

# THE PALA CIVIL TIMES



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## P2. NATIONAL



**Do not index legal records online using names, rules Delhi High Court -**

Delhi HC orders de-indexing to protect privacy

## P3. INTERNATIONAL



**Won't allow our territory to be used against India's interests: Myanmar -**

Key Outcomes of Myanmar President's India Visit

## P8. ECONOMICS



**India's seafood exports hit record 8.46 billion dollars -**

India's Seafood Export Boom: Key Drivers and Trends

## Editor's Note

In today's edition of The Pala Civil Times, we explore a diverse range of issues shaping governance, society, international relations and the economy. The evolving dimensions of the Right to Privacy, particularly the Right to be Forgotten, take centre stage in the legal and governance section. On the international front, two countries of immense significance to India's development story feature prominently. Myanmar, a border-sharing neighbour, remains crucial to India's security, connectivity and regional engagement, while Oman has opened new avenues for trade and economic cooperation through the recently operationalised Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

The Decoded Editorials section examines the growing concern over spurious liquor consumption, the challenges posed by India's double burden of malnutrition as highlighted by the latest National Family Health Survey, and the potential of strengthening India's Social Stock Exchange. In the economy section, the revised Index of Industrial Production offers insights into how India is refining its assessment of changing economic conditions. We invite readers to engage with these developments, reflect on their implications, and form informed opinions on the issues shaping our times.

## Editorials Decoded

THE HINDU

### Perfect storm



Spurious liquor deaths expose gaps in regulation and enforcement.

The Indian EXPRESS

### Health survey calls for a nutrition rethink



NFHS highlights India's growing obesity challenge amid persistent malnutrition.

BusinessLine

### Market for charity



Strengthening Social Stock Exchange can boost impact-driven investments



## Do not index legal records online using names, rules Delhi High Court

In a landmark judgment, the Delhi High Court issued guidelines directing search engines and legal database platforms to de-index name-based searches of certain judicial records and news reports. The court observed that individuals should not be involuntarily and perpetually defined in the digital domain by past legal proceedings, particularly when such proceedings have concluded in their favour. The ruling emerged from a batch of petitions seeking removal of online content and seeks to address the long-term reputational harm caused when arrests, accusations or personal disputes continue to dominate internet search results long after their legal relevance has ended.

### Article 21 and the Right to be Forgotten

The High Court linked the right to be forgotten with the broader right to informational privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution. It held that privacy protection extends beyond preventing disclosure of personal information and includes safeguarding individuals from permanent digital profiling based on past events. The court recognised that in the age of indelible online records, informational self-determination is essential to preserving dignity and autonomy. Relief was granted to *individuals acquitted or discharged of crimes, victims of sexual offences, and persons involved in matrimonial or private civil disputes*, while *public figures and persons convicted of serious offences were excluded from such protection*.



### Practical Implications of De-indexing

The judgment does not require the removal of court records from the public domain. Instead, it mandates de-indexing, whereby a person's name can no longer be used as a retrieval key through search engines or legal databases. Judicial records will remain accessible through case numbers, citations, court details or dates, thereby preserving the principle of open justice. The court directed platforms such as Google and Indian Kanoon to restrict name-based search functionality in eligible cases, ensuring that individuals are not indefinitely exposed to past legal proceedings through routine internet searches while maintaining public access to judicial records.

### Practice questions

Q.) Q.) With reference to the Delhi High Court's guidelines on de-indexing of names and the Right to be Forgotten, consider the following statements:

1. De-indexing removes a judgment or court order permanently from public records and judicial databases.
2. The relief may be granted to individuals acquitted or discharged of criminal charges, victims of sexual offences, and persons involved in matrimonial or private civil disputes.
3. Public figures and persons convicted of serious crimes are generally not entitled to such relief.
4. De-indexing prevents a person's name from appearing in name-based internet searches while allowing access to the record through case details, citations or court records.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 2 and 4 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q.) 'Right to Privacy' is protected under which Article of the Constitution of India? (2021, 2024)

