



**Sleepy Classes**  
Free. Regular. Quality.

---

# Daily News Discussion (DND)

9th April 2021

---

Visit our website [www.sleepyclasses.com](http://www.sleepyclasses.com) or

our [YouTube channel](#) for entire GS Course **FREE** of cost

Also Available: Prelims Crash Course || Prelims Test Series

## Table of Contents

<b>1. Science &amp; Technology</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1. Double mutant virus .....	1
1.2. African swine fever .....	1
1.3. 180 AEFI deaths reported in India .....	3
<b>2. International Relations</b> .....	<b>4</b>
2.1. Ukraine's bid to join NATO .....	4
<b>3. Economy</b> .....	<b>6</b>
3.1. Tribal Health Collaborative 'Anamaya- PIB' .....	6
3.2. India Energy Exchange (IEX) .....	7
<b>4. Polity</b> .....	<b>10</b>
4.1. Tribunal ordinance 2021 .....	10
<b>5. History</b> .....	<b>12</b>
5.1. Competition for 'iconic structure' .....	12
5.2. ASI will survey mosque, orders court .....	12
Current affairs Worksheet (9th April 2021) .....	14

### Note -

- The Newspaper clippings pasted in PDF are important from Mains point of view as it contains the fodder material for Mains Answer Writing.
- Also watch DND video lectures everyday @ 4 PM on Sleepy's YouTube channel in order to understand how to get the most out of everyday's Newspaper .

Click [here](#) to watch the following topics on YouTube

# 1. Science & Technology

## 1.1. Double mutant virus

- The “double mutant” virus that scientists had flagged last month as having a bearing on the spread of the pandemic in India, has a formal scientific classification: B.1.617
  - ✓ The variant is common in India – how much in every State is unclear though – and has a couple of defining mutations, E484Q and L425R, that enable it to become more infectious and evade antibodies.
  - ✓ There is a third significant mutation, P614R.
  - ✓ All three concerning mutations are on the spike protein, the operative part of the coronavirus that binds to receptor cells of the body.

### Variant of Concern

- These are variants for which there is evidence of an increase in transmissibility, more severe disease (increased hospitalizations or deaths), significant reduction in neutralization by antibodies generated during previous infection or vaccination, reduced effectiveness of treatments or vaccines, or diagnostic detection failures
- Certain variants of the coronavirus, for instance, B.1.1.7 and B.1.351 – have been termed the “United Kingdom” and “South Africa” variant, respectively, because they have mutations associated with large spikes in these countries or reduce the efficacy of vaccines and are termed “variants of concern (VOC)”.

### Resistant to T cells

- L452R, some studies show, could even make the coronavirus resistant to T cells, a class of cells necessary to target and destroy virus-infected cells.

### B and T cell

- B-cells fight bacteria and viruses by making antibodies, which are specific to each pathogen and are able to lock onto the surface of an invading cell and mark it for destruction by other immune cells
- There are two main types of T-cells: helper T-cells and killer T-cells. Helper T-cells stimulate B-cells to make antibodies and help killer cells develop. Killer T-cells directly kill cells that have already been infected by a foreign invader

## 1.2. African swine fever

- African swine fever is a viral disease of pigs and wild boar that is usually deadly. There are neither vaccines nor cures. For this reason, it has serious socio-economic consequences in affected countries.
- It is caused by a large DNA virus of the Asfarviridae family
- Healthy pigs and boar usually become infected by:
  - ✓ Contact with infected animals, including contact between free- ranging pigs and wild boar.

- ✓ Ingestion of meat or meat products from infected animals – kitchen waste, swill feed, infected wild boar (including offal).
- ✓ Contact with anything contaminated by the virus such as clothing, vehicles and other equipment.
- ✓ Bites by infectious ticks.

