

## Central Bureau of Narcotics



### ❖ Context

- Central Bureau of Narcotics has destroyed 1,032 hectares of illicit cannabis cultivation in Himachal Pradesh recently.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- During this operation, two-pronged approach of creating awareness among villagers along with enforcement was adopted.
- Community mobilisation was adopted by sensitising villagers about adverse effects of drugs on body and mind.
- Threats that drugs tend to pose to the future of youth and children were explained.
- CBN has conducted destruction operation in many states like West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Uttarakhand.

### ❖ About Central Bureau Of Narcotics

- **Central Bureau of Narcotics** is affiliated with India's Department of Revenue (IRS) and regulated by the country's Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs.
- The main function of CBN is to stop opium production and trade, and to issue licenses for production of legal synthetic drugs.
- The Central Bureau of Narcotics headquarters is located at **Gwalior**.



**Motto**  
Intelligence, Enforcement, Coordination



**Mission**  
Prevent and combat abuse and illicit traffic of drugs



**Vision**  
Endeavour for a drug free society

## Production Linked Incentive



### ❖ Context

- The Union Cabinet has approved the second tranche of Production Linked Incentive(PLI) Scheme on 'National programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules' for achieving manufacturing capacity of Giga Watt scale in High Efficiency Solar PV Modules.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- The national programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules aims to build an ecosystem for manufacturing of high efficiency solar PV modules in India reducing import dependence in the area of Renewable Energy.
- It will strengthen the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative and generate employment.
- The aim is to build an ecosystem for manufacturing of high efficiency solar PV modules. Solar PV manufacturers to be selected through transparent selection process.
- About 65 thousand Mega Watt per annum manufacturing capacity of fully and partially integrated solar PV modules will be installed.

- The scheme will bring direct investment of around **94 thousand crore rupees**.
- The scheme will generate direct employment for around 2 lakh persons and indirect jobs to around eight lakh persons.



- **Note:** PLI Scheme, as the Production Linked Incentive Scheme is commonly abbreviated as, is an initiative started by the Government of India to not only encourage foreign companies to find workforce in the country and thereby generate employment, but also encourage domestic and local production to create micro jobs.

## Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022



### ❖ Context

- The Department of Telecommunications has invited comments from the stakeholders on the **Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022**.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- The draft bill seeks to simplify the framework for mergers, demergers and acquisitions, or other forms of restructuring, by only requiring intimation to the licensing authority.
- The bill also lays down an explicit statutory framework and regulatory clarity for the Central Government to undertake spectrum assignment.

- The underlying philosophy of the bill is that spectrum assignment should serve the common good and ensure widespread access to telecommunication services.
- Ministry of Communications had initiated a public consultative process to develop a modern and future-ready legal framework in telecommunication.

### Face to Face Centres





## Hemkosh

### Context

- Prime Minister of India received a copy of the Braille version of Assamese Dictionary Hemkosh from Jayanta Baruah in New Delhi recently.

### About 'Hemkosh'

- The first Assamese language dictionary, 'Hemkosh', was compiled by Late Hemchandra Baruah in the last part of the 19th century.
- 15th edition of 'Hemkosh' Dictionary has been compiled under the leadership of Mr. Jayanta Baruah, and is under production.
- This edition of 'Hemkosh' comprises of approximately 10,000 pages comprising more than 15 volumes.
- Notably, this Braille version of Hemkosh would be the first full language dictionary in Braille, after Oxford.
- Jayanta Baruah has also pledged to donate (free of cost), the dictionary copies to all the educational institutions for the visually impaired students, universities, state and central libraries, as well as the national library.

### First Braille edition of Assamese dictionary launched

The Braille edition of Hemkosh; the first etymological dictionary of the Assamese language, has been released by Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi. Considering the inconvenience of the visually impaired, Hemkosh has now been made available in Braille version. It stands out as the first complete Braille dictionary in Southeast Asia. Hemkosh was first published in 1919 by Hem Chandra Barua.

- 'Hemkosh' is the first etymological dictionary of the Assamese language and is bilingual in nature, thus children can benefit in both English and Assamese languages from the dictionary.

