



# ICC IAS

## Daily News Analysis

**02 December 2019**

**General Studies:2**

**1.What Fundamental Duties mean: Explained (Source: The Indian Express)**

**Why in news?**

• Over last few days, the Prime Minister, President, Vice President and Law Minister have been stressing Fundamental Duties.

**Fundamental duties:**

- The Fundamental Duties were incorporated in Part IV-A of the Constitution by the Constitution 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 upon the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee
- There are 11 Fundamental Duties described under Article 51-A, of which 10 were introduced by the 42nd Amendment and the 11th was added by the 86th Amendment in 2002.
- The concept of Fundamental Duties is taken from the Constitution of Russia.
- Fundamental duties are applicable only to citizens and not to the aliens.
- These are statutory duties, not enforceable by law, but a court may take them into account while adjudicating on a matter. The idea behind their incorporation was to emphasise the obligation of the citizen in exchange for the Fundamental Rights that he or she enjoys.

**Recent initiatives:**

**Kartavyaportal:**

- On the occasion of 70th Constitution Day also known as Samvidhan Divas observed on 26 November 2019, Union Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry launched the [kartavya.ugc.ac.in](http://kartavya.ugc.ac.in) portal for holding monthly essay competitions for students
- The portal will be used primarily for holding monthly essay competitions for students as well as other activities including quizzes, poster making, debates pertaining to NagrikKartavyaPaalanAbhiyan.
- The Department of Higher Education under HRD Ministry will be holding 11 rounds of National Essay Competitions during the year. The topics of the essay will be based on one Fundamental Duty every month.

**2.What is the Governor's role if elections produce fractured verdicts?(Source:The Indian Express)**

**Why in news?**

- Not for the first time in recent years, there was a prolonged stalemate in Maharashtra over the formation of a government as no single party had a majority of its own after the Assembly election in October
- A new post-poll combination, between the Sena, NCP and the Congress and some independents, has now formed the government. The developments have brought under focus the role of the



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Governor in such circumstances.

### Role of governor in the Hung assembly

- The Constitution envisages that the Governor act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, except in those situations in which he is, by or under the Constitution, required to act in his discretion (Article 163).
- It is clear that in identifying a candidate who, in his opinion, is in a position to command a majority, the Governor has to make his own decision, subject, of course, to democratic norms.
- This is why one often sees the Governor of a State inviting leaders for discussions as part of efforts to explore the possibility of forming a government.
- When the Governor appoints the Chief Minister in this way, it is accompanied by a stipulation that the appointee prove his or her majority within a specified time on the floor of the House.
- The Sarkaria Commission on inter-State relations has dealt with this question.

### The Sarkaria Commission's report suggests the following orders for Governors to follow:

1. An alliance formed prior to the election;
2. The largest single party staking claim with the support of others, including independents;
3. A post-electoral coalition, with all partners joining the government;
4. A post-poll coalition, with some joining the government, and others extending support from outside.

### 3. Six European nations join Iran barter system (source: The Hindu)

#### Why in News?

- Six Countries - Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden have recently joined INSTEX.

#### About INSTEX:

- A trade mechanism 'Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges (INSTEX)' was established by France, Germany and the United Kingdom in January 2019 to allow European entities to maintain trade with Iran.
- The mechanism has been designed to circumvent U.S. sanctions against trade with Iran by avoiding the use of the dollar.
- This Paris-based mechanism functions as a clearing house allowing Iran to continue to sell oil and import other products or services in exchange.
- The mechanism represents continuing commitment of France, Germany and the UK to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action
- It has been seen that the system has not yet enabled any transactions.

### 4. India and Japan 2+2 dialogue (source: The Indian express)

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### Why in news?

- India and Japan held their first ever Foreign and Defence Ministerial Dialogue (2+2) in New Delhi.

### What is 2+2 ministerial dialogue?

- The 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue is an upgrade of meeting between foreign and defence secretaries of two countries
- During the meet the two sides discussed about boosting defence and security ties besides other issues of mutual interest.
- This India-Japan ministerial meeting comes ahead of annual summit of two prime ministers scheduled to be held in Guwahati, Assam in December 2019.
- India has a similar 'ministerial level 2+2' dialogue with the USA as well.
- Dialogue provided an opportunity for two countries to review the status of as well as exchange further views on strengthening defence and security cooperation between India and Japan so as to provide greater depth to 'India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership'.

