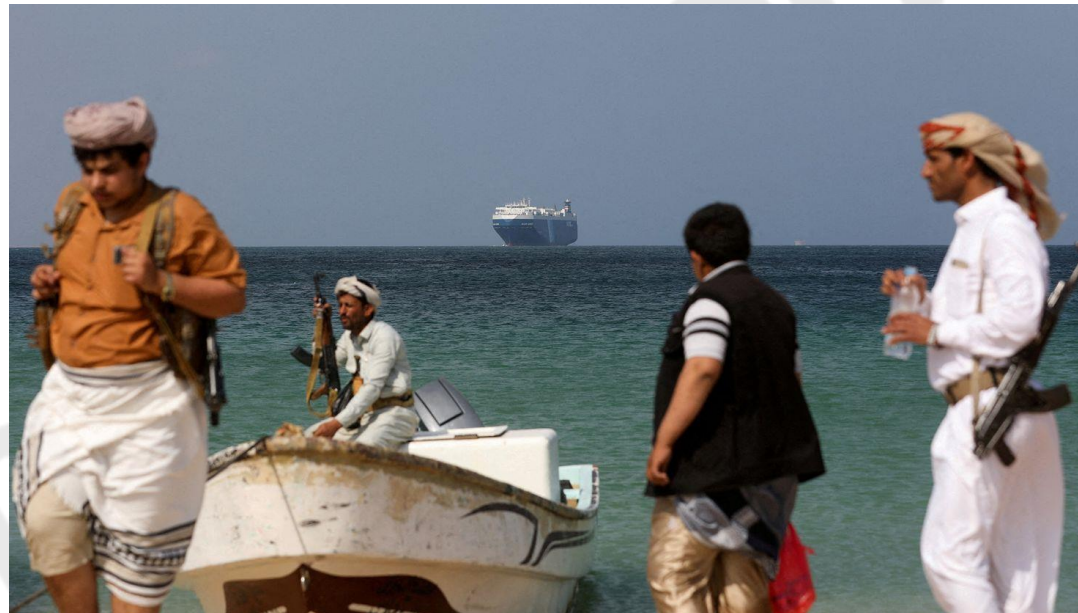


# MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

1. HOUTHIS ATTACK IN RED SEA  PRELIMS, GS-2
2. NAMO DRONE DIDI SCHEME  PRELIMS, GS-3
3. GOA LIBERATION DAY  PRELIMS
4. COAL 2023 :IEA  PRELIMS, GS-3

## HOUTHIS ATTACK IN RED SEA



## CONTEXT

- The **Houthis** are a group of **Iran**-backed **rebels** based in **Yemen** who have been launching attacks on ships in the **Red Sea**.
- These attacks have escalated significantly in recent months, with at least 100 attacks against 12 different commercial and merchant vessels.



## SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RED SEA

- The **Red Sea** is home to one of the most **important maritime trade routes** in the world, and the attacks have had far-reaching consequences, affecting at least 44 countries and disrupting international trade.



- The attacks could potentially lead to a **wider conflict** and have already forced some of the **world's biggest shipping and oil companies** to suspend **transit**, which could **shock** the **global economy**.

## OBJECTIVE

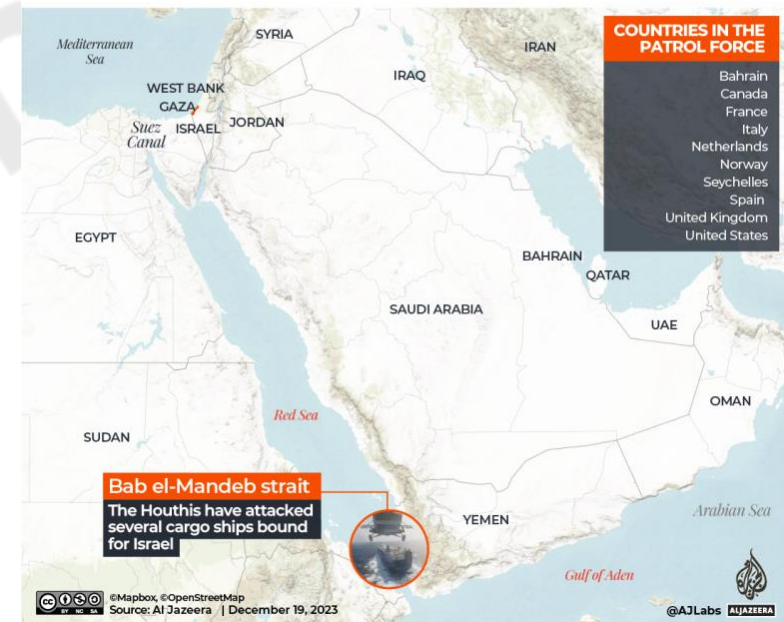
- The **Houthis'** primary objective for these attacks is to **express** their **opposition** against **Israel** for its **military campaign** in **Gaza**.
- While they may not pose a serious threat to Israel, their **technology** can cause **significant damage** in the **Red Sea**, as they have used drones and anti-ship missiles to target commercial ships.

