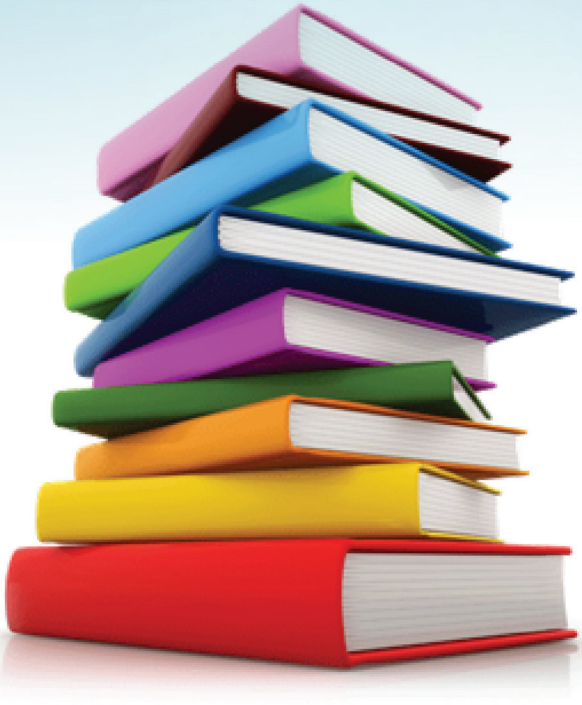
PLUTUS IAS

Weekly CURRENT AFFAIRS



PLUTUS IAS WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS 6-3-2023 to 12-3-2023

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CURRENT AFFAIRS MARCH 2023

FARM MECHANIZATION

This article covers "Daily current events "and the topic is about 'Farm Mechanization' which is in news, it covers "Agriculture" In GS-3, and the following content has relevance for UPSC.

For Prelims: Farm Mechanization

For Mains: GS-3, Agriculture

WHY IN THE NEWS:

The separate agriculture budget, which was presented by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot for the second year in a row, established the agricultural technology mission, which will support farm mechanization in Rajasthan by providing subsidies for equipment purchases.

ABOUT FARM MECHANIZATION

- Farm mechanization is the creation and application of tools that can replace labor-intensive manual labor and animal power in agricultural operations.
- Using agricultural machinery to automate agricultural tasks dramatically increases farm workers' productivity. This practice is known as mechanized agriculture.

HOW IS FARM MECHANIZATION CARRIED OUT

- Presenting the upgraded agricultural tools for use on modest holdings and powered by bullocks.
- Utilizing power tillers, small tractors, and tractor-drawn equipment on medium-sized holdings to supplement existing sources.
- Supplementing animal power sources with heavy tractors and machinery on the remaining holdings.

Farm Mechanization

WHY ARE FARMERS RELUCTANT ABOUT MECHANIZATION

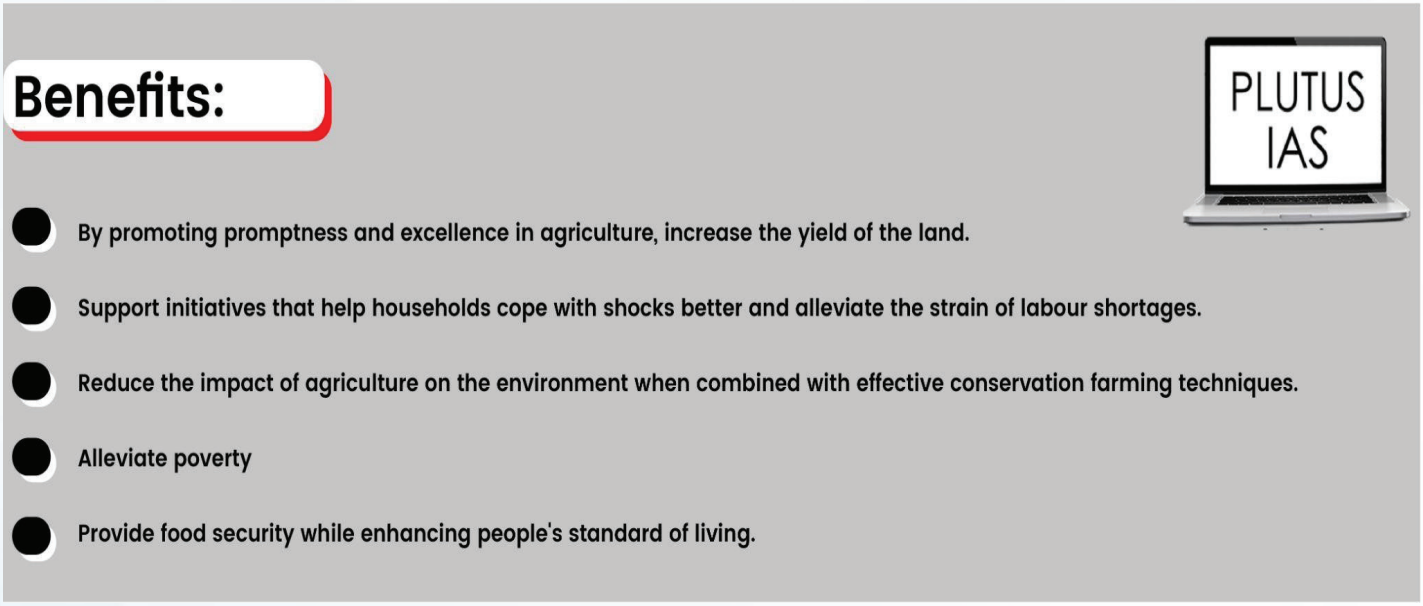
- In India, there is an excess of agricultural labor.
- The country has enough supply of draft animals to do farm chores efficiently.
- The bulk of Indian farmers has small farm holdings to afford using tractors on their fields.
- There is a lack of technical expertise among the populace.
- Tractors and tractor-drawn equipment cannot be used efficiently due to a lack of an adequate farm road system.
- The yield cannot be increased with the use of mechanical power.
- The cost of production will not be reduced by mechanization.
- Not all aspects of farm operations can be automated.
- A significant portion of its working force. will get displaced from agriculture.

