

SHORTNEWS:

1.DISTRICT DE-ADDICTION CENTRES (DDACS)

NEWS: The Union Government is seeking proposals to set up **District De-Addiction Centres (DDACs)** as part of its **National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction in 291 “gap” districts across 30 States and Union Territories.**

What Are DDACs?

- **District De-Addiction Centres (DDACs)** are government-supported facilities **aimed at helping people recover from substance abuse.**
- States With the Highest Number of **“Gap”** Districts
 - These districts are called **“gap districts”** because they don’t have any existing government-supported facilities to treat or help people addicted to drugs or alcohol.
 - **Chhattisgarh has the most districts** needing de-addiction centres (31 out of 33).
- These DDACs would **“conduct primary prevention activities”**
 - Involves **organizing awareness programmes** among the **vulnerable and affected community.**
 - Identify **children/adolescents/youth** at risk of substance use and offer them **guidance.**

Why Are DDACs Important?

- India has a growing drug addiction problem, **with millions affected.**
- **The 2017-18 National Survey estimated that:**
 - **1.18 crore children and teenagers** use drugs like alcohol, cannabis, opioids, and hallucinogens.
 - **Seven crore adults in India** use **psychoactive substances.**

Other Government Initiatives for Drug Rehabilitation

- **The Social Justice Ministry supports:**
 - 350 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCAAs)
 - 74 Outreach and Drop-in Centres (ODICs)
 - 46 Community-based Peer Led Initiatives (CPLIs)
- Additionally, **142 addiction treatment centres** are **running in government hospitals.**

About National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction

- This initiative was launched in 2018 (2018 –2025) by the **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India.**
- **Objective:** Reduce drug abuse through education, rehabilitation, and community based service.

2.AID-WASHING

NEWS: After a three-month blockade by Israel, entry of **aid in Gaza** through the **Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF)** has sparked debate over the **aid washing.**

What is Aid-Washing?

- **Aid-washing** refers to **the practice of using aid distribution to improve a country's image while not fully addressing humanitarian needs.**
- **Benefits of Aid-Washing**
 - **Political Influence:** Governments can use aid distribution to gain control over conflict zones.
 - **International reputation:** It helps divert attention from controversial policies or actions.

The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF)

- It is a newly **formed aid organization backed by the U.S. and Israel**, created to distribute humanitarian aid in Gaza.
- Established in **February 2025**, the GHF aims to provide food and essential supplies to Gazans.
- It operates centralized distribution centers, with plans to expand aid hubs.