

## 16 Aug 2022: UPSC Exam Comprehensive News Analysis



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### A. GS 1 Related

*Nothing here for today!!!*

### B. GS 2 Related

**Category: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

#### **1. The controversial visit of a Chinese vessel to Hambantota**

*Syllabus: Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests*

*Prelims: About Hambantota port and Yuan Wang 5 vessel*

*Mains: The conflict between India and China's geostrategic interest in Sri Lanka.*

#### **Context**

Sri Lanka gave its approval for the arrival of the Chinese Yuan Wang 5 vessel to its Hambantota port.

#### **Background**

For background on this topic refer to the following article:

[UPSC Exam Comprehensive News Analysis dated 14 Aug 2022](#)

#### **Hambantota port**

- Hambantota is the second largest international port in Sri Lanka after the Port of Colombo.
- It is located in the southern part of Sri Lanka and is touted to be one of the most important ports for its strategic location.
- The port was developed by Sri Lanka with the help of loans from China.



Image Source: The Hindu

Read more about - [Hambantota port](#)

### Yuan Wang 5 Vessel

- Yuan Wang 5 is a Chinese vessel involved in space and satellite tracking.
- The Yuan Wang 5 was built by Jiangnan Shipyard of China and it was commissioned into service in 2007.
- Yuan Wang-class vessels of China are involved in tracking and supporting satellite and intercontinental ballistic missiles.
- The Yuan Wang 5 is equipped with world-class tracking technology for transoceanic aerospace observation.
- China currently has about seven such tracking ships, which are capable of operating throughout the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian oceans.

### The Chinese vessel's visit to Hambantota Port

- The Yuan Wang 5 is supposed to enter the Chinese-built Hambantota Port in Southern Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka had described Yuan Wang 5 as a scientific research ship and it was supposed to conduct satellite control and research tracking in the northwestern part of the Indian Ocean Region.

### India's reaction

- India had expressed concerns over the scheduled visit of a Chinese satellite vessel and had shared it with the Sri Lankan President.

- The Indian Foreign Minister also discussed this matter with his Sri Lankan counterpart during the recent [ASEAN](#) summit in Cambodia.
- India had said that it is carefully monitoring the developments in the Hambantota Port as such visits might have implications on India's security and economic interests.
- In a bilateral meeting in Phnom Penh, the U.S. Secretary of State also discussed the issue with Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister.

### Chinese response

- Amid India's concerns, the Sri Lankan government had said that it would like to defer the visit "until further consultations" were held and this invoked strong reactions from China.
- China urged India to not disturb normal exchanges between the two countries.
- Chinese Foreign Ministry officials have said that:
  - Sri Lanka is a transportation centre in the Indian Ocean and vessels have entered the ports of the island nation for scientific research from various countries in the past.
  - Sri Lanka is a sovereign nation and has the right to engage with other nations bilaterally for its development and condemned the "interference" of "third party".
  - China has always believed in freedom of the high seas in accordance with the law and respects coastal countries' jurisdiction over such scientific research activities.

### Sri Lanka's Stand

- In the wake of India's concerns, the opposition parties in Sri Lanka had urged the government not to aggravate India's strategic concerns.
- Sri Lanka's government had also said that it would like to defer the visit "until further consultations" were held.
- However, the Sri Lanka government gave clearance for the arrival of the Chinese vessel.
- According to reports, Sri Lanka had asked the U.S. and Indian envoys to provide adequate reasons for their objections to the entry of the Chinese vessel to its port and it is said that Sri Lanka was not satisfied with the reasons provided.

**Nut graf:** *At the time of a severe economic crisis in Sri Lanka which requires urgent economic assistance from countries like India, the US and China, the latest developments have shown that Sri Lanka is in a catch-22 position.*

## 2. The conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh

**Syllabus:** *Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries*

**Mains: Nagorno-Karabakh issue****Context**

The tensions in the Nagorno-Karabakh region have flared once again as Azerbaijan claimed that it captured territory in Karabakh as retaliation for the killing of an Azerbaijan soldier in an Armenian attack.

