



CURRENT AFFAIRS



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Uyghur people : A Cruel treatment by China (GS Paper I : Society /Conflict)

Context

For last month a hearing in tribunal of London is going on the issue of the human right violation by China . Infact, the Chinese government,s activities against Uyghur people are considered as a human right violation by the world Community. This treatment of China with minority races is being criticized everywhere in the world. The forum related to museums, galleries and other cultural institutions working with government-supported institutions in China are thinking of boycotting the Chinese govt. Sir Geoffrey Nice is the the chairperson of the tribunal

Who are Uyghur

- A native race belonged to the **Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in Northwest China**.
- They believed in Islam
- They are officially recognized ethnic minorities. ...
- They are from the Turks race
- Some other residence of this community are in the countries like Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkey and in some other muslim countries

History of Uighurs

- Uighurs are originally from the regions of eastern Turkestan
- Their language is generally Turkish and originated from the race of Turkey . Initially this region was the part of the Russian Empire and the former Soviet Union
- Since then Turkic peoples had been migrating or expanding from the Mongolian steppes. This migration had started during the sixth century.
- With the penetration of Islam by the 11th century, these people had adopted Islam . But they opted the liberal form of the Islam , mainly Sufism
- Since then Sufi form was the dominant religion of the Uighar people
- We observed the the conflict between these people with the people of Buddhism because Buddhism was patronised by contemporary rulers
- after ruling elites loyal to Buddhism were defeated in battle.
- The history of the Uighurs in early modern times is nothing but it is the history of urbanisation , the emergence of new city states, industrial towns mainly those based in Kashgar and Khotan
- Uighur are influenced by the Naqshbandi Sufi orders. Sufi supremacy reached its peak in the late 16th century when the Saidiya khanate collapsed and the region fell under the sway of the Khojas, powerful political figures who were also spiritual leaders of the Naqshbandi order.

- In the reign of the Appaq Khoja in 1679, a descendant of the sheikhs of Samarkand, took power in Kashgar. Present time His mausoleum is the place of tourist attraction and still the Uighurs still worshiped the family tombs
- The Qing dynasty ruled over China from 1644 to 1911 and . Its ruling elite were originally Manchus who were migrated from from the steppes and forests of north- east Asia
- In fact they were mainly mongoloid and ruled with the assistance of Mongolian allies and Han Chinese officials.
- Gradually Turkestan was merged with the Chinese Empire up to the time period of mid-18th century
- The Qing government empowered its military and bureaucratic organisations and started to rule in this region permanently and the local Turkic-speaking Muslim elite supported them because of the religion
- Even Though this revolt was temporary but atleast succeeded. Later on , several revolts were led by Yakub Beg (1820-77) and he also succeeded in the establishment of an independent government in Kashgar in 1867. In 1878 Qing armies under Zuo Zongtang defeated Yakub Beg and Eastern Turkestan was formally incorporated into the Chinese Empire as the province of Xinjiang in November 1884.

(DR ANSHUL BAJPAI)

The Use classical music to make protein songs (GS Paper 1 , Art and Culture)

Context

In the journal *Heliyon* of September 29 a report has been published which claims that music based on the structure of proteins has been created by the scientists. This music based protein would be beneficial for humans . In this way Art , if utilized in scientific way would be beneficial for Humans

Technology

- unique melodies from proteins can be generated by using a protein-to-music algorithm. This algorithm when associates with specific elements of proteins — like the size and position of amino acids — and maps them to various musical elements then blueprint” of the proteins’ structure can be created
- Generally protein music can be easily designed by simple mapping of certain amino acid patterns to fundamental musical features like pitches and note lengths, but through this technique more complex musical features such as rhythm and harmon could not be mapped easily with amino acid ,”
- Yu Zong Chen, a professor in the Department of Pharmacy at National University of Singapore is working on this technology on how more complex mappings of combinations of amino acid patterns with various musical features could be matched .
- Scientists analyzed the pitch, length, octaves, chords, dynamics, and main theme of four pieces for this experiments for long time approximately for 19th century ,when romanticism and was on its peak in Europe
- In this research several of the proteins (18 proteins) were chosen for their similarities to test human emotion, cognition, sensation, or performance.
- Then, Scientists mapped 104 structural, physicochemical, and binding amino acid properties of those proteins to the six musical features.
- Scientist scrutinised the quantitative profile of each amino acid property against the quantized values of the different musical features to find the optimal mapped pairings.