## India Hypertension Control Initiative

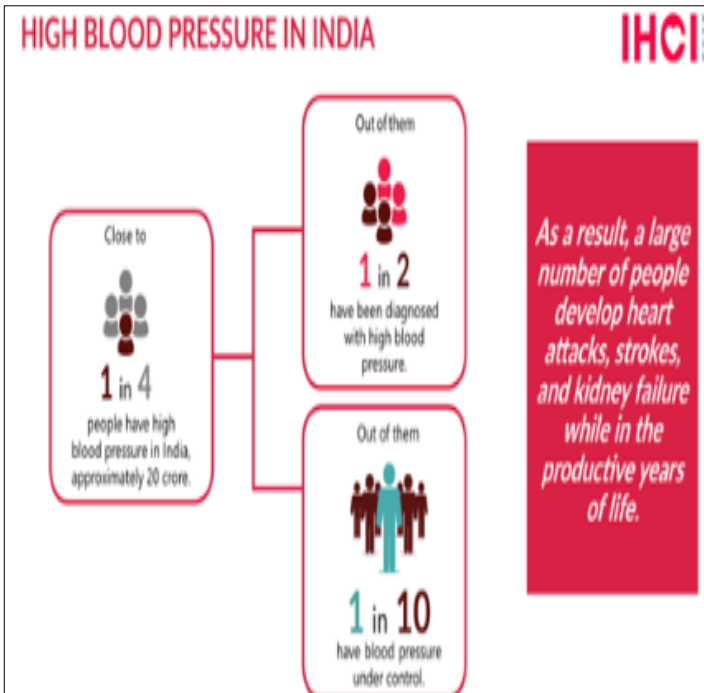
### Context

- In a significant achievement and recognition of country's efforts against hypertension, India has won a UN award for its "India Hypertension Control Initiative.



### Key Highlights

- The IHCI has been recognized for its exceptional work within India's existing primary healthcare system.
- The IHCI has won the '2022 UN Interagency Task Force and WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care Award' at the UN General Assembly side event held in New York, USA Today.
- The award recognizes the outstanding commitment and action of India to prevent and control Non-Communicable Diseases & deliver integrated people-centric primary care. The IHCI has been able to leverage and strengthen the existing healthcare delivery system, and hypertension control interventions under National Health Mission.
- The initiative was launched in 2017 and expanded in a phased manner to cover more than 130 districts across 23 states. Under the initiative, more than **34 lakh people with hypertension** are taking treatment in government health facilities, including Ayushman Bharat Health Wellness Centres



## Ocean Observing System Report Card 2022

### Context

- The report was released by **Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)**.



### Key Highlights

- The report has been published annually since 2017.
- According to the report, the system to observe carbon concentration in the world's oceans is extremely inadequate given that **26 % of the 40 gigatonnes of carbon** emitted into the atmosphere annually because of human activities is absorbed by the oceans.
- GOOS is a global system for sustained observations of the ocean. It is an **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)-led programme**. The IOC is part of UNESCO.

- The IOC supports the **International Argo program** which maintains a global array of about 3,800 floating robotic instruments that measure pressure, temperature and salinity of the upper 2,000 metres of the world's ocean.
- Another network, called **global tropical moored buoy array (GT MBA)** which is a vast network of moorings stretching across all the ocean basins, is supported by NOAA, USA.

### Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)

The Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) provides countries and end-users with critical information on physical, chemical, and biological essential ocean variables, aimed at delivery for climate, operational services, and ocean health.

## Face to Face Centres



## Customs ONE Plan

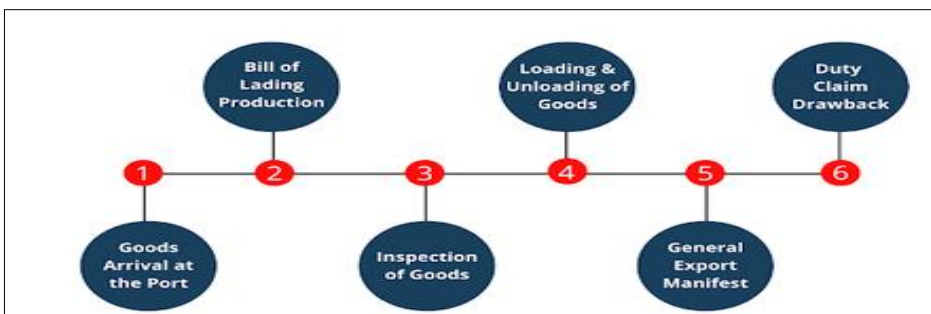


### ❖ Context

➤ The government is planning to fast-track all clearances at all ports.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- The idea is to streamline approvals to ensure that **goods** for import and export are **cleared within an hour** of their arrival at seaports and airports.
- Currently, goods take 24-48 hours for air cargo and upto 72 hours for sea cargo clearances.
- This will help India to raise its **share in global trade to 10% by 2047**.
- According to **World Trade Statistical Review 2021**, published by WTO, India accounted for 1.6% of global exports and 2.1% of global imports in 2020.



