



## THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD - REPORTS AND INDICES

**News:** *A new U.N. report says world hunger rose in 2021, with around 2.3 billion people facing moderate or severe difficulty in obtaining enough to eat*

- The report is presented by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme and the World Health Organization.

### Findings of the report:

1. The number of people unable to afford a healthy diet around the world rose by 112 million to almost 3.1 billion, reflecting the impacts of rising consumer food prices during the (COVID-19) pandemic.
2. Since Ukraine and Russia together accounted for almost a third of the world's wheat and barley exports and half of its sunflower oil, Russia-Ukraine war disrupting supply chains and further affecting prices of food, fertilizer and fuel resulting in increased prices.
3. More frequent and extreme climate events are also disrupting supply chains, especially in low-income countries at the same time.
4. The report said hunger kept rising in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean in 2021, but at a slower pace than from 2019 to 2020.
5. U.N. development goals call for ending extreme poverty and hunger by 2030, but the report says projections indicate that 8% of the world's population - nearly 670 million people - will be facing hunger at the end of the decade. That's the same number of people as in 2015 when the goals were adopted.
6. The gender gap in food insecurity, which grew during the COVID-19 pandemic, widened even further from 2020 to 2021.
7. The prevalence of child stunting reduced by one-third in the previous two decades - translating into 55 million fewer children with stunting - are under threat by the **triple crises of climate, conflict, and the COVID-19 pandemic**.
8. The intensification of these three crises combined with growing inequalities require "bolder action" to cope with future shocks.
9. The numbers facing food insecurity, undernourishment, child wasting, obesity keeps increasing at a slower pace.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

10. With forecasts for global economic growth in 2022 revised downward significantly, the report expected more limited financial resources to invest in “agrifood systems” - the production, handling, transportation, processing, distribution, marketing and consumption of agricultural products.
11. The governments need to spend \$630 billion annually to support food and agriculture globally through investing in agrifood systems equitably and sustainably.

## Recommendations of the report:

1. The governments need to redirect their resources to prioritize consumers of food and give incentives for producing and supplying nutritious foods, which will help in making healthy diets less costly and more affordable for all.
2. The governments need to start rethinking how they can reallocate their existing public budgets to make them more cost-effective and efficient in reducing the cost of nutritious foods and increasing the availability and affordability of healthy diets.
3. There is a need for urgent political solution, that allows Ukrainian wheat and grain to re-enter global markets, substantial new funding for humanitarian organizations to deal with “the skyrocketing levels of hunger” around the world.
4. The governments need to resist protectionism and keep the trade flowing and investments to help the poorest countries protect themselves against hunger and other shocks.

## CAATSA

**News:** *US Democratic Representative Ro Khanna said the US government must not impose sanctions on India under CAATSA for its purchase of S-400 missile weapons system from Russia.*

## What is CAATSA:

- Countering America’s Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).
- CAATSA is a law that came into effect in the US in 2017, meant to punish countries having deep engagements with Russia, North Korea, and Iran using economic sanctions.
- It said countries having a “significant transaction” with Russian intelligence and military agents will be subject to at least five kinds of sanctions.



## Why CAATSA?

- The US flagged issues of Russia's alleged interference in the 2016 Presidential elections, and its role in the Syrian war as some of the reasons for punishing engagement with it.
- Former US President Donald Trump, who was accused of "colluding" with Russia in the elections and during whose term it came into effect, called the Act "seriously flawed".

## Why should India worry?

- India has purchased the S-400 Triumf missile systems, which have advanced capabilities to judge the distance from a target and launch a surface-to-air missile attack.
- For example: In 2020, Turkey was sanctioned for its purchase of the S-400 system.

## ECO-SENSITIVE ZONE

*News: Kerala Assembly passes a unanimous resolution on ESZs*

### What's in the news?

- Kerala Assembly on Thursday unanimously passed a resolution urging the Centre to exempt the State from declaring Eco Sensitive Zones (ESZ) of one km around wildlife sanctuaries and national parks.
- The inclusion of such areas within the notified zone is bound to affect large sections in the State where forests constitute.
- Nearly 30% of the entire geographical area.
- Moreover, The Western Ghats region in Kerala is spread across 48% of the total area.

