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MK Yadav Sir

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TIMES OF INDIA

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MSCI INDEX

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

BIOCON LIKELY TO BE EXCLUDED, SAYS NUVAMA

BoB, CG Power may Join MSCI Standard

Our Bureau

Mumbai: Bank of Baroda (BoB) and CG Power are likely to be included into the MSCI Standard index in its February restructuring, said Nuvama Institutional Equities. Biocon is likely to be excluded in the upcoming review, it said.

The inclusions are expected to result in inflows of $298 million while the exclusion could lead to an outflow of $66 million, said the brokerage. The changes could be announced on February 10 and the adjustment day is February 28.

"The stocks largely languish or see lower single digit gains during announcement date and from announcement date to adjustment date stocks languish or can trade with minor losses," said Abhilash Pagaria, head, Nuvama Alternative & Quantitative Research. "On adjustment day, 57% of the time stocks have settled flat."

In the one- and two-month periods after the rebalance, stocks have settled with minor losses 60% of the times, he said.

Inclusions are expected to result in inflows of $298 million, while the exclusion could lead to an outflow of $66 million

"Baring the Adani group stocks, most of the other inclusion names have traded in a narrow range up until six months post-rebalance," said Pagaria. "It is quite evident that most of the gains on long side can only be made through preemptive bets, while post announcement until the next few months, the stocks tend to languish or trade under pressure."

Context: Bank of Baroda (BoB) and CG Power are likely to be included into the MSCI Standard index in its February restructuring.

MSCI Index

- **About:** The MSCI World is **a stock market index** of 1,643 world' stocks.
  - It is **maintained by MSCI Inc., formerly Morgan Stanley Capital International,** and is used as a common benchmark for 'world' or 'global' stock funds.
  - The index includes a collection of stocks of all the developed markets in the world, as defined by MSCI.
  - The index **includes securities from 23 countries** but excludes stocks from emerging and frontier economies making it less worldwide than the name suggests.
  - A related index, the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI), incorporated both developed and emerging countries.
  - MSCI also **produces a Frontier Markets index**, including another 31 markets.
- **MSCI Index India**: As per the official definition, the MSCI Index India is **used to evaluate the performance of large and mid-cap segments** of the Indian market.
  - **MSCI Global Investable Indexes (GIMI) Methodology** is used for MSCI Index India.
  - Around 85 percent of the **Indian equity universe** is covered by the MSCI Index India.
  - There are **four constituents**: Largest, Smallest, Average and Median.
- **MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI)**: Performance of large and mid-cap **segments of 23 developed and 27 emerging markets** is measured using MSCI ACWI. There are around 3000 constituents in the MSCI All Country World Index.
  - **Developed markets**: The developed markets that are covered in this index are:
    - Canada and US in America region.
    - 16 countries in Europe region (including Germany, France, Italy, UK.)
    - 5 countries in pacific region – Australia, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and New Zealand.
  - **Emerging market**: India is an emerging market. The other emerging markets from Asia are listed below:
    - China
    - Indonesia
    - Korea
    - Malaysia
    - Pakistan
    - Philippines
    - Taiwan
    - Thailand
- **Significance**: It is considered to be one of the important indices that **focus on different geographic areas and stock types** such as small-caps, mid-caps, and large-caps.

BUSINESS STANDARD

Page 1

SECURITIES APPELLATE TRIBUNAL

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

NSE, ex-chiefs get SAT relief in colocation case

Tribunal sets aside ₹625-cr disgorgement order against the bourse, finds no 'unethical act'

KHUSHBOO TIWARI
Mumbai, 23 January

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) on Monday set aside the market regulator's disgorgement orders against the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and its former top executives Chitra Ramkrishna and Ravi Narain in the colocation case. The tribunal noted that the NSE had not indulged in any unethical act or unjustly enriched itself.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), in an order issued in April 2019, had directed the NSE to disgorge ₹625 crore along with an annual interest of 12 per cent, to be calculated from April 2014, for alleged violations of the Stock Exchanges and Clearing Corporation (SECC) Regulations due to lapses at its colocation facility.