**Know more about - [Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict](#)**

**The 2020 agreement**

- A nine-point agreement was reached between the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan in November 2020.
- The agreement included an immediate ceasefire, a timeframe for the withdrawal from Azerbaijan's occupied regions, deployment of Russian peacekeepers, and the need for new transport corridors.
- However, the agreement has failed to establish peace in the region as it changed the existing power balance between the two countries and lack of clarity on various issues such as delineating of shared border, conflict over transport routes and dispute over the exchange of prisoners which have caused numerous ceasefire violations by both the countries.
- The deployment of peacekeeping forces from Russia has also caused complications and has failed to stop ceasefire violations.

**Nut graf:** *Despite various ceasefire agreements, the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict remains a stalemate as these agreements have failed to resolve key issues between the two countries.*

**C. GS 3 Related**

*Nothing here for today!!!*

**D. GS 4 Related**

*Nothing here for today!!!*

**E. Editorials**

**Category: INTERNAL SECURITY**

**1. The fragility of the Northeast's integration**

*Syllabus: GS-3, Linkages between development and spread of extremism*

*Mains: Northeast India development and integration*

**Details:**

- Post the First Anglo-Burmese War (1824-26), the Treaty of Yandabo was signed and Assam was annexed into British Bengal.
- The “Partially Excluded” and “Excluded” areas comprised the unadministered hills of Assam. These were segregated from its revenue plains by an [“Inner Line permit”](#) created in the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1873.
- In 1874 Assam was separated from Bengal and made a Chief Commissioner’s Province.
- The Northeast (NE region) always remained alien and wanted assimilation.
- This was reflected in two administrative measures:
  - the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution 1949.
  - the [Armed Forces \(Special Powers\) Act \(AFSPA\)](#) of 1958.

**Historical Views:**

- The British contemplated leaving this “Mongolian Fringe”, a term coined by British India Foreign Secretary Olaf Caroe. This region comprised hill regions of the Northeast as well as Upper Burma.
- The then Governor of Assam, Robert Reid once exclaimed that “neither racially, historically, culturally, nor linguistically”, NE had any affinity with mainland India.
- David R. Syiemlieh also expressed similar views.

**The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution:**

- Post-independence, inspired by the works of Verrier Elwin, India came up with the [Sixth Schedule](#) for undivided Assam’s tribal area.
- The Sixth Schedule mandated the creation of Autonomous District Councils in which customary laws of tribals were given primacy.
- An insurgency broke in the region for the want of sovereignty, which further resulted in AFSPA, giving sweeping powers to the armed forces.
- The Naga Hills district was merged with the Tuensang and Mon subdivision of the North Eastern Frontier Agency (NEFA), or present-day's Arunachal Pradesh, forming Nagaland in 1963.
- Most of the autonomous regions were bifurcated from Assam in 1972. Meghalaya was made a State. On the other hand, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram became Union Territories. They were upgraded to States in 1987.
- Manipur and Tripura, which were initially Part C States, were made States in 1972 after the merger with India in 1949.

**Positive measures taken by the government for inclusion:**

- The outlook towards nationalism and national identity underwent moderations.
- The region was no longer required to leave its cultural streams to fit into the mainstream.
- The [North Eastern Council \(NEC\)](#) was founded as an advisory body in 1971.
  - Initially, the Governors of the Northeastern States were its members.
  - In 2002, the act was amended. The council became an infrastructure planning body for the NE. Sikkim was also brought within its ambit. Its executive structure also expanded to include Chief Ministers, addressing the aspirations of local electorates.
- Moreover, DoNER was formulated by the Central Government in 2001, and in 2004 it was made a Ministry.
- India's [Look East Policy of 1991](#) stated the objective of connecting the Northeast region with South East Asia.
- A protected area regime that restricted visits to Manipur, Mizoram, and Nagaland was relaxed in 2010.