### Sign and symptoms

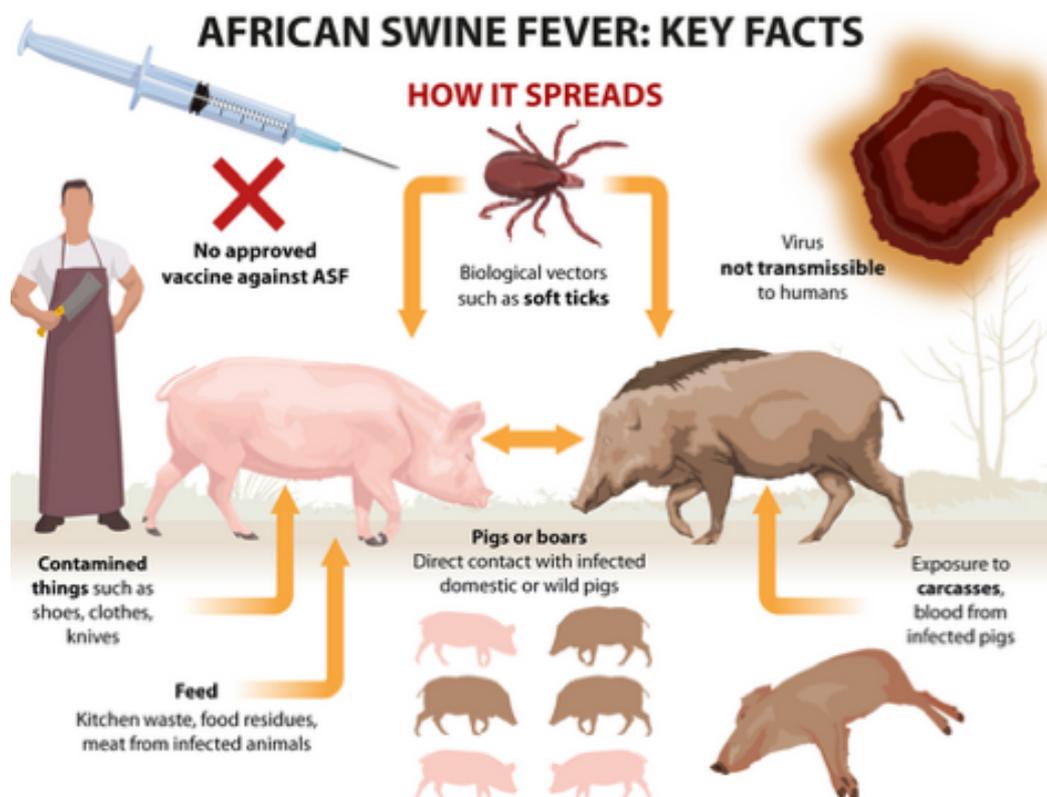
- The typical signs of African swine fever are similar to classical swine fever, and the two diseases normally have to be distinguished by laboratory diagnosis.
- Symptoms include fever, loss of appetite, lack of energy, abortions, internal bleeding, with haemorrhages visible on the ears and flanks. Sudden death may occur.

### Prevention and control

- Currently there is no approved vaccine for ASF.
- Prevention This includes ensuring proper disposal of waste food from aircraft, ships or vehicles coming from affected countries and policing illegal imports of live pigs and pork products from affected countries.
- Classic sanitary measures may be employed including early detection and humane killing of animals (with proper disposal of car cases and waste); thorough cleansing and disinfection; zoning/ compartmentalisation and movement controls etc

### Is it a public health threat?

- ASF cannot be transmitted to humans through contact with pigs or pork.
- ASF only affects members of the pig family.



## Classical swine fever (CSF)

- also known as hog cholera, is a contagious viral disease of domestic and wild swine.
- It is caused by a virus of the family Flaviviridae
- Humans are not affected by this virus.
- Swine are the only species known to be susceptible

## 1.3.180 AEFI deaths reported in India

- According to a presentation made to the National AEFI Committee during a meeting held on March 31, there have been 617 severe and serious (including deaths) adverse events following immunisation (AEFI).
- As on March 29, a total of 180 deaths (29.2%) have been reported following vaccination across the country.
- Complete documentation is available only for 236 (38.3%) cases.

## Adverse event following immunization (AEFI)

- Any untoward medical occurrence which follows immunization and which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with the usage of the vaccine.
- If not rapidly and effectively dealt with, can undermine confidence in a vaccine and ultimately have dramatic consequences for immunization coverage and disease incidence.
- Reported adverse events can either be true adverse events, i.e. actually a result of the vaccine or immunization process, or coincidental events that are not due to the vaccine or immunization process, but are temporally associated with immunization.

## What are the categories of AEFIs?

- Vaccine product-related reaction: inherent property of the vaccine formulation
- Vaccine quality defect-related reaction: deficient quality of the vaccine, diluent and/or delivery equipment from the manufacturer's side
- Immunization error-related reaction: due to inappropriate handling or administration of the vaccine, thus preventable
- Immunization anxiety-related reaction: arising from anxiety about immunization
- Coincidental event: is caused by something other than the vaccine product, immunization error or immunization anxiety

## 2. International Relations

### 2.1. Ukraine's bid to join NATO

- Recently Ukrainian President urged the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to speed up his country's membership in the alliance.