The SAT set aside this penalty and, instead, directed the NSE to deposit ₹100 crore for lack of due diligence in following its own norms and circulars. This will be adjusted against the amount already paid by the NSE, and Sebi will have to refund the excess amount to the exchange within six weeks. The tribunal also observed that there had been no finding that Ramkrishna or Narain, former MD & CEOs of the NSE, had made profits or wrongful gains.

The SAT Bench presided over by Justice Tarun Agarwala also substituted the debarment of Ramkrishna and Narain from associating with any listed company or market infrastructure institution from five years for the period undergone by them.

Turn to Page 6

CASE FILE

2009: NSE launches colocation facility

2015: Sebi receives whistleblower complaints alleging irregularities at NSE

2017: EY, ISB submit their findings to Sebi

Apr 2019: Sebi issues disgorgement orders against NSE, former CEOs Chitra Ramkrishna, Ravi Narain

May 2019: NSE, others appeal in SAT

Mar 2022: CBI arrests Ramkrishna in the colo case

Jan 2023: SAT sets aside disgorgement order



Context: The **Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)** set aside the market regulator's disgorgement orders against the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and its former top executives in the colocation case.

- The tribunal noted that the NSE had not indulged in any unethical act or unjustly enriched itself.

Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)

- **About:** SAT is a statutory body established under the provisions of Section 15K of the **SEBI Act, 1992.**
  - The Securities Appellate Tribunal has **only one bench** which sits at Mumbai.
- **Nodal Ministry:** It is under the jurisdiction of **Ministry of Finance.**
- **Composition**: SAT consists of a **Presiding Officer and Two other members.**
  - The Presiding officer of SAT shall be **appointed by the Central Government** in consultation with the Chief Justice of India or his nominee.
- **Powers and Functions:**
  - It has the same powers as vested in a **civil court.** Further, if any person feels aggrieved by SAT's decision or order can **appeal to the Supreme Court.**
  - To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the SEBI or by an adjudicating officer under the **SEBI Act,1992.**
  - To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).**
  - To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the **Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI).**

TIMES OF INDIA

Page 19

BANK LOCKER AGREEMENT

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

RBI extends deadline for bank locker contracts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: In a relief to bank customers, the RBI has extended the January 1 deadline for renewing bank locker agreements with new terms to December 31, 2023.

The move comes on the back of banks failing to get all customers to sign a fresh agreement before the January 1, 2023 deadline. "It has come to the notice of the RBI that a large number of customers are yet to sign the revised agreement. In many cases, the banks are yet to inform the customers about the need to do so before the stipulated date (January 1, 2023)," the central bank said.

TILL DEC 31

In August 2021, the RBI had asked banks to recast their locker agreement with customers considering grievances received and a Supreme Court order in February 2021. In its order, the SC had asked the RBI to lay down comprehensive directions mandating the steps to be taken by banks with respect to locker/safe deposit facility.

"The banks should not have the liberty to impose unilateral and unfair terms on the consumers," the order said. The new agreement was aimed at bringing in more transparency and providing on record the compensation that the customer would be entitled to should there be any shortcoming in services.

Earlier, the RBI had pulled up banks for not taking any action on their August 2021 circular until December 2022. Given the large number of lockers, bank customers were facing problems at multiple levels.

Context: In a relief to bank customers, the RBI has extended the January 1 deadline for renewing **bank locker agreements** with new terms to December 31, 2023.

- Earlier, the RBI had pulled up banks for not taking any action on their August 2021 circular until December 2022. Given the large number of lockers, bank customers were facing problems at multiple levels.

