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INDIAN EXPRESS

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# SUBMISSION OF RESIGNATIONS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Polity and Governance)

JAIPUR CRISIS SHADOW OVER CONG PRESIDENT POLLS

## To stall Pilot's CM plan, 90 Gehlot loyalist MLAs submit resignation

Want next CM to be from their camp, raise issue of Sachin Pilot's rebellion in 2020

HAMZA KHAN & DEEP MUKHERJEE
JAIPUR, SEPTEMBER 25

CROSS OVER Congress high command's 'unilateral' decision to opt for a Chief Minister without consulting them, around 90 MLAs loyal to Ashok Gehlot submitted their resignation to Rajasthan Assembly Speaker C P Joshi late on Sunday. Gehlot is expected to file his nomination papers for the party president's post soon.

As the Congress high command's inclination to hand over the chief ministership in Rajasthan to Sachin Pilot became apparent, Gehlot loyalist MLAs went into a huddle beginning

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNY




## Cong leadership caught off guard, rivals ask did Sachin overplay his hand?

MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

EXPLAINED

THE DEFT power play by veteran Ashok Gehlot in full public glare in Rajasthan Sunday, after having announced his decision to contest for the high-stake Congress presidential election, has once again raised questions on the party leadership's ability to manoeuvre decisions towards desired outcomes.

The Congress leadership — the Gandhi family — were caught off guard by the strategic play by Gehlot who emphatically signalled he would not be a pushover and would like to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**Context:** Around 90 MLAs loyal to Ashok Gehlot submitted their resignation to Rajasthan Assembly.

### Submission of Resignations in the Constitution: Who submits to whom

- **President**: Vice President
- **Vice President:** President
- **Prime Minister:** President
- **Judge of Supreme Court:** President
- **Governor**: President
- **Judge of High Court:** President
- **Speaker of Lok Sabha**: Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha
- **Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha:** Speaker of Lok Sabha
- **Deputy Chairman of Council of States**: Chairman
- **Member of house of Parliament:** Chairman of upper house or the Speaker of Lower House.
- **Speaker of Assembly:** Deputy Speaker of Assembly
- **Deputy Speaker of Assembly**: Speaker of Assembly
- **Chairman of Legislative Council of States**: Deputy Chairman
- **Deputy Chairman of Legislative Council of States:** Chairman
- **A member of Public Service Commission (Union Commission or Joint Commission)**: President
- **A member of Public Service Commission (State Commission)**: Governor of the State

INDIAN EXPRESS

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# ODONATA SPECIES

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

SURVEY'S FINDINGS

## What lower rain in Delhi this year has meant for dragonflies, damselflies

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 25

A SURVEY of dragonflies and damselflies at Delhi's biodiversity parks indicates that low rainfall this year may have impacted their life cycles and numbers.

In a week-long survey that concluded on Sunday, a total of 25 species of dragonflies and damselflies were recorded across seven biodiversity parks.

The Kamla Nehru Ridge recorded the maximum number of species – 25. The Yamuna Biodiversity Park recorded 23 species, a little less than the 25 species recorded in 2018. In terms of the number of individuals recorded, the Kalindi Biodiversity Park recorded the highest number at 3,348, followed by the Aravalli Biodiversity Park where 555 individuals were counted.

The last such survey was conducted in 2018 at the Yamuna, Tilpath Valley and Neela Hauz Biodiversity Parks. The Neela Hauz biodiversity park also recorded a fewer number of species this year – just six – as compared to 2018, when nine species were counted.

Species that were recorded include the Scarlet Skimmer, Picture Wing dragonfly and the Granite Ghost.

In addition to counting the number of species in the two main ecosystems of Delhi – the Aravallis and the Yamuna – the survey was also meant to determine whether the deficit in rainfall in Delhi this monsoon has had any impact on dragonflies and damselflies.

Faiyaz Khudsar, scientist in-charge, Biodiversity Parks Programme at the Centre for Environment Management of Degraded Ecosystems, said, "Since the temperature was high and rainfall was low, there was little water in the river and the floodplain wetlands are shrunken. The nymph, which is one of the stages of the life cycle of the dragonfly, stays in the water for a long period of time and is a voracious feeder of mosquito larvae. When the temperature is high and there's less rainfall and less water, the nymph grows quickly into an adult. Since dragonflies have small life spans, they die quickly. That's the scenario this time."

