



## Current Affair 23-12-2021 Plutus IAS

### Kerala's Silver Line : What is the Controversy GS paper 3 and Essay Source : Indian Express

#### Kerala's Silver Line : What is the Controversy- Today Current Affairs

**Context :** Protests are taking place across Kerala against Silver line , a semi high speed railway project that envisages trains running at 200km/hr between the state's northern and southern ends. The projects estimated to cost 63940 crs RS , is billed as one of the biggest infrastructure plans being pushed by Pinarayi Vijayn Government

#### Introduction :

Kerala silver line is a project of high speed railway . It would be run through Kerala Rail Development Corporation (K-Rail) . Kerala Rail Development Corporation (K-Rail) is a joint venture of Kerala government and ministry of railway , government of India . Dr V. B Joy is the Chairman of the K Rail. The Hindu Analysis.

According to Krail, the project will have trains of electric multiple units (EMU) type each, preferably nine cars-raking can seat a maximum of 675

passengers in business and standard class . This train can run at the maximum speed of 220 km/hr on standard track .

### **Features of Silver line Project: The Hindu Analysis**

The proposed 529km long line will link Thiruvananthapuram in south to Kavaratti in north, covering 11 districts to 11 stations

The line will also reduce greenhouse emissions , help in expansion of Ro Ro services, produce employment opportunities , integrate the airport and its corridors also.

### **Why people are protesting: The Hindu Analysis**

- Many people are protesting against this project. Many political parties such as Congress , BJP and Indian Union Muslim League are also opposing this project .
- Citizens had formed an organization to oppose this project . The name of the organization is Silverline Viruddhaa Janakeeya Samiti . This organization is launching a huge protest against the government .
- 17 MPs of the opposition political party are protesting in the name of scam . They alleged that the government had done corruption in the land acquisition and the proper rules were not followed by the government .
- In the sight of the protesters this project is not economically viable and it will face huge loss in future.
- This project would lead the displacement of huge population of approximately 30000 families.

- Samiti and the green activities and other environmental conservation activists also oppose this project in the name of environmental degradation.
- According to them this project will harm the environment as its route cuts through precious wetland , paddy fields and hills.
- As per the samit this project will block the natural drainage system as many embankments were built during these projects these embankments were built either of the side of the major portion of the line.
- The embankment would be another reason for the flood in the rainy season . this samit requested the government to stop this project and find out any alternative solution, any other way of sustainable development.
- The metroman Sridharn, ex head of the Delhi Metro also opposed this project and equated this with ill project and he stated that present project needs a lot of correction because it has multiple defects.

## **Conclusion :**

In fact Development of humans should not be at the cost of degradation of the environment and marginalized people . This project would definitely bring prosperity for those reasons and economical activities will flourish rapidly but we should also evaluate that in the process of the development whether the marginalized people should not be left behind . We should be very careful about environmental conservation . Therefore , after eleminties the flaws of this project, this project would be beneficial for the public of kerala

Here, we mention all information about Kerala's Silver Line : What is the Controversy Today Current Affairs.

## **Significance of EU after Brexit (GS Paper I, II)**

### **Source : The Hindu**

#### **Significance of EU after Brexit Source- Today Current Affairs**

**Context :** The EU announced on wednesday (22 Dec 2021) it is launching legal action against Poland for ignoring EU law and undermining the independence of the national judiciary

#### **Introduction:**

The European Union (EU) is an organization of 27 Countries . It is a political and economic organization . It was founded on 1 November 1993, Maastricht , Netherland.

Britain was one of the largest economic partners of the European Union, but by June 23, 2016, through referendum Britain decided to leave the European Union and Brexit took place by 31st Jan 2020. The Hindu Analysis.

After the implementation of Brexit , The free movement of Human and Economic affairs between EU and England has ended which would bring adverse social, economical and political consequences .

There was a huge debate after the exit of Britain about what would be the future of the EU. The EU would lose its significance and gradually it would be finished. But Still this organization is relevant for European affairs.

## **European union reformed in itself and made itself relevance for the Europe- Today Current Affairs**

In July EU leader agreed to form a reserve for the emergencial assistance to european countries and this fund was of €5 billion fund (in 2018 prices) to be paid until 2025. EU countries will start receiving the resources by December, following parliament's approval

Present days , the image of the European Union is not goot . Its image is negative as its many decisions were taken without any appropriate democratic pattern. . In the European Union , Law making body is the council of ministers and the European parliament . The Ministers are sent from the national governments and which holds the power as the democratic nature of the respective nature . If any flaws are there in the democracy of any country .

There must be that flaw in the EU. Members of the European parliament are directly elected . Thus, the decision-making bodies in the European Union have the same democratic legitimacy as national governments and parliaments. If there is a democratic deficit, it is the same at the national and European levels, and both national and European institutions should be examined and reformed.

The European Union is an institution known for the promotion of globalization but Unfortunately European Union after Brexit had failed to create a single and open market in Europe also .In fact, there is no institution in Europe which could influence social policies and these social policies are generally governed by the national government . There must be such institutions in the European Union also which could also interfere in the social policies also and which could make social rules as per the requirement of the European society . However, the hands of these authorities have been shackled by the same European institutions' fiscal

rules. The EU's fiscal rules not only make it extremely difficult to compensate the losers from globalization, but they have actually amplified their hardship. European Union today is that, instead of helping those who suffer from globalization, it has implemented policies that hurt these people even more. The Hindu Analysis.