### ❖ Other Measures Taken For Faster Clearance

- Introduction of **SWIFT** (single window interface for facilitation of trade).
- **Direct port delivery and Direct port entry facilities** - The system allows a select group of importers to clear cargo directly from the port within 48 hours of arrival.
- ❖ **India@2047**
  - The customs ONE plan prepared by the commerce department is part of the India@2047 blueprint.
  - India@2047 is a vision to make the country one of the **world's top three economies** and achieve **developed nation status** by 2047.
  - Other plans are :
    - Setting up economic zones outside India as an extension of the **Atma Nirbhar Bharat** initiative.
    - Project 100 Indian brands as global champions.
    - Achieve leadership position at WTO with the help of free trade agreement partner countries.

## Strategic Gas Reserve

### ❖ Context

➤ India is expediting a plan to set up a strategic gas reserve on the lines of its strategic petroleum reserve (SPR). 

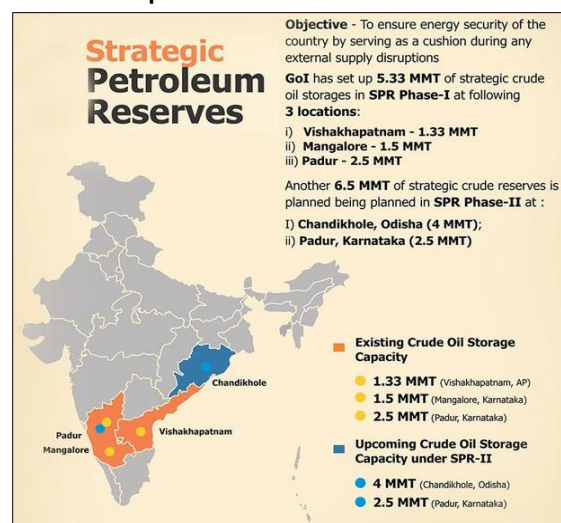
### ❖ Background

- India is the **4<sup>th</sup> largest LNG importer** in the world.
- Imports and local production of natural gas in FY22 resulted in supplies of **64.8 billion cu. m** in the country.
- **India produced 34.02 billion standard cu. m (mscm)** of gas in FY22.
- The recent development of GAIL failing to secure its contracted product from Russia's Gazprom and having had to buy at exorbitant prices in spot markets has expedited the plans for the strategic reserve.
- The current spot prices (at which GAIL is forced to buy) are way higher than those earlier contracted (with Gazprom), ranging from \$15-17 per mmBtu.

### ❖ About the Plan

- **Existing liquified natural gas (LNG) tunnels and exhausted oil wells** are likely to be utilised for the gas reserve, along with the construction of new underground infrastructure such as **large salt caverns**.

- The storage facilities may be chosen close to the pipeline infrastructure so that the fuel can be easily transported in times of need.



- India is also expanding its national gas grid to 35,000km from the current 20,000km.
- The country's gas demand is expected to be driven by the **fertiliser industry, power, city gas distribution, and steel sectors**.

- **India has 5.33 million tonnes of underground strategic oil reserve facilities at Visakhapatnam, Mangalore & Padur.**

## News in Between the Lines

### Mizoram and Assam Boundary Dispute



### ❖ Context

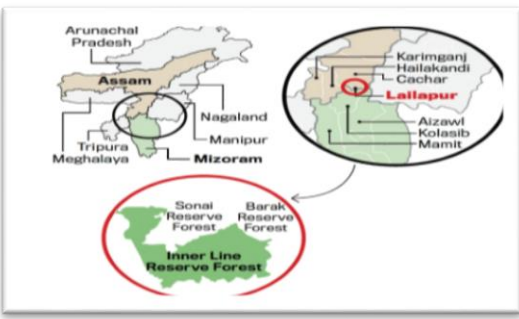
➤ Assam Chief Minister and his Mizoram counterpart met recently in New Delhi to discuss border issues between both states and agreed to form a regional committee to resolve the long pending boundary dispute.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- Mizoram shares a **164.6 km long inter-state border** with Assam. The border dispute between the two states is a long-standing issue, which has remained unresolved till now.
- Mizoram was part of Assam until **1972** when it was carved out as a union territory.