"When the temperature is high and the metamorphosis is faster, the wing size also tends to reduce. And, when the wing size reduces, their dispersal can reduce drastically. Since their movement is reduced, their foraging – they feed on adult mosquitos – is also reduced," Khudsar added.

The city has recorded a deficit in rainfall for the monsoon so far. For the month of September, there was a large deficit in rainfall till this week when monsoonal rainfall picked up again.

With rainfall having picked up towards the end of the week, the scientists noticed that the dragonflies began laying eggs again. "They have started breeding again thinking that it is the monsoon. Soon, winter will come, and what's going to happen to those eggs?" Khudsar said. Collecting data of this sort for a few years can help track the changes taking place in the ecosystem, and it could be too soon now to arrive at concrete conclusions, he added.

Dragonflies serve as biological control for mosquitoes. They are also an indicator of water quality in wetlands and water bodies since polluted water is detrimental to them.







(Clockwise from above) Golden Darlet; Pied Paddy Skimmer; Ditch Jewel. As many as 25 species of dragonflies and damselflies were recorded across seven biodiversity parks. *DDA Biodiversity Parks*

**Context:** A survey of dragonflies and damselflies at Delhi's biodiversity parks indicates that low rainfall this year may have impacted their life cycles and numbers.

**Odonata species (dragonflies and damselflies)**

- The order Odonata ("toothed ones") includes some of the most ancient and beautiful insects that ever roamed Earth, as well as some of the largest flying invertebrates ever to have lived.
- Odonata consists of three groups: Anisoptera (which includes dragonflies), Zygoptera (which includes damselflies), and Anisozygoptera (a relict group represented by only two living species).
- This order is very diverse with about 5000 species, and its members are easy to observe.
- Both dragonflies and damselflies belong to the Odonata, which is a subgroup of insects, which in turn is a group of uniramian arthropods.
- Most species of dragonflies live in the tropics and particularly in the rainforests.
- Dragonflies act as important bio-indicators of the ecological health of an area.
- The rapid destruction of their habitat poses a direct threat to their survival making their conservation urgent.

LIVEMINT Page 2

# INDIA-UAE TRADE AGREEMENT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

## Non-oil exports to UAE up 14% post FTA

Dilasha Seth
dilasha.seth@livemint.com
BENGALURU

Four months after the India-UAE comprehensive free trade agreement came into effect, India's non-petroleum exports to the West Asian country has grown 14% in June-August compared with the year-ago period, according to the department of commerce.

The growth came in despite global macroeconomic headwinds, the government said.

India's exports to the UAE grew to $5.92bn in the June to August period compared with $5.17 billion in the corresponding period last year. This compares with a 3% growth in India's global non-oil exports.

"This implies the growth rate of India's non-petroleum exports to the UAE is almost 5 times as that of India's non-petroleum exports to the world," the department of commerce said in a release on Sunday.

Non-oil imports from the UAE during the same three-month period grew by 1% from $5.56 billion to $5.61 billion.

Electrical machinery exports to the UAE were up by 67% during this period at $916mn, compared with $549mn in the June-August period last year. Gems and jewellery exports grew 33% to $1.4bn in the three months while shipments of inorganic chemicals were up 74% to $157 mn.

**Context**: India's non-petroleum exports to the West Asian country has grown 14% in June-August compared with the year-ago period.

**India-UAE trade agreement**

- India and the UAE have signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the aim of increasing bilateral merchandise trade to $100 billion by 2030.
- Under the agreement, the UAE is set to eliminate duties on 80 per cent of its tariff lines which account for 90 per cent of India's exports to the UAE by value.
- The zero duty access for Indian products to the UAE is set to expand over 5-10 years to 97 per cent of UAE tariff lines corresponding to 99 per cent of India's exports by value.
- Key domestic sectors that are set to benefit include, gems and jewellery, textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, engineering goods, automobiles and pharmaceuticals.
- India has excluded certain goods from the agreement through a "sensitive list" of products amounting to 10 percent of tariff lines that are excluded completely from the agreement.
    - Dairy, fruits, vegetables, cereals, tea, coffee, sugar, food preparations, tobacco, toys, plastics, scrap of aluminium, and copper are among the products that are excluded from the pact.
    - Certain other areas such as those that have seen sharp growth in domestic production or areas where the government is incentivising manufacturing through production-linked incentive schemes have also been excluded from the agreement.
- The government has emphasised that this agreement contains strict rules of origin to prevent other countries from using the agreement to reroute their exports through UAE to benefit from lower tariffs.
- Most products require a value addition of 40 per cent in the exporting country under the new agreement to qualify for lower tariffs under the agreement.
- The agreement also requires that any raw agricultural products and oilseeds be "wholly obtained" or "produced entirely in the exporting country" to ensure that no third party products in these categories can be exported under the agreement.
- The agreement also has safeguard mechanisms that would be triggered if there was a significant surge in imports of a specific product in either country.

