



Civil Service Institute | Pala | Thiruvananthapuram | South India's Premier Civil Service Coaching Institute | www.civilservicepala.com



Ending India's Russian oil imports is top priority

The Hindu:
13/09/2025- Page 3



Centre clears translocation of tigers from Tadoba, Pench to Sahyadri reserve

The Hindu:
13/09/2025- Page 4



Firecracker ban should not be only in Delhi: CJI

The Hindu:
13/09/2025- Page 1



Sushila Karki sworn in as Nepal's first woman PM

The Hindu:
13/09/2025- Page 1

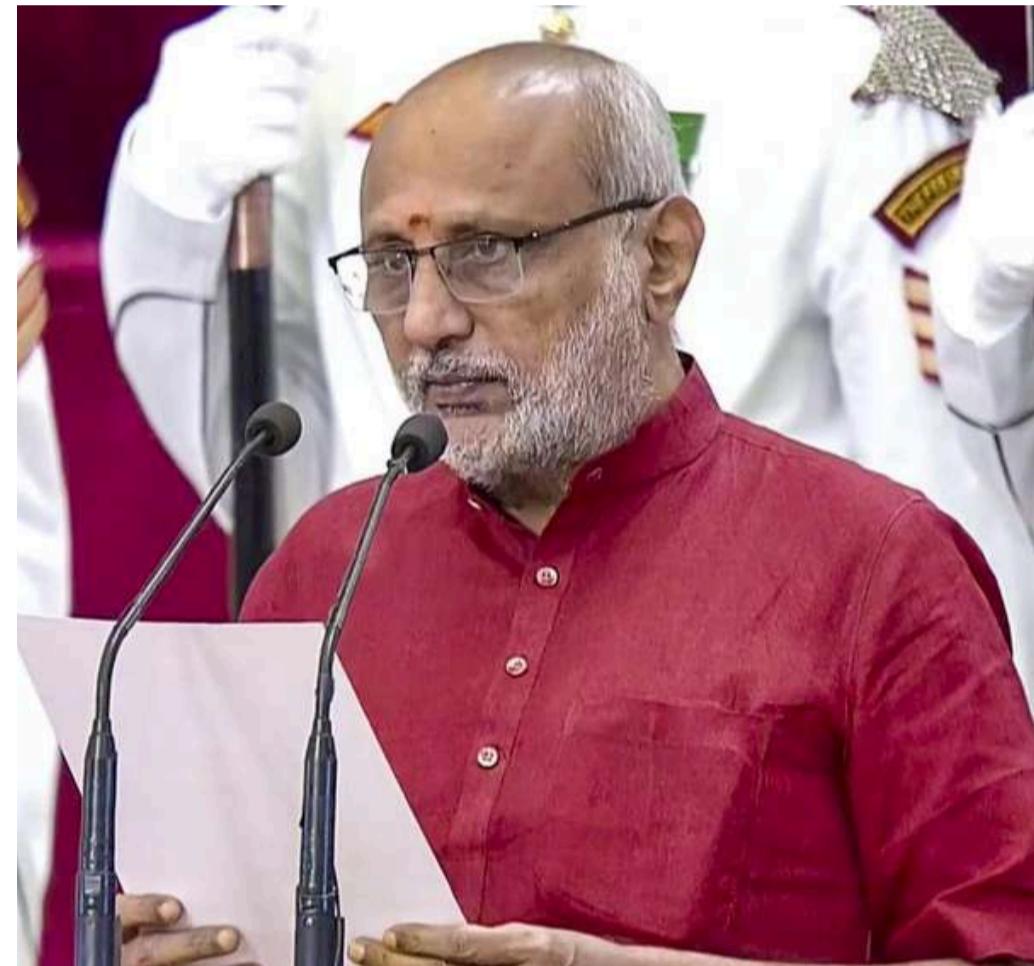


Vessel ban at Adani port may hit crude supplies from Russia

The Hindu:
13/09/2025- Page 11



C.P. Radhakrishnan takes oath as 15th Vice-President of India



Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan was sworn in as the 15th Vice-President of India on Friday. President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in the presence of several dignitaries. After the swearing-in, Mr. Radhakrishnan paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat. He also paid homage to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at Sadaiv Atal and former Prime Minister Charan Singh at Kisan Ghat. He visited Prerna Sthal at Parliament House, where statues displaced due to the construction of the new Parliament building have been relocated.