- (a) Article 15
- (b) Article 19
- (c) Article 21
- (d) Article 29

### RELEVANCE

**GS II : Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.**

## Won't allow our territory to be used against India's interests: Myanmar

India and Myanmar share a 1,643-km-long land border, making Myanmar a crucial partner for India's security and regional connectivity. The relationship is rooted in deep civilizational, Buddhist, and people-to-people ties, highlighted by the Myanmar President's visit to Bodh Gaya, the Mahabodhi Temple, and other sacred Buddhist sites. Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized that Myanmar lies at the intersection of India's Neighbourhood First Policy, Act East Policy, and MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) vision, underscoring its importance in India's regional diplomacy and outreach to Southeast Asia.

### Themes of the Bilateral Discussions

The leaders held wide-ranging discussions on strengthening bilateral cooperation across **trade and economic relations, defence and security cooperation, border management, connectivity, development assistance, cultural exchanges, and democratic reconciliation in Myanmar.** India reiterated its support for Myanmar's sovereignty and territorial integrity while also stressing the importance of an inclusive peace process involving all stakeholders.

### Security and Border Management Concerns

India highlighted concerns regarding the activities of **Northeast insurgent groups operating from Myanmar territory**, while Myanmar assured that **its territory would not be allowed to be used against India's security interests.** Both sides emphasized enhanced border management, defence cooperation, training, capacity building, and intelligence coordination. The issue of cyber-scams operating in Myanmar and the repatriation of affected Indian citizens was also discussed.

### Way Forward

The visit reaffirmed a shared commitment to respecting sovereignty, territorial integrity, and non-interference in internal affairs, while encouraging a Myanmar-led and Myanmar-owned resolution to the country's political challenges. India maintained that engagement rather than isolation is the most effective approach toward Myanmar.



### Connectivity, Trade & Economic Cooperation

Both sides reviewed progress on the **Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project** and the **India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project**, while acknowledging delays caused by security challenges in Myanmar. Discussions also covered cooperation in critical minerals and rare earth resources. Both countries agreed to further promote bilateral trade through the **Rupee-Kyat Settlement Mechanism**, operational since May 2024, and expressed interest in expanding investment and cooperation in sectors such as **agro-processing, petroleum, energy, and mining.**

### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q.) Evaluate the economic and strategic dimensions of India's Look East Policy in the context of the post Cold War international scenario. (GS II - 2016)

Q.) Consider the following pairs: (2023)  
 Area of conflict mentioned in News Country where it is located

1. Donbas - Syria
  2. Kachin - Ethiopia
  3. Tigray - North Yemen
- How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

(\*Kachin is in Myanmar,)

## India, Oman 'energise' new economic corridor

The operationalisation of the India–Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) on 1 June 2026 marks a major step in India's economic engagement with the Gulf region. Oman is India's second-largest trading partner in the GCC, with bilateral trade reaching USD 11.18 billion in FY 2025–26, up from USD 10.61 billion the previous year. The agreement deepens a centuries-old commercial relationship while strengthening India's integration with Gulf, African and global markets.

### Export Expansion & Employment Generation

The CEPA grants duty-free access to 99.38% of India's exports by value, covering 98.08% of Oman's tariff lines. Major beneficiaries include agriculture, marine products, textiles, gems and jewellery, pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, automobiles and footwear. Labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, jewellery, food processing and marine exports are expected to witness strong growth, boosting MSMEs, manufacturing activity and employment generation across key production clusters in India.

### Balanced Liberalisation & Trade Facilitation

While opening export opportunities, the agreement protects sensitive domestic sectors. India has excluded products such as dairy, cereals, fruits, vegetables, edible oils, oilseeds, rubber and spices from market access commitments, while also using Tariff Rate Quotas and Minimum Import Price mechanisms where necessary. Oman will accept certificates issued by India's Export Inspection Council, recognise Indian organic and halal certifications, and reduce non-tariff barriers through dedicated SPS and TBT provisions, facilitating smoother trade flows.

