

INDIA YEAR BOOK-2017

Dear Students,

With the focus on the provision of best study material to our students, Rau's IAS Study Circle is innovatively presenting the voluminous INDIA YEAR BOOK-2017 in a very concise and lucid manner.

Through this, efforts have been taken to circulate the best synopsis extracted from the Year Book-2017 for the benefit of the students.

The abstract has been designed to present contents of the year book in most user-friendly manner. All the major and important points are given in bold and highlighted. The content is also supported by figures and pictures as per the requirement.

The content has been chosen and compiled judiciously so that maximum coverage of all the relevant and significant material is presented within minimum readable pages.

The issue titled '**INDIA YEAR BOOK-2017**' will be covering the following topics:

1.	Land and the People	16.	Health and Family Welfare
2.	National Symbols	17.	Housing
3.	The Polity	18.	India and the World
4.	Agriculture	19.	Industry
5.	Culture and Tourism	20.	Law and Justice
6.	Basic Economic Data	21.	Labour, Skill Development and Employment
7.	Commerce	22.	Mass Communication
8.	Communications and Information Technology	23.	Planning
9.	Defence	24.	Rural and Urban Development
10.	Education	25.	Scietific and Technological Developments
11.	Energy	26.	Transport
12.	Environment	27.	Water Resources
13.	Finance	28.	Welfare
14.	Corporate Affairs	29.	Youth Affairs and Sports
15.	Food and Civil Supplies		

By providing this, the Study Circle hopes that all the students will be able to make the best use of it as a ready reference material and allay their fears of perusing and cramming the entire year book.

Good Luck!
RAU'S IAS STUDY CIRCLE

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CHAPTER ONE | LAND AND THE PEOPLE

"INDIA is the cradle of the human race, the birthplace of human speech, the mother of history, the grandmother of legend and the great grandmother of tradition. Our most valuable and most instructive materials in the history of man are treasured up in India only." – **Mark Twain**

India has a unique culture and is one of the oldest and greatest civilizations of the world. It stretches from the snow-capped Himalayas in the north to sun drenched coastal villages of the south and the humid tropical forests on the south-west coast, from the fertile Brahmaputra valley on its east to the Thar desert in the west. It covers an area of 32,87,263 sq.km.

India is the seventh largest country in the world and ranks second in population. The country stands apart from the rest of Asia, marked off as it is by mountains and the sea, which give her a distinct geographical entity. Bounded by the Great Himalayas in the north, it stretches southwards and at the Tropic of Cancer tapers off into the Indian Ocean between the Bay of Bengal on the east and the Arabian Sea on the west. Lying entirely in the northern hemisphere, the mainland extends between latitudes 8°4' and 37°6' north, longitudes 68°7' and 97°25' east and measures about 3,214 km from north to south between the extreme latitudes and about 2,933 km from east to west between the extreme longitudes.

Geographical Background

Countries having a common border with India are Afghanistan and Pakistan to the north-west, China, Bhutan and Nepal to the north, Myanmar to the far east and Bangladesh to the east. Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar. The country can be divided into six zones mainly north, south, east, west, central and north-east zone. It has 29 states and seven union territories.

Physical Features

The mainland comprises four regions, namely, the great mountain zone, plains of the Ganga and the Indus, the desert region and the southern peninsula. The Himalayas comprise three almost parallel ranges interspersed with large plateaus and valleys, some of which, like the Kashmir and Kullu valleys, are fertile, extensive and of great scenic beauty. Some of the highest peaks in the world are found in these ranges. The high altitudes allow travel only through a few passes, notably the Jelep La and Nathu La on the main Indo-Tibet trade route through the Chumbi valley, north-east of Darjeeling and Shipki La in the Satluj valley, north-east of Kalpa (Kinnaur).

The plains of the Ganga and the Indus are formed by basins of three distinct river systems – the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra. They are one of the world's greatest stretches of flat alluvium and also one of the most densely populated areas on the earth. The desert region can be divided into two parts – the 'great desert' and the 'little desert'. The great desert extends from the edge of the Rann of Kutch beyond the Luni river northward. The whole of the Rajasthan-Sind frontier runs through this. The little desert extends from the Luni between Jaisalmer and Jodhpur up to the northern west.

The Peninsular Plateau is marked off from the plains of the Ganga and the Indus by a mass of mountain and hill. Prominent among these are the Aravali, Vindhya, Satpura, Maikala and Ajanta. The Peninsula is flanked on the one side by the Eastern Ghats and on the other by the Western. Between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea lies a narrow coastal strip, while between Eastern Ghats and the Bay of Bengal, there is a broader coastal area. *The southern point of the plateau is formed by the Nilgiri Hills where the Eastern and the Western Ghats meet.* The Cardamom Hills lying beyond may be regarded as a continuation of the Western Ghats.

Geological Structure

The geological regions broadly follow the physical features and may be grouped into three regions: the Himalayas and their associated group of mountains, the Indo-Gangetic Plain and the Peninsular Shield. The Himalayan mountain belt to the north and the Naga-Lushai Mountain in the east, are the regions of mountain-building movement.

The weathering and erosive elements worked on these to produce the relief seen today. The Indo-Ganga plains are a great alluvial tract that separates the Himalayas in the north from the Peninsula in the south.

The Peninsula is a region of relative stability and occasional seismic disturbances. Highly metamorphosed rocks of the earliest periods occur in this area; the rest being covered by the Gondwana formations, lava flows belonging to the Deccan Trap formation and younger sediments.

River Systems

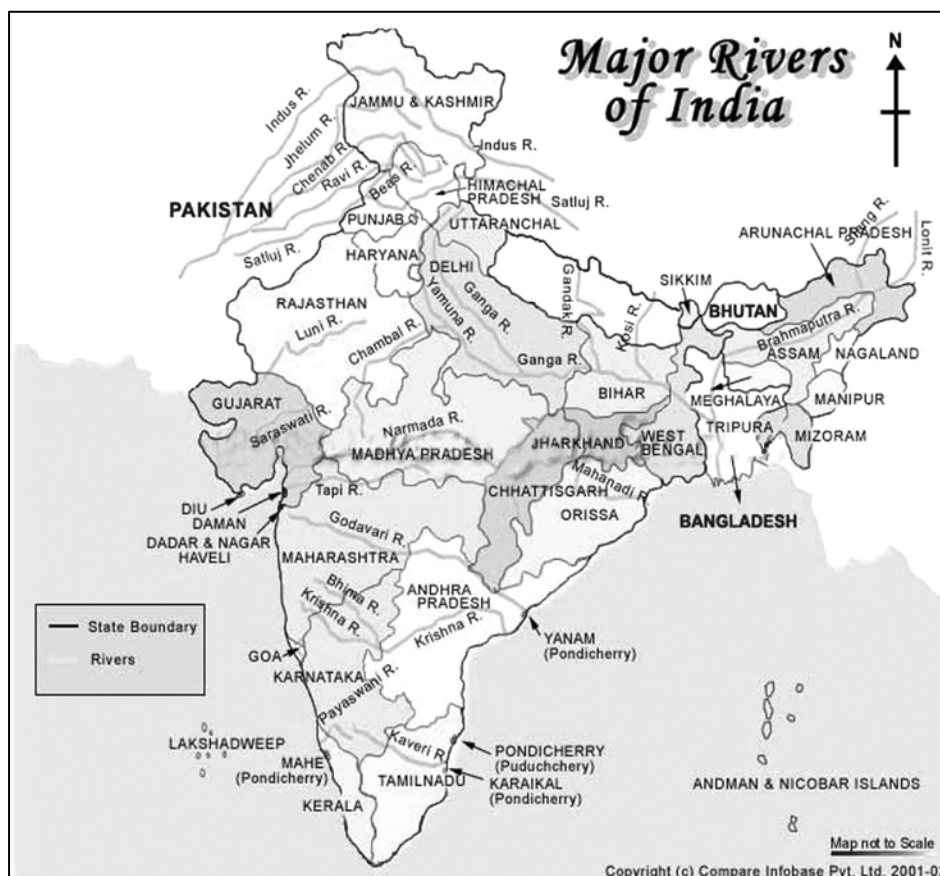
The river systems of India can be classified into four groups viz., (i) Himalayan rivers, (ii) Deccan rivers, (iii) Coastal rivers and (iv) Rivers of the inland drainage basin. The Himalayan rivers are formed by melting snow and glaciers and therefore, continuously flow throughout the year. During the monsoon months, Himalayas receive very heavy rainfall and rivers swell, causing frequent floods.

The Deccan rivers on the other hand are rainfed and therefore fluctuate in volume. Many of these are non-perennial. The Coastal streams, especially on the west coast are short in length and have limited catchment areas. Most of them are non-perennial. The streams of inland drainage basin of western Rajasthan are few and far apart. Most of them are of an ephemeral character. The main Himalayan river systems are those of the Indus and the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna system.

The Indus, which is one of the great rivers of the world, rises near Mansarovar in Tibet and flows through India and thereafter through Pakistan and finally falls into the Arabian sea near Karachi. Its important tributaries flowing in Indian territory are the Sutlej (originating in Tibet), the Beas, the Ravi, the Chenab and the Jhelum.

The Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna is another important system of which the principal sub-basins are those of *Bhagirathi and the Alaknanda, which join at Dev Prayag to form the Ganga*. It traverses through Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. Below Rajmahal Hills, the Bhagirathi, which used to be the main course in the past, takes off, while the Padma continues eastward and enters Bangladesh.

The Yamuna, the Ramganga, the Ghaghra, the Gandak, the Kosi, the Mahananda and the Sone are the important tributaries of the Ganga. Rivers Chambal and Betwa are the important sub-tributaries, which join the Yamuna



before it meets the Ganga. *The Padma and the Brahmaputra join at Bangladesh and continue to flow as the Padma or Ganga.*

The Brahmaputra rises in Tibet, where it is known as Tsangpo and runs a long distance till it crosses over into India in Arunachal Pradesh under the name of Dihang. Near Passighat, the Debang and Lohit join the river Brahmaputra and the combined river runs all along the Assam valley. It crosses into Bangladesh downstream of Dhubri. *The principal tributaries of Brahmaputra in India are the Subansiri, Jia Bhareli, Dhansiri, Puthimari, Pagladiya and the Manas.* The Brahmaputra in Bangladesh fed by Teesta, etc. finally falls into the Ganga.

The Barak river, the head stream of Meghna, rises in the hills in Manipur. The important tributaries of the river are Makku, Trang, Tuivai, Jiri, Sonai, Rukni, Katakhal, Dhaleswari, Langachini, Maduva and Jatinga. Barak continues in Bangladesh till the combined Ganga-Brahmaputra joins it near Bhairab Bazar.

In the Deccan region, most of the major river systems flowing generally in the east fall into Bay of Bengal. The major east flowing rivers are Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery and Mahanadi. Narmada and Tapi are major west flowing rivers. The Godavari in the southern Peninsula has the second largest river basin covering 10 per cent of the area of India. Next to it is the Krishna basin in the region and the Mahanadi is another large basin of the region. The basin of the Narmada in the uplands of the Deccan, flowing to the Arabian Sea and of the Cauvery in the south, falling into the Bay of Bengal are about the same size, though with different character and shape. *A few rivers in Rajasthan do not drain into the sea.* They drain into salt lakes and get lost in sand with no outlet to sea. Besides these, there are the desert rivers which flow for some distance and are lost in the desert. *These are Luni, Machhu, Rupen, Saraswati, Banas, Ghaggar and others.*

Climate/Seasons

India's climate is affected by two seasonal winds—the north-east monsoon and the south-west monsoon. The north-east monsoon commonly known as winter monsoon blows from land to sea whereas south-west monsoon known as summer monsoon blows from sea to land after crossing the Indian ocean, the Arabian sea and the Bay of Bengal. The south-west monsoon brings most of the rainfall during the year in the country.

Flora

India is rich in flora. Available data place India in the tenth position in the world and fourth in Asia in plant diversity. With a wide range of climatic conditions from the torrid to the arctic, India has rich and varied vegetation, which only a few countries of comparable size possess. India can be divided into eight distinct floristic regions, namely, the western Himalayas, the eastern Himalayas, Assam, the Indus plain, the Ganga plain, the Deccan, the Malabar and the Andamans.

The western Himalayan region extends from Kashmir to Kumaon. Its temperate zone is rich in forests of chir, pine, other conifers and broadleaved temperate trees. Higher up, forests of deodar, blue pine, spruce and silver fir occur.

The characteristic trees of this zone are high-level silver fir, silver birch and junipers. The eastern Himalayan region extends from Sikkim eastwards and embraces Darjeeling, Kurseong and the adjacent tracts. *The temperate zone has forests of oaks, laurels, maples, rhododendrons, alder and birch.* Many conifers, junipers and dwarf willows also grow here.

The Indus plain region comprises the plains of Punjab, western Rajasthan and northern Gujarat. It is dry, hot and supports natural vegetation. The Ganga plain region covers the area which is alluvial plain and is under cultivation for wheat, sugarcane and rice. Only small areas support forests of widely differing types. The Deccan region comprises the entire table land of the Indian Peninsula and supports vegetation of various kinds from shrub jungles to mixed deciduous forests. *The Malabar region covers the excessively humid belt of mountain country parallel to the west coast of the Peninsula.*

Faunal Resources

India is very rich in terms of biological diversity due to its unique bio-geographical location, diversified climate conditions and enormous eco-diversity and geo-diversity. India's immense biological diversity encompasses ecosystems, populations, species and their genetic make-up. This diversity can be attributed to the vast variety in physiography and climatic situations resulting in a diversity of ecological habitats ranging from tropical, sub-tropical, temperate, alpine to desert.

According to world bio-geographic classification, India represents two of the major realms (the Palearctic and Indo-Malayan) and three biomes (Tropical Humid Forests, Tropical Dry/Deciduous Forests and Warm Deserts/Semi-Deserts). In the light of Biodiversity Convention, India holds a unique position with the priority of conservation of natural resources and sustainable development. *In fact, within only about 2 per cent of world's total land surface, India is known to have over 7.50 per cent of the species of animals that the world holds.*

Demographic Background

Census

The Census of India 2001, was historic and epoch making, being the first census of the twenty-first century and the third millennium. It reveals benchmark data on the state of abundant human resources available in the country, their demography, culture and economic structure at a juncture, which marks a centennial and millennial transition. Census 2011 was the 15th census of its kind since 1872.

Population

The population of India as on March 1, 2011 stood at 1,210.9 million (623.2 million males and 587.5 million females). India accounts for a meagre 2.4 per cent of the world. Yet, it supports and sustains a whopping per cent of the world population. The population of India, which at the turn of the twentieth century was around 238.4 million, increased to reach 1,210.9 million by 2011. *The population of India as recorded at each decennial census from 1901 has grown steadily except for a decrease during 1911-21.*

Population Density

One of the important indices of population concentration is the density of population. It is defined as the number of persons per sq.km. The population density of India in 2011 was 382 per sq. km and the decadal growth 17.72 per cent. The density of population increased in all states and union territories between 1991 and 2011. Among major states, Bihar is the most thickly populated state with 1,106 persons per sq.km followed by West Bengal 1,028 and Kerala 860.

Sex Ratio

Sex ratio, defined as the number of females per thousand males is an important social indicator to measure the extent of prevailing equality between males and females in a society at a given point of time. The sex ratio in the country has always remained unfavourable to females. It was 972 at the beginning of the twentieth century and thereafter showed continuous decline until 1941. The sex ratio from 1901-2011 has registered a 10 point increase at census 2011 over 2001; however, child sex ratio has declined to 919 per thousand male.

Literacy

For the purpose of census 2011, a person aged seven and above, who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as literate. A person, who can only read but cannot write, is not literate. In the censuses prior to 1991, children below five years of age were necessarily treated as illiterates.

The results of 2011 census reveal that there has been an increase in literacy in the country. The literacy rate in the country is 73.0 per cent, 80.9 for males and 64.6 for females.

Kerala retained its position by being on top with a 94 per cent literacy rate, closely followed by Lakshadweep (91.9 per cent). Bihar with a literacy rate of 61.8 per cent ranks last in the country. Kerala also occupies the top spot in the country both in male literacy with 96.1 per cent and female literacy with 92.1 per cent. On the contrary, Bihar has recorded the lowest literacy rates both in case of males (71.2 per cent) and females (51.5 per cent).

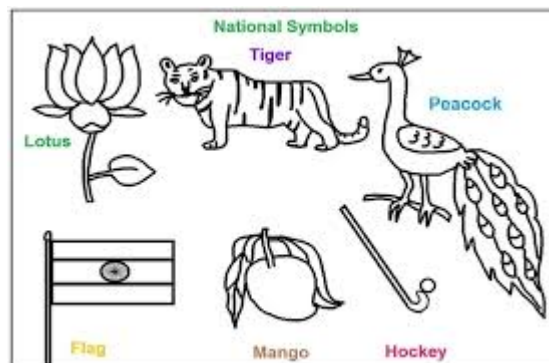
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CHAPTER TWO | NATIONAL SYMBOLS

National Flag

THE National Flag shall be a tricolour panel made up of three rectangular panel or sub-panel of equal widths. The colour of the top panel shall be India saffron (*kesari*) and that of the bottom panel India green. The middle panel shall be white, bearing at its centre the design of Ashoka Chakra in navy blue colour with 24 equally spaced spokes.

The Ashoka Chakra shall preferably be screen printed or otherwise printed or stenciled or suitably embroidered and shall be completely visible on both sides of the Flag in the centre of the white panel. The National Flag shall be rectangular in shape. The ratio of the length to the height (width) of the Flag shall be 3:2. *The design of the National Flag was adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India on July 22, 1947.* Apart from non-statutory instructions issued by the government from time to time, display of the National Flag is governed by the provisions of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 and the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.



The Flag Code of India, 2002 is an attempt to bring together all such laws, conventions, practices and instructions for the guidance of all concerned. The Flag Code of India, 2002 effective from January 26, 2002 superseded the 'Flag Code-India' as it existed then. As per the provisions of the Flag Code of India, 2002, there is no restriction on the display of the National Flag by members of general public, private organizations, educational institutions, etc., except to the extent provided in the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 and the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 and any other law enacted on the subject.

State Emblem

The State Emblem of India is an adaptation from the Sarnath Lion Capital of Asoka. In the original, the Lion Capital has four lions mounted back to back, on a circular abacus. The frieze of the abacus is adorned with sculptures in high relief of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion separated by intervening Dharma Chakras. The abacus rests on a bell shaped lotus. The profile of the Lion Capital showing three lions mounted on the abacus with a Dharma Chakra in the centre, a bull on the right and a galloping horse on the left, and outlines of Dharma Chakras on the extreme right and left was adopted as the State Emblem of India on January 26, 1950. The bell-shaped lotus was omitted. The motto "*Satyameva Jayate*"-Truth alone triumphs-written in Devanagari script below the profile of the Lion Capital is part of the State Emblem of India.

National Anthem

The song *Jana-gana-mana*, composed originally in Bengali by Rabindranath Tagore, was adopted in its Hindi version by the Constituent Assembly as the Nation Anthem of India on January 24, 1950. It was first sung on December 27, 1911 at the Calcutta Session of the Indian National Congress. The complete song consists of five stanzas. The playing time of the full version of the National Anthem is approximately 52 seconds. A short version consisting of the first and last lines of the National Anthem (playing time approximately 20 seconds) is also played on certain occasions.

National Song

The song *Vande Mataram*, composed in Sanskrit by Bankimchandra Chatterji, was a source of inspiration to the people in their struggle for freedom. It has an equal status with *Jana-gana-mana*. The first political occasion when it was sung was the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress.

National Calendar

The National Calendar based on the *Saka Era*, with *Chaitra* as its first month and a normal year of 365 days was adopted from March 22, 1957 along with the Gregorian calendar for the following official purposes: (i) Gazette of India, (ii) news broadcast by All India Radio, (iii) calendars issued by the Government of India and (iv) Government communications addressed to the public. Dates of the National Calendar have a permanent correspondence with dates of the Gregorian calendar, 1 *Chaitra* falling on March 22 normally and on March 21 in leap year.

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CHAPTER THREE | POLITY

INDIA, a union of states, is a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic with a parliamentary system of government. The Republic is governed in terms of the Constitution, which was adopted by Constituent Assembly on November 26th, 1949 and came into force on January 26th, 1950. The Constitution which envisages parliamentary form of government is federal in structure with unitary features. The President of India is the constitutional head of executive of the Union. **Article 74(1) of the Constitution** provides that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister as its head to aid and advise the President who shall in exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice. The real executive power thus vests in the Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister as its head. **The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the House of the People (Lok Sabha).** Similarly, in states, the Governor is the head of executive, but it is the Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister as its head in whom real executive power vests. The Council of Ministers of a state is collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly of the state.

Union and its Territory

India comprises 29 states and seven union territories.

Citizenship

The Constitution of India provides for a single citizenship for the whole of India. Every person who was at the commencement of the Constitution (January 26, 1950) domiciled in the territory of India and: (a) who was born in India; or (b) either of whose parents were born in India; or (c) who has been ordinarily resident in India for not less than five years became a citizen of India. The Citizenship Act, 1955, deals with matters relating to acquisition, determination and termination of Indian citizenship after the commencement of the Constitution.

Fundamental Rights

The Constitution offers all citizens, individually and collectively, some basic freedoms. These are guaranteed in the Constitution in the form of six broad categories of Fundamental Rights which are justifiable. Articles 12 to 35 contained in Part III of the Constitution deal with Fundamental Rights.

Fundamental Duties

By the 42nd Amendment of the Constitution, adopted in 1976, Fundamental Duties of the citizens have also been enumerated. Article 51 'A' contained in Part IV A of the Constitution deals with Fundamental Duties. These enjoin upon a citizen among other things, to abide by the Constitution, to cherish and follow noble ideals, which inspired India's struggle for freedom, to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so and to promote harmony and spirit of common brotherhood transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities.

Directive Principles of State Policy

The Constitution lays down certain Directive Principles of State Policy, *which though not justifiable*, are 'fundamental in governance of the country' and it is the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws. *These have been contained in Part IV from Articles 36 to 51 of the Constitution.* These lay down that the State shall strive to promote the welfare of people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice – social, economic and political – shall form the basis in all institutions of national life.

The Union

Executive

The Union executive consists of the President, the Vice-President and the Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister as the head to aid and advise the President.

President

The President is elected by members of an electoral college consisting of elected members of both Houses of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies of the states in accordance with the system of *proportional representation by means of single transferable vote*. To secure uniformity among states *inter se* as well as parity between the states, as a whole, and the Union, suitable weightage is given to each vote. *The President must be a citizen of India, not less than 35 years of age and qualified for election as a member of the Lok Sabha*. His term of office is five years and he is eligible for re-election. *His removal from office is to be in accordance with procedure prescribed in Article 61 of the Constitution*.

The President summons, prorogues, addresses, sends messages to Parliament and dissolves the Lok Sabha; promulgates Ordinances at any time, except when both Houses of Parliament are in session; makes recommendations for introducing financial and money bills and gives assent to bills; grants pardons, reprieves, respites or remission of punishment or suspends, remits or commutes sentences in certain cases.

Vice-President

The Vice-President is elected by members of an electoral college consisting of members of both Houses of Parliament in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote. *He must be a citizen of India, not less than 35 years of age and eligible for election as a member of the Rajya Sabha*. His term of office is five years and he is eligible for re-election. *His removal from office is to be in accordance with procedure prescribed in Article 67(b)*. The Vice-President is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and acts as President when the latter is unable to discharge his functions due to absence, illness or any other cause or till the election of a new President (to be held within six months when a vacancy is caused by death, resignation or removal or otherwise of President). While so acting, he ceases to perform the function of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

Council of Ministers

There is a Council of Ministers, headed by the Prime Minister, to aid and advise the President in exercise of his functions. The Prime Minister is appointed by the President who also appoints other ministers on the advice of Prime Minister. *The Council is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha*. It is the duty of the Prime Minister to communicate to the President all decisions of Council of Ministers relating to administration of affairs of the Union and proposals for legislation and information relating to them. The Council of Ministers comprises Ministers who are members of Cabinet, Ministers of State (independent charge), Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers.

Legislature

Legislature of the Union which is called Parliament consists of the President and two Houses, known as Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and House of the People (Lok Sabha). Each House has to meet within six months of its previous sitting. A joint sitting of two Houses can be held in certain cases.

Rajya Sabha

The Constitution provides that the Rajya Sabha shall consist of 12 members to be nominated by the President from amongst persons having special knowledge or practical experience in respect of such matters as literature, science, art and social service; and not more than 238 representatives of the states and of the union territories.

Lok Sabha

The Lok Sabha is composed of representatives of people chosen by direct election on the basis of adult suffrage. The maximum strength of the House envisaged by the Constitution is now 552 (530 members to represent the states, 20 members to represent the union territories and not more than two members of the Anglo-Indian community to be nominated by the President, if, in his opinion, that community is not adequately represented in the House).

The Lok Sabha at present consists of 543 members. Of these, 530 members are directly elected from the states and 13 from union territories. *Following the 84th amendment to the Constitution in 2001, the total number of existing seats as allocated to various states in the Lok Sabha on the basis of the 1971 census shall remain unaltered till the first census to be taken after the year 2026.*

The term of the Lok Sabha, unless dissolved earlier is five years from the date appointed for its first meeting. However, while a Proclamation of Emergency is in operation, this period may be extended by Parliament by law for a period not exceeding one year at a time and not extending in any case, beyond a period of six months after the Proclamation is or has ceased to operate. Sixteen Lok Sabhas have been constituted so far.

Qualification for Membership of Parliament

In order to be chosen a member of Parliament, a person must be a citizen of India and not less than 30 years of age in the case of Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age in the case of Lok Sabha. Additional qualifications may be prescribed by Parliament by law.

Functions and Powers of Parliament

The Parliament in India has the cardinal functions of legislation, overseeing of administration, passing of the budget, ventilation of public grievances and discussing various subjects like development plans, national policies and international relations. The distribution of powers between the Union and the States, followed in the Constitution, emphasizes in many ways the general predominance of Parliament in the legislative field.

All legislation requires consent of both the Houses of Parliament. In the case of money bills, however, the 'will' of the Lok Sabha prevails. Delegated legislation is also subject to review and control by Parliament. Besides the power to legislate, the Constitution vests in Parliament the power to initiate amendment of the Constitution.

Parliamentary Committees

The functions of Parliament are varied in nature. The time at its disposal is limited. It cannot make very detailed scrutiny of all legislative and other matters that come up before it. A good deal of Parliamentary business is, therefore, transacted in the committees.

Both Houses of Parliament have a similar committee structure, with few exceptions. Their appointment, terms of office, functions and procedure of conducting business are also more or less similar and are regulated as per rules made by the two Houses under **Article 118(1) of the Constitution**. Broadly, Parliamentary Committees are of two **kinds—Standing Committees** and **Ad Hoc Committees**. The former are elected or appointed every year or periodically and their work goes on, more or less, on a continuous basis. The latter are appointed on an **ad hoc** basis as need arises and they cease to exist as soon as they complete the task assigned to them.

Standing Committees: Among the Standing Committees, the three Financial Committees—Committees *on Estimates, Public Accounts* and *Public Undertakings*—constitute a distinct group as they keep an unremitting vigil over Government expenditure and performance. While members of the Rajya Sabha are associated with Committees on Public Accounts and Public Undertakings, the members of the Committee on Estimates are drawn from the Lok Sabha.

The *Estimates Committee* reports on what economies, improvements in organization, efficiency or administrative reform consistent with policy underlying the estimates may be effected.

The Public Accounts Committee scrutinizes appropriation and finance accounts of Government and reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. It ensures that public money is spent in accordance with the Parliament's decision and calls attention to cases of waste, extravagance, loss or nugatory expenditure.

Leaders of Opposition in Parliament

The Leaders of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha are accorded statutory recognition. Salary and other suitable facilities are extended to them through a separate legislation brought into force in 1977.

Government Business in Parliament

The task of efficiently handling diverse Parliamentary work on behalf of the Government, in the Parliament, has been assigned to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, being the Government Chief Whips is entrusted with the responsibility of coordinating, planning and arranging Government business in both Houses of Parliament.

All India Whips Conference

The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of India has been organizing All India Whips' Conference from time to time with the purpose of establishing suitable links among the whips of various political parties at the Centre and the states.

Matters Under Rule 377 and Special Mentions

The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs takes follow-up action on matters raised under Rule 377 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and by way of Special Mentions in Rajya Sabha.

Comptroller and Auditor General

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India is appointed by the President. The procedure and the grounds for his removal from office are the same as for a Supreme Court judge. He is not eligible for further office under the Union or a state government after he ceases to hold his office.

The accounts of the Union and of the states shall be kept in such form as the President may, on the advice of the CAG, prescribe. The reports of the India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the President, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament. The reports of the CAG of India relating to the accounts of a state shall be submitted to the Governor of the state, who shall cause them to be laid before the legislature of the state.

The duties, powers and conditions of service of the CAG have been specified by the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Power and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971.

Ministries/Departments of the Government

The Government consists of a number of ministries/departments, their number and character varying from time to time based on factors such as volume of work, priorities attached to certain subjects, etc.

List of the Ministries/Departments

- **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (*Krishi evam Kisan Kalyan Mantralaya*)**
 - (i) Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmers Welfare
(*Krishi, Sahkarita evam Kisan Kalyan Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Agricultural Research and Education
(*Krishi Anusandhan aur Shiksha Vibhag*)
 - (iii) Department of Animal Husbandry, and Fisheries and Dairying
(*Pashupalan, Dairy aur Matsyapalan Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (*Rasayan aur Urvarak Mantralaya*)**
 - (i) Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals
(*Rasayan aur Petro-Rasayan Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Fertilizers
(*Urvarak Vibhag*)
 - (iii) Department of Pharmaceuticals.
(*Aushadh Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Commerce and Industry (*Vanijya aur Udyog Mantralaya*)**
 - (i) Department of Commerce
(*Vanijya Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion
(*Audyogik Niti aur Samvardhan Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Communications (*Sanchar Mantralaya*)**
 - (i) Department of Telecommunications
(*Doorsanchar Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Posts
(*Dak Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (*Upbhokta Mamle, Khadya aur Sarvajanik Vitaran Mantralaya*)**
 - (i) Department of Consumer Affairs
(*Upbhokta Mamle Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Food and Public Distribution
(*Khadya aur Sarvajanik Vitaran Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Defence (*Raksha Mantralaya*)**
 - (i) Department of Defence
(*Raksha Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Defence Production
(*Raksha Utpadan Vibhag*)
 - (iii) Department of Defence Research and Development
(*Raksha Anusandhan tatha Vikas Vibhag*)
 - (iv) Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare

(*Poorva Senani Kalyan Vibhag*)

➤ **Ministry of Finance (*Vitta Mantralaya*)**

- (i) Department of Economic Affairs
(*Arthik Karya Vibhag*)
- (ii) Department of Expenditure
(*Vyaya Vibhag*)
- (iii) Department of Revenue
(*Rajaswa Vibhag*)
- (iv) Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)
(*Nivesh aur Lok Parisampatti Prabandhan Vibhag*) (DIPAM)
- (v) Department of Financial Services
(*Vittiya Sezvayen Vibhag*)

➤ **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(*Swasthya aur Parivar Kalyan Mantralaya*)**

- (i) Department of Health and Family Welfare
(*Swasthya aur Parivar Kalyan Vibhag*)
- (ii) Department of Health Research
(*Swasthya Anusandhan Vibhag*)

➤ **Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
(*Bhari Udyog aur Lok Udyam Mantralaya*)**

- (i) Department of Heavy Industries
(*Bhari Udyog Vibhag*)
- (ii) Department of Public Enterprises
(*Lok Udyam Vibhag*)

➤ **Ministry of Home Affairs (*Grih Mantralaya*)**

- (i) Department of Internal Security
(*Aantarik Suraksha Vibhag*)
- (ii) Department of States
(*Rajya Vibhag*)
- (iii) Department of Official Language
(*Raj Bhasha Vibhag*)
- (iv) Department of Home
(*Grih Vibhag*)
- (v) Department of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs
(*Jammu tatha Kashmir Vibhag*)
- (vi) Department of Border Management
(*Seema Prabandhan Vibhag*)

- **Ministry of Human Resource Development** (*Manav Sansadhan Vikas Mantralaya*)
 - (i) Department of School Education and Literacy
(*School Shiksha aur Saksharta Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Higher Education
(*Uchchatar Shiksha Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Law and Justice** (*Vidhi aur Nyaya Mantralaya*)
 - (i) Department of Legal Affairs
(*Vidhi Karya Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Legislative Department
(*Vidhayee Vibhag*)
 - (iii) Department of Justice
(*Nyaya Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions**
(*Karmik, Lok Shikayat tatha Pension Mantralaya*)
 - (i) Department of Personnel and Training
(*Karmik aur Prashikshan Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
(*Prashasnik Sudhar aur Lok Shikayat Vibhag*)
 - (iii) Department of Pensions and Pensioners' Welfare
(*Pension aur Pension Bhogi Kalyan Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Rural Development** (*Gramin Vikas Mantralaya*)
 - (i) Department of Rural Development
(*Gramin Vikas Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Land Resources
(*Bhumi Sansadhan Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Science and Technology** (*Vigyan aur Praudyogiki Mantralaya*)
 - (i) Department of Science and Technology
(*Vigyan aur Praudyogiki Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Scientific and Industrial Research
(*Vigyan aur Audyogik Anusandhan Vibhag*)
 - (iii) Department of Bio-technology (*Biotechnology Vibhag*)
- **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**
(*Samajik Nyaya aur Adhikarita Mantralaya*)
 - (i) Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
(*Samajik Nyaya aur Adhikarita Vibhag*)
 - (ii) Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
(*Viklangjan Sashaktikaran Vibhag*)

➤ **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** (*Yuva Karyakram aur Khel Mantralaya*)

- (i) Department of Youth Affairs
(*Yuva Karyakaram Vibhag*)
- (ii) Department of Sports
(*Khel Vibhag*)

National Authority, Chemical Weapons Convention

National Authority, Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) was set up by a resolution of Cabinet Secretariat to fulfill the obligations enunciated in the Chemical Weapons Convention. It prohibits the development, production, execution, transfer, use and stockpiling of all chemical weapons by Member-States in a non-discriminatory manner.

The Parliament enacted in 2000 a CWC Act which came into force in 2015 to give effect to the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention in India. In accordance with the provisions of this Act a high-level steering committee under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary with Secretary (Chemical and Petrochemicals), Foreign Secretary, Secretary, Defence Research and Development, Defence Secretary and Chairman, National Authority as its other members, oversees the functioning of the National Authority.

The National Authority is responsible for implementation of the CWC Act, liaison with Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and other state parties, fulfilling of declaration obligation, negotiating facility agreements, coordinating OPCW inspections, providing appropriate facilities for training national inspectors and industry personnel, ensuring protection of confidential business information, checking declarations for consistency, accuracy and completeness of entities engaged in activities related to the CWC.

Chemical Weapons Convention

The Convention aims to eliminate an entire category of weapons of mass destruction by prohibiting the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, transfer or use of chemical weapons by States Parties. States Parties, in turn, must take the steps necessary to enforce that prohibition in respect of persons (natural or legal) within their jurisdiction.

All States Parties have agreed to chemically disarm by destroying any stockpiles of chemical weapons they may hold and any facilities which produced them, as well as any chemical weapons they abandoned on the territory of other States Parties in the past. States Parties have also agreed to create a verification regime for certain toxic chemicals and their precursors in order to ensure that such chemicals are only used for purposes not prohibited.

A unique feature of the CWC is its incorporation of the 'challenge inspection', whereby any State Party in doubt about another State Party's compliance can request the Director-General to send an inspection team. Under the CWC's 'challenge inspection' procedure, States Parties have committed themselves to the principle of 'any time, anywhere' inspections with no right of refusal.

Note: India is a member of Chemical Weapons Convention.



ORGANISATION FOR THE
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL
WEAPONS

Every country within 30 days of becoming a state party to the convention is obligated to submit 'Initial Declaration: India submitted its initial declarations in the year 1977. Every state party is also delegated to make 'Annual Declarations' on relevant chemicals and facilities in accordance with verification carried out in the previous calendar year

called the Annual Declaration on Past Activities (ADPA) and the second giving particular of activities proposed to be carried out during the following calendar year called the Annual Declaration of Anticipated Activities (ADAA).

Note: This topic is very important in the background of Syria Chemical Attack.

Public Grievances Mechanism

The Directorate of Public Grievances (DPG) was set up in 1988 to entertain grievances from the public after they fail to get satisfactory redress from the ministry/department concerned within a reasonable time. It is thus, an office of the last resort for redress of grievances relating to sectors in its purview. The sectors in DPG's purview are those with extensive public interface.

Civil Services Day

The Government of India is celebrating April, 21 every year as 'Civil Services Day' for the civil servants to rededicate themselves to the cause of citizens and renew their commitment to public service and excellence in work.

Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration

Government of India has instituted 'Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration' to acknowledge and recognize the extraordinary and innovative work of District and Organizations of the Central and State Governments.

International Exchange and Cooperation

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (CPAPG) works as the nodal point in respect of matters relating to international cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance. The purpose of the international cooperation component is to enable the sharing of information, best practices and personnel across national governments.

India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Forum

Recognizing the emergence and consolidation of India - Brazil - South Africa (IBSA) initiatives and collaboration at regional and global level for promoting good governance and wishing to strengthen South-South cooperation, the three countries acknowledged that joint efforts and collaboration will position them as active players in helping to direct the public administration and governance towards democratic values and social inclusion.

Cooperation with IIAS

The DARPS is an institutional member of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) since 1998. *The IIAS with its headquarters at Brussels, Belgium*, was established for the purpose of promoting the development of Administrative Sciences, better organization and operation of public administrative agencies, improvement of administrative matters and techniques and for the progress of international administration.

Cooperation with CAPAM

The Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management (CAPAM), with *its headquarters at Ottawa, Canada*, is an organization dedicated to strengthening public management and consolidating democracy and good governance throughout the Commonwealth. It was formed in 1994 as a result of decisions taken at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Harare in 1991 and in Cyprus in 1993.

Minimum Government-Maximum Governance

The Departmental quarterly Journal *-Minimum Government Minimum Governance* earlier known as *Management in Government* provides a forum for frank exchange of views and opinions among administrators, academicians, scholars and others interested in public administration and public sector management. The Department has been bringing out this quarterly journal since 1969.

Administrative Reforms Commission

The second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) was constituted in 2005, as a Commission of Inquiry, under the *Chairmanship of Shri Veerappa Moily* for preparing a detailed blueprint for revamping the public administrative system. The Commission was requested to suggest measures to achieve a proactive, responsive, accountable, sustainable and efficient administration for the country at all levels of Government.

It has presented reports to the Government for consideration: **(i)** Right to Information: Master Key to Good Governance; **(ii)** Unlocking Human Capital: Entitlements and Governance - A Case Study; **(iii)** Crisis Management: From Despair to Hope; **(iv)** Ethics in Governance; **(v)** Public Order : Justice for Each ... Peace for All; **(vi)** Local Governance; **(vii)** Capacity Building for Conflict Resolution - Friction to Fusion; **(viii)** Combating Terrorism; **(ix)** Social Capital - A Shared Destiny; **(x)** Refurbishing of Personnel Administration - Scaling New Heights; **(xi)** Promoting e-Governance - The Smart Way Forward; **(xii)** Citizen Centric Administration - The Heart of Governance; **(xiii)** Organizational Structure of Government of India; **(xiv)** Strengthening Financial Management System; **(xv)** State and District Administration.

The Central Government has considered many reports and the decisions on the accepted recommendations of 2nd ARC are at various stages of implementation.

Modernization Scheme

The Modernization Scheme is being implemented by this Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances from 1987-88 in order to give boost to modernization of offices at Branch and Section level in various Central Government offices located in Delhi as an overall process of administrative Reforms.