### What are Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs)?

- Eco-Sensitive Zones or Ecologically Fragile Areas are areas within 10 kms around Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- ESZs are notified by MoEFCC, Government of India under Environment Protection Act 1986.
- In case of places with sensitive corridors, connectivity and ecologically important patches, crucial for landscape linkage, even area beyond 10 km width can also be included in the eco-sensitive zone.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

- The basic aim is to regulate certain activities around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries so as to minimise the negative impacts of such activities on the fragile ecosystem encompassing the protected areas.

## Activities Allowed in ESZs:

- **Prohibited activities:** Commercial mining, saw mills, industries causing pollution (air, water, soil, noise etc), establishment of major hydroelectric projects (HEP), commercial use of wood, Tourism activities like hot-air balloons over the National Park, discharge of effluents or any solid waste or production of hazardous substances.
- **Regulated activities:** Felling of trees, establishment of hotels and resorts, commercial use of natural water, erection of electrical cables, drastic change of agriculture system, e.g. adoption of heavy technology, pesticides etc, widening of roads.
- **Permitted activities:** Ongoing agricultural or horticultural practices, rainwater harvesting, organic farming, use of renewable energy sources, adoption of green technology for all activities.

## DERECHO

**News:** *Explained: What is a derecho, a storm that turned the sky green in the US?*

### What is a derechoe?

- A derecho, according to the US's National Weather Service is “a widespread, long-lived, straight-line windstorm” that is associated with a “band of rapidly moving showers or thunderstorms”.
- As the storm rolled in, winds gusting at around 140 km per hour, snapped power lines and knocked down trees.
- As the storm hit, it turned the skies green, with even many experienced storm chasers claiming to have never witnessed such atmospheric optics.
- Being a warm-weather phenomenon, a derecho generally, not always occurs during summer time beginning May, with most hitting in June and July.
- However, they are a rare occurrence as compared to other storm systems like tornadoes or hurricanes.
- Derecho have a wind gusts of at least 93 km per hour, whereas wind damage swath extending more than 400 km.
- The time gap between successive wind damage events should not be more than three hours.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

## Why did the sky turn green during the derecho that hit US recently?

Severe thunderstorms result in a 'green sky' due to light interacting with the huge amount of water they hold.

### Types of derecho:

- **Progressive derecho** - associated with a short line of thunderstorms that may travel for hundreds of miles along a relatively narrow path. It is a summer phenomenon.
- **Serial derecho** - has an extensive squall line, wide and long sweeping across a large area. It usually occurs during spring or fall.
- **Hybrid ones** - have the features of both progressive and serial derechos.

### Occurrence:

- They mostly occur across central and eastern parts of the United States.
- The May 8, 2009 "Super Derecho" was one of the "most intense and unusual derechos ever observed" in the US as it swept from Kansas to Kentucky with wind speeds reaching up to 170 km/hr.
- In 2010, Russia witnessed its first documented derecho.
- They have also swept through Germany and Finland, and more recently in Bulgaria and Poland.

## NEW EDUCATIONAL POLICY (NEP) - GS 2 GOVERNANCE

**News:** *NEP to develop youth who are skilled and confident, says PM*

### What's in the news?

- The British education system meant to create a servant class to fulfill their needs.
- PM Modi said that the education system created by the Britishers was never part of the Indian ethos, in such a way, the basic premise of the NEP is to take education out of narrow thinking and connect it with the modern ideas of the 21st century.
- PM Modi said that NEP focused on making children skilled according to their talents and choices.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

- The educational system should not only prepare degree holder youth, but also ensure that all the human resources necessary for the country's progress were available.
- NEP opening grounds for making youth skilled, confident, practical and calculative.
- Highlighting the importance of research work, he asked for a “lab-to-land” attitude and also asked the institutions to value practical experience and fieldwork.
- NEP had opened up ways for pursuing education in the mother tongue.
- Mr. Modi said the government had issued guidelines to prepare Indian higher education as per international standards making India as a big centre of global education

