

**Mains Exam Practice (MEP): Questions of the Day**

1. Examine the impact of changes in US immigration policies, such as the executive order on birthright citizenship, on Indian immigrants and their contributions to the US economy and society. How can India leverage its diplomatic channels to address these concerns? [BPSC GS 1: Section II] (19 Marks)
2. Discuss how deadly is Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) compared to other respiratory viruses in terms of transmission, symptoms and public health implications. Analyse India's ability to handle such infections effectively. [BPSC GS 1: Section II] (19 Marks)
3. Critically analyse the impact of the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' scheme over the last decade in addressing gender inequalities and promoting the welfare of girl children in India. Highlight the challenges faced in its implementation and suggest measures to enhance its effectiveness. [BPSC GS 1: Section II] (38 Marks).

**National Affairs****India's Coffee Production****Why in the news?**

India is the seventh-largest coffee producer globally.

- ❖ Coffee exports reached 1.29 billion USD in the last financial year, nearly doubling the 719 million USD in 2020-21.
- ❖ Over 9,300 tonnes of coffee were exported in the first half of January 2025.
- ❖ Top buyers: Italy, Belgium, and Russia.
- ❖ Production by State-Karnataka leads in production, contributing 248,020 million tonnes in 2022-23, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The largest coffee-producing countries are Brazil, Viet Nam and Colombia.

**"National Conference of DMs on PM JANMAN"****Why in the news?**

Ministry of Tribal Affairs is organizing the "National Conference of DMs on PM JANMAN" on 21st January 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

- ❖ **Focusing Area** - 06 core areas under the Abhiyan viz. Rural Development (Awas & Roads), PVTG) Hostels (schools) Drinking water under JJM, operationalization of Anganwadis and operationalization of Multi-Purpose Centers (MPCs).



### 10 years of the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' movement

#### Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 22 Jan 2025 expressed gratitude on the 10th anniversary of the "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" (BBBP) movement.

- ❖ Launched on January 22, 2015, in Panipat, Haryana, the flagship scheme of the Indian government aims to address declining child sex ratios, prevent gender-biased sex-selective practices, and promote the survival, education, and empowerment of the girl child.



- ❖ The BBBP scheme has achieved notable success in improving the Sex Ratio at Birth, increasing access to education, expanding healthcare, and supporting women's economic empowerment.
- ❖ The program has partnered with government bodies, NGOs, and local communities to build a strong foundation for valuing and protecting every girl child.

### Defence And Security

#### 'Bhargavastra' counter-drone micro missiles

#### Why in the news?

India has successfully tested its first domestically developed micro-missile system, engineered to counter swarm drone threats. The testing included two successful firings at the Gopalpur Seaward Firing Ranges, Odisha.

- ❖ The new micro-missile system, being developed for the Indian Army, successfully engaged virtual targets beyond 2.5 km, demonstrating an economical solution against large-scale drone attacks that pose a continuous security challenge.

### About Bhargavastra micro-missile system



- ❖ The counter-drone system, 'Bhargavastra', demonstrates the capability to detect small aerial vehicles at ranges exceeding 6 km and neutralise them using guided micro munitions.
- ❖ The Bhargavastra system features a simultaneous launch capability of over 64 micro missiles.
- ❖ Economic Explosives Ltd is developing this mobile platform-mounted system, ensuring rapid deployment to threat areas.
- ❖ Its design accommodates operations across various terrains, including high-altitude regions, meeting specific military requirements.

### Schemes In News

#### Deendayal Upadhyay Bhoomiheen Krishi Majdoor Kalyana Yojana



### Why in the news?

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on 19 Jan 2025 launched 'Deendayal Upadhyay Bhoomiheen Krishi Majdoor Kalyana Yojana' in Raipur.

- ❖ Under this scheme, more than 5.62 lakh landless agricultural labourers, Baigas and Gunias of the state will be given financial assistance of Rs 10,000 annually.
- ❖ Under this, an amount of more than Rs 562 crores was released to the beneficiaries of the scheme on 21 Jan 2025.
- ❖ This scheme would bring prosperity to more than 5.62 lakh landless agricultural labourers of the state.

### Miscellaneous

#### Ayodhya Ram Mandir celebrates the first anniversary of pran-pratishtha

### Why in the news?

The first anniversary of Ram Lalla's 'Pran Pratisthta' at the Ram Mandir is on January 22, 2025.





- ❖ The consecration ceremony took place exactly a year ago, on **January 22, 2024**, in the presence and lead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❖ The celebration was held on Paush Shukla Dwadashi, which falls on January 11, following the alignment of the Hindu calendar. The anniversary celebrations started on January 11 and concluded on January 13.
- ❖ As per the Gregorian calendar, the Ram Lalla idol was consecrated at the temple on January 22, 2024.

#### Important Days/ Dates

##### Parakram Diwas 2025

##### Why in the news?

Parakram Diwas 2025 will be celebrated from **23rd to 25th January 2025** at Barabati Fort, Cuttack, honouring Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's **128th birth anniversary**.

- ❖ **Parakram Diwas Initiation:** First observed in 2021 at Victoria Memorial, Kolkata.

##### Major Events in Past Years:

- ❖ **2022:** Hologram statue of Netaji unveiled at India Gate, New Delhi.

- ❖ **2023:** 21 unnamed Andaman and Nicobar Islands named after Param Vir Chakra Awardees.
- ❖ **2024:** Celebrations held at Red Fort, Delhi, the site of INA trials.



#### News in Short

- ❖ Justice Alok Aradhe was sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court at Raj Bhawan in Mumbai on **21 Jan 2025**.
- ❖ Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya was sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court on **22 Jan 2025**.
- ❖ India has secured the second position, contributing 36 percent of the total brand value, a significant achievement fuelled by a 14 percent increase in brand value, according to **Brand Finance 2025** ranking.



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