Right to Information

The Right to Information Act, 2005 empowers the citizens, promotes transparency and accountability in the working of the Government, combat corruption and makes the democracy work for people in real sense. The Act aims at creating an informed citizenry which would be better equipped to keep necessary vigil on the instruments of governance and make the government more accountable to the governed. One has to simply make a request to the Public Information Officer of the office indicating the information sought and the address at which the information is required.

If the applicant does not get the information within 30 days or the applicant is not satisfied with the reply given to him, he can make an appeal within 30 days to the appellate authority appointed by the authority who is an officer superior to the Public Information Officer. The appellate authority has to decide the appeal within 30 days of the receipt of appeal. If the applicant is not satisfied even with the decision of the appellate authority, he can file a second appeal with the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be within 90 days.

The Central Information Commission/State Information Commissions are high-powered independent bodies created by the Act, and they can impose penalty on the defaulting Public Information Officers.

Official Language

Article 343 (1) of the Constitution provides that Hindi in Devanagari script shall be the official language of the Union. Article 343 (2) also provides for continuing the use of English in official work of the Union for a period of 15 years from the date of commencement of the Constitution. Article 343 (3) empowered the Parliament to provide by law for continued use of English for official purposes even after 1965.

Committees / Samitis

The Kendriya Hindi Samiti was constituted in the year 1967. Chaired by Prime Minister it is the apex policy making body which lays the guidelines for the propagation and progressive use of Hindi as official language of the Union.

Inter-State Council

The provision for setting up an Inter-State Council is mentioned in Article 263 of the Constitution. In pursuance of the recommendation made by the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations, the Inter-State Council was set up in 1990.

The Inter-State Council (ISC) is a recommendatory body and has been assigned the duties of investigating and discussing such subjects, in which some or all of the States or the Union Territories and one or more of the states have a common interest, for better coordination of policy and action with respect to that subject. It also deliberates upon such other matters of general interests to the states as may be referred by the Chairman to the Council. *The Prime Minister is the Chairman of the Council.*

Zonal Council

Five Zonal Councils viz. Northern Zonal Council, Central Zonal Council, Eastern Zonal Council, Western Zonal Council and Southern Zonal Council were set up vide Part-III of the States Re-organization Act, 1956 with the objectives of bringing out national integration; arresting the growth of acute State consciousness, regionalism, linguism and particularistic tendencies; enabling the Centre and the States to cooperate and exchange ideas and experiences; and establishing a climate of co-operation amongst the States for successful and speedy execution of development projects.

Organizational Structure of Zonal Council

The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of all the Zonal Councils. The Office of the Vice-Chairman is held by the Chief Minister of the Member State of the respective Zonal Council by annual rotation, each holding office for a period of one year at a time.

The States

The system of Government in states closely resembles that of the Union.

Executive Governor

A state executive consists of Governor and Council of Ministers with Chief Minister as its head. The Governor of a State is appointed by the President for a term of five years office. Only Indian citizens above 35 years of age are eligible for appointment to this office. Executive power of the state is vested in Governor.

The Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister as head aids and advises Governor in exercise of his functions except in so far as he is by or under the Constitution required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion. In respect of Nagaland, the Governor has special responsibility under Article 371 A of the Constitution with respect to law and order and even though it is necessary for him to consult Council of

Ministers in matters relating to law and order, he can exercise his individual judgment as to the action to be taken.

Council of Ministers

The Chief Minister is appointed by the Governor who also appoints other ministers on the advice of the Chief Minister. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Legislative Assembly of the state.

Legislature

For every state, there is a legislature which consists of Governor and one House or, two Houses as the case may be. In Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh, there are two Houses known as Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly. In the remaining states, there is only one House known as Legislative Assembly. Parliament may, by law, provide for abolition of an existing Legislative Council or for creation of one where it does not exist, if proposal is supported by a resolution of the Legislative Assembly concerned.

Legislative Council

Legislative Council (*Vidhan Parishad*) of a state comprises not more than one-third of total number of members in Legislative Assembly of the state and in no case less than 40 members (Legislative Council of Jammu and Kashmir has 36 members *vide* Section 50 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir). About one-third of members of the Council are elected by members of Legislative Assembly from amongst persons who are not its members, one-third by electorates consisting of members of municipalities, district boards and other local authorities in the state, one-twelfth by electorate consisting of persons who have been, for at least three years, engaged in teaching in educational institutions within the state not lower in standard than secondary school and a further one-twelfth by registered graduates of more than three years standing.

Remaining members are nominated by the Governor from among those who have distinguished themselves in literature, science, art, cooperative movement and social service. Legislative councils are not subject to dissolution but one third of their members retire every second year.

Legislative Assembly

Legislative Assembly (*Vidhan Sabha*) of a state consists of not more than 500 and not less than 60 members (Legislative Assembly of Sikkim has 32 members *vide* Article 371 F of the Constitution) chosen by direct election from territorial constituencies in the state. Demarcation of territorial constituencies is to be done in such a manner that the ratio between population of each constituency and number of seats allotted to it, as far as practicable, is the same throughout the state. Term of an assembly is five years unless it is dissolved earlier.

Powers and Functions

State legislature has exclusive powers over subjects enumerated in List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution and concurrent powers over those enumerated in List III. Financial powers of legislature include authorization of all expenditure, taxation and borrowing by the State Government. Legislative Assembly alone has power to originate money bills. Legislative Council can make only recommendations in respect of changes it considers necessary within a period of 14 days of the receipt of money bills from assembly. The assembly can accept or reject these recommendations.

Reservation of Bills

The Governor of a state may reserve any bill for the consideration of the President. Bills relating to subjects like compulsory acquisition of property, measures affecting powers and position of High Courts and imposition of

taxes on storage, distribution and sale of water or electricity in Inter-state River or river valley development projects should necessarily be so reserved. No bills seeking to impose restrictions on inter-state trade can be introduced in a state legislature without previous sanction of the President.

Union Territories

Union territories are administrated by the President acting to such extent, as he thinks fit, through an administrator appointed by him. Administrators of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Delhi and Puducherry are designated as Lieutenant Governors. The Governor of Punjab is concurrently the administrator of Chandigarh. The administrator of Dadra and Nagar Haveli is concurrently the administrator of Daman and Diu. Lakshadweep has a separate administrator.

Local Government

Municipalities

Municipal bodies have a long history in India. The first such Municipal Corporation was set-up in the former Presidency Town of Madras in 1688; and later in Bombay and Calcutta in 1726. The Constitution of India has made detailed provisions for ensuring protection of democracy in Parliament and in the state legislatures. However, the Constitution did not make the local self-government in urban areas a clear-cut constitutional obligation.

Panchayats

Article 40 of the Constitution which enshrines one of the Directive Principles of State Policy lays down that the state shall take steps to organize village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government.

Election Commission

The Election Commission of India (ECI) was constituted on January 25, 1950 with its headquarters at New Delhi. It is a permanent independent constitutional body vested with the powers and responsibility of superintendence, direction and control of the entire process of conduct of elections to Parliament and to legislatures of the states and the union territories and elections to the offices of President and Vice-President held under the Constitution. The Election Commission decides the election schedules for the conduct of elections — both general elections and bye-elections. It prepares, maintains and periodically updates the electoral rolls, supervises the nomination of candidates, registers political parties, monitors the election campaign, including funding and expenditure of candidates.

CHAPTER FOUR | AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE plays a vital role in India's economy. Nearly 55 per cent of the population is engaged in agriculture and allied activities (census 2011) and it contributes 17.4 per cent to the country's Gross Value Added.

Given the importance of agriculture sector, Government of India took several steps for its sustainable development. Steps have been taken to improve soil fertility on a sustainable basis through the soil health card scheme, to provide improved access to irrigation and enhanced water efficiency through Pradhan Mantri Gram Sinchai Yojana, to support organic farming through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and to support for creation of a unified national agriculture market to boost the incomes of farmers.

National Policy for Farmers

Government of India approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF) in 2007. The Policy provisions, inter alia, include asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries, and bio-resources; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; agricultural bio-security systems; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material, improving soil fertility and health, and integrated pest management systems; support services for women like creches, child care centres, nutrition, health and training; timely, adequate, and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates, and farmer-friendly insurance instruments; use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and setting up of farmers' schools to revitalize agricultural extension; effective implementation of MSP across the country, development of agricultural market infrastructure, and rural non-farm employment initiatives for farm households; integrated approach for rural energy, etc.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY): The Scheme has been approved for a period of 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20). The major objective of PMKSY is to achieve convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level, expand cultivable area under irrigation, improve on-farm water use efficiency to reduce wastage of water, enhance the adoption of precision irrigation and other water saving technologies (more crop per drop), enhance recharge of aquifers and introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc.

Agricultural Credit: Government announces annual target for agriculture credit in the budget every year. Agricultural credit flow has shown consistent progress every year. In the year 2014-15, agricultural credit flow was Rs 8,45,328.23 crore against the target of Rs 8,00,000 crore. Target for the year 2015-16 was fixed at Rs 8,50,000 crore.

Kisan Credit Card: The Kisan Credit Card Scheme is in operation throughout the country and is implemented by Commercial Banks, Cooperative Banks and Regional, Rural Banks. The Scheme has facilitated in augmenting credit flow for agricultural activities. The scope of the KCC has been broad-based to include term credit and consumption needs. The KCC Scheme has since been simplified and converted into ATM enabled debit card with, inter-alia, facilities of one-time documentation, built-in cost escalation in the limit, any number of drawals within the limit, etc., which eliminates the need for disbursement through camps and mitigates the vulnerability of farmers to middlemen.

Crop Insurance

In order to protect farmers against crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases, weather conditions, Government of India had introduced the National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) with component schemes of Modified National Agricultural Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and

Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS). In addition, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which was to be withdrawn after implementation of NCIP from rabi 2013-14 has been extended further up to 2015-16.

Special Rehabilitation Package for Distressed Farmers (i) A Special Rehabilitation Package for 31 suicide prone districts in the four states, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala was implemented. The package has stabilized the conditions of the farmers in the identified districts. (ii) As part of Special Rehabilitation Package meant for suicide districts, two packages were approved by the Government of India for Kerala based on the various programmes/interventions suggested by the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation in 2008: (i) development of Kuanad Wetland Ecosystem and (ii) mitigation of Agrarian Distress in Idukki district.

Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices: Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), set up with a view to evolving a balanced and integrated price structure, *is mandated to advise on the price policy (MSP) of 23 crops*. While recommending MSPs/FRP, CACP is called upon to ensure that the production patterns are broadly in line with the overall needs (demand) of the economy. CACP submits its recommendations to the government in the form of price policy reports every year, separately for five groups of commodities namely kharif crops, rabi crops, sugarcane, raw jute and copra. Before preparing these five pricing policy reports, the Commission seeks views of various state governments, concerned national organizations and ministries.

Determinants of MSP: While recommending price policy of various commodities under its mandate, the Commission keeps in mind demand and supply, cost of production, price trends in the market, both domestic and international, inter-crop price parity, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, likely implications of MSP on consumers of that product, besides ensuring optimal utilization of natural resources like land and water. It may be noted that cost of production is an important factor that goes as an input in determination of MSP but it is not the only factor. Thus, recommending MSPs (Minimum Support Prices) of various crops is not a 'cost plus' pricing exercise, though cost is an important determinant.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research

Agricultural research and education in India is spearheaded by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), an autonomous organization under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India. This apex body is mandated for coordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture and allied activities. It has the largest network of agricultural research and education in the world.

Soil and Water Productivity

Land resource inventory on 1:10,000 scale was prepared taking Landscape Ecological Unit (LEU) consisting of landforms, land use and slope as the base map while bio-climatic map of India was revised. Electronic atlas of water resources developed for Odisha and Himachal Pradesh is a useful tool for catch assessment and developing GIS based Decision Support System. The information will help planners to concentrate efforts, allocate resources and deploy manpower according to the distribution of fishery resources.

Bamboo plantation-based bio-engineering interventions were found promising for reclamation and productive utilization of major ravines namely, Mahi ravines at Vasad (Gujarat), Chambal ravines at Kota (Rajasthan), and Yamuna ravines at Agra (Uttar Pradesh). These interventions could absorb more than 80 per cent of rainfall and reduce the soil and nutrient losses by 90 and 70 per cent, respectively.

Climate Change

The Cool Farm Tool model used to estimate emission of GHGs, integrates several globally determined empirical GHG quantification models. Using the tool, GHG fluxes (carbon-dioxide and methane), moisture and heat in the soil plant-atmosphere systems were measured in rice-wheat rotation. Among the cropping systems, maize-wheat cropping registered highest carbon management index. The cumulative seasonal methane emission was reduced by 75 per cent in aerobic rice as compared to continuously flooded rice and the seasonal emissions were lower in slow-release N fertilizer.

Livestock Improvement

India has been holding the position of leading milk producing nation in the world for the last several years with sustainable increase in the annual milk production wherein the research developments played a crucial role. Semen doses of Gir, Kankrej, Sahiwal were produced and utilized for insemination. Cloning of the only alive wild-buffalo of Chhattisgarh has opened up new avenues of cloning technology application in conservation of endangered species.

National Agricultural Science Fund

The National Agricultural Science Fund (NASF), established to support basic and strategic research in agriculture, beside supporting, reviewing, monitoring and evaluation of the ongoing projects also initiated funding of new projects which were in the process of evaluation.

Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is one of the departments under the Ministry of Agriculture. The department is responsible for matters relating to livestock production, preservation, protection and improvement of stocks, dairy development, matters relating to the Delhi Milk Scheme and the National Dairy Development Board. It also looks after all matters pertaining to fisheries, which includes inland and marine sectors and matters related to the National Fisheries Development Board.

Population of Livestock

Livestock census started in the country in the year 1919. So far 19 such censuses have been conducted. It is a complete count of the livestock and poultry at a pre-defined reference date. The livestock species namely cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs, horses and ponies, mules, donkeys, camels, mithuns and yaks are covered in the census. The other species covered are dogs, rabbits and elephants.

Dairy Development

Demand of milk in the country is expected to reach up to 150 million tonnes by the end of year 2016-17 and up to 210 million tonnes by 2021-22. The dairy sector has grown substantially over the years. As a result of prudent policy intervention, *India ranks first among the world's milk producing nations.*

Dairying has become an important secondary source of income for millions of rural families and has assumed the most important role in providing employment and income generating opportunities particularly for women and marginal farmers. *The per capita availability of milk was at a level of 302 grams per day during the year 2013-14, which was more than the world average of 294 grams per day.* Most of the milk in the country is produced by small, marginal farmers and landless labours.

National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development

A new restructured scheme namely, National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD), was launched in 2014 by merging three Dairy Development schemes of Intensive Dairy Development

Programme (IDDP), Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production (SIQ and CMP) and Assistance to Cooperative (A to C) and National Programme for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

The Scheme has two components:

- (a) National Programme for Bovine Breeding (NPBB);
- (b) National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD).

The NPBB will focus on extension of field All India (AI) Network through MAITRI (Multi Purpose AI Technician in Rural India) and to encourage conservation and development of recognized indigenous breeds of the country. The NPDD will focus on creating infrastructure related to production, procurement, processing and marketing of milk and milk products by the State Implementing Agency (SIA), State Milk Marketing Federations/District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union and manpower development activities including training of milk producers associated to dairy cooperative societies.

National Dairy Plan Phase-I

National Dairy Plan was launched in March 2013 with the objective of increasing productivity of milch animals and providing rural producers greater access to organized milk processing sector and is being implemented by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

Dairy Entrepreneurship Development

Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) was launched in September, 2010 with the objective for promotion of private investment in dairy sector to increase the milk production and helping in poverty reduction through self employment opportunities. This scheme is being implemented through NABARD which provides financial assistance to commercially bankable projects with loans from commercial, cooperative, urban and rural banks with a back ended capital subsidy of 25 per cent of the project cost to the beneficiaries of general category and 33.33 per cent of the project cost to SC and ST beneficiaries.

National Livestock Mission

Since 2014-15 and 2015-16, National Livestock Mission (NLM) is being implemented with the objectives of sustainable development of livestock sector, focusing on improving availability of quality feed and fodder, risk coverage, effective extension, skill development, improved flow of credit and organization of livestock farmers /rearers, etc. The other objectives are development of small ruminants; piggery and poultry, there are programmes for strengthening the state farms in terms of modernization, automation and bio-security to enable production of improved breed of goats, sheep, pigs and stocks of low-input technology chicken.

Further, the productivity enhancement component provides for supporting BPL families to encourage rearing of backyard poultry and community-led breed improvement programmes. Similarly, under the Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation component there is provision for a number of small ruminants, piggery and poultry farming and allied activities wherein back-ended capital subsidy is provided to the farmers.

Fisheries

India is the second largest producer of fish in the world contributing 5.68 per cent of global fish production. It is also a major producer of fish through aquaculture and ranks second in the world after China. Fishery is one of the most promising sectors of agriculture and allied activities in India, with an overall growth rate of 6 per cent projected during the 12th Five year Plan.

Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture

Aquaculture is the fastest growing food producing sector in the world with an annual growth of around 7 per cent. *India is the second largest producer of fish both in total, and from aquaculture.* Increasing demand for fish and fishery products would mostly be sourced from aquaculture and culture based capture fisheries in reservoirs as capture fisheries growth world over is stagnant.

Livestock Health

Livestock sector plays an important role in national economy and socioeconomic development of the country. Livestock sector has immense potential for growth. The biggest impediment to growth of this sector, however, is the large-scale prevalence of animal diseases like foot and mouth disease (FMD), Peste des Petits Ruminants, brucellosis, avian influenza, etc., which adversely affect the animal productivity.

India was declared Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP) infection free country by the World Animal Health Organization in 2007. The freedom status is being maintained each year thereafter. India has been classified in May, 2010 by the World Animal Health Organization as a country having negligible risk for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE).

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER FIVE | CULTURE AND TOURISM

THE MANDATE of the Ministry of Culture revolves around the functions like preservation and conservation of ancient cultural heritage and promotion of art and culture both tangible and intangible in the country. Headed by Secretary the administrative set up consists of various bureaux and divisions of the Ministry. The Ministry has two attached, six subordinate offices and thirty five autonomous organizations, which are fully funded by the Government.

There are seven Zonal Cultural Centres working mainly on folk and traditional arts of different zones. There are also four missions namely National Mission for Manuscripts, National Mission for Monument and Antiquities, National Mission on Libraries, and Gandhi Heritage Sites Mission.

Broadly, this Ministry is working on the protection, development and promotion of all types of heritage of culture namely, tangible heritage, intangible heritage and knowledge heritage. In addition, the Ministry also harbours the responsibility of Gandhian heritage and commemoration of important historical events and centenaries of great personalities.

In tangible heritage, the Ministry takes care of all the centrally protected monuments of national importance, which is achieved through Archeological Survey of India. Similarly, the Ministry is also promoting a museum movement in the country and majority of the museums are under its administrative control. The Ministry also promotes regional museums through grants-in-aid.

In the field of intangible heritage, the Ministry extends financial support to individuals, group of individuals and cultural organizations engaged in performing visual and literary arts. Similarly, the Ministry through its organizations is engaged in recognizing excellence in the field of art and culture by way of awards given by institutions like Sahitya Akademi and Sangeet Natak Akademi. The National School of Drama is involved in promoting a vibrant theatre movement of contemporary relevance in the context of our traditions and cultural diversity.

In knowledge heritage, the Ministry is the custodian of all the major libraries in the country. It also extends grant-in-aid for library development and is also responsible for all policy matters regarding library development. Through National Archives of India, Ministry is responsible for maintenance of all archival records of the country.

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Lalit Kala Akademi

To promote and propagate understanding of Indian art, both within and outside the country, the Government of India established the Lalit Kala Akademi (National Akademi of Arts) at New Delhi in 1954. The Akademi has regional centres called Rashtriya Lalit Kala Kendras at Lucknow, Kolkata, Chennai, Garhi in New Delhi, Shimla and Bhubaneshwar with workshop facilities in painting, sculpture, print-making and ceramics.

Sangeet Natak Akademi

Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's national academy of music, dance and drama, is a pioneer in creation of modern India. The ephemeral quality of the arts, and the need for their preservation led to the adapting of a democratic system in which the common man had the opportunity to learn, practise and propagate the art.

In 1945, the Asiatic Society of Bengal submitted a proposal for the creation of a National Cultural Trust consisting of three academies—an academy of dance, drama and music; an academy of letters and an academy of art and architecture. It led to the creation of three national academies after Independence. The National Academy named Sangeet Natak Akademi, was the first of these entities to be established by a resolution of the Ministry of

Education, headed by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, signed in 1952 and inaugurated by the then President of India, Dr Rajendra Prasad. In 1961, the Sangeet Natak Akademi was reconstituted by the Government as a society and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

The Akademi establishes and looks after institutions and projects of national importance in the field of performing arts. The Jawaharlal Nehru Manipuri Dance Academy in Imphal, the premier institution in Manipuri dance and music established in 1954, is the first of these institutions.

In 1959, the Akademi established the National School of Drama and in 1964, the Kathak Kendra, both being based in Delhi. *The Akademi's other projects of national importance are in Kutiyattam theatre of Kerala, commenced in 1991 and recognized by UNESCO as a masterpiece of oral and intangible heritage of humanity in 2001.* The project on *Chhau* dance of Odisha, Jharkhand and West Bengal began in 1994. The project support to *Sattriya* music, dance, theatre and allied arts of Assam was started in 2002.

PERFORMING ARTS

Music

Two main schools of classical *music—Hindustani* and *Carnatic* continue to survive through oral tradition being passed on by teachers to disciples. This has led to the existence of family traditions called *gharanas* and *sampradayas*.

Dance

Dance in India has an unbroken tradition of over 2,000 years. Its themes are derived from mythology, legends and classical literature, two main divisions being classical and folk. Classical dance forms are based on ancient dance discipline and have rigid rules of presentation. Important among them are *Bharata Natyam, Kathakali, Kathak, Manipuri, Kuchipudi* and *Odissi*. *Bharata Natyam*, though it derives its roots from Tamil Nadu, has developed into an all India form.

Kathakali is a dance form of Kerala. *Kathak* is a classical dance form revitalized as a result of Mughal influence on Indian culture. Manipur has contributed to a delicate, lyrical style of dance called *Manipuri*, while *Kuchipudi* is a dance form owing its origin to Andhra Pradesh. *Odissi* from Odisha, once practiced as a temple dance, is today widely exhibited by artistes across the country.

Theatre

Theatre in India is as old as its music and dance. Classical theatre survives only in some places. Folk theatre can be seen in its regional variants practically in every region. There are also professional theatres, mainly city-oriented. Besides, India has a rich tradition of Puppet theatre, prevalent forms being puppets, rod puppets, glove puppets and leather puppets (shadow theatre). There are several semi-professional and amateur theatre groups involved in staging plays in both English and Indian languages.

National School of Drama

The National School of Drama (NSD) – one of the foremost theatre institutions in the world and the only one of its kind in India was set up by Sangeet Natak Akademi in 1959. Later in 1975, it became an autonomous organization, totally financed by Department of Culture. The objective of the NSD is to train students in all aspects of theatre, including theatre history, production, scene design, costume design, lighting, make-up, etc.

The School has a performing wing, a *Repertory Company* to establish professional theatre and regular experimental work. The NSD has promoted children's theatre. The *Theatre-in-Education Company* (renamed as Sanskar Rang Toli) was founded in 1989 and has been actively involved in production of plays for children, organizing summer theatre workshops in the schools of Delhi and also promoting children's theatre through

Saturday Club. Since 1998, the School has organized National Theatre Festival for Children christened 'Jashne Bachpan' every year.

Sahitya Akademi

Sahitya Akademi is the Indian National Academy of Letters, to promote Indian literature through publications translations, seminars, workshops, cultural exchange programmes and literary meets organized all over the country.

The Akademi was founded in March 1954 as an autonomous body fully funded by the Department of Culture. It was registered as a Society in 1956 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Akademi has recognized 24 languages. It has an Advisory Board for each of the languages that suggests various programmes and publications in the concerned languages. Besides its head office in New Delhi, it has four offices in Kolkata, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Chennai.

The three fellowships by Sahitya Akademi are:-

1. Sahitya Akademi Honorary Fellowship
2. Anand Fellowship
3. Premchand Fellowship

The Akademi confers its fellowship, its highest honour to literary figures. Sahitya Akademi also instituted a fellowship named after Premchand during his 125th Birth Anniversary in 2005 for scholars doing research on Indian literature or to creative writers from the countries of the SAARC region other than India. Every year since its inception in 1954, the Sahitya Akademi awards prizes to the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages recognized by the Akademi.

It has three journals, *Indian Literature* (bi-monthly in English), *Samkaleena Bharatiya Sahitya* (bi-monthly in Hindi) and *Sanskrita Pratibha* (half-yearly in Sanskrit). It has certain special projects like the *Ancient Indian Literature*, *Medieval Indian Literature* and *Modern Indian Literature* together constituting ten volumes of the best of Indian writing over five millennia. It has also launched a new project *Encyclopedia of Indian Poetics*.

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) is an autonomous centre under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The IGNCA's view of the arts encompasses wide areas such as creative and critical literature, written and oral; the visual arts, architecture, sculpture, painting, graphics, photography and film. The Centre aims at exploring, studying and reviving the dialogue between India and her neighbours, in areas pertaining to the arts, and between communities in India and the world.

Zonal Cultural Centres

Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) aim to arouse awareness of the local cultures and to show how these merge into zonal identities and eventually into the rich diversity of India's composite culture. These centres have already established themselves as a premier agency in the field of promotion, preservation and dissemination of culture in the entire country.

TANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Archaeological Survey of India

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was established in 1861. It functions as an attached office of the Department of Culture. The organization is headed by the Director General.

The major activities of the Archaeological Survey of India are:

- i) Survey of archaeological remains and excavations;
- ii) Maintenance and conservation of centrally protected monuments, sites and remains;
- iii) Chemical preservation of monuments and antiquarian remains;
- iv) Architectural survey of monuments;
- v) Development of epigraphical research and numismatic studies;
- vi) Setting up and re-organization of site museums;
- vii) Expeditions abroad;
- viii) Training in archaeology;
- ix) Publication of technical reports and research works.

National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities

The National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities (NMMA) was launched in 2007. It prepares a National Register for Built Heritage, Sites and Antiques and setting up of a state level database on Built Heritage, Sites and Antiquarian wealth for information and dissemination to planners, researchers, etc., and better management of such cultural resources.

National Museum

The National Museum, functions as a subordinate office under the Ministry of Culture.

National Gallery of Modern Art

The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi was founded in 1954 to promote and develop contemporary Indian Art.

National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology

It is an autonomous organization, fully funded by the Ministry of Culture, established and declared as a Deemed University in 1989. This is the only Museum University in India and is presently functioning at the first floor of National Museum, New Delhi. As per its Memorandum of Association, the Director General, National Museum is the ex-officio Vice-Chancellor of this University.

Main objectives:

- (a) to provide education and training in the specialized areas of art, history, conservation and museology leading to the award of M.A. and Ph.D. Degrees in these three disciplines,
- (b) a few short-term courses— Indian art and culture, art appreciation and *Bhartiya Kalanidhi* (Hindi Medium) are also conducted to popularize the Indian culture,
- (c) to organize seminars / workshops, conferences and special lectures on museum education, art and culture.

National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property

National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property (NRLC) was established in 1976, as a subordinate office of the Department of Culture, and is recognized by the Department of Science and Technology as a scientific institution of the Government of India. The NRLC aims to develop conservation of cultural property in the country.

Anthropological Survey of India

The Anthropological Survey of India is a premier research organization under the Ministry of Culture. It has completed 60 years of existence and has carried out anthropological researches in the area of bio-cultural aspects

of Indian population in general and on those who are referred to as the 'Weakest of the Weak' in particular. Besides this, the activities include collection, preservation, maintenance, documentation and study of ethnographic materials as well as ancient human skeletal remains.

National Archives of India

The National Archives of India (NAI), New Delhi known until Independence as Imperial Record Department, was originally established in Kolkata in 1891. It is the official custodian of all non-current record of permanent value to the Government of India and its predecessor bodies. It has a regional office at Bhopal and three Record Centres at Bhubaneswar, Jaipur and Puducherry.

Major activities of the Archives include:

- (i) making public records accessible to various Government agencies and research scholars;
- (ii) preparation of reference material;
- (iii) preservation and maintenance of records and conducting of scientific investigations for the said purpose;
- (iv) evolving records management programmes;
- (v) rendering technical assistance to individuals and institutions in the field of conservation of records;
- (vi) imparting training in the field of archives administration, records management, reprography, repair and conservation of records, books and manuscripts at professional and sub- professional levels; and
- (vii) creation and promotion of archival consciousness in the country by organizing thematic exhibitions.

The National Archives of India provides financial assistance to states/ union territories, archives, voluntary organizations and other custodial institutions, so that the documentary heritage is preserved and archival science is promoted.

Central Secretariat Library

The Central Secretariat Library (CSL) originally known as Imperial Secretariat Library, Kolkata was established in 1891. Since 1969 the library has been housed at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi with a collection of over seven lakh documents mainly on social sciences and humanities. It is a depository of Indian official documents, Central Government and State Government documents.

Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat was announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister in 2015 on the occasion of the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Subsequently, the Finance Minister announced the initiative in his Budget Speech for 2016-17. Through this innovative measure, the knowledge of the culture, traditions and practices of different states & UTs will lead to an enhanced understanding and bonding between the states, thereby strengthening the unity and integrity of India.

The broad objectives of the initiative are:-

- (i) To celebrate the unity in diversity of our nation and to maintain and strengthen the fabric of traditionally existing emotional bonds between the people of our country;
- (ii) To promote the spirit of national integration through a deep and structured engagement between all states and union territories through a year-long planned engagement between states;
- (iii) To showcase the rich heritage and culture, customs and traditions of either state for enabling people to understand and appreciate the diversity that is India, thus fostering a sense of common identity;
- (iv) To establish long-term engagements; and
- (v) To create an environment which promotes learning between states by sharing best practices and experiences.

CHAPTER SIX | BASIC ECONOMIC DATA

THE Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) came into existence as an independent Ministry in 1999 after the merger of the Department of Statistics and the Department of Programme Implementation. The Ministry has two wings, one relating to Statistics and the other relating to Programme Implementation. The Statistics Wing redesignated as National Statistics Office (NSO), consists of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) and the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO).

The Programme Implementation Wing has three divisions, namely: (i) Twenty Point Programme, (ii) Infrastructure and Project Monitoring, and (iii) Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. Besides these three wings, there is National Statistical Commission (NSC) created through a resolution of Government of India and one autonomous institute, viz., Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) declared as an institute of national importance by an Act of Parliament.

National Statistical Commission

The Government of India through a resolution decided to set up the National Statistical Commission (NSC). The setting up of the NSC followed the decision of the Cabinet to accept the recommendation of the Rangarajan Commission, which reviewed the Indian Statistical System in 2001. The NSC was initially constituted to serve as a nodal and empowered body for all core statistical activities of the country, to evolve, monitor and enforce statistical priorities and standards and to ensure statistical coordination. The NSC has one part-time Chairperson and four part-time members, each having specialization and experience in specified statistical fields. *Besides, Secretary, Niti Aayog is an ex-officio member of the Commission.* The Chief Statistician of India is the Secretary to the Commission.

Central Statistics Office

The Central Statistics Office (CSO), an attached office of the Ministry, coordinates the statistical activities in the country and evolves statistical standards. Its activities *inter-alia*, include compilation of National Accounts, Index of Industrial Production, Consumer Price Indices (Urban/Rural/Combined), Human Development Statistics, (including Gender Statistics in the states and union territories) and dissemination of Energy Statistics, Social and Environment Statistics and preparation of the National Industrial Classification.

The CSO, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation releases Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for All-India and states/union territories separately for rural, urban and combined (rural plus urban) for the purpose of temporal price comparison with effect from 2011 with 2010 as the base year.

National Income

The growth in real GDP during 2015-16 is estimated at 7.6 per cent as compared to the growth rate of 7.1 per cent in 2014-15.

Price Statistics

Consumer Price Index (Rural/Urban): The Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation started releasing Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for all India and states /union territories separately for rural, urban and combined every month with effect from January 2011. It has now revised the Base Year from 2010=100 to 2012=100.

Services Sector

The share of services in India's Gross Value Added (GVA) at basic prices (at current prices) increased from 49 per cent in 2011-12 to 53.2 per cent in 2015-16 as per Provisional Estimates (PE). Including construction, the share

increased to 61.5 per cent in 2015-16. With a 20.6 per cent share, 'financial, real estate, and professional services' as a group is the largest contributor to GVA among the various services sub-sectors, followed by trade, hotels, transport, communication and services related to broadcasting with a 18.6 per cent share and 'Public Administration, defence and other services' with a share of 14.01 per cent is in third place. In 2015-16, growth of the services sector dropped to 8.9 per cent as compared to 10.3 per cent in 2014-15.

Annual Survey of Industries

The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is the principal source of industrial statistics in the country. It provides statistical information to access and evaluate, objectively and realistically, the change in the growth, composition and structure of the organized manufacturing sector comprising activities related to manufacturing processes, repair services, generation, transmission, etc., of electricity, gas and water supply and cold storage.

The ASI extends to the entire country. The survey covers all factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948. The survey also covers *bidi* and *cigar* manufacturing establishments registered under the *Bidi* and *Cigar* Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966. All the electricity undertakings engaged in the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity registered with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) were covered under ASI up to 1997-98 irrespective of their employment size.

Certain services and activities like cold storage, water supply, repair of motor vehicles and of other consumer durables like watches, etc., are covered under the survey.

Defence establishments, oil storage and distribution depots, restaurants, hotels, cafe and computer services and the technical training institutes are excluded from the purview of the survey. The electricity undertakings registered with the CEA are not being covered under ASI with effect from 1998-99. However, captive units not registered with CEA continued to be covered under ASI.

Till October 2016, IIP has been released up to the month of August 2016 as per the actual release calendar. The IIP increased by 2.4 per cent in 2015-16 as compared to a growth of 2.8 per cent in 2014-15.

National Sample Survey Office

The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), in Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, is responsible for conduct of large scale sample surveys, in diverse fields, on all India basis. Primary data is collected regularly through nationwide household surveys on various socio-economic subjects, Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) under the Collection of Statistics Act and Enterprise Surveys, as a follow up of the economic census.

Besides these surveys, NSSO collects data on rural and urban prices; plays a significant role in the improvement of crop statistics through supervision of the area enumeration and crop estimation surveys of the state agencies. It also maintains a frame of urban real units for drawing samples for socio-economic surveys in urban areas.

PRICE DATA COLLECTION

Rural Retail Price Collection (RPC): The Field Operations Division (FOD) regularly collects rural price data on monthly basis for the compilation of Consumer Price Index for agricultural and rural labourers across the country, on behalf of the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Twenty Point Programme

The Twenty Point Programme (TPP) was initiated in the year 1975. The thrust of the programme, restructured in 2006, is to eradicate poverty and improve the quality of life of the poor and the underprivileged people all over the country. The programme covers various socioeconomic aspects like poverty, employment, education, housing, agriculture, drinking water, afforestation and environment protection, energy to rural areas, welfare of weaker sections of the society, etc.

Monitoring and Impact

Assessment of Twenty Point Programme: The Ministry has so far undertaken two impact assessment studies. The first study relates to impact of MGNREGA in three selected districts of north--eastern states and the second study was on rehabilitation of disabled persons under Deendayal Disability Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) in the states of Delhi, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. The Ministry has also undertaken the task of critically examining the reports of evaluation undertaken by Niti Aayog (erstwhile Planning Commission) and by the Central Nodal Ministries of the schemes implemented by them.

Members of Parliament Local area Development Scheme

The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was launched in 1993 by the then Hon'ble Prime Minister. Initially, Ministry of Rural Development was the Nodal Ministry for this scheme. In 1994, this scheme was transferred to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The objective of MPLAD Scheme is enable Hon'ble MPs to recommend works of developmental nature with emphasizes on creation of durable community assets in the areas of national priorities, viz., Drinking water facility; education; electricity facility; health and family welfare; irrigation facility; non-conventional energy sources; railways, roads, pathways and bridges; sanitation and public health, etc. based on the locally felt needs. This Scheme is governed by a set of guidelines. The extant guidelines on MPLAD Scheme were revised and published in 2016.

The salient features of the MPLAD Scheme include: *(i)* MPLADS is a Central Plan Scheme fully funded by the Government of India under which funds are released in the form of grants-in-aid directly to the district authorities; *(ii)* The funds released under the Scheme are non-lapsable, i.e. the entitlement of funds not released in a particular year is carried forward to the subsequent years, subject to eligibility. At present, the annual entitlement per MP/constituency is Rs. 5 crore; *(iii)* under MPLADS, the role of the Members of Parliament is limited to recommend works. *(iv)* Thereafter, it is the responsibility of the district authority to sanction, execute and complete the works recommended by Members of Parliament within the stipulated time period; *(v)* the elected Lok Sabha Members can recommend works in their respective constituencies. The elected members of the Rajya Sabha can recommend works anywhere in the state from which they are elected. Nominated members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha can recommend works for implementation, anywhere in the country. *(vi)* MPLADS works can be implemented in areas affected by natural calamities like floods, cyclone, hailstorm, avalanche, cloudburst, pest attack, landslides, tornado, earthquake, drought, tsunami, fire and biological, chemical, radiological hazards, etc. MPs from the non-affected areas of the state/UT can also recommend permissible work's upto a maximum of Rs. 25 lakh per annum in the affected area(s) in that state/UT; *(vii)* in order to accord special attention to the development of areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), 15 per cent of MPLADS funds are to be utilized for areas inhabited by SC population and 7.5 per cent for areas inhabited by ST population; *(viii)* the MP can spend a maximum of Rs. 20 lakh per year for giving assistance to differently abled citizens for purchase of tri-cycles (including motorized tricycles), battery operated motorized wheel chair and artificial limbs; and aids for visually and hearing impaired; *(ix)* funds released by the Government of India are deposited by the District administrations in nationalized banks (including IDBI Banks)/Regional Rural Banks (Gramin Banks) which are on Core Banking Platform with the Nationalized Bank as their sponsor, for each MP for the purpose of MPLAD scheme; and *(x)* the roles of Central Government, state government, district authorities and implementing agencies have been clearly defined in the guidelines on MPLADS for implementation of MPLAD Scheme.

CHAPTER SEVEN | COMMERCE

The Department of Commerce formulates, implements and monitors the *Foreign Trade Policy (FTP)* which provides the basic framework of policy and strategy to be followed for promoting exports and trade. The Trade Policy is periodically reviewed to incorporate changes necessary to take care of emerging economic scenarios both in the domestic and international economy. Besides, the Department is also entrusted with responsibilities relating to multilateral and bilateral commercial relations, Special Economic Zones, state trading, export promotion and trade facilitation, and development and regulation of certain export oriented industries and commodities.

Current Trade Situation: Global and India

A perusal of the performance of the global economy, since the financial crisis in 2008, indicates that while developed economies have been facing stagnant GDP growth rates, Emerging Market and Developing Economies (EMDEs) have seen recovery with divergent growth. In the current global economic situation, there are elements of risk, challenges and market volatility. This volatility is reflected in the impact of weakening commodity prices and difficult financial conditions, especially of oil exporters. As per the World Economic Outlook update of January, 2016, global growth, currently estimated at 3.1 per cent in 2015, is projected to be 3.4 per cent in 2016 and 3.6 per cent in 2017.

Integration with Global Economy

Global value chains (GVCs) are a prominent feature of the international trade landscape today. Intermediate goods and services from several countries are combined through integrated production networks to produce the final goods and services. India participates in manufacturing GVCs, inter alia, in sectors such as chemicals, electrical equipment and jewellery, in general by way of sourcing intermediates from abroad. India also has a high participation in services sectors, in particular, business services, mainly driven by the use of Indian intermediates in the exports of other countries. The share of imported inputs and intermediate goods in exports is higher in mining, textiles, machinery, and services sectors such as distribution, transport and telecom.

