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## Questions for Practice

Consider the following statements with respect to the Delimitation Commission:

1. Its members are derived mainly from the political executive of the country. ✗
2. Its orders are final and cannot be questioned before any court. ✓
3. Its main aim is to provide equal representation to different parts of the country on the basis of geographical area. ✗

How many statements given above is/are correct?

- a. Only one ✓
- b. Only two
- c. All three
- d. None

## Questions for Practice

The Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies is an initiative between India and

- a. Israel
- b. France
- c. United States ✓
- d. United Kingdom

ICET

## Questions for Practice

Consider the following statements with respect to UN Peacekeeping Mission:

1. The power to deploy a UN Peacekeeping mission resides with UN Security Council



2. There are no Asian countries among the top 5 fund contributors to UN Peacekeeping Missions



3. The United Nation General Assembly can take a decision to end any UN Peacekeeping Mission



How many statements given above is/are correct?

a. Only one



b. Only two

c. All three

d. None

## Questions for Practice

Consider the following pairs

WPA 2022

1. Schedule I – Animals with greater protection
2. Schedule II - Animals which can be hunted X ;
3. Schedule III – Protected Plant species
4. Schedule IV – CITES species ✓

How many pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a. Only one
- b. Only two
- c. Only three ✓
- d. All four

## Questions for Practice

Consider the following pairs

*World Bank*

- x* 1. Global Economic Prospects report – World Economic Forum
- x* 2. GLOBAL RISK REPORT – World bank
- 3. WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION AND PROSPECTS – UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

How many pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a. Only one ✓
- b. Only two ✓
- c. All three
- d. None

## Questions for Practice

How many of the following countries can be considered as part of the Horn of Africa?

1. Somalia ✓

2. Uganda ✗

3. Burundi ✗

4. Djibouti ✓

Code

a. Only one

b. Only two ✓

c. Only three

d. All four

SEED  
↓

# Global Buddhist Conference and the New Delhi Declaration

- The Dalai Lama on April 21 participated in a global Buddhist conference hosted by India
- The Tibetan spiritual leader attended the second day of the first global Buddhist conference here and addressed delegates from 30 countries which include monks, Buddhist scholars and practitioners and heads of Buddhist organisations from across the globe.
- The Union Culture Ministry and the International Buddhist Confederation are the organisers of the conference



# Global Buddhist Conference and the New Delhi Declaration

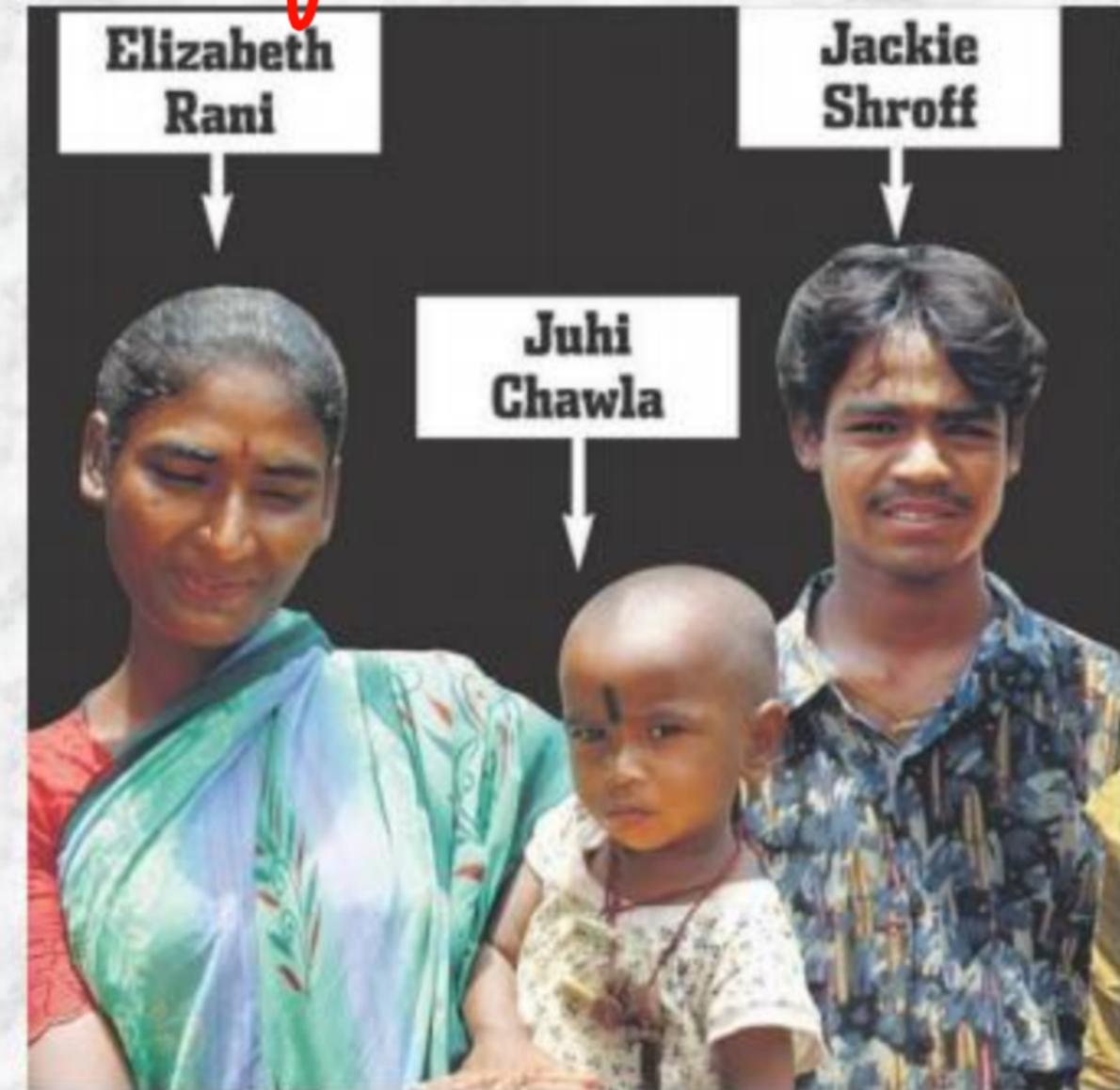
- A declaration was adopted at the end of the summit on April 21 which sought focus on the need to address the burning challenges both within and globally and offer a sustainable model for future of the world.
- It also focused on need for environmental sustainability, need to free human race from conflict, peace, preservation and access to Buddhist pilgrimage sites.
- Over 170 delegates from foreign countries, including Mexico, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Japan, and 150 from India are participating in the conference.
- While the largest number of delegates are from Sri Lanka (20) and Vietnam (30), there are no participants from China.

