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MINISTRY OF
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY



MK Yadav Sir

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IPEF nations consider three-year exit clause

To enable easy exit of members from a pact

SHREYA NANDI
New Delhi, 10 July

The 14-nation Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), led by the United States (US), may include a 'three-year exit clause', giving its members the flexibility to move out of any of the pillars of the agreement if the need arises, people aware of the matter said.

The IPEF, launched by the US in May 2022, is designed to strengthen economic cooperation among Indo-Pacific nations and is perceived to be a strategic counter to China's growing clout in the region. Apart from the US and India, the other members are: Australia, Brunei, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

"There have been discussions regarding the inclusion of an exit clause. If a country feels that the economic initiative [IPEF] is not working in its favour, an exit can take place within three years of signing the pact,"

IN THE WORKS

▶ **US-led Indo-Pacific Economic Framework aims to counter China's increasing clout in the region**

▶ **The 14 IPEF members represent 40% of global GDP and 28% of global goods and services trade**

▶ **As of now, India is part of three IPEF pillars: supply chains, clean economy, and fair economy; decision on trade pillar yet to be taken**

▶ **Terms and conditions of the exit clause yet to be decided**

one of the persons cited above told *Business Standard*.

The development assumes significance considering that India, as of now, has joined only three of the four IPEF pillars — supply chain resilience, clean economy, and fair economy (tax and anti-corruption).

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INDO-PACIFIC ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

Context: The 14 nation **Indo Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)**, led by the United States (US), may include a 'three year exit clause', giving its members the flexibility to move out of any of the pillars of the agreement if the need arises.

- The development assumes significance considering that **India**, as of now, has **joined only three of the four IPEF pillars** - supply chain resilience, clean economy, and fair economy (tax and anticorruption).

Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)

- **About:** It is a **unique type of trade pact** that the United States is pushing among the region's governments.
 - The 14 IPEF members represent 40% of global GDP and 28% of global goods and services trade
- **Origin:** India and 12 nations **led by the United States** inaugurated the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) on 23rd May 2022 to provide an economic **alternate solution to China's Geostrategic footprint** in the Indo-Pacific area.
- **Partner Countries:** Australia, Brunei, **India**, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the United States.
 - Within days of its launch, IPEF expanded its membership to the Pacific Island states, with **Fiji** joining the initiative.
- **Objectives:** The IPEF seeks to **strengthen economic relationships** between all of the participating nations to enhance resilience, sustainable development, inclusiveness, economic expansion, fair treatment, and competitive spirit in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Pillars:** It was proposed as an elaborate framework of rules covering four pillars, namely, **fair and resilient trade, supply chain resiliency, clean energy decarbonisation, and tax and anti-corruption.**

India to be World's Second-largest Economy by 2075: Goldman Sachs

US brokerage expects country's GDP to touch \$52.5 trillion by then

The Biggest Five: Estimated Size of Economies by 2075



Our Bureau

Mumbai: India's economy will become the world's second-largest by 2075, said Goldman Sachs. The US brokerage said India's 1.4 billion population will play a dramatic role in expanding its gross domestic product (GDP) and the key to releasing this potential is by boosting participation within the labour force as well as providing training and skills for the immense pool of talent.

Goldman Sachs expects India's GDP to touch \$52.5 trillion by 2075. The GDP of the US, currently the world's largest economy, is touted to touch \$51.5 trillion after 52 years.

"Over the next two decades, India's dependency ratio will be one of the lowest among regional economies," said Santanu Sengupta, India economist, Goldman Sachs Research,

in a report dated July 6 posted on the firm's website. "So that really is the window for India to get it right in terms of setting up manufacturing capacity, continuing to grow services, continuing the growth of infrastructure."

Sengupta expects China, currently the second-largest economy, to become the largest at \$57 trillion by 2075. Population alone won't get India to the second position, he said, laying emphasis on innovation, technology, and increasing worker productivity to translate into greater output for each unit of labour and capital utilised.

India's economy is currently the fifth-largest, around \$3.75 trillion, according to the latest data from India's finance ministry.

Continued on ►► Smart Investing

Context: India's economy will become the **world's second-largest by 2075**, said Goldman Sachs.

- Goldman Sachs is an American multinational investment bank and financial services company.

