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CSAP News Analysis CNA

IN-DEPTH NEWS ANALYSIS FOR
UPSC & APSC

DATE: 04 OCTOBER 2022



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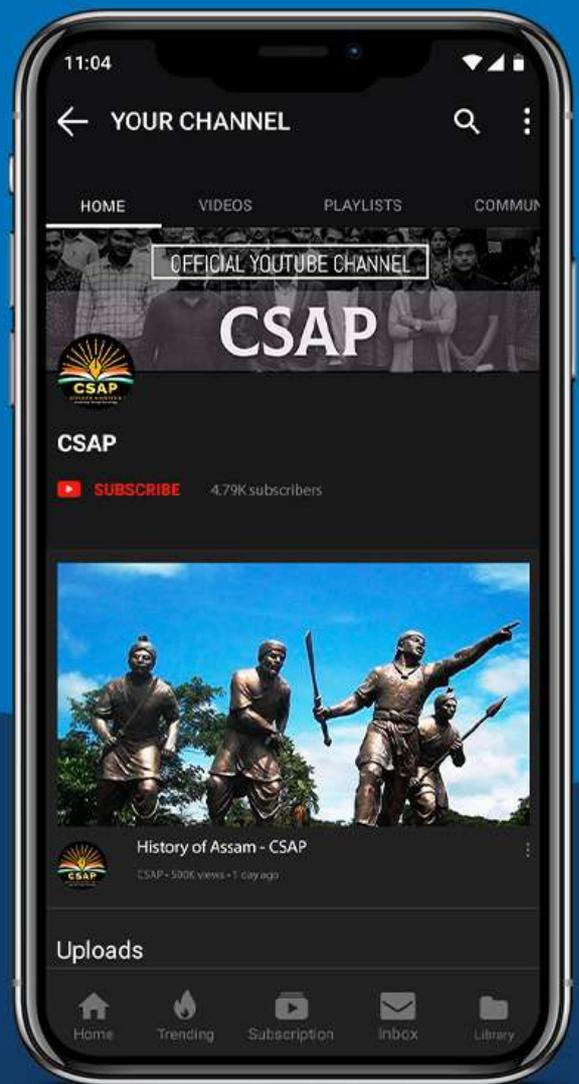
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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

MGNREGS to fund work to reverse desertification of land across the States

The employment scheme will work in tandem with the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana to help take up treatment of about 30% more land than feasible with the current scheme size

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

With limited funds to deal with the gargantuan task of restoring degraded land and reversing desertification in the country, the government is now planning to bring convergence between the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

According to the Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas published by the Environment Ministry in 2021, at least 30% of India's total geographical area is under the category of "degraded land".

Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Delhi, Gujarat and Goa have more than 50% of land area undergoing desertification or degradation, while States with less than 10% land degradation are Kerala, Assam, Mizoram, Haryana, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Arunachal Pradesh.

In a recent jointly signed advisory, Nagendra Nath



Working the land: The MGNREGS has a budget of ₹73,000 crore for the financial year 2022-23. FILE PHOTO

Sinha, Secretary, Rural Development, and Ajay Tirkey, Secretary, Department of Land Resources, urged the Chief Secretaries of the States to ensure that the two schemes work in tandem. Under the latter, activities such as ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, rainwater harvesting, nursery raising, afforestation, horticulture and pasture deve-

lopment are done.

The Union government now wants the States to undertake these activities using MGNREGS funds, which go towards both material and wage components.

In 2019, the government raised its target of restoration of degraded land from 21 million hectares to 26 million hectares by 2030 following a commitment made during the UN Con-

vention to Combat Desertification (COP14). Nearly three years on, the government is nowhere near this target.

Though the Ministry has been making efforts to contribute towards meeting the international commitment, the constraints posed on economy by the pandemic restricted the target to 4.95 million hectares by 2025-26. Therefore, there is a compelling reason for the Ministry to explore alternative opportunities to fulfil the commitment, the advisory read.

The Rural Development Ministry is now hoping that by making use of the MGNREGS, which for the financial year 2022-23 has a budget of ₹73,000 crore, the government can scale up the area to be covered.

As of now, there is Central allocation of ₹8,134 crore for developing 4.95 million hectares.