China

## Who are Hakki Pikkis?

→ Semi-nomadic  
↳ global nomads

- The Hakki Pikkis are traditionally a semi-nomadic tribe of bird catchers and hunters, who settled down in several parts of Karnataka.
- In the last 20 years the community left bird catching and hunting, and have started to prepare traditional medicines, especially hair oils.
- The settlement on the edge of the Bannerghatta National Park has both Hakki Pikki and Iruliga tribals staying here.
- In 1962, the Government of Karnataka allotted 350 acres of land for them to sustain themselves through agriculture. But for the longest time, the Forest Department claimed that the tribes were encroachers.



## Who are Hakki Pikkis?

- The oral history of the community points to its geographical origins in the northwestern part of India where its members were part of the army of Maharana Pratap, the 16th century Rajput king of Mewar, who fought against the Mughal emperor Akbar.
- After Maharana Pratap's defeat, the community dispersed all over India. In the colonial era, the Hakki Pikkis and similar tribes all over the country were designated as "criminal tribes" through legislation in 1871 and were marginalised.
- According to Census 2011, there are 11,892 Hakki Pikki tribal people in Karnataka.



## Who are Hakki Pikkis?

- **Hakki Pikkis in Sudan are caught in the middle of a violent civil war between forces loyal to two army generals: Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo.**
- **There are more than 300 of them who are pinned down in conflict zones in Sudan.**
- **Herbal products such as hair oils, massage oils, and unguents made by them are highly sought after in Sudan where it is difficult to find doctors.**



# SuperBIT ✓

- SuperBIT is an acronym for Super-pressure Balloon-borne Imaging Telescope.
- It's a high-resolution telescope that operates in the stratosphere using NASA's super pressure balloon (SPB) system.
- SuperBIT is a football-stadium-sized balloon that carries a 3,500 lb telescope to an altitude of 40 km above sea level.
- It flies at an altitude of 33.5 km, above 99.5% of the Earth's atmosphere



# SuperBIT

- On April 16, 2023, SuperBIT launched from Wānaka, New Zealand, and captured its first research images of the Tarantula Nebula and Antennae Galaxies.
- The balloon separated from the payload and rapidly deflated. The payload floated safely to the ground on a parachute and landed in an unpopulated area 66 nautical miles northeast of Gobernador Gregores, Argentina



## State of Global Climate Report 2022 ✓

- The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has been publishing the State of the Global Climate report since 1993
- The report shows that the years 2015–2022 were the eight warmest years on record, despite the cooling impact of a La Niña event for the past three years.
- 2022 was the 5th or 6th warmest year, with a global mean temperature 1.15°C above the 1850–1900 average
- The concentration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) reached 415.7 parts per million globally, or 149% of the pre-industrial (1750) level, while methane reached 262% and nitrous oxide hit 124%.
- The glaciers saw an average thickness loss of more than 1.3 metres between October 2021 and October 2022 — a loss much larger than the average over the last decade.

