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IN-DEPTH NEWS ANALYSIS FOR
UPSC & APSC

DATE: 11 OCTOBER 2022



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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

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4	N Korea's nuclear test	GS-2
5	Space economy may touch \$13bn by 2025	GS-3
6	Building resilient mineral supply chain	Editorial

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

GS-2 SCO anti-terror exercise

THE HINDU

Pakistan to take part in closing ceremony of SCO anti-terror exercise hosted by India

Officials sources confirm the country's delegation has been invited for the exercise aimed at building synergy between Counter Terrorism Forces of SCO RATS member countries; India participated in JATE-2021 hosted by Pakistan

Dinakar Peri
Kallol Bhattacharjee
NEW DELHI

Pakistan has been invited to the closing ceremony, on October 13, of the ongoing Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE) within the ambit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) being hosted by India, official and diplomatic sources confirmed.

"Pakistan delegation has been extended an invitation for the closing ceremony on the last day of JATE 'Manesar Anti-Terror 2022'," a diplomatic source said, which was confirmed by official sources.

The National Security Guard (NSG) is hosting the multinational JATE "Manesar Anti-Terror 2022", under the framework of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) at the NSG Manesar Garrison.

It is understood that a Pakistan team is participating in the event as a member of the SCO, an official



Anti-terrorism drills: The joint anti-terrorist exercise "Manesar Anti-Terror 2022" began at the NSG Manesar Garrison from October 8. (TWITTER/NSG/IAQGATS)

source said. India also participated in the RATS meet that Pakistan organised last year, the source noted. An Indian delegation had participated in the closing ceremony of the two-week JATE-2021 hosted by Pakistan at the National Counter Terrorism Centre, Pabbi, in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in September 2021.

The exercise is aimed at

conducting from July 27 to August 01, 2022 by the National Counter Terrorism Forces (NCTF) of SCO member countries in their respective territories. "Stage-2 of the Exercise is being conducted from October 8 to 13 at NSG Manesar Garrison, in which eight representatives from NCTF of Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Uzbekistan, Russian Federation and NSG of Republic of India are participating," a statement issued by NSG on Sunday stated.

The exercise will be witnessed by four "observers" from Executive Committee (EC) of RATS and one observer from State Committee for National Security of Tajikistan.



For an exclusive video watch! (Sensitized SCO: Can India stabilize West and East? <https://bit.ly/3cM4d6y>)

exchanging expertise, best practices and build synergy between the Counter Terrorist Forces of the SCO RATS member countries to enhance capabilities for conducting anti-terrorist operations and countering other security threats collectively, the NSG said in a statement. In May, counter-terror officials of Pakistan, Rus-

Context

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

SCO Members

1. China
2. Kazakhstan
3. Kyrgyzstan
4. Russia
5. Tajikistan
6. Uzbekistan
7. India
8. Pakistan



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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

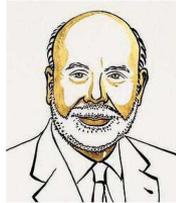
Fed ex-Chair Ben Bernanke shares Nobel with 2 other U.S. economists

Associated Press
STOCKHOLM

Former U.S. Federal Reserve Chair Ben Bernanke, who put his academic expertise on the Great Depression to work reviving the American economy after the 2007-2008 financial crisis, won the Nobel Prize in economic sciences along with two other U.S.-based economists for their research into the fallout from bank failures.

Mr. Bernanke was recognised on Monday along with Douglas W. Diamond and Philip H. Dybvig. The Nobel panel at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm said the trio's research had shown "why avoiding bank collapses is vital."

With their findings in the early 1980s, the laureates



Ben Bernanke

laid the foundations for regulating financial markets, the panel said.

"Financial crises and depressions are kind of the worst thing that can happen to the economy," said John Hassler of the Committee for the Prize in Economic Sciences.

"These things can happen again. And we need to have an understanding of the mechanism behind



Douglas W. Diamond

those and what to do about it. And the laureates this year provide that," he added.

Danger of bank runs

Mr. Bernanke, 68, who was Fed chair from early 2006 to early 2014 and is now with the Brookings Institution in Washington, examined the Great Depression of the 1930s, showing the danger of bank runs –



Philip H. Dybvig

when panicked people withdraw their savings – and how bank collapses led to widespread economic devastation.