**The associated concern of the Northeast region:**

- The national identity question remained unresolved for a long time.
- Frequent insurgencies raised apprehensions about mainstreaming with India.
- The suspicion of the “Mongolian Fringe” by the Indian state, and the latter’s fear of being forced out of their traditions and customs persisted.
- The grassroots sentiment reflected in the recent two cases of opposition to the [Citizenship \(Amendment\) Act \(CAA\)](#) in Assam and the sensitive issue of AFSPA in Manipur has once again flared counter-cultural tendencies.

**Also Read: [Naga Insurgency](#)**

***Nut Graf:** The integration of the Northeast region has been a prolonged sensitive issue in the Indian context. Even after a series of positive steps taken by the government, the issues are raised time and again due to the insurgencies, and sensitive issues like the draconian use of AFSPA. The measures further taken should be integrative and assure the residents that their customary laws and liberty won't be breached.*

**Category: GOVERNANCE****1. The shackles of 1861 need to go**

*Syllabus: GS-2, Powers, Functions, and responsibilities of various bodies.*

**Mains: Criminal justice system reforms**

**Context:** Criminal laws and procedures reflect India's colonial legacy.

**Historical Background:**

- The year 1861 laid the foundation for a strong and organized police force.
- The main aim was to use it as a weapon of repression.
- The detection and prevention of crime was never their objective.
- Andrew H.L. Fraser, who was the head of the Police Commission (1902-03), exclaimed "police force is far from efficient; it is defective in training and organization ... it is generally regarded as corrupt and oppressive, and it utterly failed to secure the confidence and cordial co-operation of people".
- Though many revolutionary recommendations were made by the commission, they remained largely unaccepted citing economic and financial constraints.

**Changes to the IPC:**

- The Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 had the aim of reforming, rather than punishing offenders.
- The Dowry Prohibition Act was brought in 1961 to control the social evil of dowry.
- Amendments were made to the [Indian Penal Code \(IPC\)](#) in 1983 and 1986 and sections 498A (cruelty by husband and his relatives) and 304B (dowry death) were introduced along with certain amendments in the Evidence Act.
- The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 was also introduced.
- The rape definition was widened and offenses of sexual assault were made stricter.
- Comprehensive laws for crimes against children like the [Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012](#), and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 were also approved.
- Other reforms include the constitution of the [National Investigation Agency](#) in 2008 to investigate and prosecute offenses related to national security.

**Contribution to criminal reforms by courts:**

- The Supreme Court brought relief to the LGBTQ+ community by reading down Section 377 of the IPC.
- The recognition of the right to privacy as a fundamental right.
- Section 124A - [sedition law](#), was also suppressed by the Supreme Court to reduce its alleged misuse.

**The issues with the Police:**



- The police continue to be seen as a brute force.
- There are issues of trust deficit even after the arrest powers have been curtailed, the usage of handcuffs restrained, the presence of a lawyer and CCTV cameras during interrogations, and vigil by human rights bodies.
- Lawmakers and the judiciary are still apprehensive about approving voluntary confessions before a police officer as admissible.
- Various committee recommendations to reform the criminal justice system have not been implemented.
- Despite the directive of separation of investigation from law and order, it has not been implemented by States and Union Territories.
- None of the State governments has given required attention to police reforms, as Police is a state subject. Moreover, the Model Police Act drafted by Soli J. Sorabjee was not enacted by any state.
- Many provisions have outlived their purpose, but still, continue to exist in the States' Police Acts and criminal codes.

Read more about [Police Reforms in India](#) in the linked article.

