

15 June 2019: PIB Summary & Analysis

Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog Concludes

Context

The fifth meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog was held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at Rashtrapati Bhawan today.

Takeaways

- The Prime Minister emphasized that the goal is to realize the potential of this great country, to create a New India by 2022 and a USD five trillion economy by 2024.
- The Prime Minister emphasized the need for every State to focus on increasing its share in the country's GDP by evaluating the export potential of the State and determining the steps necessary for increasing exports and boosting employment.
- The Prime Minister appreciated the efforts of the States towards water conservation and urged all States to streamline and implement innovative water management measures.
- The creation of the Ministry of 'Jal Shakti' is a key step by the Union Government to develop an integrated and holistic perspective on water as a developmental resource.
- The Council also deliberated upon a closely related and deeply important issue of drought management and associate relief measures.
- The core agenda items included the need to review the implementation of the Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act and possible reform in the form of the Model APMC Act
- This is to ensure fair remuneration for the farmers, streamlining of supply, driving more investment into the sector and predictability of policy at national and regional levels.
- The Prime Minister emphasized the need for undertaking structural reforms in agriculture including encouraging corporate investment, strengthening logistics and focusing on food processing.
- The Governing Council also reviewed the implementation of the Aspirational Districts Programme, which has emerged as a major policy innovation in driving inclusive growth.
- The Prime Minister announced the creation of a high-powered committee on structural reforms in agriculture. He further said that global circumstances currently offer a unique opportunity to India.

- To achieve the goal of becoming a five trillion dollar economy by 2024, the Prime Minister urged States to aim to increase their economy by 2 to 2.5 times, which would also increase the common man's purchasing power.

About the Governing Council of NITI Aayog

- The Governing Council of NITI Aayog comprises the Prime Minister of India, Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories with Legislatures and Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and four Union Ministers as ex-officio members and three Union Ministers as Special Invitees.
- It is the premier body tasked with evolving a shared vision of national development priorities, sectors and strategies with the active involvement of States in shaping the development narrative.
- The Governing Council, which embodies these objectives of cooperative federalism, presents a platform to discuss inter-sectoral, inter-departmental and federal issues in order to accelerate the implementation of the national development agenda, in the spirit of Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat.