



C.A Dated On 09-08-2019

## GS-1

### Quit India movement:

#### Why in news?

On this day 77 years ago, Mumbai became the scene of massive public demonstrations against colonial rule. The previous day, August 8, 1942, Mahatma Gandhi had given the clarion call of 'Quit India' at Gowalia Tank (now August Kranti Maidan). The Quit India movement, which subsequently spread to other parts of the country, is among the key moments of India's freedom struggle.

#### *What was going on in Mumbai during the Quit India movement?*

#### *Leaders of the movement*

- There was Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, of course, one of the Congress's tallest leaders, who attracted massive crowds to his Mumbai rallies.
- Among the key local leaders who assisted him were Achyut Patwardhan, B G Kher, Nagindas Master, and S K Patil. Shankarrao Deo and Yusuf Meherally organised support both from the city and neighbouring Pune.
- The British government acted swiftly.
- Mahatma Gandhi was arrested from Birla House (now Gandhi Smriti) soon after he delivered the famous "Do or die" address, as were several regional Congress leaders. Gandhi was confined at the Aga Khan Palace in Pune and the latter at Yerwada Jail, also in that city.

#### *Protests that rocked the city*

- The arrests of major Congress leaders failed to deter agitators' grit. Protests around Dadar reached fever pitch, requiring both the military and police to be deployed.
- The situation also remained tense in a large stretch from Matunga to Kalbadevi and Thakurdwar in South Mumbai.



**C.A Dated On 09-08-2019**

- The Bombay Stock Exchange had to remain shuttered for a long period, as did the city's premier industries, including Godrej, Lever Brothers (today's Hindustan Unilever), General Motors, and Richardson Cruddas.
- The city's mills also remained closed, as did Zaveri Bazaar and the cloth market.
- Clashes with colonial authorities worsened when the latter began employing barbaric methods, such as whipping. Protesters consequently blocked public transport, police vehicles, and damaged telegraph cables and BEST bus stops.
- The Congress Women's Wing, also known as the Desh Sevika Sangh, led protests.

**Quit India's non-Congress participants, and opponents**

- Among the city's Muslim community, while some followed the All-India Muslim League's call to boycott the movement, others participated enthusiastically, such as the Jamiat-ul-Ulema and the All-India Azad Muslim Conference.
- The Rashtriya Girni Kamgar Sangh ensured that the city's mill workers joined the struggle. It also helped that many communist leaders at the time were also members of the Congress.
- Student politics also played a key role. Youth activists from VJTI, Elphinstone, Grant Medical, Khalsa, Ruia, Sydenham, St. Xavier's, and Wilson colleges worked together, taking out processions and paralysing communications.
- However, moderate politicians including Sir Jamnadas Mehta and Sir Cowasjee Jehangir opposed joining the movement, expressing concern over its timing, which coincided with imperial Japan's rapid advance from East Asia towards Indian frontiers.

GS-2

**Increase in sex ratio at birth**

**Context**



C.A Dated On 09-08-2019

The highest improvement was in Punjab at 126 points, but its SRB remained among the lowest among the states at 860 in NFHS-4.

### Details

- The sex ratio at birth (SRB) in the country, defined as the number of female births per 1,000 male births, improved from 914 to 919 between the third and fourth National Family Health Surveys (NFHS), carried out in 2005-06 and 2015-16 respectively.
- The highest improvement was in Punjab at 126 points, but its SRB remained among the lowest among the states at 860 in NFHS-4.
- The sharpest decline was in Sikkim,

HIGHEST IMPROVEMENT			
State	NFHS-3 (2005-06)	NFHS 4 (2015-16)	Change
Punjab	734	860	+126
Kerala	925	1,047	+122
Meghalaya	907	1,009	+102
Haryana	762	836	+74
Tamil Nadu	897	954	+58
Maharashtra	867	924	+57

  

SHARPEST DECLINE			
State	NFHS-3 (2005-16)	NFHS 4 (2015-16)	Change
Sikkim	984	809	-175
Jharkhand	1,091	919	-172
Arunachal	1,071	920	-151
Assam	1,033	929	-104
Mizoram	1,025	946	-79
Manipur	1,014	962	-51

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

### 2015-16: TOP 6 & BOTTOM 6

Kerala	1,047
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1,013
Meghalaya	1009
Chhattisgarh	977
Tripura	966
Goa	966
Punjab	860
A&N Islands	859
Puducherry	843
Haryana	836
Delhi	817
Sikkim	809

Source: NFHS-4 via Ministry of Health

where the SRB dropped 175 points to reach 809, the lowest among all states in 2015-16.

- Next to Punjab, the highest improvement in SRB was in Kerala, by 122 points from

925 in 2005-06. Its 1,047 in 2015-16 was the highest SRB among all states.

- Next to Sikkim, the five states with the highest declines included four more in the Northeast.



