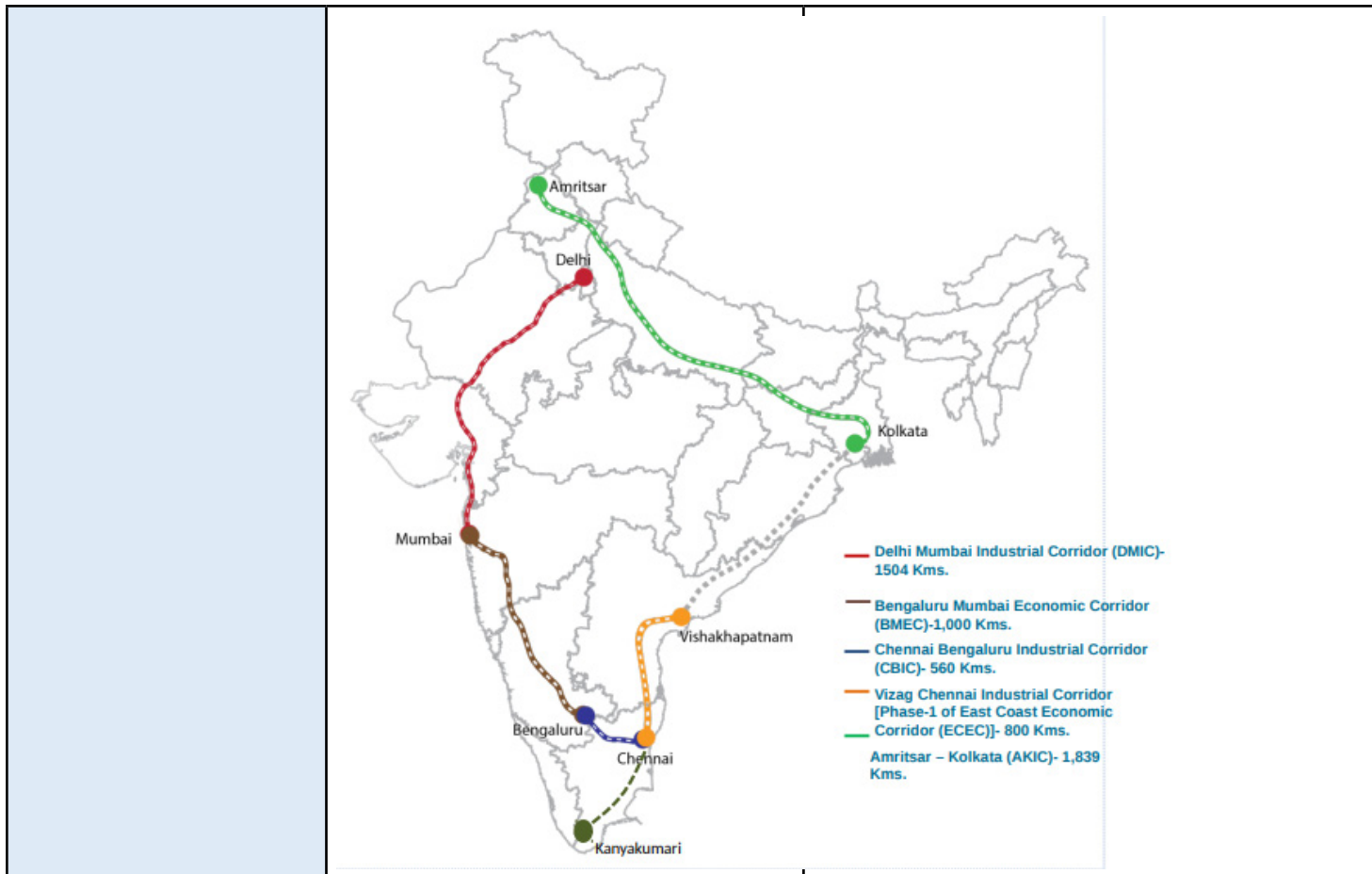
- **Visakhapatnam node:** Rambilli and Nakkapalli industrial clusters; Nakkapalli cluster
- **Srikalahasthi-Chittoor node:** Chittoor–South industrial cluster; Naidupeta industrial cluster

This financing is part of a **larger \$500 million multi-tranche financing** facility approved by ADB in 2016. The funds will be used to improve **roads, water supply systems, and electricity distribution** networks in the clusters.

Aim: To promote **industrialization, boost manufacturing, enhance competitiveness**, and create job opportunities in these areas. The project also includes measures to strengthen **resilience to extreme weather, improve disaster risk management, and promote gender-responsive and socially inclusive** development.

