

IND-INDO CORPAT Exercise

The 39th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy is being conducted



About:

- India and Indonesia have been carrying out CORPATs twice a year since 2002.
- **Aim:** Keeping the vital part of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) safe and secure for commercial shipping, international trade and conduct of legitimate maritime activities.
- CORPATs help build understanding and interoperability between navies, and facilitate institution of measures to prevent and suppress Illegal Unreported Unregulated (IUU) fishing, drug trafficking, maritime terrorism, armed robbery and piracy.
- It helps to enhance the operational synergy by exchange of information for prevention of smuggling, illegal immigration and for conduct of Search and Rescue (SAR) operations at sea.
- As part of Government of India's vision **SAGAR** (Security and Growth for All in the Region), Indian Navy has been proactively engaging with countries in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) to enhance maritime security in the region.

ASEAN CONSENSUS

Indonesian Foreign Minister recently said India and other countries should “respect” and follow the ASEAN’s policy on Myanmar rather than taking a “different path.”



About:

ASEAN’s five points Consensus are:

- It states that there shall be an immediate cessation of violence in Myanmar.
- All parties shall exercise utmost restraint; constructive dialogue

among all parties concerned shall commence to seek a peaceful solution in the interests of the people.

- A special envoy of the ASEAN Chair shall facilitate mediation of the dialogue process, with the assistance of the secretary-general of ASEAN.
- ASEAN shall provide humanitarian assistance through the AHA Centre (ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management).
- The special envoy and delegation shall visit Myanmar to meet with all parties concerned.

ASEAN

- It is a group of Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which was established in 1967 with the signing of the **Bangkok declaration**.
- **Founding members:** Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- Presently ASEAN comprises **10 member states namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia and Vietnam**.
- It promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and sociocultural integration between its members and other countries in Asia.

HOW HIGH THE CENTRE'S SUBSIDY BILL COULD GO THIS YEAR?

Context

- The government recently sought Parliament's approval for an additional Rs 2.14 lakh crore as supplementary demands for grants towards major subsidies, over and above the Rs 3.17 lakh crore budgeted for 2022-23 (April-March).

- If passed by both Houses, it will take the **total subsidy bill to Rs 5.32 lakh crore**, which would be the second highest after the Rs 7.06 lakh crore of 2020-21.

Table 1: Centre's major subsidies in Rs crore

	Food	Fertiliser	Petroleum	TOTAL
2014-15	117671.16	71075.62	60268.82	249015.60
2015-16	139419.00	72415.17	29999.00	241833.17
2016-17	110172.96	66312.94	27538.71	204024.61
2017-18	100281.69	87000.07	24460.48	211742.24
2018-19	101326.99	70604.80	24836.95	196768.74
2019-20	108688.35	81124.32	38528.78	228341.45
2020-21	541330.14	127921.74	36754.65	706006.53
2021-22*	288968.54	153658.11	3421.07	446047.72
2022-23**	206831.09	105222.32	5812.50	317865.91
Apr-Oct 2021	155166.39	53477.06	1272.31	209915.76
Apr-Oct 2022	135079.75	102721.44	1107.84	238909.03

*Provisional; **Budget Estimate.

- As the extra subsidy outgo will shoot food, fertiliser and petroleum subsidy to Rs 2.87 lakh crore. Rs 2.14 lakh crore and Rs 30,756.18 crore respectively, the article brings out the underlying reasons for hike in subsidies and

estimates for next fiscal.

Reasons for subsidy hike in 2022-23

- **Shooting food subsidy:** The food subsidies is likely to **increase by 30%** over the Rs 2.8 lakh crore (\$25.14 billion) estimated in the budget, owing to following reasons:
 - The pandemic resulted in **record offtake of rice and wheat through the PDS**, i.e. 92.88 million tonnes (mt) in 2020-21 and 105.61 mt in 2021-22 under various welfare scheme.
 - For instance, the **total cost** of free-grain distribution by **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)** since its launch in 2020 till December 2022 will be **₹3.91 lakh crore**.
 - The present authorisation is being sought for additional food subsidy spending to meet the cost of PMGKAY in 2022-23.
- **Fertiliser subsidy:** The fertiliser subsidy bill is expected to be **over ₹2.5 lakh crore**, for the latest tranche for the winter-sown season (October to March), way higher than the budget estimate of ₹1.05 lakh crore.
 - A key reason for the record fertiliser subsidy this year is **higher prices** of liquefied natural gases (LNG – **Russia a major exporter**), a critical input for the manufacturing of nutrients such as urea.
 - According to the Fertiliser Association of India, India's **annual consumption of fertilisers** in 2021-22 stood at 32.54 mt, against 29.37 million in the previous fiscal, recording a **growth** of 10.8%.
 - Thus, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs recently approved an additional ₹51,875 crore subsidy for phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilisers for the rabi season, amid **high global prices**.
 - Also, the maximum retail price of urea hasn't been raised and minimally hiked even for di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), India's second-most consumed fertiliser.
- **Petroleum subsidy:** The higher subsidy outgo in petroleum has been due to surge in global prices from September-October 2021, especially after the Russian invasion of Ukraine.
 - Hence, the government is cushioning consumers from the **global supply demand shock**.

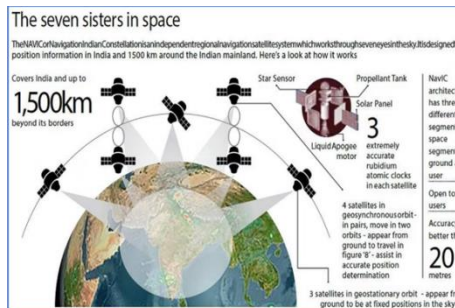
- The **retail prices of petrol and diesel** were last revised upwards in April 2022 and then **reduced** later following **cuts in excise duties**.
- Cushioning consumer also meant compensating oil marketing companies (OMCs) for selling below cost or **under-recoveries**, and this has added to the government's **subsidy burden**.

FOCUS ON COMMERCIAL USE OF NAVIC, ISRO'S FUTURE SATELLITES TO GET ADDITIONAL FREQUENCY

In News:

- With an aim to promote the civilian use of NAVigation with the Indian Constellation (NavIC), ISRO is introducing the L1 frequency in all its future satellites.
- This was highlighted by the Union Minister of State for the Department of Space Jitendra Singh in a written reply in Parliament.

NAVigation with the Indian Constellation (NavIC)



- NavIC, also known as Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), is an independent stand-alone navigation satellite system developed by ISRO.
- Originally approved in 2006, NavIC was expected to be completed by late 2011, but only became operational in 2018.
- India is promoting the use of NavIC to remove dependence on foreign satellite systems for navigation service requirements, particularly for strategic sectors.
- Relying on systems like GPS and GLONASS may not always be reliable as those are operated by the defence agencies of respective nations.
- Hence, it is possible that civilian services can be degraded or denied.

Features:

- **Number of satellites**

- NavIC consists of seven active satellites and covers the whole of India's landmass and up to 1,500 km (930 miles) from its boundaries.
- Three satellites are in geostationary orbit and the remaining four satellites are in geosynchronous orbit.
 - A geosynchronous orbit is a high Earth orbit that allows satellites to match Earth's rotation.
 - Located at 35,786 kilometers) above Earth's equator, this position is a valuable spot for monitoring weather, communications (including television) and surveillance.
 - The geostationary orbit is a special case of the geosynchronous orbit.
- **Types of services**
 - It will provide two types of services:
 - **Standard Positioning Service (SPS):** to all the users.
 - **Restricted Service (RS):** It is an encrypted service provided only to the authorised users.
- **Other features**
 - NavIC signals are designed to provide user position accuracy better than 20m and timing accuracy better than 50ns.
- **Usage of NavIC system has increased**
 - NavIC finds utilisation in national projects like public vehicle safety, power grid synchronisation, real-time train information system and fishermen safety.
 - Other upcoming initiatives include:
 - common alert protocol-based emergency warning, time dissemination, geodetic network (used for terrestrial surveying) and unmanned aerial vehicles.
 - Other than that, many mobile phones available in the country already use chipsets capable of receiving NavIC signals.

