

Current Affairs

Global Youth Tobacco Survey-4

Reference News

Recently, the fourth round of Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS-4) was released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).

Next Analysis-

▪ About:

- GYTS-4 was conducted in 2019 by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) under the MoHFW.
- The survey was designed to produce national estimates of tobacco use among school going children aged 13-15 years at the state level and Union Territory (UT) by sex, location of school (rural-urban), and management of school (public-private).
- The first three rounds of GYTS were conducted in 2003, 2006 and 2009.
- A total of 97,302 students from 987 schools participated in the survey.

▪ Objective of the Survey:

- To provide information on tobacco use, cessation, second-hand smoke, access and availability, exposure to anti-tobacco information, awareness and receptivity to tobacco marketing, knowledge, and attitudes.

○ State Wise Data:

- Tobacco use among school going children was highest in Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram and lowest in Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka.

○ Awareness:

- 52% of students noticed anti-tobacco messages in the mass media and 18% of students noticed tobacco advertisements or promotions when visiting points of sale.
- 85% of school heads were aware of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003 and 83% of schools were aware of the policy to display 'tobacco-free school' boards.

World No Tobacco Day- 31st May.

Way Forward

- The role of teachers is most crucial in creating awareness among children and their parents about harm due to tobacco use and for shaping the attitude of children in this regard.
- The more and the sooner awareness is created among children about harms due to tobacco use, the better will be the outcomes in terms of reduction in prevalence of tobacco use among children and consequently among adults.
- Harmful effects of tobacco use should be incorporated in school curricula at various levels starting right from the primary school level.

Census 2021: Put off due to COVID-19

Reference news-

Owing to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, Census 2021 and other Census-related field activities have been postponed until further orders.

- The forthcoming Census is to be the first digital Census and there is a provision for self-enumeration. Self-enumeration refers to completion of census survey questionnaires by the respondents themselves.
- A mobile application for data collection and a Census portal for managing and monitoring various Census related activities have been developed.

What is Census?

- In Census ([decennial census](#)), data is collected on demographic and various socio-economic parameters like education, SC/ST, religion, language, marriage, fertility, disability, occupation and migration of the individuals.
- Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India under **Ministry of Home Affairs**, Government of India is responsible for carrying out the census.
- It provides information on size, distribution and socio-economic, demographic and other characteristics of the country's population.
- The first synchronous census in India was held in 1881. Since then, censuses have been undertaken uninterruptedly once every ten years.
- As per the official Gazette, the individual data collected in Census under the **Census Act, 1948**, are not made public as per the provisions contained in the Act.
 - The individual data are not used for the preparation of any other database, including the National Register of Citizens.

- Only the **aggregated Census data** at various administrative levels are released.

What are the Benefits of Census?

- **Evidence based Policy Making:** Enumerating, describing and understanding the population of a society and what people have access to, and what they are excluded from, is important not only for social scientists but also for policy practitioners and the government.
- **Ensures Equity in Governance:** Since Independence, aggregated Census data on the SCs & STs on certain parameters such as education have been collected. This data will help the government to remedy inequalities present in the society.
- **Delimitation Exercise:** Delimitation Commission sets up boundaries of electoral constituencies based on the data obtained from decennial census
- **Developmental Purposes:** Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, and this creates jobs. Developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighbourhoods.
- **Cooperative Federalism:** Central government funds, grants and support to states and local governments consider population totals and breakdowns by sex, age, caste and other factors.
- **Civic Participation in Governance:** Commenting on the 1941 Census, Census Commissioner Yeatts observed that, “Thanks to the acute interest in community figures, practically all communities this time were census-conscious and took pains to see that their houses were in the list and that they themselves were counted.” Census thus ensures that Democracy is participative in nature.

Government e-Marketplace

Reference news:

The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) system has resulted in a 10% savings in public procurement costs in five years, but has still tapped only 5% of India’s total government purchases of about Rs 20 lakh crore a year.

- 56% of the order value processed through the GeM portal has been delivered by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), with seven lakh small firms on board.

About Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

- GeM is a one-stop National Public Procurement Portal to facilitate online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Central and State Government Departments/Organizations/Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
- The procurement of goods and services by Ministries and the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) is mandatory for goods and services available on GeM.
- It also provides the tools of e-bidding and reverse e-auction to facilitate the government users achieve the best value for their money.
- At present, GeM has more than 30 lakh products, over Rs. 10 lakh crore worth of transactions have happened so far at the portal.
- It was launched in 2016 to bring transparency and efficiency in the government buying process.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

National Commission for Homoeopathy

Reference news: Action Plan for effective and efficient inclusion of Homeopathy in Integrative care

- The Homoeopathy Education and Practice is regulated by the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act, 2020.

About the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Act, 2020

- The NCH, Act, 2020 come in to force w.e.f. 5th July 2021 after repealing the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and applies to whole of India.
- The 2020 Act replaced the Council with a **National Commission of Homoeopathy** for regulating homoeopathic education and practice.
- The Act is having the provision for having interface between Homoeopathy, Indian system of Medicine and Modern system of Medicine to promote medical pluralism.
- It also provides provision for the State Government to take necessary measures to address various issues related to health including promotion of public health through Homoeopathy.

About National Commission of Homoeopathy

- The Commission shall consist of the following persons, namely: –(a) a chairperson; (b) seven ex officio Members; and (c) nineteen part-time Members.
- **Functions of the National Commission for Homoeopathy:**
 - Framing policies for regulating medical institutions and homoeopathic medical professionals.
 - Assessing the requirements of healthcare related human resources and infrastructure.

Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)

Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) is a village development project launched by Government of India in October 2014. It is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.