Other Industrial Corridors:

Corridor	States Covered	Funding
Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)	Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra	Government of India, Japanese loans; Japan depository receipts issued by Indian companies
Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC)	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Bengaluru-Mumbai Economic Corridor (BMEC)	Maharashtra, Karnataka	Developed with the help of Britain (UK)
Amritsar-Kolkata Industrial Corridor (AKIC)	Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal	Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor is the backbone of this economic corridor. Being developed by the Government of India
East Coast Economic Corridor (ECEC)	West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC)	Andhra Pradesh	Asian Development Bank (ADB) loans and grants



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Examples: Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC); GIFT City; Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC); Shanghai International Financial Centre (SIFC)

CERTIFICATION OF INDIAN ORGANIC PRODUCTS

Context: A European Union (EU) audit has found “many weaknesses” in the certification of Indian organic products for exports to the EU.

Issues highlighted:

- Farmers of various **organic producer groups (PGs)** lacked **knowledge** of organic farming.
- **Infringement of NPOP norms**, inadequate supervision and implementation of controls.

Regulator of Organic Products:

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) (under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) regulates the **manufacture, distribution, sale or import** of Organic products through the Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulations, 2017 (under FSSA 2006).

Certification of Organic products:

Certification	Description
Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)	Implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare . Ensures organic product production adheres to quality standards. Does not require third-party certification agencies. Certification is carried out by local groups consisting of producers and consumers and is based on trust. Involves a documented logo or statement as proof of certification.
National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP)	Implemented by APEDA, under the Ministry of Commerce & Industries . Regulates organic farming certification. Involves accreditation of Certification Bodies. Sets standards for organic production. Promotes organic farming and marketing. It's Standards have been recognized by the EU, Switzerland, and the US.
Other Programs for Organic Production	NMSA (National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture): Promotes sustainable agriculture, including organic production. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY) : Promotes organic farming. Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCD-NER) : Supports the development of organic value chains in the North East region of India.



Comparison between Conventional, Organic and ZBNF



Context: As per the new study, Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) in Andhra Pradesh has led to significantly higher crop yield

Aspect	Conventional Farming	Organic Farming	Zero Budget Natural Farming
Use of chemicals	Uses chemical fertilizers and pesticides extensively	Discourages use (not prohibits) of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, relies on natural methods	Prohibits the use of any chemical or organic fertilizers or pesticides
Use of external resources	Relies on external sources for manures and fertilizers	Relies on organic manures and fertilizers from external sources	Relies only on locally available and farm-based resources e.g., Bijamrita and Jeevamrutha
Soil preparation	Relies on plowing, tilling, and mixing of manures	Still requires basic agro practices like plowing and tilling	No plowing, tilling, or fertilizers used, encourages decomposition of organic matter on soil surface
Weed control	Uses chemical herbicides or mechanical weeding	Encourages natural methods of weed control, such as mulching	Considers weeds as essential, uses them as living or dead mulch layer
Pest control	Uses chemical pesticides	Uses natural pest control methods, such as biological control and natural pesticides	Uses natural, farm-made pesticides like Dashparni ark and Neem Astra
Cost	Can be expensive due to the cost of external inputs and machinery	Can be expensive due to the cost of organic inputs and labour	Can be done almost in zero budget, using only locally available and farm-based resources
Sustainability	Has a negative impact on the environment, degrades soil quality and biodiversity	Promotes sustainability, protects soil quality and biodiversity	Promotes sustainability, works with the local biodiversity and ecology

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COSMIC DUST PARTICLES

Context: Indian scientists (from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics) have created a **computer model of cosmic dust particles** that can imitate the **unique way interstellar comet 2I/Borisov scatters light**.

Use: By studying the **way light scatters off these** cosmic particles, they can better understand **how comets behave**. The model accurately **reproduced the scattering of light** seen in experiments and observations. It revealed the presence of a large number of porous cosmic dust particles.

Cosmic dust particles:

	Description
About	Cosmic dust particles are tiny solid particles that exist in outer space . They are composed of various materials, including minerals, metals, ice, and organic compounds.
Shape	From spherical to irregular or fractal-like structures.
Size	Ranging from nanometers to micrometres
Composition	Amorphous silicate (Forsterite) and amorphous carbon
Found in	Cosmic dust particles can be found in different environments , such as interstellar space, planetary systems, and the atmospheres of planets and moons.
Role played	They contribute to the formation of stars and planetary systems by providing material for accretion . They also scatter and absorb light , affecting the radiation properties of celestial objects . Additionally, these particles serve as building blocks for the formation of larger objects , such as asteroids, comets, and planets.