LIVEMINT

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# PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE UNSC

## (Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - International organisations)

## Russia backs India, Brazil for permanent membership of UNSC

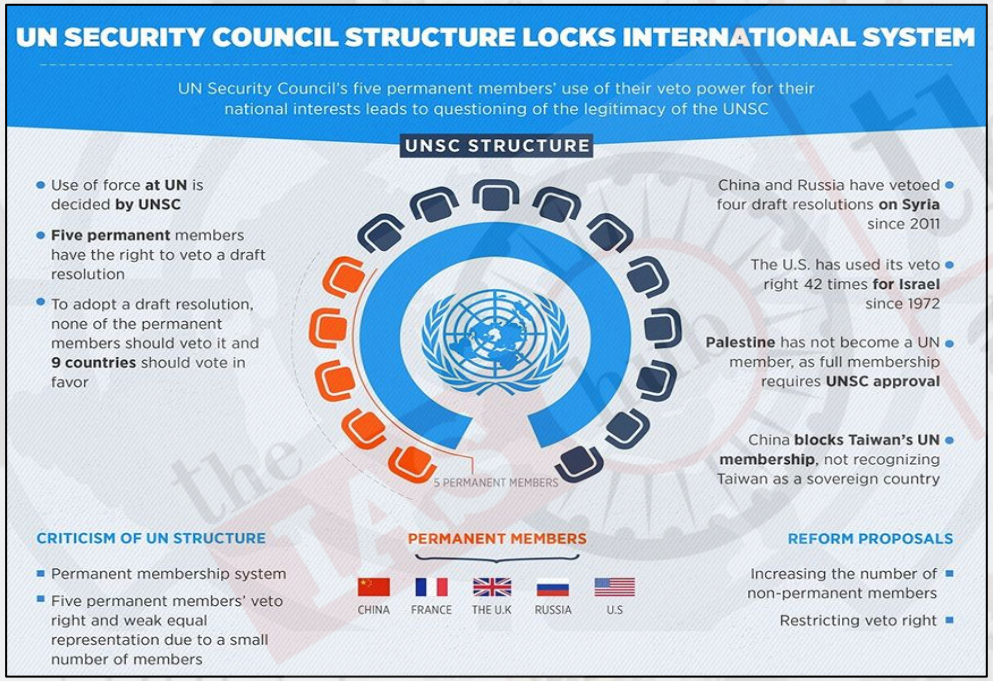
Russia has voiced its support for India and Brazil as "worthy candidates" for permanent membership in the UN Security Council (UNSC), calling them "key international actors." During the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly, Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov on Saturday expressed his support for India, becoming a permanent member of the Security Council.

In his address to the General Assembly just an hour before external affairs minister S Jaishankar's speech, Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov said that the UN and Security Council have to be aligned to contemporary realities.

He said Moscow sees the prospect of making the Security Council more democratic, exclusively, through broadening the representation of countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America. "We note India and Brazil in particular as key international actors and worthy candidates for permanent membership within the Council whilst simultaneously unilaterally and mandatorily raising the profile of Africa," Lavrov said. PTI



Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov. AP




**Context**: Russia has voiced its support for India and Brazil as "worthy candidates" for permanent membership in the UN Security Council (UNSC).

**Permanent members of the UNSC**

- The permanent members of the United Nations Security Council (also known as the Permanent Five, Big Five, or P5) are the five sovereign states to whom the UN Charter of 1945 grants a permanent seat on the UN Security Council: China, France, USSR, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The remaining 10 members of the UN Security Council are elected by the General Assembly, giving a total of 15 UN member states.
- The permanent members were all allies in World War II (and the victors of that war), and are all states with nuclear weapons.
- All have the power of veto which enables any one of them to prevent the adoption of any "substantive" draft Council resolution, regardless of its level of international support.
- The "power of veto" refers to the veto power wielded solely by the permanent members, enabling them to prevent the adoption of any "substantive" draft Council resolution, regardless of the level of international support for the draft.
- The veto does not apply to procedural votes, which is significant in that the Security Council's permanent membership can vote against a "procedural" draft resolution, without necessarily blocking its adoption by the council.
- The veto is exercised when any permanent member - the so-called "P5" casts a "negative" vote on a "substantive" draft resolution.
- Abstention or absence from the vote by a permanent member does not prevent a draft resolution from being adopted.