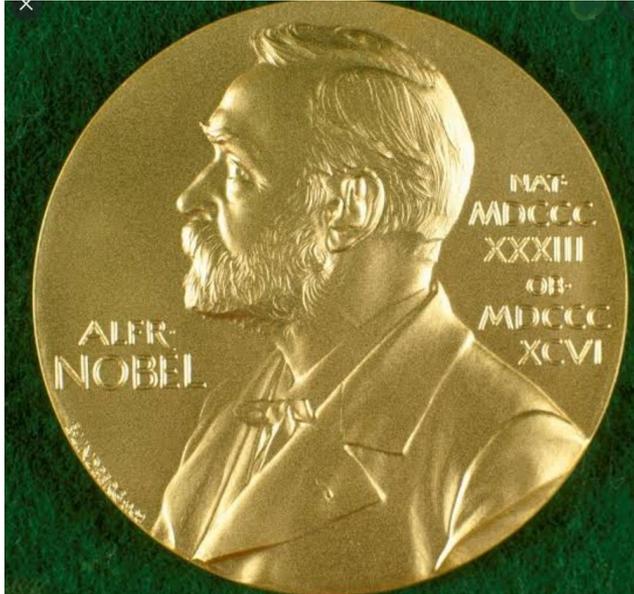
Mr. Diamond, 68, based at the University of Chicago, and Mr. Dybvig, 67, who is at Washington University in St. Louis, showed how government guarantees on deposits can prevent a spiraling of financial crises.

GS-3
Nobel in Economic

Context

Fed ex-Chair Ben Bernanke shares Nobel with 2 other U.S. economists.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

Address stigma in mental health, says Lancet Commission

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

On Monday, observed as World Mental Health Day, *The Lancet* released a new report calling for radical action to end stigma and discrimination in mental health, indicating that 90% of people living with mental health conditions feel negatively impacted by stigma and discrimination.

Further, 80% said stigma and discrimination can be worse than the condition itself. Additionally, 90% of those surveyed felt that media could play a major role in reducing stigma. The report was the result of the labours of the new Lancet Commission on Ending Stigma and Discrimination in Mental Health.

As per the commission, stigma can "cause social exclusion and disempowerment of people with mental health conditions leading to discrimination and human rights violations, including problems in accessing healthcare, challenges in securing employment, and increased likelihood of health complications leading to early death".

Thara Rangaswamy, *The Lancet* commissioner and co-founder, Schizophrenia Research Foundation, Chennai, said though there is a gradual reduction of

90% of people living with mental health conditions feel negatively impacted by discrimination

stigma in the country, it continues to be a real and present problem. She said women with a diagnosis of severe mental disorder and their family members face more stigma which has ramifications for marriage and employment. She also made a mention of the Indian visual media that still perpetuate mental illnesses negatively.

The commission called for immediate action from governments, international organisations, health-care provider and media organisations, along with active contributions from people with lived experience, to work together to eliminate mental health stigma. For instance, it is recommended that countries take action to decriminalise suicide, therefore reducing the stigma around it. Employers are to promote full access to educational opportunities, work participation and return-to-work programmes for people with mental health conditions, and the school curriculum should include sessions to improve understanding of mental health conditions.

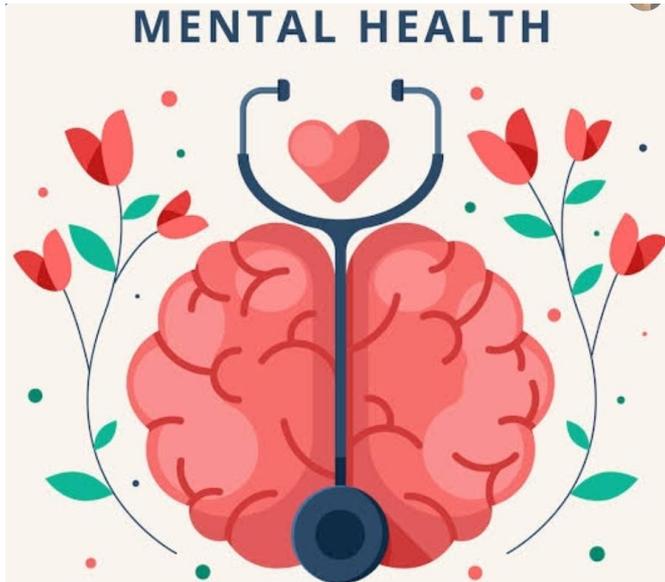
GS-2 Address stigma in mental health

Context

On the occasion of World Mental Health Day, The Lancet released a new report calling for radical action.



CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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THE HINDU

SEOUL

N. Korea's recent tests were 'tactical nuclear' drills overseen by Kim



North Korea's recent missile tests involved "tactical nuclear" drills to simulate hitting the South, and were overseen by leader Kim Jong-Un in response to U.S.-led joint military exercises, state media said. The country had revised its nuclear laws last month to allow pre-emptive strikes. AFP

GS-2**N Koreas nuclear test****Context**

North Korea's recent flurry of missile tests demonstrated its ability to carry out strikes with tactical nuclear weapons.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



The regime's short-range tactical nuclear missiles would be unable to reach its nemesis – the US – but could theoretically be used against the South and Japan.

The state news agency KCNA said that Kim had ordered the test launches in response to large-scale navy drills by South Korean and US forces.

Tokyo and Washington recently resumed the exercises, including the deployment of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier the USS Ronald Reagan to waters off the east coast of South Korea – a move that infuriated Pyongyang, where the drills are seen as a rehearsal for an invasion.

South Korean and US officials say there are signs North Korea could soon detonate a new nuclear device in underground tunnels at its Punggye-ri nuclear test site, which was officially closed in 2018.



CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

On 4 October, the North test-fired a ballistic missile farther than ever before, flying what it said was a new intermediate-range ballistic missile over Japan for the first time since 2017.

Analysts say putting small warheads on short-range missiles could represent a dangerous change in the way North Korea deploys and plans to use nuclear weapons.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

'Space economy may touch \$13 bn by 2025'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian space economy is set to reach \$13 billion by 2025, according to a joint report prepared by EY and the Indian Space Association (ISpA), an apex industry association of space and satellite firms in the country.

According to the report, the space-launch segment would grow at a CAGR of 13%, spurred by growing private participation, latest technology adoption and low cost of launch services.

The satellite services and application segment



would form the largest share of the space economy accounting for 36% of the ecosystem by 2025.

On the country's satellite-manufacturing opportunity, EY and ISpA said that in 2020, it was \$2.1 billion. This would reach \$3.2 billion by the year 2025.

GS-3

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Context

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Editorial

Building resilient mineral supply chain

Building resilient mineral supply chains

THE HINDU

In his Independence Day address, Prime Minister Narendra Modi exhorted the country to pursue *atmanirbhar* in energy by focusing on clean energy technologies. Concern over the pricing and availability of oil and gas in the wake of the Ukraine crisis continue to fuel global policy debates on energy security. However, the fragility of clean energy supply chains obscures pathways for countries to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Imported inflationary pressures through exposure to volatile oil and gas markets also pose risks to macroeconomic growth and stability, particularly for India, import-dependent for around 85% of its oil and half of its gas needs. Therefore, securing access to key minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel and rare earth metals is critical for building resilient and indigenous supply chains for clean energy technologies.

A challenging task
This is challenging on several counts. First, reserves are often concentrated in regions that are geopolitically sensitive or fare poorly from an ease of doing business perspective. Second, a portion of existing production is controlled by geostrategic competitors. For example, China wields considerable influence in cobalt mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo through direct equity investments and its Belt and Road initiative. Third, future mine production is often tied up in offtake agreements. In advance, buyers from other countries cater to upcoming demand.

As a first step towards the sourcing of strategic minerals, the Indian government established Khazri Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) in 2019 with the mandate to secure mineral supply for the domestic market. Based on a CDEV study, here are suggestions that policymakers could consider to further this objective.

First, figure out the mineral requirements of the domestic



Arjun Dutt
is a Senior Programmes Lead at the Centre for Energy Finance at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water, an independent not-for-profit policy research institution.

industry. This could best be accomplished by a task force which includes the ministries of power, new and renewable energy, heavy industry, and science and technology. Creating five-year road maps with clear targets for deployment and indigenous manufacturing across clean energy applications would provide visibility to domestic investors. Further, assess the technology mix that would support this deployment. On this basis, determine the quantities of minerals necessary to support indigenous manufacturing.

Second, coordinate with the domestic industry to determine where strategic interventions by the government would be necessary for the purpose. KABIL could collaborate with industry to bolster its market intelligence capabilities for tracking global supply-side developments.

Developing a granular picture of available and committed production capacities and economy-wide and sector-specific policy developments is the first step to develop an informed perspective on mineral supply. If there is adequate visibility on sourcing opportunities in conducive geographies, the private sector should be encouraged to secure minerals for its own requirements.

