



Balalatha's

CSB IAS ACADEMY

The Road Map to Mussoorie...



Prelims EDGE – 11/10/2024

UAPA, 1967

Context: The Union Home Ministry recently declared 'Hiab-ut-Tahrir' as a terrorist organization under the UAPA, 1967 .



About Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA):

- It is India's premier anti-terror law. It is an upgrade on the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act which lapsed in 1995 and the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) which was repealed in 2004.

- Assigns absolute power to Union

Govt., by way of which if the govt. deems an activity as unlawful, then it may declare it so in the Gazette.

- It provides for the **death penalty and life imprisonment** as the highest punishments for terrorist acts.
- Investigating agency can **file a charge sheet in a maximum of 180 days** after arrest and this **duration can be extended** after intimating the court.
- It allows for the detention of suspects without charge or trial for up to 180 days, and for the **denial of bail to the accused unless the court is satisfied that they are not guilty.**
- **It defines unlawful activity** as any action that supports or incites the cession or secession of any part of India, or that questions or disrespects its sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- **It defines terrorist act** as any act that causes or intends to cause death or injury to any person, or damage or destruction to any property, or that threatens the unity, security or economic stability of India or any other country.
- Under UAPA, **both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.** It will be applicable to the offenders in the same manner, even if crime is committed on a foreign land, outside India.

2019 Amendment to UAPA:

- **Empowers Union Govt. to designate individuals as terrorists** on certain grounds provided in the Act.
- Empowers Director General of National Investigation Agency (NIA) to grant **approval of seizure or attachment of property.**

NCRB 'Crime in India' Report (2022):

- ✓ Charge sheets in close to 50% of UAPA cases have been filed at least a year after the FIR was registered.
- ✓ 15% of these charge sheets took more than two years to file before a court.

Source: Govt. declares Hizb-ut-Tahrir a terrorist organization (The Hindu)

HEATWAVES IN INDIA

Context: Heatwaves and heat strokes have been in the news after the death of five people during the airshow at Marina Beach, Chennai.



About Heat Waves:

- Heatwaves occur over India **between March and June.**
- Indian Meteorological Dept. (IMD) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences declares a heatwave event when the **maximum (day) temperature for a location in the plains crosses 40° Celsius (C). Over the hills, the threshold temperature is 30° C.**
- A heatwave generally lasts for a **minimum of 5 days.** On occasion, it can extend up to **7-10 days**

Following criteria are used to declare heatwave:

- Below criteria should be met at least in 2 weather stations for at least two consecutive days:
 - Based on **Departure from Normal**
 - Heat Wave: Departure from normal is 4.5°C to 6.4°C
 - Severe Heat Wave: Departure from normal is >6.4°C
 - Based on **Actual Maximum Temperature (for plains only)**
 - Heat Wave: Actual max. temperature is $\geq 45^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - Severe Heat Wave: Actual max. temperature is $\geq 47^{\circ}\text{C}$.

India's Vulnerability to Heat Waves

- **Only 8% of Indian households own AC units**, according to an analysis of the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP).
- By 2030, India may account for **34 out of 80 million global job losses** from heat associated productivity decline.
- As per a World Bank Report, lost labour from rising heat and humidity could **reduce up to 4.5% of GDP.**
- According to IMD - **24% increase in heat waves during 2010-19 when compared to 2000-09.**
- From **2000 to 2019**, mortality rate for tropical cyclones decreased by 94% & it **increased by 62% for heat waves.**
- Heat waves is **not notified as a natural disaster at national level.**

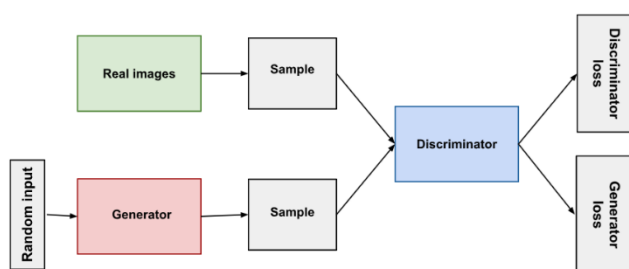
IMD Colour Codes for Heat Index

- It is represented with **different colour codes to signify varying levels of heat impact and discomfort:**
 - Green: Below 35°C
 - Yellow: Range of 36-45°C