## **Conclusion:**

Poland has been a member of Eu since 2004. But it generally undermines the judicial system of the EU and violates the laws of the EU. This was the reason the EU had to go for legal action . After Brexit, Definitely The power and prestige of the EU has been influenced but it does not mean that the EU has become irrelevant and non significant for European affairs. Still in the EU , one the most economical and political and strategic sounds countries are there . If EU does litter reform in their decision making process, it can improve its more credibility and authenticity and significance

**In this article we mention all information about Significance of EU after Brexit Source Today Current Affairs.**

# **ARCTIC AMPLIFICATION AND DISTRESS: GS-1**

## **ARCTIC AMPLIFICATION AND DISTRESS- Today Current Affairs**

Context: The arctic report card 2021, which was released recently, shows that the arctic region is warming up almost at double the rate than the rest

of the world. There are many indicators like sea ice extent, volume , surface air temperature, which tells how the region has been heating up for quite some time now. The arctic region which is characterised by frozen landscapes, has recorded a significant sea ice loss in the past year.

**Arctic amplification:** The Arctic is getting warmer at almost double the speed than the rest of the world in recent decades. This phenomenon is known as Arctic amplification. Water vapors are increasing in the atmosphere, Cloud cover over the arctic is changing its colour, more atmospheric heat is getting transported from the regions of low latitudes resulting in declining sea ice, which can all be the main contributing factors to this amplification.

### **Some statistics of the report: The Hindu Analysis**

- The autumn of 2020 was the warmest ever for the arctic region since 1900.
- In April, the volume of sea ice in the northern hemisphere was the lowest since the data are available.
- Since April 2002 the Greenland ice sheet has lost nearly 5000 gigatonnes of mass.

**The Arctic/Polar Amplification Effect is mainly a combination of many things, not one factor alone as discussed below: Today Current Affairs**

**Global warming:** The chief component that results in increasing the temperature all over the world and also in arctic regions is global warming. This results in the change in magnitude of ice extent and snow cover loss. This will result in more dramatic changes in the climate over the polar region. The Hindu Analysis.

**More land in the Northern hemisphere:** The arctic region is surrounded by more land from all sides as compared to the south pole. We all know that land heats up faster than water resulting in an increase in temperature in all the areas including arctic regions. As a result, the arctic region will have more temperature and more melting of ice.

**Changes in cloud cover:** Another potential contributor to this increased warming that's investigated in this report is changes in cloud cover. However, increased cloud cover is expected to cause surface warming because clouds have a warming influence in spring. Thus resulting in more amplified heating in this region in spring like recent near-surface Arctic warming.

**Ice melting:** The melting of the ice in the arctic is increasing at a rate of 13% per decade. As ice reflects more sunlight than it absorbs but if this ice will melt it will reveal the darker areas of land or sea. As a result the absorption of sunlight will be increased and so will be the associated warming.

In recent decades the scientists have noticed that the water vapor content in the arctic atmosphere has increased and this may amplify Arctic warming. The Hindu Analysis.

**Shift of jet streams:** The latitudinal shift of the jet-stream will be increased as a result of increased global warming. As a result the land area will be dried out further to the north resulting in changes to vegetation and land albedo as well as increased fire risk (all of which translate to increased CO<sub>2</sub> and increased warming).

**Poor mixing of cold polar air with surrounding air:** Colder dense air over the Antarctic prevents some degree of mixing with air mass from other regions, thus helping this region retain cold air mass longer than the in Arctic region



which is subject to many factors that can move heat or cold energy in and out of the polar region through the ocean or the atmosphere.

### **Effects of arctic amplification: The Hindu Analysis**

**Albedo:** Acting like a highly reflective blanket, the Arctic cryosphere protects Earth from getting too warm. Snow and ice have a high albedo. They reflect almost all the incoming solar radiation and this will help in keeping the earth cool. Thus, the heating and cooling of the Earth's surface depends a lot on the presence or absence of snow and ice in that area. As a result this albedo influences the energy balance of the whole planet.

**Means Sea Level Rises:** As the Earth is becoming warm the world is seeing a rise in sea level by 1-2 mm each year. The melting of the glaciers and ice sheets, which add water to the oceans, are some of the reasons for sea-level rise that were once trapped on land. Some glaciers and ice sheets are generally more vulnerable than others. These have become less stable because of global warming resulting in their faster movement towards the ocean, and will add more ice into the water.

**Feedback Loop:** The ocean and land that were underneath this ice will get exposed to the sunlight because of the melting of more snow and ice each summer because of global warming. Because of their dark colour, the ocean and land absorb more incoming solar radiation as they have low albedo and then release the heat to the atmosphere. This causes more global warming. In this way, it will become a cycle or loop as melting ice causes more warming and so more ice melts. This is known as a feedback loop.

**Melting Permafrost Releases Greenhouse Gas:** The soils in the polar regions are getting thaw because of global warming which were frozen for as much as 40,000 years. As a result of thawing, the carbon that was

trapped in this soil will be released in the atmosphere as methane and it is a powerful greenhouse gas resulting in further global warming and in return more frozen soils will be melted.

**Ocean Acidification:** Scientists are suggesting that the release of CH<sub>4</sub> from the permafrost seafloor in this region could enhance ocean acidification in that region over the next century.

**Storage of Carbon:** The cryosphere locks the greatest amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the world. The permafrost of the polar region has trapped tonnes of carbon inside its soil. The Hindu Analysis.

**Arctic biodiversity is under serious threat from climate change and arctic amplification.**

**Here, we mention all information about ARCTIC AMPLIFICATION AND DISTRESS Today Current Affairs.**