WHY IS IT REQUIRED

According to the Economic Survey, farm mechanization and crop productivity are directly correlated for the following reasons:

- Farm mechanization minimizes labor and time costs.
- It minimizes drudgery.
- Reduces production costs over time.
- Cuts down post-harvest losses.
- Increases crop production and farm revenue.

According to World Bank projections, half of India's population will be urban by 2050. It is estimated that the percentage of agricultural workers in the total workforce would drop to 25.7% by 2050 from 58.2% in 2001. Thus, there is a need to enhance the level of farm mechanization in the country.



Agriculture Mechanisation

FARM MECHANIZATION IN INDIA

- The percentage of mechanized farms in India is between 40 and 45 percent, with the northeastern states needing very little automation compared to states like Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Punjab.
- Compared to nations like the US (95%), Brazil (75%), and China (57%), this level of farm mechanization is still modest.

SUB-MISSION ON AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION

OBJECTIVES

- Expanding the use of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers as well as

to areas where farm electricity is scarce.

- Promoting "Custom Hiring Centers" to mitigate the unfavorable scale economics caused by small landholdings and high individual ownership costs.
- Establishing centers for high-tech and expensive agriculture equipment.
- Awareness through demonstration.
- Capacity building activities.

COMPONENTS

- **Promoting and Strengthening farm mechanization through Training, Testing, and Demonstrations:** This initiative aims to ensure performance testing of agricultural machinery and equipment, capacity building of farmers and end users, and the promotion of farm mechanization through demonstrations.
- **Post-Harvest Technology and Management (PHTM) Demonstration, Training, and Distribution:** PHTM aims to popularise technology through demonstrations, capacity building of farmers and end users, low-cost scientific storage/transport, and the management of crop byproducts. Provide financial support for setting up PHT units.
- **Financial Assistance for Procurement of Agriculture Machinery and Equipment:** Encourages the purchase of different agricultural gear and equipment by aid standards.
- **Establish Farm Machinery Banks for Custom Hiring:** Establishes Farm Machinery Banks with adequate financial support for the right regions and crops.
- **Establish Hi-Tech, High Productive Equipment Hub for Custom Hiring:** Establishes high-tech machinery hubs for high-value crops like sugarcane, cotton, etc., with the help of financial aid.
- **Promotion of Farm Mechanization in Selected Villages:** Provide financial support to establish Farm Machinery Banks in designated villages and to advance applicable technology.
- **Financial Assistance for Promotion of Mechanized Operations/hectare Carried out Through Custom Hiring Centres:** Financial support is given on a per-hectare basis to those who hire machinery and equipment from specialized hiring facilities in low-mechanized areas.
- **Promotion of Farm Machinery and Equipment in the North-Eastern Region:** Extends financial assistance in high-potential but low-mechanized states of the northeast.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Sustainable Agriculture Mechanisation

- Sustainable agricultural mechanization covers all farming and processing

technologies, from simple and basic hand tools to more sophisticated and motorized equipment.

- Sustainable farm mechanization adopts Conservation Agriculture principles and the "Save and Grow" paradigm to enable agriculture to be both productive and profitable for farmers while at the same time contributing to conserving resources and ecosystem services.
- It eases and reduces hard labor, relieves labor shortages, improves productivity and timeliness of agricultural operations, improves the efficient use of resources, enhances market access, and contributes to mitigating climate-related hazards.
- Sustainable mechanization considers technological, economic, social, environmental, and cultural aspects when contributing to the sustainable development of the food and agricultural sector.
- **Sustainable agricultural Mechanization** supports the development of food supply chains through improved agricultural practices for increased production and enhanced food security.