In general, inadequate infrastructure, sub-optimal connectivity with global transport networks, low transport capabilities and complicated administrative requirements that cause long delays at ports and customs, are some of the serious obstacles to participation by Indian producers in GVCs. In all these areas, they are at a disadvantage as compared to producers in the ASEAN countries and East Asia. In 2015, a group of Pacific Rim nations led by the United States signed the mega Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), a regional trade agreement which is expected to set higher standards for trade in goods and services. The other two large regional trade agreements being negotiated are the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the US and the European Union, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its six partners, including China and India.

The TPP may challenge India's industry in many ways. Firstly, it will erode existing preferences for Indian products in established traditional markets such as the US benefitting those who are partners to these agreements. Secondly, they are likely to develop a rules architecture which will place a greater burden of compliance on India's manufacturing and services standards for access to the markets of the participating countries.

Trade Scenario

India's merchandise exports reached a level of US\$ 310.34 billion during 2014-15 registering a negative growth of 1.29 per cent as compared to a positive growth of 4.66 per cent during the previous year. Despite the recent

setback faced by India's export sector due to global slowdown, merchandise exports recorded a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 14.02 per cent from 2004-05 to 2014-15.

World Trade Scenario

In their latest forecast made by IMF, in its World Economic Outlook (WEO) Update, January, 2016, the growth projection for India is 7.5 per cent for both the years 2016 and 2017. The world output growth is projected at 3.4 per cent and 3.6 per cent for 2016 and 2017 respectively.

Exports

Exports recorded a negative growth of 18.03 per cent during April-Dec 2015-16 over the corresponding period of the previous year in US\$ term.

Import

Cumulative value of import during Apr-Dec 2015-16 (P) was US\$ 295.82 billion as against US \$ 351.61 billion during the corresponding period of the previous year registering a negative growth of 15.87 per cent in US\$ terms.

Exports by Principal Commodities

Disaggregated data on exports of principal commodities, dollar terms available for the period Apr-Dec 2015-16(P) as compared to Apr-Dec 2014-15 are given in appendix I (A). Exports of the top five commodities during the period Apr-Dec 2015-16 (P) registered a share of 32.60 per cent mainly due to significant contribution in the exports of petroleum products; pearl, precious, semiprecious stones; drug formulations biological; gold and other precious metal jewellery; and 10.4G cotton including accessories.

Imports by Principal Commodities

Disaggregated data on import by principal commodities, in Dollar terms, available for the period Apr-Dec 2015-16 (P) as compared to Apr-Dec 2014-15 show some progress. Import of the top five commodities during the period Apr-Dec 2015-16 (P) registered a share of 41.15 per cent mainly due to significant import of petroleum crude; gold; pearls, precious and semi-precious stones; petroleum products; and telecom instruments.

Foreign Trade Policy

It is a comprehensive statement on government priorities in the Foreign Trade Sector. Through the statement broad approach on external sector has been articulated. First it spells out government strategy to address some of the structural and institutional mechanism which is of prime importance for foreign trade sector. Secondly, it states the ways government would make trade and economic integration agreement with trade partners and would work better for Indian enterprises. This describes the market and product strategy and measures required for trade promotion infrastructure development and overall enhancement of the trade ecosystem. The FTP statement recognizes 'behind the border' constraints faced while engaging in foreign trade. The statements of intent includes assistance that the Department of Commerce is providing to state and union territory governments to prepare exports strategies and setup 'Export Promotion Mission' to provide an institutional framework to work with state governments to boost India's exports.

The foreign trade policy provides framework for increasing exports of goods and services as well as employment generation and greater value addition in line with the 'Make in India' programme. The policy aims to enable India to respond to the challenges of external environment, keeping pace with rapidly evolving international trading architecture and make trade major contributor to the country's economic growth and development. In

this policy, measures have been taken to nudge procurement of capital goods from indigenous manufacturers under the EPCG scheme by reducing specific export obligation to 75 per cent of the normal export obligation.

Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)

There were different schemes for rewarding Merchandise Exports with different kinds of duty scrips and with varying conditions attached to their use. These schemes were (i) Focus Product Scheme (FPS), (ii) Focus Market Scheme (FMS), (iii) Market Linked Focus Product Scrip (MLFPS), (iv) Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojna (VKGUY), (v) Agri. MEIS Infrastructure Incentive Scrip and (vi) Incremental Export Incentive Scheme.

Service Exports From India Scheme (SEIS)

Served From India Scheme (SFIS) has been replaced with Service Exports From India Scheme (SEIS). SEIS is available to 'Service Providers Located in India' instead of 'Indian Service Providers'. Thus SEIS provides for incentives to all service providers of notified services, who are providing services from India, subject to conditions as may be notified, regardless of the condition or profile of the service provider.

Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme

Under this scheme import of capital goods at zero customs duty is allowed for technology upgradation and better services to enhance India's export competitiveness. Import under EPCG is subject to export obligation equivalent to six times of duty saved in six years. It also allows indigenous sourcing of capital goods with 25 per cent less export obligation.

Ease of doing Business and e-Governance Initiatives

Reduction of Documents

The new FTP has brought about reduction in the number of documents required for export and import. Documents required for export of goods from India are Bill of Lading/Airway Bill, Commercial Invoice cum Packing List and Shipping Bill/Bill of Export. The mandatory documents required for import of goods into India are Bill of Lading/Airway Bill, Commercial Invoice cum Packing List and Bill of Entry. The saving in terms of cost and time associated with the dispensed documents would improve Ease of Doing Business with India.

Importer Exporter Code

A simplified system for issuance of importer exporter code (IEC) online was introduced in February 2015. IEC is mandatory for exporters and is communicated online from DGFT to customs. It allows new entrepreneurs/exporters/importers to apply online for issue of new IEC and carryout modifications in the details as in the IEC by uploading the documents and paying the required fee through net banking/credit/debit cards.

Niryat Bandhu Scheme

A novel 'Niryat Bandhu' scheme for mentoring first generation entrepreneurs has been conceptualized. The Officer (Niryat Bandhu) would primarily mentor interested individuals in the arena of international business. Such hand-holding by officers of DGFT would help the new exporters/importers by leveraging the knowledge base of officers and by providing timely and appropriate guidance. The objective of the scheme is essentially to reach out to the new and potential exporters and mentoring them through orientation programmes, counseling sessions, individual facilitation, etc., for being able to get into international trade.

Trade with ASEAN

India announced its 'Look East Policy' in 1991 with a view to seeking greater engagement with East Asian countries. In order to address the economic content of the 'Look East Policy', a continuous dialogue is maintained with ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) countries viz., Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Agreements with ASEAN

India and the ASEAN have signed the agreement on Trade in Goods under the broader framework of Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and the ASEAN 2009. The agreement has become fully operational between all the ASEAN member states and India from 2010. India and ASEAN member countries have signed the agreement of Trade in Services and Agreement on Investment.

Dispute Settlement

Since 1997, WTO members have been negotiating to improve and clarify on various provisions of the Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU). These negotiations are independent of the single undertaking under DDA and such negotiations are taking place in special sessions of the DSB.

India and other developing countries have been reiterating their objectives for a development oriented review of the dispute settlement procedures under the Doha Development Agenda, safeguarding the interest of the developing countries. Some of the issues being stressed by the developing countries include facilitation of cross retaliation, inducement of effective compliance, setting up of Dispute Settlement Fund, etc. After the post Bali Ministerial meeting in December, 2013, DSU reform negotiations picked up momentum. However, on account of divergence of opinion and no consensus on a number of issues, the Chair has expressed willingness to continue discussion post Nairobi Ministerial Meet of December 2015.

India's Duty Free Tariff Preference Scheme

One of the elements of the Hong-Kong Ministerial Declaration of December 2005 was to extend Duty Free Quota Free (DFQF) access to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). *India became the first developing country to extend this facility to LDCs.*

Special Economic Zones

India was one of the first in Asia to recognize the effectiveness of the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) model for export promotion, with Asia's first EPZ set up in Kandla in 1965. To overcome the shortcomings on account of multiplicity of controls and clearances, absence of world-class infrastructure and an unstable fiscal regime and with a view to attract larger foreign investments in India, the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Policy was announced in April 2000.

CHAPTER EIGHT | COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Communications and information technology in the country are handled by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Ministry of Communications. The Ministry of Electronics and Technology promotes e-Governance and sustainable growth of the electronics, IT and ITeS industries, enhancing India's role in internet governance while the Ministry of Communications looks after the Department of Posts and Department of Telecommunications. Main activities and initiatives of these departments are given here.

Posts

The modern postal system, the most preferred facilitator of communication, was established in India by Lord Clive in 1766 which was further developed by Warren Hastings in the year 1774.

Organization Overview: The Department of Posts comes under the Ministry of Communications. The Postal Service Board, the apex management body of the department, comprises the Chairman and six Members. The six Members of the Board hold portfolios of personnel, operations, technology, postal life insurance, banking and HRD and planning. The Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor to the department is a permanent invitee to the Board. The Board is assisted by the Secretary (Postal Services Board) who is a senior staff officer at the headquarters of the Department. Deputy Director Generals, Directors and Assistant Director Generals provide the necessary functional support for the Board at the headquarters.

Network

India has the largest postal network in the world with 1,54,939 post offices in 2015, of which 89.86 percent are in the rural areas. The expansion of postal network in the country, especially in rural areas, has taken place mainly through opening of Gramin Dak Sevak Post Offices, and by opening departmental post offices.

Initiatives in Service Quality Improvement Project Arrow

Project Arrow was conceptualized by the Department of Posts in 2008 with the objective to make a visible difference in the working of post offices by improving and upgrading the core business areas and "Look and Feel". It aims at improving the quality of services offered by post offices in both urban and rural areas. It seeks to provide IT enabled services through post offices and strives to make these "a window to the world" for the common man.

National Address Database Management System

The department has initiated a new project named National Address Database Management System which involves creation of a comprehensive address database to expedite delivery of mail.

GPS Equipped Mail Vans

The department has decided to equip its entire fleet of Mail carrying vehicles with Global Positioning System (GPS) device in order to monitor mail transmission and delivery more effectively.

Premium Services

Speed Post

The flagship product of Department of Posts, Speed Post was started in 1986 and provides time-bound and express delivery of letters and parcels weighing up to 35 kg across the country.

e-Post

e-post is an unregistered hybrid mail for both retail and corporate customers providing electronic transmission of messages which may include text messages, scanned images, pictures, etc., and their delivery in hard copies at the destination through postman/delivery staff.

e-Post Office

e-Post Office is an e-commerce portal the Department which provides select postal facility to the common man through the internet. This portal is aimed at providing convenience to the public in availing select services.

Financial Services

Department of Posts operates Small Savings Scheme on behalf of Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Savings Bank facility is provided through a network of 1.54 lakh post offices across the country.

International Money Transfer Service

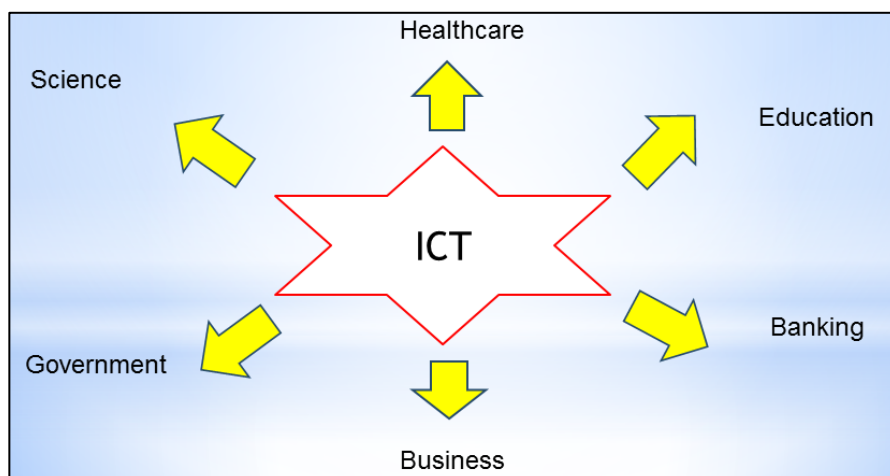
International Money Transfer Service is a quick and easy way of transferring personal remittances from abroad to beneficiaries in India.

Information Technology

Ministry of Electronics and information technology deals with policy matters relating to information technology, electronics, internet (other than licensing of ISPs) and cyber security. The aim is to promote e-governance for empowering citizens, promoting the inclusive and sustainable growth of the electronics, IT & ITeS industries, enhancing India's role in internet governance, adopting a multi-pronged approach that includes development of human resources, promoting R&D and innovation, enhancing efficiency through digital services and ensuring a secure cyber space.

GI Cloud:

In order to utilize and harness the benefits of Cloud Computing, India has embarked upon a very ambitious and important initiative - "GI Cloud" which has been coined as "MeghRaj". The focus of this initiative is to evolve a strategy and implement various components including governance mechanism to ensure proliferation of Cloud in government.



CYBER SECURITY

National Cyber Security Policy, 2013

It aimed at building a secure and resilient cyberspace for citizens, businesses and Government, by way of actions to protect information and information infrastructure in cyberspace, build capabilities to prevent and respond to cyber threats, reduce vulnerabilities and minimize damage from cyber incidents through a combination of institutional structures, people, processes, technology and cooperation.

Cyber Appellate Tribunal

In accordance with the provision contained under Section 48(1) of the IT Act 2000, the Cyber Regulations Appellate Tribunal (CRAT) was established in 2006. As per the IT Act, any person aggrieved by an order made by the Controller of Certifying Authorities or by an Adjudicating Officer under the Act can appeal before the Cyber Appellate Tribunal (CAT).

Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN)

CERT-IN is a functional organization of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India.

It serves as the national agency to perform the following functions in the area of cyber security:

- (1) collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber security incidents;
- (2) forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents;
- (3) emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents;
- (4) coordination of cyber security incident response activities;
- (5) issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and white papers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents, and;
- (6) such other functions relating to cyber security as may be prescribed.

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) has emerged as a premier R&D organization in IT&E (Information Technologies and Electronics) working on strengthening national technological capabilities in the context of global developments in the field and responding to change in the market need in selected foundation areas.

Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research

Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER) was set up as an autonomous R&D laboratory with a broad mandate to undertake R & D work in the areas of Microwave Engineering and Electromagnetic Engineering Technology.

ERNET (Education and Research Network)

ERNET India is an Autonomous Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India. In addition to providing connectivity, it has been meeting the needs of academic and research institutions by providing IT consultancy, project management and training. ERNET has been providing Domain name services and connectivity services, both terrestrial & via very small aperture terminal (VSAT) from its inception. A VSAT is a two-way satellite ground station with a dish antenna that is smaller than 3 meters.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy

To attract the FDI inflow and to make the sector more attractive and investor friendly, the Government raised FDI limit for the telecom services from 74 per cent to 100 percent. This measure will facilitate telecom licensees to consolidate equity and raise domestic as well as foreign debt from the market.

Universal Service Obligation Fund

To give impetus to the rural telephony, the Government in June, 2002, established Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

This fund provides subsidy support for enabling access to all types of telegraph services including mobile services, broadband connectivity and creation of infrastructure like optical fiber in rural and remote areas.

Tele-Density

Tele-density, which denotes the number of telephones per 100 populations, is an important indicator of telecom penetration in any country. Tele-density in India, which was 79.36 per cent in April 2015, increased to 81.85 per cent at the end of December, 2015.

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Bharat Net

The optical fiber has predominantly reached State capitals, districts and blocks. To connect all 2.5 lakh gram panchayats in the country, the Government approved a project called 'National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN)', now known as Bharat Net.

Telecommunications Consultants India Limited

Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL) was set-up in 1978 with the main objective to provide world class technology in all fields of telecommunications and information technology to excel in its operations in overseas and in the domestic markets by developing proper marketing strategies, to acquire state of the art technology on a continuing basis and to maintain leadership.

CHAPTER NINE | DEFENCE

INDIA'S landmass covers an area of 3.3 million sq. kms. and is strategically located vis-a-vis both continental Asia and the Indian Ocean Region. Land borders extending more than 15,500 kms. and a coastline totalling over 7500 kilometers make India a continental or maritime neighbour of 11 countries in Asia. The borders that India shares with her neighbours are diverse: Himalayan peaks which rise up to 28,000 feet in the north; deserts and fertile plains in the west; high ranges and dense tropical forests in the east and maritime borders in the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean.

Regional and Global Security Environment

India's security environment encompasses a complex matrix of regional and global issues and challenges. India's strategic location and its growing global interactions require engagement on a range of issues that impact on national security with a view to securing vital national interests. The need to enhance preparedness to address consequences of instability and volatility in parts of the immediate and extended neighbourhood remains a key priority. At the same time, there are renewed and successful efforts to build stronger defence partnerships with a wide range of friendly foreign countries to enhance international peace and stability.

Internal Security Environment

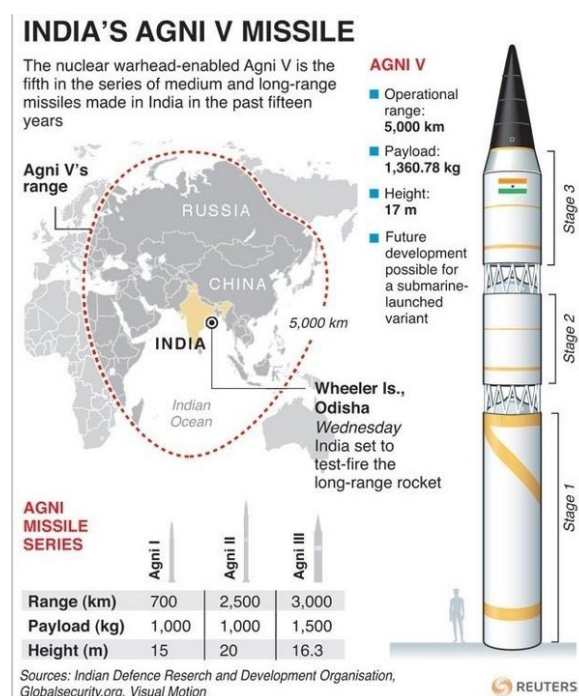
The challenges to internal security in India can be categorized into four broad threats viz. cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir, militancy in the North East, Left Wing Extremism (LWE) in certain states and terrorism in the hinterland. The Government has been making systematic and unrelenting efforts to counter these threats and, as a result, the internal security situation in the country is firmly under control. There is steep decline in terror attacks in the hinterland and the violence perpetrated by LWE. However, developments in Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab have been a cause of concern, especially the cross-border terror attacks and trafficking of arms and narcotics.

Army

The changing global geo-political dynamics presents the Nation with multiple security challenges. While constantly reviewing its operational preparedness/postures to meet the perceived security challenges, the Indian Army (IA) is committed to the defence of the country from external and internal threats across the entire spectrum of warfare. Also, in times of disaster/natural calamities, the Indian Army is in the forefront, providing aid and succour to the affected people.

NAVY

The Indian Navy (IN) is the key enabler and guarantor of the country's maritime sovereignty and myriad use-of-sea activities. This is discharged by the Indian Navy through its four roles – military, diplomatic, constabulary and benign. The objective of the Navy's military role is deterrence/ dissuasion against any intervention or act which is against our national interests and the ability to inflict a crushing defeat on the adversary in the event of hostilities. A major objective of the Navy's Constabulary role is to ensure coastal security and implement anti-piracy measures.



Major Exercises

Tropex 15: The Indian Navy's annual Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX) was conducted in 2015.

Defence of Gujarat Exercise (DGX 15): The Defence of Gujarat Exercise was conducted in 2015, on the Western Seaboard.

Exercises with Foreign Navies

Malabar-15: India and USA have been regularly participating in bilateral exercise 'MALABAR' since 1992. The 19th edition of MALABAR was held in the Bay of Bengal in October 2015, and also included participation by Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF).

Varuna-15: Indo-French Naval Exercise 'VARUNA' is being conducted since 1993. VARUNA-15 was held in the Arabian Sea in 2015 with the French Navy.

Simbex-15: Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) is held each year, alternately in the Bay of Bengal and in South China Sea. SIMBEX-15 was held in the South China Sea in 2015 with Singapore Navy.

Konkan-15: The annual bilateral naval exercise KONKAN with the Royal Navy is an operational interaction being conducted since 2004. KONKAN-15 was held in 2015 off the coast of the UK.

Ausindex-15: The inaugural bilateral maritime exercise AUSINDEX between India and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) was conducted off Visakhapatnam in 2015.

Slinex-15: The India-Sri Lanka exercise was conducted for the first time in 2005. In 2010, it was decided to hold the exercise every alternate year. SLINEX-15 was held in 2015 off Sri Lanka.

Indra-15: Indo - Russia naval exercise named 'INDRA' is being conducted since 2003. INDRA-15 was conducted in the Bay of Bengal in December 2015.

Indian Coast Guard

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) came into being in 1977 on approval of the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs to set up an interim Coast Guard Organization. It was formally established as an independent organization on August 19, 1978 with the enactment of Coast Guard Act, 1978.

Air Force

IAF has been modernising its inventory as per its long term perspective plan. The focus is on "Make in India" to give impetus to indigenous development and manufacturing, including participation of private sector in defence manufacturing. Modernisation process involves new inductions, as well as upgradation of the existing weapon platforms and support systems as a part of the capability buildup.

National Cadet Corps

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) was established under the NCC Act, 1948. The NCC strives to provide the youth of the country opportunities for all round development with a sense of commitment, dedication, self-discipline and moral values, so that they become useful citizens and can take their place in all walks of life in the service of the nation. *The motto of NCC is 'Unity and Discipline'.*

Directorate General of Quality Assurance

Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) is an Inter-Service Organisation under the Department of Defence Production responsible for quality assurance of all defence equipment and stores for the Army and Navy (excluding Naval Armaments) as well as common use items for the Air Force.

Research and Development

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is the research and development arm of the Ministry of Defence. It was created in 1958 by merging the units of Defence Science Organisation, which was set up in 1948 to advise and assist the Defence Services on scientific problems and to undertake research in areas related to defence, with the then existing Technical Development Establishments of the three Services. Subsequently, a separate Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D) was formed in 1980 to improve administrative efficiency.

Organisational Structure

DRDO is headed by the Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri (SA to RM) who is also the Secretary Department of Defence Research and Development and Director General R&D (DGR&D).

Pension Reforms

One Rank One Pension to the Defence Forces Personnel: The Government has taken the historic decision to implement One Rank One Pension (OROP) for the Defence Force Personnel from July 01, 2014 and issued notification for its implementation. *OROP implies that uniform pension be paid to the Defence Force Personnel retiring in the same rank with the same length of service, regardless of their date of retirement, to bridge the gap between the rates of pension of current and past pensioners at periodic intervals.*

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER TEN | EDUCATION

THE essence of Human Resource Development is education, which plays a significant and remedial role in balancing the socio-economic fabric of the country. Since citizens of India are its most valuable resource, our billion-strong nation needs the nurture and care in the form of basic education to achieve a better quality of life. This warrants an all-round development of our citizens, which can be achieved by building strong foundations in education. *Good quality education is the foundation of new discoveries, new knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurship that trigger growth and prosperity of the individual as well as that of a nation.* For this, we need to make our curriculum and pedagogy relevant to the needs of our society and economy and nurture qualities of problem solving and creative thinking, learning-by-doing, greater engagement with the live context, and confident self-expression from a young age.

Mid day Meal Scheme

The Mid Day Meal Scheme covers children of *classes I-VIII studying in government local bodies, government aided schools, special training centres (STC) and madarsas-maqtabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).*

It is the largest school feeding programme in the world. Apart from promoting access and retention, the Mid Day Meal Scheme has also contributed to social and gender equity. It has helped in preventing classroom hunger, promoting school participation and fostering social equality and enhancing gender equality.

Tithi Bhojan

Tithi Bhojan is a concept designed to ensure greater public participating under the Mid Day Meal Programme being followed in Gujarat. In order to bring in greater community participation, local communities are encouraged to celebrate important family events viz., birth of a child, success in exams, inauguration of new house, etc., by contributing to the mid day meal served in the local schools. It is voluntarily served by the community/family among school children in several forms.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is implemented as a centrally sponsored scheme in partnership with state governments for universalizing elementary education across the country. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan was started in 2000-01.

The overall goals of SSA include universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social category gaps in education and enhancement of learning levels of children. It provides for a variety of interventions, including opening of new schools, construction of schools and additional classrooms, toilets and drinking water, provisioning for teachers, periodic teacher training and academic resource support, free uniform, textbooks and support for learning achievement. SSA programme has made significant progress in achieving near universal access and equity.

For implementing SSA, each state/UT has a State Project Office (SPO) and each district has a District Project Office (DPO). At the block level, there are Block Resource Centres (BRC) and within a block there are clusters which have Cluster Resource Centres (CRC).

The fund sharing pattern was revised in 2015-16 to the ratio of 60:40 between centre and states (90:10 for the 8 northeastern states viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura and 3 Himalayan states viz., Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand). The central government funds 100 per cent in case of union territories for SSA with effect from 2015-16.

New Initiatives:

- (a) **Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan:** Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan was launched in 2015, to motivate and encourage children of the age-group 6-18 years, in science, mathematics and technology. The programme framework is on a twin track approach (i) systemic improvements in the school system; (ii) initiatives to encourage science, mathematics through alternative strategies.
- (b) **Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat:** A nationwide sub-programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan named Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (PBBB) was launched in 2014 to ensure quality at the foundational years of schooling i.e., classes I and II. Through this programme it will be ensured that all children are able to read with comprehension as well as basic numeracy skills. The programme envisages dedicated teachers for classes I and II. It centers on capacity building of teachers, organizing separate reading periods in daily school time-table, maintaining a print rich environment, for reading through children's literature in school libraries and reading corners in classes I and II; for tribal children special bridge materials have been prepared in states which have a high tribal population.

Saransh

The CBSE Board launched an on-line facility titled 'Saransh' in 2014 for affiliated and CBSE schools. It helps the schools to look at their performance at an aggregate level and at the level of each student. All performance matrices are presented through numbers as well as in charts/ graphs for easy understanding. Saraansh helps schools compare their performance vis-à-vis all CBSE schools at various levels.

SAKSHAM - Scholarship for Differently-Abled Children Saksham

Scheme of AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) aims at providing encouragement and support to differently abled children to pursue technical education. Scholarships amounting to Rs 5 crore per annum as tuition fees and incidentals are to be provided to needy and meritorious students for pursuing technical education at AICTE approved institution.

Udaan

The scheme is dedicated to the development of girl child education, so as to promote the admission of girl students. The aim is to address the teaching gap between school education and engineering entrance examinations. It seeks to enhance the enrolment of girl students in prestigious technical education institutions through incentives & academic support.

Saakshar Bharat

Adult Literacy and Pradhan Mantri Jan DhanYojna centrally sponsored scheme of Adult Education and Skill Development has a special focus on underprivileged groups.

Copyright

Acquisition of copyright is automatic and it does not require any formality. Copyright comes into existence as soon as a work is created and no formality is required to be completed for acquiring it. However, as per Section 48 of the Act, certificate of registration of copyright and the entries made therein serve as prima facie evidence in a court of law with reference to dispute relating to ownership of copyright. The Copyright Office was established in 1958. It functions under the administrative control of the Department of Higher Education. It is headed by the Registrar of Copyright, who has quasi-judicial powers in handling cases relating to copyright.

CHAPTER ELEVEN | ENERGY

ENERGY is an essential input for economic development and improving the quality of life. Development of conventional forms of energy for meeting the growing energy needs of society at a reasonable cost is the responsibility of the Government. Development and promotion of non-conventional /alternate/new and renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind and bio-energy, etc., are also getting growing attention. Nuclear energy development is being geared up to contribute significantly to the overall energy availability in the country.

Power: Power development in India commenced at the end of the 19th century with the commissioning of electricity supply in Darjeeling during 1897, followed by the commissioning of a hydropower station at Sivasamudram in Karnataka during 1902. In the pre-Independence era, the power supply was mainly in the private sector that too restricted to the urban areas. With the formation of State Electricity Boards during Five-Year Plans, a significant step was taken in bringing about a systematic growth of power supply industry all over the country. A number of multi-purpose projects came into being, and with the setting up of thermal, hydro and nuclear power stations, power generation started increasing significantly.

The construction and operation of generation and transmission projects in the Central sector are entrusted to Central Sector Power Corporations, viz., the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC), the North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO), and the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL). The Power Grid is responsible for all the existing and future transmission projects in the Central Sector and also for the formation of the National Power Grid. Two joint-venture power corporations, namely, Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) and Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) are responsible for the execution of the Nathpa Jhakri Power Project in Himachal Pradesh and projects of Tehri Hydro Power Complex in Uttarakhand respectively.

Ultra Mega Power Projects: The Government of India had launched an initiative for the development of coal-based Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs), each with a capacity of 4,000 MW. The objective of the initiative is to ensure cheaper tariffs utilizing economies of scale, catering to the need of a number of States and to mitigate the risk relating to tie up of land fuel, water and other statutory clearances etc.

The projects are being awarded to the successful developers on the basis of tariff based competitive bidding route employing super critical technology; To tie-up for necessary inputs and clearances such as provision of site, fuel through captive mining blocks, water and in-principle environment and forest clearances, project-specific shell companies are set up as wholly owned subsidiaries of the Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC) - the nodal agency for these projects.

These project-specific shell companies, along with the various clearances etc. are subsequently transferred to the successful developer. Four UMPPs namely Sasan in Madhya Pradesh, Mundra in Gujarat, Krishnapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and Tilaiya in Jharkhand have already been awarded to the successful bidders and are at different stages of development.

Rural Electrification

Rural electrification has been regarded as a vital programme for the development of rural areas.

- (i) **Rural Electrification under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP):** This was started in Fifth Five Year Plan with rural electrification as one of the components of the programme. Under this programme funds were provided as Central assistance to the states in the form of partly grants and partly loans. Since the inception of the MNP, the component that relates to rural electrification has been set off against the loan component. The areas covered under the programme for the purposes of rural electrification were remote, far flung and difficult villages with low load potential.
- (ii) **Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY):** This scheme was launched in 2000-01 but rural electrification component was added in the next year. It was being implemented by state electricity boards/electricity developments/power/utilities which were designated as implementing agencies. Funds were being released by state government to the implementing agencies.
- (iii) **Kutir Jyoti Scheme:** This programme was launched in 1988-89 to provide single point light connections to households of rural families below the poverty line including harijans and adivasi families.
- (iv) **Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme (AREP):** The scheme was introduced in 2003-04 under which interest subsidy of 4 per cent was to be provided on loans availed by state governments/power utilities from financial institutions for carrying out rural electrification programme.

Automatic approval for FDI

Automatic approval (RBI route) for 100 foreign equity is permitted in generation, transmission and distribution and trading in power sector without any upper ceiling on the quantum of investment.

UDAY (Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana)

UDAY provides for the financial turnaround and revival of Power Distribution companies (DISCOMs), and importantly also ensures a sustainable permanent solution to the problem.

UDAY is a path breaking reform for affordable and accessible 24x7 Power for All. It is another decisive step furthering the landmark strides made in the power sector over the past one and a half years, with the sector witnessing a series of historic improvements across the entire value chain, from fuel supply (highest coal production growth in over two decades), to generation (highest ever capacity addition), transmission (highest ever increase in transmission lines) and consumption.

UDAY assures the rise of vibrant and efficient DISCOMs through a permanent resolution of past as well as potential future issues of the sector. It empowers DISCOMs with the opportunity to break even in the next 2-3 years. This is through four initiatives (i) improving operational efficiencies of DISCOMs; (ii) reduction of cost of power; (iii) reduction in interest cost of DISCOMs; (iv) enforcing financial discipline on DISCOMs through alignment with state finances.

National Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme

Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme (DELP) was launched in 2015 urging the people to use LED bulbs in place of incandescent bulbs, tube lights and CFL bulbs as they are more efficient, long lasting and economical in their life cycle duration.

PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

National Thermal Power Limited (NTPC)

NTPC Limited, a Maharatna Company of the Government of India, is the largest power generator in India with comprehensive in-house capabilities in building and operating power projects. NTPC has authorized share capital of Rs. 10,000 crores and paid up capital is Rs. 8245.5 crores. 75% of this is held by the Government of India. NTPC has a vision 'to be the world's largest and best power producer, powering India's growth and a

mission to “develop and provide reliable power and related products and services at competitive prices, integrating multiple energy sources with innovative and eco- friendly technologies and contribute to society”.

National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC)

NHPC Limited is a Schedule “A” Mini-Ratna Enterprise of the Government of India with an authorized share capital of 15,000 crore. NHPC was set up in 1975 and has now become the largest organization for hydro power development in India, with capabilities to undertake all the activities from conceptualization to commissioning of Hydro Projects. The main objects of NHPC include, to plan, promote and organize an integrated and efficient development of power in all its aspects through conventional and non-conventional sources in India and abroad and also the transmission, distribution, trading and sale of power generated at stations.

Power Grid Corporation

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) was incorporated in 1989 as a public limited company. It is a notified Central Transmission Utility since 1998. The corporation, apart from providing transmission systems assigned to it for evacuation of power from central sector projects, system strengthening scheme, etc., is also responsible for establishment of Regional and National Power Grids and operates through Power System Operation Corporation, a fully owned subsidiary of POWERGRID to facilitate transfer of power within and across the regions with reliability, security and economy on commercial principles.

Power Finance Corporation

Power Finance Corporation was incorporated in 1986, as a part of Government of India's initiative to enhance funding to power projects, with an objective to provide financial resources and encourage flow of investments to the power and associated sectors.

Rural Electrification Corporation

Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC) was incorporated as a company under the Companies Act, 1956 in the year 1969 with the main objective of financing rural electrification schemes in the country. Subsequently, the mandate of REC was expanded to include financing of all power projects including generation, transmission and distribution without any restriction.

Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd

Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (SJVN) was incorporated in 1988 as a joint venture of the Government of India (GoI) and the Government of Himachal Pradesh to plan, investigate, organise, execute, operate and maintain Hydro Electric Power Projects in Satluj basin in Himachal Pradesh and at any other place with equity contribution of GoI and HP as 75:25, respectively. SJVN is 'Schedule-A' Mini Ratna Category-I PSU under the administrative control of Ministry of Power.

North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd

With a need to develop the huge power potential, the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) was incorporated in 1976 as a wholly owned Government Enterprise under the Ministry of Power to plan, promote, investigate, survey, design, construct, generate, operate and maintain power stations in the north-eastern region.

Gas Authority of India Limited

The setting up of Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), formerly known as Gas Authority of India Limited in August 1984 heralded a new era of natural gas in the country. Starting as a natural gas transmission company, it is today an integrated energy company in the Natural Gas value chain with global footprints.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is an integrated oil company, in the downstream sector, engaged in refining of crude oil and marketing of petroleum products. It has also diversified into production and marketing of petrochemical feedstock.

New and Renewable Energy

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is the nodal Ministry at the federal level for all matters relating to new and renewable energy. The ministry has been facilitating the implementation of broad spectrum programmes including harnessing renewable power, renewable energy to rural areas for lighting, cooking and motive power, use of renewable energy in urban, industrial and commercial applications and development of alternate fuels and applications.

National Solar Mission

Twenty six SPV (solar photovoltaic) projects of aggregate 330 MW capacity have been commissioned. A 5 MW SPV project by Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (DMICDC) has also been set up under the MNRE bundling scheme.

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER TWELVE | ENVIRONMENT

THE Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) started functioning in 1985. The Ministry plans, promotes, coordinates and oversees environmental, ecological, forestry and wildlife programmes. Its main activities include protection of the environment; conservation of existing forests, wildlife, aquatic bodies and water resources, biodiversity and other resources particularly in eco-sensitive areas, adaptation to and mitigation from climate change, and survey of various areas for identification of new species of flora and fauna; afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas; prevention and control of pollution (air, water, noise and industrial pollution), management of hazardous substances and better environmental governance; ensuring welfare of animals; capacity building, training and research in classical and molecular taxonomy; and international cooperation in forestry and environment.

It is nodal agency for United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). The Ministry also coordinates with multilateral bodies such as United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).



Botanical Survey of India

Botanical Survey of India (BSI) is the apex research organization under MoEF&CC, for carrying out taxonomic and floristic studies on wild plant resources of the country through survey, documentation and conservation.

During the successive plan periods, the functional base of BSI was further expanded to include various new areas such as inventorying of endemic, rare and threatened plant species; evolving conservation strategies; studies on fragile ecosystems and protected areas; multiplication and maintenance of EET plant species, wild ornamentals, etc., in Botanic Gardens and Orchidaria; documentation of traditional knowledge of plants and development of National Database on Herbarium (including type specimens) and live collections, plant distribution and nomenclature, botanical paintings/ illustrations, plant uses, etc.

Zoological Survey of India

The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) is a premier research institution in the country, functioning under the Ministry. ZSI, since its inception in 1916, has been undertaking survey, exploration and research leading to the advancement of our knowledge on the exceptionally rich faunal diversity of the country.

India Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project

To conserve, project and manage the coastal and marine environment, the Ministry is implementing the India Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Project with the World Bank assistance. For the implementation of the project the Ministry has established a Society of Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM) as nodal body under the Society Registration Act, in Delhi.

The ICZM Project is being implemented as pilot investments in the coastal states of Gujarat, Odisha and West Bengal. National activities are implemented through Society of Integrated Coastal Management (SICOM) along with monitoring of activities carried out by three selected states.

Biodiversity Conservation

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is one of the key agreements adopted during the Earth Summit held in Rio-de-Janeiro in 1992. The objectives of CBD are: conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.

The Ministry joined UNDP managed global initiative on Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) in 2015. The initiative is hosted by NBA (national biodiversity authority), and technical assistance is being provided by the Wildlife Institute of India and National Institute of Public Finance and Policy in Implementation of BIOFIN. The first National Stakeholder Consultation on BIOFIN-India was held in New Delhi in 2016.

Table - List of identified mangrove sites in India

State/Union Territories		Mangrove Sites
West Bengal	1.	Sunderbans
Odisha	1.	Bhaitarkanika
	2.	Mahanadi
	3.	Subernarekha
	4.	Devi
	5.	Dhamra
	6.	Mangrove Genetic Resources Centre
	7.	Chilka
Andhra Pradesh	1.	Coringa
	2.	East Godavari
	3.	Krishna
Tamil Nadu	1.	Pichavaran
	2.	Muthupet
	3.	Ramnad
	4.	Pulicat
	5.	Kazhuveli
Andaman & Nicobar	1.	North Andamans
	2.	Nicobar
Kerala	1.	Vembanad
	2.	Kannur (Northern Kerala)
Karnataka	1.	Coondapur
	2.	Dakshin Kannada/Honnavar
	3.	Karwar
	4.	Mangalore Forest Division
Goa	1.	Goa
Maharashtra	1.	Achra-Ratnagiri
	2.	Devgarj-Vijay Durg
	3.	Veldur

	4.	Kundalika-Revdanda
	5.	Mumbai-Diva
	6.	Vikroli
	7.	Shreevardhan
	8.	Vaitarna
	9.	Vasai-Manori
	10.	Malvan
Gujarat	1.	Gulf of Kutch
	2.	Gulf of Khambhat
	3.	Dumas-Ubhrat
Coral Reef Sites		
Gujarat	1.	Gulf of Kutch
Tamil Nadu	1.	Gulf of Mannar
Andaman & Nicobar	1.	Andaman and Nicobar Coral Reef

Mangroves

The mangroves cover in the country is 4,740 sq.km. Mangroves are plants that survive high salinity, tidal regimes, strong wind velocity, high temperature and muddy anaerobic soil – a combination of conditions hostile for other plants. The mangrove ecosystems constitute a symbiotic link or bridge between terrestrial and marine ecosystems. They are found in the inter-tidal zones of sheltered shores, estuaries, creeks, backwaters, lagoons, marshes and mudflats. Mangrove vegetation has been reported in all the coastal states/UTs.

India is home to some of the best mangroves in the world. West Bengal has the maximum mangrove cover in the country, followed by Gujarat and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. However, not all coastal areas are suitable for mangrove plantation as these plants require an appropriate mix of saline and freshwater, and soft substrate like mudflats to enable it to grow and perpetuate. The Ministry provides financial assistance to the state forest departments for all identified mangrove areas for conservation and management. Besides, the Ministry also supports R&D activities with emphasis on targeted research on mangrove biodiversity, its management and various aspects of pollution in the identified areas.