➤ In response to the attacks, the **US** has announced the creation of an enhanced naval protection force operating in the southern Red Sea to defend **Red Sea** shipping from Houthi attacks, joined by other countries, such as **France** and **Britain**.

#### ISRAEL-GAZA WAR

### Red Sea patrol force to counter Houthi attacks

The United States has announced a 10-nation force to protect trade in the Red Sea after attacks by Yemen's Houthi rebels forced shipping companies to halt operations.



- However, the maritime security effort is weakened by the absence of Egypt or Saudi Arabia, who are unable to sign up to the coalition due to heightened concerns in the Arab world about Israel's and Washington's support for Israel.



## NAMO DRONE DIDI SCHEME



## CONTEXT

- The **NAMO Drone Didi Scheme** is a **Central Sector Scheme** launched by the Government of India to provide **drones** to **Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs)** for providing **rental services** to **farmers** for **agriculture purposes** such as the application of fertilizers and pesticides.



## ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES

- **Women Self Help groups** with "A" grade as per the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana** (DAY-NRLM) guidelines will be selected for providing drones.
- These Grade 'A' WSHGs will be selected by the States from the **clusters** of **villages** growing the **commercial crops** like chillies, cotton, paddy, wheat, orchards, and plantations etc.

- The scheme is expected to make **rural women** the **backbone** of the **rural economy** and increase **agricultural productivity** and efficiency by **automating** the spraying system through agri-drones, which will save time and make the process more efficient.
- The NAMO Drone Didi scheme is helping women become integral stakeholders of their local farming supply chains and is a significant step towards women's empowerment in rural India.

## PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

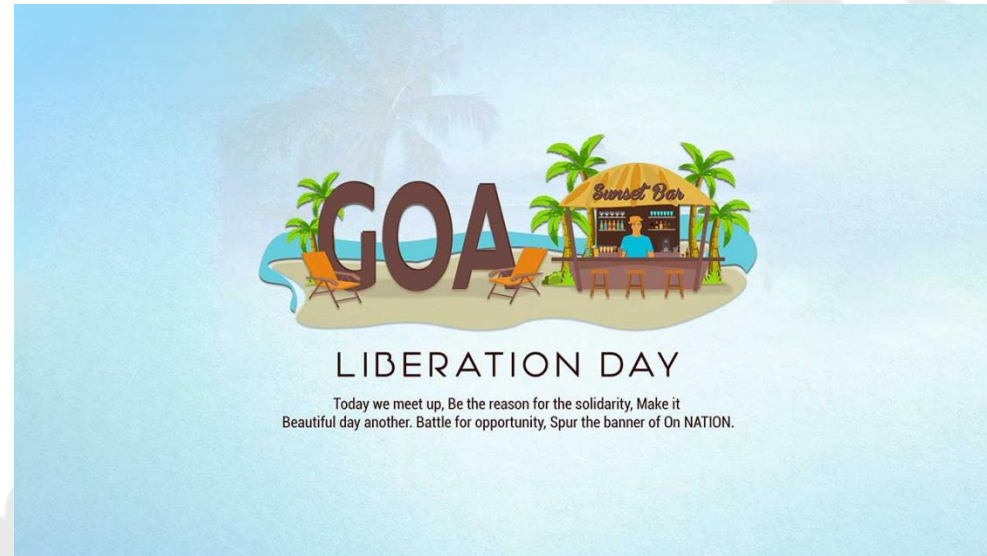
Q. What is/are the advantage/advantages of zero tillage in agriculture?( UPSC PRELIMS-2020)

- 1.Sowing of what is possible without burning the residue of the previous crop.
- 2.Without the need for nursery of rice saplings, direct planting of paddy seeds in the wet soil is possible.
- 3.Carbon sequestration in the soil is possible.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

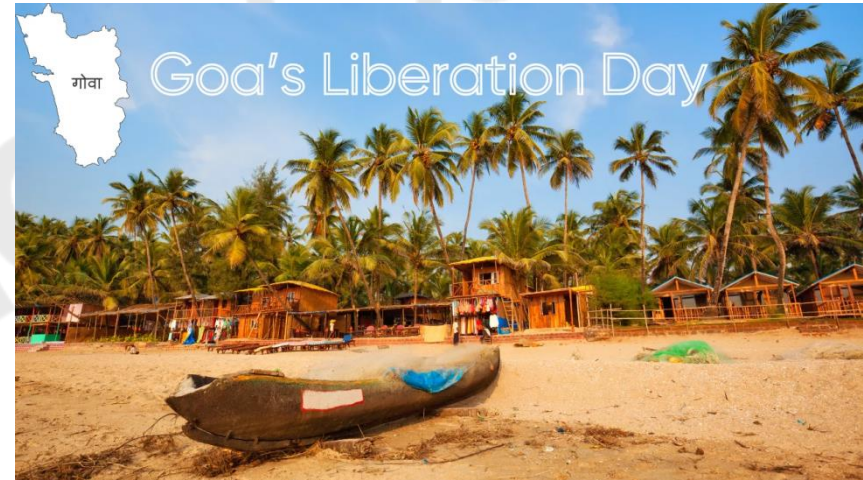
- [a] 1 and 2 only
- [b] 2 and 3 only
- [c] 3 only
- [d] 1, 2 and 3

# GOA LIBERATION DAY



## CONTEXT

- **December 19** marks the annual celebration of **Goa Liberation Day**, commemorating the independence of **Goa, Daman** and **Diu** from **Portuguese** rule in **1961**.