Source:

PIB
Agrimachinery.nic.in
Financialexpress

GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details about the Great Indian Bustard. There are less than 100 birds today, which is a dangerous sign for its existence.

Great Indian Bustard

FOR PRELIMS:

- About Great Indian Bustard – habitat, IUCN status, Indian Protection Status, and Locations in India
- About Great Indian Bustard Protection Programme

FOR MAINS: GS 3, ENVIRONMENT:

- Issues concerning the survival of Great Indian Bustard

Government Schemes for its Protection

CONTENTS:

Why in the news?
About Great Indian Bustard
Issues facing the survival of Great Indian Bustard
Conservation Programme for Great Indian Bustard
Way forward

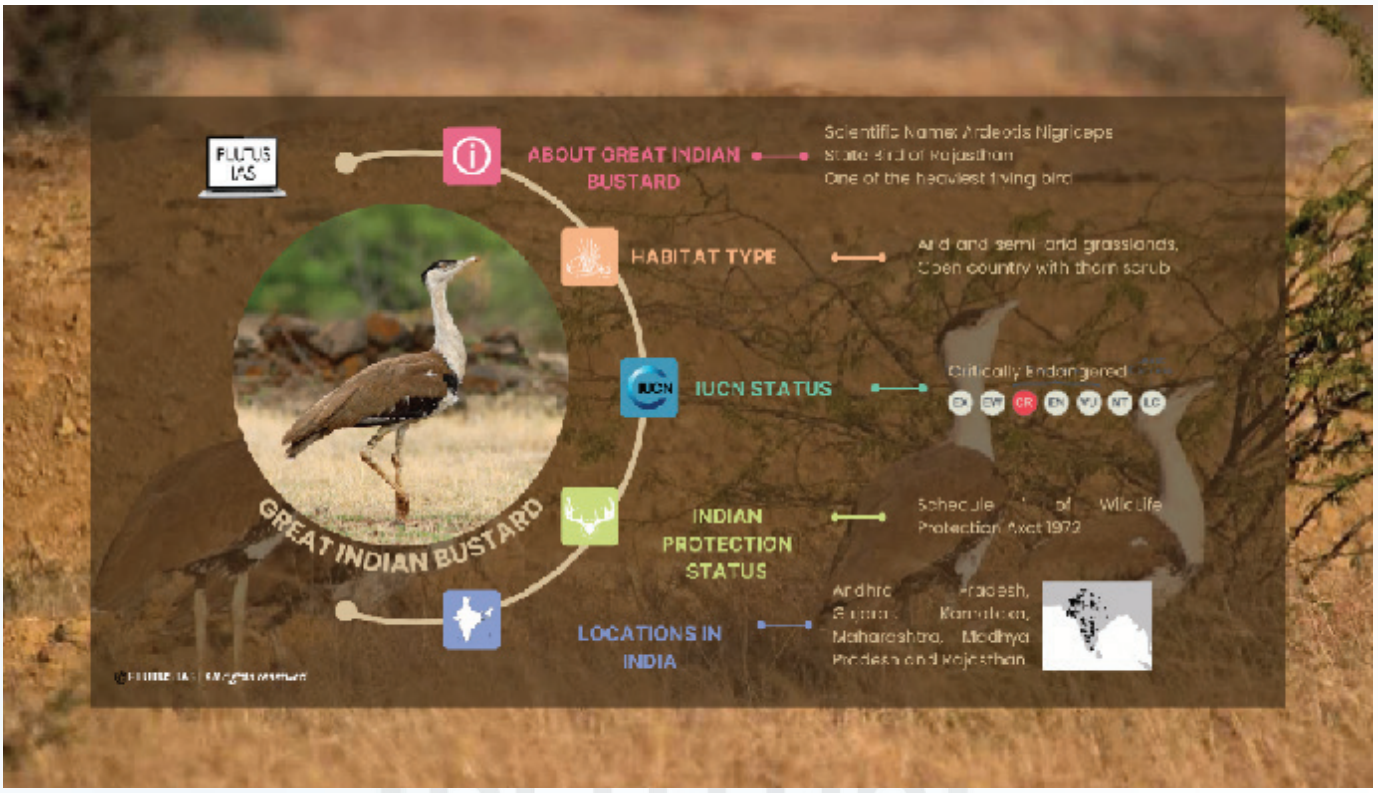
Why in the news?

The draft notification issued by the Central Electricity Authority on the construction of electric lines in the habitat of the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard is a cause for concern. The Great Indian Bustard is already facing several threats to its survival, including habitat loss, hunting, poaching, and collision with power lines. The construction of new power lines in the bird's habitat could further exacerbate these threats and push the species closer to extinction.