#### Russia- Ukraine issue

- Russia's 2014 annexation of Ukraine's Crimea peninsula ignited the tensest standoff between Moscow and the West since the Cold War and the region has been deadlocked ever since
- A 2015 peace accord ended the bloodiest fighting of the seven-year conflict, which has claimed more than 13,000 lives.
- But the terms have never been fully met and a lasting resolution remains some way off. The major stumbling block cuts to the core of the two former allies' entire falling out: whether Ukraine leans eastward or westward

#### Protesters demanded a break from the nation's Soviet past

- But Putin justified his subsequent annexation of Crimea and support for the fighters in eastern Ukraine by saying he must defend Russian-speakers, wherever they are
- Russia continues to oppose long-term goals now enshrined in Ukraine's constitution -- including European Union and NATO membership.
- Putin also points to roots between Ukraine and Russia that date back to the ninth century

#### Past News 2018

- Russia's capture of three Ukrainian naval ships in the disputed Azov Sea

#### UNCLOS

- Signed by both Russia and Ukraine
  - ✓ Ukraine and Russia accuse each other of violating international maritime law. They refer to the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, which both states joined in the 1990s
- Ukraine
  - ✓ insists on freedom of movement in the Kerch Strait and the Sea of Azov in accordance with this agreement
- Russia
  - ✓ Trying to draw territorial borders.
  - ✓ The countries also have a bilateral agreement on the free use of the Kerch Strait and the Sea of Azov, an accord that Russia has never called into question.



## Significance of Kerch strait

- only connection between the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, and the only way to reach two important Ukrainian ports.
- Russia has controlled the strait since annexing Crimea in 2014, which has made traffic significantly more difficult for Ukrainian ships.

## Sea of Azov

- It is a sea in Eastern Europe.
- The sea is bounded in the north and in the west by Ukraine, in the east by Russia
- To the south it is linked by the narrow Strait of Kerch to the Black Sea, and it is sometimes regarded as a northern extension of the Black Sea.

## North Atlantic Treaty Organization

- It is a military alliance established by the North Atlantic Treaty (also called the Washington Treaty) of April 4, 1949, by the United States, Canada, and several Western European nations to provide collective security against the Soviet Union.
- Headquartered at Brussels, Belgium.

## Article 5

- if one member of the alliance is attacked in Europe or North America, it is to be considered an attack on all members. That effectively put Western Europe under the “nuclear umbrella” of the US.
- However it invoked Article 5 only once on September 12, 2001, following the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center in the US.
- NATO’s protection does not extend to members’ civil wars or internal coups.
- Latest member-Republic of North Macedonia (30th )

## Open door policy (Article 10)

- Any decision to invite a country to join the Alliance is taken by the North Atlantic Council on the basis of consensus among all Allies.
- Currently, three partner countries have declared their aspirations to NATO membership: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia and Ukraine.

## Membership Action Plan

- It is a NATO programme of advice, assistance and practical support tailored to the individual needs of countries wishing to join the Alliance.
- Currently Bosnia and Herzegovina participating in MAP.

## 3. Economy

### 3.1. Tribal Health Collaborative 'Anamaya- PIB

- Anamaya, the Tribal Health Collaborative was launched by Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Union Minister of Tribal Affairs at a function in New Delhi today

#### About Anamaya

- It will converge efforts of various Government agencies and organisations to enhance the health and nutrition status of the tribal communities of India.
- It aims to build a sustainable, high-performing health eco-system to address the key health challenges faced by the tribal population of India.
- It will begin its operations with 50 tribal, Aspirational Districts (with more than 20% ST population) across 6 high tribal population states.
- Over a 10-year period, the work of the THC will be extended to 177 tribal Districts as recognised by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

#### Tribal Health cell

- Set up under Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- It will help central ministries and state governments to facilitate and strengthen primary health care systems and invest in tribal health research

#### 1000 Springs Initiative

- The '1000 Springs Initiative' by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and United Nations Development Programme demonstrated a localized innovative solution by harnessing the potential of perennial springs to meet the water needs of the remote tribal communities.

#### Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) –NITI Aayog

- Launched in January 2018 with the vision that renewed focus on interventions in the most backward districts of India.
- Three pillars
  - ✓ Convergence (of Central and State Schemes)
  - ✓ Collaboration (between Centre, State, District and Citizens)
  - ✓ Competition (among the districts through NITI Aayog's Champions of Change dashboard)
- Aspirational Districts
  - ✓ Aspirational Districts are those districts in India, that are affected by poor socio-economic indicators.
  - ✓ The 115 districts were identified from 28 states, at least one from each state.