Mr. Radhakrishnan, who later assumed charge as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, held a meeting with floor leaders of parties in Parliament. Mr. Radhakrishnan reportedly told members he intended to take the Opposition along in running the House. He emphasised that the Opposition is an essential element of parliamentary democracy.



How Syrian security forces emptied Alawite suburb with eviction orders»page 8



Ending India's Russian oil imports is top priority »page 3



GET POWERFUL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

- Stunning, responsive, and SEO-ready websites development.
- Custom-built apps tailored to your needs.
- Smart digital marketing strategies to generate leads, build visibility & drive sales.
- Upskill with expert-led courses in web development, apps, and marketing.

OUR SERVICES

MOBILE APPLICATION | WEB APPLICATION | WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT | DIGITAL MARKETING & SEO
SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING | ADVERTISING | LOGO | GRAPHICS DESIGNING | TRAINING

INSOLUTES PVT LTD, PUTHUMANA ARCADE, ABOVE AXIS BANK, KOTTARAMATTOM, PALA
www.insolutes.com



Do not exempt atomic mineral mining from public consultation: Stalin

- Opposition by Tamil Nadu CM: M.K. Stalin opposed the Union Environment Ministry's move to exempt atomic mineral mining from public consultation.

Reason for opposition:

- Tamil Nadu's coastal districts contain rare earth elements in fragile beach sand ecosystems.
- Such areas are ecologically vulnerable and require careful policy decisions.
- Demand: Stalin urged PM Modi to withdraw the office memorandum issued on September 8 by the Impact Assessment Division.
- Office memorandum provision: Exempts mining of atomic minerals (Part B) and critical/strategic minerals (Part D) from public consultation under the Mines and Minerals Act.

Environmental concerns:

- Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay coasts support endangered turtles, coral reefs, mangroves, and sand dunes.
- These ecosystems prevent erosion, sustain biodiversity, sequester carbon, and protect coastal communities.

Legal background:

- EIA Notification of 1994 (amended in 1997) made public hearings mandatory.
- EIA Notification of 2006 reinforced this safeguard.

Stalin's argument:

- Exemption undermines public participation and democracy.
- Local communities will lose their right to raise concerns about displacement, livelihood, and environmental impacts.

Imphal, Churachandpur decked up to greet PM on first visit since ethnic conflict erupted

PM Modi's Visit:

- Scheduled to visit Manipur on Saturday, his first visit since ethnic violence erupted in May 2023.
- Will tour Imphal and Churachandpur, where he will lead a roadshow and address gatherings.
- Heavy security in place, with personnel stationed every 100 metres.

Development Projects:

- Modi to inaugurate projects worth ₹8,500 crore in hill and valley districts.
- Projects include infrastructure and rehabilitation of displaced people.
- Around 250 killed and 60,000 displaced during violence between Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities.

Public Sentiment:

- Churachandpur (Kuki-Zo stronghold): People enthusiastic about PM's visit.
- Imphal (Meitei stronghold): Response mixed, with scepticism about actual outcomes.

Other Announcements:

- Development projects worth ₹1,200 crore in Imphal and ₹7,300 crore in Churachandpur.
- Focus on rebuilding, road connectivity, and long-term peace.

Background

May 3, 2023:

Ethnic violence erupts between Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities.

- Triggered by protests against the demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for Meiteis.
- Violence spreads across hill and valley districts.
- Large-scale displacement leads to relief camps being set up.
- Armed clashes, arson, and destruction of homes continue in phases.
- Internet shutdown imposed for long durations.



Firecracker ban should not be only in Delhi: CJI

Supreme Court Observation:

- The firecracker ban should not be limited to Delhi/NCR but extended across the country.
- All citizens have the right to pollution-free air.

Chief Justice B.R. Gavai's Remarks:

- If firecrackers are banned, it must be for the entire country.
- Concerns about the poor dependent on the firecracker industry should also be considered.
- Air pollution is not just an elite problem; common people suffer more.