### Gateway to Regional Markets and Professional Mobility

The CEPA transforms Oman into a strategic gateway for Indian businesses to access the GCC and East African markets through logistics hubs at Sohar, Duqm and Salalah. The agreement also contains Oman's most comprehensive services offer to India, covering 127 services sub-sectors. Enhanced mobility provisions allow business visitors, professionals and intra-corporate transferees greater market access, while sectors such as IT, healthcare, education, engineering and financial services gain new opportunities for expansion.



### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q.) The aim of Information Technology Agreements (ITAs) is to lower all taxes and tariffs on information technology products by signatories to zero. What impact would such agreements have on India's interests?

*(Although the question is not directly related to the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), it deals with a similar bilateral trade agreement between countries.)*

### Significance

The India–Oman CEPA goes beyond tariff reduction by creating a comprehensive framework covering trade, services, investment, logistics and regulatory cooperation. It is expected to increase exports, strengthen value-chain integration, attract investment and improve competitiveness in sectors ranging from engineering goods and pharmaceuticals to agriculture and marine products. By combining extensive market access with safeguards for vulnerable sectors, the agreement supports India's objectives of employment generation, export-led growth and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

### RELEVANCE

**GS II : Bilateral agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.**

## Perfect storm (The Hindu : 02-06-2026)

India has repeatedly witnessed mass deaths due to consumption of illicit liquor in states such as Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and Maharashtra. Despite periodic promises of reform following major incidents like the 2015 Malwani hooch tragedy, such measures have often remained incomplete. The latest tragedy in the Pune-Pimpri Chinchwad region, which claimed more than a dozen lives, has once again highlighted the persistence of illicit alcohol networks and the continuing public health risks associated with spurious liquor.

### Economic Drivers of Illicit Liquor

Illicit liquor remains attractive because it is significantly cheaper than legally sold alcohol. High state taxes on licensed liquor often push low-income consumers toward informal markets. Producers further increase profits by mixing industrial methanol with ethanol, which expands the volume of liquor at a negligible cost. This combination of strong consumer demand and high profit margins creates a thriving underground market despite the known dangers associated with adulterated alcohol.

### Governance and Regulatory Failures

A major weakness lies in the inadequate monitoring of industrial methanol, which can be diverted into illicit liquor production. Investigations following hooch tragedies frequently focus on retail vendors, while the upstream suppliers and organised networks behind the trade often escape scrutiny. Allegations of complicity or tolerance by local authorities and law-enforcement agencies have also surfaced in several cases. Moreover, even when arrests occur, conviction rates remain low, reducing the deterrent effect of enforcement measures.

### Deeper Structural Issues

The persistence of illicit liquor is linked to broader socioeconomic conditions. Many victims are daily-wage labourers who seek inexpensive alcohol as relief from physically demanding work and economic stress. Public health studies suggest that rising prices of legal alcohol push poorer consumers toward illicit alternatives, which account for an estimated 40% of alcohol consumption in India. Additionally, complete prohibition policies in states such as Bihar and Gujarat may unintentionally shift demand towards criminal networks where quality control and regulatory oversight are largely absent.

### Way Forward

Addressing the illicit liquor problem requires a comprehensive approach that goes beyond periodic crackdowns. Stronger systems for tracking and accounting for industrial methanol, stricter action against organised suppliers, and improved conviction rates are essential. Governments must also consider affordable and safer alternatives to reduce dependence on illicit alcohol among vulnerable groups.

#### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q.) It is a State where prohibition is in force. You are recently appointed as the Superintendent of Police of a district notorious for illicit distillation of liquor. The illicit liquor leads to many death, reported and unreported, and causes a major problem for the district authorities.

The approach till now had been to view it as a law and order problem and tackle it accordingly. Raids, arrest, police cases, and criminal trials – all these had only limited impact. The problem remains as serious as ever.

Your inspections show that the parts of the district where the distillation flourishes are economically, industrially and educationally backward. Agriculture is badly affected by poor irrigation facilities. Frequent clashes among communities gave boost to illicit distillation. No major initiatives had taken place in the past either from the government's side or from social organizations to improve the lot of the people.

