


MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

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PRELIMS
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PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Which of the following is the correct arrangement of Northeastern states from North to South?

- (A) Arunachal Pradesh-Assam-Nagaland-Meghalaya-Mizoram
- (B) Arunachal Pradesh-Nagaland-Assam-Meghalaya-Mizoram
- (C) Assam-Arunachal Pradesh-Meghalaya-Mizoram-Nagaland
- (D) Arunachal Pradesh-Assam-Mizoram-Meghalaya-Nagaland

MISSION KARMAYOGI



Mission Karmayogi
Civil Services Reforms

CONTEXT

- On **Good Governance Day**, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launched the Extended Version of **Mission Karmayogi**, introducing **My iGOT**, **Blended Programs**, and **Curated Programs** on the **iGOT Karmayogi** platform.



ABOUT THE MISSION KARMAYOGI

- **Good Governance Day**, celebrated annually on December 25th in honor of former Prime **Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birth anniversary**, was initiated in **2014** with the goal of promoting "**Good Governance through e-Governance**." On this day in **2020**, the Government of India introduced **Mission Karmayogi**, a comprehensive program aimed at enhancing the capabilities of **civil servants**.

KEY FEATURES OF THE EXTENDED VERSION

- **My iGOT:** This feature provides **personalized training courses** directly on officers' homepages, ensuring a **tailored learning experience** that aligns individual and organizational goals.
- **Blended Programs on iGOT-Karmayogi platform:** These programs offer uniform access to various **training methods** for **officials** at all levels, addressing their evolving training requirements.

- **Curated Programs on iGOT Karmayogi:** Designed to meet the varied learning needs of different **Ministries, Departments, and Training Institutions.**

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ADDITIONAL FACTS

- **Annual Capacity Building Plan (ACBP):** Under this, the **Karmayogi Digital Learning Lab (KDLL)** of the Department of **Personnel and Training (DoPT)** has created **12 domain-specific e-learning courses** in just two months.
- **VIKAS (Variable & Immersive Karmayogi Advanced Support):** A new blended learning program for the **capacity building** of middle management civil servants in the Central Secretariat.

PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Consider the following statements about Mission Karmayogi:

1. It is led by the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India.
2. It is aimed at creating a competent civil service that is responsive to the needs of the citizens.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) None of the above

PASIGHAT-FOLK MEDICINE HUB



CONTEXT

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Arunachal CM **Khandu** inaugurated the **NEIAFMR expansion in Pasighat**, a landmark project to establish **India's first folk medicine institute** and enhance traditional healthcare.



PROJECT DETAILS

- Cost: Rs 53 crore.
- Objective: To enhance **research** and **education** in **traditional medicine**.
- Goal: To strengthen India's healthcare system.

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NEIAFMR

- Established in Pasighat, **North Eastern Institute of Ayurveda and Folk Medicine Research** (NEIAFMR) focuses on strengthening and developing traditional healthcare, particularly in the Northeast.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- Announcement of a new centre for **Sowa Rigpa**, an ancient traditional medical system, in Arunachal Pradesh.

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REGIONAL IMPACT

- Richness in Medicinal Plants: Northeast India's diversity in **medicinal plants** offers potential for **pharmaceutical**, **Ayurvedic**, and **aromatic** sectors.
- Commercial Opportunities: Unlocking commercial avenues for the state and the Northeast.

OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE

- This initiative marks a significant step in harnessing the traditional medicinal practices of **Northeast India** and integrating them into the **mainstream healthcare system**, providing both health and commercial benefits.

MAINS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. India's recent infrastructure development policy in the northeast aims to enhance connectivity, spur economic growth, and reduce regional disparities. How does this align with India's broader development objectives, and what challenges might arise in executing this large-scale infrastructure initiative?

BEESA GAUM

Beesa Gaum's role in Indian tea revolution recalled

CORRESPONDENT

DOOMDOOMA, Dec 26: The bicentennial anniversary of Singpho chief Beesa Gaum's first plantation of tea seeds in India was celebrated at the banquet hall of Singpho Eco Lodge situated at Inthong in Margherita on Saturday.