Bank Locker Agreement

- **About**: Lenders are directed to use the **Indian Banks' Association (IBA)-drafted model locker agreement,** which was created as per the Supreme Court orders and guidelines.
  - The banks are required to ensure that there is **no "unfair terms and conditions"** in their locker agreements.
  - The terms of the agreement must **not be more "onerous than required in ordinary course** of business" to safeguard the bank's interests.
- **CCTV Cameras in Safe Deposit Areas**: The banks are required to **install CCTV camera at entry and exit** points of the strong room and the common areas of operation.
  - The guidelines mandates preserving CCTV camera recording for a **minimum of 180 days.**
  - If any customer has complained to the bank about theft or security breach of his or her locker, the bank must **preserve the CCTV recordings** until the police investigation is completed and the dispute is settled.
  - Depositors **can get up to 100 times the bank charges** if the valuables stored in the vaults are ransacked or lost due to fire or building collapse. However, banks are not liable for damages or loss caused by natural calamities or "Acts of Gods".
- **Government Raids**: The banks are required to **give prior information to the customer** via letter and email/SMS about the government raids of the locker or articles deposited for safe custody.
- **Term Deposits as Rent:** The new guidelines allow banks to demand term deposits during the allocation of a locker that can be collected as a **rent for 3 years.**
  - This rule is **not applicable for existing locker holders** and those with satisfactory operative accounts.

LIVE MINT

Page 1

ELECTRONIC WAY (e-WAY) BILL

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

Record e-way bills point to robust GST receipts in Jan

Gireesh Chandra Prasad
gireesh.p@livemint.com
NEW DELHI

Monthly generation of e-way bills or electronic permits required for shipment of goods within and across states surged to a record in December, suggesting that goods and services tax (GST) collection is likely to be robust in January.

Data available from GSTN, the company that processes GST returns, showed that monthly e-way bills generated shot up to 84.1 million in December, crossing the 84 million permits raised in September.

October GST revenue collection, which reflects transactions in September, was the second highest at ₹1.52 trillion. Analysts consider e-way bills as a high-frequency indicator of economic activity.

High goods shipment activities in December point to revenue collections remaining strong in January, a development that is likely to please policymakers preparing to end the current financial year with the fiscal deficit not exceeding the projected 6.4% level.

Context: Monthly generation of e-way bills or electronic permits required for shipment of goods within and across states has shot up to an all time high in December, suggesting that Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in January is likely to be robust.

e-Way Bill

- **Electronic Way (e-Way) Bill**: usually a unique bill number generated for the specific consignment involving the movement of goods.
- **Mandatory**: Under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime.
  - EWBs are mandatory for inter-state transportation of **goods valued over Rs. 50,000 for sales beyond 10 km** from April 2018, with the exemption to precious items such as gold.
- **Validity**: The permits for conventional cargo (other than over-dimensional carve) are **valid for one day for the movement of goods for 100 km**, and in the same proportion for the following days.
  - **Validity of the e-way bill cannot be extended but a commissioner may extend** the validity period only through issuing notification for certain categories of goods.
- **Penalty without a valid e-way bill** : A **fine of Rs 10,000 or amount of tax sought to be evaded**, whichever is higher, may be imposed by tax authorities.
  - Goods, and the vehicle transporting them, **can be detained or seized**.
- **No re-generation:** An e-way bill can be regenerated by the transporter before expiry, but, **if the e-way bill has expired, the system won't allow regeneration linked to the same invoice.**
- **E-Way Bill Rules:** every supplier **requires prior online registration on the e-way bill portal** for the movement of goods.
  - Tax officials have the power to **scrutinise the e-way bill at any point during transit to check tax evasion**.
- **E-Way Bill Integration with FASTag, RFID**: In 2021, the Union Government has **integrated the E-Way Bill (EWB) system with FasTag and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology.**

PIB JAN 24

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Polity & Governance)

Twenty-three tableaux – 17 from States/UTs & six from various Ministries/Departments - to be on display during Republic Day Parade 2023

Context: With renewed vigour, **National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG),** an apex-level autonomous institution of Government of India, is expanding and scaling up its activities to in accordance to the Prime Minister's vision of **Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayaas** to improve the quality of life people of the country as well as of neighbourhood.

- A two-week capacity-building programmes for the civil servants of **Bangladesh, Maldives and state of Arunachal Pradesh** was held from the 9th January to 20th January, 2023.
- The programme was attended by 87 officers comprising 39 civil servants from Bangladesh (56th batch), 26 civil servants from Maldives (20th batch) and 22 civil servants from Arunachal Pradesh (1st batch).

