



MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

- MUKHYAMANTRI MAHILA UDYAMITA ABHIYAAN  GS- 5, PRELIMS
- NATIONAL YOUTH DAY  PRELIMS, GS-1
- SWACH SARVEKSHAN AWARDS 2023  PRELIMS
- EQUADOR  PRELIMS, GS-1

PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Which of the following is/are instruments of monetary policy used by RBI?

I. SLR

II. MSS

III. Repo Rate

Select the correct codes:

1. I and II

2. II and III

3. I, II and III

4. I and III

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MUKHYAMANTRI MAHILA UDYAMITA ABHIYAAN

Encouraging Women Entrepreneurship
Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyaan

Helping **39 lakh** women SHG members become Micro Entrepreneurs with minimum annual income of **₹1 lakh** each

₹10,000 To be given to eligible women SHG members in Entrepreneurship Fund

माध्याह्निक राशेपडे

Eligibility criteria for Entrepreneurship Fund (Seed Capital)

- Registered under KVIC
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015
- Member since 2015

Monitoring and Implementation

- State Government
- State Government
- State Government
- State Government
- State Government
- State Government
- State Government
- State Government
- State Government
- State Government

Benefits to be directly released to bank accounts of beneficiaries

Published by Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Assam

CONTEXT

- The **Mukhyamantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyaan** is a scheme launched by the Assam government to **empower rural women entrepreneurs**.
- The initiative aims to provide financial support to rural women entrepreneurs, fostering **self-reliance** and economic independence.



₹35,000 to 40 Lakh
Rural Women Entrepreneurs

MukhyaMantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyaan

To develop around 40 lakh women SHG members as Rural Micro Entrepreneurs or Lakhpati Baideos and ensure an annual income of ₹1 lakh for each member

Eligibility Criteria

- ◆ Should not have more than 3 children (for General and OBC beneficiaries)
- ◆ Should not have more than 4 children (for SC/ST/Moran/ Matak/ Tea-tribes' beneficiaries)
- ◆ SHG member having girl child should enrol her/him in school if they have attained the age
- ◆ The trees planted under Amrit Brikhya Andolan should be surviving
- ◆ Submit a business plan to avail the grant (plan to be prepared and supported by Govt)

Application Process

- ◆ Forms will be available at nearest Panchayat Office free of cost
- ◆ Forms have to be collected on specified date only. No photostat will be accepted
- ◆ Submit two Sankalp Patras: Female child enrolled in school; restricting number of children as specified above

Benefits of the Scheme

- ◆ ₹10,000 to every member on fulfilling eligibility criteria in **first year**
- ◆ ₹12,500 **from Govt** and ₹12,500 **from Bank** (total ₹25,000) over next 2 years
- ◆ The bank loan needs to be **returned** back, while Govt support is **non-refundable**
- ◆ ₹35,000 spread over **3 years** to every eligible women, in their endeavour towards becoming Lakhpati Baideo

@himantabiwa @himantabiswasarma

- The scheme is implemented by the **Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission** (ASRLM) and is part of the government's efforts to enhance the **role** of **women** in the **state** by supporting women in rural areas.
- The scheme will also fulfil **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision** of building two crore '**Lakhpati didis**' .

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The **beneficiaries** of the scheme will, however, have to fulfil certain **socio-economic criteria**.
 - These criteria include that **women** belonging to the **general** and **OBC categories** should not have more than **three children**, while those in the **scheduled castes** and **scheduled tribes** should not have more than **four children**.

- The **SHG member**, having a **girl child** or children, should **enroll** them in **school**, if they have attained the **age** and if they are **younger**, an undertaking must be given for the same.
- Another condition for eligibility to the scheme is that the trees planted under the **Amrit Brikshya Andolan** by beneficiaries must be surviving.

PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION


Q. Consider the following statements on Amit Brikshya Andolan.

1. The Assam Government initiated the “Amrit Brikshya Andolan” campaign to enhance the state’s greenery by planting saplings, with a focus on commercial trees.
2. Accordingly, nine Guinness World Records were created in nine categories.

Select the correct codes.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither of them.