Context:

- The observation was made during a hearing ahead of Deepavali and the winter pollution season.
- The CJI highlighted pollution levels in Amritsar, saying they were worse than Delhi during Guru Purab.

Legal Background:

- Licences for sale, production, and manufacture of firecrackers in Delhi-NCR are being revoked, following the Supreme Court's confirmation of a complete ban effective April 2025.
- Some licences were valid till 2028 but are now cancelled.

Future Scope:

- The court may reconsider if green crackers (less polluting) cause minimal pollution.
- Policies to counter air pollution should be framed on a pan-India basis.

Economic Impact

- Livelihood loss: Thousands of workers, especially in Sivakasi (Tamil Nadu) and other firecracker hubs, depend on this industry for survival.
- Small-scale units hit: Many units are unorganised and rely heavily on seasonal demand
- Export and retail sector impact
- Shift in market: producing green crackers, and adoption is slow and costly.

Balancing Act

- The ban aims to ensure right to clean air (Article 21: Right to Life).
- But must consider rehabilitation of workers, promotion of green alternatives, and nationwide uniform policy to avoid selective enforcement.

Ending India's Russian oil imports is top priority, says U.S. envoy-designate

- India's continued imports of Russian oil are a major concern and labeled a "top priority" for the U.S., particularly by President Trump's administration and officials likely to play key roles in future U.S.-India relations.

U.S. Expectations and Demands

- The U.S. expects India to halt all imports of Russian oil as a pre-condition for progress on trade agreements such as the Free Trade Agreement (FTA); Russian oil currently comprises about 35% to 40% of India's intake.
- Sergio Gor, Trump's pick for Ambassador to India, stated that President Trump has made it "crystal clear" that eliminating Russian oil imports is essential for improved U.S.-India trade relations.
- U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick emphasized that trade negotiations would only move forward if India agrees to stop buying Russian oil.

Impact on India-U.S. Trade Talks

- The matter is described as a "top priority" and a hurdle to further negotiations in restoring or expanding U.S.-India trade ties.
- India and the U.S. recently finalized a deal related to tariffs on U.S. imports, but the Russian oil issue remains unresolved.
- Trump administration officials have linked finalizing the FTA to India's willingness to comply on the oil issue.

Broader Implications and Reactions

- Trump has publicly called for "100% tariffs" on Indian and Chinese purchases of Russian oil, highlighting the geopolitical significance of energy imports.
- There is uncertainty if the EU's tariff and policy stance will change, as EU negotiators have not commented officially on the linkage between Russian oil imports and broader trade talks with India.
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India did not officially comment on the specific statements made by Mr. Gor and Mr. Lutnick but maintained their stance on purchasing Russian crude oil based on national interest and market dynamics.



India's manuscripts reflect the journey of humanity, says Modi

- India is emphasizing the digitisation of its ancient manuscripts to preserve its heritage, curb intellectual piracy, and share traditional knowledge globally.

Digitisation to Protect Knowledge

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi advocated for the creation of a digital database of ancient Indian manuscripts, aiming to protect traditional knowledge from intellectual piracy, as information from these documents had often been copied and patented elsewhere.
- Over ten lakh manuscripts have already been digitised, with the government collaborating with private organisations to advance this initiative.

Presenting Heritage Globally

- Modi highlighted India's efforts to present its rich manuscript legacy to the world, as part of the launch of the Gyan Bharati Mission, under the ideals of "Made in India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India).
- India is collaborating with other countries such as Thailand, Vietnam, and Mongolia to strengthen manuscript heritage sharing and digital preservation.

Significance and Future Plans

- Manuscripts reflect the "journey of humanity", representing human development in knowledge, science, and learning. Modi noted that India's manuscripts preserve the footprints of intellectual and cultural evolution.
- The Gyan Bharati portal—a digital platform—is being developed to enable easier access to digitised manuscripts and ancient knowledge, ensuring wide dissemination and safeguarding India's cultural legacy.

Centre clears translocation of tigers from Tadoba, Pench to Sahyadri reserve

Decision:

- The Union Environment Ministry approved the capture and translocation of 8 tigers from Tadoba-Andhari and Pench Tiger Reserves to the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve (STR) in western Maharashtra.
- Aim: revive big cat population in the northern Western Ghats.