→ Annual frequency

CO<sub>2</sub> → 1750

→ 150ppm  
100ppm

## Uttaramerur Inscription

- **Uttaramerur has multiple inscriptions spanning centuries, the most famous one – being referred to by PM Modi – is from the reign of Parantaka I (907-953 AD).**
- **These provide a detailed description of the village's self-governance and have been cited by historians and political leaders alike as evidence of India's history of democratic functioning.**
- **Where is Uttaramerur? Uttaramerur lies in present-day Kanchipuram district, approximately 90 km southeast of Chennai**
- **Today, it is a small town and had a population of roughly 25,000 in the census of 2011. It is known for its historic temples built during Pallava and Chola rule.**



# Uttaramerur Inscription

- **What does the inscription say?**
- **The inscription gives details of the functioning of the local sabha, i.e. the village assembly.**
- **A sabha was an assembly exclusively of brahmins and had specialised committees tasked with different things.**
- **The Uttaramerur inscription details how members were selected, the required qualifications, their roles and responsibilities, and even the circumstances in which they could be removed.**
- **Furthermore, for all intents and purposes, the inscription is like a constitution – it describes both the responsibilities of members of the sabha as well as the limitations to the authority of these members.**
- **If the rule of law (rather than rule by personal diktat) is an essential component of a democracy, the Uttaramerur inscription describes a system of government which follows just that.**



## Indian Space Policy 2023

- ISRO shall transition out from manufacturing operational space systems and focus its energies on research and development in advanced technologies.
- Non-government entities (NGEs) can offer national and international space-based communication services
- NGE can go for establishment and operation of space objects, ground-based assets and related services such as communication, remote sensing and navigation.
- NGE can manufacture and operate space transportation systems, including launch vehicles, shuttles
- NSIL shall be responsible for commercializing space technologies and platforms created through public expenditure.

→ Department of Space  
→ In-SPACE  
→ ISRO  
→ NSIL

# Indian Space Policy 2023

- **Department of Space**
- **It will be the nodal department for implementation of the Indian Space Policy-2023**
- **Formulation and implementation of space policy**
- **monitor the assignment of duties described in the Space policy**
  
- **ISRO**
- **to research and develop new space technology**
- **Development of novel systems and conduct applied research**
- **Share technologies, products, processes and best practices with NGEs and/or Government companies**

# Indian Space Policy 2023

- **IN-SPACE**
- **IN-SPACE shall function as an autonomous Government organization, mandated to promote, hand-hold, guide and authorize space activities in the country.**
- **It will act as the single window agency for the authorisation of space activities by government entities as well as NGEs**
- **To support, oversee, direct, and approve space operations across the nation.**
- **Issue guidelines and procedures periodically to create a stable and uniform framework**
- **Collaborate with industries, locally as well as globally, to promote space endeavors**

# Indian Space Policy 2023

- **NSIL**

→ New space India (tel)

- **NSIL, as the Public Sector Undertaking under DOS, shall:**

1. **be responsible for commercialising space technologies and platforms created through public expenditure.**

2. **manufacture, lease, or procure space components, technologies, platforms and other assets from private or public sector, on sound commercial principles.**

3. **service the space-based needs of users, whether Government entities or NGEs, on sound commercial principles.**

## Raccoon Stealer

- **Raccoon Infostealer (AKA Racealer), first observed in April 2019, is a simple but popular, effective, and inexpensive Malware-as-a-Service (MaaS) sold on Dark Web forums.**
- **Raccoon's payload is designed to infect 32-bit and 64-bit systems Windows-based systems.**
- **Raccoon stealer targets browser autofill passwords, history, and cookies, credit cards, usernames, passwords, cryptocurrency wallets, and other sensitive data.**
- **In early 2022, Raccoon's maintainers shut down operations temporarily due to the impact of the Ukraine war on its members.**
- **However, in June 2022, Raccoon returned with an updated version, including upgraded infrastructure and a completely rebuilt payload.**

## Finland's NATO Membership

- On April 4, 2023, Finland finally became the 31st country to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) after applying last May

→ 31 members



# NATO

→ Collective Security

→ Attack on one member = Attack on  
NATO

⇒ Inclusion of any country on  
basis of consensus.