Third, if conducive investments opportunities don't exist, KABIL should pre-emptively sign offtake agreements with global mineral suppliers to secure future production. It could aggregate a

reliable supply of minerals for domestic requirements and sign back-to-back sales agreements with the domestic industry. Such large-scale centralised national procurement could be done at preferential terms.

Fourth, the government should jointly invest in mining assets with geostrategic partners. KABIL should make equity investments in mining jurisdictions that private sector investors may deem too risky. It should leverage government-to-government partnerships to mitigate investment risks. This could be done through joint investments with sovereign entities or private sector entities with expertise in specific geographies. The External Affairs Ministry could initiate conversations with partner countries. Establishing resilient clean energy supply chains is a priority for the G20. For instance,

Fifth, support technologies that utilise domestically available materials. The deployment of technologies like lithium-ion batteries could reduce requirements for sourcing minerals from beyond India's borders. While the current performance-limited incentive scheme on batteries is technologicallyagnostic, India could consider creating a tranche of capital loss incentives for investments in technologies that rely on local raw materials. It could also propose co-development of such technologies with geostrategic partners.

Lastly, develop policies on urban mining aimed at recycling mineral inputs from deployments that have completed their useful life. These could help further reduce dependence on international sourcing. Besides lithium, other potential geopolitical flashpoints also exist against a backdrop of dwindling multilateral cooperation. India must act immediately and decisively to mitigate these risks to its energy security.



Imported inflationary pressures through exposure to volatile oil and gas markets also pose risks to macroeconomic growth and stability, particularly for India, import-dependent for around 85% of its oil and half of its gas needs.

This is challenging on several counts.

First, reserves are often concentrated in regions that are geopolitically sensitive or fare poorly from an ease of doing business perspective.

Second, a portion of existing production is controlled by geostrategic competitors. For example, China wields considerable influence in cobalt mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo through direct equity investments and its Belt and Road Initiative.

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



Third, future mine production is often tied up in offtake agreements, in advance, by buyers from other countries to cater to upcoming demand.

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Based on a CEEW study, here are suggestions that policymakers could consider to further this objective.

First, figure out the mineral requirements of the domestic industry. This could best be accomplished by a task force which includes the ministries of power, new and renewable energy, heavy industry, and science and technology. Creating five-year road maps with clear targets for deployment and indigenous manufacturing across clean energy applications would provide visibility to domestic investors. Further, assess the technology mix that would support this deployment. On this basis, determine the quantities of minerals necessary to support indigenous manufacturing.



CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

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CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

1. With reference to the water on the planet Earth, consider the following statements:

1. The amount of water in the rivers and lakes is more than the amount of groundwater.
2. The amount of water in polar ice caps and glaciers is more than the amount of groundwater.

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

2. Consider the following statements:

1. Moringa (drumstick tree) is a leguminous evergreen tree.
2. Tamarind tree is endemic to South Asia.
3. In India, most of the tamarind is collected as minor forest produce.
4. India exports tamarind and seeds of moringa.
5. Seeds of moringa and tamarind can be used in the production of biofuels.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5
- (b) 3, 4 and 5
- (c) 1, 3 and 4
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 5

CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

3. Consider the following kinds of organisms:

1. Copepods
2. Cyanobacteria
3. Diatoms
4. Foraminifera

Which of the above are primary producers in the food chains of oceans?

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 3 and 4
- (d) 1 and 4

4. With reference to the 'New York Declaration on Forests'. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. It was first endorsed at the United Nations Climate Summit in 2014.
2. It endorses a global timeline to end the loss of forests.
3. It is a legally binding international declaration.
4. It is endorsed by governments, big companies and indigenous communities.
5. India was one of the signatories at its inception.

Select the Correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1,2 and 4
- (b) 1,3 and 5
- (c) 3 and 4
- (d) 2 and 5



CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

5. Which of the following are detritivores?

1. Earthworms
2. Jellyfish
3. Millipedes
4. Seahorses
5. Woodlice

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 Only
- (b) 2, 3, 4 and 5 Only
- (c) 1, 3 and 5 Only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

1. Performance of welfare schemes that are implemented for vulnerable sections is not so effective due to the absence of their awareness and active involvement at all stages of policy process – Discuss



CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

Answer keys for 10-10-22 PYQs are:

1-b

2-d

3-d

4-c

5-c