## LIBERATION OF GOA

- Goa was under **Portuguese colonial rule** since **1505**.
- Despite India's independence in 1947, Goa remained under Portuguese control.



## OPERATION VIJAY (1961)

- India's swift military action from December 18-19, 1961, liberating **Goa, Daman, and Diu.**
- This tri-service operation included the Army advancing into Goa, the **Air Force** bombing **Dabolim airbase**, and the **Navy** securing **Mormugao** harbour and **Anjadip Island**, while preventing Portuguese naval threats.
- The operation ended with **Portuguese Governor General Vassalo De Silva's** surrender on **December 19, 1961.**

## POST-LIBERATION DEVELOPMENT

- Annexation into Indian Union: Goa, along with Daman and Diu, became a **Union Territory** of India.
- **Plebiscite (1967)**: Majority of Goans voted against merging with **Maharashtra**.
- **Statehood (1987)**: Goa was granted statehood, becoming India's **25th** state, while Daman and Diu remained Union Territories.

## SIGNIFICANCE

- **End of European Rule in India:** Marks the conclusion of European colonial presence in India.
- **Goa Liberation Day:** Celebrated annually on December 19 to commemorate this historical event.
- **Recognition of Local Resistance:** Acknowledges the efforts of Goans against Portuguese rule, supported by national leaders like **Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia**.

## COAL 2023 :IEA



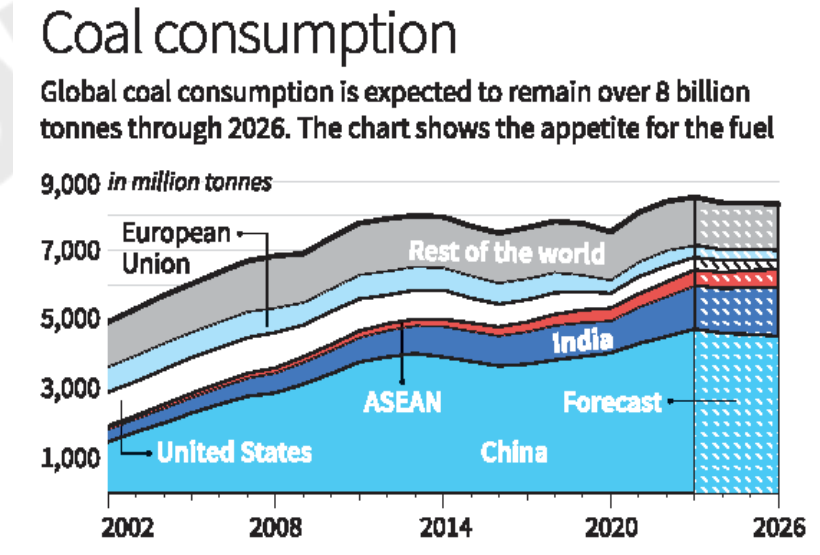
## CONTEXT

- The **International Energy Agency (IEA)** has recently stated that it anticipates a **global reduction in coal demand by the year 2026**



## DEMAND TRENDS

- **2023 Increase:** Global demand to rise by **1.4%**, exceeding 8.5 billion tonnes.
- **Regional Differences:** **EU** and **US** demand to **drop** by **20%** each; **India's** demand to increase by **8%**, China's by **5%**.



## KEY DRIVERS

- **Renewable Energy Shift:** Transition towards **renewable sources** impacts **global demand**.
- **China's Plateauing Demand:** **Largest** coal consumer stabilizing its usage.
- **India's Role:** Remains pivotal in driving coal demand until 2026.

## CLIMATE IMPACT

- **El Nino to La Nina Transition (2024-2026):** Expected to enhance **hydroelectric power**, reducing coal dependence.
- **Renewable Energy Surge:** **Low-cost solar photovoltaic growth** supports renewable power.
- **Nuclear Generation:** Moderate increases expected in China, India, and the EU.



## GLOBAL COAL STATISTICS

- **China, India, Indonesia:** Lead in coal production, set to break records in 2023.
- **China's Consumption:** Accounts for over half of the world's demand.
- International Agreements –
- **COP28:** Focuses on reducing unabated coal use.

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

- Renewable Expansion: Anticipated **2.3% fall** in global coal demand by **2026**.
- **Developed vs. Developing Economies**: **Declines** in EU and US, increases in India and China due to **electricity demands** and reduced **hydropower generation**.

## ABOUT IEA

- Establishment: 1974, under OECD.
- Membership: 31 member countries, 13 association countries (including India).
- Key Reports: World Energy Outlook, Energy Efficiency Report, Net Zero Roadmap.

By the Officers,  
For the Officers

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