## Go back to the basics:

- An NEP is a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in the country.
- The Third NEP proposes sweeping changes including opening up of Indian higher education to foreign universities, dismantling of the UGC and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), introduction of a four-year multidisciplinary undergraduate programme with multiple exit options, and discontinuation of the M Phil programme.
- **School education:**
  - Universalization of education by 2030 through 100% GER (Gross Enrollment Ratio) from pre-primary to secondary.
  - Open schooling system (no admission requirements like NIOS) for out-of-school children.
  - The policy focuses on overhauling the curriculum.
  - Making “easier” Board exams.
  - Reduction in the syllabus to retain “core essentials”.
  - Thrust on “experiential learning and critical thinking”.
  - “5+3+3+4” design corresponds to the age groups 3-8 years (foundational stage), 8-11 (preparatory), 11-14 (middle), and 14-18 (secondary).
  - Bringing early childhood education (also known as pre-school education for children of ages 3 to 5) under the ambit of formal schooling.
  - The mid-day meal programme will be extended to pre-school children.
  - The NEP says students until Class 5 should be taught in their mother tongue or regional language.
  - NCERT will develop a National Curricular and Pedagogical Framework for Early Childhood Care and Education (NCPFECCE) for children up to the age of 8.
  - NEP 2020 calls for setting up of a National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy by Ministry of Education.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

## ● Higher education:

- Proposes phasing out of all institutions offering single streams and that all universities and colleges must aim to become multidisciplinary by 2040.
- Doubling the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education by 2035 (50% by 2035).
- Broad-based, multi-disciplinary, holistic UG(Undergraduate) education with provisions of a flexible curriculum, integration of vocational education, multiple entries and exit points with respective degrees, and also undergraduate programs in regional languages.
- Academic bank of credits to enable transfers of credits between institutions
- HECI (Higher Education Commission of India) as an umbrella regulator except for legal and medical education.
- Promotion of multilingualism in schools and colleges.
- Regulatory body NEAT (National Educational Alliance for Technology) has been set up to integrate technology for better learning outcomes.

## Opportunities offered by NEP:

- **Develops skilling:** Introduction of vocational courses with an internship nudges the vulnerable sections of society to send their children to school.
- **Universalisation of education:**
  - NEP proposes the extension of the Right to Education (RTE) to all children up to the age of 18.
  - Policy aims to achieve 100% youth and adult literacy.
- **Inclusive education:**
  - Setting up of Gender Inclusion Fund and also Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups.
  - Children with disabilities will be enabled to fully participate in the regular schooling process from the foundational stage to higher education.
  - Efforts will be made to incentivize the merit of students belonging to SC, ST, OBC, and other SEDGs.
  - Every state/district will be encouraged to establish “Bal Bhavans” as a special daytime boarding school, to participate in art-related, career-related, and play-related activities.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

- **Transparency:**

- In spite of periodic inspection, transparency, maintaining quality standards and a favourable public perception will become a 24X7 pursuit for the institutions, leading to all-round improvement in their standard.
- PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), a national assessment centre has been proposed to be set up to keep a regular check on the education system.
- Establishes a super-regulator for education which will be responsible for standards-setting, funding, accreditation and regulation of higher education India.

- **Foreign Universities:**

- Allows universities from among the top 100 in the world to be able to set up campuses in India.
- This will lead to an infusion of international perspective and innovation, which will make the Indian education system more efficient and competitive.

- **Mother tongue:** Making mother tongue, local language or the regional language as the medium of instruction at least till Grade 5, considered as the best medium of teaching.

## Challenges faced by NEP:

- Currently, India is grappling with huge learning gaps. This is because the needs of children are more personalized and cannot be addressed only through online mode.
- With the extension of school closures and fear of infections, children are losing touch with understanding, comprehension, reading, and speaking skills.
- The digital divide is also causing the education divide in India. Today, in India, over 90 percent of students do not have devices that allow them to access online learning holistically.
- When the government is calling for greater autonomy, several universities continue to function without full-time heads and vice-chancellors. For instance, 10 central universities, including Delhi University and JNU, remain without full-time heads.
- The NEP asks for the highest priority to literacy and numeracy, but the government has slashed the school education budget by almost Rs 5,000 crore; higher education has suffered a Rs 1,000 crore cut.
- NEP failed to voice out for the persistent mismatch between the knowledge & skills imparted and the jobs available.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

- NEP also remains silent on education related to emerging technological fields like artificial intelligence, cyberspace, nanotech, etc.

