



# INNOVATIVE IAS

## Daily News Analysis

11th December 2019

### General studies-3

#### Climate Change Performance Index

##### **Why in news?**

The Climate Change Performance Index was presented. The Index measures renewable energy share, emissions and climate policies of 57 countries and the European Union.

##### **Key points:**

- India ranked 9th in the ranking provided. The ranking was to the “high category”, where the countries have ambitious 2030 targets. The report noted that India received medium rating in the renewable energy category. Also, the 2030 target set by India was rated high for its well-below 2-degree Celsius compatibility.
- The report also says that India is yet to develop a road map to phase-out fossil fuel subsidies in order to reduce the dependence on fossil fuels.
- China, one of the largest polluters improved in its ranking and was placed in medium category. US and Saudi Arabia were the major polluters. They hardly showed signs of reducing their green house gas emissions. US ranked the last followed by Saudi Arabia and Australia.
- According to the report, 31 of the 57 high emitting countries are responsible for 90% of emissions. Some of the EU countries like Sweden (ranked 4th), Denmark (ranked 5th) were the highest achievers in terms of performance.
- Among the G20 countries, only India and UK were ranked in the high category.

### General studies-2

#### The Anti-Maritime bill in parliament

##### **Why in news?**

External Affairs Minister introduced the Anti-Maritime bill in parliament. The bill was introduced in days after the kidnapping of 18 Indians aboard in Nigeria. It aims at ensuring safety and security of India's maritime trade and the crew members

##### **Key points:**

1. The bill is framed in accordance with the UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea).
2. It provides punishment of death penalty to those involved in piracy at sea. Section 3 of the bill mentions that persons involved in the act of piracy shall be punished with imprisonment and death penalty.

##### **Need for the bill**

- Piracy has been growing in the Indian Ocean region since 2008. It is especially more in the Gulf of Aden, which is used by more than 2,000 ships a day.
- The Gulf has seen several attacks from Somalia. The region is important as it is the busiest



# INNOVATIVE IAS

## Daily News Analysis

trade route between Europe, Asia and East Coast of Africa.

- These incidents affect the west coast of India as well. This is because, several countries jointly and individually are increasing their security in the Gulf of Aden region to protect their ships.
- This has forced the pirates to shift their operation eastwards and southwards. This affects India greatly and a strict legislation is required.

### UNCLOS

- The UNCLOS or the Laws of the sea was framed at the third UN Conference that was held between 1973 and 1982.
- As of 2016, 167 countries including the European Union have joined UNCLOS. There is no direct role played by the UN in implementing the UNCLOS.
- However, organizations like International Whaling Commission, International Maritime Organization and International Seabed Authority have major role in following and implementing the rules.

### Russia Banned from international sports events

#### Why in news?

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has slapped Russia with a four-year ban from international sports events, over longstanding doping scandal.

#### Key points:

- The ban includes next summer's Tokyo Olympics (which opens 24 July 2020) and 2022 Beijing Winter Games. However, Russia's anti-doping agency can appeal decision to Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) within 21 days.
- WADA investigators and International Olympic Committee (IOC) agreed that evidence showed Russian authorities corrupted data from Moscow lab that was long sealed by security forces.
- As a result, hundreds of potential doping cases were deleted and evidence falsely planted to shift blame onto whistleblowers.
- The WADA ruling means that Russia's flag, name and anthem will not appear at Tokyo Games, and the country also could be stripped of hosting world championships in Olympic sports.
- Although Russia's athletes will still be able to compete in major events only if they can show that they are not implicated in positive doping tests or if their data was not manipulated.

### CPEC

#### Why in News?

China and Pakistan have signed a deal to build drones with maximum payload of 480 kg, with top speed of 370 km per hour and can fly up to 20 hours.

Innovative IAS & KAS Coaching Centre

No. 37, 1st Floor, Next to SBI Bank, Ganganagar, RT Nagar, Bengaluru - 32

Mobile: 9880088777 / Ph: 080 - 40977456



# INNOVATIVE IAS

## Daily News Analysis

### Key points:

- In order to secure the CPEC sea route, China and Pakistan have signed a deal to build drones with maximum payload of 480 kg, with top speed of 370 km per hour and can fly up to 20 hours. The drones are called Loong II.
- These drones are similar to the MQ-9 Reaper drones developed by the US. Pakistan and China have agreed to build 48 drones in the Pakistan soil.
- The deal is to be implemented by the Pakistan Aeronautical Complex and Aviation Industry Corp of China.
- This deal is considered to be the biggest drone sale of China to any country. Pakistan is already operating Loong I drone. China has sold Loong I drones to other countries as well. It includes Kazakhstan, Indonesia and United Arab Emirates.

### Global Concerns

- China is building its counter drone systems and laser weapons largely as it tries to catch US on UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) Technology.
- These technologies focus on spoofing techniques that prevent sending false information to UAVs. Together China and Russia are in arms race with the United States. There are concerns raised by number of countries about the trade war, repeated sanctions, imposition of taxes, space race and arms race between the countries.

### India Concerns

- CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor), a major part of China's BRI project passes through the Pakistan Occupied Kashmir region.
- India is concerned about the countries strengthening security in the region. With series of attacks and tensions between the India and Pakistan namely Pulwama, Balkot strikes, Abrogation of Article 370, etc, India sees the current move as a tension addend.

### USCIRF concerns over Citizenship amendment bill

#### Why in news?

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) said it was “deeply troubled” by the passage of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Lok Sabha, “given the religion criterion in the Bill”, and recommended that “if the CAB passes in both Houses of Parliament, the US government should consider sanctions against the Home Minister and other principal leadership

#### Key points:

- The USCIRF is an advisory or a consultative body, which advises the US Congress and the administration on issues pertaining to international religious freedom.
- On its website, the USCIRF describes itself as an independent, bipartisan US federal government commission that was created by The International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA).
- The International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 was passed by the 105th US Congress (1997-99) and signed into law by then President Bill Clinton on October 27, 1998. It is a statement of the US's concern over violations of religious freedoms overseas.



# INNOVATIVE IAS

## Daily News Analysis

- The USCIRF is mandated by US statute to “monitor the universal right to freedom of religion or belief abroad — not in the United States — using international standards to do so and makes policy recommendations to the President, Secretary of State, and Congress
- In August this year, USCIRF had issued a statement against the NRC in Assam and said that it creates a “negative and potentially dangerous climate for the Muslim community” in northeastern India.
- It had said that the updated NRC could be used to disenfranchise Muslims in the region and is part of the government's ongoing efforts to introduce a “religious test” specifically aimed at clearing out Muslims.

### Increase in the number of candidates of crime against women in loksabha

#### Why in News?

- Between 2009 and 2019, there has been an increase of 231% in the number of candidates with declared cases of crime against women contesting Lok Sabha elections. The number elected as MPs has increased 9 times, according to an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and the National Election Watch.
- For current MPs and MLAs, the ADR analysed 4,822 election affidavits (759 MPs and 4,063 MLAs) out of a total of 4,896 (776 MPs and 4,120 MLAs). It found that 76 MPs/MLAs had declared cases of crime against women.

*Your Success Our Achievement*