MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS

- 1. FREE MOVEMENT REGIME The Assum Tribune GS-2, PRELIMS
- 2. EUROPEAN PORT ALLIANCE GS-2, PRELIMS
- 3. TORKHAM BORDER PRELIMS

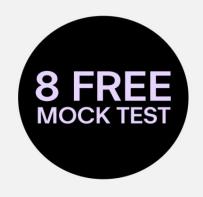
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- Study materials (soft copy)
- Current affairs yearly compilation
- Sectional mock test
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- Special emphasis on Assam section
- Sunday doubt clearing sessions
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PRELIMS PRACTICE QUESTION

- Q. Arrange the following Himalayan ranges from south to north:
- 1. Pir Panjal Range
- 2. Ladakh Range
- 3. Zanskar Range
- 4. Karakoram Range

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 234
- B. 4321
- C. 1324
- D. 4231

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)



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.
 - o 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