Key Points

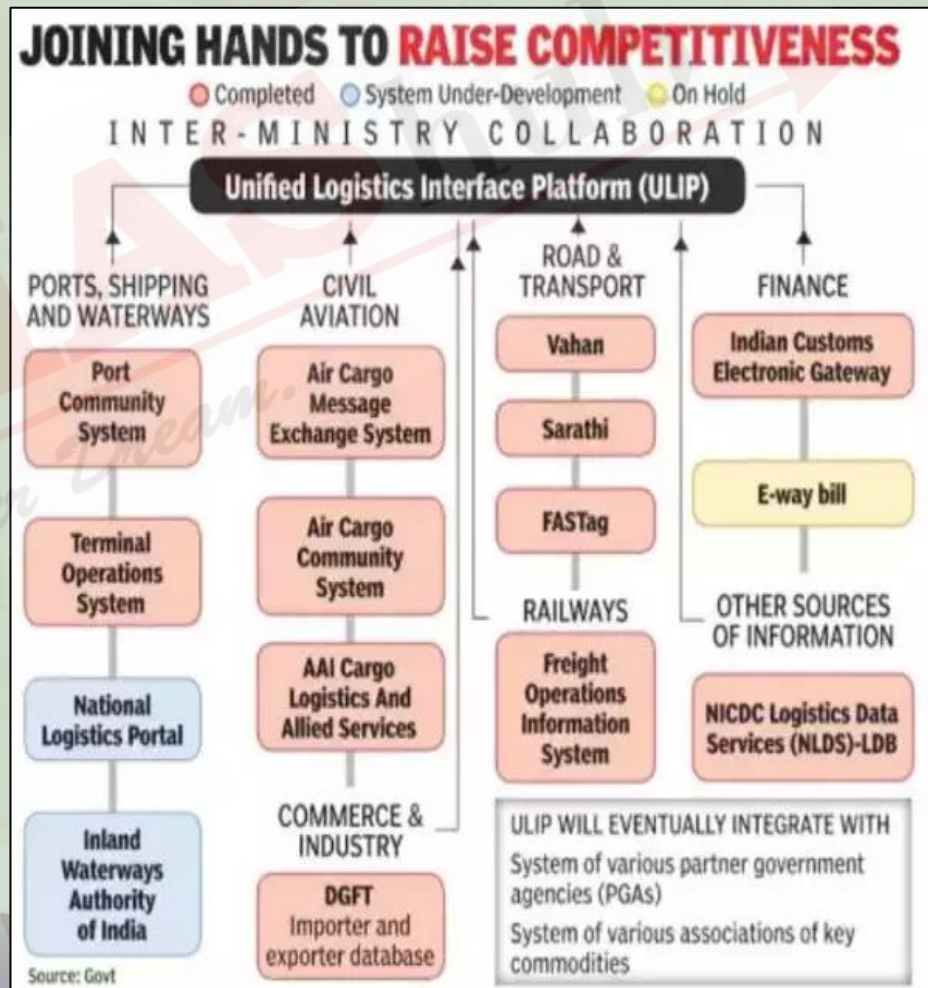
- India's **1.4 billion population** will play a dramatic role in expanding its gross domestic product (GDP) and the key to releasing this potential is by boosting participation within the **labour force** as well as providing training and skills for the immense pool of talent.
- Goldman Sachs expects India's GDP to touch \$52.5 trillion by 2075.
- The **GDP of the US**, currently the world's largest economy, is touted to touch \$51.5 trillion after 52 years.
- Over the next two decades, **India's dependency ratio** will be one of the lowest among regional economies.
- They expects **China**, currently the second-largest economy, to become the largest at \$57 trillion by 2075.
- Population alone won't get India to the second position** laying emphasis on innovation, technology, and increasing worker productivity to translate into greater output for each unit of labour and capital utilised.

PM hails role of Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) in transforming India's logistics sector

Context: The Prime Minister has hailed the role of **Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP)** in transforming India's logistics sector.

Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP)

- **About:** Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) has been launched as **part of the 'National Logistics Policy (NLP)'** in September 2022.
- **Key Features:** ULIP is designed for **enhancing efficiency and reducing the cost of logistics in India** by creating a transparent, single window platform to provide real-time information to all stakeholders.
 - It was emphasized that the solution should have **visibility of multi-modal transport and all the existing systems** should be integrated with the ULIP system to create a National Single Window Logistics Portal.
 - ULIP will provide real-time monitoring of cargo movement and ensure confidentiality of data with end-to-end encryption.
 - It will also provide for **comprehensive reduction** in logistic cost.
- **Components:** There are **three key components** of ULIP platform:
 - Integration with existing data sources of ministries
 - Data exchange with private players
 - Unified document reference in the supply chain



HC sets aside order cancelling OCI status of academic

The Delhi High Court on Monday quashed an order of the Centre cancelling the Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) status of academic Ashok Swain. Mr. Swain, Head of Department at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden, said that pursuant to a show-cause notice in 2020, his OCI card was arbitrarily barred for alleged inflammatory speeches. The court noted that the order did not give any reasons and it "hardly gave any indication of application of mind". It directed the Centre to pass a detailed order within three weeks giving reasons for exercising its powers under the Citizenship Act, 1955.

Context: The Delhi High Court quashed an order of the Central government cancelling the **Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) status** of academic Ashok Swain.

- The authorities cancelled his OCI status on February 8 last year without giving him a fair and just opportunity, in violation of his right to free movement.
- The court directed the Centre to pass a detailed order within three weeks giving reasons for exercising its powers under the **Citizenship Act, 1955**.

Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme

- **About:** It was introduced by amending the **Citizenship Act, 1955 in August 2005**.
 - The Scheme provides for **registration as Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) of all Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)** who were citizens of India on 26th January, 1950 or thereafter or were eligible to become citizens of India on 26th January, 1950 except who is or had been a citizen of Pakistan, Bangladesh or such other country as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify.
- **Benefits:** A registered Overseas Citizen of India is:
 - **Granted multiple entry**, multipurpose, life-long visa for visiting India,
 - He/she is **exempted from registration with Foreign Regional Registration Officer** or Foreign Registration Officer for any length of stay in India.
 - **Entitled to general 'parity** with Non-Resident Indians in respect of all facilities available to them in economic, financial and educational fields except in matters relating to the acquisition of agricultural or plantation properties'.
- **OCI cardholder is NOT entitled to:-**
 - OCI is **not to be misconstrued as 'dual citizenship'**.
 - OCI **does not confer political rights** to vote;
 - **to be a member of a Legislative Assembly** or of a Legislative Council or of the Parliament of India;
 - **to hold Indian constitutional posts** such as that of the President, Vice President, Judge of the Supreme Court or High Court etc.;
 - He/she **cannot normally hold employment** in the Government;
 - **to undertake any Missionary work**, Mountaineering and Journalism work without prior permission of the Govt. of India;
 - OCI cardholder **shall also require Protected Area Permit (PAP)/Restricted Area Permit (RAP)** to visit any place which falls within the Protected/Restricted Area notified by the Government as in the case of any other foreigner.

A PERSON OF INDIAN ORIGIN (PIO)

- Means a **foreign citizen** (except a national of Pakistan, Afghanistan Bangladesh, China, Iran, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Nepal)
- A **foreign citizen whose one of the parents/ grandparents/ great grandparents was born and a permanent resident of India**
- Who is a **spouse** of a citizen of India or a PIO

BENEFITS

1. PIO card holders **do not require a visa to visit India** for a period of 15 years from the date of issue of the PIO card.
2. They are **exempted from registration at FRRO/ FRO** if their **stay does not exceeds 180 days**. In case if the stay exceeds 180 days, they shall have to register with FRRO/ FRO within the next 30 days
3. They **enjoy parity with NRIs in economic, financial and educational benefits**
4. All **future benefits** that would be exempted to NRIs would also be available to the **PIO card holders**

PIO VS OCI

OVERSEAS CITIZEN OF INDIA (OCI)

A **foreign national**, who was **eligible to become citizen of India on 26.01.1950** or was a citizen of India on or at anytime after **26.01.1950** or belonged to a territory that became part of India after **15.08.1947** is **eligible for registration as Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)**. Minor children of such person are also eligible for OCI. However, if the applicant had ever been a citizen of Pakistan or Bangladesh, he/she will not be eligible for OCI.

