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MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



MK Yadav Sir

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DTE Jan 10

PONG DAM

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 – Geography)

Pong dam eco-sensitive zone: Awaiting rehabilitation for over 50 years, not consulted for policy decision, say locals

Context: Over 25,000 people displaced by the Pong dam on the Beas river in Himachal Pradesh have been waiting to be relocated for over five decades. Many of them were surviving by farming around the dam region.

Pong Dam

- **About:** The Pong Dam, also referred to as the Beas Dam, is situated on the Beas River in Himachal Pradesh, serving as an earth-fill embankment dam.
- **Purpose**: The primary objectives of the dam include water storage for irrigation and the generation of hydroelectric power.
- **Formation of Maharana Pratap Sagar:** As a result of elevated water levels, an artificial lake named Maharana Pratap Sagar was formed, paying homage to the notable ruler of Mewar.
- **Features**
  - **Height and Length**: The Pong Dam stands at a height of 133 meters and stretches 1,951 meters in length, showcasing its earth-fill embankment design.
  - **Crest Width**: At its crest, the dam measures 13.72 meters in width, positioned at an elevation of approximately 435.86 meters above sea level.
  - **Base Dimensions**: The dam's base spans a width of about 610 meters, encapsulating a total volume of 35,500,000 cubic meters.

Beas River

- **About**: The Beas River, located in north India, originates at an elevation of 4,361 meters on the southern slope of Rohtang Pass in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.
- **Course of the River**: Extending over a distance of approximately 470 kilometers, the Beas River flows southward until it meets the Sutlej River in the Indian state of Punjab.
- **Historical Names**: Arjikuja in the Vedas, Vipasa in ancient Indian texts, and Hyphasis in Ancient Greek records.
- **Tributaries:** Bain, Banganga, Luni, Uhlal, Awa, Banner, Chakki, Gaj, Harla, Mamuni, Parvati, Patlikuhlal, Sainj, Suketi, and Tirthan.

THE HINDU

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ILO REPORT ON UNEMPLOYMENT

)Syllabus GS Paper 3 – Economy)

ILO warns of rise in unemployment, decline in real wages

Real wages declined in most G20 countries in 2023 as wage rates fail to keep pace with inflation, pushing 1 million workers into extreme poverty

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Global unemployment rate is set to increase in 2024 while growing social inequalities remain a concern, said the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in its 'World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2024' report released in Vienna on Wednesday.

Joblessness and the jobs gap have both fallen below pre-pandemic levels but global unemployment will rise in 2024, the ILO noted adding that growing inequalities and stagnant productivity are causes for concern. In India, real wages are "positive" compared with other G20 countries, according to the UN body.

The ILO said the macroeconomic environment deteriorated significantly over 2023. "Ongoing geopolitical tensions as well as persistent and broadening inflation triggered frequent and aggressive moves by central banks," it said. Monetary authorities in advanced and emerging economies implemented the fastest increase in interest rates since the 1980s, with significant global repercussions, it said. China, Türkiye and Brazil slowed down considerably, causing adverse impact on global industrial activity, investment and trade. On a positive note, the ILO said, despite the economic slowdown, global growth in 2023 was modestly higher than anticipated and labour markets showed surprising resilience.

Modest recovery

"On the back of strong jobs growth, both the unemployment rate and the jobs gap have declined below pre-pandemic values. The global unemployment rate in 2023 was 5.1%, a modest improvement on 2022. The global jobs gap also saw improvements in 2023, but, at close to 435 million, remained elevated," the ILO said in its report.

The labour market participation rates had largely also recovered from their pandemic lows. "Although the imbalances eased somewhat in 2023, concerns are rising that these labour market imbalances are structural, rather than cyclical, in nature," it warned.

Real wages declined in the majority of G20 countries as wage increases failed to keep pace with inflation, the ILO noted. "Moreover, in 2023, the numbers of workers living in extreme poverty – earning less than $2.15 per day per person in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms – grew by about one million globally," it said.

"Only China, the Russian Federation and Mexico enjoyed positive real wage growth in 2023. The strongest wage gains were in China and the Russian Federation, where labour productivity growth was among the highest in G20 countries in 2023. Real wage growth in India and Türkiye was also positive, but the available data refer to 2022, relative to 2021," the ILO said.