Comparison with other navigation satellites

- NavIC SPS signals are interoperable with the other global navigation satellite system signals namely GPS, Glonass, Galileo, and BeiDou.
- However, there is difference in the serviceable area covered by these systems.

- Eg., GPS caters to users across the globe and its satellites circle the earth twice a day, while NavIC is currently for use in India and adjacent areas.
- India's **2021 satellite navigation draft policy** stated the government will work towards expanding the coverage from regional to global to ensure availability of NavIC signal in any part of the world.
- With a fully operational constellation and ground stations outside of India, the system is likely to become more accurate than GPS.
- ISRO plans to set up ground stations in Japan and France to better triangulate the entire area under NavIC coverage.

News Summary

- With an aim to promote the civilian use of NavIC, ISRO is introducing the L1 frequency in all its future satellites.
- The L1 frequency is one of the most commonly used frequencies in the Global Positioning System (GPS).
- There are three civilian GPS frequencies: L1 at 1575.42 MHz, L2 at 1227.60 MHz, and L5 at 1176.45 MHz.
- The L1 frequency will increase the use of the regional navigation system in wearable devices, security systems and personal trackers that use low-power, single-frequency chips.

PM: TRADITIONAL MEDICINE SECTOR GROWING, GAINING GLOBAL ATTENTION

In News:

- Underlining that the sector of traditional medicine is expanding continuously, Prime Minister Modi recently urged the stakeholders to take full advantage of every possibility unfolding in the sector.

About Traditional Medicines:

- Traditional medicine refers to a diverse range of health and healing practices used by Indigenous peoples that incorporate plants, animals, and the spiritual realm for the diagnosis and treatment of illness, or maintenance of health and well-being.
- Traditional medicine is a key pillar of health care delivery systems and plays a crucial role in maintaining good health and well-being.

Traditional Indian Medicines:

- Traditional Indian medicine is one of the oldest medical sciences in the world. India has been known to be rich repository of medicinal plants.
 - The forest in India is the principal repository of large number of medicinal and aromatic plants.
- About 8,000 herbal remedies have been codified in AYUSH systems in India.
- Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Folk (tribal) medicines are the major systems of indigenous medicines.

Market size:

- The market for medicinal plants in India stood at Rs. 4.2 billion (\$ 56.6 million) in 2019 and is expected to increase at a CAGR of 38.5 percent to Rs. 14 billion (US\$ 188.6 million) by 2030.
- The export value of ayurvedic and herbal products amounted to about \$539 million from India in 2021.
- Overall, **Ayush exports have reached \$18 billion from \$3 billion before 2014.**
 - AYUSH stands for Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy.
- About 40,000 MSMEs are active in the Ayush sector.
- There are immense possibilities of investment and innovation in supply chain management, AYUSH-based diagnostic tools and tele-medicine.

Steps taken by Central government to promote Traditional Medicine sector:

- **New Ministry Formed**
 - In 2014, the Union government established the Ministry of AYUSH, a separate ministry dedicated to traditional medicine and treatment.
- **National AYUSH Mission**

- Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had launched National AYUSH Mission (NAM) during 12th Plan.
- The basic objective of NAM is to promote
 - AYUSH medical systems through cost effective AYUSH services, strengthening of educational systems,
 - facilitate the enforcement of quality control of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani & Homoeopathy (ASU &H) drugs and
 - sustainable availability of ASU & H raw-materials.
- **Recent Steps**
 - The new category 'AYUSH Aahar' introduced by the FSSAI in its regulations will help the producers of herbal nutritional supplements.
 - The AYUSH Export Promotion Council has been set up recently to encourage exports and help find foreign markets.
 - The government is going to create a network of AYUSH Parks to encourage research and provide a new direction to AYUSH manufacturing.
 - An incubation centre developed by the All-India Institute of Ayurveda was inaugurated by the Ministry of AYUSH.
 - This will encourage start-up culture in the field of traditional medicine.
- **WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM)**
 - The WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (WHO GCTM) has been established in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
 - The centre was established to support WHO's efforts to implement the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023.
 - It is the first WHO GCTM in the world.

