

19 July 2019: UPSC Exam PIB Summary & Analysis

Digitisation of AYUSH

Context:

In order to digitize the AYUSH healthcare system at all levels in the country, the Ministry of AYUSH has conceptualized the AYUSH GRID Project.

Details:

- The AYUSH Grid Project is the proposed IT backbone for the entire AYUSH sector covering the healthcare systems as under:
 - Ayurveda
 - Yoga & Naturopathy
 - Unani
 - Siddha
 - Sowa Rigpa
 - Homoeopathy
- The project is intended to be an omnibus digital eco- system that would lead to all round development of the AYUSH sector in fields of healthcare delivery at all levels, research, education, schemes and various health programs.

Project Objectives:

- To develop a network of People, Knowledge and Technology for radical, sustainable and wholesome transformation of AYUSH sector.
- To create an organic and dynamic information and communication technology (ICT) powered network interconnecting all streams of AYUSH in their key functional areas viz. health care delivery, capacity building, research & development, AYUSH drug regulation and education.

Main components:

1. Health Services
2. Education
3. Research
4. Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes
5. Training
6. Citizen Centric Services
7. Drug Licensing Portal
8. Media Outreach

Tree based farming in the country

Context:

Government is promoting tree-based farming for maximizing farm returns and providing sustainable livelihood to farmers.

Details:

- Sub-Mission on Agroforestry was launched in 2016-17 to encourage tree plantation on farm land “**Har Medh Par Ped**”, along with crops/ cropping system.
- The National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) supports plantation, maintenance and inter cropping with Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) e.g. Olive, neem, karanja, Mahua, etc.
- Restructured National Bamboo Mission (NBM) was launched in 2018-19 for development of complete value chain, including plantations in non-forest Government land and private farmers field and connecting growers to the market.

Marketing of agricultural products with organic tag

Context:

Exemption of small original organic producer or producer organizations from certification through NPOP or PGS.

Details:

- Any organic food manufactured, packed, sold, offered for sale, marketed or otherwise distributed in the country is regulated as per the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Organic Food) Regulations, 2017.
- These regulations require Organic Food to comply with the provisions of National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) or Participatory Guarantee System (PGS).
- But, in order to support small organic producers (those with annual turnover not exceeding 12 lakhs per annum), the government has decided to exempt them from NPOP or PGS certification.
- Jaivik Kheti portal has also been created for promotion and sale of organic produce to connect farmers involved in organic farming with consumers directly for better prices.

Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor

Context:

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has prepared the Conceptual Development Plan (CDP) for Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC) project.

Details:

- Four nodes have been identified for development. They are:
 - Visakhapatnam
 - Machilipatnam
 - Donakonda
 - Chittoor
- The State government of Andhra Pradesh has prioritized two nodes namely, Visakhapatnam and Chittoor.

Steps Taken to Implement "One Nation-One Ration Card" Scheme

Context:

The Department of Food & Public Distribution has launched a new scheme namely “Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)” for implementation during 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Details:

- This has been launched to sustain the reforms brought about by the scheme on 'End to End Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations'.
- The main objective of the scheme is to introduce nation-wide portability of ration card holders under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), to lift their entitlement food grains from any FPS in the country without the need to obtain a new ration card, by integrating the existing PDS systems/portals of States/UTs with the Central systems/portals, etc.

Procurement of Farm Produces at MSP by Private Players

Context:

Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS) under the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanraks Han Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA) was launched in October, 2018.

Details:

- The objective of PPSS is to assess the workability of private agencies in the procurement operation at MSP.
- Government does not earmark any amount for procurement of paddy/rice through Private agencies. Depending on the quantity procured by the private agencies, the amount is paid by FCI at the rate fixed through tender.

Culture Minister Shri Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurates the architectural illumination of the historic Safdarjung Tomb

Context:

The Minister inaugurated the illumination of the historic Safdarjung Tomb in New Delhi.

About Safdarjung Tomb:

- Also known as "Safdarjung Ka Maqbara".
- Built in the late 18th century CE.
- It was built as a mausoleum for Safdar Jung, who was the Wazir ul Hindustan (Prime Minister of India) during Mughal Emperor Ahmad Shah Bahadur's reign.
- It was built by Safdarjung's son Nawab Shuja Ud Daula.
- Significance: It is the last monumental garden tomb depicting the Mughal architectural style.
- The tomb is surrounded by a garden in the Mughal charbagh style.
- The garden is a smaller version of the garden at Humayun's tomb, also at Delhi.

Lok Sabha passes The Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Bill, 2019

Key Points:

- The Protection of Human Rights Act as originally passed in 1993 to provide for the constitution of the NHRC and the State human rights commissions.
- The new amendment bill provides:

- that a person who has been a Judge of the Supreme Court is also made eligible to be appointed as Chairperson of the Commission in addition to the person who has been the Chief Justice of India;
- to increase the Members of the Commission from two to three of which, one shall be a woman;
- to include Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes, Chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights and the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities as deemed Members of the Commission;
- to reduce the term of the Chairperson and Members of the Commission and the State Commissions from five to three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment;
- to provide that a person who has been a Judge of a High Court is also made eligible to be appointed as Chairperson of the State Commission in addition to the person who has been the Chief Justice of the High Court; and,
- to confer upon State Commissions, the functions relating to human rights being discharged by the Union territories, other than the Union territory of Delhi, which will be dealt with by the Commission.

Incubation in Apparel Manufacturing

Context:

The GOI is implementing the Scheme for Incubation in Apparel Manufacturing (SIAM).

Details:

- It was launched on a pilot basis in 2014.
- It is a demand driven scheme.
- The objective of the Scheme is to promote entrepreneurs in apparel manufacturing by providing them an integrated workspace and linkages based entrepreneurial ecosystem with plug and play facility which help them in reducing operational and financial cost for establishing and growing a new business.
- The scheme envisages promoting entrepreneurship in apparel manufacturing, creating additional manufacturing capacity and generating additional employment opportunities.