Warning signs

ILO warns that while joblessness has fallen below pre-pandemic levels, global unemployment will rise in 2024



- The global unemployment rate at 5.1% shows a modest improvement on 2022, but the jobs gap remains elevated
- Monetary tightening in advanced and emerging economies was the fastest since the 1980s, ILO says
- Only China, the Russian Federation and Mexico enjoyed positive real wage growth in 2023

Context: Global unemployment rate is set to increase in 2024 while growing social inequalities remain a concern, said the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2024 report released in Vienna.

Key Findings of Report

- In 2023, there was a **notable decline in the overall macroeconomic conditions**.
- The report highlighted that continuous geopolitical tensions and widespread inflation led central banks to make frequent and assertive interventions.
- **Despite the economic slowdown, the global growth in 2023** surpassed expectations slightly, and labor markets exhibited unexpected resilience.
- The **report acknowledged improvements in the global jobs gap** during 2023. However, it noted that the gap, standing at nearly 435 million, remained high.
- **The report also said,** the situation is particularly concerning in high-income countries, where employment growth is expected to turn negative in 2024 and only modest improvements are anticipated in 2025.

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

- **About**: The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the United Nations agency for the world of work.
- **Mandate**: Its mandate is to advance social and economic justice through setting international labour standards.
- **Motto**: ILO's mandate as the basis for peace is expressed today as Decent Work for all.
- **Headquarters**: Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Parent organization**: Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.
- Members: The ILO has 187 member states: 186 out of 193 UN member states plus the Cook Islands.

HINDUSTAN TIMES Jan 10

DRISHTI 10 STARLINER

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Sci and Tech)

Navy gets its first India-made medium-altitude, long-endurance drone

Context: Chief of Naval Staff recently flagged off the first indigenously manufactured Drishti 10 'Starliner' Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) for the Navy.

Drishti 10 'Starliner

- **About**: The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) is proudly produced within the country.
- **Developer:** Adani Defence and Aerospace spearheaded the development of this UAV.
- **Advanced ISR Platform**: Boasting a 36-hour endurance and a 450 kg payload capacity, it serves as a cutting-edge intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) platform.
- **All-Weather Military Capability:** This UAV holds clearance for flights in both segregated and unsegregated airspace, functioning seamlessly in all weather conditions.
- **Enhanced Naval Capabilities**: Designed with high endurance, combat-proven capabilities, and advanced features, it significantly enhances India's naval prowess.
- **Autonomous Operation**: The UAV's autonomous nature, combined with mission effectiveness and adaptable payload configurations, renders it invaluable for strategic operations.
- **Minimal Maintenance Requirements**: A standout feature of the Drishti 10 'Starliner' is its minimal maintenance needs, ensuring cost-effectiveness and operational efficiency.
- **Operational Readiness**: The low maintenance requirements contribute to increased operational readiness, minimizing downtime, and maximizing deployment opportunities.
- **Advanced Communication Systems**: Equipped with state-of-the-art communication systems, including satellite communication and Line-of-Sight (LOS) data links, it ensures reliable and secure data transmission.

WHO Launches ICD-11 Traditional Medicine Module 2, Integrates Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani

Context: Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) launched the **International Classification of Diseases (ICD) 11**, Traditional Medicine Module 2, marking the beginning of preparations for its implementation.

International Classification of Diseases

- **Developed by**: World Health Organization (WHO), the ICD serves as the global standard for classifying diseases internationally.
- **Basis of Global Disease Data**: The existing global data on diseases relies predominantly on healthcare practices associated with modern biomedicine for diagnosis.
- **Utility of ICD**: The ICD has widespread global applications, offering crucial insights into the prevalence, causes, and consequences of human diseases and mortality. The data reported and coded with the ICD form the foundation for this knowledge.
- **Exclusion of Ayush Systems**: As of now, the WHO ICD series does not include the classification of data and terminology related to diseases based on Ayush systems like Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani.
- **Central Bureau of Health Intelligence**: The CBHI, under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, serves as the WHO Collaboration Centre for ICD-related activities, facilitating the collection and dissemination of data on various diseases and mortality.

TM2 Module of ICD11

- **About**: The Ministry of Ayush has formulated the Code for Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani Medicine using the National Ayush Morbidity and Standardised Electronic Portal (NAMASTE).
- **Categorization**: In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Ministry of Ayush has collaborated on categorizing data and terminology related to diseases based on Ayush - Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani systems. This falls under the TM2 module of the ICD11 series.
- **Agreement**: The Ministry of Ayush has entered into a Donor Agreement with the World Health Organization to support and advance initiatives related to Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani Medicine.

ACT 1994 OF ORGAN TRANSPLANT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Health)

EXPLAINED LAW

ORGAN TRANSPLANTS: WHY DELHI HC HAS PRESCRIBED 6-8-WEEK TIMELINE

KHADIJA KHAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 10

DELHI HIGH Court has prescribed an ideal timeline of 6-8 weeks to complete the process of transplanting organs from living donors. In a judgment passed on January 4, Justice Prathiba M Singh said prolonged delays can cause mental and physical anguish for donors, recipients, and their families, and directed the government to ensure that timelines under The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994, and Rules, 2014 are prescribed for all steps in the process of considering organ-donation applications.

The Act of 1994

The law governs the transplantation of human organs and tissues, including donation after death. It lays down regulations for healthcare providers and hospitals, and penalties for violations.

In most cases, the Act allows living donations from close relatives – parents, siblings, children, spouses, grandparents, and grandchildren. Altruistic donations from distant relatives, in-laws, long-time friends are allowed after additional scrutiny.

Authorisation Committee

Stringent checks are in place to ensure there is no financial exchange in transplants. The Authorisation Committee, which oversees and approves procedures involving donors and recipients who are not near relatives, has a key role in the process. The approval is crucial especially in cases where donations are made for reasons of affection, attachment, or other special circumstances, to ensure ethical compliance and prevent illegal practices.

Case before Delhi HC

The court ruled on a plea filed by a retired IAF officer diagnosed with kidney failure in 2017. By 2019, two hospitals had advised him to get a renal transplant. However, his application seeking approval for transplantation was rejected by the Army Hospital in Delhi due to the non-availability of a "near relative" donor in terms of Sections 2(i) and 9(1) of the 1994 Act.

Section 2(i) defines a "near relative" as a "spouse, son, daughter, father, mother, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother, grandson or granddaughter". Section 9(1) says that without the Committee's prior approval, no organ or tissue can be removed from a donor's body before death and transplanted into a recipient unless the donor is a "near relative".

In 2020, the petitioner approached the HC seeking the transplant and/or a direction to the panel to grant approval.

In February 2021, the HC directed the Authorisation Committee to decide the petitioner's application within two weeks. In October 2021, the court was informed that the petitioner had passed away.

What the court said

The court ruled that everything from conducting interviews to processing forms and decision-making is to be done within fixed timelines, and not in an "expanded or elastic" manner. Such urgency is in fact, reflected in provisions like Rule 23(3), which requires a final decision to be taken within 24 hours of the meeting, the court said.

It suggested that after 4-6 weeks of receiving the application, the Committee can schedule interviews within 2 weeks, during which it will facilitate meetings of family members of the donors and recipients and conduct more than one interview.

The "entire process, from submission to decision, ought not to ideally exceed 6 to 8 weeks," the court said.

LONGER VERSION
indianexpress.com/explained

Context: Delhi High Court has prescribed an ideal timeline of 6-8 weeks to complete the process of transplanting organs from living donors.

What does the 1994 Act say?

- **Source of Transplants**: A transplant **can originate from a pool of organs** donated by deceased persons' relatives or from a living person known to the recipient.
- **Living Donations Under the Act**: The Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 permits living donations, primarily from close relatives like parents, siblings, children, spouse, grandparents, and grandchildren.
- **Documentation for Living Donations**: In cases of living donations from close relatives, whether Indian or foreign, various documents including identity proofs, family tree, pictures, and documents proving the donor-recipient relationship must be submitted.
    - An external committee thoroughly examines such cases to prevent illegal dealings.
- **Penalties**: Imprisonment for up to 10 years and fines up to Rs 1 crore.

Authorisation Committee

- **About**: The Committee plays a crucial role in overseeing and approving organ transplant procedures involving non-relatives.
    - This is **particularly vital when organs are donated for reasons** of affection, attachment, or special circumstances, ensuring ethical compliance and preventing illegal practices.
- **Composition**: As per Section 9(4), the Authorisation Committee's composition is subject to Central Government prescription.
- **Nomination**: States and Union Territories are mandated to constitute one or more Authorisation Committees, with members nominated by the respective governments, as outlined in the same section.
- **Inquiry**: Section 9(5) mandates the Committee to conduct a comprehensive inquiry when reviewing transplant applications.
- **Verification**: Verification of the authenticity of the donor and recipient is a critical aspect, aiming to ensure that the donation is free from commercial motives.
- **Rule-Making Authority**: Section 24 empowers the Central Government to formulate rules, pending parliamentary approval, to fulfill the Act's various purposes.