By the Ministry's own estimate, a convergence with the MGNREGS could help take up treatment of about 30% more land than feasible with the current scheme size.

GS-2

MGNREGS to fund work to reverse desertification

Context

the government is now planning to bring convergence between the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



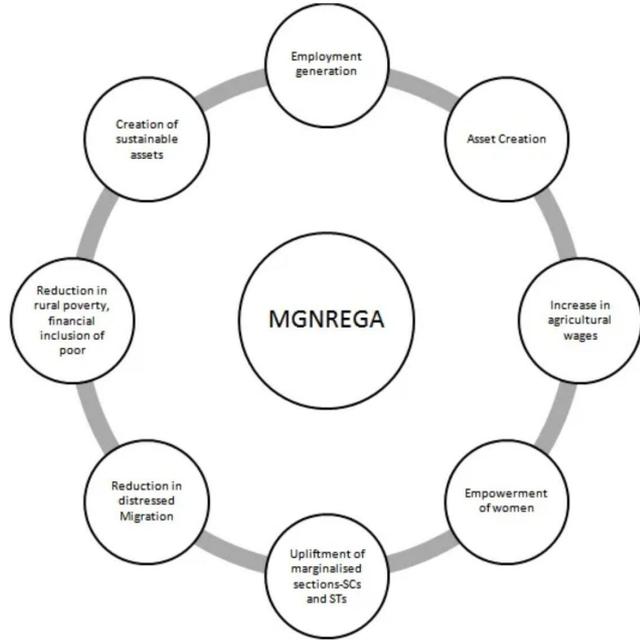
For restoring degraded land and reversing desertification in the country, the government is planning to bring convergence between the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

Centre plans cutting coal supply to plants that don't comply on biomass co-firing

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

India has been severely lagging in ensuring that at least 5% of coal used in thermal plants was mixed with biomass despite guidelines mandating them to do so. This recalcitrance by power manufacturers has prompted the Power Ministry to consider cutting coal supply to non-compliant plants, it emerged from the proceedings of an inter-ministerial meeting of the Environment, Agriculture and Power Ministries on Monday.

The Power Ministry in October 2021 had decreed that all thermal power plants ensure 5% com-



The Power Ministry wants to cut down on the use of fossil-based fuels like coal.

pliance by October 2022. Biomass pellets have the same calorific value as coal and mixing them with coal saves consumption as well as reportedly cuts emissions.

The meeting to review

progress of biomass co-firing in thermal power plants was held in New Delhi to prepare for the coming post-monsoon season that saw farm fires in north India and worsening air pollution. Biomass from stubble, which is often burned by farmers in open fields, can be used in coal plants to reduce pollution.

The meeting was co-chaired by Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and Power Minister R.K. Singh.