ABOUT GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD

The Great Indian Bustard (Ardeotis Nigriceps) is a critically endangered bird species found mainly in India, but also in Pakistan and Nepal. It is one of the largest flying birds in the world, with males weighing up to 15 kg and females weighing up to 6 kg.

The bird is mainly found in grasslands and semi-arid areas, where it feeds on insects, small mammals, reptiles, and seeds. Its habitat has been greatly reduced due to human activities such as agriculture, grazing, and development, leading to a significant decline in its population. It is estimated that there are only around 150 individuals left in the wild.



The Great Indian Bustard

About Great Indian Bustard

ISSUES FACING THE SURVIVAL OF THE GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD

faces several issues that have led to its critically endangered status. Some of these issues include:

- Habitat loss and degradation: The conversion of grasslands into agricultural land, urbanization, and infrastructure development have significantly reduced the bird's habitat. This has led to the fragmentation and isolation of populations, making them more vulnerable to predation and other threats.
- Hunting and poaching: The Great Indian Bustard is hunted for its meat, feathers, and other body parts. The bird is also targeted by poachers who capture it for illegal trade.
- Collision with power lines: The bird is prone to colliding with power lines, which are often located in or near its habitat. These collisions can lead to injury or death, particularly during migration.
- Climate change: Changes in temperature and rainfall patterns can affect the bird's breeding and feeding habits, and alter the availability of resources in its habitat.
- Lack of awareness and conservation measures: There is a lack of awareness among the public and policymakers about the bird conservation status, leading to inadequate conservation measures and limited funding for conservation efforts.

CONSERVATION PROGRAMME FOR GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD

The Great Indian Bustard (GIB) is a critically endangered species, and several conservation programs have been initiated to protect the species. Some of these programs include

- Protected areas: Several protected areas, including wildlife sanctuaries and national parks have been established to protect the Great Indian Bustard and its habitat. For example, the Desert National Park in Rajasthan and the Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary in Maharashtra are dedicated to the conservation of the GIB.
- Habitat restoration: Efforts are being made to restore the degraded grasslands and semi-arid areas that are critical for the survival of the GIB. Habitat restoration programs involve activities such as plantation, water conservation, and soil conservation measures.
- Captive breeding: Captive breeding programs have been initiated to increase the population of the GIB. These programs involve breeding birds in captivity and releasing the offspring into the wild. The breeding centers are equipped with facilities for the incubation, rearing, and rehabilitation of the birds.
- Monitoring and research: Regular monitoring and research programs are conducted to understand the population dynamics, habitat requirements, and behavior of the GIB. These programs help in developing effective conservation strategies and monitoring the effectiveness of conservation efforts.
- Awareness campaigns: Several awareness campaigns are being run to educate the public, policymakers, and local communities about the conservation of the status of the GIB. These campaigns aim to generate public support for conservation measures and encourage local communities to participate in conservation efforts.

WAY FORWARD

These conservation programs are essential for the protection and conservation of the Great Indian Bustard. It is important to continue and strengthen these efforts to prevent the species from going extinct.

- Strengthen conservation measures: The existing conservation measures such as habitat restoration, captive breeding, and protected areas should be strengthened and expanded to cover a larger area.
- Mitigate threats: Efforts should be made to mitigate the major threats to the species such as habitat loss, hunting, poaching, and collision with power lines. This can be achieved through the development of mitigation strategies, such as undergrounding of power lines, awareness campaigns, and strict law enforcement.
- Research and monitoring: Regular monitoring and research programs should be conducted to gather more information about the population, habitat requirements,

and behavior of the GIB. This will help in developing effective conservation strategies and monitoring the effectiveness of conservation efforts.

- Engage local communities: Engaging local communities and raising awareness about the conservation status of the GIB is critical to the success of conservation efforts. Local communities should be encouraged to participate in conservation programs and given incentives for their involvement.
- International cooperation: International cooperation is essential for the conservation of migratory birds like the Great Indian Bustard. Collaboration with neighboring countries such as Pakistan and Nepal can help in developing a coordinated approach to conservation.
- Sustainable development: Sustainable development practices should be promoted in areas where the GIB is found. This will help in balancing the needs of the local communities with conservation goals.
- In conclusion, the conservation of the Great Indian Bustard requires a concerted effort from governments, conservation organizations, and local communities. By implementing the above measures, we can ensure the survival of this magnificent species for future generations.

Sources:

Forest.rajasthan.gov.in

The Hindu

THE CHALLENGES OF WORKING AS AN AYURVEDIC PRACTITIONER (AYUSH)

*This article covers "Daily current events "and the topic is '**The challenges of working as an ayurvedic practitioner** (Ayush)' which is in the news, it covers "Health" In GS-2, and the following content has relevance for UPSC.*

For Prelims: Ayush

For Mains: GS-2, Health

WHY IN NEWS:

Despite advertising initiatives to support AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and

Homeopathy), there is a lack of faith in these practices.