BENEFITS

- OCIs are **entitled to a multipurpose, multiple entry, lifelong visa** allowing them to visit India at any time, for any length of time and for any purpose
- **Exempted from police reporting** for any length of stay in the country
- **Have also been granted all rights in the economic, financial and education fields in parity with NRIs** except, the right to acquisition of agricultural or plantation properties

Cancer patients spend ₹3.3L/year out-of-pocket on treatment: Study

DurgeshNandan.Jha
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: A cancer patient spends close to Rs 3.3 lakh annually out-of-pocket on her or his treatment regardless of their status vis-à-vis insurance coverage, a study carried out among 12,148 cancer patients seeking treatment at seven top medical institutions in the country including AIIMS Delhi, PGI Chandigarh and Tata Memorial Centre Mumbai has revealed.

The study, which has been published in the journal 'Frontiers in Public Health' (FPH), shows that an average cancer patient spends Rs 8,053 per outpatient consultation out-of-pocket. The mean direct Out-Of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) per episode of hospitalisation is estimated as Rs 39,085.

But because of the repetitive nature of outpatient care, the study suggests, outpatient treatment is more likely to cause catastrophic health expenditure (CHE) and impoverishment (80% and 67%, respectively) than hospitalisation (30% and 17%, respectively).

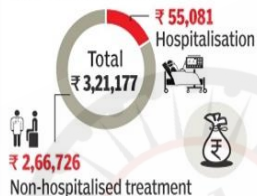
Approximately 60% of the patients seeking outpatient treatment and 62.8% hospitalised patients were found to

CATASTROPHIC HEALTH EXPENDITURE

No. of cancer patients included in the study | **12,148**

Hospitals included | AIIMS Delhi, PGIMER Chandigarh, Tata Memorial Hospital Mumbai, CMC Vellore, Adyar Cancer Centre Chennai, BBCT Assam and GMCH Chandigarh

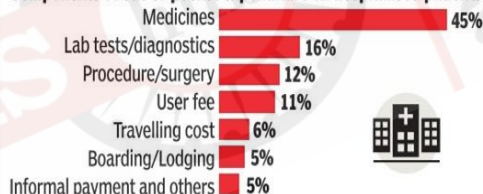
Annual out-of-pocket expenditure on cancer treatment



Components of out-of-pocket spend on outpatient treatment

Lab tests/diagnostics	36%
Medicines	28%
Travelling cost	21%
User fee	5%
Boarding/Lodging	4%
Food	4%
Informal payment and others	1%

Components of out-of-pocket expenditure on hospitalised patients



be covered under some health insurance schemes in the multicenter study.

Outpatient treatment includes chemotherapy as well as diagnostics for routine monitoring and supportive care. The researchers point

out in the study that the majority of the publicly financed health insurance schemes include only inpatient care in its health benefits package, leaving outpatient care out of the ambit. Even for the inpatient care

Times View: In 2020, cancer claimed over 8.5 lakh lives in India. The same year, it was estimated, over 2.7 million had the disease. It is well known that cancer can be managed, especially if diagnosed in time. But the survey shows that the cost of treatment for outpatients — especially those from middle or lower income groups — can be debilitating even in government hospitals. The survey underlines the need to find out ways and means for ensuring a more affordable treatment plan for such patients.

which is covered, the financial protection starts to kick in once the diagnosis is established, which implies that the initial diagnostics and staging in case of probable cancer cases is paid out-of-pocket by the patients, they add.

"The health benefits package of Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY should prioritise the expansion of cancer packages, by including the cost-effective treatments which may be delivered in outpatient care. Secondly, the digital payment systems should be used to finance the cost of diagnostic services available for staging of cancer patients before the treatment begins," the study, led by Dr Shankar Prija suggests.

Context: A cancer patient spends close to Rs 3.3 lakh annually out-of-pocket on her or his treatment regardless of their status vis-à-vis insurance coverage, a study carried out among 12,148 cancer patients seeking treatment at seven top medical institutions in the country including AIIMS Delhi, PGI Chandigarh and Tata Memorial Centre Mumbai has revealed.