## 3.2. India Energy Exchange (IEX)

- Average spot power price rose by 65 per cent to Rs 4.06 per unit in March compared to the year-ago month at Indian Energy Exchange mainly due to increase in demand on account of rise in temperature and revival of economic activities.

### India Energy Exchange (IEX)

- It is the first and largest energy exchange in India.
- It is providing trading platform for physical delivery of electricity, Renewable Energy Certificates and Energy Saving Certificates.
- It is a publicly listed company with National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE).
- It is approved and regulated by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and has been operating since 2008.

### Market

- Day-Ahead Market (DAM)
  - ✓ It is a physical electricity trading market for deliveries for any/ some/all 15 minute time blocks in 24 hours of next day starting from midnight.
- Term-Ahead Market (TAM)
  - ✓ Cover a range for buying/selling electricity for duration up to 11 days.
- Benefits
  - ✓ It enables participants to purchase electricity for the same day through intra-day contracts, for the next day through day-ahead contingency, on daily basis for rolling seven days through daily contracts

### Renewable Energy Certificate (REC)

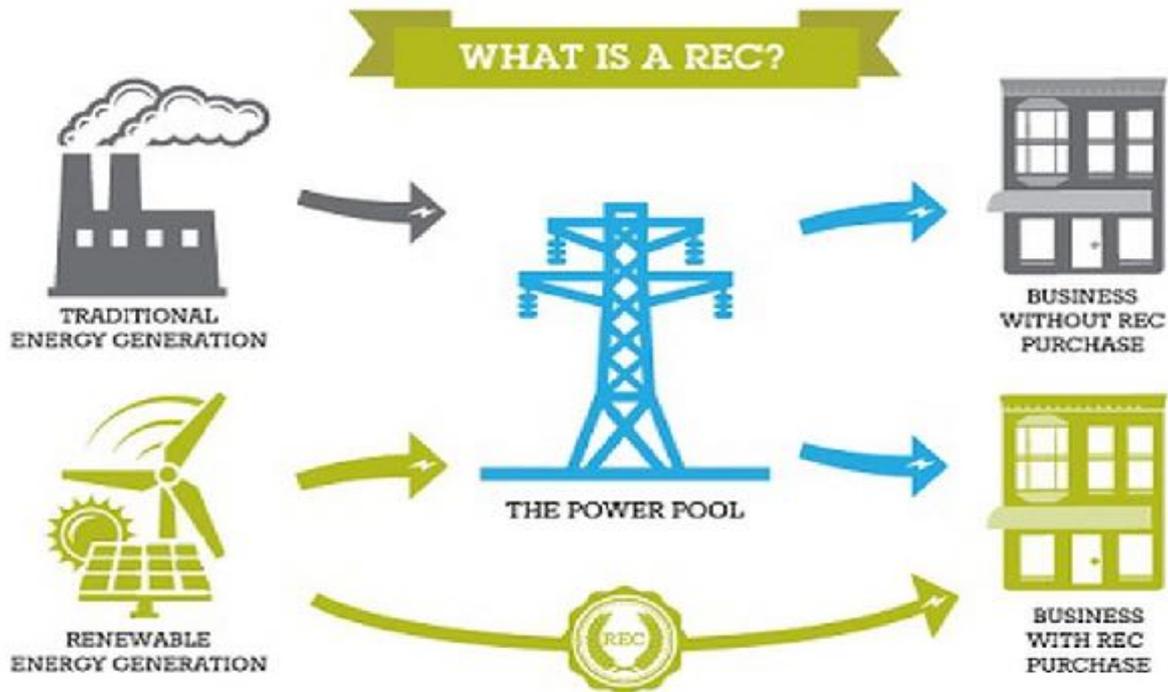
- Market based instrument to promote renewable energy and facilitate compliance of renewable purchase obligations (RPO).
- It is aimed at addressing the mismatch between availability of RE resources in state and the requirement of the obligated entities to meet the renewable purchase obligation (RPO).
- One Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) is treated as equivalent to 1 MWh.

### How many types of RECs are there?

- There are two categories of RECs, viz., solar RECs and non-solar RECs.
- Solar RECs are issued to eligible entities for generation of electricity based on solar as renewable energy source
- Non-solar RECs are issued to eligible entities for generation of electricity based on renewable energy sources other than solar.

