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Editorial Discussion & Analysis (EDA)

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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. Indian Economy

1.1. Learning From China (Indian Express)

- Context- Learn from your Neighbour

Asian neighbourhood

- We have come a long way Since 1947, however wisdom lies in also looking around to evaluate how other nations in our immediate neighbourhood have performed.
- **While Pakistan & Bangladesh are India's neighbours, her real competition should be looked at against China given the size of population.**
- Both countries started their journey in the late 1940s.
- China took the path of communism to provide people food, good health, education and prosperity.

China's economic progress

- China, performed badly on the economic front from 1949 to 1977. (4.9% GDP growth vs India's Hindu rate of growth @3.5%)
- Post 1980's China started changing track to more market-oriented policies, **beginning with agriculture.**
- **China saw a growth of 7.1% during 1978-1984. Farmer's real incomes increased by almost 14% per annum during this period.**
- This gave impetus to huge demand for manufactured products, triggering a manufacturing revolution in China's town and village enterprises.
- **By 2020, China's overall GDP was \$14.7 trillion competing with the USA at \$20.9 trillion. (India @ \$ 2.7 Trillion)**
- **Quality of life depends on Income in PPP terms- USA at \$63,420, China at \$17,190 and India at \$6,460.**
- China won the second highest number of medals – 88 (38 gold) after USA's 113 medals (39 gold)

Way forward for India

- India is yet to grow as a mature democracy, where differences of opinions amongst different political parties are respected.
- China's reforms started with agriculture, and India till date has been avoiding agriculture reforms.
- Purchasing power of people in rural areas needs to be increased in order for manufacturing to grow.

- Higher R&D in agriculture, both by the government as well as by the private sector.
- Poor education, especially that of the girl child, is at the core of the failure of Population control measures.
- Investing in education and Skill Development can pay more dividend than coercive population measures adopted by China in the 1980s.

1.2. The Big Opportunity (The Hindu)

- Context- Tap the youth before they Age

Issue

- Median age in India is 28 years, in contrast to 37 in China and 45 in western Europe.
- Enormous growth opportunity as India will have the highest number of people in the workforce.
- Non-working population would be outnumbered by the working population, leading to a favourable demographic dividend.

Post Covid Worries

- A World bank report says that we would be witnessing deep global recessions fuelled by lowered investments, displacement of human capital owing to lost jobs and schooling.

Youth- Silver lining for India

- **Demographic dividend brings the economic growth by a change in the structure of a country's population.**
- Increase in the labour force and, in turn, more people are working and being productive.
- Purchasing power of the populace increases, it opens up a bigger domestic market, thereby attracting more investment.
- **India's economy is projected to grow at \$7 trillion by 2030**

Youth and Climate Change

- Younger populations are inclined more towards a greener tomorrow.
- UN report on climate change tells us that close to half a million youth around the world have taken (or are taking) action against climate change.
- **85% of India's youth are interested in a green job as they believe in healing the environment.**

Way Forward

- Need of the hour is for public-private partnership (PPP) models to work in conjunction to bridge the gap

- **Public policies must cover all aspects aimed at increasing human development and standards of living.**
- Education & Skill Development.

2. Indian Society

2.1. Sabka Saath, Sabka Prayaas (Indian Express)

- Context- Hear them out!

Takeaways from the Independence Day Speech

- **Governance**- 100% delivery to the labharthi or beneficiaries.
- **Sarv sparshi vikas**, that touches all, would require handholding of some sections, among which he emphasised the OBC.
- **Gati shakti yojana**, a master plan for a renewed push for employment and holistic infrastructure creation.
- This would reach into Tier 2 and 3 towns to tap the start-ups and unicorns, the new wealth creators.
- Need to get the government to roll back unnecessary interference in citizen's affairs.

Sabka Prayas- Putting the cart before the horse?

- While "Sabka Prayas" sounds good but it also looks like a **negation of the PM's own ideas of re-energising administration and delivery.**
- In the middle of Pandemic and crisis the state has to ensure that cooperation of citizens is attained by **fixing accountability of the executive.**
- **Calls for listening to the dissenters and political opponents, including and especially inside Parliament.**
- **Outreach to the minority community is also essential** against the backdrop of discriminatory amendments to the law that make religion a criterion of citizenship.

3. International Relation

3.1. The Changing Af Pak (Indian Express)

- Context- Taliban is back!