NATIONAL YOUTH DAY


অসম চৰকাৰ


ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় যুৱ দিৱস

স্বামী বিবেকানন্দৰ পত্ৰিমা জন্মদিন

ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় যুৱ দিৱসৰূপে পালন কৰা
বিবেকানন্দ জয়ন্তীৰ পবিত্ৰ স্মৃতি
বিশ্বৰ মহান দাৰ্শনিক, সনাতন
পুনৰ জাগৰণৰ পূৰ্বোদ্য,
যুৱশক্তিৰ প্ৰেৰণাৰ উৎস
স্বামী বিবেকানন্দলৈ
গভীৰ শ্ৰদ্ধা নিবেদন কৰিছোঁ।

ড° হিমন্ত বিশ্ব শৰ্মা
মুখ্যমন্ত্রী, অসম

১২ জানুৱাৰী ২০২৪

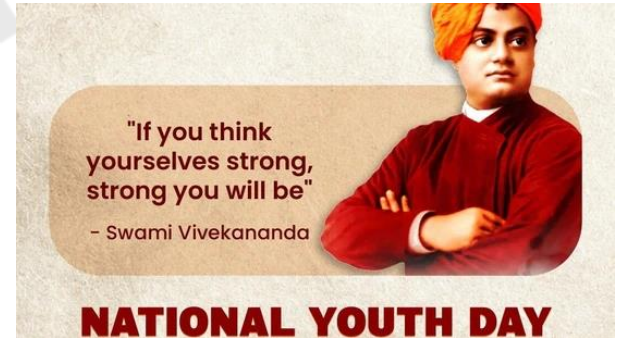


স্বামী বিবেকানন্দৰ জন্মদিনৰ স্মৃতিৰে
অসম চৰকাৰৰ পৰা

অসম চৰকাৰৰ পৰা
১২ জানুৱাৰী ২০২৪

CONTEXT

- **National Youth Day** is celebrated in India on **January 12th**, in honor of the birthday of **Swami Vivekananda**, an influential figure in the 19th century who believed in the power of youth.
- The day is dedicated to recognizing the **potential** of **young people** and encouraging them to take up leadership roles in society.



ABOUT

- **Swami Vivekananda** (1863-1902) was an Indian Hindu monk, philosopher, author, religious teacher, and the chief disciple of the Indian mystic Ramakrishna.
- Born in Kolkata, he was a **highly influential figure** in **promoting Hinduism** and its **unity** with other **religions**.

SOME KEY ASPECTS

- **Education:** Vivekananda was educated at a Western-style university, where he was **exposed to Western philosophy**, Christianity, and science.
- **Social Reform:** Social reform became a prominent element of Vivekananda's thought, and he joined the **Brahmo Samaj**, a society dedicated to **eliminating child marriage** and other social evils.

- **World's Parliament of Religions:** In 1893, Vivekananda appeared in Chicago as a spokesman for Hinduism at the World's Parliament of Religions, where he demonstrated the essential unity of all religions and stressed the universal and humanistic side of the Vedas, the oldest sacred texts of Hinduism.
- **Teachings:** Vivekananda's teachings focused on Vedanta philosophy, emphasizing the unity of all religions, the divinity of the soul and the importance of serving humanity as God.

- During 1890-93, Vivekananda acquired first-hand knowledge of India's hunger, misery, nobility and spiritual wisdom which he was to carry with him on his journey to the West.
- After travelling throughout the length and breadth of the country, he reached Cape Comorin and it was here that he had a vision.
- He realised that India had a mission in the modern world as a force of spiritual regeneration; but he also saw that this force would not become effective until India's social and economic conditions were radically improved.

- In order to remove the **evil** of **poverty**, **Swamiji** at first needed some **young men** full of the spirit of **renunciation** who would be ready to sacrifice their lives for others instead of devoting themselves for their own happiness.
- With that objective in mind he **established** a **math** to **train young sanyasis** who would go from door to door and make the people realise their pitiable conditions.

- Today on the **161st birth anniversary** of **Swami Vivekananda** we should cherish his **high ideals** and fountain of **wisdom** that he left behind.

ABOUT CAPE COMORIN

- **Cape Comorin**, also known as **Kanyakumari**, is a significant cape located at the **southernmost tip** of the **Indian subcontinent** in the state of **Tamil Nadu**.
- It is a popular tourist destination known for its **unique geographical location**, where the Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea, and Bay of Bengal meet.

SWACHH SARVEKSHAN AWARDS 2023



CONTEXT

- **Indore** and **Surat** were declared the **joint cleanest cities** of **India** as part of the **Swachh Survekshan Awards** presented by President Draupadi Murmu on Thursday.
- This was the **seventh time** that **Indore** won the accolade of the **cleanest city** in India.

Ranking cleanliness

The tables list the cleanest cities with more than 1 lakh population and the best-performing States, according to the Swachh Survekshan Awards. Indore bagged the tag of India's cleanest city for the seventh consecutive time

Cleanest cities with >1 lakh population		States ranking	
Rank	City	Rank	State
1	Indore	1	Maharashtra
1	Surat	2	M.P.
3	Navi Mumbai	3	Chhattisgarh
4	Greater Visakhapatnam	4	Odisha
5	Bhopal	5	Telangana



- The awards felicitated 13 recipients under various categories, including Clean Cities, Cleanest Cantonment, SafaiMitra Suraksha, Ganga Towns and Best Performing.
- In the State rankings, Maharashtra came first followed by Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

➤ **Jiribam** district of **Manipur** bagged the **cleanest city award** among the **North East zone** towns having **population** under **15,000** and **Golagahat** managed to clean the title of being **clean city** among the **North East Zone** with **population** range between **25,000** and **50,000**.