Key Points

- An average cancer patient spends Rs 8,053 per outpatient consultation out-of-pocket.
- The mean direct Out-Of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) per episode of hospitalisation is estimated as Rs 39,085.
- Because of the repetitive nature of outpatient care, outpatient treatment is more likely to cause catastrophic health expenditure (CHE) and impoverishment (80% and 67%, respectively) than hospitalisation (30% and 17%, respectively).
- Approximately 60% of the patients seeking outpatient treatment and 62.8% hospitalised patients were found to be covered under some health insurance schemes in the multicenter study.
- Outpatient treatment includes chemotherapy as well as diagnostics for routine monitoring and supportive care.
- In 2020, cancer claimed over 8.5 lakh lives in India.
- The same year, it was estimated, over 2.7 million had the disease.
- It is well known that cancer can be managed, especially if diagnosed in time
- But the survey shows that the cost of treatment for outpatients - especially those from middle or lower income groups - can be debilitating even in government hospitals.
- The survey underlines the need to find out ways and means for ensuring a more affordable treatment plan for such patients.

Urban 20 (U20) Mayoral Summit concludes with handover of the Communiqué to G20 Leaders

Context: The two-day **Urban 20 Mayoral Summit**, hosted by the chair city Ahmedabad, in Gandhinagar from 7-8 July, concluded with the handover of the Communiqué from the Mayors to G20 leaders.

Key Points

- The Communiqué was officially **endorsed by 105 cities across the world**, the highest ever number of endorsements received to date for any U20 Communiqué, and more than twice the number of endorsements for any previous communiqués.
- The Communiqué has been drafted as an **action agenda for the six priorities** identified collectively by U20 cities. These priorities include:
 - Encouraging environmentally responsible behaviours, accelerating climate finance, championing local culture and economy, ensuring water security, catalysing digital urban futures, and reinventing frameworks for urban planning and governance.
- The Communiqué is aligned with the **G20 theme of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”**, or One Earth, One Family, One Future.

Urban 20 (U20)

- **Urban 20 (U20)** is an initiative of C40 Cities and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).
- It is a **diplomatic initiative which aims to help cities develop collective messages** and inclusive solutions for global issues such as climate action, the future of work and social integration.
- U20 initiative is **supported by Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation**, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), among others.

Concern over minors booked under POCSO: Law panel not for lowering consent age

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, JULY 10

WHILE THE Supreme Court and several High Courts have underlined concerns over criminalisation of adolescent sex, the 22nd Law Commission of India is not in favour of lowering the age of consent for minors, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

The Commission is set to release its report on the minimum age of consent under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Under the 2012 legislation, the minimum age of consent is 18.

Sources indicated that the Commission is likely to recommend awareness measures on adolescent health care including making sex education mandatory and teaching the basics of consent under the POCSO

EXPLAINED
E Why the worry

MINORS AGED between 16 and 18 who engage in a consensual act that may come under the definition of sexual activity under the law run the risk of being booked under POCSO. While these cases of adolescent sex may not necessarily result in conviction of a minor boy, the law is such that it could result in denial of bail and prolonged detention.

Act in schools.

In December 2022, Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

AGE OF CONSENT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Indian Society)

Context: While the Supreme Court and several High Courts have underlined concerns over criminalisation of adolescent sex, the **22nd Law Commission of India** is not in favour of lowering the age of consent for minors.

- The Commission is set to release its **report on the minimum age of consent** under the **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act**.
- Under the 2012 legislation, the **minimum age of consent** is **18**.

Key Points

- In December 2022, Chief Justice of India asked lawmakers to look into “growing concern” over criminalisation under the POCSO Act of adolescents who engage in **consensual sexual activity**.
- Under the law, the **age of consent under the POCSO Act**, the age of majority and the minimum age of marriage for women is common - 18 years.
- In December 2021, the Union Cabinet cleared a **proposal to raise the legal age of marriage** for women from 18 to 21 years to bring it on par with men.
- The government cited **gender neutrality**, risks of early pregnancies and overall empowerment of women as reasons to increase the age of marriage.
- Under **Muslim personal laws**, marriage for girls is at puberty, which is presumed to be at age 15. This gap between Muslim personal laws and the special legislation is prohibiting child marriage.
- According to **Section 5 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955**, Section 4 of the Special Marriage Act, 1954 and Section 60 of the Indian Christians Marriage Act, 1872, the minimum age of marriage of a girl is 18 years and that of a boy is 21 years in India.
- According to **Section 375**, any kind of sexual intercourse, with or without consent, when the girl is under 18 years of age, is rape.
 - However, **Exception 2 of Section 375** has kept out sexual intercourse or sexual act by a man with his own wife above 15 years of age from the definition of rape, but Exception 2 was struck down by the **Supreme Court in 2017 in the case of Independent Thought** by holding the same in violation of Articles 14, 15 and 21 and in contravention of the POCSO Act, 2012, and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

