MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

- ANNUAL STATUS OF EDUCATION REPORT 2023 The Assum Tribune GS- 5, PRELIMS
- ➤ INDIA SIGNS LITHIUM EXPLORATION & MINING DEAL IN ARGENTINA PRELIMS, GS-2
- > 9TH PAKKE PAGA HORNBILL FESTIVAL PRELIMS
- SHANKARACHARYAS
 PRELIMS, GS-1

Competition Care

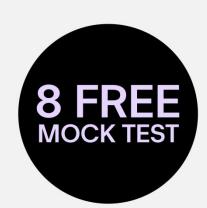
APSC PRELIMS CRASH COURSE

Online mode



- Regular online class
- Study materials (soft copy)
- Current affairs yearly compilation
- Sectional mock test
- Weekly test based on the topics covered

- Special emphasis on Assam section
- Sunday doubt clearing sessions
- PYQ analysis
- Test Series
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Competition Care

APSC CCE PRELIMS TEST SERIES 2024

Online mode Starting from 18th Jan, 2024

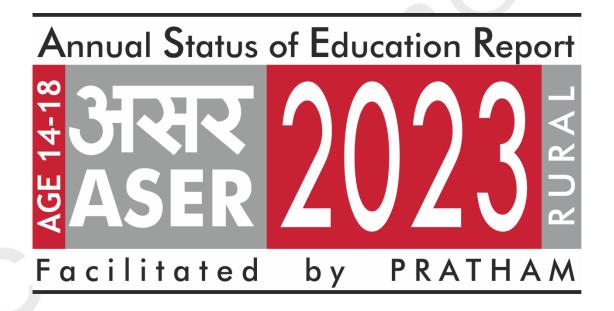


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- Total 30 Tests: Sectional & Full Length Tests.
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ANNUAL STATUS OF EDUCATION REPORT 2023



The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2023 provides crucial insights into the educational status in Assam for the 14-18 age group, emphasizing the need for immediate intervention in several areas.



KEY FINDINGS

- Reading Skills: Only 56.9% of 14-16-year-olds can read at a Standard II level, with a gender split of 49.1% males and 62.7% females. This slightly improves in the 17-18 age group, with 63.8% overall reading proficiency.
- Arithmetic Proficiency: A mere 19.1% of 14-16-year-olds can perform basic division. This figure is slightly better in the 17-18 age group at 21.2%.

- Smartphone Access vs. Ownership: While over 90% of adolescents have access to smartphones at home, actual ownership is significantly lower, especially among females.
- Digital Literacy and Safety: There is a notable lack of knowledge regarding smartphone safety features, particularly among younger adolescents.
- Use of Smartphones: The majority of smartphone usage is for entertainment rather than educational purposes, indicating a need for guidance on productive technology use.

- Remedial Action Required: The report highlights the critical need for targeted remedial educational programs focusing on foundational reading and arithmetic skills.
- Survey Details: The ASER 2023 survey in Assam was based on data from 1,320 youths across 60 villages in Kamrup district.
- Broader Implications: Nationally, the report reveals that a significant proportion of adolescents struggle with basic reading and English comprehension, along with widespread smartphone access.

WHAT IS ASER?

- The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is a nationwide household survey that captures the status of children's enrollment and learning outcomes in rural India.
- It has been conducted since 2005 by the NGO Pratham.

INDIA SIGNS LITHIUM EXPLORATION & MINING DEAL IN ARGENTINA



India and Argentina signed an agreement for the exploration and development of five lithium blocks in the Catamarca region. The agreement was signed between Khanij Bidesh India Ltd (KABIL) and Catamarca Minera Y Energética Sociedad Del Estado (CAMYEN).

Argentina is the part of "Lithium" Triangle" along with Chile and Bolivia with more than half of world's total lithium resources and having the distinction of having 2nd largest lithium resources, 3rd largest lithium reserves and 4th largest production in world respectively.



SIGNIFICANCE

- This will not only boost it's quest for sourcing lithium for India but will also help in bringing in technical & operational experience for Brine type lithium exploration, exploitation and extraction.
- This strategic move not only strengthens the bilateral ties between India and Argentina but also contributes to the sustainable development of the mining sector, ensuring a resilient and diversified supply chain for critical and strategic minerals essential for various industries.

PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina are collectively referred to as the Lithium Triangle.
- 2. The US currently controls 77% of the global lithium-ion battery manufacturing capacity.
- 3. Lithium is also referred to White Gold.

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

9TH PAKKE PAGA HORNBILL FESTIVAL



A three-day environmental festival, known as PAKKE PAGA HORNBILL FESTIVAL (PPHF), recently commenced in Arunachal Pradesh.



- This event is dedicated to wildlife preservation, with a particular focus on the protection of hornbills.
- Initiated in 2015, the festival celebrates the Nyishi tribe's efforts in conserving hornbills.
- The Nyishi are the largest tribe in Arunachal Pradesh and play a vital role in protecting these birds in the Pakke Tiger Reserve (PTR).

- PTR is home to four hornbill species: Wreathed, Great Indian, Oriental Pied, and the endangered Rufous-necked.
- The Nyishi tribe, once hunters of hornbills, have transformed into committed conservationists.

SHANKARACHARYAS



- The four shankaracharyas, heads of Hindu monasteries founded by Adi Shankara, will not attend the inauguration of the Ram temple in Ayodhya on January 22.
- The seers oversee mathas in Dwarka, Joshimath, Puri and Sringeri.



- Shankaracharya is a religious title used by the heads of amnaya monasteries called mathas in the Advaita Vedanta tradition of Hinduism.
- The title derives from Adi Shankara, who was an 8th-century Indian Vedic scholar and teacher (acharya) and the most renowned exponent of the Advaita Vedanta school of philosophy.



ADVAITA SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY

- The Advaita Vedanta tradition is a school of Hindu philosophy that espouses non-dualism, emphasizing the unity of the individual soul (atman) with the ultimate reality (brahman).
- It is based on the teachings of the Upanishads and was most notably expounded by Adi Shankara in the 8th century.
- It is considered one of the major philosophical systems in Hinduism and has had a profound influence on Indian thought.

By the Officers,
For the Officers