## Way forward:

- For the NEP to move forward, India needs a robust institutional mechanism and large-scale capacity building to create enthusiasm among stakeholders. Every stakeholder at the state, district, sub-district, block-level has to have ownership and understand the concepts of NEP.
- Directorates of education have to be strengthened in order to ensure that the policy permeates to the district and zonal level educational clusters.
- To help children to realize their full potential, India requires effective strategies to physically equip teachers and students with better tools in the classroom, increase access to laptops and other gadgets, install interactive whiteboards and provide fast and reliable internet access.
- India also has to lay emphasis on vaccination of the young and old, this will facilitate the faster reopening of schools.
- The state and national boards across the nation will have to start with pilot programs. The creation of master trainers should be done, and they have to train principals and teachers in urban and rural areas.
- Providing the necessary financial resources such as
  - A special purpose vehicle (SPV) needs to be created to ensure NEP funds are available and that the implementation process is not delayed.
- India also needs to promote private philanthropy for funding both public and private higher education institutions.
- New and additional forms of tax incentives and other forms of incentives need to be evolved.
- To emphasize vocational training, but to make it effective, there has to be close coordination between the education, skills and labour ministry.

## URBANIZATION OF POVERTY IN INDIA AND MEASURES

News: Editorials - Urban Poverty

### Urban Poverty:



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

- In 2001, according to the National Report (India Habitat III by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation) about 23.5% of urban households were slum dwellers. This percentage had decreased to 17% by 2011 even though the total number of households living in slums had gone up from 10.5 million in 2001 to 13.75 million in 2011.
- Nearly 1 in 4 urban residents live in a slum.

## Causes for Urban Poverty:

### Uncontrolled Migration:

- The lack of infrastructure in rural areas, forces inhabitants of these regions to seek out work in India's mega-cities.
- As more and more people make this migration, the space left to accommodate them becomes less and less.
- Urban development can't keep up with the growing numbers of informal settlers and leads to an increase in the number of slums.

### Lack of Investment:

- Urban poverty is a result of the lack of opportunities and skills training for most of the working age population.
- Over the years, a shortage of adequate investment in quality education and basic services like health, sanitation, waste management and skill training has had its consequences.
- It has led to generations of malnourished, uneducated, unaware and unskilled or semi-skilled people who find it difficult to find decent paying jobs.

### Lack of Infrastructure in Villages:

- Due to lack of basic amenities and employment options in villages people migrate to cities.
- Agriculture is barely a lucrative option in villages, so their only job option is to seek out work in the cities' informal economies.
- Millions migrate to the cities every day to take up informal jobs such as domestic help, taxi driving, construction site work, etc.
- However, this creates overcrowding in the already packed urban infrastructure.



## Lack of Affordable Housing:

- The lack of affordable housing leaves urban poor address-less on paper.
- They settle wherever they can, but as more people join, a whole community of undocumented settlers emerges.
- This further complicates the procedure of accessing basic services like electricity, water and sanitation, etc. as the authorities and public utilities can only serve those registered-on paper – this is how poverty begins.

## Measures should be taken to tackle the problem of Urbanization of Poverty:

- First, there is a strong case for elected leadership in urban local bodies at the basti or slum cluster level. Political representation is the real empowerment.
- Second, access to public services is the biggest challenge for migrants. Nearly half the urban population does have access to cheap food grains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). With the portability of names and cards, access to grains has also improved. One nation One Ration card is the step in the right direction.
- Third, once the deprived households are identified, special community connect campaigns to ensure access to social welfare schemes should be started. Such campaigns should cover schemes related to LPG connection, bank accounts, life and accident insurance, EPFO and ESI facilities, and healthcare programmes like Ayushman Bharat and Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), employment schemes and drinking water, electricity, sanitation and other projects.
- Fourth, nearly 70 lakh women in seven lakh self-help groups are under the National Urban Livelihood Mission. Complete coverage of deprived households by SHGs should be attempted in a mission mode. This process should be accompanied by access to credit for all groups for diversification of livelihoods. Creating basti-level women's collectives will address several difficult challenges. Loans for street vendors under Svanidhi Scheme is a good step in that direction.
- Fifth, we need to establish Migration Support Centres. The expansion of rental housing and property titles to settlers who fulfil the basic requirements will ease access to credit. Support for the destitute and the homeless must be made a priority.
- Sixth, skilling, upskilling, and re-skilling opportunities must be readily available for poor households in ways that enable them to combine work with skill up-gradation. Apprenticeships to the eligible will also help.
- Seventh, Municipal bodies have lost revenues after the introduction of GST as entry tax and octroi are no longer with them. While an increase in property tax is an option, this