National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)

- **About**: It was set up in **2014** by the Government of India as an apex-level institution in the country with a mandate to work on **good governance, policy reforms, training, and capacity building of civil servants** of India as well as other developing countries.
- **Nodal Authority**: It is an **autonomous institute under the aegis of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances,** Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
    - It is governed by a Governing Body, under the **Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary.**
- **Functions**: In partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, NCGG has imparted training to civil servants of 15 countries, so far, viz. **Bangladesh, Kenya, Tanzania, Tunisia, Seychelles, Gambia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Laos, Vietnam, Bhutan, Myanmar, and Cambodia.**
    - Known for content and delivery, the **capacity building programme** is highly sought after and NCGG is expanding its capacity to accommodate a higher number of civil servants from various countries as well as various states/ UTs of India as per their requirement.

INDIAN EXPRESS

Page 16

IMMUNE IMPRINTING

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

Context: A slew of recent studies has shown that a phenomenon in our bodies, called **immune imprinting**, might be making variant-specific or bivalent boosters far less effective than expected.

Immune Imprinting

- **About**: Immune imprinting is a **tendency of the body to repeat its immune response** based on the first variant it encountered- through infection or vaccination - when it comes across a newer or slightly different variant of the same pathogen.
- **Origin**: The phenomenon was first **observed in 1947**, when scientists noted that people who had previously had flu, and were then vaccinated against the current circulating strain, produced antibodies against the first strain they had encountered.
    - At the time, it was termed the **'original antigenic sin'** but today, it's commonly known as imprinting.
- **Functions**: Over the years, scientists have realised that **imprinting acts as a database for the immune system**, helping it put up a better response to repeat infections.
    - After body is exposed to a virus for the first time, it **produces memory B cells** that circulate in the bloodstream and quickly produce antibodies whenever the same strain of the virus infects again.
- **Solutions**: Currently, several ongoing studies are **trying to find a way to deal with imprinting.**
    - Some scientists have said nasal vaccines might be better at **preventing infections than injected ones.**
    - They believe the **mucous membranes** would create stronger protection, despite carrying some imprint of past exposure.
    - Researchers are also trying to find if **spacing out coronavirus vaccine shots** on an annual basis, could help with the problem of imprinting.

IMMUNE IMPRINTING

Immune imprinting makes boosters meant to counter multiple coronavirus strains less effective than expected

ALIND CHAUHAN
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 23

SINCE LAST September, countries like the UK and the US have rolled out variant-specific or bivalent boosters against the coronavirus. However, recent studies have shown that a phenomenon in our body, called immune imprinting, might be making these new boosters less effective than expected.

Two papers, published earlier in January in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM), pointed out that bivalent boosters — made to counter both the Omicron strains and the original coronavirus strain — don't generate significantly greater antibody responses than an additional dose of the original mRNA vaccines.

What is immune imprinting?

Immune imprinting is a tendency of the body to repeat its immune response based on the first variant it encountered, through infection or vaccination, when it comes across a newer or slightly different variant of the same pathogen.

The phenomenon was first observed in 1947, as per the journal *Nature*, when scientists noted that those who had previously been infected by flu, and were then vaccinated against the current circulating variant, produced antibodies against the first strain they had encountered.

After our body is exposed to a virus for the first time, it produces memory B cells that circulate in the bloodstream and quickly produce antibodies whenever the same strain of the virus infects again. The problem occurs when a similar, not identical, variant of the virus is encountered. In such cases, the immune system, rather than generating new B cells, activates memory B cells, which produce cross-reactive antibodes that aren't as effective.

What did the studies find?

In the first study, done by the researchers of the Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, 40 individuals who had received three shots of the original or monovalent vaccine participated. To carry out the experiment, 19 of them were given a booster (fourth shot) of the original vaccine while 21 received a booster of the new bivalent vaccine.