ABOUT AYUSH

- The AYUSH systems reflect healthy living with established disease prevention and health promotion beliefs and are founded on specific medical philosophies.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare established the Department of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy in 1995 with the goal of maximizing and concentrating the growth of these systems.
- The Department of AYUSH replaced this department's last name in 2003.
- The Vedas, which became Ayurveda, have left a rich legacy of medical knowledge in India.
- With its roots in Indian ethos and culture, AYUSH has long served as the primary medical practice in the nation.

Ayush

WHY IS AYUSH VIEWED WITH SUSPICION?

- **Ayurvedic ideas' reliability:** The public has a general lack of faith in the validity of Ayurveda beliefs and the efficacy of its methods.
- Sophisticated dogmas are offered in place of antiquated notions that are likely to raise skepticism in the minds of educated patients.
- **Not in accordance with modern science:** The establishment of ayurveda has

been unable to keep up with modern intellectual and scientific developments.

- **Lack of scrutiny:** Because of their alleged roots in such theories, treatments are designed to evade straightforward experimental inspection.
- **Lack of evidence:** The declining level of Ayurveda's evidence-based quality is a significant factor in the lack of faith in the system.
- **Sluggish treatment:** Another typical perception that describes the way Ayurveda is viewed by the general public is that its therapies take a long time to work.

THE PRESENT STATE OF AYUSH

- **From modern to contemporary science:** Like every other type of medicine or school of medicine worldwide, Ayurveda has evolved and changed over time.
- **National Ayush Mission (NAM):** It is a centerpiece program of the Ministry of AYUSH.
- The main goal of NAM is to advance AYUSH medical systems by providing affordable AYUSH services.
- It anticipates flexible program execution, resulting in significant engagement from the UT and State Governments.

CHALLENGES CONFRONTED BY AYUSH PRACTITIONERS

- **Lack of application:** The practitioner would learn that the knowledge they received throughout their undergraduate education is a vast body of antiquated medical knowledge, of which only a small portion is actually useful today.
- **Lack of ecosystem:** Ayurveda lacks a thriving scientific and research ecology, therefore the poor practitioner must rely on himself to find cures and methods that genuinely work.
- **Reputational impact:** The procedure necessitates a great deal of patient trial and error and predictably damages the practitioner's reputation.
- **Gimmicks:** Few doctors use social media, TV shows, and regular newspaper columns to deceive their unwary patients.

NEED FOR INTEGRATING MEDICINE FIELDS

- **China:** With its economic and political objectives, it pushed traditional medicine in the 1970s to spread high-quality Chinese medicine outside of China, which was finally accepted by the rest of the globe.
- **India:** The Prime Minister of India is a yoga and wellness brand ambassador, and wellness is becoming more and more popular worldwide.
- **Wellness:** By approaching wellness from the standpoint of how it complements what is happening in allopathic hospitals, we should concentrate on advancing wellness throughout a wider range of time.

- **Post-surgery recovery:** Ayurveda can be utilized in conjunction with hospital treatments, particularly when patients need to recover from surgery.

WAY FORWARD

- **Formulating policy:** Many of the issues that Ayurveda practitioners confront can be resolved with the right policy-making.
- **Prioritise primary care:** The primary care physician is a dying breed in India's healthcare system.
- If a nation wants to ensure the health of its people, it must revitalize primary care.
- **Training:** If properly taught, graduates of ayurveda can make a significant contribution to this rejuvenation.
- **Promotion of Ayurvedic theories:** This can be accomplished by conducting a thorough, evidence-based evaluation of Ayurveda theories and practices to separate the useful from the useless.
- **Modern medicine:** Graduates from ayurveda schools must be permitted to practice modern medicine in designated primary care settings.

These changes would contribute to the development of a workforce capable of efficiently addressing both India's urban and rural populations' basic healthcare demands.

Source:

The Hindu

TROPEX 23

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details the recently concluded military exercise named TROPEX 23.

For Prelims:

a) Details of Tropex 23.

b) About Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

For Mains: GS2, International Relations and GS3, Maritime Security

a) Issues related to the Navy's Operational readiness.

b) Importance of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

c) Initiatives are taken by India to enhance its leadership in Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

CONTENTS:

WHY IN NEWS?

Indian Navy's major Operational level exercise TROPEX 23 for the year 2023, conducted across the expanse of IOR over four months from Nov 22 – Mar 23, culminating this week in the Arabian Sea. The overall exercise construct included the Coastal Defence exercise Sea Vigil and the Amphibious Exercise AMPHEX. Together, these exercises (Tropex-23) also witnessed significant participation from the Indian Army, the Indian Air Force, and the Coast Guard.