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

alone will not suffice. Urban local bodies need to be provided with more sources of Income by empowering them to levy and collect taxes and devolve more funds from state & center tax pools. All this requires governance reforms.

- Eighth, census towns (rural gram panchayat but urban in character) and many rural growth clusters have been identified by the Ministry of Rural Development as part of the Rurban Mission and some meaningful work has happened both on infrastructure and livelihoods in 300 clusters across the country. Some are tourism clusters, some specific economic activity clusters, and yet others are farm and non-farm clusters. We need to work for their emergence as robust growth centres.
- Ninth, improvement of schools, health facility expansion, and anganwadis will go a long way in connecting deprived households to human development requirements. The Atmanirbhar Health Infrastructure Yojana has prioritised strengthening urban health centres and the creation of frontline health teams.
- Tenth, the time has come to enforce minimum wages. Labour contractors very often disburse lower than the minimum wages, though they do not show that on paper. Domestic helps need support for wages as oversupply leads to distress employment. With a section of the population ageing and life expectancy increasing, there should be employment opportunities for people with caregiving skills.

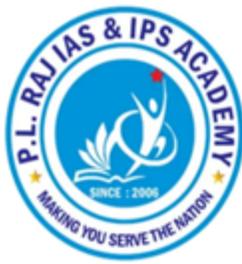
## Conclusion:

Contrary to B R Ambedkar's hope that urbanisation will break caste hierarchies, our large cities are among the most segregated. Master Plans must factor in the housing and welfare needs of the working class. The well-being of the urban poor cannot be an afterthought.

## ETHICS CORNER:

### CASE STUDIES - THE WOMEN WHO TRIUMPHED IN THE FACE OF COVID PANDEMIC

**The story of Vennila: Hills, dense forests, wild animals: How an Anganwadi worker in Coonoor helped migrants during lockdown**



A nationwide lockdown in March 2020 got hundreds of migrants and tribals stuck in the hilly district of Nilgiris. They had no access to food. Anganwadi, ASHA and healthcare workers worked round-the-clock to ensure everyone has food.

- **One such Anganwadi worker, Vennila** travelled through dense forests and scary wildlife to deliver food and ration to migrant workers.
- Vennila was also in charge of the community kitchen operated by the district administration at her Anganwadi to deliver food to migrants. She also visited kids at the Anganwadi centre and delivered eggs and rations to their families.
- As an Anganwadi worker, Vennila was also responsible for recording the weight of newborns, checking maternal mortality ratio, and providing ante-natal and postnatal services to pregnant and lactating women.
- She was awarded the **‘Covid Women Warriors, The Real Heroes’ award** by the National Commission for Women on January 31, 2021, for her exceptional work during the pandemic.

## **The story of Bhagwatee: How a tribal woman helped her community in a Chhattisgarh village during Covid-19**

The Covid pandemic brought several challenges for frontline workers. The health workers were under big pressure to provide healthcare services. The JSS (JSS is a registered, non-profit society of health professionals running low-cost health programmes in tribal and rural areas of Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh) had to change the guidelines and activities of its village health programme in order to suit the covid circumstances. The situation demanded quick decisions, simultaneous learning and implementation of those learnings. The challenge was to keep the services on for the community without putting them at an increased risk of getting infected.

- To overcome the challenge, JSS trained the village health workers to help contain the spread of the virus. **Bhagwatee was one such frontline worker.**
- Bhagwatee started going door-to-door, keeping track of each household and people who were experiencing Covid symptoms.
- She observed that people would often hide their symptoms. She would monitor symptomatic people with a protocol and tracker designed by JSS, to detect fever, cough and/or coryza. Those with high fever were required to be monitored for at least two weeks.