**India and UNSC**

- India began its two-year tenure as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on January 1 2021 .
- It is for the eighth time that India has assumed this position.

**G4**

- The G4 is a grouping of Brazil, Germany, India and Japan which are aspiring to become permanent members of the UNSC. The G4 countries are supporting each other's bids for permanent membership of the UNSC.

THE HINDU Page 12

# ATTORNEY-GENERAL (A-G) OF INDIA
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Polity & Governance)

# Rohatgi declines Centre's offer to be Attorney-General

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

**Mr. Rohtagi resigned in 2017 after serving for three years. After that Mr. Venugopal was appointed**

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi on Sunday confirmed to *The Hindu* that he had declined the offer from the Union government to be the next Attorney-General (A-G) of India.

The development comes as a setback for the Narendra Modi government as the incumbent, K.K. Venugopal, is set to retire on September 30.

Last week, there were reports that Mr. Rohatgi would take over as the government's top law officer from October 1. However, Mr. Rohatgi said he had declined the offer but cited no reasons. Mr. Rohtagi had resigned in June 2017 after serving for three years. After that Mr. Venugopal was appointed A-G for a term of three years. He was given one-year extensions in 2020 and 2021 at his requests.

**Context**: Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi had declined the offer from the Union government to be the next Attorney-General (A-G) of India.

**Attorney-General (A-G) of India**

- The Attorney General of India is the highest law officer of the country and also the chief legal advisor to the government of India.
- Article 76 of the Constitution provides for the office of AG of India.
- Appointed by the President of India on the advice of the Union Cabinet of ministers.
- The person appointed must be a citizen of India.
- **Qualification**: To be appointed as the Attorney General of India, a person:
  - must be qualified to be a Supreme Court judge, i.e. they must either be a judge of a High Court for five years or an advocate in a High Court for 10 years or
  - an eminent jurist in the President's opinion.
- **Term of the Office**: Not fixed by the Constitution.
- **Removal**: Procedures and grounds for the removal of AG are not stated in the Constitution.
  - S/he holds office during the pleasure of the President (may be removed by the President at any time).
- **Special rights enjoyed by the Attorney General of India**
  - The attorney general enjoys the right of audience in any court of the country when concerned with his duties.
  - He further enjoys all the immunities and special privileges available to an MP.
  - He has the right to participate in the proceedings of both the houses without the right to vote and can be designated as a member.
- **Duties**
  - It is the duty of the attorney general to advise the government on legal matters that are referred to him by the president.
  - He is also duty-bound to undertake any responsibilities of duties of legal character that are assigned to him by the president.
  - Similarly, he is also bound to perform any other functions conferred upon him by the constitution.
  - Among the duties conferred upon him by the president are, to appear on behalf of the central government Supreme Court, to represent the central government in any reference made to the Supreme Court under article 143 by the president, and to appear in any High Court for a case where the Government of India is concerned.

THE HINDU Page 14

# BHAGAT SINGH AIRPORT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Infrastructure)




## Chandigarh airport to be named after Bhagat Singh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday announced that the Chandigarh airport will be renamed after Bhagat Singh as a tribute to the freedom fighter. In his *Mann Ki Baat* radio broadcast, where he referred to diverse issues, Mr. Modi spoke of climate change which he said is a major threat to marine ecosystems and expressed concern about the "disturbing" menace of litter on beaches. "It becomes our responsibility to make continuous efforts to tackle these challenges," he said. In the broadcast, Mr. Modi paid tributes to BJP ideologue Deendayal Upadhyaya, saying he was a profound thinker and a great son of the country.

**Context**: Prime Minister announced that the Chandigarh airport will be renamed after Bhagat Singh as a tribute to the freedom fighter.

