

Headoffice:  
H.No-108 1st Floor, Opp Meghna's,  
near Barowari Bus Stop,  
Uzanbaazar Guwahati-01, Assam



Contact No: 88118 77068 91016 86625  
93651 35375  
csapasssam@gmail.com

# CIVIL SERVICES ACHIEVERS' POINT

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## CSAP News Analysis CNA

IN-DEPTH NEWS ANALYSIS FOR  
UPSC & APSC

DATE: 15 OCTOBER 2022



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Beltola Center



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Dibrugarh Center



Cotton University Center



Margherita Center



Kokrajhar Center



Silchar Center



Dhakuwakhana Center



Bikali Center



Sonapur College Center



AASC Center

# Successful Candidates From CSAP

## 2016

ACS : 3 Achievers  
AL & RS : 2 Achievers

## 2018

ACS : 15 Achievers  
AL & RS : 8 Achievers  
APS : 2 Achievers  
Inspector of Taxes : 4 Achievers  
CPPO : 6 Achievers  
JEE/ NEET : 12 Achievers  
Banks : 10 + Achievers  
TET : 3 Achievers | SLET : 1 Achiever

## 2020

APSC CCE Prelims : 200 Achievers  
60 + Students appeared for Interview

**CRACK**  
UPSC | APSC | IAS | ACS

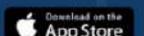
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# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

S. No	News Articles	Paper
1	Global Hunger Index	GS-2
2	Electoral bonds revealing fund source	GS-2
3	IMF: Bright spot forecast	GS-3
4	INS Arihant	GS-3
5	Risk to lift repo rate	GS-3
6	Indian Deep Tech and strategic fund	Editorial

# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## GS-2 Global Hunger Index

### Global Hunger Index is out, India in 'serious' category at rank 107

The country ranks below Sri Lanka (64), Nepal (81), Bangladesh (84) and Pakistan (99); Afghanistan is the only South Asian country that lags behind India in the listing

**Jagriti Chandra**  
NEW DELHI

India ranks 107 out of 121 countries on the Global Hunger Index in which it fares worse than all countries in South Asia barring war-torn Afghanistan.

The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at global, regional, and national levels. GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators - undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality. Countries are divided into five categories of hunger on the basis of their score, which are 'low', 'moderate', 'serious', 'alarming' and 'extremely alarming'.

Based on the values of the four indicators, a GHI score is calculated on a 100-point scale reflecting the severity of hunger, where zero is the best score (no hunger) and 100

#### Food for thought

India's score of 29.1 in the 2022 Global Hunger Index falls under the 'serious' category in the hunger index. It ranked 107 out of the 121 countries analysed below Rwanda and Ethiopia

≤ 9.9 low	10-19.9 moderate	20-24.9 serious	25-49.9 alarming	≥ 50 extremely alarming
Rankings	Country	106	Sudan	
107	Rwanda	107	India	
103	Nigeria	108	Zambia	
104	Ethiopia	109	Afghanistan	
105	Republic of Congo	110	Timor-Leste	

is the worst. India's score of 29.1 places it in the 'serious' category. India also ranks below Sri Lanka (64), Nepal (81), Bangladesh (84), and Pakistan (99). Afghanistan (109) is the only country in South Asia that performs worse than India on the index. China is among the countries collectively ranked between 1 and 17 having a score of less than five.

India's child wasting rate (low weight for

height), at 19.3%, is worse than the levels recorded in 2014 (15.1%) and even 2000 (7.15), and is the highest for any country in the world and drives up the region's average owing to India's large population.

Prevalence of undernourishment, which is a measure of the proportion of the population facing chronic deficiency of dietary energy intake, has also risen in the country from 14.6% in 2018-2020 to

16.3% in 2019-2021. This translates into 224.3 million people in India considered undernourished.

But India has shown improvement in child stunting, which has declined from 38.7% to 35.5% between 2014 and 2022, as well as child mortality which has also dropped from 4.6% to 3.3% in the same comparative period. On the whole, India has shown a slight worsening with its GHI score increasing from 28.2 in 2014 to 29.1 in 2022. Though the GHI is an annual report, the rankings are not comparable across different years. The GHI score for 2022 can only be compared with scores for 2006, 2007 and 2011.