**इशोरइशा**  
**I A S A C A D E M Y**  
Your Dreams, Our Mission!

C.A Dated On 09-08-2019

## **UNIDO**

### **Why in news?**

UNIDO and National Institute of Solar Energy to initiate a skill development programme for different levels of beneficiaries in the solar thermal energy sector.

NISE and UNIDO will engage national and international experts to bring the best practices by developing specialized training material.

### **Background:**

- The agreement is part of the ongoing MNRE-GEF-UNIDO project implemented jointly by UNIDO and to support capacity building and skill development of technical manpower in the Concentrated Solar Thermal Energy Technologies (CST) which are being used to replace conventional fossil fuels e.g. coal, diesel, furnace oil etc. and save costs and emissions in the industrial process heat applications.



C.A Dated On 09-08-2019

### **About UNIDO:**

- UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability.
- It is also a member of UNDP.
- As of 1 April 2019, 170 States are Members of UNIDO.
- Members regularly discuss and decide UNIDO's guiding principles and policies in the sessions of the Policymaking Organs.
- The mission of UNIDO, as described in the Lima Declaration adopted at the fifteenth session of the UNIDO General Conference in 2013, is to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) in Member States.
- UNIDO's mandate is fully recognized in SDG-9, which calls to "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation".

### **One nation one ration card**

#### **Why in news?**

In a bid to implement 'One Nation, One Ration Card' across the country by June 1, 2020, the Centre on Friday kick-started inter-state portability of ration cards between Telangana-Andhra Pradesh as well as Maharashtra-Gujarat.

#### **About the scheme**

- One Nation One Ration Card' scheme, which will allow portability of food security benefits, will be available across the country from July 1, 2020.
- This means poor migrant workers will be able to buy subsidised rice and wheat from any ration shop in the country, so long as their ration cards are linked to Aadhaar.
- All the States have been given one more year to use point of sale (PoS) machines in the ration shops and implement the scheme, Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan told journalists on Saturday.



**C.A Dated On 09-08-2019**

- Already, 77% % of the ration shops across the country have PoS machines and more than 85% of people covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) have their cards linked to Aadhaar.

**Is aadhar mandatory?**

- While Aadhaar linkage is not necessary to access NFSA benefits in a beneficiary's local registered ration shop, located closest to her home address, it will be necessary to access the portability scheme, according to senior Food Ministry officials.

**Applicability:**

- Ten States -- Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana and Tripura – already offer this portability, pointed out Mr. Paswan.
- Delhi had also begun implementing portability, though it was later stopped for technical reasons. Other States, including Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Tamil Nadu, could easily implement the scheme, as they had PoS machines in all the ration shops.

**Eligibility**

- A senior Ministry official clarified that migrants would only be eligible for the subsidies supported by the Centre, which include rice sold at Rs. 3/kg and wheat at Rs. 2/kg.
- Even if a beneficiary moved to a State where grains were given for free, that person would not be able to access those benefits, as they were funded by the State exchequer.

**Fortified grains**

- In a bid to reduce nutrition deficiencies among beneficiaries, the Centre would roll out a pilot project in 15 districts to fortify rice grains with iron, folic acid, Vitamin A and Vitamin B12. The first fortified grains would be available in ration shops from this November.



C.A Dated On 09-08-2019

### **UN Convention on International Settlement Agreements**

#### **Why in news?**

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the signing of the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements (UNISA) resulting from mediation by the Republic of India scheduled to be held at Singapore on 7th August, 2019, or at United Nations Headquarters.

#### **Benefit:**

Signing of the Convention will boost the confidence of the investors and shall provide a positive signal to foreign investors about India's commitment to adhere to international practice on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).

#### **Initiatives to promote ADR Mechanisms:**

- In order to encourage international commercial arbitration in India, to evolve a comprehensive ecosystem of arbitration the Government is establishing the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC) as a statutory body.
- The Commercial Courts Act, 2015, has been further amended and legislative exercise to further amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, is currently underway.
- These initiatives are being taken with a view to encourage the settlement of commercial disputes, domestic and international, in India through ADR Mechanism of Arbitration, Conciliation and Mediation.
- A new Chapter (IIIA) has been inserted in the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, for mandatory pre-institution mediation and settlement in certain category of cases.



**C.A Dated On 09-08-2019**

- Therefore, the provisions of the 'Convention' are in line with the domestic laws and the efforts made to strengthen Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms.

**Background:**

- The United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation ("the Convention") on 20th December 2018.
- The General Assembly authorized that the Convention will open for signature at a signing ceremony to be held on 7th August 2019 in Singapore and will be known as the "Singapore Convention on Mediation" (the Convention).
- The Convention provides a uniform and efficient framework for the enforcement of international settlement agreements resulting from mediation and for allowing parties to invoke such agreements, akin to the framework that the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (New York, 1958) (the "New York Convention") provides for arbitral awards.
- The Convention defines two additional grounds upon which a court may, on its own motion, refuse to grant relief.
- Those grounds relate to the fact that a dispute would not be capable of settlement by mediation or would be contrary to public policy.