## World Development Report 2023

- The World Development Report 2023, titled **Migrants, Refugees, and Societies**, was published by **the World Bank**.
- It is an **annual report**.
- The World Development Report 2023 estimates that there are currently **184 million** migrants globally, equivalent to **2.3%** of the population, including **37 million** refugees.
- The World Development Report 2023 has identified **India-US**, **India-GCC**, and **Bangladesh-India** as among the top migration corridors worldwide, alongside **Mexico-US**, **China-US**, **Philippines-US**, and **Kazakhstan-Russia**.

# World Development Report 2023

- **About World Bank:** ✓
- **The World Bank is an international organization that provides financial and technical assistance to developing countries.**
- **It aims to reduce poverty by lending money to the governments of its poorer members.**
- **The World Bank is owned by 187 countries and is made up of five institutions managed by their member countries**
- **The United States is the largest single shareholder, followed by Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom, and France.**
- **The World Bank was established in 1944 to help rebuild Europe and Japan after World War II. Its official name was the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).**

## Water Bodies: First Census Report

- The Ministry of Jal Shakti has released the report of India's first water bodies census
- It is a comprehensive data base of ponds, tanks, lakes, and reservoirs in the country.
- The census was conducted in 2018-19, and enumerated more than 2.4 million water bodies across all states and Union Territories.
- As per the report, 24,24,540 water bodies have been enumerated in the country, out of which 97.1% (23,55,055) are in rural areas and only 2.9% (69,485) are in urban areas.
- West Bengal has highest number of ponds & reservoirs, whereas Andhra Pradesh has highest number of tanks, Tamil Nadu has highest number of lakes and Maharashtra is the leading state for water conservation scheme

## Water Bodies: First Census Report

- A major proportion of water bodies i.e., **83.7%** (20,30,040) are in use whereas remaining **16.3%** (3,94,500) are not in use on account of drying up, construction, siltation, destroyed beyond repair, salinity and other reasons
- Most of the water bodies are used in **pisciculture**, followed by irrigation, ground water recharge and domestic/drinking purpose.
- **55.2%** (13,38,735) of water bodies are owned by private entities whereas **44.8%** (10,85,805) of water bodies are in the domain of public ownership.
- Out of all public owned water bodies, maximum water bodies are owned by **Panchayats**, followed by State Irrigation /State WRD
- **78%** (18,90,463) of enumerated water bodies are man-made whereas the remaining **22%** (5,34,077) are natural water bodies.

## Morel Mushroom

- It is known worldwide for its meaty texture, robust flavor and to ward off free radicals that cause ageing
- They are found on the foothills of the Himalayas, also known as "gucchi"
- The mushrooms cannot be cultivated commercially and grow in conifer forests across temperature regions, and the foothills in Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, and Jammu and Kashmir.
- And it takes months for villagers to collect enough of these mushrooms, dry them and bring them to the market.

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- **And it takes months for villagers to collect enough of these mushrooms, dry them and bring them to the market.**
- **These mushrooms usually grow in clusters on logs of decaying wood, leaves or humus soil.**
- **They may or may not grow in the same spot the next season, which only makes the process of collection more tedious.**