The goal of the scheme is to develop three Adarsh Grams by March 2019, of which one would be achieved by 2016. Thereafter, five such Adarsh Grams (one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024.

The main objectives of SAGY are:

- To trigger processes which lead to holistic development of the identified Gram Panchayats
- To substantially improve the standard of living and quality of life of all sections of the population through:
 - Improved basic amenities
 - Higher productivity
 - Enhanced human development
 - Better livelihood opportunities
 - Reduced disparities
 - Access to rights and entitlements
 - Wider social mobilization
 - Enriched social capital
- To generate models of local level development and effective local governance which can motivate and inspire neighbouring Gram Panchayats to learn and adapt

- To nurture the identified Adarsh Grams as schools of local development to train other Gram Panchayats.

The Member of Parliament would be free to identify a suitable Gram Panchayat for being developed as Adarsh Gram, other than his/her own village or that of his/her spouse.

The MP will identify one Gram Panchayat to be taken up immediately, and two others to be taken up a little later. Lok Sabha MP has to choose a Gram Panchayat from within his/her constituency and Rajya Sabha MP a Gram Panchayat from the rural area of a district of his/her choice in the State from which he/she is elected. Nominated MPs may choose a Gram Panchayat from the rural area of any district in the country. In the case of urban constituencies, (where there are no Gram Panchayats), the MP will identify a Gram Panchayat from a nearby rural constituency.

Daily Topic

The Charter Act of 1833

Features of the Charter Act of 1833

- The company's commercial activities were closed down. It was made into an administrative body for British Indian possessions.
- The company's trade links with China were also closed down.
- This act permitted the English to settle freely in India.
- This act legalized the British colonization of the country.
- The company still possessed the Indian territories but it was held 'in trust for his majesty'.

Provisions of the Charter Act of 1833

India became a British colony

- The Governor-General of Bengal was re-designated as the Governor-General of India. This made Lord William Bentinck the first Governor-General of India.
- Thus, the country's administration was unified under one control.
- The Governors of Bombay and Madras lost their legislative powers.
- The Governor-General had legislative powers over entire British India.
- The Governor-General in council had the authority to amend, repeal or alter any law pertaining to all people and places in British Indian territories whether British, foreign or Indian native.
- The civil and military affairs of the company were controlled by the Governor-General in council.

- The Governor-General's council was to have four members. The fourth member had limited powers only.
- For the first time, the Governor-General's government was called Government of India and the council was called India Council.

Indian Law Commission

- The act mandated that any law made in India was to be put before the British Parliament and was to be called 'Act'.
- As per the act, an Indian Law Commission was established.
- The first Law Commission had Lord Macaulay as its chairman.
- It sought to codify all Indian law.

Split in Bengal Presidency

- The act provided for the Presidency of Bengal to be divided into the Presidencies of Agra and Fort William.
- But this never came into effect.

Indians in Government service

- This was the first act that gave permission for Indians to have a share in the country's administration.
- It stated that merit should be the basis of employment to government service and not birth, colour, religion or race.

Slavery

- The act provided for the mitigation of slavery existing in India at that time.
- The British Parliament abolished slavery in Britain and all its possessions in 1833.

Tilt towards Christianity

- Since the number of British residents in the country was increasing, the act allowed for having three Bishops in India.
- It also sought to regulate the establishment of Christian institutions in India.

Significance of the Charter Act of 1833

- It was the first step in the centralization of India's administration.
- The ending of the East India Company's commercial activities and making it into the British Crown's trustee in administering India.
- Codification of laws under Macaulay.
- Provision for Indians in government service.

QUIZ

1. Global Youth Tobacco Survey was conducted by-

- a) Ministry of Environmental, Forest and Climate change
- b) Ministry of Women and child welfare
- c) Ministry of Health and family welfare
- d) Ministry of Agriculture

Answer: B

2. With reference to Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- 2. A nominated Member of Parliament can choose a Gram Panchayat from the rural area of any district in the country for its socio-economic development.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

3. Consider the following statements regarding Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC):

- 1. It is a large system of ocean currents that carry warm water from the tropics southwards into the South Atlantic.
- 2. The collapse of AMOC would lead to sudden warming of the Northern Hemisphere.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

4. With reference to 'Elderly in India 2021' report, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is released by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- 2. Kerala has the largest share of elderly population in India.
- 3. There has been fall in old age dependency ratio.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Answer: b

5. PM-DAKSH scheme, seen recently in news, is being implemented by:

- a) Ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship
- b) Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- c) Ministry of Education

d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Answer: d

6. The aim of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is:

- a) To promote efficient lighting, enhance awareness on using efficient equipment which reduce electricity bills and help preserve environment.
- b) To provide free cooking gas connections to poor families.
- c) To provide support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces.
- d) To provide skills that give employability to women.

Answer: b

7. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has permitted registration of which type of vehicle without pre fitted batteries?

- a) Electric Vehicles
- b) Solar operated Vehicles
- c) Auto Rickshaws
- d) Defence Vehicles

Answer: a

8. Which is the new Industrial corridor proposed to be set up by the Government of Karnataka?

- a) Mysuru-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor
- b) Bengaluru-Kudagu Industrial Corridor
- c) Mysuru-Bidar Industrial Corridor
- d) Bengaluru-Hyderabad Industrial Corridor

Answer: c

9. What is the name of the mobile unit deployed by All India Institute of Ayurveda to provide door step health services to Delhi Police?

- a) Ayurveda Rath
- b) Dhanwantari Rath
- c) Health on Wheels
- d) Mobile Medic

Answer: b

10. Which institution has held that state Governments can make laws for providing reservation to sub-castes within SC and ST categories?

- a) National Commission for Backward Classes
- b) National Commission for Scheduled Classes
- c) Supreme Court of India
- d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Answer: c