



Sleepy Classes

Free. Regular. Quality.

Daily News Discussion (DND)

12th - 13th August 2021

Visit our website 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

Mains value Addition.....	1
1. Environment.....	2
1.1.Kaziranga guards equipped with satellite phones (TH)	2
1.2.Common survey to count elephants and tigers (TH)	3
2. Science & Technology	4
2.1.Ghaznavi Missile (TH).....	4
2.2.South Africa grants patent to an artificial intelligence system (TH)	4
3. Polity	5
3.1.FEMBoSA (PIB).....	5
3.2.Quality of Life for Elderly Index (PIB)	5
3.3.One Hundred and Twenty Seventh Amendment Bill 2021.....	7
3.4.NCPCR report on minority schools in India (IE).....	8
4. Geography	11
4.1.Vrushka Bandhan Project	11
5. History.....	12
5.1.Rana Punja Bhil	12
Current affairs Worksheet (12-13 Aug 2021).....	13

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

Mains value Addition

Paper I/III (Disaster management)

- The Odisha government has directed engineers of its Water Resources Department to prepare an action plan for the coastal stretches of the State, which are highly vulnerable to storm surges

Paper II (Cow protection Vs rights)

- An act of slaughtering a cow in the secrecy of one's own house in the early hours – probably because of poverty, lack of employment or hunger – may be described as a case involving law and order but not a matter affecting public order, the Allahabad High Court

Paper III (Land degradation)

- Speaking at the high-level virtual dialogue on desertification, land degradation and drought organised by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in New York, Indian PM said that India is on track to restore 26 million hectares (mha) of degraded land in order to achieve land degradation neutrality by 2030

Paper III (Urban employment)- Example

- Lessons need to be learnt from Himachal Pradesh (HP)
 - ✓HP launched Mukhya Mantri Shahri Ajeevika Guarantee Yojana (MMSAGY). Its objective was to enhance livelihood security in urban areas by providing 120 days of guaranteed wage employment to every household at minimum wages in FY 2020-21

1. Environment

1.1. Kaziranga guards equipped with satellite phones (TH)

- Kaziranga has become the first National Park in India to have been equipped with satellite phones

Key facts

- The decision to provide satellite phones for boosting anti-poaching measure
- The satellite phones will be used in pockets of the park's six ranges with no wireless or poor mobile connectivity
- The satellite phones will give an edge to the forest personnel over the poachers and also during emergencies like floods
- The public is barred from using satellite phones in India.
- The park authorities will bear the monthly expenses for the service provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.

Kaziranga National Park

- National park's 430 square kilometer area sprinkled **with elephant-grass meadows, swampy lagoons, and dense forests** is home to more than 2200 Indian one-horned rhinoceros, approximately 2/3rd of their total world population.
- It is the **single largest undisturbed and representative area** in the Brahmaputra Valley floodplain.
- In the year 1985, the park was declared as a **World Heritage Site by UNESCO**.
- The park also has more than **250 seasonal water bodies**, besides the **Diphlu River running through it**.
- Much of the focus of conservation efforts in Kaziranga are focused **on the 'big four' species – Rhino, Elephant, Royal Bengal Tiger and Asiatic water buffalo**.
- Over the time, the **tiger population has also increased in Kaziranga**, and that's the reason why Kaziranga was declared as **Tiger Reserve in 2006**.
- Also, the park is recognized as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International for the conservation of avifaunal species.
- Birds like lesser white-fronted goose, ferruginous duck, **Baer's pochard** duck and lesser adjutant, greater adjutant, **black-necked stork, and Asian Openbill stork** specially migrate from the Central Asia during the winter season

1.2. Common survey to count elephants and tigers (TH)

- From December, India will move to a system that will count tigers and elephants as part of a common survey.

Key points

- The **tiger survey is usually held once in four years and elephants are counted once in five years.**
- According to the most recent 2018-19 survey, there were **2,997 tigers in India.**
- According to the last count in 2017, there were **29,964 elephants in India.**
- Since 2006, the **Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun**, which is affiliated to the Environment Ministry, has a standardised protocol in place that States then use to estimate tiger numbers. Based on sightings in camera traps and indirect estimation methods, tiger numbers are computed.