BUSINESS SRANDARD

Jan 10

INS KABRA
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Sci and Tech)

INS Kabra docks in Colombo, move aimed at boosting maritime cooperation

Context: Indian warship, INS Kabra, an indigenous fast attack craft, docked at the Colombo port in a move aimed at fostering bilateral ties between India and Sri Lanka.

INS Kabra

- **Origin**: The vessel is named after an island in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago.
- **Car Nicobar Class Affiliation**: It belongs to the Car Nicobar class of high-speed offshore patrol vessels, constructed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) for the Indian Navy.
- **Series Placement**: It is the eighth vessel in a series of 10 Fast Attack Crafts.
- **Cost-Effective Design:** These vessels are specifically designed as a cost-effective platform for various operations, including patrol, anti-piracy, and rescue missions within India's Exclusive Economic Zone.
- **Island-Inspired Names**: Both the class and its vessels are named after Indian islands, contributing to a distinct nautical identity.
- **Water Jet Propulsion Pioneers**: The class marks a significant milestone as the first water jet propelled vessels in the Indian Navy.
- **Impressive Speed and Manoeuvrability**: Boasting a top speed exceeding 35 knots, the vessel, offers excellent manoeuvrability, making it an ideal choice for high-speed interdiction of fast-moving targets.
- maneuverability

PIB Jan 10

BHARAT TEX 2024
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Economy)

Ministry of Textiles organizing hackathon on "Fostering Innovations in Technical Textiles –Hackathon for unleashing creativity in technical textiles" under "BHARAT TEX 2024"

Context: The Ministry of Textiles under **National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)** is organizing a hackathon titled "Fostering Innovations in Technical Textiles –Hackathon for unleashing creativity in technical textiles" under **"BHARAT TEX 2024"** scheduled to be held on 26-29 Feb, 2024.

Bharat Tex 2024

- **Dedication to Global Leadership**: Bharat Tex 2024 goes beyond a trade show, symbolizing India's commitment to becoming a global textile leader through the display of innovation, collaboration, and the "Make in India" spirit.
- **5F Vision**: The event is in harmony with India's 5F vision, encapsulating the entire textile production journey from Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, exemplifying a comprehensive approach.
- **Curtain Raiser Highlights**: At the curtain raiser event, the Textile Minister unveiled the official event logo, launched the dedicated website, and presented a promotional video, marking the official commencement of the event's promotional activities.

National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)

- **Initiated by**: Ministry of Textiles
- **Four-Year Duration**: The mission spans four years, from 2020-21 to 2023-24.
- **Objective** - Global Leadership in Technical Textiles: Aims to establish India as a global frontrunner in the field of Technical Textiles.
- **Market Size Target**: The mission aspires to elevate the domestic market size of the technical textile sector to $40-50 billion by 2024, maintaining an annual growth rate of 15-20%.
- **Support for 'Make in India'**: Aligns with the 'Make in India' initiative by advocating the domestic production of associated machinery and equipment.
- **Aim**: To reduce import dependence and boost domestic manufacturing of capital goods in the sector.
- **Components**:
  - Research, Innovation, and Development
  - Promotion and Market Development
  - Export Promotion
  - Education, Training, Skill Development
- **Strategic Focus**: Concentrates on expanding the application of technical textiles in flagship missions and programs across various sectors.

ALL INDIA RADIO

Jan 10

KISAN CREDIT CARD

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Economy)

Fishermen to Get Kisan Credit Card-like Benefits: Parshottam Rupala

Context: Recently, the Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying minister announced that fishermen will be provided cards similar to the Kisan Credit Card.

Kisan Credit Card (KCC)

- **Nodal Ministry**: Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
- **Origin**: It was introduced in 1998 based on a model scheme prepared by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- **Implementing Agencies:** Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Small Finance Banks & Cooperatives
- **Objectives**: To meet the short-term credit requirement for cultivation.
  - To manage post-harvest expenses.
  - To meet the consumption requirement of the farmer's household.
- **Key Features**
  - KCC offers several benefits, including an ATM-enabled RuPay Card, simplified documentation, automatic limit escalation, and unrestricted withdrawals within the set limit.
  - **Expansion of Eligibility**: In 2004, the eligibility criteria for the program were broadened to encompass farmers' requirements for investment credit, covering both agricultural and non-farm activities.
  - **Diverse Financial Support:** KCC caters to various financial needs of farmers, such as post-harvest expenses, loans for selling produce, and meeting household consumption requirements.
  - **Flexible Repayment Schedule**: The repayment period under KCC is determined based on the crop's harvesting and marketing duration, offering flexibility to farmers.
  - **Loan Duration**: KCC provides short-term agriculture loans with a maximum tenure of 1 year and long-term loans with a duration of up to 5 years.