- Orange: Range of 46-55°C
 - Red: Above 55°C
 - The index is based on four factors: **Relative humidity, Wind speed, Max temperature, Cloud cover.**
 - It warns against heat waves and lists the precautions people must take.
- Source: Why deaths occur due to heat stroke (The Hindu)*

TERMS IN NEWS

Generative Adversarial Networks



- Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) are a powerful class of artificial neural networks that are **used for an unsupervised learning.**

- GANs are made up of **two neural networks, a discriminator and a generator.** They use adversarial

training to produce artificial data that is identical to actual data.

- The **Generator attempts to fool the Discriminator, which is tasked with accurately distinguishing between produced and genuine data,** by producing random noise samples.
- Realistic, high-quality samples are produced as a result of this competitive interaction, which **drives both networks toward advancement.**
- As the generator endeavors to produce realistic samples, the discriminator simultaneously refines its discriminatory prowess.
- This adversarial process resembles a cat-and-mouse game, where **each network strives to outperform the other.** Via **continuous feedback & adjustment,** both networks improve, ultimately converging at a state where the generated samples are virtually indistinguishable from real data.
- GANs have been applied to many applications, including **image generation, video generation, and 3D object generation**

Middle Income Trap



- The middle-income trap is a theoretical economic development situation, in which a **country that attains a certain income (due to given advantages) gets stuck at that middle-income level and is unable to transition to high-income level.**

- The World Bank defines ‘middle-income’ countries as having gross national product per capita that has remained **between US\$ 1,000 to US\$ 12,000 at constant (2011) prices**.
- Typically, the economy of a country grows due to certain inherent factors like export competitiveness (e.g., due to low wages in a country), rich natural resource base etc.
- With growing economy, per capita income also rises. However, **with time, the competitive advantage aiding growth gets eroded** (e.g., wage levels rise). So, if the economy does not undergo structural changes, the **growth may slow down (or stop or even reverse)** & income may stagnate.
- **Population stabilization is also a factor here** - if population continues to grow, the per capita income may grow very slowly to make any significant impact on income level.
- Many countries in South East Asia (**Thailand, Vietnam, and Malaysia** etc.), Africa (**South Africa**) and Latin America (**Brazil**) currently face this phenomenon. This has impeded their transition to high income status.
- From **1960 to 2010, 15 out of 101 middle-income countries escaped** the middle-income trap, including Japan, Singapore, and South Korea.

National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)



- The Union Cabinet recently approved funding for the NMHC.
- The NMHC will be located at **Lothal, Gujrat**. The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** is spearheading this initiative.
- The NMHC aligns with the PM’s vision of **showcasing India’s 4,500-year-old**

maritime heritage.

- The project is **expected to generate approx. 22,000 jobs**, comprising 15,000 direct and 7,000 indirect employment opportunities.
- The **Governing Council of the NMHC, which is chaired by the Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways**, will oversee the project’s implementation, management, and operation.
- NMHC will benefit local communities, tourists, researchers, govt. bodies, educational institutions, cultural groups, conservation groups, and businesses.

Trachoma

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that **India has successfully eliminated Trachoma as a public health problem**.
- India is the **3rd** country in South-east Asia Region to achieve this milestone.



- WHO has classified Trachoma as a **neglected tropical disease (NTD)**.
- WHO estimates that around **150 million people worldwide are affected by Trachoma**, and 6 million of them are either blind or at risk of severe visual problems.
- Trachoma is a **bacterial infection that affects the eyes**. It is caused by the bacterium Chlamydia Trachomatis.
- It is **contagious, spreading through**

contact with the eyes, eyelids, or secretions from the nose or throat of an infected person. If untreated, it **can lead to irreversible blindness**. It is commonly found in underprivileged communities living in poor conditions

East Asia Summit (EAS)



EAST ASIA SUMMIT

PROMOTING PEACE,
STABILITY AND PROSPERITY

- PM Modi is currently in Laos to take part in the East Asia Summit 2024.
- The EAS was **established in 2005** as an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-led initiative.