## Eligibility

- Generating company engaged in generation of electricity from renewable energy sources shall be eligible to apply for registration for issuance of and dealing in Certificates



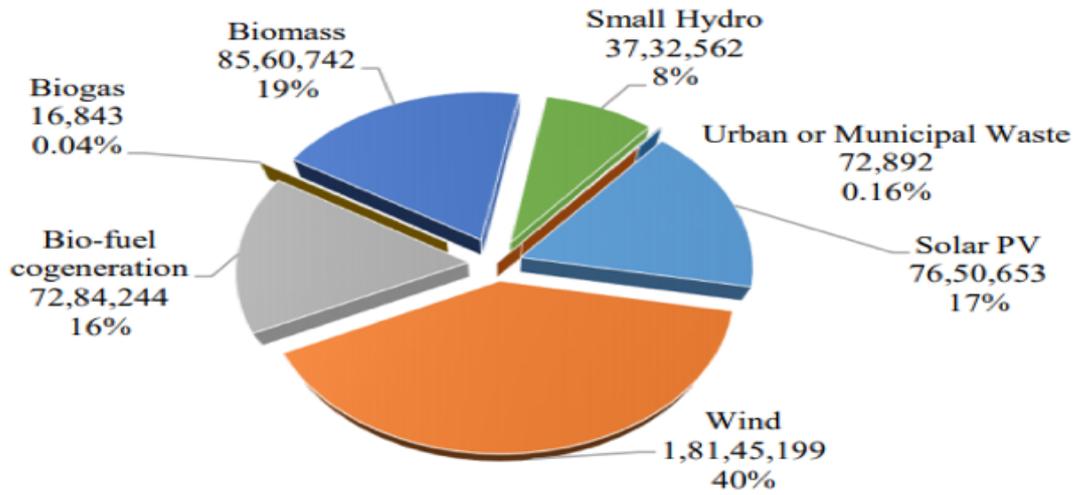
## Enhanced energy efficiency (2010)-Min of Power Perform , achieve , Trade (PAT)Energy saving certificate.

- 1EScert=1 metric tonne oil equivalent(MTOe) of energy consumed.
- 1MTOe=
  - ✓ Average price of coal
  - ✓ Price of oil(as declared by IOC).
  - ✓ Gas(as by GAIL)
- Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Min of power)

✓ The Government of India set up Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). on 1st March 2002 under the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001.



### Technology-wise breakup of RECs issuance



## 4. Polity

### 4.1. Tribunal ordinance 2021

- Recently, the President promulgated Tribunal Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance 2021 through which the Appellate authorities under nine laws have been replaced with High Courts.

#### Nine laws

- The Cinematograph Act, 1952.
- The Copyright Act, 1957.
- The Customs Act, 1962.
- The Patents Act, 1970.
- The Airports Authority of India Act, 1994.
- The Trade Marks Act, 1999.
- The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- The Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002.

#### Amendments in Finance Act 2017

- Amendments have been introduced to the Finance Act 2017 involving the qualifications and tenure of the Chairperson and members of Tribunals.
- The tenure of Chairperson of a Tribunal has been fixed for a term of four years or till the age of 70, whichever is earlier.
- Members of a tribunal will also have a tenure of four years or until they turn 67.

#### Search-cum-selection committees:

- The Chairperson and Members will be appointed by the central government on the recommendation of a Search-cum-Selection Committee

#### Search-cum-Selection Committee

- Chief Justice of India, or a Supreme Court Judge nominated by him, as the Chairperson (with casting vote)
- Secretaries nominated by the central government
- The sitting or outgoing Chairperson, or a retired Supreme Court Judge, or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court.
- The Secretary of the Ministry under which the Tribunal is constituted (with no voting right).

#### About tribunals

- It is a quasi-judicial institution deal with problems such as resolving administrative or tax-related disputes.

## Constitutional Provisions

- Not originally a part of the Constitution.
- On the recommendation of Swaran Singh Committee Government introduced 42nd Amendment act 1976 & introduced Part XIV-A to the Constitution, which deals with 'Tribunals' and contains two articles:

### Article 323A

- It deals with Administrative Tribunals. These are quasi-judicial institutions that resolve disputes related to the recruitment and service conditions of persons engaged in public service.
- Parliament has power to enact any law under Article 323A

### Article 323B

- It deals with tribunals for other subjects such as Taxation, Industrial and labour, Foreign exchange, import and export, Land reforms, Food, Ceiling on urban property, Elections to Parliament and state legislatures, Rent and tenancy rights
- Both Parliament and State Legislatures can make laws on matters of Article 323B, subject to their legislative competence.