Elephant Number (For more detail watch DND)

- Elephant numbers, **largely rely on States directly counting** the number of elephants.
- In recent years, techniques such as analysing dung samples have also been deployed to estimate birth rates and population trends in elephants.
- **Tiger census- Watch 6 March DND**

Benefits

- Given that 90% of the area occupied by **elephants and tigers is common**, and once estimation methods are standardised, having a common survey can significantly save costs

2. Science & Technology

2.1. Ghaznavi Missile (TH)

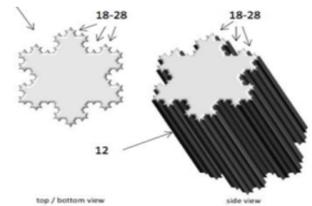
Pakistan successfully test-fires nuclear-capable ballistic missile Ghaznavi

About

- It is a nuclear-capable **surface-to-surface ballistic missile** which can strike targets up to **290 kilometres**
- It aimed at ensuring operational readiness of Army Strategic Forces Command
- It is capable of delivering multiple types of warheads

2.2. South Africa grants patent to an artificial intelligence system (TH)

- South Africa's decision grants **patent to an artificial intelligence system** has received widespread backlash from intellectual property experts
- The innovation in question **involves interlocking food containers** that are easy for robots to grasp and stack.
- It should be noted that the **UK's Intellectual Property Office** and the European Patent Office had both **rejected patent applications** regarding inventions made by DABUS



Reasons for rejection (USA & Europe)

- Respective patent laws only provide for human inventors – not AI
- Ideas, for the purposes of patents, require the element of “mental conception” – something of which only a human mind is capable.
- Finally, inventorship comes with rights, which AI is not legally capable of possessing.

DABUS

- DABUS (which stands for “device for the autonomous bootstrapping of unified sentience”) is an AI system
- The system simulates human brainstorming and creates new inventions. DABUS is a particular type of AI, often referred to as “**creativity machines**” because they are capable of independent and complex functioning.
- This differs from everyday AI like Siri, the “voice” of Apple's iPhones.

Creativity machines

- Creativity machines can process and critically analyse data, learning from it. This process is known as machine learning.
- Once the machine learning phase has occurred, the machine is able to “autonomously” create without human intervention.

3. Polity

3.1.FEMBoSA (PIB)

- CEC inaugurates 11th Annual Meeting of the Forum of the Election Management Bodies of South Asia (FEMBoSA) for 2021
- ECI hands over Chair FEMBoSA role to Election Commission of Bhutan for 2021-22
- The theme of the meeting was 'Use of Technology in Elections'
- **Annual meeting** was hosted by the Election Commission of Bhutan

FEMBoSA

- was established at the **3rd Conference of Heads of Election Management Bodies(EMBs) of SAARC Countries in 2012.**
- is an active regional cooperation association of Election Management Bodies
- **Member countries** : Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.
- In 11th annual meeting all members participated **except Pakistan**

3.2.Quality of Life for Elderly Index (PIB)

- Recently **Quality of Life for Elderly Index** was released by Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)

About

- The Index has been created by **the Institute for Competitiveness** at the request of EAC-PM
- The report identifies the regional patterns of ageing across Indian States and assesses the overall ageing situation in India
- **National Elderly Policy** defines people in the **60+ age group as elderly.**
- The share of elders, as a percentage of the total population in the country, is expected to increase from around **7.5% in 2001 to almost 12.5% by 2026, and surpass 19.5% by 2050.**
- Index Pillars (4)
 - ✓ Financial Well-being
 - ✓ Social Well-being
 - ✓ Health System
 - ✓ Income Security
- **Sub-pillars (8)**
- These are -Economic Empowerment, Educational Attainment & Employment, Social Status, Physical Security, Basic Health, Psychological Wellbeing, Social Security and Enabling Environment.

MIZORAM TOPS LIST AMONG NE STATES

TOP 3 RANKINGS

CATEGORY

AGED STATES

- 1 Rajasthan
- 2 Maharashtra
- 3 Bihar

CATEGORY

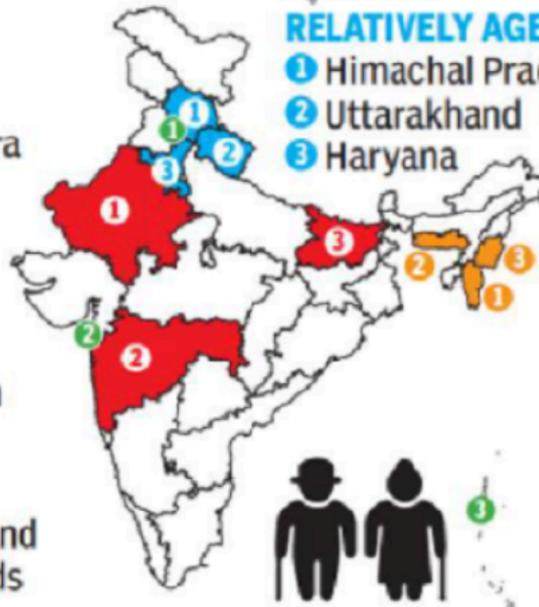
UNION TERRITORIES

- 1 Chandigarh
- 2 Dadra and Nagar Haveli
- 3 Andaman and Nicobar Islands

CATEGORY

RELATIVELY AGED STATES

- 1 Himachal Pradesh
- 2 Uttarakhand
- 3 Haryana



CATEGORY

NORTH EASTERN STATES

- 1 Mizoram
- 2 Meghalaya
- 3 Manipur

Pillarwise performance

- **Health System pillar** : It observes the highest national average, **66.97** at an all-India level, followed by 62.34 in Social Well-being.
- **Financial Well-being**: It observes a score of **44.7**, which is lowered by the low performance of 21 States across the Education Attainment & Employment pillar, which showcases scope for improvement.
- States have performed particularly **worse in the Income Security pillar** because over half of the States have a score below the national average in Income Security, which is the lowest across all pillars.

Important terms

Aged States

- States with an elderly population of **more than 5 million**
- Relatively Aged States
 - ✓ States with an Elderly population of **less than 5 million**.
- Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)
 - ✓ It is a non-constitutional, non-statutory, independent body
 - ✓ Aim- To give advice on economic and related issues to the Government of India, specifically to the Prime Minister
- Institute for Competitiveness

- ✓ India is an international initiative centered in India, dedicated to enlarging and purposeful disseminating of the body of research and knowledge on competition and strategy.

Significance of Index

- It goes far beyond the adequacy of pensions and other forms of income support, which, though critical, often narrows policy thinking and debate about the needs of this age group.
- The index highlights that the best way to improve the lives of the current and future generations of older people is by investing in health, education and employment for young people today.

3.3. One Hundred and Twenty Seventh Amendment Bill 2021

- After Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha too passes the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty Seventh Amendment) Bill 2021
- **Aim**-to restore the power of states and Union Territories to make their own OBC lists for the purpose of reservation in jobs and educational institutes.

Reason

Supreme court Judgement

- while scrapping a separate quota for the Maratha community in Maharashtra, it had ruled that after a 2018 amendment in the Constitution (102nd constitutional amendment), **only the central government could notify socially and educationally backward classes (SEBCs) – not the states.**

THE  HINDU —Paper

Empowering the States | The 127th Constitution Amendment Bill benefits 671 castes in the country and restores the States' rights to make their own list of OBCs

<p>1 The Bill seeks to restore the power of the States to identify OBCs that are socially and educationally backward after a Supreme Court order in May 2021 empowered only the Centre for this</p>	<p>2 The amendment was thought necessary because the SC, in its order on Maratha reservations, upheld the 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act, which said the President of India, in consultation with Governors, would specify socially and educationally backward classes, taking away the powers of the State governments to do so</p>	<p>3 Several parties also demanded a caste-based census to get a real idea of the number of OBCs in the country and to remove the 50% cap on reservations currently in place</p>
--	---	---

<p> You (BJP) tweaked the Constitution by bringing the 102nd Constitutional Amendment Bill, which gave people the opportunity to go to court and finally the SC removed the States' power</p> <p>ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY, CONGRESS LEADER</p>	<p> When the Amendment was brought, the government's intent was that both at the Central and State level, OBC lists will be maintained</p> <p>BHUPENDRA YADAV, LABOUR MINISTER</p>
--	--

THE LEGAL DIMENSION

- The 102nd Constitution Amendment Act of 2018 inserted articles 338B and 342A. These deal with:
 - ✓ The structure, duties and powers of the National Commission for Backward Classes (338B).
 - ✓ The powers of the President to notify a particular caste as Socially and Educationally Backward Communities (SEBCs), and the power of Parliament to change the list (342A)

3.4.NCPCR report on minority schools in India (IE)

- Recently NCPCR released a report titled “Impact of Exemption under Article 15 (5) with regards to Article 21A of the Constitution of India on Education of Children in Minority Communities”.