- The EAS is the **only leader-led forum in the Indo-Pacific that brings together all key partners** to discuss political, security and economic issues of strategic importance.
- The EAS operates on the principles of **openness, inclusiveness, respect for international law, ASEAN centrality**, and ASEAN's role as the driving force.
- The idea of an East Asia Grouping was first proposed by then Malaysian PM Mahathir Mohamad in 1991.
- 1st EAS summit was held in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 14 Dec, 2005**.
- EAS comprises 18 members: the **10 ASEAN countries** (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) and **8 dialogue partners** (Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia & USA).

EAS Meetings and Processes:

- The EAS is **usually held alongside ASEAN Leaders' meetings** in the fourth quarter of every year.
- EAS Leaders' Summit is supported by various ministerial and senior officials' meetings, such as the Foreign Ministers', Finance Ministers', Defence Ministers' Meetings, etc.
- The EAS has **6 priority areas** of cooperation: **environment & energy; education; finance; global health issues and pandemics; disaster management & ASEAN connectivity**.
- The EAS also covers other topics of common interest and concern, such as trade and investment, maritime security, non-proliferation, counter-terrorism, and cyber security.

India and East Asia Summit:

- India has been a **founding member of the EAS since 2005** and has actively participated in all its meetings.

- India views the EAS as a key platform for **enhancing its Act East Policy** and strengthening its **partnership with ASEAN** and other regional countries.
- At the **EAS in Bangkok in 2019**, India unveiled its **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)**, which is aimed at forging partnerships to create a secure and stable maritime domain.

PLACES IN NEWS

Amangarh Tiger Reserve



- The body of an eight-year-old tiger was found on the border of Amangarh Tiger Reserve of Bijnor and Jim Corbett National Park.
- The Amangarh Tiger Reserve was opened in 2012 and is located in north western **Uttar Pradesh, close to the border with Uttarakhand.**
- It lies close to the **vicinity of Jim Corbett National Park** a wildlife corridor connects these two protected areas.
- It is one **among 4 Tiger Reserves in Uttar Pradesh**, the other three being Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, Pilibhit Tiger Reserve and Ranipur Tiger Reserve.
- **Major species** found here: Tigers, leopards, elephants, deer, and several species of birds

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act of 1967 (UAPA):

1. Both Indian citizens and foreign nationals can be charged under the UAPA.
2. UAPA provides for a comprehensive definition of the term “terrorist act”.
3. UAPA empowers Union Govt. to designate individuals as terrorists.

How many of the afore mentioned statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 2
- B. 2 and 3
- C. 1 and 3
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding heat waves in India:

1. Indian Meteorological Dept. (IMD) declares a heat wave when max. temperature over a location is above 50° C in the plains and 40° C in the hills.
2. Heat wave is not notified as a national disaster in India.
3. A colour coded Heat Index was prepared by the National Disaster Management Authority to warn people against heat waves.

How many of the afore mentioned statements are correct?

- A. None of the statements
- B. Only one statement

- C. Only two statements
- D. All three statements

- 5. New Zealand
- 6. France
- 7. Germany
- 8. Japan

Q3. Which of the following statements regarding the proposed National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) is **INCORRECT**?

- A. It is proposed to be established in Lothal, Gujarat.
- B. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is implementing the NMHC Project.
- C. The Governing Council of NMHC will be chaired by the Prime Minister
- D. Implementation of NMHC will be done via a PPP (public-private partnership)

Which of these nations take part in the annual East Asia Summit (EAS) organized by the ASEAN?

- A. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8
- B. 1, 3, 4, 5, and 8
- C. 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7
- D. 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8

Q4. Consider the following tiger reserves in India and the states they are located in:

- 1. Amangarh: Uttar Pradesh
- 2. Nameri: Arunachal Pradesh
- 3. Melghat: Madhya Pradesh
- 4. Guru Ghasidas: Jharkhand

How many of the afore mentioned pairs are correctly matched?

- A. Only one pair
- B. Only two pairs
- C. Only three pairs
- D. All four pairs

Answers:

- 1. D
- 2. B
- 3. C
- 4. A
- 5. B

Q5. Consider the following set of non-ASEAN Nations:

- 1. United States (US)
- 2. United Kingdom (UK)
- 3. Russia
- 4. India