About 9th World Ayurveda Congress:

- The World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) is a platform established by the World Ayurveda Foundation to propagate Ayurveda globally in its true sense.

- The theme of the 9th edition of WAC is "Ayurveda for One Health". It was held at Panjim, Goa.
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NIRBHAYA FUND

Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani has recently said that the government has set up over one thousand fast track courts in the country with the help of Nirbhaya Fund.



About:

- **Objective:** For implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing the safety and security for women in the country.
- **Established in:** 2013
- **Established by:** Union Finance Ministry.
- **Type:** It is a non-lapsable corpus fund.

Schemes of Ministry of Women and Child Development under Nirbhaya Fund:

- **One Stop Centre Scheme (Sakhi Centres):**
 - It is being implemented across the country since 1st April 2015. It aims at establishing Centres to facilitate women affected by violence.
 - It provides First aid, Medical aid, Police assistance, Legal aid and counselling support.
- **Women Helpline (181):**
 - The Department of Telecommunication has allocated the number 181 to all States/UTs for Women Helpline.
 - This helpline number will link the One Stop Centres being established by the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- **Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs):**
 - These will act as a link between police and community and help women in distress.
 - Haryana launched the scheme in 2016, thereby becoming the first state to launch it.

Schemes of other Ministries/Departments under Nirbhaya Fund:

- **Integrated Emergency Response Management System:**

- The project aims to provide round the clock security to women passengers in all Railway Stations by strengthening of Security Control Rooms of Railways with Security Helpline, Medical Facilities, RPF and police, installation of CCTV cameras, etc.
- Ministry in charge: Railways.

- **Central Victim Compensation Scheme (CVCF):**

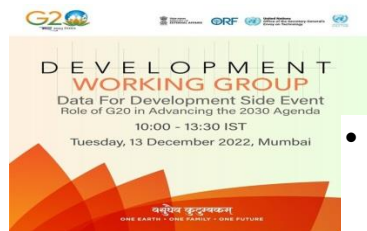
- It has been created with a corpus of Rs.200 crores under section 357A CrPC.
- It will support States/UTs in providing fund towards compensation to the victim or her dependents who have suffered loss or injury as a result of the crimes (including survivors of rape and acid attack).
- Ministry in charge: Home affairs.

- **Emergency Response Support System (ERSS):**

- ERSS envisages an integrated computer aided emergency response platform to respond to distress calls and ensure speedy assistance to the distressed persons.
- It aims to integrate all emergency numbers to 112 with state of art technology.
- **Ministry in charge:** Home affairs.

[G20 DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP \(DWG\)](#)

The 4-day meeting of G20 Development Working Group (DWG) will begin on December 13, 2022 in Mumbai under the India's Presidency.



About:

- The Development Working Group meetings aims to discuss developmental issues in Developing Countries, Least Developed Countries and Island Countries.
- Its a platform for G-20 member countries to come together and prioritize multilateralism, share solutions that promote growth, remap development plans and achieve the Sustainable Development Goal's targets.



CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK



- In these meetings, sessions on Data For Development, Role of G-20 in Advancing the 2030 Agenda, Infusing New LiFE into Green Development and Accelerating Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals are organised.

G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) meeting:

- The first G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) meeting will begin on December 12, 2022 in Bengaluru.
 - This meeting, which will mark the start of discussions on the Finance Track agenda under the Indian G20 Presidency, will be hosted jointly by the **Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India.**
 - The discussions during the 3-day meeting will focus on the agenda for the **Finance Track under the Indian G20 Presidency.**
 - This includes reorienting international financial institutions to meet the shared global challenges of the 21st century, financing cities of tomorrow, managing global debt vulnerabilities, advancing financial inclusion and productivity gains, financing for climate action and SDGs.
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