**Exclusive content**

Explained, India's climate targets
<https://bit.ly/3rtopRC>

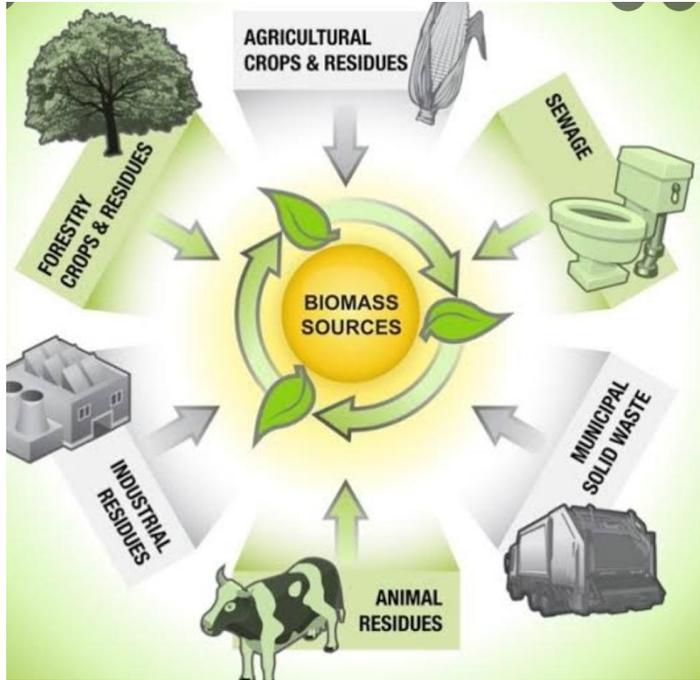
GS-3 Biomass co-firing

Context

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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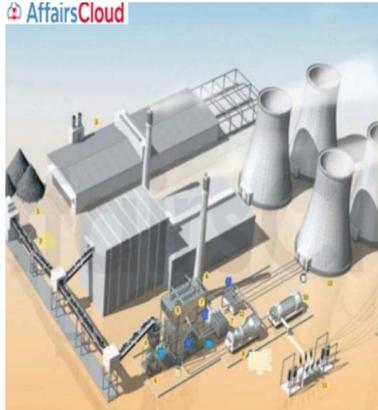
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Biomass from stubble, which is often burned by farmers in open fields, can be used in coal plants to reduce pollution.

Substituting 5-7 per cent of coal with biomass in coal-based power plants can save 38 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions, said finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her budget speech in 2022.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

AffairsCloud

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

Decides to Set up a
National Mission
on use of
Biomass in
Coal based Thermal
Power Plants

Around 95,000-96,000 tonnes of biomass pellets are required per day for co-firing, according to the 'National Mission on use of biomass for coal thermal power plants' set up by the Union power ministry.

But India's pellet manufacturing capacity is 7,000 tonnes per day at present despite a surplus 228 million tonnes of agricultural residue available in the country, the department data showed.

Also pellet suppliers favour selling their product to industries such as textile, food processing, metal based or in open market at Rs 12-13 per kilogram (even higher in some places in Punjab), instead of supplying it to coal thermal power plants at the offered price of Rs 8-9 per kg.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

Understanding evolution through genomes

Swedish scientist Svante Pääbo has been selected for the 2022 Nobel Prize for Physiology for his discoveries concerning the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution

■ Svante Pääbo, 67, sequenced the genome of the Neanderthal, an extinct relative of present-day humans

■ Due to his discoveries we now understand that archaic gene sequences from our extinct relatives influence the physiology of present-day humans

■ His father, Sune K. Bergström, also won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1982, along with Bengt I. Samuelsson and John R. Vane, for their discoveries concerning prostaglandins and related biologically active substances



Svante Pääbo

Swedish scientist gets medicine Nobel for work on human evolution

Associated Press
STOCKHOLM

Swedish scientist Svante Paabo won the Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for his discoveries on human evolution that provided key insights into our immune system and what makes us unique compared with our extinct cousins, the award's panel said.

Mr. Paabo has spearheaded the development of new techniques that allowed researchers

to compare the genome of modern humans and that of other hominins – the Neanderthals and Denisovans. While Neanderthal bones were first discovered in the mid-19th century, only by unlocking their DNA – often referred to as the code of life – have scientists been able to fully understand the links between species.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

GS-3

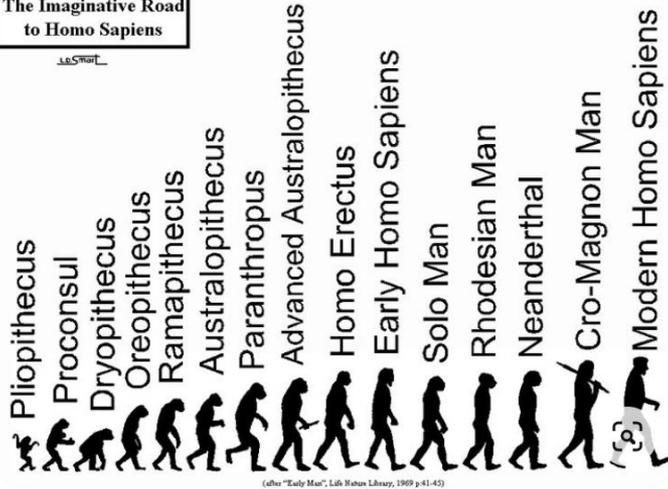
Nobel for work on human evolution

Context

This year's Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to Svante Pääbo for his discoveries about the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