Zonal (North)	Zonal (East)	Zonal (North East)	Zonal (South)	Zonal (West)
Clean City (North Zone) (Population < 15,000) Winner: Barwar	Clean City (East Zone) (Population < 15,000) Clean City within State (Population < 1,00,000) Winner: Chikiti	Clean City (North East Zone) (Population < 15,000) Winner: Jiribam	Clean City (South Zone) (Population < 15,000) Winner: Kilvelur	Clean City (West Zone) (Population < 15,000) Winner: Panchgani
Clean City (North Zone) (Population between 15,000 - 25,000) Clean City within State (Population < 1,00,000) Winner: Mullanpur Dakha	Clean City (East Zone) (Population between 15,000 - 25,000) Winner: Arang	Clean City (North East Zone) (Population between 15,000 - 25,000) Clean City within State (Population < 1,00,000) Winner: Mohanpur	Clean City (South Zone) (Population between 15,000 - 25,000) Clean City within State (Population < 1,00,000) Winner: Gundlapochampally	Clean City (West Zone) (Population between 15,000 - 25,000) Clean City within State (Population < 1,00,000) Winner: Budni
Clean City (North Zone) (Population between 25,000 - 50,000) Winner: Anupshahr	Clean City (East Zone) (Population between 25,000 - 50,000) Winner: Kumhari	Clean City (North East Zone) (Population between 25,000 - 50,000) Winner: Golaghat	Clean City (South Zone) (Population between 25,000 - 50,000) Winner: Nizampet	Clean City (West Zone) (Population between 25,000 - 50,000) Winner: Gadhinglaj
Clean City (North Zone) (Population between 50,000-1,00,000) Clean City within State (Population < 1,00,000) Winner: Gajraula	Clean City (East Zone) (Population between 50,000-1,00,000) Winner: Mahasamund	Clean City (North East Zone) (Population between 50,000-1,00,000) Clean City within State (Population < 1,00,000) Winner: Lunglei	Clean City (South Zone) (Population between 50,000-1,00,000) Winner: Siddipet	Clean City (West Zone) (Population between 50,000-1,00,000) Winner: Karhad

PERFORMANCE OF THE CITIES IN ASSAM

- Meanwhile, **Bongaigaon** has bagged 'Swachh City Award' among the cities of **Assam** having **less** than **1 lakh population** under **Swachh Survekshan**, 2023 and touched the 2600th rank in All India level and **Nagaon** bagged the award with population **more** than **1 lakh population**.

- The **theme** of the cleanliness survey 2023 was "**Waste to wealth**", while for **2024**, it is "**Reduce, reuse and recycle**".



SIGNIFICANCE

- Speaking at the occasion, **Union Minister Shri Hardeep Singh Puri** said, “Today **every city** in **India** is **ODF**. This became possible because **SBM** went from a **govt programme** to becoming a **Jan Andolan**. The mission is a testimony to the **vision** of **Antodaya se Sarvodaya**.”

EQUADOR

Ecuador says 178 prison guards, staff members are held hostage by gangs

Agence France-Presse
QUITO

Gangsters were holding 178 prison guards and staff hostage, officials in Ecuador said on Thursday, as a standoff between security forces and organised crime reached fever pitch.

The total was 39 more than the previous day, the SNAI prison authority said, as it reported riots in several penitentiaries with inmates shooting at members of the Ecuadoran armed forces.

The country's armed forces are engaged in a brutal stand-off with organised crime, deploying



Flash point: Members of the armed forces frisk men as they patrol the streets of Carapungo in northern Quito on Thursday. AFP

more than 22,400 soldiers to put down a campaign of terror.

The small South American country has been

plunged into crisis after years of growing control by transnational cartels that use its ports to ship cocaine to the United States

and Europe.

The widespread outburst of gang violence this week was sparked by the discovery on Sunday that one of the country's most powerful narco bosses, Jose Adolfo Macias, known by the alias "Fito," had escaped from prison.

On Monday, President Daniel Noboa imposed a state of emergency and nighttime curfew, but the gangs hit back with a declaration of "war" – kidnapping police, setting off explosions, and threatening random executions.

At least 16 persons have been killed so far in the violence.

CONTEXT

- **Ecuador** has recently been in the news due to a surge in violence that has shaken the **South American nation**.
- On Monday, President Daniel Noboa imposed a **state of emergency** and night time curfew, but the gangs hit back with a declaration of "war" — kidnapping police, setting off explosions and threatening random executions.