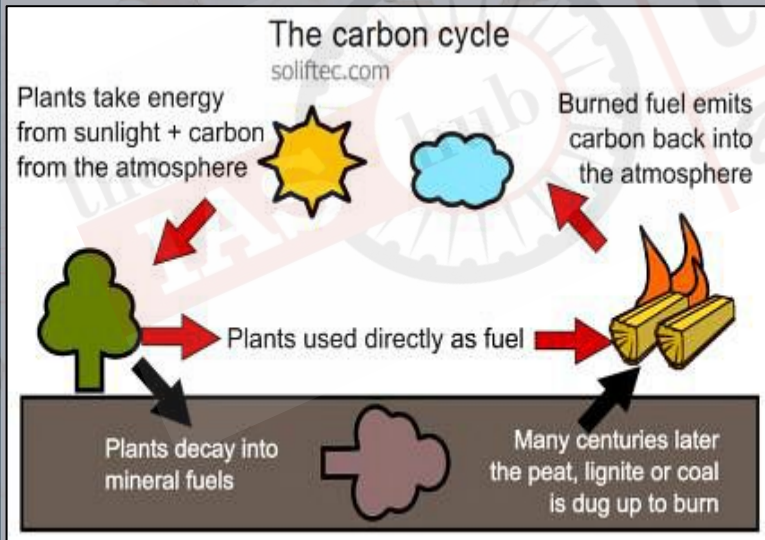
CO2 EMISSION FROM WOOD HARVESTS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

Global wood harvests will add 3.5 to 4.2 billion tonnes of CO₂ yearly in coming decades: Report

This level of emissions is more than three times the annual emissions from aviation and equals common estimates of the emissions from deforestation and other land use change due to agricultural expansion

By Madhumita Paul
Published: Sunday 09 July 2023



Context: The **world's wood harvests** will add 3.5-4.2 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) yearly over the coming decades, more than 10 percent of recent global annual emissions of carbon dioxide, according to a new study led by World Resources Institute (WRI), a global research organisation.

Key Points

- Globally, **trees store a tremendous amount of carbon** in their trunks, branches and roots.
- When they are cut down, the **stored carbon can be released over time** or rapidly if the wood is burned.
- The researchers used a new global forest carbon model, the **carbon harvest model (CHARM)**, which builds on a long-established approach of counting the effect of wood harvests on changes in atmospheric carbon over time as carbon shifts among different storage pools.
- Pools include live vegetation, roots, different wood products and landfills.
- The **effect on atmospheric carbon** is the difference between carbon stored in all pools due to the harvest and the carbon that forests would store if left unharvested and continued to grow.
- Significant mitigation** of these emissions could occur if people reduce their uses of wood for energy use, harvest larger trees in the tropics in ways that kill fewer smaller trees and increase the growth rate of already existing plantation forests.
- By **removing human intervention** (like wood harvesting) under current climatic conditions and with the CO₂ concentration that already exists, their above ground biomass could increase by up to 44.1 gigatonnes of carbon.

ISRO will transfer SSLV to pvt sector

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Monday announced that it will transfer its Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) to the private sector amid growing demand for small satellites. The SSLV, which has had two development flights, seeks to provide on-demand services to put satellites weighing up to 500 kg in a low-earth orbit. "We have built our own SSLV which will be transferred to the industry and produced in large numbers to meet the growing demand," ISRO chairman S. Somanath said at the inauguration ceremony of the India Space Congress organized by SIA India. The space agency has decided to opt for the bidding route to transfer the mini-rocket to the industry, a senior official said. The SSLV is the sixth launch vehicle developed by ISRO and has undergone two development flights in August last year and in February this year.