The Imaginative Road to Homo Sapiens



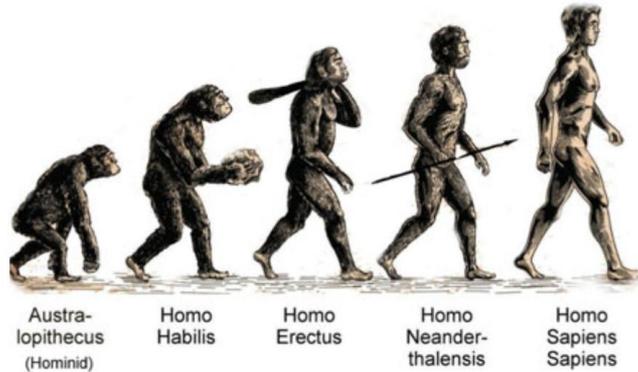
Pääbo, a Swedish geneticist was honored for his groundbreaking research on sequencing the genome of the Neandertals, an extinct relative of humans, and discovering a new hominin species, Denisovans.

He also demonstrated that humans Homo sapiens interbred with these species after migrating out of Africa.

Homo sapiens arose in Africa about 300,000 years ago, research suggests. Neandertals (also spelled Neanderthals), meanwhile, arose outside Africa and lived in Europe and western Asia from about 400,000 years ago until they went extinct roughly 30,000 years ago.

Groups of Homo sapiens left Africa around 70,000 years ago, and spread throughout the world.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



They co-existed with Neandertals in Eurasia for tens of thousands of years, but little was known about the relationship between the two groups.

Pääbo focused on mitochondrial DNA—genetic material found in the energy-producing structures within our cells.

He sequenced mitochondrial DNA from a 40,000-year-old piece of bone and showed it was different from the mitochondrial DNA of both modern humans and chimpanzees.

Using sophisticated DNA sequencing methods, he and his colleagues went on to sequence the full Neandertal genome, publishing their findings in 2010.

About 1 to 4 percent of the genomes of modern humans of European or Asian descent comes from Neandertals.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

GS-2

The Mediation Bill, 2021

The Mediation Bill, 2021

What are the changes which the Parliamentary Standing Committee has recommended to the draft Bill introduced in the Rajya Sabha last year? Will pre-litigation mediation be mandatory for all disputes before filing a suit in court?

EXPLAINER

G. S. Rajpal
Vikram Karuna

The story so far

The Mediation Bill, 2021 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on December 20, 2021, with the Parliamentary Standing Committee being tasked with a review of the Bill. The committee's report to the Rajya Sabha was submitted on July 13, 2022. In its report, the Committee recommends substantial changes to the Mediation Bill, aimed at institutionalising mediation and establishing the Mediation Council of India.

Why does India need to promote mediation?

While there is no standalone legislation for mediation in India, there are several statutes covering mediation provisions, such as the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, the Companies Act, 2013, the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, and the Consumer Protection Act, 2019. The Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee of the Supreme Court of India describes mediation as a tried and tested alternative for conflict resolution. As India is a signatory to the Singapore Convention on Mediation (formally the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation), it is appropriate to enact a law governing domestic and international mediation.

What are the key features of the Bill?

The Bill aims to promote, encourage, and facilitate mediation, especially institutional mediation, to resolve disputes, commercial or otherwise.

The Bill further proposes mandatory mediation before litigation. At the same time, it safeguards the rights of litigants to approach competent adjudicatory forums/courts for urgent relief. The mediation process will be confidential and immunity is



istockphoto

provided against its disclosure in certain cases. The outcome of the mediation process in the form of a Mediation Settlement Agreement (MSA) will be legally enforceable and can be registered with the State/district/tahsil legal authorities within 30 days to ensure authenticated records of the settlement. The Bill establishes the Mediation Council of India and also provides for community mediation.

What are the concerns with the Bill?

According to the Bill, pre-litigation mediation is mandatory for both parties before filing any suit or proceeding in a court, whether or not there is a mediation agreement between them. Parties who fail to attend pre-litigation mediation without a reasonable reason may incur a cost. However, as per Article 21 of the Constitution, access to justice is a constitutional right

which cannot be fettered or restricted. Mediation should just be voluntary and making it otherwise would amount to denial of justice. Additionally, according to Clause 26 of the Bill, court-annexed mediation, including pre-litigation mediation, will be conducted in accordance with the directions or rules framed by the Supreme Court or High Courts. However, the Committee objected to this. It stated that Clause 26 went against the spirit of the Constitution. In countries that follow the Common Law system, it is a healthy tradition that in the absence of statutes, apex court judgments and decisions carry the same weight. The moment a law is passed however, it becomes the guiding force rather than the instructions or judgments given by the courts. Therefore, Clause 26 is unconstitutional.