Coral Reefs

The Indian reef area is estimated to be 2,383.87 sq.km . Coral reefs are the skeletons of stony coral polyps cemented together. They form the most dynamic ecosystem, providing shelter and nourishment to marine flora and fauna. They are the protectors of the coastlines and the coastal populations mostly depend on the coral reef ecosystems wherever they are present. The term 'coral' has been used to describe a variety of *invertebrate animals of the Phylum Cnidaria* including hard and soft corals. However, 'coral' is most often used as the common name for hard corals of the *Order Scleractinia*.

The four major coral reef areas identified for intensive conservation and management in India are:

- Gulf of Mannar;
- Gulf of Kutch;
- Lakshadweep; and
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The emphasis is more on preventive aspects through monitoring and surveillance as the restoration work is both costly and time consuming. The Ministry provides financial assistance to the states for all the four identified coral reef areas for conservation and management of coral and associates. Besides, the Ministry also supports R&D activities with emphasis on targeted research on coral biodiversity, its management and various aspects of pollution in these areas.

Biosphere Reserves

The Indian National Man and Biosphere (MAB) Committee identifies and recommends potential sites for designation as biosphere reserves, following the UNESCO's guidelines and criteria. There are 18 designated Biosphere Reserves (BRs). Its main objectives are: to conserve the diversity and integrity of plants animals within natural ecosystems; to safeguard genetic diversity of species on, which their continuing evaluation deplanes; to provide facilities for education and training; to provide areas for multi-faceted research and monitoring and to ensure sustainable use of natural resources through most appropriate technology for improvement of economic well being of the local people.

Biodiversity Conservation Scheme Relating to Biosafety

Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC)

Under the Biodiversity Conservation scheme, there are two main subcomponents namely biodiversity and biosafety. The biodiversity component includes activities relating to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and support to National Biodiverstiy Authority (NBA). The biosafety component includes activities relating to Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee/Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety / Nagoya Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.

Cartagena Biosafety Protocol

The Cartagena Biosafety Protocol (CBP) was negotiated under the aegis of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and adopted in 2000. India is a party to the Protocol. The Protocol came into force in 2003. The main objective of the Protocol is to ensure safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effect on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account risk to human health.

Nagoya COP

The Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress is a new international treaty adopted in the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (COP MOP) to the CPB (Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety) at Nagoya, Japan in 2010 after six years of intense negotiations. The scheme helps in strengthening the biosafety management systems and awareness in India.

Forest Policy

However, Forest Policy Division is Nodal Division for coordination of the USAID / India Forest PLUS Programme signed under the Partnership Agreement between the Government of India (Department of Economic Affairs) and United States of America for the Sustainable Forests and Climate Adaptation Project in 2010.

Brief and Objective

Indian Forest Act, 1927: The Indian Forest Act, 1927 (IAF), provides the legal framework for the protection and management of forest, transit of forest produce and timber, and the duty leviable on timber and other forest produce. IFA is an umbrella Act, which provides the basic architecture for the management of forests in the

country including providing mechanism to ensure notification of reserved, protected and village forests, protection of forest resources, forest biodiversity and wildlife of the country.

The National Forest Policy, 1988: National Forest Policy aims to have a minimum of one third of the total land area has been prepared and circulated to the States/ UTs for their comments.

Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) is a statutory multi-disciplinary body to combat organized wildlife crime in the country. The Bureau has its headquarter in New Delhi and five regional offices at Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Jabalpur; three sub-regional offices at Guwahati, Amritsar and Cochin; and five border units at Ramanathapuram, Gorakhpur, Motihari, Nathula and Moreh.

Central Zoo Authority

The main objective of the Central Zoo Authority is to enforce minimum standards and norms for upkeep and healthcare of animals in the Indian zoos and to control the mushrooming of ill-conceived, ill planned zoos, to monitor and evaluate the existing zoos and to suggest ways and means for the improvement of zoos in the country so that they can be transferred into potent centers for ex-situ conservation of endangered wild fauna.

Project Elephant

Project Elephant (PE) was launched in 1991-92 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with following objectives: – to protect elephants, their habitat and corridors; to address issues of man-animal conflict; and welfare of domesticated elephants.

Project Tiger/National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Tiger' was launched in 1973 with the objective "to ensure maintenance of a viable population of tigers in India for scientific, economic, aesthetic, cultural and ecological values, and to preserve for all times, areas of biological importance as a national heritage for the benefit, education and enjoyment of the people."

ANIMAL WELFARE

The Animal Welfare Board of India

The mandate of the Animal Welfare Division is to prevent the infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals, in terms of the provision of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960. General Animal Welfare covers the welfare of individual animals, mainly domesticated animals, as also wild animals in captivity, through Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

National Institute of Animal Welfare

The National Institute of Animal Welfare (NIAW) has been set up as a subordinate office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The objective of NIAW is to impart training and education in animal welfare on a diversified basis comprising, among other things, animal management, their behavior and ethics. The aim is to create an enabling environment for fulfillment of the statutory requirements as laid down in the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. The mandate of NIAW covers the need to improve animal welfare through education, research and public outreach. The institute has been operational since January, 2006.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), 2006 and CRZ (Coastal Regulation Zone), 2011 have been amended from time to time to further streamline the clearance process. The amendments have also been done to address

emerging concerns stemming from the need to integrate environmental concerns into the developmental process for achieving the goal of sustainable development. While according environmental clearance to development project(s), necessary conditions, environmental safeguard and measures are stipulated for their effective implementation during the construction and operation of the project.

CONTROL OF POLLUTION

Control of Air Pollution

The National Air Quality Index (AQI) has been launched in 2015. AQI is a tool loaded in the web portal of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for public information on the status of ambient air quality of selected cities considering eight Pollutants i.e., sulphur, dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, lead, ozone, PM10, PM2.5 carbon monoxide and ammonia for short term (upto 24 hourly) norms as prescribed in the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQs-2009). The aforesaid air pollutants are monitored by Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring stations (CAAQMs) by CPCB and state pollution air Control Boards. There are six AQI categories, namely good, satisfactory, moderately polluted, poor, very poor, and severe.

National Ambient Noise Monitoring Network Programme

According to National Environment Policy (NEP)-2006, Ambient Noise is included as environmental quality parameter and to monitor in specified urban areas regularly.

Taj Protection Mission

In pursuance of the Supreme Court's order, projects for environmental protection of World Heritage Site of Taj Mahal were initiated and funded by the Ministry. The Planning Commission approved Rs 600 crore on a 50:50 cost sharing basis with the state government to implement various schemes in the Taj Trapezium Zone for environmental protection of the Taj Mahal.

Central Pollution Control Board

Under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Central Government constituted the 'Central Board for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution' in 1974. The name of the Central Board was amended to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1988.

Chemical Safety

The Ministry notified the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 and the Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) (CAEPPR) Rules, 1996 for ensuring chemical safety in the country. These rules delineate the criteria for identification of Major Accident Hazard (MAH) unit. As per the rules, Central crisis group, state crisis groups, district crisis groups and local crisis groups at Central, state, district and local level are required to be set up for the management of accidents due to handling of hazardous chemicals listed in the rules.

Fly Ash Utilization

Electricity generation in the country is and would remain predominantly coal based in the near future. The Indian coal has high ash content of the order of 30-49 per cent generating large quantity of fly ash at coal/lignite based thermal power stations in the country. The management of fly ash has thus been a matter of concern in view of requirement of large area of land for its disposal because of its potential of causing pollution of air and water.

To address environmental problem of fly ash disposal, the Ministry issued notification on fly ash utilization in 1999 prescribing therein the targets for fly ash utilization for coal/lignite power based thermal power stations with an aim to achieve 100 per cent utilization in a phased manner.

National River Conservation Plan

The river conservation programme was initiated with the launching of the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) in 1985. The Ganga Action Plan was expanded to cover other rivers under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in the year 1995. The objective of NRCP is to improve the water quality of rivers, which are major water sources in the country, through implementation of pollution abatement works in various towns along identified polluted stretches of rivers on cost sharing basis between the Central and state governments.

Table- List of Rivers covered under NRCP Programme

S.No.	River	S.No.	River
1.	Adyar	17.	Pennar
2.	Beas	18.	Pamba
3.	Bhadra	19.	Panchganga
4.	Brahmani	20.	Rani Chu
5.	Cauvery	21.	Sabarmati
6.	Cooum	22.	Satluj
7.	Diphu & Dhansiri	23.	Subarnarekha
8.	Ghaggar	24.	Tapti
9.	Godwari	25.	Tapi
10.	Krishna	26.	Tunga
11.	Mahanadi	27.	Tungabhadra
12.	Mandovi	28.	Tambarani
13.	Mindhola	29.	Vaigai
14.	Mula Mutha	30.	Vennar
15.	Musi	31.	Wainganga
16.	Narmada		

National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-Systems For conservation of lakes and wetlands, the Ministry was earlier implementing two separate Centrally sponsored schemes, namely the 'National Wetlands Conservation Programme' (NWCP) and the 'National Lake Conservation Plan' (NLCP).

To avoid overlap and promote better synergies, NLCP has been merged with the scheme of NWCP, into one integrated scheme of National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA). The scheme aims at holistic conservation and restoration of lakes and wetlands for achieving the desired water quality enhancement, besides improvement in biodiversity and ecosystem through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach and a common regulatory framework. The scheme would contribute to reduction of pollution loads in lakes and wise use of wetland resources and their services. NPCA is presently operational on cost sharing between Central and respective state governments.

Conservation of Wetlands

Wetlands are lifeline for a very large number of people and an important source of fresh water to mankind. They provide a host of ecosystem services to humanity, in addition to being host to rich biodiversity. However, due to anthropogenic activities, wetlands are getting degraded. Major pressures on wetlands include fragmentation of hydrological regimes, siltation from degraded catchments, pollution, spread of invasive species and over-harvesting of resources.

To control degradation and conserve wetlands, the National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP) was initiated in 1987 and financial assistance is being provided to the State governments for implementing action plans for conservation and management of identified wetlands.

Ramsar Convention

As a commitment for conserving potential wetlands, India became a signatory to the Ramsar Convention in 1982. As per this convention, India is committed for international cooperation and to take national action for conservation and wise use of Wetlands. *At present there are 26 Ramsar sites in India.*

The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules 2010

To implement the objectives of the convention, a regulatory mechanism was put in place through Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules in December, 2010.

World Wetland Day

Each year, World Wetland Day (WWD) is celebrated on 2nd February for increasing awareness and spreading need for conservation and wise use of wetlands all over the world. This day was celebrated at national level at Nalsarovar wetland, Gujarat during 2015 by the Ministry in collaboration with the Government of Gujarat. The stakeholders of the wetland were invited to participate in the celebration. Prize distribution was held for various competitions held on the eve of WWD on various environmental themes.

Wildlife Institute of India (Dehradun)

Wildlife Institute of India (WII) was established in 1986 as an autonomous institute of the Ministry. The Institute has emerged as a premier training and research institution in the field of wildlife and protected area management in south and south east Asia. Its mandates are to generate quality information and knowledge products in wildlife science through research and mainstream it in capacity building programmes for various target groups and provide advisory on related matter.

Environmental Education, Awareness and Training

The 'Environmental Education, Awareness and Training' is a flagship scheme of the Ministry for enhancing the understanding of people at all level about the relationship between human beings and the environment and to develop capabilities/skills to improve and protect the environment. This scheme was launched in 1983-84 with the following basic objectives: to promote environmental awareness among all sections of the society; to spread environment education, especially in the non-formal system among different sections of the society; to facilitate development of education/training materials and aids in the formal education sector; to promote environment education.

GLOBE

Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) is a hands on international environmental science and education programme that brings students, teachers and scientists together to study the global environment. MoEFCC and US Government signed an agreement on 25th day of August 2000 to implement the

Globe programme in India. Indian Environmental Society is an implementing agency for Globe in India. *The goals of Globe are to enhance the environmental awareness of individuals throughout the world, to contribute to scientific understanding of the Earth and to help all students reach higher levels of achievement in science and mathematics.*

National Museum of Natural History

The National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), New Delhi is an institution devoted to environmental education and was opened to the public in 1978, on June 5, the World Environment Day. The museum undertakes environment education through the means of exhibition programmes and educational activities.

Centres of Excellence

Enhancement of people's awareness about environment requires capacity building at institutional and individual level for providing adequate support to the efforts in the fields of environment education, research and training. To serve this objective, the Ministry launched the scheme 'Centres of Excellence' (CoE) in 1983 to promote institutions in priority areas of Environmental Sciences and Management.

National Green Tribunal

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) was established in 2010 under the NGT Act, 2010. The NGT has been established for the effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources. It also hears cases relating to enforcement of any legal rights relating to environment and providing relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

It is a specialized body equipped with the necessary expertise to handle environmental disputes involving multi-disciplinary issues. *The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but is guided by principles of natural justice.* The Tribunal is mandated to make an endeavor for disposal of applications or appeals finally within six months of filing.

Climate Change

Introduction

The financial year 2015-16 was important for climate change both at domestic and international level. It started with the preparation of the third National Communication (NATCOM) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and release of the Biennial Update Reports (BURs). Under the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change (PMCCC) all national missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) were asked to revisit their plans. New missions on wind energy, health, waste to energy and coastal areas were also taken up.

India submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) to the UNFCCC. During COP21 in Paris, India Pavilion was set up to showcase and share information on India's action on climate change. In addition, a new online Management Information System (MIS) was launched by the National Clean Development Mechanism Authority (NCDMA). Also, the National Designated Entity (NDE) for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) has been established in the climate change division along with the National Designated Entity for Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and Technology Executive Committee (TEC).

National and State Action Plans on Climate Change

India's domestic strategy for addressing climate change is reflected in many of its social and economic development programmes. The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) coordinated by the Ministry

of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC) is being implemented through the Nodal Ministries in specific sectors/ areas.

National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change

The National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) was operationalised in 2015-16. The fund is meant to assist national and state level activities to meet the cost of adaptation measures in areas that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. This scheme has been taken as Central Sector Scheme with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as National Implementing Entity (NIE). The overall aim of the fund is to support concrete adaptation activities which are not covered under ongoing schemes of State and National Government that reduce the adverse affects of climate change facing community sector and states.

Climate Change Action Programme

The Ministry is implementing a scheme titled 'Climate Chance Action Programme' (CCAP) since January, 2014, with an objective to create and strengthen the scientific and analytical capacity for assessment of climate change in the country, putting in place appropriate institutional framework for scientific and policy initiatives and implementation of climate change related actions in the context of sustainable development.

Climate Technology Centre and Network and Technology Executive Committee

The National Designated Entity (NDE) for Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and Technology Executive Committee (TEC) [NDE (CTCN & TCE)] has been established in the Climate Change Division of this Ministry. The key function will include: (i) leading and coordinating the formulation, selection; (ii) facilitating and monitoring the implementation of CTCN response assistance; (iii) foster collaboration and access to information and knowledge to accelerate climate technology transfer in the country; (iv) strengthen network, partnership and capacity building for climate technology transfer.

Ozone Layer Protection

Ozone, a tri-atomic molecule of oxygen is formed from oxygen naturally in the upper levels of the earth's atmosphere by high energy Ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the Sun. The UV radiation breaks down oxygen molecules, releasing free atoms, some of which bond with other oxygen molecule to form ozone. About 90 per cent of ozone formed in this way lies between 10 and 50 kilometers above the earth's surface, called the Stratosphere. The ozone found in the part of the atmosphere is called the ozone layer.

The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer are the international treaties specific for the protection of the Stratospheric Ozone (Ozone layer). The Montreal Protocol has been recognized as the most successful international environmental treaty in history. It has been universally ratified and all the United Nations member countries of the world are the parties to the Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol.

International Cooperation - Multilateral Matters

The Division is nodal for United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank (WB), and regional bodies like Economic & Social Commission for Asia & Pacific (ESCAP), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP), Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Union (EU), India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Summit on Environment amongst others.

India is a founder member of Global Environment Facility (GEF). Set up in 1991, GEF is the designated multilateral funding mechanism of 183 countries to provide incremental finance for addressing global environmental benefits which are also identified national priorities. The GEF mandate is decided as per the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties of the multilateral environmental conventions namely Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Stockholm Convention on PoPs and Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Sustainable Development

2015-16 was a landmark year leading to the adoption of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 associated targets by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 by 193 countries including India. The negotiations on SDGs have been ably led by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Though the interministerial consultations were held by MoE&FCC, MEA was always kept in loop and comments/reservations furnished by line ministries were duly communicated to MEA. The outcome document known as "Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" highlights poverty eradication as the overreaching goal of the new development agenda and has at its core the integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The emerging development agenda is unique in that it calls for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income. The 'five Ps' people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnership—capture the broad scope of the agenda. The SDGs are expected to be achieved by 2030.

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER THIRTEEN | FINANCE

THE Ministry of Finance is responsible for administration of finances of the Government. It is concerned with all economic and financial matters affecting the country as a whole including mobilization of resources for development and other purposes. It regulates expenditure of the Government including transfer of resources to the states. This ministry comprises five departments, namely, (i) *Economic Affairs*, (ii) *Expenditure*, (iii) *Revenue*, (iv) *Disinvestment* and (v) *Financial Services*.

Department of Economic Affairs

The Department inter alia monitors current economic trends and advises the government on all matters having bearing on internal and external aspects of economic management including, prices, credit, fiscal and monetary policy and investment regulations. All the external, financial and technical assistance received by India, except through specialized international organizations like FAO, ILO, UNIDO and except under international bilateral specific agreement in the field of science and technology, culture and education are also monitored by this Department.

The Divisions of the Department of Economic Affairs are:

- (i) Integrated Finance Division,
- (ii) Budget Division including Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM),
- (iii) Financial Market,
- (iv) Bilateral Cooperation and Administration,
- (v) Multilateral Institutions,
- (vi) Multilateral Relations,
- (vii) Controller of Aid, Accounts and Audit,
- (viii) Economic Division
- (ix) Investment & Currency
- (x) Infrastructure and Energy.

The Department of Economic Affairs is also responsible for preparation and presentation of Union Budget to the Parliament and the budget for the state governments under President's Rule and union territory administrations.

Annual Financial Statement

Under Article 112 of the Constitution, a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India has to be laid before Parliament in respect of every financial year. This statement titled 'Annual Financial' Statement is the main budget document. The Annual Financial Statement shows the receipts and payments of government under the three parts in which government accounts are kept: (i) Consolidated Fund, (ii) Contingency Fund and (iii) Public Account.

All revenues received by government, loans raised by it, and also its receipts from recoveries of loans granted by it, form the 'Consolidated Fund'. All expenditure of Government is incurred from the Consolidated Fund and no amount can be withdrawn from the fund without authorization from Parliament.

Occasions may arise when Government may have to meet urgent unforeseen expenditure pending authorization from Parliament. The Contingency 'Fund' is an imprest placed at the disposal of the President to incur such expenditure. Parliamentary approval for such expenditure and for withdrawal of an equivalent amount from the Consolidated Fund is subsequently obtained and the amount spent from Contingency Fund is subsequently recouped to the Fund.

Demands for Grants

The estimates of expenditure from the Consolidated Fund included in the Annual Financial Statement and required to be voted by the Lok Sabha are submitted in the form of Demands for Grants in pursuance of Article 113 of the Constitution. Generally, one Demand for Grant is presented in respect of each Ministry or Department.

Finance Bill

At the time of presentation of the Annual Financial Statement before Parliament, a Finance Bill is also presented in fulfilment of the requirement of Article 110(1) (a) of the Constitution, detailing the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of taxes proposed in the budget. *A Finance Bill is a Money Bill as defined in Article 110 of the Constitution.*

Appropriation Bills

After the Demands for Grants are voted by the Lok Sabha, Parliament's approval to the withdrawal from the Consolidated Fund of the amounts so voted and of the amount required to meet the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund is sought through the Appropriation Bill. *Under Article 114 (3) of the Constitution, no amount can be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund without the enactment of such a law by Parliament.*

Vote-on-Account

The whole process beginning with the presentation of the budget and ending with discussions and voting on the Demands for Grants requires sufficiently long time. The Lok Sabha is, therefore, empowered by the Constitution to make any grant in advance in respect of the estimated expenditure for a part of the financial year pending completion of procedure for the voting of the Demands. The purpose of the 'Vote on Account' is to keep government functioning, pending voting of 'final supply'. The Vote on Account is obtained from Parliament through an Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill.

Indian Economic Growth

The growth of the Indian economy accelerated in 2015-16, despite the unfavorable global economic situation. The growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant (2011-12) market prices for the year 2015-16 has been estimated at 7.6 per cent as per the provisional estimates of the Central Statistics Office, as against 7.2 per cent in 2014-15.

Annual Budget

An estimate of all anticipated receipts and expenditure of the Union for the ensuing financial year is laid before the Parliament. This is known as 'Annual Financial Statement' or 'Budget' and records Central government's transactions of all kinds, in and outside India, during the preceding year, the year in which the statement is prepared as well as ensuing year or the 'Budget Year' as it is known.

Initiatives in Fiscal Management

Persistent fiscal deficit and concomitant growth in public debt burden have been identified as the most difficult challenges affecting the country's economic growth prospects. To check the potentially damaging impact of the lack of fiscal discipline on macro-economic parameters, the Parliament passed the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act 2003 which came into force in 2004. The FRBM Act, *inter alia*, mandated the government to eliminate the revenue deficit by 2007-08.

Keeping in view of the global financial crisis and its adverse impact on the Indian economy, the fiscal targets, mandated by the FRBM Act, got revised from time to time. The budget for 2016-17 estimates the fiscal deficit for 2016-17 at 3.5 per cent of GDP.

Public Debt

Public debt includes internal debt comprising borrowings inside the country like market loans, compensations and other bonds, treasury bills issued to finance state governments, commercial banks and other parties as well as nonnegotiable non-interest bearing rupee securities issued to the international financial institutions and external debt comprising loans from foreign countries, international financial institutions, etc.

Inflation

Headline inflation based on Consumer Price Index (Combined), which remained sticky around 9-10 per cent during 2012-2014, moderated significantly to 5.9 per cent in 2014-15 and further to 4.9 per cent in 2015-16. It averaged 5.8 per cent in 2016-17 (Apr-Jul) and stood at 6.1 per cent in July 2016.

Headline inflation measured in terms of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) which remained persistently high at around 6-9 per cent during 2011-14 moderated to 2 per cent in 2014-15 and further to (-) 2.5 per cent in 2015-16. It averaged 1.8 per cent in 2016-17 and stood at 3.5 per cent in July 2016.

Measures to Control Inflation

The government reviews the price situation regularly as price stability remains high on its agenda and has taken a number of measures to control inflation.

The steps taken, inter alia, include, (i) increased allocation of 900 crore for Price Stabilization Fund in the budget 2016-17 to check volatility of prices of essential commodities, in particular of pulses; (ii) decision taken to create buffer stock of pulses through domestic procurement and imports; (iii) announced higher Minimum Support Prices so as to incentivize production; (iv) issued advisory to States /UTs to take strict action against hoarding and black marketing under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980; (v) imposed 20 per cent duty on export of sugar.

Revised Monetary Policy Framework

As per the revised Monetary Policy Framework, the government has fixed the inflation target of 4 per cent with tolerance level of +/- 2 per cent for the period beginning from August, 2016 to March 2021.

Industry & Infrastructure

Indian economy has emerged as fastest growing economy by riding high on the performance of manufacturing sector. As per the provisional estimates of annual national income, 2015-16, the growth of industrial sector comprising mining, manufacturing, electricity and construction was 7.4 per cent in 2015-16.

(i) Index of Industrial Production

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) which is quick estimates of the performance of key industrial sectors increased by 2.4 per cent in 2015-16 as compared to growth of 2.8 per cent in 2014-15.

(ii) Eight Core Infrastructure Supportive Industries

The eight core infrastructure supportive industries, namely, coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity with a total weight of 37.90 per cent in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) have registered a growth of 2.7 per cent in 2015-16.

Services Sector Performance

Services sector remains the key driver of India's economic growth, contributing almost 65.1 per cent of its gross value added (GVA) growth in 2015-16.

India's External Sector Performance

(i) Global Economic Environment

In its latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) Update, published in July 2016, the IMF has revised down its global growth estimate for 2016 and 2017 by 0.1 percentage point, to 3.1 per cent and 3.4 per cent respectively.

(ii) India's International Trade Development

In 2015-16, exports declined by 15.6 per cent.

(iii) Foreign Exchange Reserves

India's foreign exchange reserves comprise foreign currency assets (FCAs), gold, SDRs and reserve tranche position (RTP) in the IMF. Accretion to foreign exchange reserves is the outcome of absorption of excess of capital flows balance over the current account financing needs and valuation gain/loss.

Currency & Coinage

The Currency and Coinage Division (C&C Division) deals with policy formulation in respect of currency/bank notes and coins and oversees the production, planning and printing/minting of currency notes and coins. It is responsible for supervision and administrative control of the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd. Rules, regulations and approvals of design/ security features of bank notes and coins and issue of commemorative coins are also handled by C&C Division.

Exchange Traded Cash Settled Interest Rate Futures

SEBI had prescribed framework for trading of Cash Settled Interest Rate Futures (IRF) on 10-year Government of India Security on Stock Exchanges. To provide hedging instruments for managing interest rate exposure across different maturities of various investments and liabilities of different sets of market participants like corporates and insurance companies and to further enhance depth and liquidity in the underlying bond market, SEBI decided to permit stock exchanges to introduce cash settled IRFs on 6 year and 13 year GoI (Government of India) security.

Liberalization of External Commercial Borrowings Framework

A new, liberal and revised External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) Framework has been introduced and brought into effect from 2015 by RBI after due consultation with and subsequently being approved by Ministry of Finance. The new ECB framework is more attuned to the current economic and business Environment.

SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations

The SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 1992 were notified in 1992, which was framed to deter the practice of insider trading in the securities of listed companies. Since then there had been several amendments in the securities of listed companies. Since then there had been several amendments to the regulations. To ensure that the regulatory framework dealing with insider trading in India is further strengthened, SEBI sought review of the extant insider trading regulatory regime. The new regulations strengthen the legal and enforcement framework, align Indian regime with international practices, provide clarity with respect to the definitions and concepts, and facilitate legitimate business transactions.

New Depository Receipts Scheme

The New Depository Receipts (DR) Scheme, 2014 formulated on the basis of M.S. Sahoo Committee Recommendations has come into effect from December 2014. Enabling tax amendments pertaining to new DR Scheme have been provided vide Finance Act of 2015. The new DR Scheme allows: i). issuance of Depository Receipts (DRs) against any underlying securities - equity or debt; ii). issuance by any issuer - listed or unlisted; iii). DRs can be issued both for capital raising through new shares or against existing/ secondary shares; iv). issuance may be either sponsored or unsponsored ; and v). DRs will count as public shareholding if they have attached voting rights for holder.

Financial Stability and Development Council

With a view to strengthening and institutionalizing the mechanism for maintaining financial stability, enhancing inter-regulatory coordination and promoting financial sector development, the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) was set up by the government as the apex level forum in December, 2010. *The Chairman of the Council is the Union Finance Minister* and its members include the heads of financial sector regulator, Reserve bank of India (RBI), Securities Board of India (SEBI), Pension and Fund Regulatory and Development Authority and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), Finance Secretary and/ or Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Secretary, Department of Financial Services and Chief Economic Adviser.

The Council monitors macro prudential supervision of the economy including functioning of large financial sector development issues, including issues relating to financial literacy and financial inclusion. The FSDC Secretariat in Department of Economic Affairs provides secretarial support to the council.

Financial Stability Board

FSB was established in 2009 under the aegis of G 20 by bringing together the national authorities, standard setting bodies and international financial institutions for addressing vulnerabilities and developing and implementing strong regulatory, supervisory and other policies in the interest of financial stability. India is an active member of the FSB having three seats in its Plenary represented by Secretary (EA), Deputy Governor- RBI and Chairman, SEBI.

Financial Stability Assessment Programme

The Financial Sector Assessment Programme is a joint programme of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Monetary Policy Framework

A Monetary Policy Framework Agreement between the Government and the Reserve Bank of India was signed in 2015, providing for flexible inflation targeting. With a view to maintain price stability, while keeping in mind the objective of growth, the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (RBI Act) has been amended by the Finance Act, 2016, to provide for a statutory and institutionalized framework for a Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 came into force in 2016. The Code aims to promote entrepreneurship, availability of credit, and balance the interests of all the stakeholders by consolidating and amending the laws relating to reorganization and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time bound manner and for maximization of value of the assets of such persons and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

It proposes a framework to ensure: early detection of stress in a business; initiation of the insolvency resolution process by debtor, financial creditor or operational creditor; timely revival of viable businesses; liquidation of unviable businesses; minimization of losses to all stakeholders; and avoiding destruction of value of failed business. The administration of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 has been transferred to the Ministry of Corporate Affairs from July, 2016.

G-20

The G-20 was formed in 1999, as a forum of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, in recognition of the fact that there was a major shift in the global economic weight from the advance economies to emerging market economies.

G-20 Framework Working Group

The G-20 Framework Working Group (FWG) plays a very pivotal role in the functioning of G-20. Established in 2009 during the G-20 Pittsburg Summit, the main task of FWG is to layout the policies to generate strong, sustainable and balanced global growth.

G-20 Sherpa Track

In 2016, against the backdrop of the Agenda 2030, the Paris Agreement and Nairobi outcomes, the Chinese Presidency has given a huge focus to the traditional agenda items of development, trade and investment, and energy. It has also brought in three new agenda items namely innovation, digital economy and new industrial revolution under the overarching theme "Breaking a New Path of Growth".

BRICS Finance and Economic Co-operation

India assumed the chairmanship of the BRICS forum in 2016. The theme of India's chairmanship was "Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solution", which resonates with the ethos of the BRICS. During the year, India hosted a number of events under its aegis finance and economic co-operation such as workshop on challenges in the bond markets of BRICS countries, workshop on financial inclusion, seminar on infrastructure financing and PPP best practices, workshop of international arbitration mechanism, workshop on investment flows, etc., with the objective of sharing country-experiences and provide an opportunity for mutual learning on innovative policy instruments among the member nations.

South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation and SAARC Development Fund

The South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC), in existence since 1985 (founded in Dhaka), is a regional organization that aims to promote economic, social, cultural, technical and scientific cooperation in South Asia. *Its member states include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Its secretariat is based in Kathmandu.*

The South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) Agreement and the SAARC Agreement on Trade in Services (SATIS) are the two main areas of cooperation among SAARC member states which came into force in 2004 and 2012 respectively. SAFTA envisages eventual zero customs duty on virtually all products traded within the region.

SAARC Development Fund (SDF) was established in 2008 by the SAARC countries to improve the livelihood of the people and to accelerate economic growth, social progress and poverty alleviation in the region. SDF is implementing many SAARC projects and programme.

United Nations Development Programme in India

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the largest channel for development cooperation in the UN system. The overall mission of the UNDP is to assist the programme countries through capacity development in Sustainable Human Development (SHD) with priority on poverty alleviation, gender equity, women empowerment and environmental protection. All assistance provided by the UNDP is grant assistance. It derives its funds from voluntary contributions from various donor countries.

European Investment Bank

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the European Union's financing institution which was established in 1958 under the Treaty of Rome (1957) to provide financing for capital investment. The members of the EIB are the Member States of the European Union, who have all subscribed to the bank's capital.

EIB in India

EIB's activities in India emanate from the Joint Action Plan (JAP) of the Strategic Partnership between the EU and India. EIB intends to increase its lending activities focusing mainly on environmental sustainability and large infrastructure project through FDI, transfer of technology and know-how. EIB investments in India are governed by the Framework Agreement for Financial Cooperation. This agreement was signed between India and EIB in 1993.

Lines of Credit to developing countries

Lines of Credit (LoC) form an important component of India's diplomatic strategy and have been very useful in generating goodwill and building long term partnerships. The scheme also attempts to promote India's strategic political and economic interest abroad by positioning it as an emerging economic power, investor country and partner for developing countries.

International Monetary Fund

India is a founder member of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which was established to promote a cooperative and stable global monetary framework. At present, 189 nations are members of the IMF. Since it was established, its purposes have remained unchanged but its operations – which involve surveillance, financial assistance and technical assistance – have developed to meet the changing needs of its member countries in an evolving world economy. The Board of Governors of the IMF consists of one Governor and one Alternate Governor from each member country. *For India, the Finance Minister is the ex-officio Governor on the Board of Governors of the IMF. There are three other countries in India's constituency at the IMF, viz., Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka.* Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is India's Alternate Governor.

International Finance Corporation

International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, focuses exclusively on investing in the private sector in developing countries. It was established in 1956. India is founding member of IFC. IFC is an important development partner for India with its operations of financing and advising the private sector in the country. India represents IFC's single-largest country exposure globally.

BRICS New Development Bank

The New Development Bank (NDB) has been instituted with a vision to support and foster infrastructure and sustainable development initiatives in emerging economies. The founding members of the NDB - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) - have brought in capital of USD 1 billion as initial contribution.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) set up in January, 2016 to foster sustainable economic development, create productive assets and improve infrastructure in Asia through financing of infrastructure projects. India is one of the founding members and the second largest shareholder.

World Bank

India has been borrowing from the World Bank through International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA) for various development projects in the areas of poverty reduction, infrastructure, rural development, etc. IDA funds are one of the most concessional external loans for Government of India and are used largely in social sector projects that contribute to the achievement of millennium development goals. IBRD funds are relatively costlier but cheaper than commercial external borrowings. The government utilizes IBRD loans primarily for infrastructure projects.

International Fund for Agricultural Development

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was set up in 1977 as the thirteenth specialized agency of the United Nations. It is dedicated to eradicating poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries. IFAD provides low interest loans and grants to developing countries to finance innovative agricultural and rural development programmes and projects.

Global Environment Facility

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) operates as a mechanism for international cooperation for the purpose of providing new and additional grant and concessional funding to meet the agreed incremental costs of measures to achieve agreed global environmental benefits. GEF provides grants to eligible countries in its five focal areas: biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, international waters, chemicals and waste.

It also serves as financial mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Minamata Convention on Mercury and supports implementation of the protocol in countries with economics in transition for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

India has been actively involved with GEF process right from its inception. It has been one of the donors to the GEF Trust Fund.

Asian Development Bank

India is a founding member of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which was established in 1966. ADB headquarters is situated at Manila, Philippines.

The Union Finance Minister is the designated Governor for India, and Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs is the designated Alternate Governor.

Department of Expenditure

The Department of Expenditure is the nodal department for overseeing the public financial management system in the Central Government and matters connected with state finances.

Seventh Central Pay Commission

The Seventh Central Pay Commission which was set up in February, 2014, submitted its recommendations to the government in November 2015. The date of its effect is January 1, 2016 with a minimum basic pay of Rs 18,000/.

Procurement Policy

A Public Procurement Cell (PPC) was set up in this department in June, 2011 to take follow up action on the Report of the Committee on Public Procurement (CoPP) and drafting of the Public Procurement Bill and other related matters such as drafting of rules and setting up of a Central Public Procurement Portal.

Swachh Bharat Kosh

The Kosh has been set up to achieve the objective of improving cleanliness levels in rural and urban areas, including in schools. It will also be enabled to bring out innovative/ unique projects and girls toilets will be the priority area to start with.

National Institute of Financial Management

The National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM) was set up in 1993. The Union Cabinet envisaged that NIFM would begin as a training institution for officers recruited by the Union Public Service Commission through the annual Civil Service Examinations and allocated to the various services responsible for managing senior and top management posts dealing with accounts and finance in the Government. NIFM was to develop as a Centre of Excellence in the areas of Financial Management and related disciplines, not only in India but also in Asia.

Central Board of Direct Taxes

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), created by the Central Board of Revenue Act 1963, is the apex body entrusted with the responsibility of administering direct tax laws in India. The CBDT consists of a Chairman and six members, all of whom are ex-officio Special Secretaries to the Government of India, in the apex scale of pay. It is the cadre controlling authority for the Income Tax Department.

Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana

For the benefit of the weaker sections of the society, Government of India has floated a highly subsidized insurance scheme, viz., Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) which is administered through Life Insurance Corporation of India. Under this social security scheme below poverty line (BPL) and marginally above poverty line citizens are covered under 48 identified occupations. The scheme provides death cover of Rs 30,000 /- in case of natural death.

In case of death of total disability (including loss of two eyes/two limbs) due to accident, a sum of Rs 75,000/- and in case of partial permanent disability (loss of one eye/limb) due to accident, a sum of Rs 37,500/- is payable to the nominee/ beneficiary. All these benefits are paid for a nominal premium of Rs 200/- per member per annum, out of which Rs 100/- is borne by the Central Government through Social Security Fund maintained through LIC of India, and the balance premium of Rs 100/- is borne by the member and/or nodal agency and/or Central/state government department which acts as the nodal agency.

INITIATIVES

Social Security Schemes

Atal Pension Yojana

The Atal Pension Yojana (APY) was launched in May, 2015, to address the longevity risks among the workers in unorganized sector who are not covered under any statutory social security scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana

The Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) is a one year personal accident insurance scheme, renewable from year to year, offering coverage for death/disability due to an accident and is available to people in the age group of 18 to 70 years having a bank account who give their consent to join and enable auto-debit.

Under the said scheme, risk coverage available will be Rs 2 lakh for accidental death and permanent total disability and Rs 1 lakh for permanent partial disability.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana

With a view to increasing banking penetration and promoting financial inclusion and with the main objective of covering all households with at least one bank account per household across the country, a National Mission on financial inclusion named as *Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana* (PMJDY) was announced in 2014.

Objectives of PMJDY include: (i) universal access to banking facilities for all households across the country through a bank branch or a fixed point business correspondent (BC) within a reasonable distance. (ii) to cover all households with at least one Basic Bank Account with RuPay Debit card having inbuilt accident insurance cover of Rs 1 lakh, (iii) an overdraft facility up to Rs 5,000/- after satisfactory operation in the account for 6 months, (iv) a life cover of Rs 30,000 / - to those beneficiaries who open their accounts for the first time from August 2014 to January 2015.

Swavalamban Scheme

To encourage the workers in the unorganized sector to save voluntarily for their old age, an initiative called Swavalamban Scheme was launched in 2010. It is a co-contributory pension scheme whereby the Central Government contributes a sum of Rs 1,000 per annum in each NPS account opened having a saving of Rs 1,000 to Rs 12,000 per annum.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana

Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Limited (MUDRA), is a refinance institution set-up by the Government of India for development of micro units by extending funding support to encourage entrepreneurship in India, mostly from non-corporate small business sector. Under the guidelines of Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY), MUDRA has launched three innovative products namely Shishu, Kishor, and Tarun, which signifies the stage of growth and funding needs of the micro units or entrepreneur.

Credit Guarantee Fund for Skill Development

To guarantee the loans and advances up to Rs 1.5 lakh (term loan) or any other limit as may be decided by the settler, sanctioned and disbursed by the lending institutions without any collateral security and/or third party guarantees to the eligible borrowers pursuing skill development courses as per the Skill Loan Scheme.

Salient Features of Current Disinvestment Policy

The policy on disinvestment has evolved considerably. The salient features of the policy include: (a) public sector undertakings are the wealth of the Nation and to ensure this wealth rests in the hands of the people, promote public ownership of CPSEs; (b) while pursuing disinvestment through minority stake sale in listed CPSEs, the Government will retain majority shareholding, i.e. at least 51 per cent of the shareholding and management control of the Public Sector Undertakings; and (c) strategic disinvestment by way of sale of substantial portion of Government shareholding in identified CPSEs up to 50 per cent or more, along with transfer of management control.

National Investment Fund

Government constituted the National Investment Fund (NIF) in November, 2005 into which the proceeds from disinvestment of Central Public Sector Enterprises were to be channelized.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN | CORPORATE AFFAIRS

THE Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) administers the following Acts of the Central Government: (i) Companies Act, 2013; (ii) Companies Act, 1956; (iii) Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008; (iv) The Competition Act, 2002 as amended by Competition (Amendment) Act, 2009; (v) The Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016; (vi) The Chartered Accountants Act, 1949; (vii) The Cost and Works Accounts Act, 1959; (viii) The Company Secretaries Act, 1980; (ix) Societies Registration Act, 1860; and Indian Partnership Act, 1932 (in Centrally administered areas); (x) The Partnership Act, 1932; and (xi) Companies (Donations to National Funds) Act, 1951.

Administrative Structure

The Ministry has a three tier organizational structure with the headquarters at New Delhi, seven offices of Regional Directors (RDs) at Ahmedabad, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi and Shillong, fifteen Registrars of Companies (RoCs), fourteen Official Liquidators (OLs) and nine RoC-cum-OLs in States and Union Territories.

Enactment of Companies Act

The New Companies Act, 2013 (Act) replaced the Companies Act, 1956, by comprehensively revising the law incorporating international best practices as well as in keeping with the needs of the current economic environment.

The Ministry has notified 326 Sections out of 470 Sections of the Companies Act, 2013, which was enacted in August, 2013.

The Companies Act, 2013 seeks to bring corporate governance and regulation practices in India at par with global best practices. The corporate sector has been given more flexibility in regulating their own affairs, subject to full disclosure and accountability of their actions, with minimal Government interference by the process of approvals. The Act provides more opportunities for new entrepreneurs and enables wide application of information technology in the conduct of affairs by corporates.

KEY FEATURES OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013

I. Business Friendly Corporate Regulations/Pro-Business Initiatives

- Provision of self-regulation with disclosures/transparency instead of 'Government approval based regime'.
- Automation of corporate records/meetings – statutory recognition to (i) maintenance of documents by companies in electronic form, (ii) 'video-conferencing' as a mode of conducting Board meetings etc.
- Faster mergers and acquisitions including short form of mergers and cross border mergers.
- Summary liquidation: For companies having net assets of 1 crone or less, Official Liquidators (OLs) are empowered with adjudicatory powers.
- Setting up of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).
- Concept of 'dormant companies' introduced (companies not engaged in business for two consecutive years can be declared as dormant).
- *Concept of One Person Company (OPC) introduced.*

II. Good Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility

- Concept of Independent Directors (IDs) included as a statutory requirement.

- Provision for constitution of several Committees of the Board (Audit Committee, Nomination and Remuneration Committee, Stakeholders Relationship Committee and CSR Committee).
- Woman Director for prescribed class of companies.
- Mandatory provision for constitution of CSR Committee and formulation of CSR Policy, with mandatory disclosure, for prescribed class of companies.

III. Enhancing Accountability of Management

- The term 'Officer in Default' has been reviewed to make it more relevant.
- Terms 'Key Managerial Personnel' (KMP) and 'Promoter' defined to affix responsibility on key functionaries of the company.

IV. Strengthened Enforcement

- The Central Government to have powers to order investigation, suomotu, in public interest.
- Statutory recognition of Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).
- Provision for creation of Special Courts.
- Search and seizure of documents, during investigation, without an order from a Magistrate.
- Freezing of assets or disgorgement of illegal gains of company under investigation.

Corporate Social Responsibility

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for companies has been mandated through legislation in India through Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013.

MCA21 e-Governance Project

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs operated an end-to-end e-Governance project called 'MCA21' for registry related services from March 2006 on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) Model under Public-Private Partnership (PPP). The vision is "to introduce a service-oriented approach in the design and delivery of Government Services".

Launch of Single Integrated Incorporation Form

The Ministry has introduced a new form christened INC-29, which provides three services in one single form, which were hitherto available in different forms. With the introduction of this form, stakeholders are able to obtain the name of the company, Director Identification No. (DIN) and incorporate a Company in one single step and single form. This has greatly speeded up and eased the process of incorporation of a new company in the country now.

Investor Education and Protection Fund

The Companies Act provides for establishment of Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) for promoting investor awareness and protecting their interests.

Serious Fraud Investigation Office

The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) was set up by the Government of India in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The Companies Act, 2013, inter alia, has accorded statutory status to SFIO and its functions and powers have been enhanced substantially with number of enabling provisions in the Act.

Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs

The Ministry set up the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), a registered society under Societies Registration Act, 1860 to serve as a 'Holistic Think-Tank', and a 'Capacity Building, Service Delivery Institution' to help corporate growth, reforms through synergized knowledge management, partnerships and problem solving in a one-stop-shop mode.

Competition Commission

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) was established in 2003 under the Competition Act, 2002, with the objective of eliminating practices having an adverse effect on competition, promoting and sustaining competition, protecting the interest of consumers and ensuring freedom of trade in India.

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER FIFTEEN | FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

THE Department of Food and Public Distribution is responsible for the management of the food economy of the nation. The vision of the department is to ensure food security for citizens of the country. To achieve this, the department has adopted missions such as efficient procurement at Minimum Support Price (MSP), storage and distribution of food grains; ensuring availability of food grains, sugar and edible oils through appropriate policy instruments; including maintenance of Buffer Stocks of food grains; and making food grains accessible at reasonable prices, especially to the weaker and vulnerable sections of society under a Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

The main instruments of the department's food management policy are procurement, storage and movement of food grains, public distribution and maintenance of buffer stocks.

Procurement of Food Grains

Food Corporation of India (FCI), an autonomous organization of the department, with the help of State Government agencies, procures wheat, paddy and coarse grains in various states in order to provide price support to the farmers. Before each *Rabi / Kharif* crop season, Government of India announces the Minimum Support Prices (MSP), based on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), which takes into consideration the cost of various agricultural inputs and the reasonable margin for the farmers for their produce.

Sufficient number of procurement centres is opened by FCI/State Government agencies in mutual consultation before onset of procurement season, keeping in view the procurement potential and geographical spread of the state concerned. Review is made from time to time on the need for additional procurement centres, if any, during the procurement season and requisite additional procurement centres are also opened.

State Governments are encouraged to adopt decentralized procurement (DCP) system of procurement so as to maximize procurement, reduce transportation and increase the reach of MSP operations. Under this system, state governments undertake procurement and distribution of food grains by themselves. Procured quantities in excess of state's requirement are taken in the central pool for distribution elsewhere, while shortfall is met from the central pool.

Allocation of Food Grains

National Food Security Act, 2013

To further strengthen the commitment to food security of the people, Government of India enacted the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), which came into force in 2013. The Act provides for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity. *The Act makes a paradigm shift in approach to food security - from welfare to a rights-based one.*

The Act provides for coverage of up to 75 per cent of the rural population and up to 50 per cent of the urban population for receiving subsidised food grains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-thirds of the population. The eligible persons are entitled to receive 5 kg of food grains per person per month at subsidised prices of Rs 3, 2 & 1 per kg for rice, wheat and coarse grains, respectively.

The existing Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, which constitute the poorest of the poor, will continue to receive 35 kg of food grains per household per month at the above prices.

Antyodaya Anna Yojana

To make TPDS more focused and targeted towards the poorest section of population, the "Antyodaya Anna Yojana" (AAY) was launched in December, 2000 for one crore poor families. AAY contemplates identification of poorest of the poor families from amongst the BPL families covered under TPDS and providing them food grains at a highly subsidised rate of Rs 2 per kg for wheat and 3 per kg for rice.

Targeted Public Distribution System

To maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities, PDS (C) Order, 2001 was notified in 2001. In order to bring the PDS(C) Order, 2001, in consonance with the National Food Security Act, 2013, (NFSA), the Department put in place the Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2015 in 2015 in supersession of the PDS (C) Order, 2001 for maintaining supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodity, namely, food grains under the TPDS.

Other Welfare Schemes

Mid-Day Meal Scheme

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Up to 2015-16, allocation under the scheme was made at BPL rates. However during the current year food grains for the Scheme are allocated at NFSA rates by the Department of Food & Public Distribution. The Scheme covers students of primary and upper primary classes in the government schools and schools aided by government and the schools run by local bodies.

Wheat Based Nutrition Programme

This Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development. Up to 2015-16, allocation under the scheme was made at BPL rates. However during the current year, food grains for the Scheme are allocated at NFSA rates by the Department of Food & Public Distribution. The food grains are utilized by the states/UTs under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme for providing nutritious/energy food to children in the age group of 0-6 years and expectant/lactating women.

Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls – 'SABLA'

The SABLA Scheme was launched in 2010 by merging two schemes namely Nutrition Programme and Adolescent Girls (NPAG) and Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY) in to a single scheme and proposed to be implemented in 200 selected districts across the country.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development administers the scheme at the Central level while state/UT governments implement the scheme. However, food grains for the scheme are allotted by the Department of Food & Public Distribution at BPL rates. The Scheme aims at empowering adolescent girls of 11-18 years by improvement of their nutritional and health status and upgrading various skills like home skills, life skills and vocational skills.

Scheme for Supply of Food grains for SC/ST/OBC Hostels

This scheme was introduced in October, 1994. The residents of the hostels having 2/3rd students belonging to SC /ST/OBC are eligible to get 15 kg food grains per resident per month. Allocations of food grains under the scheme are made by the Department of Food and Public Distribution based on the requests received from the state/UT governments.

Annapurna Scheme

This Scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development. Indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above who are not getting pension under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), are provided 10 kgs.

of food grains per person per month free of cost under the scheme. Food grains are provided by the Department of Food & Public Distribution under the scheme at BPL prices.

Open Market Sale Scheme

The Food Corporation of India (FCI), on the instructions from the Government, sells wheat at pre-determined prices in the open market time to time under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) through e-Tender to enhance the supply of wheat, especially during the lean season and, thereby to liquidate excess stock in the Central Pool and moderate the open market prices, especially in the deficit regions.

Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority

For the growth and development of warehousing sector, to bring reforms in the agricultural marketing and to increase credit flow in the farm sector, the Government of India introduced a negotiable warehouse receipt system by enacting the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007 which has come into force from in 2010. The Central Government constituted the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) also in 2010 for implementation of the provisions of the Act.

Post Harvest Management of Food Grains

Quality Standard for Food Grains

The Government exercises due control over the quality of food grains procured for the Central pool. The Quality Control Cells of the Ministry at New Delhi and the field offices at Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Pune, Guwahati, Chennai and Patna monitor the quality of food grains procured, stored and issue for distribution by FCI and state governments and their agencies.

Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute

Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute (IGMRI), Hapur and its field stations at Ludhiana (Punjab) and Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) are engaged in the training and applied Research and Development (R&D) work relating to grain storage management.

Central Grain Analysis Laboratory

The Central Grain Analysis Laboratory (CGAL) located in New Delhi assists the Department in monitoring the quality of food grains at the time of procurement storage and distribution by analyzing samples collected by quality control officers.

Sugarcane Pricing Policy

With the amendment of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 in 2009, the concept of Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane was replaced with the 'Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP)' for 2009-10 and subsequent sugar seasons. The cane price announced by the Central Government is decided on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) after consulting the state governments and associations of sugar industry.

The amended provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 provides for fixation of FRP of sugarcane having regard to the factors:- *a)* cost of production of sugarcane; *b)* return to the growers from alternative crops and the general trend of prices of agricultural commodities; *c)* availability of sugar to consumers at a fair price; *d)* price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by sugar producers; *e)* recovery of sugar from sugarcane; *f)* the realization made from sale of by-products viz. molasses, bagasse and press mud or their imputed value; and *g)* reasonable margins for the growers of sugarcane on account of risk and profits.

New System for Distribution of Sugar

Sugar being an essential commodity of mass consumption is supplied under the Public Distribution System (PDS) mainly to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families except in the North Eastern states, hilly states and island territories where universal coverage is allowed, with subsidy support from the Central Government. Prior to de-regulation of sugar sector, the Central Government was following a policy of partial control on sugar under which a part of sugar production was requisitioned from sugar mills as levy for distribution at a uniform Retail Issue Price (RIP) in PDS.

Ethanol Blending Petrol Programme

Ethanol is an agro-based product, basically produced from the by-product of the sugar industry, viz., molasses. In the years of surplus production of sugarcane, when the sugar prices are depressed, the sugar industry is unable to pay cane price to the farmers. The ethanol blended petrol programme, besides lowering pollution levels, is expected to provide another outlet for ethanol use, thus insuring utilization of molasses produced as a by-product during manufacture of sugar.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan

The new Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2015-2018 has been signed between the UN World Food Programme (UNWFP) and Government of India under the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare. Department of Food and Public Distribution has been made the nodal Department for the strategic priority.

SAARC Food Bank

The SAARC Food Bank was established to supplement national efforts to provide food security to the people of the region. As per the agreement, SAARC Food Bank shall have a reserve of food grains to be maintained by each member country consisting of either wheat or rice, or a combination of both as assessed share of the country.

Food and Agricultural Organisation and Committee on World Food Security

Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) is one of the largest specialized agencies in the UN system founded in 1945 with a mandate to raise levels of nutrition and standard of living by improving agricultural productivity and living conditions of rural population.

International Grains Council

India is a member of the International Grains Council (IGC) an intergovernmental forum of exporting and importing countries for co-operation in wheat and coarse grain matters which was previously known as International Wheat Council up to 1995. It administers the Grains Trade Convention 1995.

The IGC Secretariat, based in London since 1949, also services the Food Aid Committee, established under the Food Aid Convention. International Grains Agreement comprises of Grains Trade Convention (GTC) and Food Aid Convention (FAC). India is a signatory to the International Grains Agreement (IGA) 1995 and its Grain Trade Convention (GTC) 1995 which was effective from 1995. IGC have two types of members-Importing Members and exporting Members. India has been included in the category of Exporting members in 2003 and represented in the meetings/session of the Council held from time to time.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN | HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is instrumental and responsible for implementation of various programmes on the national scale in the areas of health and family welfare, prevention and control of major communicable diseases and promotion of traditional and indigenous systems of medicines.

Health Policy

The National Health Policy (NHP) of 2002 guides the strategy adopted by the Government for the health sector. The NHP 2002 evolved from the National Health Policy of 1983. Guidance was provided by *the Bhore Committee Report* (1946) wherein the main underlying principles for future health development of the country, *inter alia*, included that 'No individual should fail to secure adequate medical care because of inability to pay for it'.

National Health Mission and National Urban Health Mission

The National Health Mission (NHM) has its two sub-missions, the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and the National urban Health Mission (NUHM). The NHM envisages universal access to equitable, affordable & quality healthcare services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs.

National Urban Health Mission

National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) seeks to improve the health status of the urban population particularly urban poor and other vulnerable sections by facilitating their access to quality primary healthcare. NUHM would cover all state capitals, district headquarters and other cities/towns with a population of 50,000 and above (as per census 2011) in a phased manner. Cities and towns with population below 50,000 will continue to be covered under NRHM.

MAJOR INITIATIVES UNDER NRHM/NHM

ASHA

More than 9.15 lakh Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) are in place across the country and serve as facilitators, mobilizers and providers of community level care. ASHA is the first port of call in the community especially for marginalized sections of the population, with a focus on women and children. Since 2013, when the National Urban Health Mission was launched, ASHAs are being selected in urban areas as well.

Janani Suraksha Yojana

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) aims to reduce maternal mortality among pregnant women by encouraging them to deliver in government health facilities. Under the scheme, cash assistance is provided to eligible pregnant women for giving birth in a government health facility.

Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram

Launched in 2011, JSSK entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery, including caesarean section. This marks a shift to an entitlement based approach. The free entitlements include free drugs and consumables, free diagnostics, free diet during stay in the health institutions, free provision of blood, free transport from home to health institution, between health institutions in case of referrals and drop back home and exemption from all kinds of user charges. Similar entitlements are available for all sick infants (up to 1 year of age) accessing public health institutions.

National Commission on Population

In pursuance of the objectives of the National Population Policy, 2000, the National Commission on Population was constituted in May 2000 to review, monitor and give directions for the implementation of the National Population Policy (NPP) 2000, with a view to meet the goals set out in the Policy, to promote inter-sectoral coordination, involve the civil society in planning and implementation, facilitate initiatives to improve

performance in the demographically weaker states in the country and to explore the possibilities of international cooperation in support of the goals set out in the National Population Policy.

Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh

Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (JSK) also known as National Population Stabilisation Fund is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), constituted on the recommendations of the National Commission of Population.

It is aimed at achieving population stabilisation at a level consistent with the needs of sustainable economic growth, social development and environment protection by 2045.

Situation of Child Mortality

At present, as per SRS (Sample Registration System) 2013, the Under Five Mortality Rate in India is 49/1000 live births, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is 40/1000 live births and Neo-natal Mortality Rate is 28/1000 live births.

Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram

Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) has been launched to provide child health screening and early interventions services by expanding the reach of mobile health teams at block level.

Indian Council of Medical Research

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, working under the Department of Health Research (DHR), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, is the apex body in the country for the formulation, coordination, promotion and conduct of biomedical research.

Leprosy

A molecular laboratory has been established at Regional Leprosy Training and Research Institute (RLTRI), Raipur, with the help of NJIL and OMD, Agra and is being strengthened further. This would help in early detection of leprosy in nearby endemic areas and also support other institutions in diagnosis.

Influenza

National Institute of Virology (NW), Pune has strengthened the infrastructure for sustainable development to meet public health challenges from emerging and re-emerging viruses.

Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy

Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy (ISM&H) was created in 1995 and re-named as Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) in November, 2003.

It was elevated to the status of Ministry of AYUSH with a view to providing focused attention to development of education and research in Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy systems.

Drug Quality Control

The Drug Control Cell (DCC) in the Ministry of AYUSH deals with regulatory and quality control matters of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs including amendment in the regulations, introduction of new regulations and examination of other drugs related issues.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN | HOUSING

URBANIZATION is an important determinant of economic development. Also, proportion of population in urban areas has increased from 27.8 per cent (2001) to 31.2 per cent (2011) and slum population comprises 18 per cent of urban population of 377 million.

Increased pace of urbanization poses varied challenges for policy primarily in terms of meeting the housing shortage, devising relevant solutions for providing affordable housing, generating appropriate livelihood opportunities and designing effective strategies for alleviating poverty.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Housing for All (Urban) Mission

To facilitate housing for all by 2022, the Government of India has launched the PMAY-Housing for All (Urban) Mission in 2015. The Mission targets urban poor, living in slums and others.

Technology Sub-Mission

A Technology Sub-mission under PMAY-HFA (Urban) Mission has been set up for adopting modern, innovative, green technologies and building material for faster and quality construction of houses. It would facilitate preparation and adoption of layout designs and building plans suitable for various geoclimatic zones and to also assist states/cities in deploying disaster resistant and environment friendly technologies.

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission

The National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) and National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) have been converged and named as Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY). Also, the scope of NULM has been enhanced to cover all statutory towns and it has been renamed as DAY-NULM. The primary target of DAY-NULM is urban poor, including urban homeless and particular emphasis is laid on mobilisation of vulnerable sections of urban population such as SCs, STs, minorities, female-headed households, persons with disabilities, destitute, migrant labourers, and especially vulnerable occupational groups such as street vendors, rag pickers, domestic workers, beggars, construction workers, etc.

Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014

Street vending is an age old profession in India and it generates livelihood for millions of people. To protect the rights of urban street vendors and to regulate street vending activities, Government of India has enacted the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014, provisions of which are aimed at creating a conducive atmosphere where street vendors are able to carry out their business in a fair and transparent manner, without fear of harassment and eviction. Government of India is assisting the State Governments/UT Administrations in preparing relevant rules, schemes, etc., which are mandated under the Act.

Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016

The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 is aimed at establishing the Real Estate Regulatory Authority for regulation and promotion of the real estate sector and protecting the interest of consumers.

Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development

It was established in 2006, subsequent to the first Asia Pacific Ministers' Conference on Housing and Urban Development (AMCHUD), held at New Delhi under the aegis of Government of India, Ministry of Housing & Poverty Alleviation and the UN-HABITAT. The objectives of APMCHUD are enshrined in the 'Delhi Declaration'

adopted unanimously by the countries participating in the conference from the Asia Pacific Region. *India was the first Chair of the APMCHUD.*

The Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban

Development (APMCHUD) envisages regional cooperation for promoting sustainable housing & urban development among Asia Pacific countries, in the context of the region facing similar problems and issues in these areas.

Use of Space Technology Based Tools

To effectively implement and monitor the mission deliverables, Ministry of HUPA through National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad, has developed geo-tagging application to track physical progress of houses constructed under the beneficiary-led component of PMAY-HFA(U) Mission, through geo-tagged photographs.

Partners in Progress

Housing and Urban Development Corporation: HUDCO is a techno-financial institution engaged in financing and promotion of housing and urban infrastructure projects. It was established in 1970 as a wholly owned government company with the objective of providing long term finance and undertaking housing and urban infrastructure development programmes. It has been conferred the status of Mini Ratna. HUDCO has been designated as one of the Central Nodal Agency to channelize the subsidy under CLSS (Credit linked subsidy scheme) of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).

Hindustan Prefab Limited: HPL is a Central Public Sector Enterprise under the administrative control of MoHUPA. It is engaged in project management services for execution of civil construction projects through both technologies, conventional and prefab. HPL is focusing to promote adoption of prefabricated and pre-engineered technologies through skill upgradation for achieving fast track construction especially for the attainment of the goal of providing "Housing for all by 2022".

National Buildings Organisation: NBO is an attached office of Ministry of HUPA (The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation) and is involved in collection, tabulation and dissemination of statistical information on housing and construction activities in the country.

National Cooperative Housing Federation of India: It is a nation-wide organization of the cooperative housing sector. The primary objective of NCHF is to promote, guide and coordinate activities of housing cooperatives. It undertakes promotional activities in respect of Apex Cooperative Housing Federations (ACHFs) in those states where such organizations do not exist and to strengthen the ACHFs which are comparatively weak.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN | INDIA AND THE WORLD

THE primary objective of India's engagement with the world is to ensure a peaceful, stable global environment and create the most propitious climate for India's economic growth and development. The rising profile of India in global affairs and its emergence as a fast growing economy in an otherwise difficult global environment presents a moment of opportunity that can be utilised to diversify India's strategic and economic options.

In this context, India's external engagements over the period of April 2015 to June 2016 have sought to simultaneously advance and deepen relations with each bilateral or multilateral partner, in the specific areas where such engagement brings maximum benefit to Indian interests. The common threads that run through the entire gamut of India's international outreach over this period have been put together here.

Greater energy, planning and rigour in India's external outreach, to simultaneously strengthen traditional friendships while expanding India's diplomatic canvas to include new geographic and thematic areas.

Revitalising India's engagement with its immediate neighbourhood – at the bilateral level as well as within the framework of SAARC

This also includes enhanced sub-regional cooperation under the BBIN (Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal) framework, especially with respect to connectivity and power trade, areas that are vital for closer integration within the region. Simultaneously deepening India's ties with all the major powers of the world, by focusing on areas of greatest promise in each relationship and engaging all such partners in an open, transparent and mutually reinforcing manner with the objective of leveraging them to promote India's economic and security interests.

INDIA'S NEIGHBOURHOOD

Afghanistan

President Ashraf Ghani's maiden state visit to India in April 2015 and PM's visit to Afghanistan in 2015 underscored the longstanding, growing and deep bilateral ties between the two countries. They were further strengthened with PM and President Ghani, jointly dedicating the Afghan Parliament building, constructed with Indian cooperation, to the Afghan nation, and provision of Mi-25 helicopters by India for strengthening Afghanistan's defensive capabilities.

Bangladesh

India's close relations with Bangladesh were further strengthened through various initiatives. Decisions taken during Prime Minister's visit to Dhaka in June 2015 have drawn the two countries closer together.

Prime Ministers of the two nations jointly inaugurated through video conferencing the second cross border transmission line between India and Bangladesh to supply 100 MW of power from *Palatana Power Plant in Tripura* to Bangladesh and international bandwidth for leasing 10 GDPS for broadband internet from Bangladesh to Tripura.

Bhutan

India and Bhutan share close and friendly relations characterized by mutual trust and understanding. The year 2015-16 saw sustained progress in all areas of cooperation, including hydropower, transport, communication, infrastructure, health, education, culture, IT industry and agriculture.

China

India-China bilateral relations continued on the high growth trajectory during 2015. There was expanded engagement both in terms of high-level political exchanges and economic interactions. Prime Minister's visit to China in May 2015 was a significant landmark in our bilateral engagement.

India and China agreed that their simultaneous re-emergence as two major powers in the region and the world offers a momentous opportunity for realisation of the Asian century. Both countries agreed to pursue their respective national developmental goals and security interests in a mutually supportive manner and in a spirit of mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's concerns, interests and aspirations.

Myanmar

Relations between India and Myanmar are multi-faceted and rooted in shared historical, ethnic and cultural ties. Bilateral cooperation between India and Myanmar is aimed at promotion of inclusive growth and development and to contribute to peace, prosperity and stability in two countries and in the region.

Nepal

India-Nepal friendship and cooperation has been characterized by open borders, extensive people-to-people ties and multi-faceted socio-economic interaction. India continues to support Nepal in its transition to a prosperous, peaceful, stable and democratic country.

Pakistan

The period 2015-16 was marked by high-level engagements, both formal and informal, focused on normalising relations between the two countries, paving the way towards a meaningful dialogue. A beginning was made in form of agreement of the two countries on a new Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue to address all outstanding issues through peaceful means. Nevertheless, cross-border terrorism, cease fire violations and infiltrations across the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) remained our core concerns.

Indian Ocean Region

2015 saw a concerted focus by India on securing interests in a safe and secure Indian Ocean and a stable and prosperous Indian Ocean region. The direction was set with Prime Minister's visits to Seychelles, Mauritius and Sri Lanka in 2015.

Sri Lanka

India-Sri Lanka relations have undergone a significant and qualitative shift during the last year. Bilateral relations reached a new high in 2015 with a number of high level visits. Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe paid an official visit to India in 2015.

Maldives

2015 marked the 50th anniversary of establishment of India-Maldives diplomatic relations. External Affairs Minister visited Maldives in 2015 for the 5th India-Maldives Joint Commission, which was held after a hiatus of 15 years.

Seychelles

2015 marked a special year in India-Seychelles partnership that encompasses development partnership, capacity building programmes, maritime security cooperation, and cultural exchanges. Blue economy, climate change, renewable energy, tourism and health are the emerging areas of focus. 10 per cent of the population of Seychelles is of India origin.

Mauritius

India and Mauritius enjoy close political, economic, cultural and diaspora linkages. 70 per cent of the population of Mauritius is of Indian origin. Mauritius is a hub for financial services and has emerged as the largest route for FDI into India. Mauritius is also an important jurisdiction for Indian investments into Africa.

Association of South-East Asian Nations

The India-ASEAN Strategic Partnership has acquired new momentum, following the enunciation of the "Act-East Policy" by PM at the 12th ASEAN-India Summit and 9th East Asia Summits in 2014 at Na Pyi Taw, Myanmar. ASEAN is the anchor of India's Act East Policy and India has continued to deepen its political, security, defence and economic ties with ASEAN member states in 2015, including by establishing an Indian Mission to ASEAN.

Asia-Europe Meeting

Vice President, Hamid M Ansari attended the 11th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit, hosted by Mongolia, in 2016. India is an active participant and contributor in ASEM events, and in order to take forward tangible areas of cooperation, India has hosted the 19th Summer University Project on 'Sustainable Urbanization in Heritage Cities' in Pune.

Mekong-Ganga Cooperation

Minister of State for External Affairs, attended the 7th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Foreign Minister Meeting held in 2016 in Vientiane, which welcomed the construction by India of the MGC Textiles Museum and appreciated India's contribution to capacity building and human resources development in the Cambodia, Laos PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) countries, including over 900 annual scholarships under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation. India's proposal on the establishment of a Common Archival Resource Centre at Nalanda University to facilitate research on the Mekong-Ganga deltaic region was welcomed and the Plan of Action to implement the Mekong Ganga Cooperation (2016-2018) was adopted.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

The year heralded a new phase in India's relations with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). During its Council of Heads of State Meeting in Ufa, Russia in 2015, the SCO announced its decision to initiate India's membership.

Europe and the European Union

Outreach to Western Europe remained a key focus in this period where high- level visits were instrumental in establishing robust roadmaps for enhanced partnerships with these important countries in priority areas of mutual interest.

United States of America

Prime Minister visited the US in 2016. The visit was aimed at consolidation of progress made in various areas and to intensify cooperation for the future.

Prime Minister's second visit to the US was aimed at harnessing the US capital and technology and in strengthening existing investment and technology partnerships with the US industry across a range of diversified areas, especially renewable energy; digital economy, innovation and manufacturing.

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

India, because of its geography, economy, international stature and commitment to the region, is central to South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). India's proactive stance in SAARC since 2004 as part of its new approach to the countries in the neighbourhood has been a transformative factor in ensuring the gradual and irreversible transition of the organisation from its declaratory to implementation mode. India's commitment to shoulder more than its assessed responsibilities, in an asymmetric and non-reciprocal manner, has resonated well within the region.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

During the period April-December 2015, India focused on themes of common importance to all Member States of BIMSTEC or Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation namely transportation and communication, trade and investment, technology, energy, agriculture, public health, counter-terrorism and transnational crime and climate change.

Commonwealth of Nations

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) was held in 2015 at Malta. External Affairs Minister represented the Prime Minister in various sessions held during the event, where issues like climate action, terrorism, migration, and implementation of sustainable goals were discussed.

Disarmament and International Security Affairs

In 2015-16, India continued to play an active role at various multilateral fora on disarmament and international security affairs in pursuance of its commitment to the goal of universal and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament, leading towards general and complete disarmament.

MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

BRICS Summit

Prime Minister led the Indian delegation to the 7th BRICS Summit in July 2015 in Ufa, Russia. The theme of the Summit was "BRICS Partnership – A Powerful Factor of Global Development". The leaders discussed a wide range of issues including UN Reforms, IMF Reforms, WTO, G 20, regional and global political developments, terrorism, New Development Bank (NDB), BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), cooperation in ICTs and other issues relating to intra-BRICS Cooperation.

IBSA Dialogue Forum

The Focal Points (Senior Officials) of IBSA [India, Brazil and South Africa] Dialogue Forum met in New York in 2015. They reaffirmed continued relevance of IBSA in the light of growing importance of South-South cooperation. Brazil and South Africa welcomed new initiatives for IBSA cooperation proposed by India in the fields of micro financing, satellites based applications, smart cities and joint Antarctica expedition.

G-20 Summit

Prime Minister led the Indian delegation to the 10th G-20 Summit in Antalya, Turkey in 2015. The agenda of the Summit included terrorism, refugee crisis, climate change, the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference, global economy, growth and employment and investment strategies, enhancing resilience, financial regulation, international tax, anti-corruption, IMF reforms and energy.

Indian Council of World Affairs

As mandated under the Indian Council of World Affairs Act, 2001, the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) continued to accord high priority to research, analysis and study of political, security and economic developments in Asia, Africa, Europe, United States, Latin America and Caribbean and wider global geo-strategic environments.

Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) is a New Delhi –based autonomous policy research institute that specializes in issues related to international economic development, trade, investment and technology. Through its intensive network of think tanks, RIS seeks to strengthen policy coherence on international economic issues and the development partnership canvas.

ASEAN India Centre

ASEAN India Centre (AIC), set up in 2013, serves as a resource centre for ASEAN member states and India for undertaking policy research, advocacy and networking activities with organizations and Think-Tanks in India and ASEAN.

CHAPTER NINETEEN | INDUSTRY

THE quest for industrial development started soon after independence in 1947. The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1948 defined the broad contours of the policy delineating the role of the State in industrial development both as an entrepreneur and authority.

This was followed by comprehensive enactment of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (referred as IDR Act) that provides for the necessary framework for implementing the industrial policy and enables the Union Government to direct investment into desired channels of industrial activity, *inter alia*, through the mechanism of licensing keeping with national development objectives and goals.

The main objectives of the industrial policy of the Government are to

- (i) maintain a sustained growth in productivity;
- (ii) enhance gainful employment;
- (iii) achieve optimal utilisation of human resources;
- (iv) attain international competitiveness; and
- (v) transform India into a major partner and player in the global arena.

Industrial Policy

Industrial policy since 1991 has been facilitating the industrial development rather than anchoring it through permits and controls. Industrial licensing has, therefore, been abolished for most of the industries and there are only five industries at present (related to security, strategic and environmental concerns), where an industrial license is currently required: Electronic aerospace and defence equipment: all types; Industrial explosives, including detonating fuses, safety fuses, gunpowder, nitrocellulose and matches; specified hazardous chemicals i.e.

- (i) Hydrocyanic acid and its derivatives;
- (ii) Phosgene and its derivatives; and
- (iii) Isocyanates and Disocyanates of hydrocarbon, not elsewhere specified (example Methyl Isocyanate); Cigars and cigarettes of tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes; and fermentation industry.

Policy for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Sector

Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 stepping up the investment limit in Plant and Machinery to Rs 5 crore for small enterprises and Rs 10 crore for medium enterprises, so as to reduce the regulatory interface with the majority of the industrial units.

Sectors Reserved for Public Sector

Consistent with the policy of liberalization of domestic industry, the numbers of industries reserved for public sector have also been reduced. During 2014, private investment in Rail Infrastructure has been permitted. Consequently, at present only two industrial sectors are reserved for public sector:

- (i) Atomic Energy
- (ii) Railway operations, other than construction, operation and maintenance of the following:
 - a. Suburban corridor projects through PPP
 - b. High speed train project.
 - c. Dedicated freight lines.

- d. Rolling stock including train sets, and locomotives/coaches manufacturing and maintenance facilities.
- e. Railway electrification.
- f. Signaling systems.
- g. Freight terminals.
- h. Passenger terminals.
- i. Infrastructure in industrial park pertaining to railway line/sidings including electrified railway lines and connectivities to main railway line and
- j. Mass rapid transport systems

Industrial Entrepreneurs' Memorandum (IEM)

Industries not covered under compulsory licensing and not reserved for public sector are required to file an Industrial Entrepreneurs' Memorandum (IEM) with the Secretariat for Industrial Assistance (SIA), Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). No industrial license is required for exempted industries. Such memoranda are to be filed by non-MSME category industrial undertakings.

I. Trends in Industrial Investment and Production

- (i) **Investment Intentions:** Assessment of investment intentions are based on filing of Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda (IEMs) for the delicensed sector and industrial licenses issued for the licensable sector. While figures of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) indicate actualization of investment, investment intentions indicated in IEM filed are early indicators of likely investment flows to industry and of entrepreneurs' perception. The investment intentions also provide the sectoral preferences of investors and shifts in these preferences over time. Information on investment intentions are tabulated in terms of industries included in the first schedule of the IDR Act, which are referred as scheduled industry.
- (ii) **Index of Industrial Production (IIP):** Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is a measure of industrial performance which is compiled and released every month by Central Statistics Office (CSO). It uses fixed weight and base. CSO revised the base year of IIP in June, 2011 from 1993-94 to 2004-05. The revised series has an enlarged and more representative basket of the industrial sector. The weighing diagram for this series is drawn using relative importance of the sectors in GDP, which is based on the national accounts. IIP is categorized in sectoral and use-based classifications.

Trends in Growth of Eight Core Industries

The Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) measures the performance of eight core industries i.e., coal, crude oil, natural gas, petroleum refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity. It is a monthly production index calculated using base year 2004-05.

National Manufacturing Policy

The Department notified the National Manufacturing Policy (NMP) in 2011 with the objective of enhancing the share of manufacturing in GDP to 25 per cent and creating 100 million jobs by 2022. The policy is based on the principle of industrial growth in partnership with the states. The Central Government will create the enabling policy framework, provide incentives for infrastructure development on a Public Private Partnership (PPP) basis through appropriate financing instruments, and State Governments are encouraged to adopt the instrumentalities provided in the Policy.

National Investment and Manufacturing Zones

NIMZs have been conceived as large integrated industrial townships with state-of-the-art infrastructure; land use on the basis of zoning; clean and energy efficient technology; necessary social infrastructure; skill development facilities, etc. to provide a conducive environment for manufacturing industries. To enable the zones to function as a self-governing and autonomous body, it will be declared by the state government as a Industrial Township under Article 243 Q (1)(c) of the Constitution.

Make in India

After the launch of 'Make in India' initiative in 2014, ministries/departments concerned with 22 thrust sectors identified under 'Make in India', announced their Action Plans for implementation over one year and three years. Quantifiable and measurable milestones in respect of each activity of the Action Plans have been identified by the ministries/departments concerned with a view to monitoring the implementation of these Action Plans.

Startup India

The 'Startup India' initiative, aims at fostering entrepreneurship and promoting innovation by creating an ecosystem that is conducive to growth. The initiative strives for providing a long due impetus to the entrepreneurial set up in economic landscape of the country.

INDUSTRIAL/ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

Development of industrial/economic corridors is a very important policy initiative of the Government for boosting industrial development, income and employment. The status of development in this regard is as follows:

Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor

The Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project is being developed on both sides of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor as a global manufacturing and investment destination and has made significant strides since the approval of institutional and financial structure in September, 2011. DMIC industrial cities are being benchmarked against recently established industrial cities in other parts of the world.

The brief status of projects under implementation is as follows:

Ahmedabad Dholera Special Investment Region

Shareholder's Agreement and State Support Agreement have been executed between Government of Gujarat and DMIC Trust and Node/city level SPV in the name of "Dholera Industrial City Development Ltd." has been incorporated.

Shendra-Bidkin Industrial Park

Shareholders' Agreement and State Support Agreement have been executed between Government of Maharashtra and DMIC Trust and Node/city level SPV in the name of "Aurangabad Industrial Township Ltd."

Integrated Industrial Township, Vikram Udyogpuri

SPV has been restructured under the name of "Vikram Udyogpuri Ltd." as a joint venture between DMIC Trust and MPTRIFAC and MPAKVN.

Integrated Industrial Township

SPV has been incorporated with the name of "Integrated Industrial Township Greater Noida Limited" between DMIC Trust and Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA).

Modal Solar Power Project

A company with the name of "DMICDC Neemrana Solar Power Limited" has been incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary of DMICDC Limited in 2015. Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between M/s Mikuni India Pvt. Ltd. and M/s DMICDC Neemrana Solar Power Company Limited (DNSPCL) for 1MW has been executed.

Foreign Direct Investment

Capital inflows from other countries, particularly in the nature of investment are very important contributor to augmenting availability of capital for funding of infrastructure, industries and other economic ventures. Equity inflows are more stable and bring in new management practices and technology together with investment. For encouraging Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows, the policy is reviewed on an ongoing basis, with a view to make it more investor friendly.

FDI Inflows

FDI inflows into the country have been quite significant since 2000-01. Its equity inflows have risen from US\$ 2.46 billion in 2000-01 to US\$ 40.00 billion in 2015-16. Under international practices of reporting, i.e. including equity capital, equity capital of unincorporated bodies, reinvested earnings and other capital, total FDI inflow was US\$ 4.03 billion in 2000-01 which increased to US\$ 55.46 billion in 2015-16.

Simplifying the Business Environment

The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) in collaboration with the Industry Association CII is conducting state workshops with Industry and Industry Associations to make regulations conducive for business including establishment of online single-window, adoption of national and international best practices, simplification of tax-regime, etc.

e-Biz Mission Mode Project

The government has initiated the e-Biz Project, a Mission Mode Project under the National e-Governance Project, to provide online registration, filing payment services to investors and business houses.

Invest India

The Government of India has established "Invest India" as the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency, as a joint venture between the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), state governments and the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Intellectual Property Rights

The term Intellectual Property (IP) reflects the idea that its subject matter is product of mind or intellect. These could be in the form of patents; trademarks; geographical indications; industrial designs; semiconductor integrated circuits layout-design; plant variety protection and copyright. IP, protected through law, like any other form of property, can be a matter of trade, i.e., it can be owned, bequeathed, sold or bought.

