

# MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

1. FREE MOVEMENT REGIME *The Assam Tribune* GS-2, PRELIMS
2. EUROPEAN PORT ALLIANCE  GS-2, PRELIMS
3. TORKHAM BORDER  PRELIMS
4. ALL INDIA SURVEY ON HIGHER EDUCATION (AISHE)   
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## PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Arrange the following Himalayan ranges from south to north:

1. Pir Panjal Range
2. Ladakh Range
3. Zaskar Range
4. Karakoram Range

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 3 4
- B. 4 3 2 1
- C. 1 3 2 4
- D. 4 2 3 1

# FREE MOVEMENT REGIME



## CONTEXT

- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) of the Union is considering terminating the **Free Movement Regime (FMR)** with Myanmar.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- The India-Myanmar border was established through the **Treaty of Yandaboo** in **1826**, dividing people of the same ethnicity and culture without their consent.
- The FMR was introduced in **2018** under the **Act East policy** to enhance diplomatic ties and facilitate cross-border travel for residents.

## FMR

- FMR allows residents within **16 km** on both sides of the border to travel without a visa, promoting localized border trade and facilitating access to education and healthcare.
- Border pass, valid for a year, is required for a stay of about **two weeks** per visit.



## Manipur's Border Dilemma

- Manipur urged MHA to halt FMR and fence India-Myanmar border (Sept 2023).
- Previously suspended FMR in 2022 to stop Myanmar **refugee migration**.
- Mizoram, Nagaland oppose, citing FMR's role in maintaining cross-border ties.
- Both states resist border fencing, stressing economic impacts.

# FMR SUSPENSION AMID SECURITY AND ETHNIC CHALLENGES

- Security Threats: Misuse of FMR by illegal immigrants, drug traffickers, and insurgents from Myanmar.
- Ethnic Violence: Over 200 deaths in Kuki-Meitei conflicts in late 2023

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# EUROPEAN PORT ALLIANCE



## CONTEXT

- The EU has established a 'European Ports Alliance' to standardize approaches in fighting drug smuggling and criminal infiltration at ports.

- Launched at **Antwerp Port, Belgium**, the EU's primary cocaine entry point.
- Unites EU interior ministers and delegates from 16 EU ports and maritime groups

# TORKHAM BORDER



## CONTEXT

- Trade resumes as Pakistan and Afghanistan reopen Torkham border crossing after 10 days



## OVERVIEW OF TORKHAM BORDER CROSSING

- Location: Between Pakistani city of Torkham and Afghanistan, along the **Grand Trunk Road**.
- Significance: 5 kilometers west of the Khyber Pass summit; major supply route for US-led NATO forces in Afghanistan.
- Historical Use: Used by Afghan and Turkic caravans, armies of powerful empires

## RECENT CLOSURES AND CLASHES

- The Torkham border crossing has experienced multiple closures in recent years.
- Reasons include clashes between security forces and necessary repairs.

## TALIBAN SEIZURE AND PAKISTAN'S RESPONSE

- Date of Seizure: August 15, 2021.
- Significance: Second border crossing with Pakistan captured by the Taliban during the 2021 offensive.
- Pakistan's Response: Temporary closure of the border crossing.

# PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Durand line is an important international boundary line between-

- A. India and Pakistan
- B. Afghanistan and Iran
- C. India and Afghanistan
- D. Pakistan and Afghanistan

**ALL INDIA SURVEY  
ON HIGHER  
EDUCATION  
(AISHE)**

**AISHE**

All India Survey on Higher Education

## CONTEXT

- The Ministry of Education published the latest **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)** report for **2021-22**, surveying all higher education institutions in India.
- This annual survey has been conducted since **2011**.

## KEY FINDINGS

- Enrolment Growth
  - Total enrolment: 4.33 crore in 2021-22.
  - Increase of 91 lakh since 2014-15.
  
- Category-Wise Enrolment
  - Growth in female, SC, ST, OBC, minority enrolment.
  - Female enrolment up by 50 lakh.
  
- GER Increase
  - GER: 23.7% in 2014-15 to 28.4% in 2021-22.

- Ph.D Enrolment
  - Ph.D enrolment up 81.2% since 2014-15.
  - Female Ph.D enrolment doubled.
- Undergraduate Focus
  - 79% enrolment in undergraduate programs.
- Postgraduate Trends
  - Social Sciences, Science most chosen.
- STEM Enrolment
  - 98.5 lakh students in STEM.



- Infrastructure
  - Widespread libraries, labs, computer centers.
  
- Institution Numbers
  - 1168 universities, 45473 colleges, 12002 standalone institutions.
  
- Faculty Composition
  - 16 lakh faculty; 57% male, 43% female.

By the Officers,  
For the Officers