Furthermore, the Bill considers interna-

THE GIST

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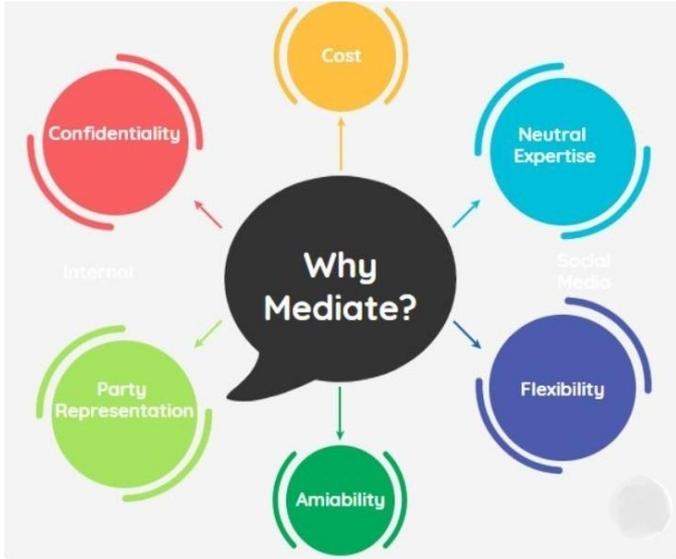
mediation to be domestic when it is conducted in India with the settlement being recognised in a judgment or decree of a court. The Singapore Convention does not apply to settlements that already have the status of judgments or decrees. As a result, conducting cross-border mediation in India will exclude the tremendous benefits of worldwide enforceability.

What next?
In order to enable a faster resolution of disputes, the Bill should be implemented after discussion with stakeholders. If the issues of the Bill aren't fixed, one option would be to become an international mediation hub for any business transactions could be created before they're even begun.
G. S. Rajpal is the Vice-Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab where Vikram Karuna is Assistant Professor

Context

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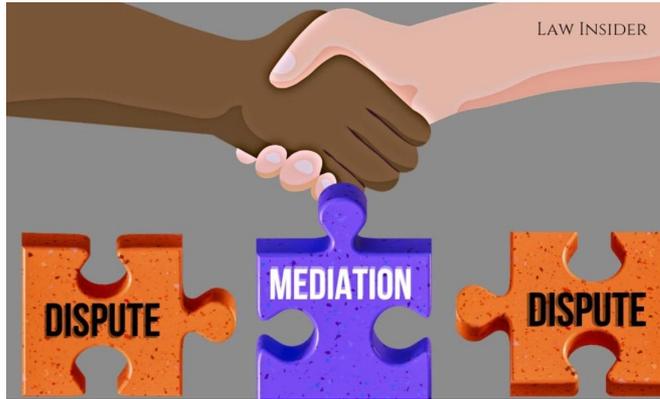
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The mediation process will be confidential and immunity is provided against its disclosure in certain cases. It also establishes the Mediation Council of India and also provides for community mediation.

Parties who fail to attend pre-litigation mediation without a reasonable reason may incur a cost. However, as per Article 21 of the Constitution, access to justice is a constitutional right which cannot be fettered or restricted.

Also, the Bill considers international mediation to be domestic when it is conducted in India with the settlement being recognised as a judgment or decree of a court.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

Deaths, inaccuracies and statistics: The case of the SRS

India's total death rate remained constant in 2020, even as male and female death rates increased!

DATA POINT

Jasmin Nihalani

Counting the dead is a daunting task, especially in India. The country accounts for roughly 17% of the deaths worldwide, but still doesn't have a system that can accurately count the number of deaths. While the Civil Registration System (CRS) and the Sample Registration System (SRS) measure mortality, both come with their own limitations.

The CRS is a record of vital events such as birth, death and stillbirth at the place of occurrence. But not all deaths are registered in India and a significant number is recorded beyond the prescribed time limit of 21 days. The SRS is a large-scale survey that provides an estimate of the death rate or the number of deaths per 1,000 population. While the SRS is considered far more reliable, records state that in several States, the registered deaths exceed the estimates provided by the SRS.

The release of the SRS Statistical Report 2020 in September has yet again raised questions about India's mortality estimates. The report states that the death rate rose to 6.0 per 1,000 in 2020. In a year affected by the pandemic, the estimated death rate remained unchanged from 6.0 in 2019.

By contrast, the CRS showed that India had an estimated 8.2 lakh deaths in 2020. Excess deaths were calculated as the difference between the registered deaths in 2020 and the average number of deaths registered in 2018 and 2019. The death toll was 5.5 times the official COVID-19 death toll recorded in 2020. Table 1 lists the State-wise average number of registered deaths in 2018 and 2019, deaths in 2020, excess deaths, official COVID-19 deaths and the undercount factor for 2020. States such as Bihar, Maharashtra and West Bengal had a high burden of excess mortality, but when compared with the official COVID-19 toll, Bihar, Assam and Madhya Pradesh had the highest undercount factor. There are issues with the CRS numbers as well – some States such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have historically lower registration rates compared to other States. In Uttar Pradesh, in particular, there was a sudden drop in registered deaths in 2020.

While the CRS shows excess mortality, the SRS, which is also used to assess the completeness of registration in the CRS, failed to capture this despite an increase in the death rate of males and females. As per Table 2, annual estimates of death rate by sex, India and major States/UTs, 2015-2019 at the SRS, the death rate rose from 6.5 to 6.6 in 2020 for males and from 5.0 to 5.4 for females. However, the total death rate remained 6.0. Similar inconsistencies were observed in States such as Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Jharkhand. All three recorded a fall in the death rate of males and females above a rise in the all-India death rate in 2020.

The rising inconsistency lies in the SRS's estimate of the female death rate declined in 2020. Chart 1, which depicts the total, male and female death rates, is a replica of the chart presented in the report.

The inconsistencies in death estimates provided by the report call into question the accuracy and quality of the SRS report and further complicate the exercise to estimate the COVID-19 toll.

Inconsistencies in SRS mortality estimates

The tables and charts show the mortality estimates from two different sources – the Central Registration System and the Sample Registration System. There are several inconsistencies in the recently released SRS Statistical Report 2020. According to the report, India's death rate in 2020 remained unchanged even as male and female death rates rose. In another chart from the same report also depicts declining female death rates, showing glaring inconsistencies in data.



Table 1: The table lists the State-wise average number of registered deaths in 2018 and 2019, deaths registered in 2020, excess deaths, official COVID-19 deaths and the undercount factor for 2020.

State	Reg. Avg. 2018	Reg. Avg. 2019	Deaths 2020	COVID-19 2020	UF
India	73.0	81.2	8,26,294	1,49,318	5.5
Bihar	2.9	4.1	1,38,378	1,97	284.0
Mh	4.8	8.1	1,27,333	45,512	2.8
WB	5.2	6.1	1,05,601	9,732	8.0
TL	6.0	6.9	83,261	12,122	6.9
Gujrat	4.5	5.2	76,212	4,396	17.7
Andhra	3.8	4.6	66,276	7,188	9.3
MP	4.6	5.2	65,662	3,696	18.2
Karnataka	5.0	5.5	65,611	12,600	4.0
Assam	1.5	1.9	34,254	1,095	32.0
Jharkhand	4.5	4.8	29,907	2,696	11.1

Table 2: The table shows the State-wise total, male and female death rates in 2019 and 2020. The table shows the total, male and female death rates in 2019 and 2020. The table shows the total, male and female death rates in 2019 and 2020.

State	2019	2020	Male 2019	Male 2020	Female 2019	Female 2020
India	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.6	5.0	5.4
MP	6.6	6.3	7.2	5.6	4.8	7.7
Assam	6.3	6.8	6.4	6.7	5.2	6.8
Andhra	6.4	6.3	7.1	4.8	4.6	6.3
Madhya Pradesh	6.2	6.1	7.2	6.0	5.0	5.5
Karnataka	6.2	6.2	7.1	7.1	4.6	5.3
Jharkhand	5.7	5.4	6.0	4.9	4.9	5.5

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Chart 1: The chart depicts the total, male and female death rates as shown in the report.