- In the result scientist got very surprising results they found that the musicality of the proteins was significantly improved. mainly the protein receptor for oxytocin (OXTR) was judged to have one of the greatest increases in musicality when using the genre-guided algorithm, compared to an earlier version of the protein-to-music algorithm.
- This protein sequence produced an identifiable main theme that repeats in rhythm throughout the piece, as well as some interesting motifs and patterns that recur independent of our algorithm. There were also some pleasant harmonic progressions; for example, many of the seventh chords naturally resolve.
- Scientists are now to explore more music styles and more complex combinations of amino acid properties for enhanced musicality and novel music pieces.

Music , a form of Art, has been beneficial for human beings since the origin of humankind. Some sounds are very interesting and we love those rhythms and we feel some relaxation from music. It means with music our sensations are influenced . Scientists , through this work wanted to make a type of new rhythm so that it could generate protein which would be utilized for the human . In India music has its cultural significance . Various types of music are played on various occasions like marriage, delhi, Birth ceremony etc. Definitely music is closely related with our emotions

(DR ANSHUL BAJPAI)

National Digital Health Mission and the real challenges in the health care

sector in India (GS 3, Economics, The Hindu, Indian Express)



Background: The National Health Policy 2017 provisioned for the creation of a digital health technology ecosystem for the development of an integrated health information system, which could serve the needs of all stakeholders and improves citizens with public and private health care along with better efficiency and greater transparency. Later in July 2019, a committee headed by J Satyanarayana, the former Chairman Unique Identification Authority of India, released the **National Digital Health Blueprint**, recognized the need to establish a specialized organization, called the **National Digital Health**

Mission (NDHM), to facilitate the evolution of the National Digital Health Ecosystem.

National Digital Health Mission (NDMH) was announced by the Prime Minister on 74th Independence Day. Its salient feature is that every citizen will have an option to get a 14 digit health identification number on a voluntary basis. This ID will carry a digital repository of their medical history. The digital platform of NDMH will also provide the facilities of Digi Doctor and Health Facility Registry. e-Pharmacy and Telemedicine will also be included later on.

Digi Doctor – Under the Digit Doctor option doctors will get enrolled on a voluntary basis and will be assigned digital signatures to write prescriptions for the patients. It is kept as voluntary for the doctors and hospitals.

Health ID – Every citizen who wishes, needs to create a unique health ID Using Aadhar or mobile number. These health ID will be linked to a health data consent manager which will take the the patient's consent and will provide health information on the basis of the personal record of that patient. Various Health Care providers like hospitals, online pharmacies telemedicine, Laboratories, Insurance companies are expected to participate in the digital health ecosystem.

The health ID will have all records of diseases, tests, doctors visited, diagnosis done, and medicines taken, etc. This implies that a patient won't be needing to carry the health reports. The doctors will be also well informed which will be valuable for a better diagnose. Using a person's basic details like Aadhar and mobile number, this ID will be created and presumably, there will be an app as a convenient interface. It sounds smart and attractive. But the real question is, whether data availability is the only thing that is hindering the provisioning of high-quality and affordable health care in India.

Challenges: The challenge of healthcare in India in the light of experience with the coronavirus pandemic and decades of research can be defined quite simply. These can be termed as lacking in beds and hospitals, lacking in trained staffs, a huge number of patients per doctor, the large size of population especially rural population, finding and buying appropriate drugs and treatment, competing systems of medicine, cost of research etc.

The Other challenges are regarding the absence of privacy law regarding personal health data and little public awareness and control over their data, which could be open to misuse. These data, if got by large private insurance companies could be misused and can make access to affordable insurance difficult. Through this data information, the public and private health resources could be prioritized to rich demographics who can afford a high premium rather than to those who cannot pay as that much.

Way Forward : As prescribed in draught National health policy 2015 there is a need to recognise health as justiciable right. Data security and privacy of patients is one of the biggest concerns. Hence there is a need to ensure that the health records of patients remain secure and entirely confidential. Prior to the launching of this mission on a pan India basis, the technical and implementational deficiencies must be addressed.