The programme got underway with lighting of the ceremonial lamp and offering of tributes at the portrait of Beesa Gaum by senior scientist of Tocklai Tea Research Centre, Jorhat, Dr Pradeep Baruah, along with the head of the Department of Anthropology of Rajiv Gandhi Uni-

versity of Arunachal Pradesh, Charit Kumar Chowdhury, a guest from the USA, Branglee Maran, and others. The vice president of Singpho Jatiya Parishad, Gauri Singnen, delivered the welcome address.

Addressing the gathering, Asom Gaurav awardee entrepreneur Manje La of Margherita said that although history gives credit to Robert Bruce for the discovery of tea plants in Assam, Singpho chief Beesa Gaum and Ningrula also deserve the same credit. If Bruce had not met Beesa Gaum, then it would not have been possible for the

tea industry of Assam to flourish like it does today, he said. It is due to the contribution of those Singpho leaders that the Assam tea has gained popularity across the globe, Manje La added.

"The Singphos not only collected tea leaves from the jungles, but also planted tea plants in their own kitchen gardens to produce tea in an indigenous way for their own consumption, long before the British opened tea gardens in Assam. The Singphos used to pluck the '*phalap num-jang*' or the newly sprouted tea leaves, and dry them in the sunshine. Then, they used to put those dried tea

leaves in bamboo pipes and keep them near the hearth. The tea leaves thus kept can be conserved for six to seven years without losing their quality," Manje La said.

He further said: "The history of tea in Assam begins with the enterprising Ningru chief (*Duwa*) who laid the foundation for trading tea from the Ledo and Margherita regions. In 1840, the first batch of 95 tea boxes was dispatched to the Calcutta market for sale. Out of these 95 boxes, 35 were prepared and packed by Ningrula himself. He earned a profit of 480 British pounds from those 35 tea boxes,

writing the first commercial chapter of Assam tea."

Addressing the gathering, Dr Pradeep Baruah illustrated different varieties of tea available in the world with still photographs. On the other hand, Charit Kumar Chowdhury urged the Singpho community to set up a village museum at Ledo with the assimilation of Singpho tea and Singpho culture.

The organisers felicitated Beesa Nang Singpho, the great-grandson of Beesa Gaum; Wanglin Mungsang, professor in the Department of Tribal Affairs of Rajiv Gandhi University of Arunachal Pradesh; PB Baruah, gener-

al manager of AGCL, Duliagan; Sukanta Manlai, assistant general manager of AGCL, Duliagan; and several other distinguished persons in the programme.

At the beginning of the programme, a group of Singpho girls presented a chorus. The entire programme was moderated by retired principal of Tinsukia College Rana Kumar Changmai. Among others, the programme was also attended by the subdivisional agricultural officer of Margherita, Binay Deka, tea planter Rajesh Singpho, and the secretary general of SDS of Arunachal Pradesh, Angyun Maio.

CONTEXT

- The bicentennial anniversary of **Singpho chief Beesa Gaum**'s first tea plantation in India, a pivotal moment in the Indian tea revolution, was recently celebrated at the Singpho Eco Lodge in **Margherita**.



SIGNIFICANCE

- This event marks a significant historical milestone in the **tea industry** of Assam and highlights the **Singpho community**'s contributions.

RECOGNITION OF BEESA GAUM'S ROLE

- **Asom Gaurav awardee** entrepreneur **Manje La** highlighted that while **Robert Bruce** is often credited for discovering tea plants in Assam, the roles of Singpho chiefs **Beesa Gaum** and **Ningrula** are equally significant. Their contributions were crucial in establishing Assam's tea industry.

SINGPHO TEA PRACTICES

- The Singphos had been collecting and planting tea leaves in their kitchen gardens, using indigenous methods for production and conservation, long before the British established tea gardens in Assam.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- The first **commercial** chapter of Assam tea was written by **Ningru chief Duwa**, who laid the foundation for tea trading from the Ledo and Margherita regions in **1840**.

BAAN THEATRE



CONTEXT

- The biennial conference of **Baan Theatre** in **Tezpur**, Assam, celebrated the institution's 117-year legacy as a cornerstone of the region's performing arts scene.



ABOUT BAAN THEATRE

- Established in 1906
- Assam's first modern theatre hall

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