**In Focus podcast**

Does the Global Hunger Index ranking reflect India's hunger and nutrition levels?

[bit.ly/3S2Dthw](https://bit.ly/3S2Dthw)

### Context

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# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

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Rankings	Country
102	Rwanda
103	Nigeria
104	Ethiopia
105	Republic of Congo
106	Sudan
<b>107</b>	<b>India</b>
108	Zambia
109	Afghanistan
110	Timor-Leste

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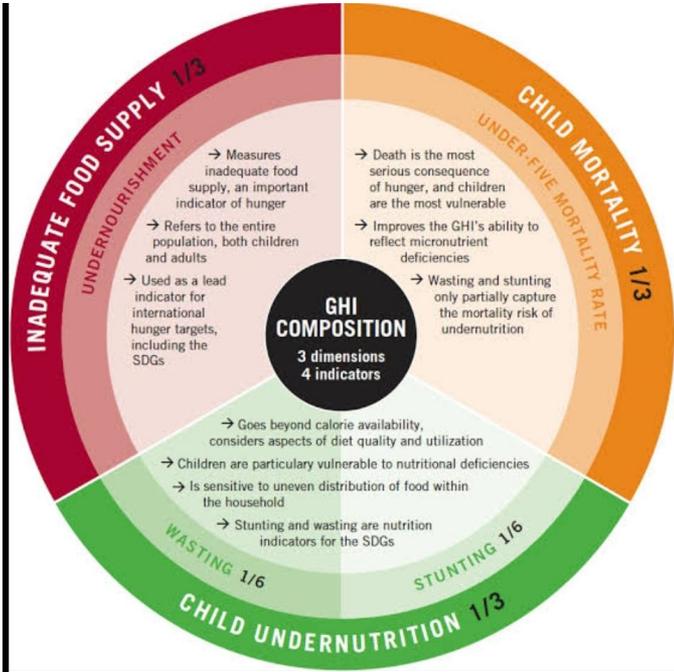
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# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

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# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## GS-2

### Electoral bonds revealing fund source

THE HINDU

Will electoral bonds reveal fund source, SC asks govt.

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the government whether the electoral bonds system reveals the source of money pumped in to fund political parties even as the Centre maintained that the scheme is “absolutely transparent”.

“Is it transparent? Does the system provide from where the money comes?” Justice B.R. Gawai, heading a Bench comprising Justice B.V. Nagarathna, quizzed the government.

“The methodology of receiving money is absolutely transparent... It is impossible to get any unaccounted money in... To say that this [electoral bonds scheme] affects democracy may not hold water. We will take Your Lordships through this step-by-step,” Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta replied.

**CONTINUED ON**  
» PAGE 10

#### Context

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# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## Battle in top court

HT

### 'Absolutely transparent': Centre tells apex court

"...the methodology of receiving money is so transparent that it is impossible to get any money in black or unaccounted money."

— **Tushar Mehta**, solicitor general,  
appearing for the government

### Petitioners seek Constitution bench

"Electoral bonds are the most opaque system... and a constitution bench is ideally suited to hear this."

— **Kapil Sibal**,  
representing the petitioner

### What the petitioners say

The petitioners have claimed that electoral bonds are an anonymous route of funding that amounted to legitimising bribery. These donations enjoy 100% tax exemption and even foreign companies can donate through Indian subsidiaries

### Interim safeguards

The Supreme Court in April 2019 introduced an interim "safeguard" by directing all political parties to submit details of receipts of EBs to the Election Commission in a sealed cover



Mr. Sibal said the court should consider the cardinal issue of the impact of electoral bonds on Article 324. "Free and fair elections are central to a democracy. It is the basic structure... Now an opaque way of funding political parties where you do not even know who is funding whom destroys the very concept of Article 324. This is a matter for a larger Bench,

The electoral bonds system was introduced in 2017 by way of a money bill introducing amendments in the Finance Act and the Representation of People Act. It was implemented in 2018.