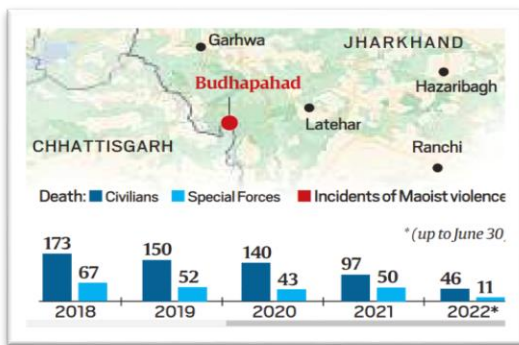
## Face to Face Centres





- The border dispute mainly came out of two colonial notifications- the inner line reserve forest notified under the **Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation (BEFR)** in 1875 and the boundary indicated in **Survey of India's map in 1933**.
- While Mizoram claimed the 509 sq miles stretch of the inner line reserve forest as its actual boundary, Assam said the 1933 boundary was its constitutional boundary. The border has witnessed skirmishes, especially after 1994, and it has become frequent since 2018.

## Operation Octopus



### ❖ Context

- CRPF DG said that **Bihar and Jharkhand** can now be said to be free of Maoists.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- Security forces reached Buddha Pahad for the first time. They cleared it of Maoists who dominated it for the last three decades.
- **Buddha Pahad** is a forested area in the tri-junction of Latehar and Garhwa districts in Jharkhand and Balrampur in neighbouring Chhattisgarh.
- CRPF has been running 'Operation Octopus' in Jharkhand since April 2022.
- Other operations before that - '**Operation Double Bull**' and '**Operation Thunderstorm**', are still going on in tribal areas.

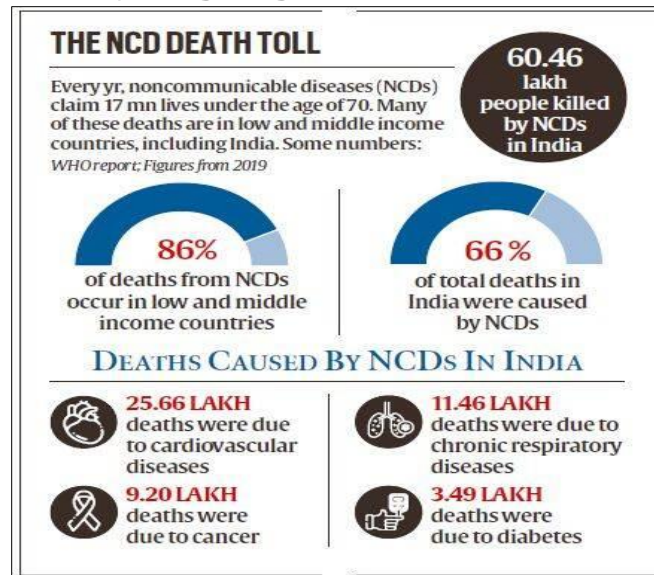
## Invisible Numbers Report



### ❖ Context

- WHO has released a new report: '**Invisible numbers - the true scale of non-communicable diseases**'.

### ❖ Key Highlights



- **Highest NCDs deaths due to cardiovascular diseases (CVD)** followed by chronic respiratory diseases. **86% of CVD deaths could have been prevented** or delayed through prevention and treatment.
- More than **95 % of diabetes** cases globally are of **type 2 diabetes**.
- 2/3rd of the people with hypertension live in low- and middle-income countries.
- In 2022, only a handful of countries were on track to meet the **Sustainable Development Goal target to reduce early deaths from NCDs by a 3<sup>rd</sup> by 2030**.

## Application Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA)



### ❖ Context

- SEBI is looking to come out with an **Application Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA)**-like structure for the **secondary market**.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- ASBA is an **application** containing an **authorization to block the application money in the bank account**, for subscribing to an **initial public offering (IPO)**.
- If an investor is applying through ASBA, their application money will be debited from the bank account only if the application is selected for allotment after the basis of allotment is finalised.

## Bayraktar TB2

[Daily Current Affairs](#)

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### ❖ Context

- Turkish defence firm Baykar delivered 20 armed drones to the UAE.

### ❖ Key Highlights



- It is a **medium-altitude long-endurance (MALE)** unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) capable of remotely controlled or autonomous flight operations. They have a **flying range of upto 300 km** & an **altitude of upto 5.5 kms**.
- It can be used for reconnaissance, surveillance and ground attack. They are loaded with **laser guided armour piercing bombs**.

## Face to Face Centres