ABOUT

- **Ecuador** is a country located in **northwestern South America**, **bordered** by the **Pacific Ocean** to the west, **Colombia** to the north and **Peru** to the southeast and south.
- Ecuador straddles part of the **Andes Mountains** and occupies part of the **Amazon basin**.



GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

- In addition to these borders, **Ecuador** also claims the **Galápagos Islands**, an **archipelago** of **volcanic islands** located on either side of the Equator in the Pacific Ocean.
- In 1978, the islands became **UNESCO's** first **World Heritage Site**.
- The **Galápagos Islands** are known for their **unique biodiversity** and were first visited by **Charles Darwin** in 1835, which inspired him to develop his **theory** of **evolution**.

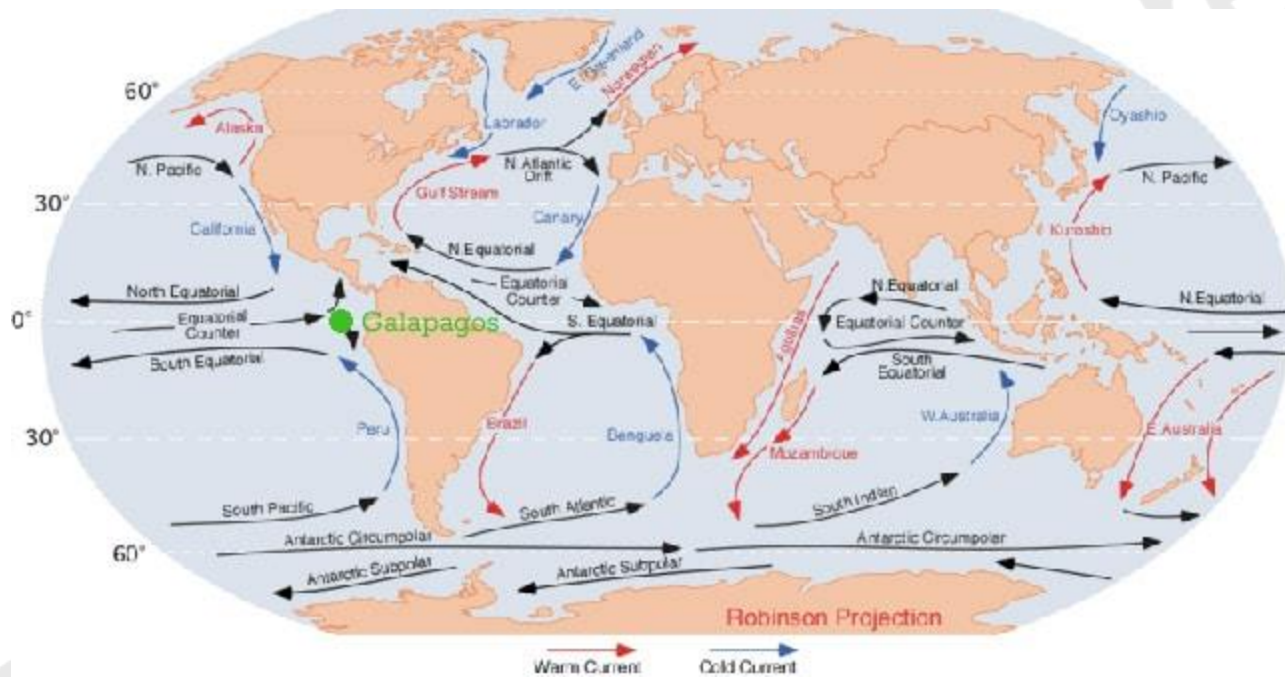
OCEAN CURRENTS

- The **Galápagos Islands** are surrounded by **several ocean currents** that contribute to their **unique biodiversity** and climate. These currents include:
 - **Humboldt Current:** This current flows from the west and carries **cold, nutrient-rich water** from the **southern Pacific**, which helps maintain the islands' mild climate and supports the growth of **plankton**, attracting various marine species.

- **Cromwell Current:** Also known as the Pacific Equatorial Undercurrent, this current flows from **west** to **east** along the **equator**. When it meets the Galápagos Islands, it causes an **upwelling** of **nutrient-rich water**, which supports a large number of **fish species** and the Galápagos penguin population.
- **Panama Flow:** This current transports **warm water** from the **Caribbean Sea** towards the **west**. It has a **weaker influence** on the **Galápagos Islands** compared to the **Humboldt** and **Cromwell** currents.

- **Equatorial Current:** This current flows along the **equator** and is influenced by the **Humboldt**, **Cromwell** and **Panama currents**. It also contributes to the unique climate and biodiversity of the Galápagos Islands.





PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. The most important fishing grounds of the world are found in the regions where

- (a) warm and cold atmospheric currents meet
- (b) rivers drain out large amounts of freshwater into the sea
- (c) warm and cold oceanic currents meet
- (d) continental shelf is undulating

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