## 5. History

### 5.1.Competition for 'iconic structure'

- The Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry will launch a "restructured" second round of its design competition for the "iconic structure" to commemorate 75 years of Independence, after the first round entries failed to make the cut, a top Ministry official said on Thursday.
- The Ministry's Central Public Works Department (CPWD) had launched the competition in November 2020 and the results were to be announced by the end of December. However, the deadline has been pushed several times since
- CPWD launched a design competition for an "iconic structure" at the proposed New India Garden along the Yamuna near Purana Qila as a part of the Central Vista redevelopment project.
- The competition is open to Indian citizens / organisations only A sum of ₹ 5 lac is the prize for the winning entry while Five commendation prizes of ₹ 1 lac each have been announced.
- As a part of the redevelopment of the Central Vista, the existing 2.9- km-long Central Vista Axis from Rashtrapati Bhavan till India Gate would be extended till the garden spread over 20.22 acre



#### Guidelines

- It will be located on the western bank of river Yamuna. Hence, the foundation is to be sited in sandy soil with high water table.
- Structure: It can be a tower/sculpture or any other built form.
- Height: Maximum permissible height at the proposed site as per colour coded zonal map prepared by Airports Authority of India is 134 metres from the present ground level.

### 5.2.ASI will survey mosque, orders court

- A local court in Varanasi on Thursday directed the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to conduct a survey of the Gyanvapi Mosque, adjacent to the Kashi Vishwanath Temple, to find out whether it was a "superimposition, alteration or addition or if there is structural overlapping of any kind, with any other religious structure".
- The panel would "trace as to whether any Hindu temple ever existed before the mosque in question was built or superimposed or added upon at the disputed site

#### Places of worship act

- The Varanasi court's order upends the Places of Worship Act of 1991, which declared that "the religious character of a place of worship existing on August 15, 1947, shall continue to be the same as it existed on that date" and that "no suit, appeal or other proceeding with respect to ... such matter shall lie on or after such commencement in any court, tribunal or other authority

- The law was passed in the wake of the agitation underway at the time by Hindutva groups for various mosques – including the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya, the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi and the Idgah in Mathura – to be converted into temples.

### **Exemption**

- The 1991 Act excluded the Babri Masjid from its purview since a civil suit was already pending but barred any fresh attempts to convert an existing place of worship from one religion to another.
- Any place of worship which is an ancient and historical monument or an archaeological site covered by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

### **Penal provision in the Act**

- The Act provides for imprisonment up to three years and a fine for anyone contravening the prohibition.
- The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958
- defines Ancient Monument as any structure, erection or monument, or any tumulus or place of interment, or any cave, rock-sculpture, inscription or monolith which is of historical, archaeological or artistic interest and which has been in existence for not less than 100 years

### **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)**

- ASI was founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham who also became its first Director-General
- It was Lord Canning who helped pass a statute for ASI's establishment in 1861
- It regulates all archaeological activities as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
- It also regulates Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972.
- It works as an attached Office of the Ministry of Culture

### **Gyanvapi mosque (As per various protesting groups)**

- The remnants of the Hindu temple can be seen on the walls of the Gyanvapi mosque.
- The mosque is standing on the destroyed original Kashi Vishwanath temple.
- The temple structure that existed prior to the construction of the mosque was built by Raja Man Singh during Akbar's reign.
- Aurangzeb demolished of the temple

## Current affairs Worksheet (9th April 2021)

### Factual sheet for Quick revision

Topic	Description	Update
Sc n T	<p><b>B cell Vs T cell</b></p> <p><b>African swine fever</b></p> <p><b>AEFI</b></p>	
Polity	<p><b>Fundamental rights to citizen</b></p> <p><b>NGT</b></p> <p><b>Adm Tribunal</b></p> <p><b>NATO</b></p> <p><b>Tribunal ordinance</b></p> <p><b>Article 323A &amp; 323B</b></p>	
History	<p><b>Competition for 'iconic structure</b></p> <p><b>Places of worship act</b></p> <p><b>AMASR Act 1958</b></p>	
Economy	<p><b>Anamaya</b></p> <p><b>Aspirational Districts Programme</b></p> <p><b>IEX</b></p> <p><b>REC</b></p> <p><b>BEE</b></p> <p><b>PAT</b></p>	
Map	<p><b>South china sea island conflict</b></p> <p><b>Rohingya migration location</b></p> <p><b>Kerch strait &amp; sea of azov</b></p>	