**Airport's name on Personalities**

- Rajiv Gandhi International Airport: Hyderabad, Telangana
- Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport: Amritsar, Punjab
- Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport: Guwahati, Assam
- Biju Patnaik International Airport: Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- Indira Gandhi International Airport: New Delhi, Delhi
- Veer Savarkar International Airport: Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport: Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Kempegowda (Nadaprabhu Hiriya Kempe Gowda) International Airport: Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport: Nagpur, Maharashtra
- Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport: Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport: Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport: Kolkata, West Bengal
- Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar Airport: Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- Sheikh ul-Aalam International Airport: Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir

TIMES OF INDIA

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# INDIAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ISL)

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Social Justice)

## In a lst, sign language made part of curriculum: Modi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** PM Narendra Modi on Sunday said that for the first time in the country, sign language is being included as a subject in academic curriculum.

In his weekly radio talk 'Mann Ki Baat', he said a lot of emphasis has been given in the National Education Policy (NEP 2020) for maintaining a fixed standard for sign language, the lack of which has been a problem for long.

Sign Language Day is observed on September 23.

"There are many people who are either unable to hear or express themselves through speech. The biggest support for such friends is sign language. To overcome these difficulties, the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center was established in the year 2015," the Prime Minister said.

> A big problem in India for years was that there were no clear gestures and no standards for sign language. I'm happy the Sign Language Research & Training Centre has now brought out a dictionary with 10,000 words and expressions. The sign language campaign is benefitting millions –PM MODI



▶'Helped families', P 8

**Context**: PM Narendra said that for the first time in in the country, sign language is being included as a subject in academic curriculum.

**Indian Sign Language (ISL)**

- It's a set of hand and facial gestures used to communicate, most often by the hearing and speech impaired.
- It has its own grammar, syntax and regional "dialects", essentially different gestures for the same word or sentiment.
- The main difference from spoken languages lies in form: Sign languages are visual, spoken ones are auditory.
- Sign language is recognized as an official language in many countries across the world like the USA.
- In National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, Indian Sign Language (ISL) will be standardized across the country, and National and State curriculum materials developed, for use by students with hearing impairment.
- Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre is an autonomous national institute of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- It is dedicated to the task of developing man-power for popularizing the use of Indian Sign Language, teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language.
- The Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to make NCERT textbooks accessible to hearing-impaired students in sign language.

DOWN TO EARTH

Sept 26

# TRACHOMA DISEASE

## (Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)



AFRICA

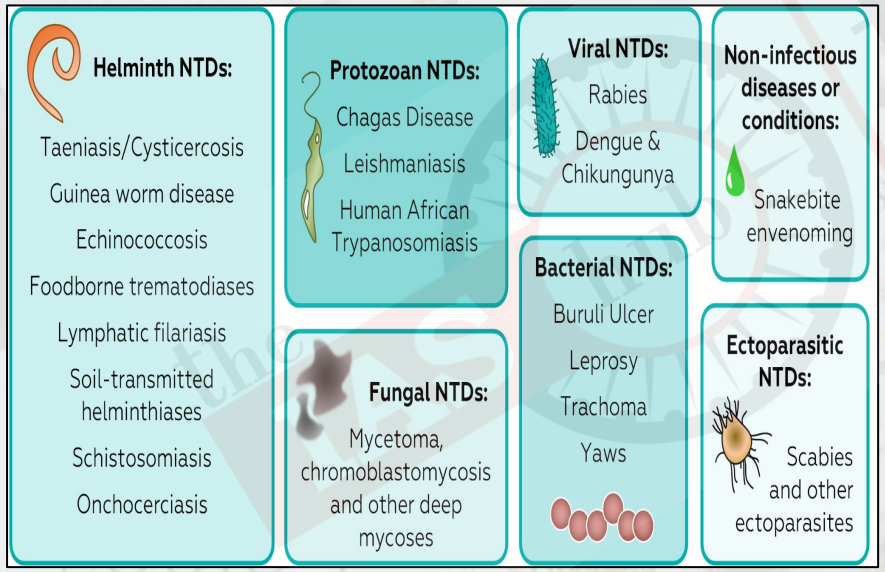
**Malawi first country in southern Africa to eliminate trachoma: WHO**

The Global Trachoma Mapping Project in the country helped in targeted action

NEXT NEWS >

By Susan Chacko

Published: Friday 23 September 2022




**Context**: AMalawi has become the first country in southern Africa to eliminate trachoma, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced September 21, 2022.