Health comes under the concurrent list and that's why there would be a need to find ways to accommodate state-specific rules. It will be better if it gets sink with other government schemes like Aayushman Bharat Yojana, NIKSHAY, Reproductive Child Health Care etc. Thus it is crucial to fix the fundamentals from the ground for the success of the National Digital Health Mission.

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Rights of gig workers: lesson from China [GS II- SOCIAL JUSTICE, GS III- SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS]

CONTEXT: The Indian Federation of App-based Transport Workers, on behalf of gig workers, has filed a public interest litigation in the Supreme Court, on September 20, 2021.

DEMAND :

- Some relief to workers affected by the covid pandemic from the Union government.
- The 'gig and platform workers' to be declared as '**unorganised workers**' so that they come under the purview of the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008.
- The social security benefits from food delivery platforms like that of Zomato and Swiggy as well as the taxi aggregator apps like Ola and Uber.

CHINA'S STAND ON A SIMILAR DEMAND:

After the public outrage and succumbing to the pressure, two of its food delivery platforms, Meituan and Ele.me (capturing over 90% of the market share, and employing lakhs of gig workers), committed to end the practice of

forcing workers to register as 'independent businesses', which has for a very long time, helped these platforms to escape from such responsibilities as employers.

In 2020, a trend covering China, India, the U.S. and Europe witnessed 'invisible workers' being pushed towards 'frontline workers' because of the pandemic.

In China, especially Wuhan, the epicenter of the pandemic, there was a clear transition of social discourse in favour of these delivery workers.

- People's Daily, ranked delivery work among the top 10 occupations.
- Renwu, a monthly Chinese magazine, took an exhaustive look at the pitiable condition of delivery workers across the two food delivery platforms.

Such platforms shifts the pressure(of receiving orders and maintaining deliveries)onto the workers.

COURSE:-

The spurn against such influential platforms had begun long before COVID-19. During the course, strikes in different parts of China have reflected this increasing resentment.

CASE IN CHINA

- In early 2021, in consecutive strikes for over two months, the protest against poor working conditions took place by delivery workers.
- In cities like *Shenzhen*, *Tongxiang* and *Linyi*, delivery workers protested against new company policies that pierced(cut) their pay per delivery.

- A protest in *Taizhou* witnessed a delivery worker setting himself on fire demanding unpaid wages.
- In 2018, an Associate Professor (Sociology) at Harvard University, named **Ya-Wen Lei**, registered strikes in Chongqing. The protest was against “*decreasing piece rates*” and “*unilateral change of contract terms or platform rules*”.

China asserted control over major tech companies, including *Meituan* for misusing its dominant market position, via the **new anti-monopolistic guidelines**.

The Chinese government is focusing on “*common prosperity*”, to narrow a widening wealth gap. The government’s scrutiny over food delivery platforms has expanded.

The authoritarian context, a weak civil society and the absence of independent labour unions etc. are the factors that left gig workers in China with the only option to strike or protest, despite the risks, to bring some change.

Directions and Guidelines:

In July, 7 government agencies jointly passed directions, indicating the online food delivery platforms, not to set assessment criterias as per optimisation algorithms.

The other guidelines like respecting the rights of delivery workers and making sure that they earn at least a minimum wage alongwith social insurance.

- Many of these government initiatives have been public-driven.

- The bulge of public opinion in China has enabled government regulation as well as the change in company policies.

The INDIAN context:

In India, any reform/s in this sector is led by delivery workers, and not the public.

CASES IN INDIA:-

- For 27 days in 2020, close to 3,000 delivery workers from Swiggy went on strike in Hyderabad to protest the slash in remuneration from ₹35 to ₹15 per order.
- This year, in the lead up to Zomato's July IPO, several Twitter accounts set up by delivery workers called customers' attention to the "exploitative practices" employed by such platforms.
- The PIL in the Supreme Court is another major step in this regard.

The biggest **lesson from China** is the escalation of public opinion that has led to government regulation and change in company policies.

In the U.S., gig workers have urged the customers to uninstall the *Instacart app* as a show of solidarity until their demands for better working conditions are met.

Indians could make an effort to be better informed about the way platforms work by looking out for delivery workers and interrogating about their work conditions, pressures that they face. Indians should understand their conditions and have a soft corner while dealing with them. Furthermore, in the times to come, they should also show solidarity with them, like the chinese.

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