### 5.India and Sweden first maritime cooperation agreement.(source: The Hindu)

#### Why in News?

- India and Sweden are to sign their first maritime cooperation agreement during the Swedish Royal couple visit.

#### Agreement:

- The agreement includes cooperation between the countries in both Arctic and Antarctic regions and hence the name Polar Science.
- In the last few years, India has signed series of maritime agreements to exchange military information and to extend the reach of its armed forces in the arctic region.
- This will help India to learn about resource exploration and keep in pace.
- The agreement further aids in India's ambitions in strengthening its defence forces. The agreement will help India get access to Russian bases in the Arctic.

### General studies :3

### Gangetic Dolphins(source: The Indian Express)

#### Why in News?

- The International Union for Conservation of Nature has listed the Gangetic dolphin as an endangered species in India.

#### Concern:

- According to the WWF, the main threat to the Gangetic dolphin is the creation of dams and irrigation projects.
- At last count, the rivers of Assam and Uttar Pradesh respectively had 962 and 1,275 Gangetic dolphins, India's national aquatic dolphin



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### About Gangetic river dolphin:

- The Ganges river dolphin is found in parts of the Ganges-Meghna-Brahmaputra and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh.
- The Gangetic river dolphin is India's national aquatic animal and is popularly known as 'Susu'.
- It is among the four freshwater dolphins in the world- the other three are:
- The 'Baiji' now likely extinct from the Yangtze River in China,
- The 'Bhulan' of the Indus in Pakistan, and
- The 'Boto' of the Amazon River in Latin America.
- Its presence indicates the health of the riverine ecosystem.
- IUCN Status: Endangered, It is listed on CITES Appendix-I.
- It is classified under Schedule 1, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 providing absolute protection as offences under these are prescribed the highest penalties.
- Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary (VGDS) in Bihar's Bhagalpur district is India's only sanctuary for its national aquatic animal.

### Operation 'Clean Art' (SOURCE: The Hindu)

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

- Recently, there has been a widespread crackdown on factories making paint brushes with mongoose hair across the country.
- In first pan-India operation, raids carried out in U.P, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Kerala, 49 arrests made and 27 cases registered

#### **Operation Clean Art**

- It was the first pan India operation to crack down on the smuggling of mongoose hair in the country.
- It was conceived by Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) with the singular aim of ensuring that the mongoose hair brush trade should be closed down across the country.

#### **Mongoose:**

- Mongoose is listed in Schedule II Part 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and any smuggling or possession of its body part is a non-bailable offence.
- IUCN Red List status- Least Concerned.
- There are six species of mongoose found in India- Indian grey mongoose, Small Indian mongoose, Ruddy mongoose, Crab-eating mongoose, Stripe-necked mongoose and Brown mongoose.
- The Indian grey mongoose is the most commonly found species and also the most hunted.

### Prelims Facts:

#### **1. Horn bill festival**

- The Nagaland Hornbill Festival began at Naga Heritage Village at Kisama in Nagaland on 1 December 2019.



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- Hornbill festival is also known as 'Festival of Festivals' and is named after hornbill bird. This festival symbolises 'Respect and 'Folklore' among Nagas.
- The festival is an annual tourism promotional event to showcase north eastern state's traditional and rich cultural heritage in all its ethnicity, diversity and grandeur. It is organised by state government of Nagaland.
- The festival pays tribute to Hornbill, the most admired and revered bird for the Nagas for its qualities of alertness and grandeur

### 2. International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

- Every year 2 December is observed as International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, across the world.
- The yearly event is organized by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and was first celebrated in 1986.
- The day focuses on eradication of contemporary forms of slavery, like trafficking in persons, forced marriage, worst forms of child labour, forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict and sexual exploitation.

### 3. Exercise MitraShakthi:

- The seventh Indo-Sri Lanka joint military exercise was held on December 1, 2019 at Aundh military station.
- The main objective of the exercise is to build and promote positive relations between the countries.
- The Mitra Shakti exercise was started in 2013 and is conducted annually as a part of military diplomacy and interaction between the armies of India and Sri Lanka.
- It is important for India to maintain good relations with its neighbors in political, economic, social ways.
- This will also help India in implementing its Neighbourhood first Policy. With China increasing its presence in Sri Lanka (Hambantota port), it becomes vital for India to revive and boost historical ties.