The central criticism of the electoral bonds scheme is that it does the exact opposite of what it was meant to do i.e. to bring transparency to election funding.

The fact that such bonds are sold via a government-owned bank (SBI) leaves the door open for the government to know exactly who is funding its opponents.



## CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

Through an amendment to the Finance Act 2017, the Union government has exempted political parties from disclosing donations received through electoral bonds.

However, in a representative democracy, citizens cast their votes for the people who will represent them in Parliament.

The electoral bonds scheme removes all pre-existing limits on political donations and effectively allows well-resourced corporations to fund elections subsequently paving the way for crony capitalism.

**Crony Capitalism:** An economic system characterized by close, mutually advantageous relationships between business leaders and government officials.

# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## GS-3

### IMF: Bright spot forecast

THE HINDU

## 'India's policies must aid its 'bright spot' forecast'

IMF does not see 'a lot of room' for fiscal support given the level of debt, so any further support will have to be 'very targeted' and time-limited, says Fund's Gulde-Wolf

**Sriram Lakshman**  
WASHINGTON D.C.

Even as it praised India's growth forecasts of 6.8% in FY22-23 and 6.1% in FY23-24, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) cautioned that there was limited policy space given overall global conditions.

With downgrades in growth forecasts from June, and a slowdown predicted next year, a growth rate next fiscal year of 6.1% for India was "still a bright spot", Anne-Marie Gulde-Wolf, Deputy Director of the Asia and Pacific



**Room for more:** It's true that one needs to look at what else can be done to mitigate the slowdown next year, says Gulde-Wolf. REUTERS

Department said at a press conference on Thursday evening at the IMF's headquarters here. "But, it's absolutely true that one needs to look at what else

can be done," she said in response to a question from *The Hindu* on what India could do to counter or mitigate the slowdown (to 6.1%) next fiscal year.

The IMF does not see "a lot of room" for fiscal support given the level of debt, so any further fiscal support would have to be "very targeted" and time-limited, Ms. Gulde-Wolf said, adding that the Indian central bank's monetary policy, too, had to have a "tightening bias".

**'No impediments'**

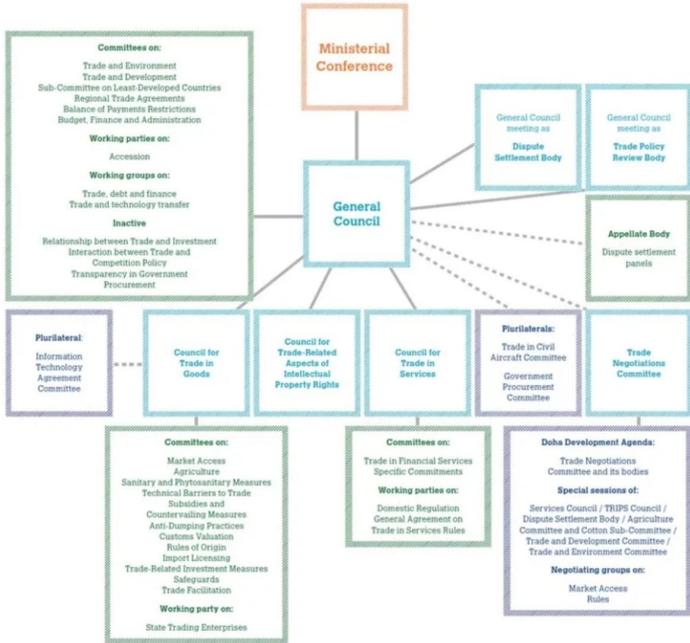
"But it is important to... whatever can be done on the structural front, to not create impediments for growth and to try and also create an expectation of continued forward movement," she said.

## Context

IMF does not see 'a lot of room' for fiscal support given the level of debt, so any further support will have to be 'very targeted' and time-limited, says Fund's Gulde-Wolf.



# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an organization of 190 member countries, each of which has representation on the IMF's executive board in proportion to its financial importance, so that the most powerful countries in the global economy have the most voting power.



# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## Major Objectives of IMF:

- Foster global monetary cooperation
- Secure financial stability
- Facilitate international trade
- Promote high employment and sustainable economic growth
- And reduce poverty around the world
- Macro-economic growth
- Policy advise & financing for developing countries,
- Promotion of exchange rate stability, and an international payment system

# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

THE HINDU

## *INS Arihant* carries out key missile test

**Dinakar Peri**  
NEW DELHI

The country's first ballistic missile nuclear submarine *INS Arihant* carried out a successful launch of a Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) on Friday, validating India's second strike nuclear capability.

"The successful user training launch of the SLBM by *INS Arihant* is significant to prove crew competency and validate the SSBN programme, a key element of India's nuclear deterrence capability," the

Ministry said. Without confirming the particular missile, a defence source said it was not the longer K-4 SLBM but the older SLBM in use. *INS Arihant* is armed with K-15 SLBM with a range of 750 km.

The missile was tested to a predetermined range and impacted the target area in the Bay of Bengal with high accuracy, the Ministry said in a statement. "All operational and technological parameters of the weapon system have been validated," the statement added.

### GS-3 INS Arihant

#### Context

INS Arihant carries out key missile test.

# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## Navy's own gladiator

A look at the 124 metre-long *Arihant* class nuclear-powered submarine

It's modelled after the Russian *Charlie* class (NATO name). Initiated as a fast-attack nuclear submarine project, it was later modified into a ship submersible ballistic nuclear submarine

Can carry about

**12**

K-15 or Sagarika submarine launch ballistic missiles (SLBM) with a range of 750 km with nuclear warheads

\*1knot= 1.852kmph

Surface speed: 12-15 knots

Armament: 30 (12 SLBM)

Submerged speed: 24 knot

The submarine is designed to use vertical 'Tube Launch Missile' technology, and the launchers have been manufactured to accommodate the submarine variant of the 5,000-km range Agni III missile

The missile ejects underwater from the submarine's launcher, when a gas booster is ignited

Can rise 2 to 4 km above the ocean surface to strike targets

Displacement: 6,000 tonne

Crew: 95

Nuclear reactor: 85 MW

*Arihant's* nuclear pressurised water reactor uses 34% to 40% enriched uranium, has one turbine and one seven-blade highly skewed brass propeller

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The Arihant provides India with a capability to hit either neighbour (China, Pak) from 300 meters under the sea.

While land-based missile sites can be attacked and destroyed, a submarine-based deterrent is virtually secure against a missile attack.

India is the only country having a sea-based nuclear deterrent, which is not a Permanent Member of the UN Security Council.

# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## GS-3 Risk to lift repo rate

THE HINDU

### 'Risky to lift repo rate above neutral when growth fragile'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
MUMBAI

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) member Jayanth Varma had suggested that the RBI should raise the policy repo rate to 6% [rather than the 5.90% that was achieved by the MPC's decision to raise the rate by 50 basis points] and then take a pause to allow time for the policy rate to get transmitted, the minutes of the September 28-30

meeting of the MPC show. "A pause is needed after this hike because monetary policy acts with lags," Mr. Varma said at the meeting, the minutes released on Friday show. "It may take 3-4 quarters for the ... rate to be transmitted to the real economy, and the peak effect may take as long as 5-6 quarters."

Emphasising that it was dangerous to push the policy rate well above the neutral rate in an environment

where the growth outlook was very fragile, he said while the level of economic output had recovered to pre-pandemic levels, it remained well below the pre-pandemic trend line.