Conditions:

- Tigers must be captured at all stages of care (including pre- and post-capture monitoring).
- Maharashtra forest authorities to ensure technical guidelines are followed.

Timeline:

- By December, two tigresses will be translocated first from Tadoba to Sahyadri.
- Tigers will be kept in enclosures, monitored, and then released into the wild.

Background:

- Sahyadri Tiger Reserve (notified in 2010, spread over 1,165 sq km) has rich forests but very few tigers.
- Only transient males recorded in recent years, no stable population.
- Past sightings included three tigers, but regular breeding not confirmed.

Implementation:

- Translocation approved by National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) in October 2023.
- Wildlife Institute of India (WII) will assist with monitoring and habitat assessment.

Future Scope:

- Translocation seen as crucial for reviving tiger populations in the Western Ghats.
- Success could also help revive tiger numbers in other reserves like Radhanagari, Koyna, Chandoli in Maharashtra.



PRELIMS CORNER :

1. In collaboration with Dadabhai Naoroji and Naurojee Fourdonji, who among the following was the leader of Rahanumai Mazadai Sabha ?

- (a) Nana Shankar Sheth
- (b) S. S. Bengalee
- (c) K. T. Telang
- (d) Cornelia Sorabji

2. "Stand-By Arrangements" and "The Extended Fund Facility" are related to the provisions of which of lending by which of the following ?

- (a) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- (b) World Bank
- (c) New development Bank
- (d) International Monetary Fund

3. Which of the following Acts enacted by the British Government in reference to the English East India Company was also known as the "half-loaf system" ?

- (a) Regulating Act of 1773
- (b) Pitt's India Act of 1784
- (c) Charter Act of 1813
- (d) Act for the Better Government of India, 1858

Denying upward mobility to candidates with disabilities defeats purpose of quota: SC

Supreme Court Judgment:

- The SC asked the Centre to clarify whether talented candidates with disabilities can be moved to the unreserved category when their performance exceeds the cut-off.
- Purpose: To ensure upward mobility and prevent stagnation of candidates with disabilities.

Current Situation:

- Disabled candidates who qualify often remain within reserved seats/jobs, unlike candidates from backward classes who are shifted to the unreserved category if they score higher.
- This denies opportunities for other less-advantaged candidates within the disability quota.

Court's Reasoning:

- Not providing upward mobility leads to discrimination against persons with disabilities.
- Even if a candidate scores higher than the general cut-off, they are forced to occupy a reserved seat.
- This blocks chances for lower-scoring disabled candidates and reduces inclusivity.

Legal Basis:

- Violates Section 34 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act.
- The SC called it a "staggering example of hostile discrimination."

Larger Implication:

- Reservation is meant to integrate persons with disabilities into the mainstream and ensure equal opportunities.
- Disability must not be seen only as a deficit requiring correction, but as a human diversity issue that needs inclusion.

Next Step:

- The Union government must explain measures taken to allow upward mobility of meritorious disabled candidates by October 14.



The RTI's shift to a 'right to deny information'



- **Foundational Principle of RTI:**
 - Based on democracy → “rule of the people, by the people, for the people.”
 - Citizens own government-held information; default mode should be sharing with citizens.
- **Section 8(1)(j) – Original Provision:**
 - Allowed denial of information only if it was an unwarranted invasion of privacy and had no relation to public activity/interest.
 - Information could not be denied to Parliament/State legislatures, so also not to ordinary citizens.
- **Emerging Issue – Definition of "Personal Information":**
 - Ambiguity worsened by the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act.
 - RTI Act Section 8(1)(j) now risks being interpreted as denying a broad range of data under “personal information.”
 - Courts and authorities increasingly treat most data as personal, creating an excuse to withhold information.
- **Consequences:**
 - Information disclosure → increasingly denied (e.g., salaries, transfers, corruption cases).
 - Even more than 90% of RTI requests can be blocked citing "privacy."
 - This leads to “untethered corruption” as officials’ activities remain hidden.
- **Public Interest Clause:**
 - Still exists (RTI Act Section 8(2)) but difficult to apply. Citizens must prove “larger public interest,” a nearly impossible standard.
- **Dangerous Shift:**
 - RTI risks becoming a “Right to Deny Information” (RDI).
 - Facilitates secrecy, corruption, and weakens accountability.
 - Fear of penalties under DPDP Act may discourage officials from sharing information.