WHAT IS TROPEX 23?

Tropex 23 is a naval exercise conducted by the Indian Navy. Tropex 23 stands for Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise, and it is conducted every two years to test the readiness and interoperability of the Indian Navy's various units in a simulated combat environment.

Tropex 23, which was held in early 2023, involved a range of naval assets and personnel, including ships, submarines, aircraft, and special forces units. The exercise was held across multiple locations, including the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the Indian Ocean.

TROPEX 23

THE OBJECTIVE OF TROPEX 23

The primary objectives of Tropex 23 were to enhance the Indian Navy's operational preparedness, test its ability to respond to a range of maritime security threats, and demonstrate its readiness to undertake joint operations with other friendly navies.

INDIAN NAVY: CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES

Indian Navy is one of the largest and most powerful naval forces in the world, with a fleet of more than 150 ships and submarines, and over 300 aircraft. The Indian Navy has made significant progress in enhancing its capabilities, modernizing its fleet, and developing its human resources. Here are some of the key aspects of the Indian Navy's readiness:

- **Modernization:** The Indian Navy has been actively pursuing the modernization of its fleet and equipment to enhance its operational capabilities. It has been acquiring new warships, submarines, and aircraft, and upgrading its existing assets with advanced sensors and weapons systems.
- **Training and human resource development:** The Indian Navy has been focused on training and developing its personnel to ensure they are prepared for a wide range of operations, from humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to combat operations. The Navy has established a robust training and education system that includes technical and leadership training, and it also conducts regular exercises with other navies to enhance interoperability.
- **Maritime domain awareness:** The Indian Navy has developed a comprehensive maritime domain awareness system that includes satellite and radar-based surveillance, as well as human intelligence. This system enables the Navy to monitor and track maritime activity in the Indian Ocean Region, and respond to any potential security threats.
- **Regional cooperation:** The Indian Navy has been actively engaged in regional cooperation with other navies in the Indian Ocean Region. It participates in joint exercises, patrols, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, and shares information and expertise with partner countries.

ABOUT INDIAN OCEAN REGION (IOR)

The Indian Ocean Region (IOR) is a geopolitical term used to describe the vast expanse of ocean that stretches from the east coast of Africa to the west coast of Australia and includes the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It is one of the most strategically important and economically vibrant regions in the world, with a rich history and diverse cultures.

- **Shipping lanes:** The IOR is home to several important shipping lanes, including the

Strait of Malacca, the Suez Canal, and the Persian Gulf, through which much of the world's trade and energy supplies pass. The region is also home to several important ports and naval bases, which are critical to maintaining maritime security and ensuring the free flow of goods and services.

- **Diversity:** The IOR is a region of immense diversity, with a rich mix of cultures, religions, and languages. It is home to some of the world's fastest-growing economies, including India, China, and several countries in Southeast Asia.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** The region is also home to several important strategic partnerships, including the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), which bring together like-minded countries to promote security and economic cooperation in the region.

INITIATIVES (TROPEX 23) ARE TAKEN BY INDIA TO ENHANCE ITS LEADERSHIP IN INDIAN OCEAN REGION (IOR)

India has been an active participant in initiatives aimed at promoting cooperation and stability in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). Some of the Indian initiatives in IOR are as follows:

- **Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA):** India was one of the founding members of the IORA, a regional forum comprising 23 countries bordering the Indian Ocean. The IORA aims to promote economic cooperation and maritime security in the region through dialogue and collaboration.
- **SAGAR:** The Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) initiative were launched by India in 2015. Tropex 23 seeks to promote economic and security cooperation in the IOR by strengthening maritime links, promoting sustainable development, and enhancing regional security.
- **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS):** India played a key role in the establishment of IONS, a voluntary association of navies from the littoral states of the Indian Ocean. IONS seeks to enhance maritime security and promote regional stability through dialogue and cooperation.
- **Project Mausam:** India launched Project Mausam in 2014 to promote cultural and economic ties among countries in the IOR. The initiative seeks to revive historical maritime links and promote tourism, trade, and cultural exchange in the region.
- **Indian Ocean Conference**: India hosts an annual Indian Ocean Conference that brings together policymakers, academics, and business leaders to discuss issues related to regional security and economic cooperation.

Way Forward

India can expand its maritime capabilities, including naval presence, maritime surveillance, and search and rescue operations, to ensure the safety and security of shipping lanes and territorial waters in the region with the help of Tropex 23. This can be done through the development of infrastructure, acquisition of advanced naval assets, and capacity building of regional countries.

Source:

PIB

HINDU RATE OF GROWTH

This article covers "Daily current events "and the topic is 'The Hindu Rate of Growth' which is in the news, it covers "Economics" In GS-3, and the following content has relevance for UPSC.