Which new approach will you adopt to bring the problem under control? (GS IV – 2018)

#### RELEVANCE

*GS II : Issues relating to development and Health*

## Health survey calls for a nutrition rethink (Indian Express : 02-06-2026)

The National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6) highlights a worrying rise in obesity and lifestyle-related diseases in India. Between 2019-21 and 2023-24, the proportion of overweight or obese women increased from 24% to 30.7%, while among men it rose from 22.9% to 27.3%. Urban areas recorded significantly higher obesity levels than rural areas. The burden of diabetes is also increasing, with 20.9% of men and 17.8% of women reporting high blood sugar levels or being under medication. The findings indicate a growing shift towards non-communicable diseases as major public health concerns.

### Causes Behind the Trend

The rising prevalence of obesity and diabetes reflects India's ongoing epidemiological transition. As incomes have risen and urbanisation has accelerated, lifestyles have become increasingly sedentary, while dietary patterns have shifted towards refined carbohydrates, processed foods and calorie-dense diets. Improvements in controlling several communicable diseases have also increased the relative prominence of non-communicable diseases. These changes mirror trends seen in many developing economies, where economic growth and lifestyle transformations have contributed to higher rates of obesity and metabolic disorders.

### India's Double Burden of Malnutrition

Unlike many countries that addressed undernutrition before confronting obesity, India faces both challenges simultaneously. While adult obesity is rising rapidly, more than 31% of children remain underweight, and over 80% of infants aged 6-23 months do not receive an adequate diet. The coexistence of undernutrition and overnutrition reflects unequal access to nutritious food and highlights persistent deficiencies in dietary quality. This dual burden places additional pressure on public health systems and complicates nutrition policy design.

### Consequences and Policy Gaps

The combination of obesity and diabetes increases the risk of hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, kidney disorders, pancreatic ailments and certain cancers. Emerging evidence also points to rising childhood metabolic risks, with the Comprehensive Nutritional Survey reporting that 35% of children have adult-level triglycerides. A major concern is that nutrition interventions have often prioritised calorie intake over nutritional diversity. While food availability has improved, inadequate attention to balanced diets, dietary behaviour and household-level food choices continues to limit progress in achieving better health outcomes.

### Way Forward

Addressing India's growing disease burden requires a shift from a calorie-centric approach to a nutrition-centric strategy. Public health policies must promote dietary diversity, balanced nutrition, physical activity and early screening for lifestyle diseases. Greater emphasis should be placed on maternal awareness, family-level nutrition practices and the prevention of childhood obesity. The granular data generated by NFHS-6 can help governments design targeted interventions for vulnerable populations and create a more integrated response to both undernutrition and non-communicable diseases.

#### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q.) Poverty and malnutrition create a vicious cycle, adversely affecting human capital formation. What steps can be taken to break the cycle? (GS II - 2024)

#### Practice questions

Q.) With reference to the nutritional challenges highlighted by the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), consider the following statements:

1. India faces a "double burden of malnutrition", where undernutrition and obesity coexist within the population.
2. Rising obesity levels imply that undernutrition is no longer a significant public health concern in India.
3. The growing prevalence of obesity increases the risk of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disorders.

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

#### RELEVANCE

GS II : Issues relating to development and Health

## Market for charity (TH BusinessLine : 02-06-2026)

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has amended CSR rules to allow companies to invest up to 10% of their mandatory Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure in Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) bonds listed on Social Stock Exchanges (SSEs). The move aims to channel a portion of India's large CSR spending pool into the social sector through a regulated platform. Experts estimate that the reform could potentially unlock around ₹3,000 crore annually, providing a significant boost to a funding ecosystem that has remained underutilised since its launch.

### What is a Social Stock Exchange?

A Social Stock Exchange (SSE) is a dedicated segment of a stock exchange designed to connect investors and CSR contributors with social enterprises that generate measurable social impact. Eligible Not-for-Profit Organisations (NPOs) can register on the platform, disclose their social impact and raise funds through instruments such as ZCZP bonds, which provide no financial return but support social objectives. The SSE model seeks to combine transparency, accountability and impact measurement while improving access to finance for education, healthcare, environment and rural development.