The US and the UK rolled out bivalent boosters last year. *NYT*

It was observed that the bivalent boosters "did not elicit a discernibly superior virus-neutralising peak antibody response as compared with boosting with the original monovalent vaccines" across all coronavirus strains tested.

In the second study, researchers of the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston evaluated immune responses in 15 participants who had received the monovalent boosters and in 18 participants who received the bivalent boosters.

It was found that "median BA.5 (Omicron) neutralising antibody titer was similar after monovalent and bivalent mRNA boosting, with a modest trend favouring the bivalent booster by a factor of 1.3."

How to circumvent it?

Some scientists have said nasal vaccines might be better at preventing infections than injected ones. They believe the mucous membranes would create stronger protection, despite carrying some imprint of past exposure.

Researchers are also trying to find if spacing out coronavirus vaccine shots on an annual basis could help with the problem of imprinting.

DTE JAN 24

TRANS FATS
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

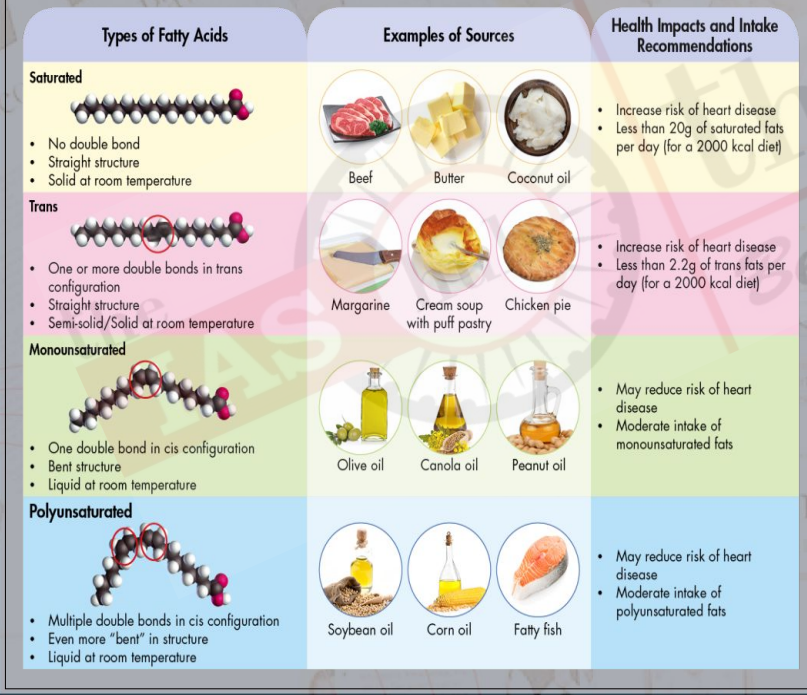
5 billion people globally exposed to toxic trans fat linked to heart disease: WHO

Trans fat has no known benefit but is associated with huge health risks that can burden health systems, says WHO director-general

NEXT NEWS >

By Arya Rohini
Published: Monday 23 January 2023





Context: Five billion people globally are exposed to harmful trans fat, increasing their heart disease and death risk, according to a new report by the **World Health Organization (WHO).**

- The following are the two best-practice policy options:
  - **Mandatory national limit** of two grams of industrially produced trans fat per 100 grams of total fat in all foods.
  - **Mandatory national ban** on the production or use of partially hydrogenated oils (a major source of trans fat) as an ingredient in all foods.

Trans fats (TFs)

- **Trans fatty acids (TFAs)**: One up on **saturated fat for increasing heart and liver risks** are trans fatty acids, which are abundant in vegetable ghee - vanaspati and similar oils.
  - These fats are largely **produced artificially** but a small amount also occurs naturally.
- **Major sources of artificial TFs**: Vanaspati ghee - partially **hydrogenated vegetable oil** made from vegetable sources; it is different from dairy ghee.
  - High amounts of trans fatty acids (which make up 30%-40% of some oils) are **highly injurious to the heart, liver, pancreas, and blood arteries.**
- **Most damaging component of oil:** Study shows that if we **reheat** foods at high temperatures in any oil, the levels of trans fatty acids **increase by 100%-200%.**
  - As per the World Health Organisation (WHO), approximately 5.4 lakh deaths take place each year globally because of intake of industrially produced trans fatty acids.

