

22 September 2019: PIB Summary & Analysis

Corps of Army Air Defence

Context:

The sixth reunion of the Corps of Army Air Defence was celebrated on 20 and 21 September 2019 at Army AD College, Gopalpur.

About the Corps of Army Air Defence:

- The Corps of Army Air Defence (AAD) is an active corps of the Indian Army that is mandated with protecting Indian air space from enemy aircraft and missiles, particularly below 5000 feet, where it is highly impossible for Air Force planes to intercept the threat.
- AAD is tasked with India's air defence against foreign threats.
- The Corps was first raised in 1939 when it participated in the Second World War.
- However, the Corps became an autonomous corps only recently in 1994, when the Corps of Air Defence Artillery was bifurcated from the Army's artillery regiment.
- A training school called the Army Air Defence College (AADC) was set up to provide training to its personnel, at Gopalpur, Odisha.
- The motto of the corps is: 'Aakashe Shatrun Jahi' (Sanskrit for 'Defeat the enemy in the sky').
- Apart from the Second World War, it has seen action in the wars with Pakistan in 1947, 1965 and 1971; in the 1962 war with China and in the Kargil War in 1999.
- The Corps is headed by the Director General of Corps of Army Air Defence, who is generally a 3-star general.

Mochi Swabhimaan Initiative

Context:

The Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, GOI awarded Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Certificates to more than one thousand workers from the leather sector in Chennai. He also launched the Mochi Swabhimaan Initiative.

About the RPL Certificates:

- RPL certificates are given under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) of Skill India to the unorganised semi-skilled and unskilled workers.
- These certificates can help them get assessed and certified on their current competencies as per NSQF levels (National Skills Qualifications Framework).
- RPL also shows them a path to bridge their current knowledge and skill levels to reach a competency level or go for higher skills for professional growth.
- The RPL scheme envisions to impart skill-based training to one crore people between 2016 and 2020.
- The certificates can give workers the chance to go for higher education in their respective fields.
- It will also give them different options in upgrading and upskilling.
- RPL certificates certify skills acquired informally and drive young people to venture into aspirational job roles.
- The industry will also be benefitted because formalizing the skills of employees will give a clear

picture of the available skill sets, skill gaps and the need for upgradation to achieve desired quality and productivity benchmarks.

About the Mochi Swabhimaan Initiative:

- It is a nationwide activity in which the Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC) will extend support to the cobbler community who provide leather-based services, with CSR funds and bring respect to their skills by giving them a better working environment in the form of kiosks/umbrellas.

About the Leather Sector Skill Council (LSSC):

- It is a non-profit organisation dedicated to meeting the demand for skilled workforce in the leather industry in India.
- The LSSC was set up in 2012 as one of the key sector skill councils approved by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- The LSSC caters to the training and employment needs of various subsectors in the leather industry such as finished leather, footwear, garments, leather goods, accessories, saddlery and harness sectors.
- It also has a partnership with the Council of Leather Exports (CLE).