Key highlights

- Many students in minority institutions or schools **are not able to enjoy the** entitlements that are provided to the children of non-minority institutions
- **Christian Missionary schools**, which are admitting only a certain class of students and **leaving underprivileged children** out of the system, thus becoming what the Commission has called “cocoons populated by elites”.
- **Students in madarasas** which do not offer a secular course along with religious studies – such as the sciences – have fallen behind and feel **a sense of alienation and “inferiority” when they leave school.**
- The report also finds that **only 4.18% of total students received benefits such as freeships**, free uniforms and books, scholarships, etc. from school
- For ensuring free and compulsory quality education to children, the RTE Act, 2009 provides for norms pertaining to basic minimum infrastructure, number of teachers, books, uniform, Mid-day Meal etc, **benefits that students in minority schools have not been receiving.**

Minority schools in India

- **High number of Christian Missionary schools** in the country, in relation to the population of Christians,
- **Christians comprise 11.54 percent of the minority population but run 71.96 percent schools**
- **Muslims comprise 69.18 percent of the minority population but run 22.75 percent of schools**
- Sikhs comprise 9.78 percent minority population and run 1.54 percent schools
- **Buddhist comprise 3.83 percent minority population and run 0.48 percent schools**

- **Jains comprise 1.9 percent of the minority population and run 1.56 percent of schools.**
- **74 per cent of students studying at Christian missionary schools are non- minority students.**
- **Across minority communities – 62.50% of students in minority schools belong to non-minority communities.**
- **Further, only 8.76% of total students in minority schools belong to socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.**

Findings with regards to madarasas

- three kinds of madarasas in India
 - ✓ **Recognised Madrasas:** These are registered and impart both religious and secular education
 - ✓ **Unrecognised Madrasas:** These have been found deficient for registration by state governments, as secular education is not imparted.
 - ✓ **Unmapped Madrasas:** These have never applied for registration

The report has found the syllabus of these madrasas that have evolved over centuries **are not uniform**

Why has the Commission carried out the study?

- The Commission's objective was to **assess the impact of this exemption of minority educational institutions** from various guidelines that are mandatory for non-minority institutions.
- The Commission is of the view that the **two different sets of rules –**
- **Article 21A** that guarantees fundamental right of education to all children,
- **Article 30** which allows minorities to set up their own institutions with their own rules and **Article 15 (5)** which exempts minority schools from RTE – as "creating a conflicting picture between fundamental right of children and right of minority communities".

How are minority schools exempt from RTE and SSA?

86th amendment (2002)

- In 2002, the 86th Amendment to the Constitution **provided the Right to Education as a fundamental right.**
- The same **amendment inserted Article 21A**, which made the RTE a fundamental right for children aged between six and 14 years.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

- A central government scheme implemented in partnership with the state governments that aimed to provide **“useful and relevant, elementary education”** to all children between six and 14 years.

93rd amendment

- In 2006, the 93rd Constitution Amendment Act inserted **Clause (5) in Article 15** which **enabled the State to create special provisions**, such as reservations for advancement of any backward classes of citizens like Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in all aided or unaided educational institutes, except minority educational institutes.

RTE 2009

- The government subsequently brought the **Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009**, which centres around inclusive education for all, making it mandatory to include underprivileged children in schools.
- **Section 12(1)(c)** of the Act provided for **25 percent reservation of seats** in unaided schools for admission of children from economically weaker sections and disadvantaged groups.

Article 30

- **Art 30** of the Constitution states the **right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions**, with a view to provide opportunities to children from different religious and linguistic minority communities to have and conserve a distinct culture, script and language

2012 amendment

- In 2012, through an amendment, the institutions imparting religious education were **exempted from following the RTE Act**.
- **Later on, in 2014**, while discussing the validity of **exemption under Article 15 (5)**, the Supreme Court declared the RTE Act inapplicable to schools with minority status with the view that the Act should not interfere with the right of minorities to establish and administer institutions of their choice.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

- It is a statutory body set up in March 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.
- It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- It inquires into complaints relating to a child's right to free and compulsory education under the Right to Education Act, 2009.
- It monitors the implementation of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.

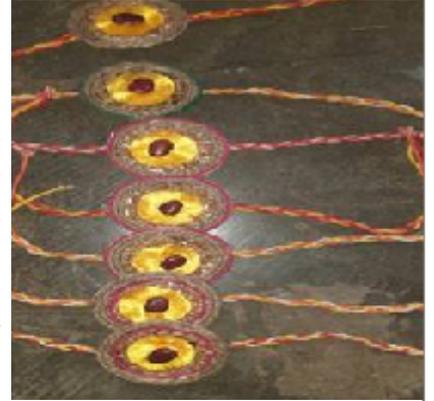
4. Geography

4.1. Vrushka Bandhan Project

- Ministry of Tribal Affairs in partnership with The Art of Living Foundation, Aurangabad, Maharashtra launched Vrushka Bandhan Project

Vrushka Bandhan Project

- Tribal women of Aurangabad are making Rakhis for Raksha Bandhan with seeds of indigenous trees, which is a unique contribution to increasing forest cover & combating climate change.
- The Rakhis are made of indigenous seeds stuck on **naturally dyed, soft indigenous, non-toxic, biodegradable cotton**.
- Once used, the **seeds can be sown in soil**, thereby benefiting the environment.
- It is expected that **thousands of trees would be planted** under this project and project will provide employment to tribal women associated with the project.
- The project based on **Gauadharitparamparagatkheti** seeks to preserve and revive the Traditional Ecological Knowledge of tribal communities and protect them from the negative effects of chemical agriculture.



5. History

5.1.Rana Punja Bhil

- A dispute in Rajasthan's Udaipur district over **hoisting of a flag on August 9 on the statue of Rana Punja Bhil**, a historical figure considered as a hero by the tribal Bhil community, has triggered tensions between Adivasi groups and BJP members.

About Dispute

- On the occasion of World Tribal Day on August 9, when members of the **Akhil Bharatiya Adivasi Mahasabha gathered near a statue of Rana Punja Bhil in Udaipur, they objected to a flag hoisted on it.**
- Tribal leaders have **alleged that a saffron flag was put up by the BJP** and Sangh Parivar on the statue, which is against the culture and identity of the community
- Much like Maharana Pratap, Rana Punja Bhil too has become a character with various political parties wanting to appropriate his legacy.
- He was a contemporary of 16th century ruler of Mewar, Maharana Pratap.
- Punja is considered to be a **significant character who bolstered the strength of Pratap** during his battles with Mughal emperor Akbar.
- When Maharana Pratap was readying for the battle with Akbar, the tribal **Bhil community voluntarily came to his assistance** and at the time the Bhil army was commanded by Punja. Owing to his status as a commander, he was bestowed the title of Rana
- It is not yet clear if **Punja himself was a Bhil or a Rajput chieftain** who commanded a large army of Bhils.

Bhil community

- Bhils are an **ancient tribe, whose history goes back to even mythologies.** Due to their unmatched knowledge of the hills and forests of Mewar, the community has always exercised a strong influence in the region
- Bhil community-classified as a **scheduled tribe in Rajasthan-**, which is a forest dweller group has exercised significant influence in the Mewar region and throughout the past, the Rajput rulers of the region have forged alliances with the tribal group.

Current affairs Worksheet (12-13 Aug 2021)

Factual sheet for Quick revision

Topic	Description	Update
Env	Kaziranga National Park (West to east order) Tiger & elephant census	
Sc n T	Ghaznavi Missile patent to an artificial intelligence system issues	
Polity	FEMBoSA Quality of Life for Elderly Index 127th Constitutional amendment NCPCR report on minority schools	
Geography	Vrushka Bandhan Project	
History	Rana Punja Bhil	