For Prelims: Hindu Rate of Growth

For Mains: GS-3, Economics

Why in news:

The State Bank of India published a report titled "Ecowrap" on March 7, 2023, demonstrating that the idea of the "Hindu" rate of growth has no basis in the current situation.

- Raghuram Rajan, a former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, recently stated that the Indian economy is "dangerously close" to growing at the "Hindu" rate.
    - He attributed the slowdown in the global economy too weak private sector investment, high-interest rates, and these factors.

ABOUT THE HINDU RATE OF GROWTH

- Raj Krishna, a late economist, first used the term in 1978.
- It describes the nation's slow growth, which essentially refers to the slow rate of economic expansion from the 1950s through the 1980s.
- An average of 3.5% was the Indian economy during this time.
- Hindu rates of growth can only be identified if they are consistently low and accompanied by low per-capita GDP, and they must also take population growth into account.
- **A Hindu rate is often used In a negative sense:** According to A Dictionary of

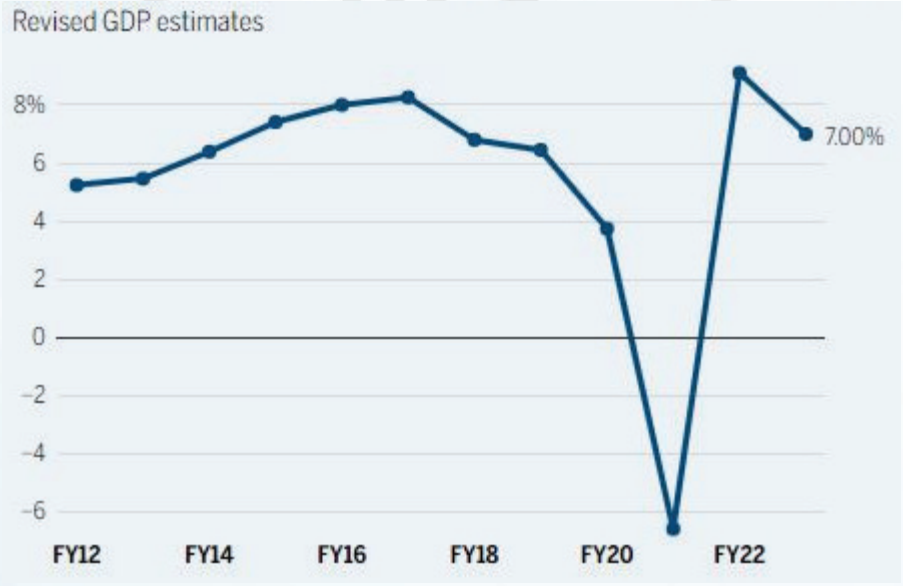
Politics and International Relations in India, the term "Hindu Rate of Development" is frequently used as an insult to refer to India's inability to realize its full economic potential.

WHEN DID INDIA'S GROWTH RATE SURPASS THAT OF THE HINDU RATE OF GROWTH?

- According to GDP growth rate data, India began to expand more rapidly than the Hindu pace of 3.5% a long time before the crisis and reforms of 1991.
- Between 1956 and 1975, India's average annual GDP growth rate was 3.4%, which is nearly identical to the Hindu rate of growth.
- Yet, India's growth averaged 5.8% between 1981 and 1991, a full decade before the crisis and reforms.

How has India's GDP been increasing?

- Due to the pandemic, it decreased in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2020–2021 by an astounding 23.8%.
- India's GDP started increasing as the lockdowns started to loosen and commercial operations resumed.
- The conflict that affected nearly all of the world's main economies in FY22–23 created new economic difficulties, slowed growth, and increased inflation to record levels.