nihalani.jg@rediffmail.com

GS-2

Death, inaccuracies and statistics

Context

The country accounts for roughly 17% of the deaths worldwide, but still doesn't have a system that can accurately count the number of deaths. While the Civil Registration System (CRS) and the Sample Registration System (SRS) measure mortality, both come with their own limitations.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

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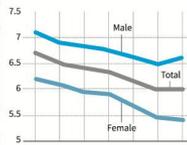
State	Avg. deaths	2020 deaths	Excess deaths	COVID-19 toll	UF	State	Avg. deaths	2020 deaths	Excess deaths	COVID-19 toll	UF
India	73.0	81.2	8,20,041	1,49,018	5.5	Odisha	3.4	3.6	27,109	1,926	14.1
Bihar	2.9	4.3	1,38,378	1,397	99.1	Haryana	1.9	2.1	24,862	2,905	8.6
Mah	6.8	8.1	1,27,933	49,521	2.6	Telangana	1.8	2.0	20,716	1,541	13.4
W.B.	5.2	6.1	85,602	9,712	8.8	Punjab	2.1	2.3	15,707	5,341	2.9
T.N.	6.0	6.9	83,261	12,122	6.9	Chh	1.8	1.9	9,058	3,371	2.7
Gujarat	4.5	5.2	76,122	4,306	17.7	Jha	1.1	1.2	7,986	1,030	7.8
Andhra	3.9	4.6	66,376	7,108	9.3	Himachal	0.4	0.4	1,716	922	1.9
M.P.	4.6	5.2	65,662	3,606	18.2	Delhi	1.5	1.4	-2,620	10,536	-0.2
Karnataka	5.0	5.5	55,761	12,090	4.6	Kerala	2.6	2.5	-13,566	3,073	-4.4
Assam	1.5	1.9	34,254	1,045	32.8	U.P.	8.3	8.7	-52,206	8,352	-6.3
Rajasthan	4.5	4.8	29,907	2,696	11.1						

The average number of deaths and deaths registered in 2020 are in lakh. UF stands for undercount factor. Mah stands for Maharashtra, Chh is Chhattisgarh and Jha is Jharkhand. For the detailed table, please view the story online.

Table 2: The table shows the State-wise total, male and female death rates in 2019 and 2020. DR in the table below stands for death rates.

	DR 2019	DR 2020	Male DR 2019	Male DR 2020	Female DR 2019	Female DR 2020
India	6	6	6.5	6.6	5	5.4
M.P.	6.6	6.5	7	7.2	5.6	5.8
Assam	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.7	5.2	5.8
Andhra	6.4	6.3	7.1	7.1	4.8	5.6
Himachal	6.9	6.8	7.1	7.1	3.9	5.5
Karnataka	6.2	6.2	7.1	7.1	4.6	5.3
Rajasthan	5.7	5.6	6	6.3	4.9	4.9
Bihar	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.2	5.4
Chhattisgarh	7.3	7.9	7.7	8.6	6.2	7.2
Delhi	3.2	2.6	3.8	4	3.2	3.5
Gujarat	6.6	5.6	6	6.2	5.2	5.5
Haryana	5.9	6.1	6.6	7.1	4.8	5
J&K	4.6	4.6	4.9	5.5	4	3.7
Jharkhand	5.3	6.2	5.6	5	4.4	5.5
Kerala	7.1	7	7.1	8.3	7.2	5.9
Mah	5.4	5.5	6.2	6.1	4.4	4.8
Odisha	7.1	7.9	7.4	7.9	5.8	6.6
Punjab	6.6	7.2	8	7.5	4.7	6.3
T.N.	6.1	6.1	7.4	7.1	4.9	5.1
Telangana	6.1	6	7.2	6.6	4.3	5.3
U.P.	6.5	6.5	6.9	6.7	5.3	6.2
Uttarakhand	6	6.3	6.4	7	5.1	5.5
W.B.	5.3	5.5	5.2	6.2	5.5	4.7

Chart 3: The chart depicts the total, male and female death rates as shown in the report



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By contrast, the CRS showed that India had an estimated 8.2 lakh excess deaths in 2020. Excess deaths were calculated as the difference between the registered deaths in 2020 and the average number of deaths registered in 2018 and 2019.

The deaths were 5.5 times the official COVID-19 death toll recorded in 2020.

