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Daily News Analysis

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General studies -3

1. COP 25 climate summit

Why in news?

- The 25th edition of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) or COP25 has begun from December 2 in Madrid (Spain).

Key points:

- Originally, the Summit was scheduled to be held at Chile (South America) but violent mass movement across the country made Chile reluctant from hosting the event.
- The prime objective of the conference is to complete the rule-book to the 2015 Paris Agreement that will become effective in 2020 to replace the 1997 Kyoto Protocol (comes to an end in 2020).

Kyoto Protocol

- The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement linked to the UNFCCC, which commits its Parties by setting internationally binding emission reduction targets.
- The Kyoto Protocol was adopted in Kyoto, Japan, in 1997 and entered into force in 2005.
- It recognized that developed countries are principally responsible for the current high levels of GHG emissions in the atmosphere as a result of more than 150 years of industrial activity.

2. Anaemia: data

- As many as 58.5% of children between the ages of 6 months and 59 months, and 53.1% of women between the ages of 15 and 49 years, are anaemic in the country.
- Anaemia means that either the level of red blood cells or the level of haemoglobin is lower than normal.
- When a person has anaemia, their heart has to work harder to pump the quantity of blood needed to get enough oxygen around their body.
- The data, based on the findings of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) IV (2015-16), divide the incidence of anaemia into 'Mild', 'Moderate' and 'Severe' kinds for both rural and urban India.
- Government had launched in 2018 Anaemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) Strategy under POSHAN Abhiyaan with the aim to reduce anaemia prevalence by three percentage points every year till 2022

3. Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0 to be launched across India

Why in news?

- The Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0 will be launched across India on December 2, 2019.



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Key points:

- The mission aims to immunize children under 2 years of age and pregnant women against eight vaccine-preventable diseases
- The immunisation drive covers vaccines for tuberculosis, meningitis, measles, Hepatitis B, tetanus, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and diphtheria.
- The vaccines for two other diseases- Hemophilus influenza and Japanese encephalitis are also being provided under the scheme in certain select areas.
- The Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0 will be carried out between December 2019 and March 2020.
- The mission aims to achieve full immunisation coverage in 272 districts spread across 27 states of India.

General studies-2 (International relations)

1. India- Sri Lanka

Why in news?

- The newly elected Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa visited India

Key points of discussion:

- Strengthening of trade ties, boosting maritime security, addressing concerns of the fishermen, fulfilling aspirations of tamil community in Sri Lanka and to fight against terrorism.
- India extended a \$400 million line of credit to Sri Lanka to help strengthen its infrastructure and economy.
- An additional \$50 million to help Sri Lanka combat terrorism.

India- Srilanka relations:

- India is Sri Lanka's closest neighbour. The relationship between the two countries is more than 2,500 years old and both sides have built upon a legacy of intellectual, cultural, religious and linguistic intercourse.
- During the course of the civil war, India supported the right of the Government of Sri Lanka to act against terrorist forces.
- The Indian Housing Project, with an initial commitment to build 50,000 houses for those affected by the civil war as well as for the estate workers in the plantation areas, is Government of India (GoI)'s flagship project of developmental assistance to Sri Lanka.
- Given the proximity of the territorial waters of both countries, especially in the Palk Straits and the Gulf of Mannar, incidents of straying of fishermen are common. Both countries have agreed on certain practical arrangements to deal with the issue of bona fide fishermen of either side crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line.
- India and Sri Lanka conducts joint Military ('Mitra Shakti') and Naval exercise (SLINEX).
- Recently, the Chennai (India) -Jaffna (Sri Lanka) flight service has resumed after a gap of 41 years



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2. Siberia pipeline cements China-Russia bond

Why in news?

- Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin remotely inaugurated the “Power of Siberia” gas pipeline.

Key points:

- It is the first cross-border gas pipeline between Russia and China.
- Under this pipeline project, Russia will deliver 1 trillion cubic meters of natural gas to China over the next 30 years.
- The pipeline will pass through the deltas of the Yangtze and Amur rivers of China.
- The new pipeline is an emblem of closer energy integration in Eurasia, with Russia and China as the key partners.

Prelims Facts:

1. Hand-in-Hand Exercise

- It is India -China joint training exercise.
- The 8th edition of the exercise is scheduled at Umroi, Meghalaya.
- The theme is counter terrorism under United Nations mandate.
- Two tactical exercises - counter terrorism scenario and Humanitarian and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations are scheduled.
- The aim of the exercise is to practice joint planning and conduct of counter terrorist operations in semi urban terrain.

2. Tanbo art:

Why in News?

- A 3D replica of the legendary elephant, GuruvayurKesavan, is taking shape on a farmland in Kerala's Wayanad district.

Tanbo art

- The farmer used several indigenous varieties of rice like Krishna Kamod, Gandhakasala and Jeerakasala to give shape to the image.
- Tanbo Art is a rice paddy art developed by the farmers of Inakadate village in Japan about three decades ago to beautify their paddy fields.
- They drew huge replicas of famous paintings, including Mona Lisa, by growing rice crops with fronds of different colours.

3. SC declines plea against polygamy

- The Supreme Court did not accede to a request to urgently list a petition seeking a declaration that the practice of polygamy and nikahhalala is unconstitutional.
- The petition wants the court to declare Section 2 of the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937, unconstitutional and in violation of Articles 14, 15 and 21 of the



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Constitution, insofar as it seeks to recognise and validate the practice of polygamy and nikah-halala.

- Polygamy allows a man to have more than one wife while nikahhalala is a practice where a Muslim woman divorced by her husband can remarry her only after she marries someone else, consummates the marriage and then gets a divorce