Trade Mark (Amendment) Act

The Trade Mark (Amendment) Act, 2010 enabled India to accede to the Madrid Protocol which is a simple, facilitative and cost-effective system for registration of International Trade Marks. India's membership of the Madrid Protocol provides opportunity to Indian companies to register their trade marks in member countries of the Protocol through filing a single application in one language and by paying a one-time fee in one currency. India has acceded to the Protocol in 2013. The Madrid Protocol came into force in India since 2013.

National Design Policy

Announced in 2007, this Policy envisages a key role for design in enhancing competitiveness of the industry. Focus is on spread of design education, branding of Indian designs and establishment of a Design Council. This period witnessed both expansion and updation of India's premier design institution i.e., the National Institute of Design (NID) with three campuses at Ahmedabad (main campus), Gandhinagar (PG Campus), and Bengaluru (R&D Campus).

National IPR Policy

National IPR Policy was framed and approved in 2016. This Policy lays down the following seven objectives: IPR Awareness: outreach and promotion: to create public awareness about the economic, social and cultural benefits of IPRs among all sections of society; generation of IPRs: to stimulate the generation of IPRs; Legal and Legislative Framework: to have strong and effective IPR laws, which balance the interests of rights owners with larger public interest; Administration and Management: to modernize and strengthen service-oriented IPR administration; Commercialization of IPR: get value for IPRs through commercialization; Enforcement and Adjudication: to strengthen enforcement and adjudicatory mechanisms for combating IPR infringements; and Human Capital Development: to strengthen and expand human resources, institutions and capacities for teaching, training, research and skill building in IPRs.

North East Industrial and Investment Promotion

The North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007 is a revised version of the erstwhile North East Industrial Policy, 1997, and has been put in place till 2017. The scheme covers eight north east states recognized under North Eastern Council (NEC) including Sikkim. It provides incentives to all new as well as existing units which go for industrial expansion located anywhere in this region.

Modified Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme

Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) was launched in 2003 with the objective of enhancing industrial competitiveness of domestic industry by providing quality infrastructure. Modified Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (MIIUS) was notified in 2013.

Cement Industry

Cement is one of the most technologically advanced industries in the country. The industry plays a crucial role in the development of housing and infrastructure sector of the economy. *India is the second largest manufacturer of cement after China in the world.*

Rubber Goods Industry

Rubber industry manufactures a wide range of products like rubber cots and aprons, contraceptives, footwear, rubber hoses, cables, camelback, battery boxes, latex products, conveyor belts, surgical gloves, balloons, rubber moulded goods, etc.

Paper Industry: India continued to rein as one of the fastest growing paper market in the world. The growing knowledge base coupled with synergistic contributions from flagship schemes of the government, namely, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Inclusive Education for the Disabled at Secondary School (IEDSS), Adult Education and Skill Development Scheme, and Right to Education assured a robust demand for paper and paper board. The industry was delicensed in 1997. As per the present policy, FDI up to 100 per cent is allowed on the automatic route for the pulp and paper sector.

Salt Industry: *India continues to hold third position in the production of salt in the world after China and the USA with annual production of 268.87 lakh tonnes and second largest producer of iodized salt, next to China.*

Refrigerators

In India, refrigerators have the highest aspiration value of all consumer durables with the exception of television. The refrigerator industry has become highly competitive with a number of brands having entered the market giving the consumers wider choices. There are two basic designs adopted in refrigerators presently being manufactured in the country. These are commonly referred to as Direct Cool (DC) and Frost Free (FF) refrigerators.

Bicycle Industry

Bicycle industry is one of the most established industries. India is the second largest bicycle producer of the world, next only to China. Most of the manufacturing units are located in Punjab and Tamil Nadu with Ludhiana (Punjab) being a major bicycle production hub. Industry is making endeavour for enhancing export since there is a significant scope for export of Indian bicycles, bicycle spare parts and bicycle accessories.

Water Pollution Control Equipment

Due to growing awareness of preventing water pollution and stringent environmental control standards being enforced for various uses including process industries, water /waste water treatment industry is poised for huge growth. Various categories of water pollution control equipment include waste water treatment plants, drinking water treatment plants and effluent treatment plants. Primary treatment is the first step in treatment process and involves removal of pollutants that settles or floats. Common industrial equipments are clarifiers and oil - water separator devises. Secondary treatment is designed to substantially degrade biological content of the sewage.

Common equipments are activated sludge, filters, biological reactors, etc. Tertiary treatment is a polishing step to remove contaminants that missed in primary and secondary treatment and removal of suspended solids, refractory organics and toxic components. Tertiary physical processes are filtration and carbon absorption. Chemical processes are used to remove inorganic and organic, resistant to biodegradation. Chemical process includes precipitation, oxidation and neutralization.

Biological processes involve biodegrading. Organisms such as bacteria, fungi, yeasts and algae are commonly used to break down the organic matters.

Air Pollution Control Equipment

Industrialization and urbanization have resulted in a profound deterioration of India's air quality. Air pollution in the country especially in metropolitan cities and large towns has assumed great significance with adoption of stringent environmental control standards for various industries. Hence pollution control equipment industry has acquired importance.

Air pollution control equipment are classified under the categories such as settling chambers, cyclone and multi-cyclones, bag filters, wet scrubbers, spray tower, venturi scrubber, ionizing scrubber and electrostatic precipitator.

Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme

Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) is a credit linked subsidy scheme, for setting up of new micro-enterprises and to generate employment opportunities in rural as well as urban areas of the country through KVIC, State Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) and District Industries Centre (DIC).

Indian Textiles

The Indian textile industry represents a rich and diverse spectrum of activities with the hand-woven sector on one end and the capital intensive mill sector on the other. It contributes to 10 per cent of manufacturing production, 2 per cent of India's GDP and to 13 per cent of the country's export earnings.

India Handloom Brand

With a view to promote handloom industry on a sustainable basis, India Handloom Brand was launched in 2015, the first to endorse the quality of handloom products in terms of raw material, processing, embellishment, weaving, design and other parameters besides social and environment compliance for earning the trust of customers. The main objective of launching the brand is to ensure the production of quality products with new designs for winning the trust and confidence of customers by giving particular attention to the defect free, hand woven, authentic niche products with zero defect and zero impact on environment.

Amended-Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

With a view to supporting the 'Make in India' initiatives, the 'Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS)' was put in place of the existing Revised Restructured Technology Fund Scheme (RRTUFS), for technology upgradation of the textiles industry with one time capital subsidy for eligible machinery.

Launching of Jute Common Facility Centre Scheme

A new scheme for setting up Common Facility Centres (CFC) for promotion of jute diversified products through Women Self Help Groups (WSHG) was launched in 2015. The Scheme shall provide avenues for value addition, production in quality assurance by providing infrastructure, integrated design, training and market development through the National Jute Board.

Jute

The jute industry occupies an important place in the national economy. *It is one of the major industries in the eastern region, particularly in West Bengal. Jute, the golden fibre, meets all the standards for safe packaging in view of it being a natural, renewable, biodegradable and eco-friendly product.*

PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited

Incorporated in 1961, FCI was re-organized along with National Fertilizers Corporation Ltd (NFC) from 1978 into five companies namely, FCI, NFL, Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC), Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) and Projects and Development India Ltd. (PDIL). Following re-organisation, FCI comprised four units located at Sindri (Jharkhand), Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh) and Talcher (Odisha).

Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited

The Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) was incorporated in 1978 as a result of the reorganization of the erstwhile Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL), and NFL Group of Companies. The HFCL comprised Barauni Unit (Bihar), Durgapur Unit and Haldia Project (West Bengal) and Namrup Unit (Assam).

Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited

Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) has two operating units at Namrup, Assam. Its corporate office is also situated at Namrup. The other establishments of the company are liaison offices at Noida and Kolkata and marketing offices at Guwahati, Siliguri and Patna.

Index of Industrial Production

In the compilation of Index of Industrial Production (base 2004-05=100) in overall weight of 1000, chemicals and chemical products contribute 100.59. The General Index for 2016 stands at 198.7, which is 0.3 per cent higher as compared to the level in the month of March 2015. The cumulative growth for the period April-March 2015-16 over the corresponding period of the previous year stands at 2.4 per cent.

Geological Survey of India

Geological Survey of India (GSI), the premier earth science organization of the country, is the principal provider of basic earth science information to the government, industry and the geo-scientific sector. Beginning in 1851 as a department engaged primarily in research for coal, GSI in its last 163 years of existence has expanded its activities manifold and has been involved either directly or indirectly in almost all areas of nation building. The vibrant steel, coal, metal, cement and power industries which expanded phenomenally in the post independence era, bear eloquent testimony to GSI's contribution to national development.

Indian Bureau of Mines

Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) established in 1948, is a multi-disciplinary scientific and technical organization under Ministry of Mines with statutory and developmental responsibilities for conservation and systematic exploitation of mineral resources other than coal, petroleum and natural gas, atomic minerals and minor minerals.

National Aluminium Company Limited

National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) is a Navratna CPSE under Ministry of Steel and Mines. It was established in 1981 in the public sector, with its registered office at Bhubaneswar.

Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre

The Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC), Nagpur is a "Centre of Excellence" set up in 1989 as a joint venture of Ministry of Mines, and UNDP with a view to provide major R&D support system for the emerging modern aluminium industry in India. The Centre has been functional since 1996. The Centre is recognized as scientific and industrial research organization by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of S&T. It is the only institute of its kind in India pursuing the cause of R&D from bauxite to finished product under one roof.

CHAPTER TWENTY | LAW AND JUSTICE

MINISTRY of Law and Justice is the oldest limb of the Government of India dating back to 1833 when the Charter Act, 1833 was enacted by the British Parliament. The said Act vested for the first time legislative power in a single authority, namely the Governor General of Council.

By virtue of this authority and the authority vested under him under section 22 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861 the Governor General in Council enacted laws for the country from 1834 to 1920. After the commencement of the Government of India Act, 1919 the legislative power was exercised by the Indian Legislature constituted thereunder.

The Government of India Act, 1919 was followed by the Government of India Act, 1935. With the passing of the Indian Independence Act, 1947 India became a Dominion and the Dominion Legislature made laws from 1947 to 1949 under the provisions of section 100 of the Government of India Act, 1935 as adapted by the India (Provisional Constitution) Order, 1947. Under the Constitution of India which came into force on the January 26, 1950 the legislative power is vested in Parliament.

Sources of Law: The main source of law in India is the Constitution, statutes (legislation), customary law and case law. Statutes are enacted by Parliament, state legislatures and union territory legislatures. Besides, there is also a vast body of laws known as subordinate legislation in the form of rules, regulations as well as bye-laws made by central/ state governments and local authorities like municipal corporations, municipalities, gram panchayats and other local bodies. This subordinate legislation is made under the authority conferred or delegated either by Parliament or state or union territory legislatures concerned.



Judicial decisions of superior courts like Supreme Court and High Courts are important source of law. Decisions of the Supreme Court are binding on all courts within the territory of India. Local customs and conventions which are not against statute, morality, etc, are also recognized and taken into account by courts while administering justice in certain spheres.

Enactment of Law

The Parliament is competent to make laws on matters enumerated in the Union List. State legislatures are competent to make laws on matters enumerated in the State List. Parliament alone has power to make laws on matters not included in the State List or Concurrent List. On matters enumerated in the Concurrent List, laws can be made by both Parliament and the state legislature. But in the event of repugnancy, law made by Parliament shall prevail over law made by state legislature, to the extent of repugnancy, be void unless the latter law having been reserved for consideration of President, has received his assent and in that event shall prevail in that state.

Supreme Court: *The Supreme Court of India at present comprises the Chief Justice and 30 other Judges appointed by the President of India. Supreme Court Judges retire on attaining the age of 65 years.* In order to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court, a person must be a citizen of India and must have been, for at least five years, a Judge of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession, or an Advocate of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession for at least 10 years, or he must be, in the opinion of the President, a

distinguished jurist. Provisions exist for the appointment of a Judge of a High Court as an Ad-hoc Judge of the Supreme Court and for retired Judges of the Supreme Court or High Courts to sit and act as Judges of that Court.

The Constitution seeks to ensure the independence of Supreme Court Judges in various ways:

- A Judge of the Supreme Court cannot be removed from office except by an order of the President passed after an address in each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of members present and voting, and presented to the President in the same Session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.
- A person who has been a Judge of the Supreme Court is debarred from practising in any court of law or before any other authority in India. The proceedings of the Supreme Court are conducted in English only.
- Supreme Court Rules, 1966 are framed under Article 145 of the Constitution to regulate the practice and procedure of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court of India has original jurisdiction in any dispute arising:

- (a) Between the Government of India and one or more states,
- (b) Between the Government of India and any state or states on the one side and one or more states on the other, or
- (c) Between two or more states.

High Courts

High Court stands at the head of the state's judicial administration. There are 24 High Courts in the country, three having jurisdiction over more than one state. Among the union territories, Delhi alone has a High Court of its own. Other six union territories come under the jurisdiction of different state High Courts. Each High Court comprises a Chief Justice and such other Judges as the President may, from time to time, appoint. The Chief Justice of a High Court is appointed by the President in consultation with the Chief Justice of India and the Governor of the state. The procedure for appointing the High Court judges is the same except that the recommendation for the appointment of Judges in the High Court is initiated by the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned.

They hold office up to 62 years of age. To be eligible for appointment as a judge, one must be a citizen of India and should have held a judicial office in India for 10 years or must have practised as an advocate of a High Court or two or more such courts in succession for a similar period.

Jurisdiction and Seat of High Courts

Each High Court has powers of superintendence over all courts and tribunals within its jurisdiction. It can call for returns from such courts, make and issue general rules and prescribed forms to regulate their practices and proceedings and determine the manner and form in which book entries and accounts shall be kept.

Power of Supreme Court and High Courts

Supreme Court has power to issue any person or authority and Government within its jurisdiction, direction, order or writs, including writs which are in the nature of *habeas corpus*, *mandamus*, *prohibition*, *quo warranto* and *certiorari*, for enforcement of Fundamental Rights and for any other purpose. This power may also be exercised by any high court exercising jurisdiction in relation to territories within which the cause of action, wholly or in part arises for exercise of such power, even if the seat of such government or authority or residence of such person is not within those territories.

Subordinate Courts

The structure and functions of subordinate courts are more or less uniform throughout the country. Designations of courts connote their functions. These courts deal with all disputes of civil or criminal nature as per the powers conferred on them. These courts follow two important codes prescribing procedures, i.e., the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and the Code of Criminal Procedure, Cr. P.C., 1973 and further strengthened by state level amendments.

As per direction of Supreme Court in WP (Civil) 1022/1989 in the All India Judges Association case, a uniform designation has been brought about in the subordinate judiciary's judicial officers all over the country, viz., District or Additional District Judge, Civil Judge (Senior Division) and Civil Judge (Junior Division) on the civil side and on criminal side, Sessions Judge, Additional Sessions Judge, Chief Judicial Magistrate and Judicial Magistrate, etc., as laid down in the Cr.P.C.

National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms

The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 2011 to achieve twin goals of (i) increasing access by reducing delays and arrears; and (ii) enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities.

Gram Nyayalayas

A Central Sector scheme for providing financial assistance to the state governments / UT administrations for establishment and operationalisation of Gram Nyayalayas was launched in December, 2009. The Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the states held in April 2013, *inter-alia*, decided that the state governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems. The focus is on covering those talukas under the Gram Nyayalayas scheme where regular courts have not been set up.

Judicial Infrastructure

Judicial Infrastructure Adequacy of Judicial infrastructure is a pre-requisite for reduction of pendency and backlog of cases in Courts. The primary responsibility, of infrastructure development for the subordinate judiciary rests with the State Governments. The Central Government augments the resources of the State Governments by releasing financial assistance under a centrally sponsored scheme for the development of judicial infrastructure.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

The International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ICADR) was registered under the Societies Act, 1860 in 1995. It is an autonomous organization working under the aegis of the Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India with its headquarters in New Delhi and Regional Centres in Hyderabad and Bengaluru. It has been established to promote, popularize and propagate alternative dispute resolution methods to facilitate earlier resolution of disputes and to reduce the burden of arrears in courts.

ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Indo-Tibetan Border Police

The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) was raised in 1962 in the wake of Chinese aggression for re-organizing the frontier intelligence and security setup along the Indo-Tibetan border covering 2115 kms from Karakoram pass to Lipulekh, pass.

Border Security Force

International borders of India with Pakistan both east and west were being manned by the respective state police forces till Indo-Pak war in September 1965. Certain inherent shortcomings of this arrangement came to light during the war and it was decided to have one single force under the Union of India for guarding the international borders with Pakistan. Based on above premise, BSF came into existence in December, 1965 by amalgamation of various state police battalions into BSF.

Assam Rifles

The Assam Rifles raised as Catchar Levy in 1835 is the oldest Central Para Military Force in India. The Force was raised primarily to guard the alluvial plains of Assam from the wild and unruly tribes inhabiting the surrounding hill tracts. This was the earliest embodied unit of what eventually developed into the Assam Rifles.

Central Reserve Police Force

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) was formed in 1939 at Neemuch as the Crown Representative's Police. After independence it was renamed as the Central Reserve Police Force and Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, the then Home Minister had visualized a multi-dimensional role for it. The CRPF has innumerable achievements to its credit. It was the CRPF which bore the brunt of the first onslaught of the Chinese aggression at Hot Springs in Ladakh in 1959 when a small CRPF patrol was ambushed and heavily out-numbered by the Chinese army. In the ensuing battle, 10 CRPF men laid down their lives.

Central Industrial Security Force

Raised in 1969, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is providing security cover to domestic and international airports and fire protection cover to industrial undertakings. With globalization and liberalization of the economy, CISF is no longer a PSU-centric organization.

Personal Law

The people of India are of different religions and faiths. They are governed by different sets of personal laws in respect of matters relating to family affairs, i.e., marriage, divorce, succession, adoption, wills, etc. The subject matter of personal laws is relatable to entry 5 of List III- Concurrent list in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and hence the Union Legislature, namely Parliament and subject to the provisions of Article 254 of the Constitution. The state legislatures are also competent to make laws in the field.

Delimitation of Constituencies

The periodic readjustment of the Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies is mandatory in a representative system where single-member constituencies are used for electing political representatives. The electoral boundaries are drawn on the basis of the last published census figures and are relatively equal in population. Equally populous constituencies allow voters to have an equally weighted vote in the Legislature. Electoral constituencies that vary greatly in population - a condition called "malapportionment" - violate a central tenet of democracy, namely, that all voters should be able to cast a vote of equal weight. Delimitation and Elections are the two basic pillars of a parliamentary democracy. The first Delimitation Commission in India was constituted in 1952.

Reservation of Seats for Women

During the years, a consistent demand has been made for giving adequate representation to women in Parliament and state legislatures. Such a demand finds support in the 73 and 74 Amendments to the Constitution

made in 1992. There was a proposal to amend the Constitution and to provide for reservation in Parliament and state legislatures.

Voting Rights to the Citizens of India Living Abroad

Section 19 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 provides that every person who is not less than eighteen years of age on the qualifying date and is ordinarily resident in constituency shall be entitled to be registered in the electoral rolls for that constituency. The meaning of "ordinarily resident" is laid down in Section 20 of the said Act. It has been specified under Chapter-III in the Hand Book for Electoral Registration Officers that a person who has gone out of the country for business or employment should be treated as having moved out of that place. Mere ownership or possession of a building or other immovable property will not bestow on the owner, the residential qualification.

There are a large number of Indian citizens residing outside the country due to various reasons. They have been persistently demanding for conferring them the voting rights.

Reservation of Seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Our Constitution makers were fully conscious of the fact that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had been an oppressed and under-privileged class in our society over the centuries and they deserved a special dispensation so that their condition may be vastly improved. For this purpose, several special provisions were incorporated in our Constitution. One such provision related to the reservation of seats for these communities in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies. This provision found place in Articles 330 and 332 of the Constitution.

Similarly, they were also sensitive of the difficulties and problems which were likely to be faced by the persons belonging to Anglo Indian community in the country. Consequently, adequate safeguards were provided for them in our Constitution by giving representation to this small section of the society, under Article 331 of the Constitution by way of nomination of two persons of that community in the House of the People by the President.

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER TWENTY ONE | LABOUR, SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

THE Ministry of Labour and Employment is one of the important and oldest Ministries of the Government of India. The main responsibility entrusted to the Ministry is to protect and safeguard the interests of workers in general and the poor and deprived and disadvantaged sections of the society, in particular.

Further, the Ministry aims to create a healthy work environment for higher production and productivity and to develop and coordinate vocational skill training and employment services. To keep itself in tandem with the process of liberalization, the Ministry's attention is focussed on promotion of welfare of labour and providing social security to the labour force both in organized and unorganized sectors. These objectives are sought to be achieved through implementation of various labour laws, which regulate the terms and conditions of service and employment of workers. *Labour being the subject in the concurrent list under the Constitution of India, hence, the state governments are also empowered to enact legislations.*

New Initiatives

National Career Service Project

The Ministry is implementing the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a mission mode project for transformation of the national employment service to provide a variety of employment related services like career counseling, vocational guidance, information on apprenticeship, internships etc. The NCS Portal has been made functional. The portal was dedicated to the nation in 2015.

Shram Suvidha Portal

The Ministry has developed a unified web portal 'Shram Suvidha Portal', to bring transparency and accountability in enforcement of labour laws and ease complexity of compliance.

Legislative Initiatives

Draft Small Factory Bill

The Bill provides for regulation of working and service conditions of workers in small manufacturing units employing less than 40 workers. The Bill amalgamates, simplifies and rationalises the provisions of six Labour Laws at one place for these small factories. The Bill will ease the operation of small factories. The Bill will ease the operation of small factories. The Bill will ease the operation of small factories and thus catalyse the generation of employment through small factories while ensuring, Inter-alia social security, safety and health of the workers.

Social Security

Employees' State Insurance Corporation

To provide medical care and cash benefits in case of sickness, maternity and employment injuries, the Employees' State Insurance Act was enacted in 1948. Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is implementing the ESI Scheme introduced since 1952.

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation

The Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 provides for Provident Fund, Pension Scheme and Insurance Fund in factories/establishments employing twenty or more employees in industries Mentioned in Schedule-I to the Act. The following three schemes framed are; Employees' Provident funds Scheme, 1952; Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 and Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme; 1976.

VULNERABLE SECTIONS

Child Labour

Elimination of child labour is an area of great concern and Government of India is committed to address the issue. Considering the magnitude and nature of the problem, the government is following a robust multi-pronged strategy to tackle the problem of child labour. It comprises statutory and legislative measures, rescue and rehabilitation, universal elementary education along with social protection and poverty alleviation and employment generation schemes.

Policy on Child Labour

The National Policy on Child Labour in a comprehensive, holistic and integrated manner. The Action Plan under this policy is multi-pronged and mainly consists of: a legislative action plan; project based action in areas of high concentration of child labour; and focus on general development programmes for the benefit of the families of child labour.

(a) *Legislative Action Plan*

Under the Legislative Action Plan, the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act was enacted in 1986. The Act prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in many occupations and processes and regulates the conditions of employment of children in all occupations and processes not prohibited under the Act.

(b) *Project Based Action Plan*

In pursuance of National Child Labour Policy, the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme was started in 1988 to rehabilitate children rescued from child labour.

National Skill Development Mission

The National Skill Development Mission has been developed to create convergence across sectors and States in terms of skill training activities. Further, to achieve the vision of 'Skilled India', the National Skill Development Mission would not only consolidate and coordinate skilling efforts, but also expedite decision making across sectors to achieve skilling at scale with speed and standards. It will be implemented through a streamlined institutional mechanism driven by Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

National Policy on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ministry is an integral part of the government policy on "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas" and its commitment to overall human resource development to take advantage of the demographic profile of the country's population in the coming years. Developing a comprehensive and holistic policy document is an integral part of the process. This requires a fresh look at the already existing National Policy on Skill Development (NPSD). The objective of the National Policy on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015 will be to meet the challenge of skilling at scale with speed and standard (quality).

CHAPTER TWENTY TWO | MASS COMMUNICATION

THE Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, through the mass communication media consisting of radio, television, films, press and print publications, advertising and traditional modes of communication such as dance and drama, plays an effective role in helping people to have access to free flow of information. The Ministry is involved in catering to the entertainment needs of various age groups and focusing attention of the people on issues of national integrity, environmental protection, health care and family welfare, eradication of illiteracy and issues relating to women, children, minority and other disadvantaged sections of the society.

The Ministry is divided into four wings i.e., the Information Wing, the Broadcasting Wing, the Films Wing and the Integrated Finance Wing. The Ministry functions through its 21 media units/ attached and subordinate offices, autonomous bodies and PSUs.

Prasar Bharati

Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) is the public service broadcaster in the country, with Akashvani (All India Radio) and Doordarshan as its two constituents. It came into existence in 1997, with a mandate to organize and Conduct public broadcasting services to inform, educate and entertain the public and to ensure a balanced development of broadcasting on radio and television.

Objectives

The major objectives of the Prasar Bharati Corporation as laid out in the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 are as follows:

- (i) to uphold the unity and integrity of the country and the values enshrined in the Constitution;
- (ii) to promote national integration;
- (iii) to safeguard citizen's rights to be informed on all matters of public interest and presenting a fair and balanced flow of information;
- (iv) to pay special attention to the fields of education and spread of literacy, agriculture, rural development, environment, health and family welfare and science and technology;
- (v) to create awareness about women's issues and to take special steps to protect the interests of children, the aged and other vulnerable sections of the society;
- (vi) to provide adequate coverage to the diverse cultures, sports and games and youth affairs;
- (vii) to promote social justice, safeguard the rights of working classes, minorities and tribal communities; and
- (viii) to promote research and expand broadcasting facilities and development in broadcast technology.

All India Radio

After the invention of Radio and the starting of broadcasting in the western countries, broadcasting by private Radio Clubs started in a few cities in India like Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

The first radio programme was broadcast by the Radio Club of Bombay in 1923. It was followed by the setting up of a Broadcasting Service that began broadcasting on July 23, 1927 on an experimental basis at Mumbai and Kolkata simultaneously under an agreement between the Government of India and a private company called the Indian Broadcasting Company Ltd.

Doordarshan

From an experimental service begun at Delhi in 1959, Doordarshan (DD) over the years has grown tremendously to become one of the leading TV organizations of the world.

DD National

DD National Channel, a Public Service Broadcaster is the largest terrestrial network in the world. It covers about 92.0 per cent population and 81.0 per cent land area of the country. Being a Public Service Broadcaster the channel continues to make significant contribution to accelerate socio-economic changes, promote national integration, inculcate a sense of unity and fraternity and stimulate scientific temperament among the people.

DD News

DD News is the only terrestrial cum satellite news channel of the country. The News Channel of India's Public Service Broadcaster has been successfully discharging its responsibility to give balanced, fair and accurate news without sensationalizing as well as by carrying different shades of opinion.

DD Bharati

DD Bharati Channel was launched in January 2002 as a niche channel for art and culture to preserve Indian culture and heritage with authenticity and to present it to the wider public. It is the only Channel dedicated to art and culture in India.

Press and Print Media

Registrar of Newspapers for India

The Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) is an attached Office of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Under its Statutory and derivative functions, it verifies and approves titles of newspapers, registers them, checks and establishes circulation claims. It also submits to the Secretary, I & B by 31st December every year the "Press in India Report", highlighting the state of Print Media in the country; the report is subsequently published under the title "Press in India". Under its non-statutory functions, the RNI issues Eligibility Certificates for import of newsprint, to actual users which are registered with RNI as well as Essentiality Certificates for import of printing machinery, etc.

Press Information Bureau

The Press Information Bureau (PIB) is the nodal agency of the Government of India to disseminate information to the print and electronic media on government policies, programmes, initiatives and achievements. It functions as an interface between the Government and the media and also serves to provide feedback to the Government on people's reaction as reflected in the media.

NEWS AGENCIES

Press Trust of India

India's largest news agency, Press Trust of India (PTI) is a non-profit sharing co-operative owned by the country's newspapers with a mandate to provide efficient and unbiased news to all subscribers. Founded in 1947, PTI began functioning from 1949. PTI offers its news services in English and Hindi languages. Bhasha is the Hindi language news service of the agency.

United News of India

United News of India (UNI) was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 in December, 1959 and started functioning effectively in 1961.

In the past five decades, UNI has grown into a major news organisation in India and, with its vibrant presence, provided the much-needed spirit of competition in the vital areas of news gathering and dissemination. It also has a full-fledged Hindi wire service 'UNIVARTA' since 1982 and a Photo Service and a Graphics Service in the same decade.

Nam News Network

NAM News Network (NNN) is the Internet-based news and photo exchange arrangement of the news agencies belonging to member countries of the non-aligned movement.

Formally launched in April 2006, NNN replaces the Non-aligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) which had acted as the news exchange mechanism among non-aligned countries for 30 years. With internet as a cheap and reliable mode of communication, NNN is expected to contribute to sustained flow of information in the 116 member non-aligned world.

Press Council of India

The Press Council of India is a statutory quasi-judicial autonomous authority mandated by the Parliament for the twin objective of preserving the freedom of the press and maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and the news agencies in India exercising equal quasi-judicial functions over the authorities as well the press person.

It comprises of a Chairman and 28 members. While the Chairman has, by convention, been a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme Court of India, of the 28 members, 20 represent various segments of the Press and eight overseeing the readers' interest, are representatives of the two Houses of Parliament (3 Lok Sabha and 2 Rajya Sabha) and premier literary and legal bodies of the country i.e. University Grants Commission, Bar Council of India and Sahitya Akademi. The Council has its own funds for performance of its functions under the Act that comprises of the fee collected by it from newspapers, other receipts and also Grants in-Aid by from the Central Government.

Publications Division

Publications Division (DPD) is among the premier publishing organizations of the Government of India involved in production, sale and distribution of popular books and journals on matters of national importance. Established in 1941, it is mandated to bring out books and journals highlighting subjects of national importance and India's rich cultural heritage including children's literature.

Films Division

The story of the Films Division is synchronous with the eventful years of the country since Independence and over the last 67 years, the Division has been motivating the broadest spectrum of the Indian public with a view to enlisting their active participation in nation building activities. The aims and objectives of the Division, focused on national perspectives, are to educate and motivate people in the implementation of national programmes and to project the image of the land and the heritage of the country to Indian and foreign audiences.

National Film Development Corporation Limited

The National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC), incorporated in 1975, (100 per cent owned GOI body) was formed by the Government of India with the primary objective of planning and promoting an organized, efficient, and integrated development of the Indian film industry.

ICFT- UNESCO Fellini Medal

For the first time in India, the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2015 in collaboration with the International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (ICFT), Paris, presented a special ICFT prize consisting of the UNESCO Fellini Medal awarded to a film which reflects the ideals promoted by UNESCO.

National Film Awards

The National Film Awards, the highest awards in the field of cinema continue to underline cinematic excellence. The National Awards along with cinema's highest honour, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, are presented by the President of India.

Children's Film Society of India

Children's Film Society India (CFSI) was established in 1955 to provide value based entertainment to children through the medium of films. CFSI is engaged in production, acquisition, distribution/exhibition and promotion of children's films. The head office of the CFSI is in Mumbai with branch offices at New Delhi and Chennai. The mission of CFSI is to facilitate promotion of children's films by encouraging, strengthening and spreading the children's film movement all over the country and abroad.

Film and Television Institute of India

The Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) was set up in 1960. Following the addition of Television wing in 1974, the Institute was re-designated as Film and Television Institute of India.

The Institute is governed by a Governing Council, headed by a Chairman. The academic policies and plans of the Institute are formulated by the Academic Council.

Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute

Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata was established as an autonomous educational institution and was registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961. Located at Kolkata and named after the legendary film maestro Satyajit Ray, SRFTI is the second national level film training institute to be established by the Government of India.

Indian Institute of Mass Communication

The Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 came into existence in 1965. The Institute was established with the basic objective of undertaking teaching, training and research in the area of mass communication.

Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited

Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (BECIL), a profit making PSE was constituted in 1995 to provide the national broadcasters' expertise to the private broadcasters in the country. At present, BECIL is an established consultancy agency, system integrator and turnkey solution provider in all spheres of Broadcast Engineering. BECIL also undertakes operation and maintenance of various types of broadcast systems. Its clients include government, semi government, overseas and private organisations.

CHAPTER TWENTY THREE | PLANNING

PLANNING in India derives its objectives and social premises from the Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in the Constitution. Public and private sectors are viewed as complementary. The private sector covers, besides organized industry, small-scale industries, agriculture, trade and housing, construction and related areas. Individual efforts and private initiatives are considered necessary and desirable in the national endeavour for development with optimum voluntary cooperation.

NITI Aayog

The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) came into existence in 2015 replacing the existing Planning Commission which was established in 1950. The NITI Aayog is the successor to the Planning Commission. The new institution is envisaged to be a catalyst to the developmental process; nurturing an overall enabling environment, through a holistic approach to development going beyond the limited sphere of the public sector and Government of India.

This is to be built on the foundation of: an empowered role of states as equal partners in national development; underlying the principle of cooperative federalism.

Objectives

The Resolution setting up the NITI Aayog outlines following objectives:

- To evolve a shared vision of national development priorities, sectors and strategies with the active involvement of States in the light of national objectives. The vision of the NITI Aayog will then provide a framework 'national agenda' for the Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers to provide impetus to.
- To foster cooperative federalism through structured support initiatives and mechanisms with the states on a continuous basis, recognizing that strong states make a strong nation.
- To develop mechanisms to formulate credible plans at the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government.
- To ensure, on areas that are specially referred to it, that the interests of national security are incorporated in economic strategy and policy.
- To pay special attention to the sections of our society that may be at risk of not benefitting adequately from economic progress.
- To design strategic and long term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives, and monitor their progress and their efficacy. The lessons learnt through monitoring and feedback will be used for making innovative improvements, including necessary mid course corrections.
- To provide advice and encourage partnerships between key stakeholders and national and international like minded Think Tanks, as well as educational and policy research institutions.
- To create a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system through a collaborative community of national and international experts, practitioners and other partners.
- To offer a platform for resolution of inter-sectoral and inter-departmental issues in order to accelerate that implementation of the development agenda.
- To maintain a State-of-the-art Resource Centre, be a repository of research on good governance and best practices in suitable and equitable development as well as help their dissemination to stake-holders.
- To actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources so as to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery.

- To focus on technology upgradation and capacity building for implementation of programmes and initiatives.
- To undertake other activities as may be necessary in order to further the execution of the national development agenda, and the objectives mentioned above.

Composition:

The composition of the NITI Aayog is as follows:

- (a) **Prime Minister of India as the Chairperson**
- (b) The Governing Council comprising the Chief Ministers of all the States, Chief Ministers of Union Territories with Legislatures, viz., Delhi and Puducherry and Lt. Governors of other Union Territories.
- (c) Regional Council will be formed to address specific issues and contingencies impacting more than one state or a region. These will be formed for a specified tenure. The Regional Councils will be convened by the Prime Minister and will comprise of the Chief Minister of States and Lt. Governors of Union Territories in the region. These will be chaired by the Chairperson of the NITI Aayog or his nominee.
- (d) Experts, specialists and practitioners with relevant domain knowledge as special invitees nominated by the Prime Minister.
- (e) The full time organisational framework will consist of, in addition to the Prime Minister as Chairperson.
 - i. Vice-Chairperson: To be appointed by the Prime Minister,
 - ii. Members: Full Time.
 - iii. Part-time Members: Maximum of 2, from leading universities, research organisations and other relevant institutions in an ex-officio capacity. Part time members will be on a rotational basis.
 - iv. Ex officio Members: Maximum of 4 Members of the Union Council of Ministers to be nominated by the Prime Minister.
 - v. Chief Executive Officer: To be appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure, in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.
 - vi. Secretariat as deemed necessary.

Fourteenth Finance Commission

Appointed every five years the Finance Commission is a constitutional body with the broad mandate to define centre - state federal relations. Its most important task is to recommend division of states' revenues collected by the Centre of the 'divisibility pool' between the Centre and the states and the share to be allocated to each state.

The Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) submitted its recommendations to the Government in December, 2014. *Some of its important recommendations include the devolution of a significantly higher share of 42 per cent of the divisible pool to states compared with the 32 per cent share recommended by the 13th Finance Commission.*

FIVE YEAR PLANS

First Plan

Keeping in view the large-scale import of food grains in 1951 and inflationary pressures on the economy, the First Plan (1951-56) accorded the highest priority to agriculture including irrigation and power projects. The Plan aimed at increasing the rate of investment from five to about seven per cent of the national income.

Second Plan

The Second Five-Year Plan (1956-57 to 1960-61) sought to promote a pattern of development, which would ultimately lead to the establishment of a socialistic pattern of society in India. Its main aims were (i) an increase

of 25 per cent in the national income; (ii) rapid industrialization with particular emphasis on the development of basic and heavy industries; (iii) large expansion of employment opportunities; and (iv) reduction of inequalities in income and wealth and a more even distribution of economic power.

It laid emphasis on industrialization, increased production of iron and steel, heavy chemicals including nitrogenous fertilizers and development of heavy engineering and machine building industry.

Third Plan

The Third Plan (1961-62 to 1965-66) aimed at securing a marked advance towards self-sustaining growth. Its immediate objectives were to : (i) secure an increase in the national income of over five per cent per annum and at the same time ensure a pattern of investment which could sustain this rate of growth in the subsequent Plan periods; (ii) achieve self-sufficiency in food grains and increase agricultural production to meet the requirements of industry and exports; (iii) expand basic industries like steel, chemicals, fuel and power and establish machine building capacity so that the requirements of further industrialization could be met within a period of about 10 years mainly from the country's own resources; (iv) fully utilize the manpower resources of the country and ensure a substantial expansion in employment opportunities; and (v) establish progressively greater equality of opportunity and bring about reduction in disparities of income and wealth and a more even distribution of economic power.

Annual Plans

The situation created by the Indo-Pakistan conflict in 1965, two successive years of severe drought, devaluation of the currency, general rise in prices and erosion of resources available for Plan purposes delayed the finalization of the Fourth Five Year Plan. Instead, between 1966 and 1969, three Annual Plans were formulated within the framework of the draft outline of the Fourth Plan.

Fourth Plan

The Fourth Plan (1969-74) aimed at accelerating the tempo of development of reducing fluctuations in agricultural production as well as the impact of uncertainties of foreign aid. *It sought to raise the standard of living through programmes designed to promote equality and social justice.*

Fifth Plan

The Fifth Plan (1974-79) was formulated against the backdrop of severe inflationary pressures. The major objectives of the plan were to achieve self-reliance and adopt measures for raising the consumption standard of people living below the poverty line. This Plan also gave high priority to bring inflation under control and to achieve stability in the economic situation.

The Plan laid particular emphasis on improving the conditions of the less privileged and weaker sections especially through provision of employment and education. Efforts were directed towards reduction of concentration of wealth, income and economic power to promote equity.

Sixth Plan

Removal of poverty was the foremost objective of the Sixth Plan (1980-85). The strategy adopted was to move simultaneously towards strengthening the infrastructure for both agriculture and industry. Stress was laid on tackling interrelated problems through a systematic approach with greater management, efficiency and intensive monitoring in all sectors and active involvement of people in formulating specific schemes of development at the local level and securing their speedy and effective implementation.

The average annual growth rate targeted for the Plan was 5.2 per cent.

Seventh Plan

The Seventh Plan (1985-90) emphasized on policies and programmes, which aimed at rapid growth in food grains production, increased employment opportunities and productivity within the framework of basic tenets of planning, namely, growth, modernization, self reliance and social justice.

To reduce unemployment and consequently, the incidence of poverty, special programmes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana were launched in addition to the existing programmes. Due recognition was accorded to the role, small-scale and food processing industries could play in this regard.

During this Plan period, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew at an average rate of 5.8 per cent exceeding the targeted growth rate by 0.8 per cent.

Eighth Annual Plans

The Eighth Five-Year Plan (1990-95) could not take off due to the fast-changing political situation at the Centre. The Eighth five-Year Plan commence in 1992 and that 1990-91 and 1991-92 were treated as separate Annual Plans.

Formulated within the framework of the Approach to the Eighth Five-Year Plan (1990-95), the basic thrust of these Annual Plans was on maximization of employment and social transformation.