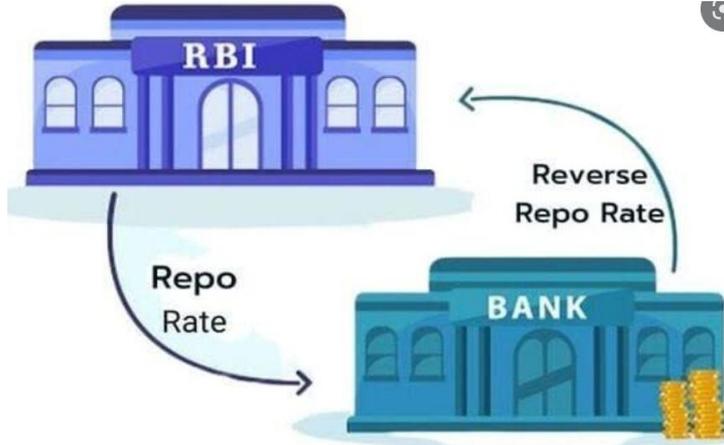
"If we raise the repo rate to around 6% at this meeting, that would be a cumulative increase of around two percentage points in just four months," he said, adding the MPC needed to guard against high rates hurting investment revival.

### Context

'Risky to lift repo rate above neutral when growth fragile'.



# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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Emphasising that it was dangerous to push the policy rate well above the neutral rate in an environment where the growth outlook was very fragile.

Repo stands for "Re Purchase Option". Repo Rate is the rate at which the central bank (Reserve Bank of India) lends to other banks by buying the securities with an agreement that the bank will buy back on a certain date. Repo lending is a short-term lending option to meet the liquidity requirements of commercial banks.

# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

## Editorial Indian Deep Tech and strategic fund

THE@IN@INDIA

### Indian Deep Tech and a case for a strategic fund

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is making a concerted push for self-reliance in military technology, semiconductors and science-based businesses. However, there is a market failure where typical venture capital will not invest in this asset class, and government money is not nearly enough or is not fast enough. In order to become a developed country in 25 years, India will need to build world-class deep tech capabilities in certain sectors.

To solve this market inefficiency, here is a case for an "India Strategic Fund". Certain innovations in the existing corporate social responsibility (CSR) budget and high net worth (HNW) tax breaks will incentivise capital flowing into strategic tech.

Our way of life, economic and national security are underpinned on certain general purpose technologies (GPTs). Today, four technology battlegrounds exist, i.e. semiconductors, 5G, revolutions in biology and autonomy. Each of these is vulnerable to military conflicts, health emergencies and natural disasters. They are dual use and have steep entry barriers. They are also areas where India is still at the base of the ladder. Self-reliance is not just a "feel good" slogan. It is a survival imperative.

#### Crucial role of funding

A look at the booming start-up ecosystem of Bangalore is revealing. There are 10-minute grocery delivery and new fitness centres popping up in every corner. But where is India's answer to ARM, NVIDIA, or Hawkeye 360? The answer is plain and simple. It does not exist. And it will not exist each time as there is a dedicated pool of funds to tip into.

In the United States, Israel and North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries, government is still the largest source of funds for Deep Tech – a cutting edge, quantum jump in capability that creates an intellectual property moat. Billions of dollars of funding flow in through agencies such as



**Yrinda Kapoor**  
works at the intersection of national security and technology



**Yyazak Dalmia**  
works at the intersection of national security and technology

the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Directorate of Defense Research and Development and the Defense and Security Accelerator, much of which becomes the oxygen that small businesses survive on.

This has allowed start-ups to emerge as a bridge between the R&D publications or bench top prototypes of academia and production-hungry large industry. In India, this bridge remains unbuild.

The relevant question is why? The answer: it all boils down to money.

Gradually, venture capital is coming when it comes to Deep Tech. The Indian venture capital ecosystem is not even willing to discuss it. An Indian investor agreeing to fund a laser start-up from an IIT Madras laboratory or a battery company out of IIT Mumbai still exists in the realm of the imagination. Not only do investors not understand Deep Tech but also investing in fundamental technology does not fit the 90-year fund return cycle because it takes much longer to mature.

Deep Technology is almost always dual use. For example, position navigation timing technology such as GPS is needed for Google Maps and Uber but is also an extremely important aspect for fighter jet navigation and missile systems.

While the western rhetoric is now beginning to shift towards increasing the military utility of commercially available technology, we need to be cognizant of the fact that strategic technology cannot become the burden of commercial industry alone.

#### Redirecting CSR and tax incentives

While the Government of India is changing with the launch of the Indian Semiconductor Mission and the Ministry of Defence's flagship iDEX and TDF schemes, depending solely on an already stretched pool of funding is not the solution to galvanise the ecosystem.

There are two avenues to build a movement of patriotic capital.

CSR budgets by some estimates, the annual CSR budget is ₹15,000 crore, of which a substantial portion goes unutilised. CSR has traditionally been utilised for the social sector. However, this growing corpus should also be used for the development of strategic technology. Large corporations can be incentivised to use some of this budget to serve the strategic needs of the nation. The Government should allow these funds to flow into certain strategic tech startups.

HNWs can also be offered tax incentives to make equity investment in the same critical technology startups which would otherwise be frowned upon as high-risk investments. This would help mitigate the pinch felt with lower short-term returns. The corpus of investment should be tax deductible and no more than a certain percentage of annual income.

To prevent a misuse of funds, it is important to create qualifying criteria. The pool of investable companies must be limited to Government of India-recognised start-ups, state-backed venture funding or 'acceptance of necessity' granted from the Indian Ministry of Defence.

#### Staying the course

India will remain a net importer of critical technology in the foreseeable future. While the Prime Minister's vision for an Atmanirbhar Bharat has created the right momentum, it will take close to a decade or more to fructify. If correctly aligned with the programmes launched by the Government, CSR funds and the right tax incentives to HNIs can create an almost self-fulfilling prophecy in the nascent Indian Deep Tech ecosystem.

The Prime Minister talks about his ambition for a developed India, an India that is a superpower. Investing in deep, critical technology is the first step for the country to embark on that ambition.

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# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS



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## CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

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# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

1. With reference to the cultural history of India, the memorizing of chronicles, dynastic histories and epic tales was the profession of who of the following?

- (a) Shramana
- (b) Parivraajaka
- (c) Agrahaarika
- (d) Maagadha

2. Who of the following founded a new city on the south bank of a tributary to river Krishna and undertook to rule his new kingdom as the agent of a deity to whom all the land south of the river Krishna was supposed to belong?

- (a) Amoghavarsha I
- (b) Ballala II
- (c) Harihara I
- (d) Prataparudra II

# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

3. With reference to the writs, issued by the Courts in India, consider the following statements:

- (1) Mandamus will not lie against a private organisation unless it is entrusted with a public duty.
- (2) Mandamus will not lie against a Company even though it may be a Government Company.
- (3) Any public minded person .can, be a petitioner to move the Court to obtain the writ of Quo Warranto.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

4. Consider the following statements in respect of Bharat Ratna and Padma Awards:

1. Bharat Ratna and Padma Awards are titles under the Article 18(1) of the Constitution of India.
2. Padma Awards, which were instituted in the year 1954, were suspended only once.
3. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of five in a particular year.

Which of the above statements are not correct?

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

## CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

5. Which one of the following in Indian polity is an essential feature that indicates that it is federal in character?

- (a) The independence of judiciary is safeguarded.
- (b) The Union Legislature has elected representatives from constituent units.
- (c) The Union Cabinet can have elected representatives from regional parties.
- (d) The Fundamental Rights are enforceable by Courts of Law.

1. India has immense potential of solar energy though there are regional variations in its development. Elaborate. (Answer in 250 words)



# CSAP NEWS ANALYSIS

**Answer keys for 14-10-22 PYQs are:**

**1-a**

**2-d**

**3-c**

**4-b**

**5-a**



## **CONTACT US**

### **HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS :**

Civil Services Achievers' Point, House No.108, 1st floor, Barowari, UzanBazar, MC Road, Guwahati, Landmark : Near Barowari bus stop.

### **BELTOLA BRANCH ADDRESS :**

- House No 13, Brindavan Path, Opposite Central Nursing Home, Civil Services Achiever's Point, Survey, Beltola - 781028

**PHONE NO.: +91 91275 15541**



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