States such as Bihar, Maharashtra and West Bengal had a high burden of excess mortality, but when compared with the official COVID-19 toll, Bihar, Assam and Madhya Pradesh had the highest undercount factor.

While the CRS shows excess mortality, the SRS, which is also used to assess the completeness of registration in the CRS, failed to capture this despite an increase in the death rate of males and females.



CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

Every drop counts

The infrastructure created as part of the Jal Jeevan Mission must be long lasting

One of the most significant commitments of the Narendra Modi government is to ensure piped water to every rural household by 2024. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, led by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, 10.2 crore rural households, or about 53% of the eligible population, now have tap water access. This, the Government claims, is a 37-percentage point rise from 2019 when the scheme was announced, where its stated aim is to ensure at least 55 litres per person per day of potable water to every rural household – which implies a mere connection does not suffice. The Government commissions annual surveys to evaluate the success of the scheme. A recent audit, by a private agency, found that around 62% of rural households in India had fully functional tap water connections within their premises. A report of a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources in March, based on numbers provided by the nodal Jal Shakti Ministry, stated that 46% households had such fully functional tap water connections. It is important to note that for the purposes of the survey, only 3% of rural households were surveyed by the agency for the updated numbers and so the margin of error may be substantial and subject to the way the survey was designed. If the numbers are accurate, however, this represents an impressive rise in potable, tap water accessibility and suggests that the mission is well on its way to meeting its 2024 target.

The survey, however, revealed wide disparities in achievement. Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Goa and Puducherry reported more than 80% of households with fully functional connections while less than half the households in Rajasthan, Kerala, Manipur, Tripura, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim had such connections. About 75% of households received water all days of the week, and only 8% just once a week. On average, households got water for three hours every day. Moreover, the report mentions a problem of chlorine contamination. Though 93% of the water samples were reportedly free of bacteriological contamination, most of the sangawadi centres and schools had higher than the permissible range of residual chlorine. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the progress of the scheme but with the economy now close to pre-pandemic levels, it is likely that the challenges of labour and material have softened somewhat to aid the progress of the scheme. The Centre should liaise better with States that are falling behind in targets and ensure that the infrastructure created as part of the scheme is long lasting and not merely to meet election targets.

Editorial Every drop counts

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



The infographic features a central blue water drop with ripples. Surrounding it are four key objectives of the mission, each with an icon: a tap with a drop, hands holding a drop, a person with a water tap, and a tree with a water drop. A 'UNION BUDGET 2019-20' badge is in the top right corner.

UNION BUDGET 2019-20

Piped water supply to all rural households by 2024

Integrated demand and supply side management of water at the local level

JAL JEEVAN MISSION

Will converge with other Central and State Government Schemes

Creation of local infrastructure for rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and management of household waste water for reuse in agriculture

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

1. What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)", sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) An Israeli radar system
- (b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme
- (c) An American anti-missile system
- (d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea.

2. The terms 'WannaCry, Petya and Eternal Blue' sometimes mentioned in the news recently are related to

- (a) Exoplanets
- (b) Cryptocurrency
- (c) Cyber attacks
- (d) Mini satellites

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

3. The identity platform 'Aadhaar' provides open "Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)". What does it imply?

1. It can be integrated into any electronic device.
2. Online authentication using iris is possible.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4. With reference to agriculture in India, how can the technique of 'genome sequencing', often seen in the news, be used in the immediate future?

1. Genome sequencing can be used to identify genetic markers for disease resistance and drought tolerance in various crop plants.
2. This technique helps in reducing the time required to develop new varieties of crop plants.
3. It can be used to decipher the host-pathogen relationships in crops

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

5. Organic Light Emitting Diodes (OLEDs) are used to create digital display in many devices.

What are the advantages of OLED displays over Liquid Crystal displays?

1. OLED displays can be fabricated on flexible plastic substrates.
2. Roll-up displays embedded in clothing can be made using OLEDs.
3. Transparent displays are possible using OLEDs.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the above statement is correct

1. The Nobel Prize in Physics of 2014 was jointly awarded to Akasaki, Amano and Nakamura for the invention of Blue LEDs in 1990s. How has this invention impacted the everyday life of human beings?



CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

Answer keys for 03-10-22 PYQs are:

1-d

2-a

3-b

4-d

5-b