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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. Polity & Governance

1.1. Back to School (Indian Express)

Author -Nimrat Khanpur & Rishikesh B S

- Context- Children Coming Back to School
- **According to a report by UNICEF, UNESCO, World Bank and OECD, 41% of countries reported extending the academic year while 42% reported prioritising certain curriculum areas or skills.**
- 2/3rd of countries reported implementing remedial measures to address learning gaps for primary and secondary school students when schools reopened.
- Schools in India have been closed for more than 500 days now
- Loss is of foundational abilities like reading, writing and basic arithmetic
- **As per a survey done by Azim Premji University, 44 districts covering five states indicated that nearly three-fourths of the children in Class II have lost the ability to identify a word in print.**
- Question also arises as to what to teach next to students and what will be the curriculum in the times ahead

Way Forward

- **Curricular priorities will have to be set specific to the stages of schooling.**
- For example; Priority at primary level must be on recovery of foundational abilities in language and mathematics.
- For secondary and senior secondary level, core learning outcomes must be identified and mapped to textbooks.
- **Changes in curriculum and the approach to teaching-learning would require orientation of teachers as well.**
- To track recovery from learning loss, periodic assessment would be necessary. Instead of rigorous testing students, teachers must find innovative ways to observe the learning outcomes of students.
- **Be patient with students once they are back to schools, must not rush them or put them in any kind of stress to achieve academic outcomes**

2. International Relations

2.1. Three is Company (The Hindu)

- Context- AUKUS Alliance

Highlights

- U.S. has joined with the U.K. and Australia to announce a new trilateral security partnership, the AUKUS.
- Aims to ensure that there will be enduring freedom and openness in the Indo-Pacific.
- **It complements several pre-existing similar arrangements for the region, including the Five Eyes intelligence cooperation initiative, ASEAN and the Quad**
- Proposes to transfer technology to build a fleet of nuclear powered submarines for Australia within 18 months.
- **Australia has ratified the nuclear NPT and has vowed to abide by its tenets**

Consequences

- France not very happy with this deal as this will end up scrapping the \$40 billion French-designed submarine deal which was signed with Australia in 2016.
- This deal has upset the NATO allies particularly of the EU.
- Australia will become only the second nation, after the U.K., that the U.S. has ever shared its nuclear submarine technology with (With UK in 1958)
- **This has also caused the New Zealand Premier Jacinda Arden to worry as Australia's nuclear-powered submarines would not be allowed into the NZ's territorial waters.**
- China has Pointed out it's concerns as well stating that this will severely damage regional peace & stability.
- **"Alliances should confirm to peace & development"- Chinese Foreign Minister, Zhao Lijian.**

Conclusion

- No explicit mention was made of China in any of the AUKUS announcement.
- Nevertheless, This strategic cooperation can be further widened by including other powers that are deeply invested in the region, including **India, Japan, and South Korea.**

2.2. New Horizons (Indian Express)

AUKUS Highlights

- Post Afghanistan withdrawal powerful signal from the US that it is still in the game as the most important world power.
- Agreement for the transfer of nuclear-powered submarines to Australia, this alliance, quite unlike the Quad, is a clearly stated security/military alliance in the Indo-Pacific.
- **AUKUS is aimed at protecting the partners' strategic interests in a region that spans two oceans and 38 countries.**
- A big blow to China- Australia Relations as China is Australia's biggest trading partner with a two-way trade of nearly US \$200 billion (China buys a lot of iron ore from Australia)
- Beijing is more rattled by AUKUS than by Quad as US is transferring Nuclear technology **to Australia thereby increasing Australia's capabilities.**
- **In future, US can do the same with other countries in the region in interest of Securing the Indo Pacific region.**

3. Indian Economy

3.1. Building a Resilient Economy (The Hindu)

Author - Rashmi Banga

- Context- UNCTAD report

Highlights

- **India's growth in 2021 as a whole is estimated at 7.2%, which is one of the fastest compared to most countries.**
- Even assuming the pandemic is fully under control, the situation is looking increasingly precarious for many emerging economies (Growth will Dip In the Longer run)
- Supports India's proposed temporary suspension of the World Trade Organization TRIPS waiver so as local manufacture of vaccines is permitted by the Original Covid Vaccine Patent holding Companies.
- **Resilient Growth is much needed in the wake of threat of global warming.**
- Significant Support from Developed countries is required in order for the developing countries to mitigate the impact of GHG emissions

Robust Public Sector

- COVID-19 has reinforced the idea that resilience is a public good and responsibility of the state
- Challenge of mobilising financial resources for sustained growth is seen as too important to be left solely to market forces.
- Public Sector Banks to remain relevant in the future and in the report it has been cautioned to not rely too much on the Mega banks. Regulatory oversight is essential for facilitating investment climate.
- Minimum wages and related labour legislation are needed for appropriate protection against abusive practices. In the wake of Covid, many informal sector firms have been laying off their employees or reducing their salaries.

3.2.A Job To Do

Author - Mahesh Vyas

- Context- Why Unemployment is Relevant in the Political Economy

Concern

- High and rising unemployment rate is evidently not a potent political tool in India.

- **Inflation that wields political power since It hurts the Population & can upset financial markets that in turn exert pressure on regulators to keep inflation in control.**
- Unemployment directly impacts only the unemployed, who don't count much & society perceives being unemployed as an individual shortcoming.
- **The unemployed are seen as inadequately educated, awkward or not smart.**
- **Lack of adequate jobs is an economic problem that merits more analytical and policy attention than the political attention (In the form of Reservations) it gets in India.**

Unemployment

- **Unemployment rate is the measure of the economy's inability to provide jobs only for those who seek work.**
- India's LFPR is at around 40% when the global rate is close to 60%.
- Good quality formal jobs are so few that nothing short of explosive growth in their numbers will help overcome the current problem.
- **Quite Funny, but you are declared employed if you are engaged in some economic activity for just one hour in any of the past seven days!**
- There are only 80 Million salaried Jobs in India! What will the rest of the 920 million do who are involved in the informal sector?

Way forward

- **Pre pandemic, only 39.5 % of the working age population was employed, which in the year of Pandemic (2020-21) fell down to 36.5%**
- People are moving away from factories as manufacturing jobs shrink, to farms that provide shelter largely in the form of disguised unemployment
- **It cannot be the desire of a nation to move people away from high productivity, better quality jobs in manufacturing to low productivity employment in agriculture.**
- A large part of the solution to this lack of adequate jobs is in increasing investments.