Initiative for TFA-free products

- **'Eat Right India' movement by FSSAI:** The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** has capped the amount of trans fatty acids (TFA) in oils and fats to 3% for 2021 and 2% by 2022 from the current permissible limit of 5%. (Amendment to the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations)
  - It was in 2011 that India first passed a regulation that set a TFA limit of 10% in oils and fats, which was further reduced to 5% in 2015.
  - It applies to **edible refined oils, vanaspati (partially hydrogenated oils), margarine, bakery shortenings**, and other mediums of cooking such as vegetable fat spreads and mixed fat spreads.
- **'Trans Fat Free' logo launched by FSSAI:** Food establishments that use trans-fat free fats/oil and do not have industrial trans-fat more than 0.2g/100g of food, in compliance with the **Food Safety and Standards (Advertising and Claims) Regulations, 2018** are eligible to display the logo.
  - The use of the logo by restaurants and food manufacturers is voluntary.
- **Heart Attack Rewind campaign:** The FSSAI launched a mass media campaign "Heart Attack Rewind" for the **elimination of industrially produced trans-fat in the food supply.**
- **REPLACE campaign:** launched by **WHO** for global elimination of trans fats by 2023.

DTE JAN 24

FROST
(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Geography)



Frost causes heavy damage to potato, vegetable crops in north India

Frost-like conditions occur every year, but an episode like this happens once in three or four years

NEXT NEWS >

By Shagun
Published: Friday 20 January 2023

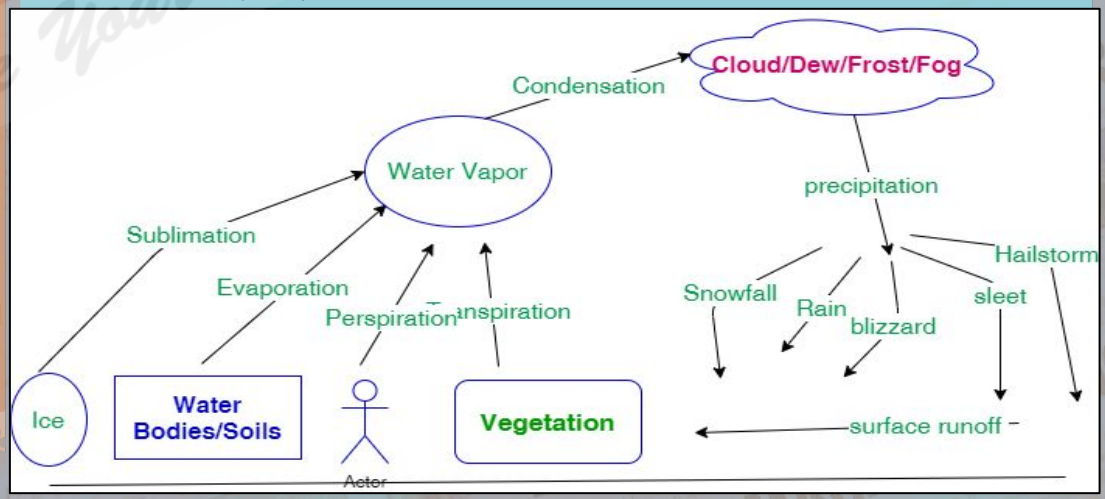
Context: Potato farmers in the northern parts of the country have suffered heavy crop losses due to ground frost owing to the fall in temperatures in the last week.

Frost

- **About**: Frost is **water vapour, or water in gas form,** that becomes solid. Frost usually forms on objects like cars, windows, and plants that are outside in air that is saturated, or filled, with moisture. Areas that have a lot of fog often have heavy frosts.
  - Frost is most **common in low-lying areas**, where warm air rises, and cool air sinks—cool air is denser than warm air.
  - That means there are usually more water molecules in cool air than in warm air. As cool air collects in valleys, frost forms.
- **Formation**: Frost is **normally formed on still, clear and cold nights.**
  - The cool air causes water vapour in the air to condense and form droplets on the ground.
  - When the temperature of the ground or surface is below 0 °C the moisture freezes into ice crystals - known as the **frost point.**
  - Frost usually **forms at night, when the air temperature is cooler.** Once the sun rises and warms the air around the frosted object, frost melts quickly.