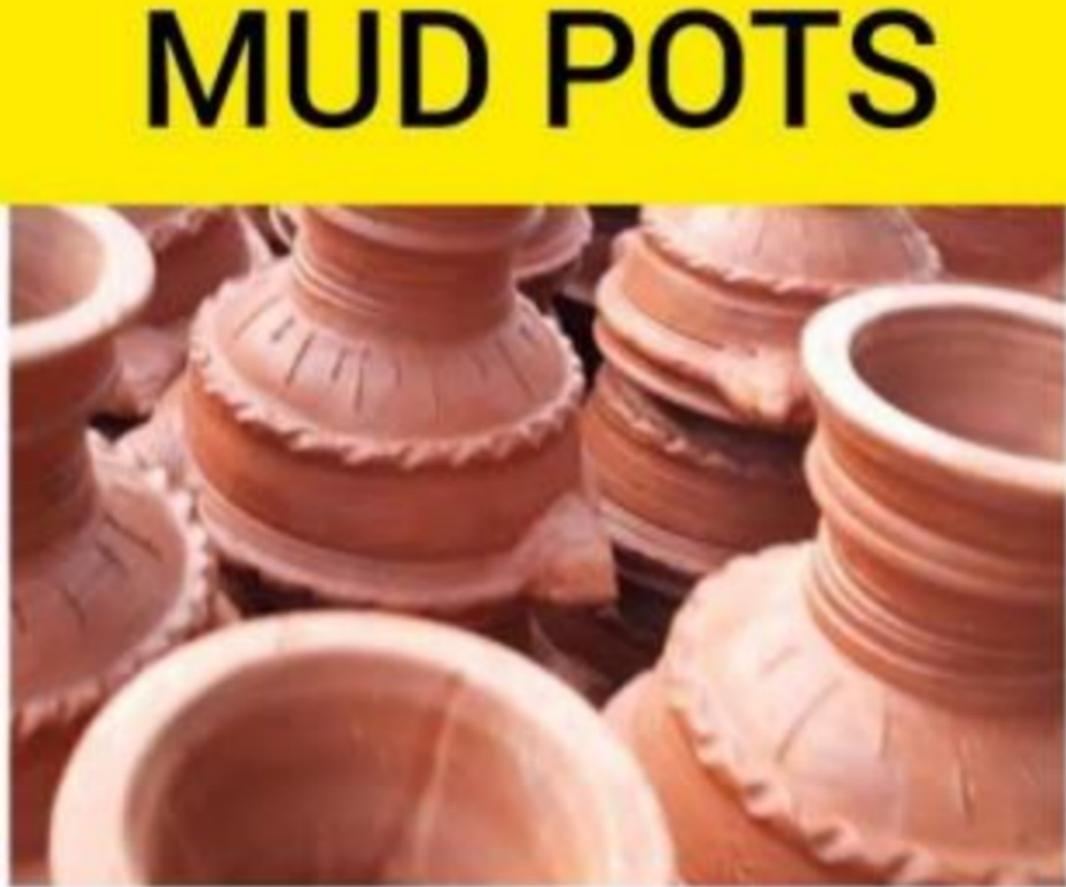


## Tamil Nadu's Manamadurai pottery gets GI tag

- **What makes these pots unique?**
- **A unique type of clay is sourced from water bodies like Nedunkulam, Nathapurakki, Sundaranadappu, Seikalathur to make these pots.**
- **While making these pots, the five elements of nature namely earth, water, fire, sun and air are used.**
- **The basic material for pottery is mud, which represents the earth. Mud is mixed with water, another element of nature.**
- **This is followed by baking in fire, adding the third element.**
- **The air percolates through the pores in the clay, marking the fourth element. And finally, the cavity enclosed by the pot or any related article represents space.**
- **Manamadurai Ceramics recently received a Geographical Indication (GI) label, recognizing it as a distinct regional product.**



# MANAMADURAI FAMOUS MUD POTS



## GI tags

- A geographical indication or GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin
- In India, Geographical Indications registration is administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act of 1999.
- The Act is administered by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks- who is the Registrar of Geographical Indications.
- Who can apply for the registration of a geographical indication?
- Any association of persons, producers, organisation or authority established by or under the law can apply
- An authorised user has the exclusive rights to the use of geographical indication in relation to goods in respect of which it is registered.
- The registration of a geographical indication is valid for a period of 10 years. It can be renewed from time to time for further period of 10 years each.

WIPO

## Kochi Water Metro ✓

- The project is expected to reduce pollution and traffic congestions in the city and also ease access to business areas on the mainland for urban households situated along the Kochi lakeshore.
- The project is intending to use the inland waterways in and around Kochi the major share of the waterways are - National Waterways ( NW3) - 40%, Cochin Port Trust Waters - 33%, existing routes under irrigation - 20%, other inland waters -7%.
- The proposed Water Metro Project comprises of fifteen (15) identified routes connecting thirty eight (38) jetties across ten (10) island communities and 2 boatyards.
- The overall length of the line lengths of these 15 routes is 76.2 line kilometres.
- The Kochi Water Metro project has a total value of 819 crores and major part of which is financed under Indo-German Financial Cooperation with a long-term loan agreement of 85 million ✓



→ backwaters / Kayal

→ Water metro

→ NW-3

## Buzi Bridge in Mozambique

- **External Affairs Minister of India also virtually inaugurated a 717 meter-long bridge over River Buzi in Mozambique that forms a part of the 132 km long road being constructed by M/s Afcons Infrastructure Ltd. under the Government of India's concessional Line of Credit.**



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## Balikatan Drills between the US and the Philippines

- The United States and the Philippines have begun their largest-ever military drills, which will include a live-fire exercise on a sunken ship in the South China Sea.
- More than 17,000 soldiers are taking part in the annual event, known as Balikatan, with about 12,200 American troops, 5,400 members of the Philippines armed forces (AFP) as well as representatives from other countries, including Australia.
- Balikatan means 'shoulder to shoulder' in Tagalog.







# KHAN GLOBAL STUDIES

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**THANKS FOR WATCHING**

