

01 December 2019: PIB Summary & Analysis

Border Security Force (BSF)

Context:

PM greets BSF personnel on BSF's Raising Day.

About the BSF:

- BSF is one of the five Central Armed Police Forces in India.
- This paramilitary force is India's primary border guarding force.
- It was established in 1965 in the aftermath of the Indo-Pak war.

To know more about the BSF, click [here](#).

Mitra Shakti 2019

Context:

The 7th edition of India-Sri Lanka joint training exercise, Exercise 'Mitra Shakti 2019' is scheduled to be conducted at the Foreign Training Node (FTN) in Pune in December 2019.

About Exercise Mitra Shakti:

- The exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability and operational efficiency amongst the armies of both India and Sri Lanka when deployed as part of United Nations peace keeping forces.
 - The objective of the exercise is to build and promote positive relations between armies of India and Sri Lanka through focus on sub unit level training on counter insurgency and counter terrorism operations in urban and rural environment under United Nations mandate.
 - The joint training exercise also signifies the strength of [India-Sri Lanka relations](#) in the field of military cooperation and engagement, which is vital for refining the interoperability and operational preparedness.
 - The joint exercise is designed for incorporating the current dynamics of United Nations peace keeping operations through practical and comprehensive discussions and tactical exercises.
 - The primary focus of the joint training exercise will remain on field craft, battle drills and procedures as also the ability to operate jointly with seamless interoperability.
 - India and Sri Lanka have collaborated on several counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency operations over the years. The two sides have a long history of military cooperation.
-

Controller General of Accounts (CGA)

Context:

Smt. Soma Roy Burman, a 1986-batch [Indian Civil Accounts Service \(ICAS\)](#) Officer, took charge as the new Controller General of Accounts.

About the Controller General of Accounts (CGA):

To read about the functions and mandate of the CGA, click [here](#).

World AIDS Day

Context:

The Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare inaugurated the celebration of the World AIDS Day organised by the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO).

Also Read: [AIDS and India: UPSC Notes for GS 1](#)

Details:

- Speaking at the event, the minister said that during 2018-19 in India, around 79% of people living with HIV knew their HIV status, 82% diagnosed with HIV infection are receiving free antiretroviral therapy and 79% are virally suppressed.
- The government has taken steps to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of ending the epidemic of AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.
- The basic target remains that of 'Three Zeros':
 - Zero new infections
 - Zero AIDS-related deaths
 - Zero discrimination
- The event also saw launch of the NACO Mobile Application, new IEC Material for TI NGOs, Calendar-2020, Comprehensive Module for Private Practitioners on Management of HIV/AIDS.

About National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO):

- NACO is a division of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that provides leadership to HIV/AIDS control programme in India through 35 HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Societies.
- In 1986, following the detection of the first AIDS case in the country, the National AIDS Committee was constituted in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- As the epidemic spread, need was felt for a nationwide programme and an organization to steer the programme. In 1992 India's first National AIDS Control Programme (1992-1999) was launched, and National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) was constituted to implement the programme.
- NACO envisions an India where every person living with HIV has access to quality care and is treated with dignity.
- Effective prevention, care and support for HIV/AIDS is possible in an environment where human rights are respected and where those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS live a life without stigma and discrimination.
- NACO is committed to contain the spread of HIV in India by building an all-encompassing response reaching out to diverse populations.

About World AIDS Day:

- World AIDS Day is being observed every year on 1st December since 1988.
 - The global theme of this year's World AIDS Day is '**Communities Make A Difference**'.
 - It is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV, and to commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness.
 - Globally, there are an estimated 36.7 million people who have the virus.
 - Despite the virus only being identified in 1984, more than 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS, making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history.
 - World AIDS Day is an opportunity to show solidarity with the millions of people living with HIV worldwide.
 - Most people do this by wearing an HIV awareness red ribbon on the day.
-