Call to Action

- **Four areas of focus suggested:**
 - a. **Media & Public Engagement** – wider awareness needed.
 - b. **Political Accountability** – citizens should question their representatives’ role in passing restrictive laws.
 - c. **Judicial Role** – courts must balance privacy with transparency.
 - d. **Civil Society & RTI Activists** – must challenge misinterpretations and push for amendments.
- **Warning:**
 - Citizens may lose access to their own data.
 - Democracy risks sliding back into secrecy.
 - RTI must remain a tool for transparency and public accountability.

'Working to blend isobutanol with diesel after ethanol blending failed'

India is now exploring isobutanol blending with diesel after unsuccessful ethanol-diesel trials, highlighting the government's push for biofuels to support farmers, reduce oil imports, and ensure sustainable energy use.

- **Isobutanol:** It is a four-carbon alcohol ($C_4H_{10}O$), flammable, colorless, and traditionally used as a solvent in paints, coatings, and chemical industries. It is produced both from petrochemical processes and fermentation of biomass.
- **Properties (vs. Ethanol):** Higher energy density than ethanol (closer to diesel).
 - It has lower hygroscopicity (absorbs less water than ethanol), reducing risks of corrosion in engines and pipelines.
- **Isobutanol Blending Trials:** Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) is testing 10% isobutanol-diesel blends.
 - Isobutanol is also being explored as an independent fuel and in Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)-isobutanol flex-fuel options for tractors and agri-machinery.
- **Benefits for India:** Isobutanol enhances energy security while promoting a cleaner alternative to fossil fuels. Supports India's National Biofuel Policy (2018) goals of energy transition and farmer income support.



Vessel ban at Adani port may hit crude supplies from Russia

Adani Port Vessel Ban

- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) has banned vessels sanctioned by the U.S. OFAC, EU, and the U.K. from docking at its ports.
- Ban includes Mundra port (handles ~10% of India's crude imports).
- APSEZ controls 15 domestic ports, handling 27% market share of India's port cargo.

Impact on Crude Supplies

- Russia is a major crude supplier to India, accounting for over 50% of crude arrivals at Mundra in recent years.
- Ban could affect Russian crude shipments, as Russia is under Western sanctions.
- Mundra has limited capacity for large vessels, making rerouting difficult.

Industry Concerns

- Kpler analytics warns that the ban is a "major development" in global oil markets.
- Could have a significant impact on Russian crude inflows to India.
- Refineries at risk: HPCL-Mittal Energy, Indian Oil, and others dependent on crude imports.

Economic Implications

- India, already facing oil import challenges, may see further disruptions.
- Reliance on Russian crude at risk, especially after recent supply disruptions (e.g., Nayara's 2025 supply halt).
- Could add complexity to India's crude sourcing strategy and raise costs.



How Syrian security forces emptied Alawite suburb with eviction orders

Details of the Eviction Process

- Security forces went door-to-door, armed and issuing eviction orders, targeting families of former soldiers from Bashar al-Assad's army and other Alawite residents.
- **Markings:** Homes were marked with "X"s and "O"s; "X" typically signified illegal residency and impending eviction, while "O" marked those permitted to stay.
- Eviction orders were delivered both verbally and affixed to homes, with printed notices referencing illegal housing laws and government orders.

Impact on Residents

- Many families resisted, saying that both property owners and informal settlers faced eviction and that dozens were interrogated about the legality of their stay.
- Evicted families were dispersed and some became homeless, with community members describing a fractured and scattered population after the evictions.
- Residents cited that the eviction process did not distinguish clearly between those with legal documentation and informal settlers, leading to confusion and distress.

Historical and Political Context

- Al-Somaria was appropriated as a loyalist stronghold during the Assad family era, targeting families linked to the regime.
- Recent regime changes have accelerated property disputes and evictions, coinciding with the rise of a new government led by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS).
- The area has long been embroiled in real estate corruption stretching over decades, with many plots appropriated without compensation.

Reactions and Proposed Solutions

- Syrian officials claim that fair solutions are being sought, but experts stress that remedies must address informal settlement realities and avoid forced mass removals.
- Legal experts and civil society advocates, including housing specialist Khouzan Kotah, call for rights-based solutions and protection against arbitrary displacement.
- Some local officials demand accountability for property seizures and stress the need to avoid repeating past injustices under Assad's rule.

Sushila Karki sworn in as Nepal's first woman PM

Historic Appointment

- Sushila Karki (73), former Chief Justice of Nepal, sworn in as the country's first woman Prime Minister.
- Appointed by President Ram Chandra Poudel, who also dissolved Parliament and announced elections for March 5, 2026.
- Her appointment comes amid political turmoil and mass protests.

Context & Background

- Karki supported protesters against PM K.P. Sharma Oli's government.
- Appointment follows consultations with political leaders and Army officials.
- Gen Z protesters played a key role, frustrated by corruption, lavish lifestyles of leaders, and lack of accountability.
- Protests turned violent earlier, leading to 19 deaths, arson, and attacks on infrastructure.

Challenges Ahead

- Tasked with forming a Cabinet and ensuring free and fair elections.
- Needs to oversee investigations into September 8 violence, including arson and infrastructure attacks.
- Must stabilize a fractured political system and restore public trust.

Public Reactions

- Appointment seen as a remedial step to calm unrest and pacify Gen Z demands.
- Many believe her clean image and integrity will help restore faith in governance.
- Analysts stress she faces the daunting task of leading Nepal toward elections peacefully.



Prelims Corner: Explanations

Q1. Ans **b**

In 1851, the reformers in Bombay - Naoroji Furdonji, Dadabhai Naoroji and S.S. Bengalee started a Religious Reform Association called the Rehnumai Mazadayasan Sabha. It stood for the modernisation of Parsi religion and social customs. It launched a struggle for the introduction and spread of education among women, grant of a legal status to them and for uniform laws of inheritance and marriage for the Parsi community.