KUKI AND ZOMI TRIBES
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Polity)

Conflict may escalate: Kukis as Biren hints at ST tag rethink

Meitei-majority Manipur govt overtly, covertly supports Meiteis: Kuki group

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, JANUARY 10

THE SUGGESTION that the government could review the Scheduled Tribes status of Kukis in Manipur has drawn strong reactions from the Kuki-Zomi organisations in the state, including a threat that attempts to "use the State machinery to target" the community will further escalate the conflict.

On Tuesday, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had said the government may consider setting up a committee to discuss the ST status of Kukis in the state.

This was in response to queries on a representation made to the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs by the Meitei leader of the Republican Party of India (Athawale), Maheshwar Thounaojam, for the exclusion of Kukis from the state's ST list, on the grounds "they are not original inhabitants of Manipur".

The representation had been forwarded by the Ministry to the state government, stating the state government's recommendation was a prerequisite to process any such proposal.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), a Kuki-Zomi organisation based in Churachandpur, lashed out at the CM for "opening a new front" in the ongoing conflict. "It is no secret that the state government in Manipur, controlled by the majority Meitei community, overtly and covertly supports the Meiteis in the current ethnic conflict. The communal Biren Singh administration has now opened a new front by pushing for the removal of the Kuki-Zo community from India's ST list," read a statement issued by the ITLF on Wednesday.

"Any further attempts by Biren Singh to use the State machinery to target the Kuki-Zo community will only escalate the conflict, which will ultimately be detrimental to him and the state," it added.

Kuki Inpi – the apex body of Kuki tribes in Manipur – said attempts to "alter the ST status of the community" should be immediately ceased. "Kuki Inpi Sadar Hills vehemently condemns any attempt to erase the Kuki community from Scheduled Tribe status, as it blatantly violates the principles enshrined in the Constitution...," a statement issued by it said.

The immediate trigger for the current round of the Manipur conflict, which began in early May, was a High Court order submitting that the government could consider ST status for Meiteis. This was opposed by the Kukis, who see a dilution of their privileges if the ST bracket is extended to the Meiteis, who are politically and numerically dominant in the state.

Context: The suggestion that the government could review the Scheduled Tribes status of Kukis in Manipur has drawn strong reactions from the Kuki-Zomi organisations in the state.

Kuki and Zomi Tribes

- **About**: These tribes are prominent ethnic groups originating from the Bangladesh region.
- **Residence in Manipur and Mizoram**: Primarily, the Kuki and Zomi tribes are residents of Manipur and Mizoram in India.
- **Aliases**: The tribes are also recognized as Chin or Mizo people, sharing common ancestry and culture.
- **Language and Cultural Ties**: Members of these tribes speak various dialects within the Chin-Kuki-Mizo language family, falling under the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan languages.
- **Connection to Zo People and Other Tribes**: The Kuki and Zomi tribes are closely related to the broader Zo people, alongside other tribes like Chin and Mizo.

Process of Amendment in the ST List

- **Parliamentary Law**: Any tribe or tribal community's inclusion or exclusion from the list is solely determined by laws enacted by the Parliament of India.
- **Article 342**: Amendments to the list of Scheduled Tribes are made through notifications issued under clause (1) of Article 342.
- **Limitations on Modifications**: According to a Supreme Court verdict, neither State governments, courts, tribunals, nor any other authority has the authority to modify, amend, or alter the Scheduled Tribes list specified in the notification under Article 342(1).
- **Proposal Origin and Parliamentary Action**: The center emphasizes that the initiation of proposals for inclusion or exclusion from the Scheduled Tribes list must come from the respective State government.
- **Lokur Committee**: Established in 1965, decided on the criteria used by the government to declare communities as Scheduled Tribes.

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TEA INDUSTRY IN INDIA

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Economy)

Tea Association of India warns of return to 'dark phase' for industry

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI



India's tea industry is experiencing challenges reminiscent of the "dark phase" of 2002-07, calling for introspection and resilience, an association of tea growers and manufacturers has said.