Eighth Plan

The Eighth Five-Year Plan (1992-97) was launched immediately after the initiation of structural adjustment policies and macro stabilization policies, which were necessitated by the worsening Balance of Payments positions and the position of inflation during 1990-91.

The Eighth Plan took note of some of these policy changes, which were to come about due to these reforms. The Plan aimed at an average annual growth rate of 5.6 per cent and an average industrial growth rate of about 7.5 per cent.

These growth targets were planned to be achieved with relative price stability and substantial improvement in the country's Balance of Payments. Some of the salient features of economic performance during the Eighth Five-Year Plan indicate, among other things: (a) a faster economic growth, (b) a faster growth of the manufacturing sector and agriculture and allied sectors, (c) significant growth rates in exports and imports, improvement in trade and current account deficit and a significant reduction in the Central Government's fiscal deficit.

Ninth Plan

The Ninth Plan (1997-2002) was launched in the fiftieth year of India's Independence. The Plan aimed at achieving a targeted GDP growth rate of seven per cent per annum and there was emphasis on the seven identified Basic Minimum Services (BMS) with additional Central Assistance. These included provision of safe drinking water, availability of primary health service facilities, universalization of primary education, public housing assistance to shelterless poor families, nutritional support to children, connectivity of all villages and habitations and streamlining of the public distribution system with a focus on the poor.

The Plan also aimed at pursuing a policy of fiscal consolidation, whereby the focus was on sharp reduction in the revenue deficit of the Government, including the Centre, States and PSUs through a combination of improved revenue collections and control of inessential expenditures, particularly with regard to subsidies and through recovery of user charges and decentralization of planning and implementation through greater reliance on States and Panchayati Raj Institutions.

The Specific objectives of the Ninth Plan included : (i) priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generate adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty; (ii) accelerating the growth rate of the economy with stable prices; (iii) ensuring food and nutritional security for all, particularly the vulnerable sections of society; (iv) providing the basic minimum services of safe drinking water, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, shelter, and connectivity to all in a time-bound manner; (v) containing the growth rate of population; (vi) ensuring mobilization and participation of people at all levels; (vii) empowerment of women and socially disadvantaged groups such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes and minorities as agents of socio-economic change and development; (viii) promoting and developing people's participatory institutions like Panchayati Raj Institution, cooperatives and self-help groups; and (ix) strengthening efforts to build self-reliance.

Tenth Plan

The Tenth Five-Year Plan (2002-07) was approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in December, 2002. The Plan has further developed the NDC mandate objectives, of doubling the per capita income in ten years and achieving a growth rate of eight per cent of GDP per annum.

The Tenth Plan had a number of new features that include, among others, the following: Firstly, the Plan recognised the rapid growth in the labour force. At current rate of growth and labour intensity in production, India faces the possibility of rising unemployment, which could lead to social unrest.

The Tenth Plan therefore aims at creating 50 million job opportunities during the period, by placing special emphasis on employment intensive sectors of agriculture, irrigation, agro-forestry, small and medium enterprises, information and communication technology and other services. Secondly, the Plan addresses the issue of poverty and the unacceptably low levels of social indicators. Although these have been the objectives in earlier Plans, in the current Plan there are specific monitorable targets, which will need to be attained along with the growth target.

The Incremental Capital Output Ratio (ICOR) of the economy was expected to come down to about 3.6 as against 4.5 during the Ninth Plan. This decline in ICOR was achieved mainly through better utilization of existing capacities and suitable sectorial allocation of capital and its efficient utilization. The growth target, therefore, would require an investment rate of 28.4 per cent of GDP. This requirement was to be met from domestic savings of 26.8 per cent of GDP and external savings of 1.6 per cent.

The average growth rate in the last four years of the 10th Plan (2003-04 to 2006-07) was little over 8 per cent, making the growth rate 7.7 per cent for the entire 10th Plan period. Though this was below the target of 8 per cent, it is the highest growth rate achieved in any Plan period.

Eleventh Plan

The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) provided a comprehensive strategy for inclusive development, building on the growing strength of the economy, while also addressing weaknesses that have surfaced. It set a target for 9 per cent growth in the five year period with acceleration during the period to reach 10 per cent by the end of the Plan.

Twelfth Plan

The Twelfth Plan fully recognizes that the objective of development is broad based improvement in the economic and social conditions of our people. However, rapid growth of GDP is an essential requirement for achieving this objective.

The Approach Paper to the Twelfth Plan had set a target of 9 per cent average growth of GDP over the Plan period (2012 to 2017). That was before the Euro-zone crisis in that year triggered a sharp downturn in global economic prospects, and also before the extent of the slowdown in the domestic economy was known. Twelfth

Plan envisaged that the current slowdown in GDP growth can be reversed through strong corrective action, including especially an expansion in investment with a corresponding increase in savings to keep inflationary pressures under control. However, while our full growth potential remains around 9 per cent, acceleration to this level can only occur in a phased manner, especially since the global economy is expected to remain weak for the first half of the plan period.

MAJOR INITIATIVES

Appraisal Document of Twelfth Plan

As a follow up of the decisions taken in the first meeting of the Governing Council the exercise of appraisal of the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) was undertaken. The appraisal broadly covered physical and financial targets visà-vis achievements for the first four financial years of the Plan (2012-16) and the financial targets (Budget Estimates) for the terminal year (2016-17) of the Plan. Breaking away from the past, the Appraisal document is based on the following nine broad themes: (i) economy and policies; (ii) macroeconomic factors; (iii) employment and skill development; (iv) governance; (v) human resource development; (vi) physical infrastructure; (vii) environmental sustainability; (viii) agriculture and rural transformation, and (ix) urban transformation.

Atal Innovation Mission

The Government has set up Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) in NITI Aayog with a view to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country. The key initiatives identified under the Mission include; (i) setting up of Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATLs) in schools for fostering curiosity, creativity and imaginations in young minds, and inculcate skills such as design mindset, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing etc.

The Mission will provide one time grant-in-aid of Rs 10 lakh towards establishment of ATLs in the first year and another grant of Rs 10 lakh over a period of five years.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) conceived in 2015 is an umbrella scheme for coverage of more and more area under assured irrigation as early as possible. Its major components are (i) Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for major and medium irrigation including National; projects; (ii) *Har Khet Ko Pani* which includes command area development and water management (CAD&WM) works., surface minor irrigation, irrigation through groundwater and repair, renovation and restoration (RRR) of water bodies; (iii) per drop more crop for promotion of micro irrigation; and (iv) watershed development for rain water harvesting, effective management of the run-off water, prevention of soil erosion, regeneration of natural vegetation and recharging of the ground water table.

Soil Health Card

The states will be provided funds for strengthening of the soil testing labs, analysis of soil samples and distribution of the Soil Health Card. This would be continuous and dynamic exercise to be carried out periodically.

Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund

Promotion of National Agricultural Market through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) with an outlay of 200 crore for 2015-16 to 2017-18 was formulated. ATIF is aimed at implementation of agricultural marketing reforms by initiating appropriate e-market platforms in states with a view to move towards a national market. It would

also increase the farmers' access to markets through warehouse based sales and thus obviate the need to transport the produce to the mandi.

Public Financial Management System

Public Financial Management System (PFMS), earlier known as Central Plan Schemes Monitoring System (CPSMS), is a Central Sector Scheme of NITI Aayog started in April, 2008. It aims at establishing a suitable online Management Information System (MIS) and Decision Support System (DSS) for fund management of the Schemes of the Government of India.

Swachh Bharat Mission

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) a joint mission of the Ministry of Urban Development and the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, emanates from the vision of the Government. Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was launched in 2014, with a target to make the country clean by in 2019.

Smart Cities Mission

Smart Cities Mission (CSM), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme was launched in June 2015 as part of Urban Rejuvenation Mission for the development of 100 smart cities. The objective of the Mission is to promote cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment and application of 'Smart' Solutions.

Backward Regions Grant Fund

The State Component of Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) comprising the Special Plan for KBK districts of Odisha, special Plan for Bihar and West Bengal was being implemented by the erstwhile Planning Commission to address the issues of regional imbalances in development processes.

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), a new initiative in rural development, was launched in 2014 with the objective that these Adarsh Grams (Model Villages) serve as the "nucleus of health, cleanliness, greenery and cordiality" within the village community unlike other schemes, the SAGY does not look at the beneficiaries as receivers and the Government as the doer. Taking development to the doorstep of villages, the scheme aims to empower the villagers to make choices and provide them with opportunities to exercise these choices.

RURBAN Mission

The Government launched the Dr. Shayma Prasad Mukherji RURBAN Mission in 2014 to deliver integrated project based infrastructure in the rural areas. The RURBAN Mission aims at providing basic amenities in rural areas and check migration from there to cities. The scheme envisages development of economic activities and skill development and helping rural areas get efficient civic infrastructure and associate services.

Road Map for Poverty Elimination

Subsequent to the decision taken in the first meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog, a Task Force on Elimination of Poverty in India was constituted in 2015. The background paper addressed two different aspects of the debate around poverty - how to measure, and how to combat poverty.

CHAPTER TWENTY FOUR | RURAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

INDIA has been a welfare State since independence and the primary objective of all governmental endeavours has been the welfare of its people. The policies and programmes have been designed with the aim of alleviation of rural poverty which has been one of the primary objectives of planned development in India. It was realized that a sustainable strategy of poverty alleviation has to be based on increasing the productive employment opportunities in the process of growth itself. Elimination of poverty, ignorance, diseases and inequality of opportunities and providing a better and higher quality of life were the basic premise upon which all the plans and blue-prints of development were built.

Major Programmes for Rural Development

The following major programmes are being operated by the Ministry of Rural Development:

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a rights based wage employment programme implemented in rural areas of the country. This programme aims at enhancing livelihood security by providing up to one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

Objectives of the Scheme: Providing up to one hundred days of unskilled manual work as a guaranteed employment in a financial year to every household in rural areas as per demand, resulting in creation of productive assets of prescribed quality and durability; strengthening the livelihood resource base of the poor; proactively ensuring social inclusion; and strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions.

National Rural Livelihoods Mission

The government launched National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), subsequently renamed as *Aajeevika* in 2011. It aims at mobilizing all rural poor household into Self Help Groups (SHGs) in a phased manner. The Mission provides them long term support to attain appreciable increase in incomes over a period of time to improve their quality of life and come out of abject poverty.

The key features of the restructured NRLM include: (1) mobilization of at least one woman member from each rural poor household in the country into SHG network in a phased manner; (2) special focus on the mobilization of women from the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and the Scheduled Tribes (STs), the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), the disabled and other vulnerable and marginalized household; (3) promotion of SHG federations at village and cluster levels—Village Level Self Help Group Federations (VLF) at village level and Cluster Federation (CF) at cluster (groups of villages) level; (4) provision of Revolving Fund (RF) support at the rate of Rs 10,000-15,000 per eligible SHG to supplement own funds; etc.

Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana

Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) is a sub-component of NRLM to meet the specific needs of women farmers and achieve their socio-economic and technical empowerment predominantly small and marginal.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

The government, in a bid to give better rural connectivity launched the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in December, 2000 as a centrally sponsored scheme to assist the states, though rural roads are in the state list as per the Constitution.

The primary objective of the Yojana is to provide connectivity by way of an all-weather road (with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures, which is operable throughout the year), to the reliable unconnected habitations as per core network with a population of 500 persons (as per 2001 census) and above in plan areas. In respect of 'Special Category States' (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand), the desert areas, the tribal (Schedule V) areas and 88 selected tribal and backward districts as indentified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/ Planning Commission, the objective is to connect eligible unconnected habitations as per core-network with a population of 250 persons and above (Census 2001). The programme envisages single all weather connectivity.

Indira Awaas Yojana

Rural Housing

Housing is universally recognized as a basic human need. Reducing rural housing shortage and improving the quality of housing especially for the poor is an important component of the poverty alleviation strategy of the government.

The rural housing scheme Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, aimed at providing houses to families below the poverty line (BPL) in rural.

In the context of Government's priority for "Housing for All" by 2022, the rural housing scheme IAY has been restructured to Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), which came into effect from 2016-17.

National Social Assistance Programme

The Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution of India enjoin upon the state to undertake within its means a number of welfare measures. In particular, Article 41 of the Constitution of India directs the State to provide public assistance to its citizens in case of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement and in other cases of undeserved want within the limit of its economic capacity and development.

Indira Gandhi National Old age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS): Pension /assistance of Rs 200/- per month is provided to BPL person on fulfilling the eligibility criteria in the age group of 60-79 years and Rs 500/- per month to those who are of the age of 80 years or above.

Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS): This was introduced in 2009. Under this scheme, pension/assistance of Rs 300/- per month is provided to widows belonging to BPL households in the age group of 40-79 years. After attaining the age of 80 years, the beneficiary is shifted to IGNOAPS for getting pension/assistance of Rs 500 / - per month.

Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS): Scheme was introduced in 2009. Under this scheme, assistance of Rs 300/- per month is provided to persons with severe or multiple disabilities belonging to BPL households in the age group of 18-79 years.

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Grameen Kaushalya Yojana

The Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) is the flagship placement linked skill training programme under the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). Announced in 2014, DDU-GKY is a critical component of the National Skill Development Policy, and has an ambitious agenda, to benchmark wage placement-linked skill programmes to global standards and requirements. The ultimate aim is to convert India's demographic surplus into a demographic dividend by developing rural India into a globally preferred source of

skilled labour. As a result, the scheme will also benefit more than 55 million poor rural youth who are ready-to-be-skilled, by providing sustainable employment. In this way the scheme is expected to play a crucial role in generational poverty alleviation.

DDU-GKY is a pioneer in standards-led delivery of skilling in India, the first to notify standard operating procedures for training, and the first to introduce IT solutions for skilling, including mandatory tablets for trainees, Aadhar-linked biometric information on attendance, and geo-tagged time-stamped record of training centres and classes.

KEY FEATURES

DDU-GKY follows a 3 tier implementation architecture in PPP mode, with the national unit responsible for policy, central investments and technical support, SRLMs/State Skills Missions are responsible for state investments, implementation and monitoring controls, and Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs), both public and private training partners with a legacy in skill training, responsible for mobilization, training and placements.

- i. The focus of this programmes is on the rural youth from poor families, in the age group of 15 to 35 years, belonging to: (a) MGNREGA worker household in which household members have together completed 15 days of work; (b) RSBY household; (c) Antyodaya Anna Yojana card household; (d) BPL PDS card households; (e) NRLM-SHG household; and (f) Household covered under auto inclusion parameters of SECC 2011.
- ii. Full social inclusion of candidates is ensured by the mandatory coverage of socially disadvantaged groups- 50 per cent allocation to SC/ST groups, 15 per cent to minorities and 33 per cent for women and 3 per cent for persons with disabilities.
- iii. Regional inclusion of candidates is enabled through, a special sub-scheme for the youth of Jammu & Kashmir, called *Himayat*; a special initiative for the rural youth of poor families in 27 most-affected Left-Wing Extremist (LWE) districts across nine states, called Roshni and 10 per cent of DDUGKY's capital investment is reserved for projects from North-East region.
- iv. Focus on quality is done through its framework of guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), curricula from NCVT or QP-NOS developed by SSCs of NSDC, rating/grading systems for projects and states implementing the projects.
- v. Placement in wage employment is mandated for a minimum of 70 per cent of all successful candidates, with a minimum salary of Rs 6,000 per month or the minimum wages, whichever is higher.
- vi. Post-placement support is given to candidates to enable assimilation into workforce and society.
- vii. Support for job retention, career progression and foreign placements are also given to PIAs.

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) and guidelines of the Scheme was launched in 2014, the birth anniversary of Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan.

Mahatma Gandhi's concept of rural development revolves around creating model villages for transforming 'swaraj' into 'su-raj'. The goal of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) is to translate this comprehensive and organic vision of Mahatma Gandhi into reality, keeping in view the present context.

Far beyond mere infrastructure development, SAGY aims at instilling certain values in the villages and their people so that they get transformed into models for other. These values include: adopting people's participating as an end in itself - ensuring the involvement of all sections of society in all aspects related to the life of village, especially in decision-making related to governance.

Salient Features of the Scheme: (i) aims to develop three Adarsh Grams chosen by MPs, 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; (ii) focus on 'Jan Bhagidar' (community participation); (iii) members of parliament will guide and lead the initiative; (iv) not an infrastructure centered scheme; and (v) holistic development of the village.

The programme is primarily about unleashing people's power, converging and implementing existing government schemes/programmes and adopting bottom-up approach in planning and execution. While the Members of Parliament will guide and lead the initiative leverage the leadership, capacity, commitment energy of the individual MPs develop model Gram Panchayats.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) was created in 2004. It has the primary objective to ensure the compliance of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution, provisions regarding the district Planning Committees as per Article 243 ZD and PESA.

Panchayats are local governments mandated in the Constitution of India. As per the Constitution, three tiers of Panchayats are to be constituted, through elections every five years, except in states with population less than 20 lakh, where Panchayats at two tiers may be created. The Constitution recognizes the Gram Sabha, i.e., all the electors in a Village Panchayat.

The Constitution provides that seats and offices of chairpersons be reserved for the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in proportion to their respective population, and not less than one third seats and offices of chairpersons be reserved for women, including within SC and ST reservations. Article 243 ZD of the Constitution mandates the setting up of District Planning Committees (DPCs) in every district, to consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and Municipalities in the district and to prepare the draft development plan for the entire district.

The Constitution provides that State Election Commissions (SECS) be set up and vested with the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of elections to the Panchayats.

Within this broad framework, as local government is a state subject, state legislatures have a critical role in determining various aspects of Panchayati Raj in their states. Panchayats are to function as institutions of local government and prepare plans and implement schemes for economic development and social justice, but the precise devolution of powers and authority to Panchayats is left to the states.

Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan

To improve the functioning of PRIs the MoPR has been implementing the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyaan (RGPSA) in the 12th Five Year Plan period. The RGPSA addresses the major constraints of inadequate devolution of powers, lack of manpower, inadequate infrastructure and limited capacity in the effective functioning of Panchayats by providing manpower, infrastructure, training and promotion of devolution of power to Panchayats and put in place structures of accountability.

Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

The Department of Drinking Water Supply (DDWS) was created in the Ministry of Rural Development in 1999, which was subsequently renamed as the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation in 2010.

National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana

The National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) was launched in 2015 with an initial coverage of 12 cities. The scheme is aimed at preserving and revitalizing the soul and unique character of the heritage cities in the country.

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) was launched in 2005. It is a reform driven, fast track programme to ensure planned development of cities/ towns with focus on efficiency in urban infrastructure/service delivery mechanisms, and through community participation and enhanced accountability of ULBs/parastatal agencies towards citizens.

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation

The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) was launched in 2015. The objective of the Mission is to improve basic urban infrastructure in 500 cities/ towns which would be known as Mission cities/towns. The Mission is being operated as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). It aims to cover all cities and towns with a population of over one lakh with notified Municipalities, including Cantonment Boards (Civilian areas) and certain other cities like capital towns, some cities on stem of main rivers and tourist and hill destinations.

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER TWENTY FIVE | SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

DEPARTMENT of Science and Technology, in its endeavour to strengthen national science and technology capacity and capability, kept its pace to implement several planned initiatives to enable Indian S&T community to increase scientific and technological outputs.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy

The new Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy unveiled in 2013 includes a thrust for innovations in science and technology sector. STI policy reveals an aspiration to gain global competitiveness and link science sector to the developmental agenda of the country. Science, Research and Innovation System for High Technology led path for India (SRISHTI) is the main policy goal. Integration of science, research and innovation systems and emergence of India as one of the top five of six knowledge powers in science are expressed aspirations of the new STI policy.

Nano Science and Technology

National Mission of Nano Science and Technology - an umbrella programme was launched in 2007 to promote R&D in this emerging area of research in a comprehensive fashion. The main objectives of the Nano Mission are - basic research promotion, research infrastructure development, nano application and technology development, human resource development, international collaboration and orchestrating national dialogues. India has secured third position amongst nations of the world in terms of scientific publications in this emerging area.

New Initiatives Aligned with the National Agenda

National Supercomputing Mission was approved in 2015. This is a visionary programme to enable India to leapfrog to the league of world class computing power nations. The Mission is under implementation jointly by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) at an estimated cost of Rs 4,500 crore over a period of seven years.

DST has launched a new programme viz. Science and Technology of Yoga and Meditation (**SATYAM**) in 2015-16 to rejuvenate research in yoga and meditation.

National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (**NIDHI**) has been evolved as an umbrella scheme for a seamless innovation ecosystem booster. Major links of the innovation to market value chain would be supported and strengthened at various nodes (each node signifying a cluster of three neighbouring districts) across the country to attain the mission of nation building through innovation, entrepreneurship and incubation.

MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge): To widen the base of the innovation pyramid by cultural intervention, ideas relevant to the national needs are to be invited from 10 lakh school students in any language. Top ideas will be supported for mentoring, prototype development, showcasing from the district to national levels and intellectual property protection.

With the objective to contribute towards Swachh Bharat, a new programme viz. *Technology Development for Waste Management* has been initiated to come up with technological solutions for the problems faced by the country in waste management. Areas under this include hospital waste, plastic waste, e-waste, etc. First call for proposals has received an overwhelming response.

Survey of India

Survey of India (SOI), the national survey and mapping organisation under the Ministry of Science and Technology, was set up in 1767. In its assigned role as the National Principal Mapping Agency, Survey of India bears a special responsibility to ensure that the country's domain is explored and mapped suitably to provide base maps for expeditious and integrated development and ensure that all resources contribute their full measure to the progress, prosperity and security of India.

Survey Training Institute, Hyderabad established under UNDP assistance is a premier institution for training in various disciplines of surveying and mapping to the trainees sponsored by the Department, other state/central government organisations and neighbouring countries.

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, constituted in 1942 is an autonomous body which is known for its cutting edge R&D knowledge base in diverse S&T areas.

It covers a wide spectrum of science and technology—from radio and space physics, oceanography, earth sciences, geophysics, chemicals, drugs, genomics, biotechnology and nanotechnology to mining, aeronautics, instrumentation, environmental engineering and information technology. It provides significant technological intervention in many areas with regard to societal efforts which include environment, health, drinking water, food, housing, energy, leather, farm and non-farm sectors.

CSIR is the nation's custodian for measurement standards of mass, distance, time, temperature, current, etc. CSIR has created and is the custodian of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) which is a powerful weapon against unethical commercial exploitation of Indian traditional knowledge. It maintains Microbial Type Culture Collection (MTCC) and Gene Bank. Pioneer of India's intellectual property movement, CSIR today is strengthening its patent portfolio to carve out global niches for the country in select technology domains.

Atomic Energy

The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), established in 1954 is engaged in the development of nuclear power technology, applications of radiation technologies in the fields of agriculture, medicine, industry, and basic research. Some of these are : *(i)* increasing the share of nuclear power through deployment of indigenous and other proven technologies and also developing fast breeder reactors and thorium reactors with associated fuel cycle facilities; *(ii)* building and operation of research reactors for production of radioisotopes and carrying out radiation technology applications in the field of medicine, agriculture and industry; *(iii)* developing advanced technologies such as accelerators, lasers and encourage transfer of technology to industry; *(iv)* support to basic research in nuclear energy and related frontier areas of science, interaction with universities and academic institutions, support to R&D projects having a bearing on DAE's programmes and international cooperation in related areas of research; and *(v)* contribution to national security.

Nuclear Power Programme: Stage 1

Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors & Light Water Reactors

The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) is a dividend paying company with AAA credit rating by Crisil and CARE and is responsible for sitting, design, construction, commissioning and operation of nuclear power reactors.

Front End Fuel Cycle

Front End Fuel Cycle comprises operations such as mining, milling and processing of ore, and fabrication of fuel. In addition, production of heavy water, used as moderator and coolant in pressurized heavy water reactors, also constitutes a major programme segment of the Nuclear Power Programme.

Heavy Water Board

The Heavy Water Board has contributed successfully to the first stage of Nuclear Power Programme by producing heavy water for all Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors in a cost effective manner enabling the department to provide nuclear power at an affordable cost to common man.

Mineral Exploration and Mining

Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) continued the accelerated pace of exploration activities during the year by integrated, multi-disciplinary methodology and judicious utilisation of manpower with a focussed approach on augmentation of uranium, thorium and rare metals.

Health Safety & Environment

NPCIL has recorded about 430 reactors years of safe operation of reactors by the end of December 2015. Review of safety of operating stations was carried out on a regular basis. All safety significant proposals and documents were reviewed by a multidisciplinary Safety Review Committee (SRC) to meet the regulatory compliance. The individual and collective doses of radiation workers at various NPPs were maintained within the budget approved by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board by following the principles of ALARA (As Low as Reasonably Achievable) and maintaining the highest standards of safety within the Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs).

Nuclear Power Programme: Stage 2

Fast Breeder Reactors

For the second stage of the Nuclear Power Generation Programme, the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) is pursuing development of sodium cooled fast breeder reactors and associated fuel cycle technologies. Breeder reactors produce more fuel than they consume.

The Fast Reactor Programme of IGCAR is supported by its research and development endeavour in a range of disciplines such as reactor engineering, metallurgy, materials science, instrumentation, safety, etc. The Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) also caters to technology development related to fast reactors.

Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor

PFBR is a pool type reactor using mixed oxide of uranium and plutonium as fuel. The coolant used is liquid sodium. The project is located 500 m south of the existing Madras Atomic Power Station.

Fast Breeder Test Reactor

During 2015-16, Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR), the flagship of the IGCAR, continued to play an important role in testing the fuel, structural materials and special neutron detectors for FBR programmes.

Nuclear Power Programme: Stage 3

Thorium Based Reactors

Nuclear power employing closed fuel cycle is the only sustainable option for meeting a major part of the world energy demand. World resources of thorium are larger than those of uranium. Thorium, therefore is, widely viewed as the 'fuel of the future'. The Indian Nuclear Power Programme Stage-3 aims at using thorium as fuel for power generation on a commercial scale. In the thorium fuel cycle, thorium 232 is transmuted into the fissile

isotope uranium 233 which is a nuclear fuel. As a part of this programme, BARC has been developing a 300 MWe Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR). Fuelled by thorium and using light water as coolant and heavy water as moderator, this reactor will have several advanced passive safety features.

Advanced Heavy Water Reactor

The Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) equilibrium core cluster having (Th, Pu-U) MOX fuel was re-optimized for better performance. A Passive Auto Depressurization System was developed for fast depressurisation of main heat transport system to initiate timely injection of cooling water to ensure safety and integrity of the core.

Kalpakkam Mini (Kamini) Reactor

Kamini reactor was operated successfully for neutron radiography of various pyro devices for Department of Space. High temperature fission chambers required for neutron flux measurement of PFBR were successfully tested.

Nuclear Medicine and Healthcare

Many patients were benefitted from nuclear medicine diagnosis and therapy for various ailments such as thyroid, heart, etc. The Scintigraphy and PET-CT Section performed nearly 12,000 diagnostic scans. Facility for indigenous sourcing of expensive and clinically relevant peptides such as DOTA-TATE, HYNIC-TOC, cyclic-RGD, etc., using solid phase peptide synthesis has been developed.

Cancer Research

ACTREC, located at Navi Mumbai, comprises of two sub-units the Clinical Research Centre (CRC). It is a bed research hospital that focuses on research and treatment of cancer patients and the Cancer Research Institute (CRI) that focuses on basic and applied research on cancer.

ITER-Project

Institute of Plasma Research (IPR), Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) are involved in the design, material development, thermo fluid MHD analysis and various aspects of Lead Lithium Cooled Ceramic Breeder (LLCB) Test Blanket Module (TBM) for ITER necessary are being done at the (TER-India laboratory, which will then be transferred to the vendor site after due process and approval.

Human Resource Development and Knowledge Management

Homi Bhabha National Institute

The Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI) accredited as a deemed university by Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) completed ten years of its existence. HBNI continued its academic programmes by offering various courses with its eight Boards of Studies namely as Chemical Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Health Sciences, Life Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Physical Sciences, Strategic Studies and Undergraduate Studies.

INDIAN SPACE PROGRAMME

Space activities in the country were initiated with the setting up of Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR) in 1962. In the same year, work on Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS) near Thiruvananthapuram was also started. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) was established in

August, 1969. The Space Commission was constituted and established the Department of Space (DOS) in June, 1972 and brought ISRO under DOS in 1972.

Space Commission formulates the policies and oversees the implementation of the Indian space programme to promote the development and application of space science and technology for the socioeconomic benefit of the country. DOS implements these programmes through, mainly, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL), North Eastern-Space Applications Centre (NE-SAC) and Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL). Antrix Corporation, established in 1992 as a government owned company, markets the space products and services.

Launch Vehicle Programme

During the year under review, ISRO's workhorse Launch Vehicle PSLV, in its 'XL' version, placed two Navigation Satellites IRNSS-1D and 1E in the required sub Geosynchronous Transfer Orbits in two separate flights—PSLV-C27 and PSLV-C31. Besides, the 'XL' version of PSLV launched five satellites from United Kingdom successfully into a 647 km Sun Synchronous Orbit in its 30th flight (PSLV-C28). PSLV-XL also launched India's first multi-wavelength space observatory ASTROSAT along with six customer satellites from abroad, in its thirty first flight (PSLV-30).

Satellite Programme

IRNSS-ID and 1E, the fourth and fifth satellites of the IRNSS Constellation, were successfully launched on board PSLV-C27 and PSLV-C31 in 2015 and in 2016 respectively. IRNSS satellites employ the standard I-1K structure with a power handling capability of around 1660 W and a liftoff mass of about 1,425 kg. Like their three predecessors, IRNSS-1D and 1E carry a navigation payload as well as a C-band ranging payload.

Space Science Programme

Mars Orbiter Mission is India's first interplanetary spacecraft mission as well as the first Indian spacecraft mission to planet Mars. With a lift-off mass of 1340' kg, the Mars Orbiter Spacecraft carries five payloads – Mars Colour Camera, Thermal infrared Imaging Spectrometer, Methane Sensor for Mars, Lyman Alpha Photometer and Mars Exospheric Neutral Composition Analyser. Mars Orbiter Mission primarily envisaged to demonstrate the technologies for building, launching and navigating an unmanned spacecraft to Mars as well as to explore the planet by placing it in an orbit around that planet.

Space Applications and Disaster Management

Support Remote Sensing applications projects at national, state and local levels are being carried out through well-established multi-pronged implementation architecture of National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS) in the country. During the year, Indian Remote Sensing Satellite constellation helped in Agricultural Crops Inventory, Agricultural Drought, Forest Fire, Landslides and Earthquakes Monitoring, Groundwater Prospects Mapping, Inventory; Monitoring of Glacial Lakes/ Water Bodies, Sericulture Development and Satellite Aided Search and Rescue.

Ministry of Earth Sciences

Ministry of Earth Sciences has been striving to address a wide range of issues relating to earth system science with a view to study the complex interactions among various components of the system namely, atmosphere, oceans, cryosphere, geosphere and biosphere. The objective of this endeavor is to improve our understanding of the earth system and its components leading to improvement of the services for socio-environment benefits of the country.

Polar and Cryosphere Research (PACER)

The Indian Arctic observatory deployed in 2014 was successfully retrieved in 2015. The observatory that is designed and deployed by NIOTOOS has functioned well and recorded one year data continuously which is a major achievement in the area of in-situ observation.

A **Borehole Geophysics Research Laboratory (BGRL) has been** set up at Karad, Maharashtra to carry out Scientific Deep Drilling Investigation in Koyna-Warna region of Maharashtra. The Koyna region located close to the west coast of India is the most outstanding example of Reservoir Triggered Seismicity (RTS).

Autonomous Institutions

- National Institute of Immunology (NII), New Delhi**
- National Centre for Cell Sciences (NCCS), Pune**
- National Brain Research Centre (NBRC), Manesar**
- Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneshwar**
- National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG), Kalyani**
- Institute of Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (InStem),Bangalore**

CHAPTER TWENTY SIX | TRANSPORT

A well-knit and coordinated system of transport plays an important role in the sustained economic growth of a country. The present transport system of the country comprises several modes of transport including rail, road, coastal shipping, air transport, etc. Transport has recorded a substantial growth over the years both in spread of network and in output of the system.

The Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways are responsible for the formation and implementation of policies and programmes for the development of various modes of transport save for the railways and the civil aviation.

Railways

The Railways in India provide the principal mode of transportation for freight and passengers. It brings together people from the farthest corners of the country and makes possible the conduct of business, sightseeing, pilgrimage and education. The Indian Railways have been a great integrating force during the last more than 163 years. It has bound the economic life of the country and helped in accelerating the development of industry and agriculture.

About 36.66 per cent of the route kilometre and 45.19 per cent of running track kilometre and 46.84 per cent of total track kilometre is electrified. The network is divided into 17 Zones. Divisions are the basic operating units. The 17 zones and their respective headquarters are given below:

Zonal Railways	Headquarters	Zonal Railways	Headquarters
Central	Mumbai	Southern	Chennai
Eastern	Kolkata	South Central	Secunderabad
East Coast	Bhubaneswar	South Eastern	Kolkata
East Central	Hajipur	South East Central Railway	Bilaspur
Northern	New Delhi	South Western Railway	Hubli
North Central	Allahabad	Western	Mumbai
North Eastern	Gorakhpur	West Central Railway	Jabalpur
Northeast Frontier	Maligaon (Guwahati)	Metro Railway	Kolkata
North Western	Jaipur		

Research and Development

The Research Design and Standards Organization (RDSO) at Lucknow is the R&D wing of Indian Railways. It functions as a consultant to the Indian Railways in technical matters. It also provides consultancy to other organizations connected with railway manufacture and design.

Connectivity in North East and J&K

Railways completed Udhampur-Katra Broad gauge line in Jammu and Kashmir bringing Katra on broad gauge railway map. Fast passenger carrying train namely Banihal-Baramulla Fast Passenger (DEMU) and Budgam-Baramulla DEMU was started in Jammu and Kashmir. Lumding-Silchar Broad gauge section inaugurated giving seamless BG connectivity to Barak Valley of Assam. Meghalaya came on the rail map with the flagging off the first ever train from Guwahati to Medipathar in Meghalaya.

The Prime Minister laid the foundation for a new line to take rail connectivity to Mizoram's capital Aizwal. Tripura's capital Agartala came on the broad gauge rail map. Meter gauge is to be fully eliminated in North-East in near future.

Roads

Road as a mode of transport is a critical infrastructure for economic development of a country. It influences the pace, structure and pattern of development. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways was formed in 2009 by bifurcating the erstwhile Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways into two independent ministries.

The capacity of national highways in term of handling traffic (passenger and goods) needs to keep pace with industrial growth. India has one of the largest road networks of over 52.32 lakh km.

National Highways Authority of India

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) was constituted to develop, maintain and manage the national highways vested or entrusted to it by the Central Government. It became operational in 1995 with the appointment of the first Chairman. Presently, NHAI is headed by a Chairman with six full time members and four part time (ex-officio) members.

Indian Academy of Highway Engineers

Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) is a registered Society under the administrative control of the Ministry. It is a collaborative body of both central and state governments and was set up in 1983 with the objective of fulfilling the long felt need for training of highway engineers in the country, both at the entry level and during the service period.

Bharatmala Project

The Ministry has taken up detailed review of national highways network with a view to improving road connectivity to coastal/border areas, backward areas, religious places, tourist places, construction/rehabilitation/widening of about 1,500 major bridges and 200 railway over bridges (ROBs)/railway under bridges (RUBs) on NHs, improvement of newly declared NHs providing connectivity to district head quarters, connectivity improvement programme for Char-Dham (Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunotri and Gongotri in Uttarakhand) under proposed Bharatmala Pariyojana.

Setu Bharatam Programme

The Setu Bharatam programme for building bridges for safe and seamless travel on national highways was launched in 2016. The Setu Bharatam programme is to make all national highways free of railway level crossings by 2019. This is being done to prevent the frequent accidents and loss of lives at level crossings.

Shipping

Ministry of Shipping was formed in 2009 by bifurcating the erstwhile Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways into two independent ministries. Maritime transport is a critical infrastructure for the economic development of a country. It influences the pace, structure and pattern of development.

Maritime Development

The maritime sector in India comprises ports, shipping, ship building and ship repair and inland water transport systems. India has 12 major ports and about 200 non major ports. Indian shipping industry has over the years played a crucial role in the transport sector of India's economy.

MAJOR PORTS IN INDIA

Kolkata Port

Kolkata Port is the only riverine major port in India having an existence of about 138 years. It has a vast hinterland comprising the entire Eastern India including West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, UP, MP, Assam, North East Hill States and the two landlocked neighbouring countries namely, Nepal and Bhutan. The port has twin dock systems viz., Kolkata Dock System (KDS) on the eastern bank and Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) on the western bank of river Hooghly.

Paradip Port

Paradip Port is one of the major ports in India. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, ExPrime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the Port in 1962 near the confluence of river Mahanadi on the east coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha. Government of India took over the management of the port from the state government on 1st June, 1965. The construction of Iron Ore Berth was completed and INS "INVESTIGATOR" had the privilege of maiden berthing in the port in March, 1966.

The port was declared open by Mr. Peter Stambolic, the then Prime Minister of Yugoslavia on the same day. The Government of India declared Paradip Port Trust (PPT) as the eighth major port in India on 18th April, 1966 making it the first major port in the East Coast commissioned in independent India.

New Mangalore Port

New Mangalore Port was declared as the ninth major port in May, 1974 and was formally inaugurated on 11th January, 1975. The provisions of Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 were extended to the New Mangalore Port and a Port Trust Board was formed in 1980.

Cochin Port: The modern port of Cochin was developed during the period 1920-1940 due to the untiring efforts of Sir Robert Bristow. By 1930-31 the port was formally opened for vessels up to 30 feet draught. Cochin was given the status of a major port in 1936. The administration of the port got vested in a Board of Trustees on 29th February, 1964 under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963. The port of Cochin is located on the Willington island.

Jawaharlal Nehru Port

Constructed in the mid 1980's and commissioned on 26th May, 1989, Jawaharlal Nehru Port has come a long way by becoming a world-class international container handling port. The Port is a trendsetter in the matter of port development in India through new initiatives like private sector participation.

Mumbai Port

Mumbai Port is a fully integrated multi-purpose Port handling container, dry bulk, liquid bulk and break bulk cargo. The Port has extensive wet and dry dock facilities to meet the normal needs of ships using the port. There are three enclosed wet docks namely, Prince, Victoria and Indira Docks.

SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA

The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI) was formed in 1961. The status of SCI has been changed from a Private Limited Company to Public Limited Company from 1992.

The SCI was conferred the "Navratna" status by the Government of India in August, 2009. Presently, the Government is holding 80.12 per cent of the share capital and the balance is held by Financial Institutions, Public and others (NRIs, Corporate Bodies etc.).

Cochin Shipyard

Situated in the south western coast of India in Kochi, Kerala, Cochin Shipyard is the largest shipyard in the country. It was incorporated in 1972.

Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd

Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited (HDPEL), Kolkata became a Central Public Sector undertaking in 1984. The Company has two working units in Howrah District of West Bengal, one at Saikia and another at Nazirgunge.

Shipping Sector

Shipping plays an important role in the economic development of the country, especially in India's international trade. The shipping industry also plays an important role in the energy security of the country, as energy resources, such as coal, crude oil and natural gas are mainly transported by ships.

Coastal Shipping

The share of coastal shipping in domestic cargo movement is around 7 per cent including just 0.5 per cent through inland waterways. The contiguous coastline of India covers 5400 kms and 2100 kms of shores on more than 1190 islands. Therefore, there is huge potential for coastal shipping in the country.

Coastal shipping is best suited for bulk cargo. This transportation at present is regulated through a policy on cabotage enshrined in the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

Inland Water Transport

Various projects for development and maintenance of national waterways 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 (The Ganga river, the Brahmaputra river, the west coast canal, Krishna – Godavari rivers along with canal system between Kakinada and Puducherry and Brahmani river - east coast canal, Matai river and Mahanadi delta rivers) were implemented by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for providing / upgrading / maintaining Inland Water Transport (IWT) infrastructure as per requirement.