- Her active efforts helped in creating awareness about Covid-19 among villagers, helping prevent severe cases and even deaths.
- JSS describes Bhagwatee as a **“bold and determined tribal village woman”**. Her spirit of community work kept her confidence alive, which helped her continue to shoulder her responsibilities without fear.

## **The story of Santosh Vaishnav: How stitching skills helped a woman in Rajasthan village earn a livelihood, and empower others**

In 2020, when Covid-19 first hit the country, many people in Samrau (Rajasthan) lost their livelihoods as the pandemic severely affected the labour market and the mining sector. The Covid lockdown left the villagers without any source of income, making it difficult for them to procure food and other essentials.

- The **36-year-old Santosh Vaishnav joined Gravis, a non-governmental organisation (NGO) working with impoverished rural communities in Rajasthan.**
- Gravis asked Santosh if she could teach stitching to a class of 20 village women. For this, she was offered Rs 6000 per month. Santosh agreed. This was her first income. She started climbing the ladder of success. She continued teaching batches of women. In this way, she also helped them start their own sewing work.
- Santosh now also runs a unit of a group of 11 women from her village. This group makes soaps, papads, etc with their own funds. They sell them and earn additional income.
- According to the article, to help communities during that period, Gravis started active relief measures, supporting about 150,000 people. The organisation distributed food and hygiene kits to nearly 40,000 families (around 3,20,000 people). It also built mobile medical teams which offered health check-ups and medical support to over 3,000 people every month.
- Santosh took up great responsibility in Samrau. She led a team of volunteers who helped Gravis with the door-to-door distribution of food and hygiene kits.
- She and her team stitched hundreds of cloth masks for covid period. These were distributed among the villagers.
- Santosh says she wants to continue working with Gravis. In this way, she can continue helping the people of her village.



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

## Prelims Questions:

1. Consider the following statements regarding 'Eco-Sensitive Zone'.

1. Activities like Felling of trees, erection of electrical cables, Commercial use of natural waters are prohibited inside the eco-sensitive zone.
2. Eco-sensitive zones will be notified by respective State governments.

Choose the correct answer:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

2. Consider the following statements with respect to "The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World".

1. The report is published by FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP, WHO.
2. The report finds that the triple crises of climate, economy, and the COVID-19 pandemic affecting the food and nutritional security of the nation.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 only
- D. Neither 1 nor 2



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

3. Which of the following statements with respect to Derecho is **incorrect**?

- A. It is a widespread, short-lived, straight-line windstorm.
- B. It occurs in the USA recently.
- C. Its appearance makes the sky turn green.
- D. The wind speed is about more than 90km.

4. Which of the following statements with respect to CAATSA is correct?

- A. It is the free trade agreement signed between India and the US.
- B. It is a nano satellite under NASA's Artemis Mission.
- C. It is put forward to punish countries having deep engagements with Russia, North Korea, and Iran using economic sanctions.
- D. It is an environmental treaty signed by the global nations to address space debris.

5. Consider the following statements with respect to New Educational Policy 2020.

- 1. NEP provides for universalization of education by 2030 through 100% GER (Gross Enrollment Ratio) from pre-primary to secondary.
- 2. NEP brings early childhood education (also known as pre-school education for children of ages 3 to 5) under the ambit of formal schooling.
- 3. NEP 2020 calls for setting up of a National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy by the Ministry of Education.
- 4. NEP aims to raise the Gross Enrolment Ratio to 50% in higher education by 2035.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3
- B. 1, 2 and 4



# P.L. RAJ IAS & IPS ACADEMY

AN INSTITUTION FOR IAS, IPS AND TNPSC EXAMINATION

C. 2, 3 and 4

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

**Answers: 1.D, 2.A, 3.A, 4.C, 5.D**

## **Mainstreaming:**

1. National Education Policy 2020 is in conformity with the Sustainable Development Goal-4 (2030). It intends to restructure and reorient the education system in India. Critically examine the statement. (15 marks, 250 words).

2. The design of anti-poverty for the urban poor needs to be looked at in the extent of overall urban planning and institutional framework. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words).