Types of Frost:

- **Ground frost**: A ground frost refers to the **formation of ice on the ground, objects or trees,** whose surface have a temperature below the freezing point of water. During situations when the ground cools quicker than the air, a ground frost can occur without an air frost.
- **Air frost**: It occurs **when the air temperature falls to or below the freezing point of water.** An air frost is usually defined as the air temperature being below freezing point of water at a height of at least one metre above the ground.
- **Hoar frost:** It is composed of **tiny ice crystals** and is formed by the same process as dew, but when the temperature of the surface is below freezing point. The **'feathery'** variety of hoar frost forms when the surface temperature reaches freezing point before dew begins to form on it
- **Rime**: It is a rough white ice deposit which **forms on vertical surfaces** exposed to the wind. It is formed by supercooled water droplets of fog freezing on contact with a surface it drifts past.
- **Glaze**: It forms **when supercooled rain or drizzle comes into contact with the ground**, or non-supercooled liquid may produce glaze if the ground is well below 0 °C. Glaze is a clear ice deposit that can be mistaken for a wet surface and can be highly dangerous.



THE HINDU Page 1

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Geography)

21 Andaman islands named after Param Vir Chakra awardees



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the naming ceremony of 21 islands of Andaman and Nicobar, via videoconferencing, on Monday. PIB

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday named the 21 largest unnamed islands in the Andaman & Nicobar archipelago after 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees.

Mr. Modi participated in the ceremony through videoconferencing and unveiled a model of the national memorial dedicated to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that is to be built on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep.

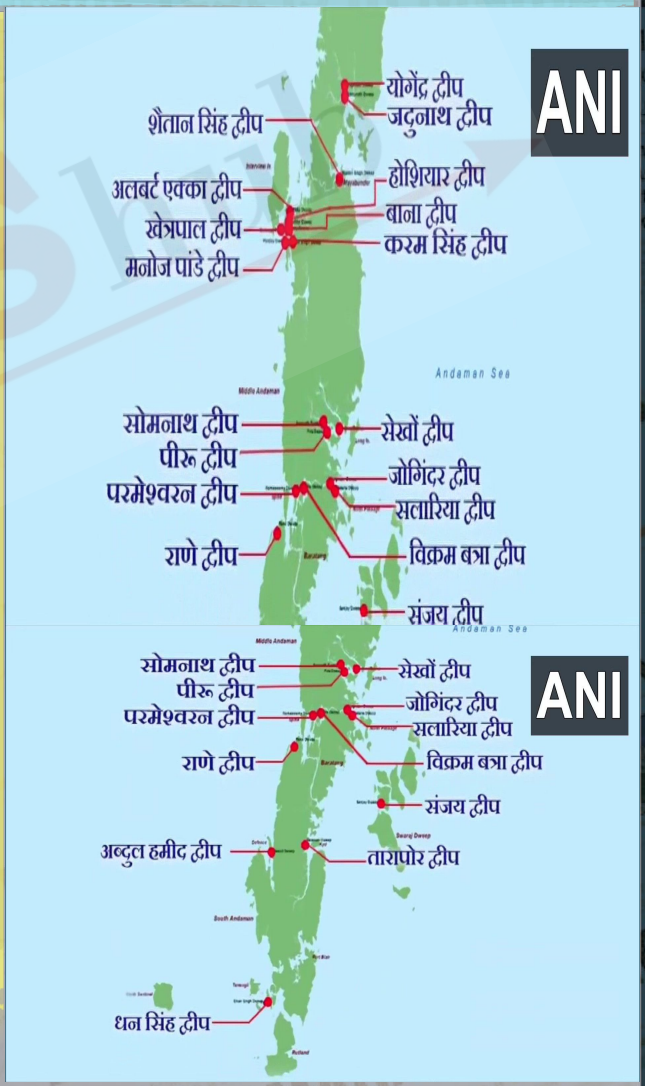
Home Minister Amit Shah was present in Port Blair at the culmination of a seven-day event organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs in honour of Netaji. He said the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji is being celebrated nationwide as 'Parakram Divas'.