Sagarmala Project

The National Perspective Plan for the Sagarmala programme was put in place in 2016. In all 173 projects have been initially identified under four projects archetypes of Sagarmala.

Sagarmala Development Company (SDC) is to be set up by the Ministry of Shipping to provide support to the project SPVs and funding support for the residual projects under Sagarmala. The Sagarmala Consultants have projected that the identified industrial cluster projects will enable creation of approximately 1 crore new jobs, including 40 lakh direct jobs in the next 10 years.

Civil Aviation

The Ministry of Civil Aviation is responsible for the formulation of national policies and programmes for development and regulation of civil aviation and for devising and implementing schemes for orderly growth and expansion of civil air transport. Its functions also extend to overseeing the provision of airport facilities, air traffic services, carriage of passengers and goods by air, safeguarding civil aviation operations, regulation of air transport services, licensing of aerodromes, air carriers, pilots and aircraft maintenance engineers.

India has been a member of the international Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and is also on the Council of ICAO since its inception. The civil aviation sector has three main functional divisions-regulatory, infrastructural and operational.

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi

The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) was set up at Fursatganj, Raebareli (Uttar Pradesh) to bring about a quantum improvement in the standards of flying and ground training of commercial pilots in the country. The Akademi is equipped with most modern and sophisticated trainer aircraft, up-to-date audio-visual training aids and other facilities for effective ground training.

Airports Authority of India

Airports Authority of India (AAI) is a leader in building airport infrastructure along the length and breadth of the country, including remote and far flung areas. Airports Authority of India came into being in 1995.

National Flying Training Institute

Airport Authority of India (AAI) in collaboration with CAE, Canada has set up a Joint Venture Company in the name of National Flying Training Institute Private Limited (NFTIPL). This Institute is located at Gondia in Maharashtra.

Gagan Project

GPS Aided Geo Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) is an augmentation system to enhance the accuracy and integrity of GPS signals to meet precision approach requirements in civil aviation and it is being implemented jointly by AAI and ISRO in three phases. Technology demonstration system is to be upgraded to a full operational capability system in the second and third phase. GSAT IV being fabricated by ISRO will carry GAGAN payload.

The footprint of this satellite will cover a vast geographical area from Africa to Australia and hence would facilitate expansion of the service area of 'GAGAN' far beyond Indian airspace. When implemented, this would replace most of the ground based navigational aids and it would be possible to provide precision approach and landing guidance up to category 1, to aircraft hitherto not available due to terrain conditions precluding the provision of Instrument Landing System.

Greenfield Airports

A Greenfield airport project at Devanahalli near Bengaluru has been implemented on a Build Own Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis for 30 years with Public Private Participation (PPP).

Greenfield Policy for Airports

The Government promulgated the policy for Greenfield Airports in 2008. This policy aims to streamline the approval process to facilitate strengthening and augmenting of airports infrastructure in the country. It also attempts to make the approval process more transparent and predictable.

Air India

Air India and Indian Airlines merger attained its official status on the formation of National Aviation Company of India Ltd. (Air India) in 2007. Post merger the new entity is known as Air India while its mascot is retained as 'Maharajah'.

Pawan Hans Helicopters

Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) was incorporated in 1985 and commenced its operations within one year, to provide helicopter services to the oil sector, operate in hilly and inaccessible areas and make available charter flights for promotion of travel and tourism.

CHAPTER TWENTY SEVEN | WATER RESOURCES

THE Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation lays down policies and programmes for development and regulation of the water resources of the country. It covers sectoral planning, coordination, policy guidelines, technical examination and techno-economic appraisal of projects, providing central assistance to specific projects, facilitation of external assistance and assistance in the resolution of interstate water disputes, policy formulation, planning and guidance in respect of major, medium & minor irrigation, ground water management, command area development, flood management, dam safety and river development and Ganga rejuvenation (including its tributaries rejuvenation), regulation and development of inter-state rivers, implementation of awards of Tribunals, water quality assessment, bilateral/external assistance and matters relating to rivers common to India and neighbouring countries.

National Water Mission

With a view to address Climate Change and the related issues, the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) has been prepared by the Government of India, which laid down the principles and has identified the approach to be adopted to meet the challenges of impact of climate change through eight National Missions. National Water Mission is one of the missions under NAPCC.

The main objective of the National Water Mission is "conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management".

The five identified goals of the Mission are: (a) comprehensive water data base in public domain and assessment of impact of climate change on water resource; (b) promotion of citizen and state action for water conservation, augmentation and preservation; (c) focused attention to vulnerable areas including over-exploited areas; (d) increasing water use efficiency by 20 per cent, and (e) promotion of basin level integrated water resources management.

National Water Policy

The National Water Policy, 2012 was adopted by the National Water Resources Council. The National Water Policy, 2012 made several recommendations for conservation, development and improved management of water resources in the country.

Emphasis on the need for a National Water Framework Law; comprehensive legislation for optimum development of inter-state rivers and river valleys; evolving a system of benchmarks for water uses for different purposes to ensure efficient use of water; setting up of Water Regulatory Authority by each state; and incentivizing recycle and reuse of water are some of the important recommendations in the Policy.

The Policy also lays emphasis on community participation in management of water resources projects and services; incentivizing water saving in irrigation through methods like aligning cropping pattern with natural resource endowments, micro irrigation, automated irrigation operation, evaporation-transpiration reduction etc; undertaking conservation of rivers, river corridors, water bodies and infrastructure in a scientifically planned manner through community participation; and arresting declining ground water levels in over-exploited areas.

National Water Resources Council

The National Water Resources Council (NWRC) was set up by the Government of India in 1983. The Prime Minister is the Chairman and Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is the Vice-Chairman of the Council.

National Water Board

The Government of India constituted a National Water Board in 1990 to review the progress achieved in implementation of the National Water Policy and to report the progress to the National Water Resources Council from time to time.

National Mission for Clean Ganga

"Namami Gange" Programme integrates the efforts to clean and protect the river Ganga in a comprehensive manner with a budget outlay of Rs 20,000 crores for next 5 years.

In order to speed up progress, the Centre has decided to take over 100 per cent funding of various activities/projects and plans to provide for operation and maintenance of the assets for a minimum 10 year period. The primary focus of the programme is on pollution abatement and by 2020, the gap in treatment capacity for priority towns located along Ganga will be addressed.

Identified grossly polluting Industries have been directed to move towards implementing zero liquid discharge and installing realtime effluent monitoring stations. Comprehensive river surface and ghat cleaning programme has been initiated for major urban centres of Haridwar, Rishikesh, Gharmukteshwar, Mathura-Vrindavan, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Patna, Sahibganj, Kolkata and Nabadwip.

This programme will include solid waste management and environmental monitoring/ surveillance of drains. Intensive afforestation drive has also been initiated along the banks of the river with focus on regeneration of native/medicinal species and providing comprehensive intervention that leads to the overall objective of cleaning river Ganga by reducing sediment load, recharging ground water and reducing non-point source pollution.

Jal Kranti Abhiyan

The Ministry celebrated Jal Kranti Abhiyan during the year 2015-16 to consolidate water conservation and management in the country through a holistic approach involving all stakeholders, making it a mass movement. The objectives of Jal Kranti Abhiyan are as follows: Strengthening grass root involvement of all stakeholders including Panchayati Raj Institutions and local bodies in the water security and development schemes; encouraging the adoption/utilization of traditional knowledge in water resources conservation and its management; utilizing sector level expertise from different levels in government, NGO's, citizens etc; and enhancing livelihood security through water security in rural areas.

Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme

The Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) was launched in 1996-97 to provide central assistance to major/medium irrigation projects in the country, with the objective to accelerate implementation of such projects which were beyond resource capability of the states or were in advanced stage of completion.

Command Area Development and Water Management

Objective: - The Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development (CAD) Programme was launched in 1974-75 for development of adequate delivery system of irrigation water up to farmers' field with an objective to enhance water use efficiency and production and productivity of crops per unit of land and water for improving socio-economic condition of farmers. The Programme envisages integration of all activities relating to irrigated agriculture in a coordinated manner with multi-disciplinary team under a Command Area Development Authority.

Coverage:- Initially, 60 major and medium irrigation projects were taken up under the CAD Programme, covering a Culturable Command Area (CCA) of about 15 million hectare. The Programme was restructured and renamed as Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) Programme from 2004.

The Programme is being implemented under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) - Har Khet Ko Pani - from 2015-16.

Programme Components: - The components of the CAD&WM Programme are as follows: a) survey, planning and designing of on-farm developments (OFD) works; b) on farm development (OFD) works comprising construction of field channels, land leveling and micro-irrigation; c) construction of field, intermediate and link drains for letting out surplus water; d) correction of system deficiencies above the outlet up to distributaries of 4.25 cumec (150 cusec) capacity; e) reclamation of waterlogged area including use of location specific biodrainage techniques to supplement conventional techniques for reclamation of waterlogged area; f) one time functional and infrastructure grants to Water Users' Associations.

Central Ground Water Board

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is a multidisciplinary scientific organization with a mandate to: "Develop and disseminate technologies, monitor and implement national policies for the scientific and sustainable development and management of India's ground water resources including their exploration, assessment, conservation, augmentation, protection from pollution and distribution based on principles of economic and ecological efficiency and equity".

Major Activities

Major activities of the Board include management of ground water, exploratory drilling, monitoring of ground water levels and water quality through a network of ground water observation wells, implementation of demonstrative schemes for artificial recharge and rainwater harvesting for recharge augmentation, periodic assessment of ground water resources of the country, etc.

Brief details of the major activities are as follows:-

➤ ***Aquifer Mapping and Formulation of Aquifer Management Plan:***

Aquifers are natural rock formations which can store and economically yield water. In XII Plan CGWB has taken up the National Project on Aquifer Management (NAQUIM) to facilitate identification, delineation, characterization and effective management of aquifers to ensure sustainability of ground water resources. The project is proposed to span over XII & XIII Plan periods.

➤ ***Demonstrative Projects on "Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rainwater Harvesting:***

CGWB has implemented demonstrative projects on artificial recharge to groundwater and rain water harvesting in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Chandigarh, during XI Plan.

➤ ***Central Ground Water Authority:***

Central Ground Water Board was constituted as Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water management and development in the country. As part of streamlining the regulatory function of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), district magistrates/deputy commissioners of revenue districts have been appointed as authorized officers for grant of permission for extraction of ground water for drinking/domestic uses in notified areas.

➤ **Ground Water Development:**

There is a considerable variation in ground water potential in different parts of the country. While some areas like Indo-Gangetic alluvium have huge ground water potential, many hard rock areas have limited ground water resources. Similarly, the development of ground water resources in different areas of the country has not been uniform.

➤ **Rajiv Gandhi National Ground Water Training and Research Institute:**

The Rajiv Gandhi National Ground Water Training and Research Institute (RGNGWTRI) located at Raipur, Chhattisgarh caters to the training requirements of Central Ground Water Board and other Central and state organizations, academic institutes, NGOs, etc.

➤ **Hydrology Project-II:**

Under the World Bank funded Hydrology Project-II, pilot projects on aquifer mapping were taken up in six different Hydro-geological terrains in the country covering parts of Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

CENTRAL WATER COMMISSION

Central Water Commission is headed by a Chairman, with the status of an Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India. The work of the Commission is divided among three wings namely, Designs and Research Wing (D&R), Water Planning and Projects Wing (WP&P) and River Management Wing (RM). Allied functions are grouped under respective wings and each wing is placed under the charge of a full-time Member with the status of an ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

FUNCTIONS

CWC (Central Water Commission) is charged with the general responsibility of initiating, coordinating and furthering in consultation with the State Governments concerned, schemes for the control, conservation and utilization of water resources in the respective state for the purpose of flood management, irrigation, drinking water supply and water power generation. The Commission, if so required, can undertake the construction and execution of any such scheme.

Water Resource Information System

CWC and ISRO have jointly developed Water Resources Information System (India-WRIS) in 2010. Subsequently, four versions of the website of India-WRIS have been launched.

National Water Academy

National Water Academy (NWA) is an institute established by the Ministry under Central Water Commission at Khadakwasla, Pune. The objective of NWA is to function as 'Centre of Excellence' in training and capacity building for all stakeholders on various aspects of water resources planning, development and management and to develop institutional capability at the national level for imparting training in new emerging technologies in water resources sector on continued basis.

Central Soil and Materials Research Station

Central Soil and Materials Research Station (CSMRS), New Delhi, is a premier organization in the country that deals with the field explorations, laboratory investigations, and research in the field of geotechnical engineering and civil engineering materials, particularly for construction of river valley projects, and safety evaluation of existing dams.

Ganga Flood Control Commission

Ganga Flood Control Commission' (GFCC), a subordinate office of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation with its headquarters at Patna, was created in 1972 to deal with floods and its management in Ganga Basin states as secretariat and executive wing of Ganga Flood Control Board. Headed by Union Minister of Water Resources, chief ministers of basin states or their representatives and members, Planning Commission, Chairman, GFCC acts as the Member-Secretary of the Board.

National Institute of Hydrology

The National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), established in 1978 as an autonomous organization under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (Government of India), is a premier R&D institute in the country to undertake, aid, promote and coordinate basic, applied and strategic research on all aspects of hydrology and water resources development.

Rau's IAS Study Circle

CHAPTER TWENTY EIGHT | WELFARE

IN the year 1985-86, the erstwhile Ministry of Welfare was bifurcated into the Department of Women and Child Development and the Department of Welfare. Simultaneously, the Scheduled Castes Development Division, Tribal Development Division and the Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare Division were shifted from the Ministry of Home Affairs and also the Wakf Division from the Ministry of Law to form the then Ministry of Welfare.

Subsequently, the name of the Ministry was changed to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in May, 1998. In October, 1999, the Tribal Development Division moved out to form a separate Ministry of Tribal Affairs. In January, 2007 the Minorities Division along with Wakf Unit also shifted away from the Ministry and was formed as separate Ministry. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (SJ&E) was bifurcated into two Departments. These are, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES

Statutory Framework

The Constitution contains several provisions in the nature of safeguards for the Scheduled Castes. The following two Acts specifically aim at curbing (i) untouchability and (ii) atrocities against SCs and STs, and are therefore very important for the Scheduled Castes:- (i) The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, and (ii) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Preventions of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Protection of Civil Rights

In pursuance of Article 17 of the Constitution of India, The Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 was enacted and notified in 1955. Subsequently, it was amended and renamed in the year 1976 as The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. Rules under this Act, viz., The Protection of Civil Rights Rules, 1977 were notified in 1977. The Act extends to the whole of India and provides punishment for the practice of untouchability. It is implemented by the respective state governments and union territory administrations.

Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Preventions of Atrocities) Act

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (The PoA Act) came into force with effect from 1990. This legislation aims at preventing commission of offences by persons other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015

Despite the deterrent provisions made in the PoA Act, continuing atrocities against the members of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) had been a cause of concern. High incidence of occurrences of offences against members of SCs and STs also indicated that the deterrent effect of the PoA Act was not adequately felt by the accused. It was, therefore, considered appropriate to strengthen the Act and make the relevant provisions of the Act more effective. Based on the consultation process with all the stakeholders, amendments in the PoA Act were proposed to broadly cover five areas.

National Commission for Scheduled Castes

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which was set up under Article 383 of the Constitution in 1990 was bifurcated into two Commissions namely, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes after the 89th Constitutional (Amendment) Act, 2003. The National Commission for Scheduled Castes is responsible for monitoring the safeguards provided for Scheduled Castes and also to review issues concerning their welfare.

Functions of the NCSC as enumerated in the Article 338(5) of the Constitution are:- (a) to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes under the Constitution or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards; (b) to inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the scheduled castes; (c) to participate and advise on the planning process of socioeconomic development of the Scheduled Castes and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union and any State; (d) to present to the President, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards; (e) to make in such reports, recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or any State for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the scheduled castes; and (f) to discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the scheduled castes as the President may, subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, by rule specify.

Assistance to State Scheduled Castes Development Corporation

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme for participating in the equity share of the Scheduled Castes Development Corporation (SCDC) in the ratio of 49:51 (Central State) was introduced in 1979. At present, SCDCs are functioning in 27 states /UTs. The main functions of SCDCs are identification of eligible SC families and motivating them to undertake economic development schemes, sponsoring the schemes to financial institutions for credit support, providing financial assistance in the form of margin money at low rate of interest and subsidy in order to reduce the repayment liability and providing necessary tie up with other poverty alleviation programmes.

National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation

The National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) was set up in 1989 under the Companies Act, 2013. The broad objective of NSFDC is to provide financial assistance in the form of concessional loans to scheduled castes families, and skill-cum-entrepreneurial training to the youth of the target group, living below double the poverty line [presently Rs 98,000/- per annum for rural areas and Rs 21,20,000/- per annum for urban areas] for their economic development.

Welfare of Persons with Disabilities

In order to give focused attention to different policy issues and meaningful thrust to the activities aimed at welfare and empowerment of the Persons with Disabilities, a separate Department of Disability Affairs was carved out of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in May, 2012. The Department acts as a Nodal Agency for matters pertaining to disability and Persons with Disabilities including effecting closer coordination among different stakeholders: related Central ministries, state/UT governments, NGOs etc. in matters pertaining to disability.

According to Census 2011, there are 2.68 crore persons with disabilities in the country (who constitute 2.21 percent of the total population).

Relevant Constitutional Provisions

The Directive Principles of State Policy have been incorporated in Part- IV of the Constitution. Even though non-justiciable, these have been declared as fundamental in the governance of the country. These principles are intended to be the imperative basis of State policy. These are really in the nature of instructions issued to future legislatures and executives for their guidance.

Article 41: Right to work, to education and to public assistance in certain cases, provides: "The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in case of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement and in other cases of undeserved want.

TRIBALS AFFAIRS

Development of Scheduled Tribes

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was set up in 1999 after the bifurcation of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with the objective of providing more focused approach on the integrated socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs), the most underprivileged of the society, in a coordinated and planned manner.

Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas

Scheduled Tribes live in contiguous areas unlike other communities. It is, therefore, much simpler to have an area approach for development activities and also regulatory provisions to protect their interests. In order to protect the interests of Scheduled Tribes with regard to land alienation and other social factors, provisions of the "Fifth Schedule" and "Sixth Schedule" have been enshrined in the Constitution.

The Fifth Schedule under Article 244 (1) of Constitution defines "Scheduled Areas" as such areas as the President may by Order declare to be Scheduled Areas after consultation with the Governor of the state. The Sixth Schedule under Article 244 (2) of the Constitution relates to those areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram which are declared as "Tribal Areas" and provides for District Councils and/or Regional Councils for such Areas. These Councils have been conferred with wide ranging legislative, judicial and executive powers.

The Fifth Schedule Areas: The criteria for declaring any area as a "Scheduled Area" under the Fifth Schedule are: **(a)** preponderance of tribal population, **(b)** compactness and reasonable size of the area, **(c)** a viable administrative entity such as a district, block or taluk, and **(d)** economic backwardness of the area as compared to neighbouring areas. The specification of "Scheduled Areas" in relation to a State is done by a notified Order of the President, after consultation with the State Governments concerned. The same applies for altering, increasing, decreasing, incorporating new areas, or rescinding any orders relating to "Scheduled Areas".

Procedure for Declaration as ST

The term Scheduled Tribes is defined in the Constitution of India under Article 366(25) as such tribes or tribal communities or parts of groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution. Article 342 prescribes the procedure to be followed in the matter of specification of Scheduled Tribes. In terms of Article 342(1), the President may, with respect to any State or Union Territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor thereof, notify tribes or tribal communities or parts thereof as Scheduled Tribes.

Scheduling and De-Scheduling of Tribes

Thus, the first specification of Scheduled Tribes in relation to a particular state/union territory is by a notified order of the President, after consultation with the state governments concerned. The criteria generally adopted for specification of a community as a Scheduled Tribe are : **(a)** indications of primitive traits; **(b)** distinctive culture; **(c)** shyness of contact with the community at large; and **(d)** geographical isolation i.e. backwardness.

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

In addition to the Office of the Commissioner for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes created in 1950 for effective implementation of various safeguards provided in the Constitution for the SCs & STs and various other protective legislations, a multi-member Commission for SCs and STs was set up in 1978. In 1992 these two organizations were replaced by a statutory multimember National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Tribal Sub Plan

The present Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) strategy was initially developed by an Expert Committee set up by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare in 1972 for rapid socio-economic development of tribal people and was adopted for the first time in the Fifth Five Year Plan.

Special Schemes

(a) Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY) is an exclusive scheme for the economic development of ST women, at a highly concessional rate of interest. Under the scheme NSTFDC provides Term Loan for scheme(s)/project(s) costing up to Rs 50,000/- per individual unit/profit centre.

Recognition of Forest Rights of STs

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 seeks to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights on ancestral lands and their habitat were not adequately recognized in the consolidation of State forests during the colonial period as well as in independent India resulting in historical injustice to them.

Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana

Major activities approved under Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY) Scheme during 2015-16 are: education/infrastructure/toilets in hostel and schools; health/sports/safe drinking water; self employment/skill development / fruit farming /livelihood/dairy/fishery; irrigation; culture/tourism; monitoring cell/institution; and connectivity/market/electricity/solar energy.

Forest Rights Act

The Forest Rights Act, (FRA) 2006 was reviewed under PRAGATI initiative in order to take up FRA on a campaign mode, the Ministry has taken several steps to review the status of implementation with state governments. Odisha has the distinction of issuing highest number of titles. Madhya Pradesh has the distinction of having highest forest area over which titles have been issued under this Act.

Mental Health Act

Mental illness has been recognized as one of the disabilities under The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The treatment and care of the mentally ill persons are governed by The Mental Health Act, 1987. The Act is administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Persons with Disabilities Act

A comprehensive law, namely, The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 was enacted and enforced in February, 1996. The law deals with both prevention and promotion aspects of the rehabilitation such as education, employment and vocational training, creation of barrier-free environment, provision of rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, institutional services and supportive social security measures like unemployment allowance and grievance redressal machinery both at the Central and state Level.

National Institutes

In order to effectively deal with the multi-dimensional problem of the disabled population, the following National Institutes/apex level Institutes have been set-up in each major area of disability; (i) National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun, (ii) National Institute for Orthopedically Handicapped, Kolkata, (iii) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai, (iv) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad, (v) National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack, (vi),

Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi, (vii) National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai.

National Council for Older Persons

The Government has reconstituted National Council for Older Persons (NCOP) to advise and aid the Government on developing policies and programmes for older persons. It provides feedback to the Government on the implementation of the National Policy on Older Persons and the specific initiatives for older persons. The NCOP is the highest body to advise and coordinate with the Government in the formulation and implementation of policy and programmes for the welfare of the aged.

Welfare Measures for the Minorities

Six religious communities viz., Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Zoroastrians (Parsis) and Jains have been notified as minorities as per provisions under the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) Act, 1992.

National Commission for Minorities

The Minorities Commission which was set up in January, 1978 by a Resolution issued by Ministry of Home Affairs became a statutory body with the enactment of The National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 and renamed as the National Commission for Minorities.

Schemes for Women

Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls - (RGSEAG) - Sabla: Sabla was introduced in the year 2010-11 and is operational in 205 selected districts on a pilot basis. It aims at all-round development of adolescent girls (AGs) of 11-18 years (with a focus on all out-of-school AGs). Sabla is being implemented through the state governments /UTs with 100 per cent financial assistance from the Central Government for all inputs other than nutrition provision for which 50 per cent Central assistance to states is provided.

Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY): A Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme for pregnant and lactating women was introduced in 2010 to contribute to better enabling environment by providing cash incentives for improved health and nutrition to pregnant and nursing mothers. The scheme attempts to partly compensate for wage loss to pregnant and lactating women both prior to and after delivery of the child.

Women Empowerment and Livelihood Programme in Mid-Gangetic Plains - "Priyadarshini": The Ministry is administering a pilot project titled Women's Empowerment and Livelihood Programme in the Mid Gangetic Plains 'Priyadarshini' in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The project is assisted by IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development). It aims at holistic empowerment (economic and social) of vulnerable groups of women and adolescent girls in the project area through formation of women's Self Help Groups (SHGs) and promotion of improved livelihood opportunities.

Swadhar

The Swadhar Scheme was launched in 2001-2002 as a Central Sector Scheme for providing holistic and integrated services to women in difficult circumstances and without any family, social and economic support, such as destitute widows deserted by their families in religious places like Vrindaban and Kashi, women prisoners released from jails; women survivors of natural disasters who have been rendered homeless, trafficked women/girls rescued or runaway from brothels, women victims of terrorist violence without any means for survival, mentally challenged women and women with HIV / AIDS deserted by their family, etc.

The Scheme is implemented through Social Welfare /Women and Child Development Department, Women's Development Corporation, urban local bodies, reputed public /private trust or voluntary organisations, etc.,

provided they have the needed experience and expertise in the rehabilitation of such women on a project to project basis.

Ujjawala

Launched in 2009, 'Ujjawala' is a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of trafficking, with five specific components; (i) prevention, which includes formation of community vigilance groups/ adolescents groups, awareness and sensitization of important functionaries like policy, community leaders and preparation of awareness generation materials, holding workshops, etc.; (ii) rescue, for safe withdrawal of the victim from the place of exploitation.; (iii) rehabilitation, which includes providing safe shelter for victims with basic amenities such as food, clothing, counselling, medical care, legal aid, vocational training and income generation activities, etc.; (iv) reintegration, for restoring the victim into the family/community (if she so desires) and the accompanying costs; (v) repatriation, to provide support to cross - border victims for their safe repatriation to their country of origin.

National Mission for Empowerment of Women

National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), was launched by the government in 2010 with a view to empowers women holistically. The Mission aims to achieve empowerment of women by securing inter sectoral convergence of schemes/programmes of different ministries/ departments of Government of India as well as state governments. It has the mandate to strengthen and facilitate the process of coordinating all the women's welfare and socio-economic development programmes.

Child Sex Ratio

NMEW is the nodal agency for addressing the issue of declining child sex ratio. A National Action Plan is now being drafted by the NMEW in consultation with all relevant stakeholders. A national consultation was organised in January, 2013, to bring various stakeholders including government officials, civil society organizations (CSO) members, medical practitioners and legal experts together to identify ways to address the issues of declining CSR.

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao

In the backdrop of a trend of declining sex ratio in the age group up to five years ,the Government has introduced a new scheme called Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao with the twin aim of not only improving the adverse sex ratio but also to ensure that girls are educated. With an initial corpus of Rs 100 crore, it will help in generating awareness and improve the efficiency of delivery of welfare services meant for women.

The overall goal of the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao(BBBP) Scheme is to celebrate the girl child and enable her education. The objectives of the Scheme are as under: - prevent gender biased sex selective elimination ensure survival and protection of the girl child ensure education of the girl child. Mass Communication Campaign on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao aims at ensuring girls are born, nurtured and educated without discrimination to become empowered citizens of this country. The campaign interlinks national, state and district level interventions with community level action in 100 districts, bringing together different stakeholders for accelerated impact.

'Stree Shakti Puraskar

As recognition of achievements of individual women in the field of social development, the government has instituted six national awards known as 'Stree Shakti Puraskar'. These awards carrying a cash prize of 3 lakh and a citation are in the name of eminent women personalities from Indian history, who are famous for their personal courage and integrity: Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar, Kannagi, Mata Jijabai, Rani Gaidenliou Zeliang, Rani Lakshmi Bai and Rani Rudramma Devi.

POLICIES AND SCHEMES

National Policy for Children

The Government adopted a new National Policy for Children (NPC) in 2013. The new Policy reaffirms the government's commitment to the realization of the rights of all children in the country. It recognizes every person below the age of eighteen years as a child. The Policy recognizes childhood as an integral part of life with a value of its own, and a long term, sustainable, multi-sectoral, integrated and inclusive approach is necessary for the harmonious development and protection of children.

Food and Nutrition Board

Food and Nutrition Board in the Ministry of Women and Child Development is involved in policy making, strategy development as well as identifying innovative measures for the improvement of the nutritional status of the people of our country. It also focuses on improving the dietary habits of the people through nutrition education and extension; promotion of low cost, locally available foods; conservation of fruits and vegetables through home-scale processing; and training of health functionaries in nutrition.

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme provides day care facilities to the children in the age group of 0-6 years from families with monthly income of less than Rs 12,000/-. In addition to being a safe space for the children, the creches provide services as supplementary nutrition, pre-school education and emergency health care, etc.

Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)

Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing this comprehensive Centrally sponsored scheme since 2009-10 through the state government/UT administrations on a predefined cost sharing financial pattern. The objectives of the Scheme are to contribute to the improvement in the well being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as reduction of vulnerabilities to situation and actions that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children from parents.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Convention on Elimination of Discrimination against Women

India signed the Convention of Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1980 and ratified it in 1993 with one reservation and two declaratory statements. The Convention obligates the State parties to undertake appropriate legislative and other measures to eliminate discrimination against women and for guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedom on the basis of equality with men.

The National Commission for Women (NCW)

The National Commission for Women (NCW) was constituted in January, 1991 as a statutory body at the national level in pursuance of The National Commission for Women Act, 1990 to safeguard the interests of women. The Commission is implementing a project called 'Violence Free Home- A Women's Right' with Delhi Police to Safeguard the interests of girls and women in Delhi and NCR region.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act (NCPCR), 2005 was notified in 2006. A National Commission for Protection of Child Rights was set up in 2007 in accordance with the provisions of the Act for proper enforcement of children's rights and effective implementation of laws and programmes relating to children. Its mission is to protect, promote and defend child rights in India. Its mandate is to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes, practices and administrative structure in the country are in consonance with the child

rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Integrated Child Development Services

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the Government and represents one of the world's largest and unique programmes for early childhood development. The programme aims at addressing health, nutrition and the development needs of young children, pregnant and nursing mothers. NIPCCD (National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development) has been functioning as an apex institution for training of the ICDS functionaries since 1975.

Central Social Welfare Board

The Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) was set-up in 1953 with the objective of promoting social welfare activities and implementing welfare programmes for women and children through voluntary organizations. Thirty-three state social welfare boards were set up with jurisdiction over all states and union territories to work together with Central Social Welfare Board in implementing the programmes of the Board across the country.

Central Adoption Resource Authority

The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It functions as the nodal body for adoption of Indian children and is mandated to monitor and regulate in-country and inter-country adoptions. CARA is designated as the central authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, 1993, ratified by Government of India in 2003. The objectives of CARA are to : (i) function as a nodal body on non institutional child care services in the country; (ii) act as a Central Authority as envisaged under the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption; (iii) facilitate and promote adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children; and (iv) streamline adoption procedures and delivery systems.

Sukanya Samriddhi Account

Along with the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme, the government also launched the "Sukanya Samriddhi Account" programme. Despite being a small savings scheme, the Sukanya Samriddhi Account has the potential to have a phenomenal impact on the lives and self esteem of young girls in the country. The scheme aims to ensure a bright future for the girl children by facilitating their education and marriage expenses.

CHAPTER TWENTY NINE | YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

THE Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports functions under the overall guidance of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports. In 2008, two separate Departments, namely, Department of Youth Affairs and Department of Sports, were created under the Ministry, each Department under the charge of a Secretary to the Government of India.

Youth Affairs

The youth represent the most dynamic and vibrant segment of the population. India is one of the youngest nations in the world, with about 65 per cent of the population being under 35 years of age. The youth in the age group of 15-29 years comprise 27.5 per cent of the population. India is expected to become the 4th largest economy by 2025, only after the United States, China and Japan, contributing about 5.5-6 per cent to the world GDP.

National Youth Policy

The National Youth Policy, 2014 (NYP-2014) reiterates the commitment of the entire nation to the all-round development of the youth, so that they can realise their full potential and contribute productively to the nation-building process.

The Policy defines 'youth' as persons in the age-group of 15-29 years. Its vision, objectives and priority areas proposes a holistic 'vision' for the youth of India, which is "to empower youth of the country to achieve their full potential, and through them enable India to find its rightful place in the community of nations". In order to realise this, it identifies five clearly defined 'objectives' which need to be pursued and the 'Priority Areas' under each of the objectives.

The objectives and priority areas identified under the policy are summarized here:

	Objectives		Priority Areas
1.	Create a productive workforce that can make a sustainable contribution to India's economic development	1.	Education,
		2.	Employment and skill development,
		3.	Entrepreneurship
2.	Develop a strong and healthy generation equipped to take on future challenges	1.	Health and healthy lifestyle,
		2.	Sports
3.	Instill social values and promote community service to build national ownership	1.	Promotion of social values,
		2.	Community engagement
4.	Facilitate participation and civic engagement at levels of governance	1.	Participation in politics and governance
		2.	Youth engagement
5.	Support youth at risk and create equitable opportunity for all dis-advantaged and marginalised youth	1.	Inclusion
		2.	Social justice

National Young Leaders Programme

National Young Leaders Programme (NYLP) aims at developing leadership qualities among the youth to enable them to realise their full potential and in the process, to contribute to the nation-building process. The

Programme aims at motivating the youth to strive for excellence in their respective fields and to bring them to the forefront of the development process. It seeks to harness the immense youth energy for nation building. The Programme beneficiaries shall be the youth in the age-group of 15-29 years, in line with the definition of 'youth' in the National Youth Policy, 2014.

National Youth Corps

The Scheme of National Youth Corps (NYC) was launched in the country during 2010-11. The earlier schemes, namely, National Service Volunteer Scheme (NSVS) and Rashtriya Sadbhavana Yojana (RSY) were subsumed in the National Youth Corps (NYC) Scheme. The NYC Scheme is being implemented through NYKS. Under the Scheme, youth in the age-group of 18-25 years are engaged as volunteers to serve up to maximum two years in nation-building activities.

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, is an 'Institute of National Importance' under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, by virtue of enactment of RGNIYD Act, 2012.

National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development

National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) is an "Umbrella Scheme" of the Ministry under which financial assistance is provided to government/non-government organisations for taking up activities for youth and adolescent development. The Scheme is operational since 2008. The assistance under NPYAD is provided under five major components : (a) youth leadership and personality development training; (b) promotion of national integration programmes, youth festivals, multi-cultural activities, etc.; (c) promotion of adventure; Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards; (d) development and empowerment of adolescents life skills education, counselling, career guidance, etc.; and (e) technical and resource development research and studies on youth issues, documentation, seminars/ workshops.

Rio Olympics

India's star P. V. Sindhu won silver in the women's singles event Badminton category in the Rio Olympics. Sakshi Malik won the bronze in the 58 kg category, becoming the first Indian women wrestler to win a medal at the Olympics and the fourth female Olympic medalist from the country.

National Sports Policy

National Sports Policy, 2001 envisages mainly broad basing and promotion of excellence in sports. The salient features of this Policy are: (i) broad basing of sports and achievement of excellence; (ii) upgradation and development of infrastructure; (iii) support to national sports federations and other appropriate bodies; (iv) strengthening of scientific and coaching support to sports; (v) incentives to promote sports; (vi) enhanced participation of women, scheduled tribes and rural youth; (vii) involvement of corporate sector in sports promotion; and (viii) promotion of sports mindedness among the public at large.

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA), a centrally sponsored plan scheme was launched in 2014 in place of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA). The new scheme will involve an estimated outlay of about 9,000 crore spread over the remaining three years of the 12th Five Year Plan and the 13th Five Year Plan. The key objectives of the scheme are promotion of sports as a way of life among the youth, increased access to sports facilities throughout the country, conduct of sports competitions across the country to identify sports talent and achieving excellence in sports.

Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education (LNIPE)

The Institute was established initially as a College on August 17, 1957, the centenary year of the first war of India's Independence. The University is located at Gwalior, where Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi had laid down her life for the country's freedom struggle. In recognition of the services rendered in the field of physical education and sports by the Institute, it was upgraded to a "Deemed University" in 1995. The LNIPE is fully funded by the Government of India.

National Sports Development Fund

The National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) was instituted by the Central Government with a view to mobilizing resources from the Government as well as non-governmental sources, including the private/corporate sector and nonresident Indians, for promotion of sports and games in the country.

Incentive Schemes for Sportspersons

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports also implements various schemes to give incentives to sportspersons to take up sports as given here:

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award

The scheme was launched in the year 1991-92 with the objective of honouring sportspersons to enhance their general status and to give them greater dignity and place of honour in society. Under this scheme, an amount of 7.5 lakh is given as award for the most spectacular and outstanding performance by a sportsperson over a period of four years immediately preceding the year in which award is to be given.

Arjuna Award

The award was instituted in 1961. To be eligible for the award, a sportsperson should have not only good performance consistently for the previous four years at the international level with excellence for the year for which award is recommended, but should have also shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. The awardee is given a statuette, a certificate, ceremonial dress and a cash award of Rs five lakh. Not more than fifteen awards are given every year.

Dronacharya Award

This award was instituted in 1985 to honour eminent coaches who have successfully trained sportspersons or teams and enabled them to achieve outstanding results in international competitions. The awardee is given a statuette of Guru Dronacharya, a certificate, ceremonial dress and a cash award of Rs five lakh. Not more than five awards are given every year.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy

This trophy was instituted in 1956-57. The top overall performing university in the inter-university tournaments is given the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy, which is a rolling trophy. A small replica of the MAKA Trophy is also awarded for retention by the university. In addition, the university also gets a cash prize of Rs10 lakh. The second and third best universities also receive cash awards amounting to Rs five lakh and Rs three lakh respectively.

Scheme of Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons

This scheme was launched in 1994. Those sportspersons, who are Indian citizens and have won gold, silver and bronze medals in Olympic games, world cup /world championships, Asian games, commonwealth games and paralympic games, have attained the age of 30 years and have retired from active sports career are eligible for life pension under this scheme.

National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons

The National Welfare Fund for sportspersons was set up in 1982 with a view to assisting outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears, living in indigent circumstances who had won glory for the country in sports. Assistance from the Fund is given in the form of lump sum financial assistance, *ex-gratia* to sportspersons or their families in case of sustaining a fatal injury during training for, or participation in, an international competition; sportsperson sustaining injury other than a fatal injury, families of sportspersons living in indigent circumstances, for medical treatment of sportspersons, and for sports promoters (referees, coaches and umpires) living in indigent circumstances.

Other Initiatives

Scheme for Promotion of Sports among Persons with Disabilities

The Ministry formulated a scheme for promotion of sports and games among disabled during 2009. The objective of the Scheme is broad-basing participative sports among the disabled. The Scheme has the following components:- (i) grant for sports coaching and purchase of consumables and non-consumable sports equipment for schools; (ii) grant for training of coaches; and (iii) grant for holding district, state and national level competitions for the disabled. The successful implementation of the Scheme will go a long way in integration of the disabled in the mainstream of the society.

Scheme of Assistance for Anti-Doping Activities

Doping is the deliberate or inadvertent use by sportspersons of a substance or method banned by Medical Commission of International Olympic Committee/World Anti Doping Agency (WADA). In pursuit of gold and glory, large numbers of sportspersons all over the world are tempted to use performance enhancing substances in an effort to gain a competitive edge over others. India is no exception to this malaise. Recognizing the urgent need for embarking upon a concerted effort to check doping in collaboration with the global anti doping community, the Government of India became one of the members of the Foundation Board of WADA, set up with the initiative of the International Olympic Committee.

National Anti Doping Agency

This agency is the national organization responsible for promoting, coordinating, and monitoring the doping control programme in sports in the country. The Anti Doping rules of NADA are compliant with the Anti Doping Code of WADA.

National Sports Talent Search Scheme

A new scheme, namely, National Sports Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS) has been formulated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for talent identification in the age group of 8-12 years and nurturing of identified talented sportspersons. The objectives of the scheme are: **(a)** identification of sporting talent among students in the age-group of 8-12 years (for admission in class IV to class VI) who possess inborn qualities such as anthropometric, physical and physiological capabilities without any anatomical infirmities; and **(b)** nurturing of the sporting potential/talent in district level sports schools/central sports schools/national sports academies, etc., to make them excel at the national and international sports competitions.