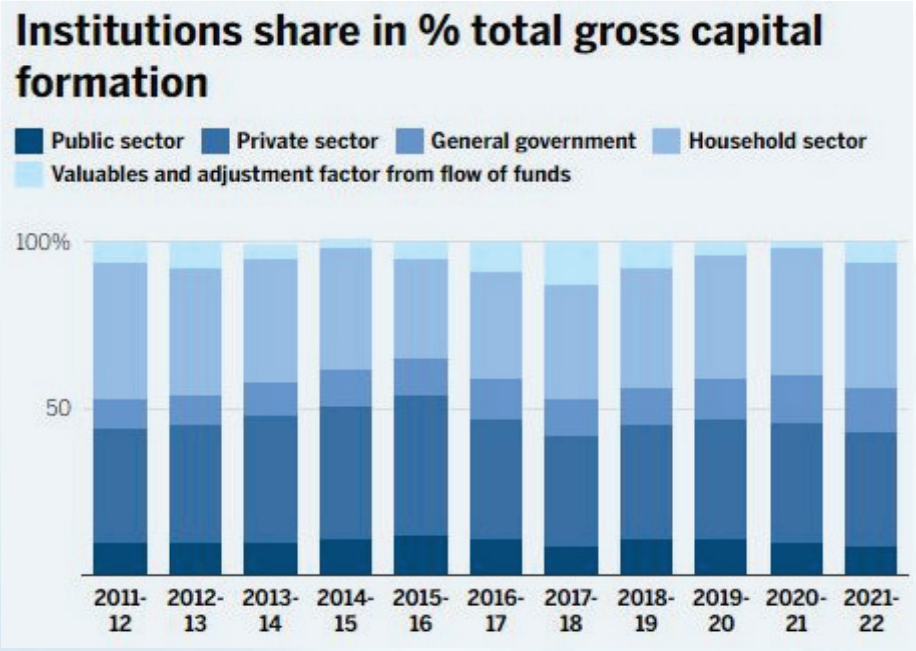
India's GDP increasing rate

WHAT DID THE SBI REPORT SAY ABOUT INVESTMENTS AND SAVINGS?

- Claims are "ill-conceived, biased, and premature" in light of the most recent GDP figures and the information on savings and investments that is currently available.

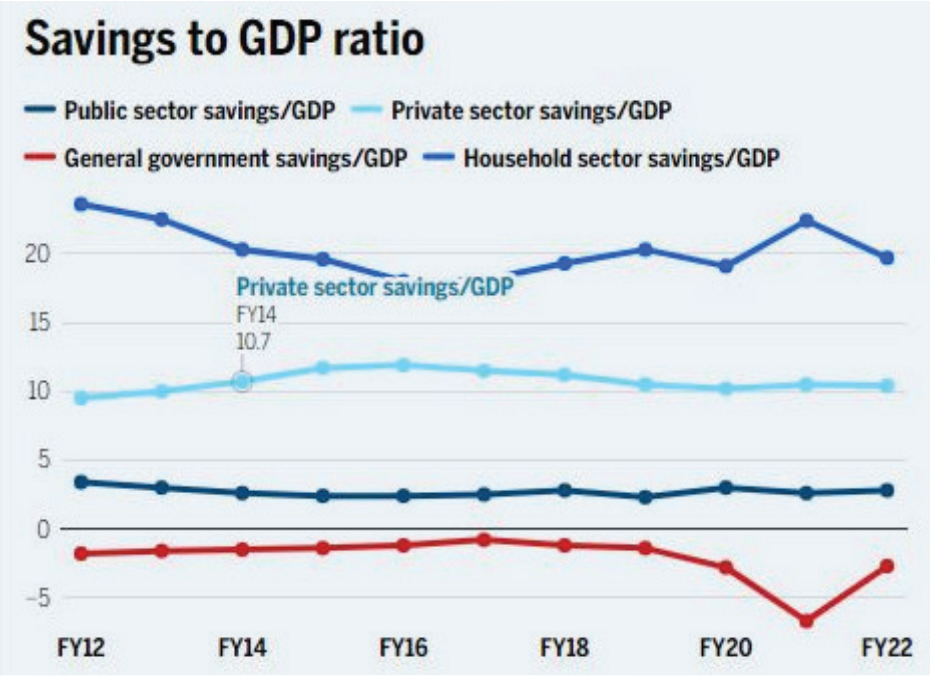
India is thought to be perilously close to the Hindu rate of growth.

- According to the SBI report "Ecowrap," interpreting GDP growth based on noisy quarterly data is a game of smoke and mirror.
- First impressions suggest that the Incremental Capital Output ratio (ICOR), Significantly reducing ICOR in recent years indicates that the economy is stable and implies a comparatively rising level of capital efficiency.
  - ICOR calculates the incremental capital investment needed to generate increased output units.
- Quarterly growth numbers should be avoided for any serious interpretation because they are noisy.
- Future GDP growth rates, even if they are only 7%, might still be considered good by any standard.



SBI REPORT ON INVESTMENT AND SAVING

- **Gross capital formation (GCF):** The government's GCF increased from 10.7% in 2020–21 to a high of 11.8% in 2021–2022.
- **Private sector investment:** The private sector's investment also increased as a result, from 10% to 10.8% over the same time period.
- **Gross savings:** Gross savings increased from 29% in 2020–2021 to 30% in 2021–2022.



Savings to GDP Ration

CONCLUSION

- The nation is advancing quickly across the board and is eager to compete with the finest in practically every industry.
- India has learned to care for its own in a world where each nation looks out for its own.
- India is currently far from reaching the 3.5% level that is thought to correspond to the Hindu rate of growth.
- It is interesting to note that India had been slowing down for the three years prior to the epidemic and had only seen 3.9% growth the year before Covid.

Source:

Livemint
The Hindu