CONTINUED ON
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MORE REPORTS
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Context: Prime Minister named the 21 largest unnamed islands of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands after 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees.

Key Points

- The islands have been **named after Major** Somnath Sharma, Subedar and Hony Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh, 2nd Lt Rama Raghoba Rane, Nayak Jadunath Singh, Company Havildar Major Piru Singh, Capt G S Salaria, Lt Col (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa, Subedar Joginder Singh, Major Shaitan Singh, CQMH Abdul Hamid, Lt Col Ardeshir Burzorji Tarapore, Lance Naik Albert Ekka, Major Hoshiar Singh, 2nd Lt Arun Khetrapal, Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon, Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran, Naib Subedar Bana Singh, Captain Vikram Batra, Lt Manoj Kumar Pandey, Subedar Major (then Rifleman) Sanjay Kumar, and Subedar Major (Honorary Captain) Yogendra Singh Yadav.
- At an online event on the occasion of Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary, PM also unveiled the **model of a proposed memorial dedicated to Bose**, to be set up in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
    - The proposed memorial will be set up on **Ross Island,** which was renamed as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep in 2018.
    - It will have a **museum, a cable car ropeway, a laser-and-sound show,** a guided heritage trail through historical buildings and a theme-based children's amusement park, besides a restro lounge.



PIB JAN 24

PM RASHTRIYA BAL PURASKAR

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Awards)

President of India to confer the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2023 tomorrow on 11 children for their exceptional achievement in six categories

Context: The President of India conferred the **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar, 2023** to 11 exceptional children in an award ceremony which took place at Vigyan Bhawan on 23rd January, 2023.

- This year, the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar is conferred upon 11 children selected from all regions of the country for their exceptional achievement in the field of **Art and Culture (4), Bravery (1), Innovation (2), Social Service (1), and Sports (3).**

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar

- **About**: The Government of India confers the **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP)** award to children for their exceptional achievements.
  - The awards are conferred for their excellence in **six fields, viz. Art & Culture, Bravery, Innovation, Scholastic, Social Service and Sports,** which deserve national recognition.
  - The Awards are **given by the President of India i**n the week preceding Republic Day (26th January) every year.
- **Two Categories:** The Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar is given under two categories:
  - **Bal Shakti Puraskar::**
    - It was **instituted in 1996 as the National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement**, renamed from 2018 as Bal Shakti Puraskar.
    - It is given by the Government of India every year to recognize exceptional achievements of children in various fields i.e**., innovation, scholastic achievements, social service, arts & culture, sports and bravery.**
    - A child who is an Indian Citizen and residing in India and is **between 5-18 years of age.**
    - A medal, **a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000,** book vouchers worth Rs.10,000, a certificate and citation.
  - **Bal Kalyan Puraskar:**
    - It was instituted in **1979 as the National Child Welfare Awards,** renamed from 2018 as Bal Kalyan Puraskar.
    - It is given as recognition to **Individuals and Institutions**, who have made an outstanding contribution towards service for children in the field of child development, child protection and child welfare.
    - An individual who is an **Indian Citizen** and residing in India and should have attained the **age of 18 years or above** (as on 31st August of respective year). S/he should have worked for the cause of children for not less than 7 years.
    - The institution **should not be entirely funded by the government** and should have been in the field of child welfare for 10 years and performing consistently in the field.
    - Three awards are given in each of the two categories - Individual and Institution - along with cash prizes (Rs. 1,00, 000 and Rs. 5,00, 000 respectively).
- **Selection committee**: The awardees are selected by a committee including representatives of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** and a number of other departments, as well as subject experts in the relevant fields.

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