



Daily C.A Dated On 15th June 2018

General Studies-1

Mou between Sanchi Stupa of India and Pho Minh Pagoda of Viet Nam

Why in News?

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Viet Nam on Joint issue of postage stamp. Joint Issue depicts Sanchi Stupa of India and Pho Minh Pagoda of Viet Nam.

About Sanchi Stupa:

- When was it built: Commissioned in 3rd century BCE, Expansion/ additions/restoration works/ made in different periods.
- Who built it: Commissioned by Emperor Ashoka of the Maurya Dynasty.
- Where is it located: Located 46 km north-east of Bhopal, the capital city of Madhya Pradesh, India.
- Architectural Style: Buddhist Art and Architecture.
- Other facts: It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

About Pho Minh Pagoda:

- The pagoda was originally built during the Ly Dynasty and later expanded in 1262 during the Tran Dynasty.
- It was a place for high-ranking mandarins and the aristocracy of the Tran Royal Court to worship and lead their religious life.

General Studies-2



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Ayushman bharat Scheme

Why in News?

Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare exchanged the Memorandum of Understanding with the State Health Ministers of 20 States marking their commitment towards the launch of the Ayushman Bharat – National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM) at a Health Ministers conclave, here today.

About Ayushman bharat:

Ayushman Bharat -National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM) has the benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year.

The target beneficiaries of the proposed scheme will be more than 10 crore families belonging to poor and vulnerable population based on SECC database.

AB-NHPM will subsume the on-going centrally sponsored schemes -RashtriyaSwasthyaBimaYojana (RSBY) and the Senior Citizen Health Insurance Scheme (SCHIS),

Salient Features:

AB-NHPM will have a defined benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year.

1. Benefits of the scheme are portable across the country and a beneficiary covered under the scheme will be allowed to take cashless benefits from any public/private empanelled hospitals across the country.
2. AB-NHPM will be an entitlement based scheme with entitlement decided on the basis of deprivation criteria in the SECC database,
3. The beneficiaries can avail benefits in both public and empanelled private facilities.



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One of the core principles of AB-NHPM is to co-operative federalism and flexibility to states.

Implementation Strategy:

At the national level to manage, an Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission Agency (AB-NHPMA) would be put in place.

States/ UTs would be advised to implement the scheme by a dedicated entity called State Health Agency (SHA). They can either use an existing Trust/ Society/ Not for Profit Company/ State Nodal Agency (SNA) or set up a new entity to implement the scheme. States/ UTs can decide to implement the scheme through an insurance company or directly through the Trust/ Society or use an integrated model.

Major Impact:

In-patient hospitalization expenditure in India has increased nearly 300% during last ten years. (NSSO 2015).

More than 80% of the expenditure are met by out of pocket (OOP). Rural households primarily depended on their 'household income / savings' (68%) and on 'borrowings' (25%), the urban households relied much more on their 'income / saving' (75%) for financing expenditure on hospitalizations, and on '(18%) borrowings. (NSSO 2015). Out of pocket (OOP) expenditure in India is over 60% which leads to nearly 6 million families getting into poverty due to catastrophic health expenditures.

AB-NHPM will have major impact on **reduction of Out Of Pocket (OOP) expenditure** on ground of:

1. i) Increased benefit cover to nearly 40% of the population, (the poorest&the vulnerable)
2. ii) Covering almost all secondary and many tertiary hospitalizations. (except a negative list)
- iii) Coverage of 5 lakh for each family, (no restriction of family size)



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This will lead to **increased access to quality health and medication.**

In addition, **the unmet needs** of the population which remained hidden due to lack of financial resources will be catered to.

This will lead to **timely treatments, improvements in health outcomes, patient satisfaction, improvement in productivity and efficiency, job creation thus leading to improvement in quality of life.**

Animal Welfare Board

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The Animal Welfare Board (AWBI) was established in 1962 under Section 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

The Board ensures implementation of the animal welfare laws in the country in a very diligent manner and provides grants to Animal Welfare Organizations and advice the Centre, States and UTs on animal welfare issues.

As per the Act, the Board comprises of of 28 Members including 6 MPs (4 from Lok Sabhas and 2 from Rajya Sabha).

“The Board mandate is to prevent cruelty, suffering and pain to all creatures except human beings that is why our slogan is to protect ‘ants to elephants”.



AWBI MAJOR INITIATIVES

GOCHAR / GRAZING LAND: The most important concern before the Board is the depletion of Gochar / grazing lands for want of which animal sufferings are maximum as they have neither feed , nor fodder including basic necessities.

STATE ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD (SAWB) / DISTRICT SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (DSPCA) : AWBI has its no network up to the grass root level to prevent cruelty and protection and welfare of Animals.



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STRAY ANIMALS : The problem of stray animals especially cows, dogs, cats and monkeys have become rampant in all parts of the country whether it is rural, urban or semi-urban. Therefore, priority would be given to such helpless animals with adequate shelter, feed and water.

SETTING OF ANIMAL SHELTERS / ANIMALS HOSTELS IN SMART / METRO CITIES

To effectively implementation of the above programs and enforcement of supreme court guidelines, the Board has launched a programme to meet the Chief Ministers of every States / UTs along with concerned ministers and officers. The Chairman along with other members of the Board has already met the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Uttarakhand and the results of these meetings are very fruitful and these States have already starting taking adequate steps for prevention of cruelty to animals.

Composite Water Management Index (CWMI)

Why in News?

In pursuit of cooperative and competitive federalism, NITI Aayog has been laying emphasis on developing indicators on various social sectors. In February 2018, NITI Aayog had released a report on "Healthy States, Progressive India" which covered the ranking of States/ UTs in various health parameters.

As a step further in direction and keeping in view the criticality of water for life, NITI Aayog has prepared a report on Composite Water Management Index (CWMI).

About CWMI:

CWMI has been developed by NITI Aayog comprising 9 broad sectors with 28 different indicators covering various aspects of ground water, restoration of water bodies, irrigation, farm practices, drinking water, policy and governance.

The CWMI is an important tool to assess and improve the performance of States/ Union Territories in efficient management of water resources.



Daily C.A Dated On 15th June 2018

This has been done through a first of its kind water data collection exercise in partnership with Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation and all the States/ Union Territories.

The index would provide useful information for the States and also for the concerned Central Ministries/Departments enabling them to formulate and implement suitable strategies for better management of water resources.

Simultaneously a web portal on the subject has also been launched.

Observations of Index:

The report released today ranks Gujarat as number one in the reference year (2016-17), followed by Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

In North Eastern and Himalayan States, Tripura has been adjudged number 1 in 2016-17 followed by Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Assam.

In terms of incremental change in index (over 2015-16 level), Rajasthan holds number one position in general States and Tripura ranks at first position amongst North Eastern and Himalayan States.

NITI Aayog proposes to publish these ranks on an annual basis in future.