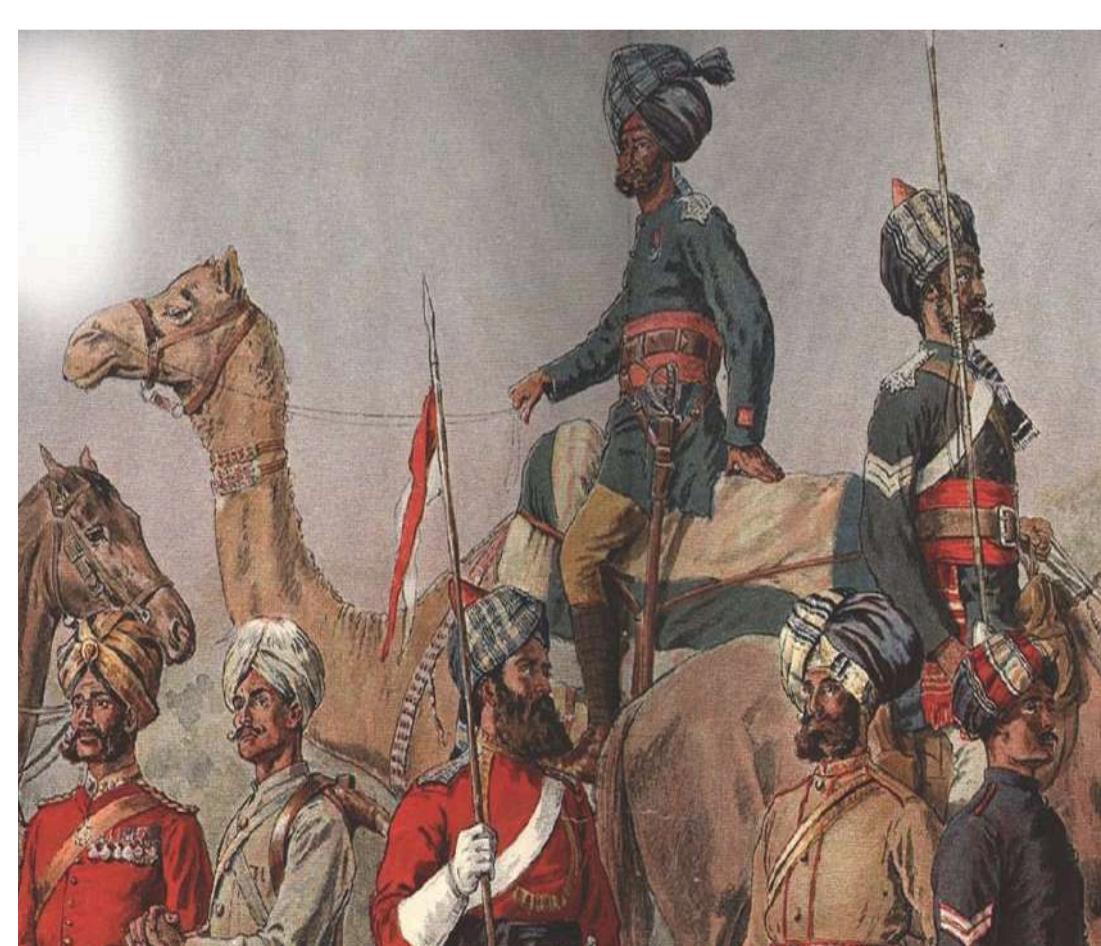


International Monetary Fund provides lending facilities for emerging, and advanced market economies in crises, the bulk of IMF assistance has been provided through Stand-By Arrangements (SBAs) to address the short-term or potential balance of payments problems.



Q2. Ans **d**

The "Stand-By Arrangements" and "The Extended Fund Facility are IMF lending facilities to help members with balance of payments problems. IMF's Stand-By Arrangement was created in June 1952 to provide financing to countries requiring help with balance of payments problems. The SBA has often been used by member countries and is the dominant lending instrument of the IMF, especially for emerging market countries. When a country faces serious medium-term balance of payments problems because of structural weaknesses that require time to address, the IMF can assist through an Extended Fund Facility (EFF). Compared to assistance provided under the Stand-by Arrangement, assistance under an extended arrangement features longer program engagement, to help countries implement medium term structural reforms, and a longer repayment period.



PITT'S INDIA ACT 1784

Case Study:



A professor's vision and nature-based learning are helping first-generation students reconnect with education — under trees, not in classrooms. The tribal communities couldn't afford the luxury of virtual lessons. Near their village, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, regular tree plantation drives were being conducted. These expanses of green attracted the children, making them regular visitors at the site. As luck would have it, the person conducting these tree plantations was a teacher by the name of Angshuman Thakur. Noticing the trend of school dropouts Angshuman first started with five children in 2021, today over 105 children study at Angshuman's 'Anirvana Gacher Iskul' (Anirvana means inextinguishable and Gach means tree). Running on the benevolence of kind strangers and his own savings, it costs Rs 300 per month to educate a child in this school under a tree. Angshuman works as a Bengali literature professor at Prof Syed Nurul Hasan College in Farakka, Murshidabad. Raised in the lap of nature and inspired by Tagore's teachings, he pursued his higher studies at Visva Bharati university.

Civil Service Institute Pala
GLORIOUS 27 YEARS 375 SUCCESS STORIES Pioneers in IAS/KAS Coaching
Arunapuram, Pala, Kottayam District, Kerala - 686574. Mobile No: 9539381100, 8281447770

375 YEARS OF LEGACY
375 SUCCESS STORIES
SHAPING LEADERS SHAPING INDIA

പ്രശ്നങ്ങളായ അധ്യാപകരുടെ പരിശീലനത്തിലൂടെ
ആരു ചാർസിൽ തന്നെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെന്റ് എസ്റ്റ് പാസ്സാക്കാം

Join South India's Premier Coaching Institute

Department Test Account Test (Higher & Lower)

SCAN ME

REGISTER

► DIRECT INTERACTIVE CLASSES

Unmatched Infrastructure | Proven Track Record | Expert Guidance

START DATE: 21-09-2025
Classes during Sundays & Holidays

Step into South India's oldest & most esteemed civil service coaching centre with state-of-the-art-infrastructure

6238436650, 9539381100

www.civilservicepala.com
civilpala@yahoo.com
facebook.com/civilservicepala
instagram.com/civilservicepala

“

Impossible is for the unwilling.