Stagnant prices, oversupply, widening gap between demand and supply, and a "race to the bottom" for cheaper teas have been identified as major factors.

"The economic strides made by our nation are indeed commendable, yet the tea industry is currently experiencing challenges reminiscent of the dark phase two decades ago," Ajay Jalan, the president of the Tea Association of India (TAI) said at the association's meeting in Kolkata on Wednesday.

The tea industry suffered a drastic market slump during 2002-07 owing to certain regulations, falling demand, entry of cheaper teas from other countries into the Indian market, and dip in exports over quality concerns.

"Tea prices have remained stagnant over the years except in 2020 when buoyancy in prices was noted due to the pandemic. Unable to keep pace with increasing input costs, many estates have shut, changed hands, or are surviving through subsidies from their group companies," Mr. Jalan said.

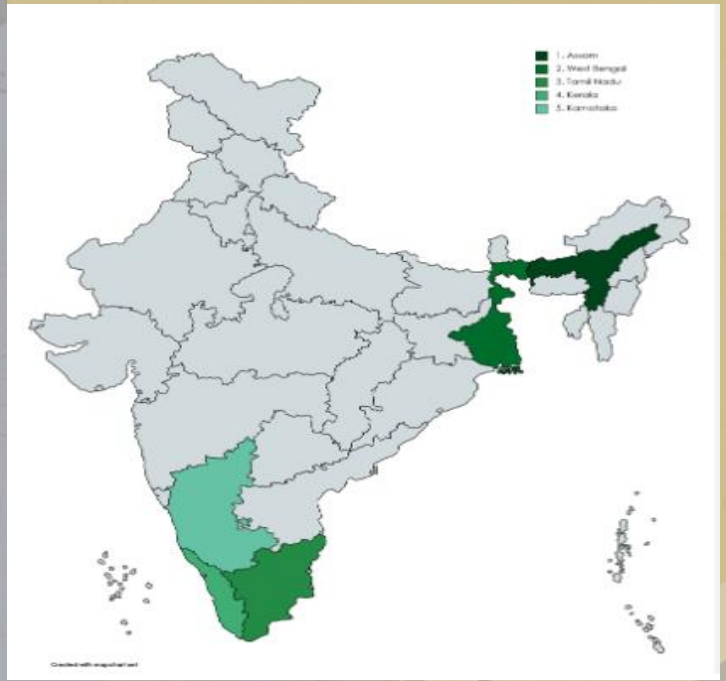
"The situation is so dire that we fear a lack of future interest in the industry," he warned.

Demand-supply gap

A major worry underlined at the meeting was oversupply leading to a significant imbalance between availability and consumption; concentration of market power among a few key players, and a decline in the quality of teas to make the beverage more affordable.

"The race to the bottom is coming at a cost. It is imperative that we reposition tea to enhance its perception and consumption patterns," Mr. Jalan said, suggesting a slew of measures for the Tea Board of India to consider.

Steps include regulatig tea waste sold in the domestic market at lower prices, restricting import of poor-quality teas, and promotion of tea emphasising its health benefits. TAI said regulating waste can lower supply by 15-20 million kg, and restricting import can further remove 30 million kg of low-quality teas.



Context: India's tea industry is experiencing challenges reminiscent of the "dark phase" of 2002-07, calling for introspection and resilience.

Tea Industry in India

- **Global Ranking**: India stands as the second-largest global tea producer.
- **North East States**: The northern part of India dominates production, contributing approximately 83% in the 2021-22 period. Assam leads, followed by West Bengal, with distinct regions like Dooars, Terai, and Darjeeling.
- **Southern States**: The southern region contributes about 17% to the country's total tea production, with key states being Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka.
- **Consumption**: India ranks among the top tea-consuming nations, with 80% of its production consumed domestically.
- **Export**: India is a major player, ranking among the top 5 global tea exporters, accounting for approximately 10% of total exports.
    - **Diverse Markets**: India exports tea to over 25 countries, with major importers including Russia, Iran, UAE, USA, UK, Germany, and China.
    - **Tea Types**: The exported tea varieties include black tea, regular tea, green tea, herbal tea, masala tea, and lemon tea.
- **Global Reputation**: Indian Assam, Darjeeling, and Nilgiri teas are renowned globally for their quality, with strong geographical indications.
- **GI Tag**: Darjeeling Tea, known as the "Champagne of teas," was the first product to receive a GI tag.
- **Governing Body**: The Tea Board of India is responsible for the development and promotion of the tea industry within the country.

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