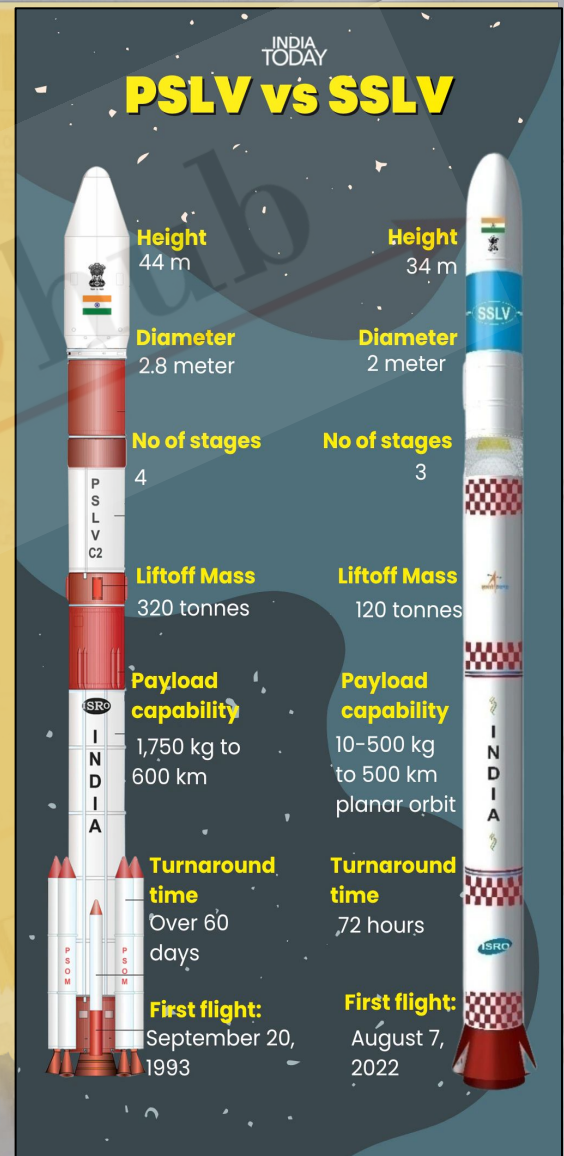
PTI

Context: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will soon transfer its **Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)** to the private sector amid growing demand for small satellites.

- The space agency has decided to opt for the bidding route to transfer the mini-rocket to the industry.

Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)

- It is a **3 stage Launch Vehicle** configured with three Solid Propulsion Stages and liquid propulsion based Velocity Trimming Module (VTM) as a terminal stage.
- SSLV is **2m in diameter** and 34m in length with lift off weight of ~120 tonnes.
- SSLV is **capable of launching ~500 kg satellite in 500 km** planar orbit from SDSC/SHAR.
- The **key features of SSLV** are Low cost, with low turnaround time, flexibility in accommodating multiple satellites, Launch on demand feasibility, minimal launch infrastructure requirements, etc.



DTE

July 11

MADAGASCAR ENERGY CRISIS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Geography & Maps)

Africa's energy poverty: Push to renewables, more players for power supply may help Madagascar's electrification plans

Around 35% of country has access to electricity, 1.4% has access to clean cooking fuel



NEXT NEWS >

By Rivoanala Razafison
Published: Monday 10 July 2023



Context: Madagascar, one of the world's most energy-starved countries, has put its energy transition plans on track with a special focus on renewable energy. Just around 35 percent of Madagascar's population has access to electricity and 1.4 percent with access to clean cooking fuel.

Key Points

- The country mainly **depends on biomass for cooking fuel**.
- The country is **running out of forests**.
- **Collecting firewood or substitutes** is permanent work though the year for many.
- **Charcoal** is a necessity in towns too, as access to cooking gas - a luxury priced at \$2 a kilo because of monopoly - is limited.
- Because of its high reliance on biomass, Madagascar has a **non-sustainable management** mode for its wood capital.
- Madagascar is **fast promoting renewable energy**. Solar kits are extremely popular in the countryside.

Madagascar

- Madagascar, officially the **Republic of Madagascar**, is an island country lying off the southeastern coast of Africa.
- It is the **world's fourth largest island**, the second-largest island country and the 46th largest country in the world.
- Its capital and largest city is **Antananarivo**.
- Madagascar is a member of the **United Nations (UN)**, the **African Union (AU)**, the **Southern African Development Community (SADC)**, and the **Organization Internationale de la Francophonie**.
- Madagascar is classified as a **least developed country** by the UN.

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