#### Way Ahead:

- Ensure improved funding and investment.
- Bridge the trust deficit by working on soft skills and ensuring impartial investigation.
- Unjustified arrests should be avoided.
- More offenses can be made bailable and many can be brought under the ambit of compounding to lighten the increasing burden on jails.
- Enhanced usage of technology and forensic techniques should be encouraged for enhancing the evidence quality.
- Specialized wings must be established for dealing with newer crimes.
- The police must be made accountable only with respect to their constitutional goal of ensuring the rule of law.

Also read: [Reforms in Criminal Justice System](#)

***Nut Graf:** The nature and the extent of crimes have changed drastically since 1861 when the Indian Penal code came into the picture. The institution of Police continues to remain mired with many challenges. The need of the hour is to accept the recommendation of various committees formed and strengthen our criminal justice system.*

**Category: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

## 1. A road map for India-EU ties

*Syllabus: GS-2, Bilateral Groupings and agreements affecting India's interest*

*Mains: India - EU relations*

### India - Europe Ties:

- India - EU has completed 60 years of diplomatic relations.
- A cooperation agreement of 1994 took the bilateral relations beyond trade and the economic sphere.
- The first India-EU Summit was conducted in June 2000.
- In the 2004 India-EU Summit, the relationship was upgraded to a 'Strategic Partnership'.
- A Joint Action Plan was adopted in 2005 to strengthen the dialogue and consultation mechanisms in both the economic and political spheres, improve trade and investment, and bring together people and cultures.
- A common road map to guide joint action for the next five years was formulated at the 15th [India-EU Summit](#) (2020). It highlights engagement across five domains: trade and economy; foreign policy and security cooperation; sustainable modernization; global governance; and people-to-people ties.

### Areas of cooperation between India and the E.U.:

- The total trade among the two exceeded \$116 billion in the year 2021-22.
- EU is the second largest trading partner of India after the U.S.
- Moreover, it is the second largest destination for Indian exports.
- There are approximately 6,000 European ventures in India that directly and indirectly generate 6.7 million jobs.
- Avenues of collaboration between the two:
  - The 'green strategic partnership' between Denmark and India to address biodiversity loss, pollution, and climate change issues.
  - The India-Nordic countries deliberated on green technologies and industrial transformation which are important for sustainable and inclusive growth.
  - Defense cooperation has also increased substantially.
  - India and the EU also conduct joint naval and military exercises reflecting their commitment to an open, free, inclusive, and rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific region.
  - European defense equipment manufacturers are partnering with Indian companies for supporting the 'Make in India' program.
  - Another emerging area is the start-up and innovation field.
  - Moreover, the Science and Technology Joint Steering Committee focuses on areas like [Artificial Intelligence](#), healthcare, and earth sciences.

- An agreement for research and development cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy was signed in 2020 between the Government of India and the European Atomic Energy Community.

**Challenges in India - E.U. cooperation:**

- India's stand on Russia - Ukraine issues, and its increasing cooperation with Russia, has been an area of disagreement between the two.
- Similarly, India has accused the EU of double standards for the purchase of 45% of its gas from Russia.
- There is also concern with respect to the EU's way of tackling the issue of China and its muted response to the Galwan clash.
- Moreover, it is the second largest destination for Indian exports.
- There are approximately 6,000 European ventures in India that directly and indirectly generate 6.7 million jobs.

***Nut Graf:** India and the EU should proactively resume the relationship in ambitious India-EU free trade and investment agreement, as it will be beneficial for both sides and ensure greater convergence in the international arena.*

**Category: POST-INDEPENDENCE INDIA****1. The temples that Jawaharlal Nehru built**

***Syllabus:** GS-1, Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country*

***Mains:** Jawaharlal Nehru's efforts in building the India post-independence*

**Details:**

- Nehru's vision of India was based on the ideas of secularism, democracy, inclusive economic growth, freedom of the press, and non-alignment in foreign policy.
- It was also based on institutions that would be the bedrock of India's future growth trajectory. They would ensure a self-sustaining and stable economy with people's welfare as a central mission. Approximately 75 of these institutions ranged from the Bhakra-Nangal dam to Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Indian Oil Corporation, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, the LIC, the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, and many more.
- The education sector included IITs and a network of Kendriya Vidyalayas.
- Townships:

- Bhilai, Durgapur, and Rourkela became functional townships
- The modern city of Chandigarh evolved
- Pandit Nehru also promoted small and cottage industries and established the [Khadi and Village Industries Commission](#).
- Two institutions for strengthening democracy are the Planning Commission and the Election Commission of India.
- The renowned personalities steering the projects with high-performance standards were: Homi Bhabha, [Vikram Sarabhai](#), P.C. Mahalanobis, Verghese Kurien, S.S. Bhatnagar, S.Bhagavantam and C.D. Deshmukh.

### Nehru's Legacy in Economy:

- Prime Minister Nehru's 17-year rule and economic model became a template for succeeding leaders.
- The success of the missions like the Green revolution, the telephone revolution, and the recent digital revolution owed a great deal to the Nehruvian model. Collectively, these missions have brought over 300 million Indians out of poverty and heralded the arrival of a modern, diversified globally connected economy with a significant digital component.

***Nut Graf:** India has become one of the fastest growing economies and much of it is owed to Nehru's vision and efforts in transforming the economy in almost all major domains.*

## F. Prelims Facts

### 1. Dornier aircraft

*Syllabus: GS; Science and Technology; Indigenization of technology*

*Prelims: About Dornier Aircraft*

#### Context

India has gifted a Dornier aircraft to Sri Lanka.

#### Details

- The gifting of the Dornier 228 aircraft to Sri Lanka is said to be India's contribution towards enhancing mutual understanding, trust and cooperation between the two countries.

- The Indian High Commission said that the gifting of the Dornier aircraft is an example of India's strength, adding to the strength of its friends and neighbours, including those in the Indian Ocean Region and the Bay of Bengal.

### **Dornier 228 aircraft**

- The Dornier 228 (DO - 228) aircraft is a multi-purpose light transport aircraft specially developed to meet the needs of maritime surveillance.
- The aircraft is also used in utility and commuter transport, third-level services and coast guard duties.
- Dornier 228 is a twin-turboprop STOL (Short-Take off and Landing) aircraft.
- It was manufactured by Dornier Flugzeugbau GmbH and the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has got a production licence.

Read more about - [Dornier Aircraft](#)

## G. Tidbits

### **1. Fundamental duties key to social transformation**

- The Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana said [fundamental duties](#) in the Constitution are meant to guide citizens to engineer a social transformation.
- The CJI said that the “Constitution is the fundamental document which regulates the relationship between the citizens and the government. While it has granted inalienable rights, it also places certain fundamental duties. The fundamental duties are not merely pedantic or technical.”
- CJI also said that “our system will truly belong to the people when we honour and cherish our diversity”.
- Further, he highlighted that the Supreme Court has inherited the backlog of close to a year due to the pandemic and the following lockdowns.

### **2. Submarine deal is unrealistic: Russia**

- Russia has informed India that it cannot meet the terms and conditions for the ₹40,000 crore project and pulled out of the Indian Navy's tender for the construction of six advanced submarines under **Project-75I**.
- Russia termed the requirements as unrealistic as they demanded very strict timelines and a lot of responsibility to the designer.

- The Navy has approached the Ministry for relaxation of certain requirements that have made most of the submarine manufacturers non-compliant.

## H. UPSC Prelims Practice Questions

### Q1. Consider the following statements about Sri Aurobindo: (Level – Medium)

1. Being an advocate of revolutionary nationalism, he never took part in the activities of the Indian National Congress.
2. He was arrested in 1908 in connection with the Alipore Conspiracy Case.
3. One of the main literary works of Sri Aurobindo is the poem ‘Savitri’.

### Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: b**

### Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is not correct, Aurobindo attended the 1906 Congress** meeting headed by Dadabhai Naoroji and participated as a councillor in forming the fourfold objectives of "Swaraj, Swadesh, Boycott, and national education".
- **Statement 2 is correct,** In May 1908, Aurobindo was arrested in connection with the Alipore Conspiracy Case or Alipore Bomb Case.
- **Statement 3 is correct,** Aurobindo’s literary works include Bases of Yoga, Bhagavad Gita and Its Message, The Future Evolution of Man, Rebirth and Karma, **Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol** and Hour of God.
  - ‘Savitri’ is said to be an epic poem with about 24000 lines.

### Q2. Consider the following pairs of intangible cultural heritage and the associated state. (Level – Difficult)

Intangible cultural heritage	Associated state
1. Ramman	Uttarakhand
2. Sankirtana	Manipur
3. Koodiyattam	Kerala
4. Kalbelia	Rajasthan

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- One pair only
- Two pairs only
- Three pairs only
- All the four pairs

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**

- **Ramman** is a religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwali people in the Chamoli district of **Uttarakhand**.
- **Sankirtana** is a form of performing art which involves ritual singing, drumming and dancing performed in the temples and domestic spaces in **Manipur**.
- **Koodiyattam** is a traditional performing art form in the state of **Kerala**. It is a combination of ancient Sanskrit theatre with elements of Koothu, an ancient performing art from the Sangam era.
- **Kalbelia** is a folk dance of **Rajasthan**. The dancers show bending movements that look like a snake. It is performed by the Kalbelia tribes who are known to be a snake charming tribe.

**Q3. Which of the following statements is/are correct about the Mahanadi River? (Level – Difficult)**

1. The river originates in the state of Odisha and drains into the Bay of Bengal.
2. Seonath, Ib and Tel are the major tributaries of the river.

**Options:**

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: b**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is not correct**, River Mahanadi originates from **Sihawa Mountain (Satpura Range) in Chhattisgarh** and drains into the Bay of Bengal.
- **Statement 2 is correct**, **Seonath**, Jonk, Hasdeo, Mand, **Ib**, Ong and **Tel** are the major tributaries of Mahanadi.

**Q4. Consider the following statements about Khangchendzonga National Park: (Level – Medium)**

1. It is located in the state of Sikkim.
2. It is the first and only 'Mixed World Heritage Site' in India and the world over.
3. A notable aspect is the large altitudinal variation observed over the protected area.

**Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: c**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct**, It is located in the state of Sikkim.
- **Statement 2 is not correct**, Khangchendzonga National Park was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list in 2016, becoming the first "Mixed Heritage" site in India.
  - However, **it is not the only UNESCO mixed world heritage site in the world.**
- **Statement 3 is correct**, A notable aspect of the National Park is the large altitudinal variation observed over the protected area.

**Q5. With reference to communication technologies, what is/are the difference/differences between LTE (Long-Term Evolution) and VoLTE (Voice over Long-Term Evolution)? (Level – Easy) PYQ (2019)**

1. LTE is commonly marketed as 3G and VoLTE is commonly marketed as advanced 3G.
2. LTE is data-only technology and VoLTE is voice-only technology.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below.**

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: d**

**Explanation:**



- **Statement 1 is not correct**, LTE (Long-Term Evolution) is a **fourth-generation (4G)** wireless standard and Voice over Long-Term Evolution is an advanced or enhanced LTE.
- **Statement 2 is not correct**, LTE is data-only technology but VoLTE is both data and voice technology.

### I. UPSC Mains Practice Questions

1. The problem of distrust between the police and the public in India can be resolved by following the Supreme Court's judgment in the Prakash Singh case. Do you agree? Elaborate. (250 words; 15 marks) (GS II - Governance)
2. "A good beginning means half the job is done." In light of this statement, evaluate the legacy of Jawaharlal Nehru as India's first Prime Minister. (250 words; 15 marks) (GS I - History)