Perspective

- **“Developments in the Kabul Valley inevitably affect the empires of the Gangetic plains.” - KM Pannikar**
- The restoration of Taliban rule in Afghanistan with Pakistan’s support undoubtedly presents some very serious potential challenges for Indian security.
- **A measure of strategic patience** could help Delhi cope with the adverse developments in Afghanistan and find ways to secure its interests in the near future
- 1990s saw deepening conflict between India and Pakistan, both countries conducting nuclear weapon tests, and the establishment of Pak-backed Taliban rule in Afghanistan. Taliban- Same or New?
- Taliban leaders are also saying all the right things about letting the foreigners leave, protecting lives and properties of Afghan people.
- Reports from the provinces, however, point to gross human rights abuses by the Taliban.
- **“If”** the new Taliban dispensation demonstrates a better record in Kabul, it might encourage the world to respond positively.

What are the Concerns for India?

- Taliban’s renewed support for international terrorism.
- Pakistan’s re-direction of jihadi groups that have allegedly fought with the Taliban towards India.
- However, it could be that Taliban will be looking to seek a measure of autonomy from Pakistan.
- **In that scenario, India will have to wait a while before the current deadlock between Delhi and the Taliban can be overcome**

Way forward

- Unlike in the 1990s, when Delhi simply absorbed the terror attacks, it now shows the political will to retaliate forcefully.
- Significant new constraints on Pakistan’s support for terror through mechanisms like the Financial Action Task Force.
- Deeper Sino-Pak partnership in Afghanistan will inevitably produce countervailing trends



- There will be no dearth of balancing opportunities in Afghanistan, if India engages actively with patience.
- While Delhi must prepare itself for cross border terrorism, International conditions have changed a lot in last 30 years with no global acception towards terrorism.

What India should do at this Moment?

- Securely evacuate Indian diplomatic personnel and other citizens from Afghanistan
- Delhi must make all possible efforts to get the international community to hold the Taliban to its word on letting all foreigners leave in peace and protecting the lives of all Afghan citizens.
- India chairs the Taliban Sanctions Committee of the UNSC and will have an important role in framing the international response to the Taliban's demands for the lifting of all sanctions against its leaders.

4. Environment

1. The Message from IPCC report (The Hindu)

- Context- Net Zero is not sufficient

Issue

- Air pollution reduction and Steep climate change mitigation are not complementary goals but require independent efforts over the short and medium term.
- This fact counters the popular opinion that , India must cease the use of coal immediately, despite its continuing importance as the key element of the country's energy security.
- As per the report, net zero was not the determining factor for the world to limit itself to a 1.5 Degrees C , or 2 Degrees C.
- It is the cumulative emissions in reaching net zero that determine the temperature rise.
- Report is indeed a wake up call for developed countries to undertake immediate, deep emission cuts.

Takeaways for the Developing Countries

- Little cheer to the global South, for an equally disconcerting finding is that the world is set to cross the 1.5oC limit within 10-15 years.
- U.S., the European Union and China are largest emitter of GHGs.
- Passing the buck and blame game to developing countries will not work out this time
- **India cannot save the world from the consequences of the neglect of those whose responsibility it was to lead in taking credible action.**

Leading the way for developing world- India

- India has contributed less than 5% of global cumulative emissions to date.
- India's h per capita annual emissions a third of the global average.
- Only nation among the G20 with commitments under the Paris Agreement that are even 2oC warming-compatible.

Conclusion

- Immediate emission reductions by the developed countries with phase-out dates for all fossil fuels.
- Massive investment in new technologies and their deployment.
- Serious push to the mobilisation of adequate climate finance is the need of the hour.
- Historical cumulative emissions are the cause of the climate crisis that the world faces today

What is Net Zero?

- Referred to as carbon-neutrality, **does not mean that a country would bring down its emissions to zero.**
- **Rather, net-zero is a state in which a country's emissions are compensated by absorption and removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.**
- Absorption of the emissions can be increased by creating more carbon sinks such as forests.
- Removal of gases from the atmosphere requires futuristic technologies such as carbon capture and storage.

Question for the day

In context of recent developments in Afghanistan- How is the Great Game being played in 2021 different than the one being played in the 19th century? Have the "Great" Powers blurred the difference between Appeasement and Conciliation with respect to Taliban? (250 words)