**Key points**

- This makes Malawi the fourth country in WHO's Africa region to achieve this milestone after Ghana (June 2018), Gambia (April 2021) and Togo (May 2022).
- Trachoma is the world's leading infectious cause of blindness and is one of the conditions known as neglected tropical diseases(NTDs).
- It is a public health problem in 44 countries and is responsible for the blindness or visual impairment of about 1.9 million people.
- Around 136 million people live in trachoma endemic areas and are at risk of trachoma blindness.
- Trachoma starts off as a bacterial infection and can be easily treated. Overtime, it causes the eyelashes to be pushed inwards into the eye. So with every blink, they brush against the eyeball.
- This advanced form of trachoma is called trichiasis. Over time, if it's not treated, trichiasis can lead to blindness.
- The disease thrives where there are water shortages, poor sanitation and infestations of flies, which are considered physical vectors of the disease.
- As of March 7, 2022, 14 countries had reported achieving trachoma elimination goals. These countries are Cambodia, China, Gambia, Ghana, Iran, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Togo.

**Trachoma in India**

- India became free from Trachoma in 2017.
- According to the National Trachoma Survey Report, the overall prevalence of Trachoma was 0.7% in the country.
- This is much below the elimination criteria defined by the World Health Organisation.

PIB

Sept 26

# BATHUKAMMA FESTIVAL

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Art & Culture)

## PM greets everyone, particularly the Nari Shakti of Telangana on the occasion of Bathukamma

Posted On: 25 SEP 2022 6:22PM by PIB Delhi

**About Bathukamma festival**

- Bathukamma is a colourful and vibrant festival of Telangana and celebrated by women, with flowers that grow exclusively in each region.
- This festival is a symbol of Telangana's cultural identity.
- The festival is celebrated towards the end of monsoon and heralds the abundance that nature has to offer.
- The festival begins on day of Mahalaya Amavasya, and is celebrated with much fanfare for 9 days.
- The festival begins a week before the grand 'Saddula Batukamma' (the grand finale of the Batukamma festival) which falls two days before Dussehra.
- This floral festival is to pray to the Goddess for health and achievements of each family. The word Bathukamma means- 'Mother Goddess come to life'. The festival represents the culture and identity of people of Telangana and involves the worship of Maha Gauri – "Life Giver" in form of Gauri Devi (patron goddess of womanhood).
- Bathukamma is a beautiful flower stack, arranged with different unique seasonal flowers most of them with medicinal values, in seven concentric layers in the shape of temple gopuram.
- Batukamma celebrates the inherent relationship between earth, water and the human beings.



PIB

Sept 26

# SWACHH TOYCATHON

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

## MoHUA to launch 'Swachh Toycathon', a unique competition to make toys from 'Waste'

**Key points about the Initiative**

- Swachh Toycathon is a convergence between the NAPT and SBM 2.0 that seeks to explore solutions for use of waste in creation or manufacturing of toys.
  - National Action Plan for Toys (NAPT) 2020 was introduced to promote the Indian toy industry including traditional handicrafts and handmade toys with the objective of establishing India as a global Toy hub.
  - The second phase of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM 2.0) was launched on 1st October 2021 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister with a vision of 'Garbage Free' cities by 2026.
- The competition will be open to individuals and groups to bring forth innovation in toy designs using dry waste.
- It will focus on efficient designs that can be replicated at a larger scale, toys that comply with minimum safety standards, as well as aesthetics of the toys.

**Toycathon**

- It is a joint initiative by the Ministry of Education, WCD (Women and Child Development) Ministry, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Textile Ministry, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and All India Council for Technical Education.
- It is launched on 5th January 2021 to crowdsource innovative toys and games ideas.

**Status of Toy Market in India**

- Global toy market is worth nearly $100 billion.
- Of which, India contributes only around $1.5 billion.
- India imports around 80% of toys from abroad. Which means crores of rupees of the country are going abroad on them.
- Center for Creative Learning, IIT Gandhinagar is the knowledge partner for the initiative.

**Government steps for toy sector**

- Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) mandated sample testing of each consignment and no permission for sale unless the quality testing is successful. In case of failure, the consignment is either sent back or destroyed at the cost of the importer.
- Basic Custom Duty (BCD) on Toys has been increased from 20% to 60% in February, 2020.
- The Government issued Toys (Quality Control) Order, 2020 through which toys have been brought under compulsory Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification.
- BIS made special provisions in so as to grant license to micro scale units manufacturing toys without testing facility for one year and not to insist on establishing in-house facility.
- BIS has granted 843 licenses to domestic manufacturers from safety of toys, out of these, 645 licenses have been granted for non-electric toys and 198 licenses granted for electric toys. In addition to this, 6 licenses have been granted to international toy manufacturers.

# THANK YOU!

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/mkyadav

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