### Why SSEs Have Struggled So Far

Despite their promise, SSEs have seen limited activity since their launch in FY23. Around 170 NPOs are registered, yet only 16 issuances (10%) mobilising about ₹42 crore. The platform faced two major hurdles: inadequate institutional participation and a heavy compliance burden involving audits, disclosures and impact reporting. At the same time, a large pool of CSR funds remained underutilised, with unspent CSR funds of BSE 200 companies amounting to ₹1,920 crore in FY25 and ₹1,708 crore in FY24.

### How the Amendment Addresses These Challenges

The amendment directly addresses these constraints by allowing investments in SSE-listed ZCZP bonds to count as CSR expenditure. Companies no longer need to independently track every stage of fund utilisation, while impact assessment and periodic disclosures are handled through the SSE framework. This reduces compliance costs, improves transparency and lowers concerns regarding greenwashing. Complementing this, SEBI has eased participation by reducing minimum subscription requirements and extending timelines for NPO registration, making the platform more accessible to both investors and social enterprises.

### Future Prospects

The reform is expected to attract participation from large corporates, banks, insurance companies and public sector undertakings, bringing substantial institutional capital into the social sector. Greater funding availability could encourage more NGOs to seek SSE registration, improving governance and impact measurement standards.

### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q.) Public charitable trusts have the potential to make India's development more inclusive as they relate to certain vital public issues. Comment. (GS II - 2024)

Q.) "Besides being a moral imperative of a Welfare State, primary health structure is a necessary precondition for sustainable development." Analyse. (GS II - 2021)

Q.) Which of the following are the objectives of 'National Nutrition Mission'? (2017)

1. To create awareness relating to malnutrition among pregnant women and lactating mothers.
2. To reduce the incidence of anemia among young children, adolescent girls and women.
3. To promote the consumption of millets, coarse cereals and unpolished rice.
4. To promote the consumption of poultry eggs.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only    b) 1, 2 and 3 only    c) 1, 2 and 4 only    d) 3 and 4 only

### RELEVANCE

GS III : Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, growth, development

## Industrial output slows to 4.9% in new data series

India's industrial output, measured through the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**, grew by **4.9% in April 2026** under the newly revised series with **2022-23** as the base year. Although industrial activity remained in expansion mode, growth was slower than the 5.8% recorded in April 2025 under the previous 2011-12 series. The report marks the first major industrial performance assessment under India's updated statistical framework and provides a fresh picture of the economy's industrial health.

### Sectoral Performance

Among the four sectoral indices, manufacturing remained the principal growth driver, expanding by 6.2%, while water supply, sewerage and waste management grew by 6.6% and electricity and gas supply by 4.9%. In contrast, mining and quarrying contracted by 5.1%. Within manufacturing, electrical equipment recorded strong growth of 19.2%, whereas sectors such as refined petroleum products, wearing apparel and wood products witnessed declines. Under the use-based classification, capital goods (16%) and infrastructure goods (7.1%) showed robust growth, indicating improving investment activity.

### Government Support

The 2026 revision updates the IIP base year from 2011-12 to 2022-23, aligning it with the recently revised GDP and GVA series. The new index expands coverage by including water supply, sewerage, waste management and gas supply activities, while providing greater sectoral granularity. The product basket has been enlarged from 839 items to 1,042 items, and item groups increased from 407 to 463. New classifications such as renewable and non-renewable electricity generation, and detailed mineral categories, make the index more representative of the contemporary economy.

### STATIC CORE LINKAGE

**What is IIP?**  
**Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** is a composite indicator measuring short-term changes in industrial output  
**Compiled by:** Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation  
**Frequency:** Monthly  
**Purpose:** Tracks industrial growth trends and economic activity  
**Current Release Timeline:** Released within 42 days of reference month

#### Features of the revised IIP

- **New base year:** The revised IIP series shall have base year as 2022–23
- **Expands industrial coverage:** includes minor minerals, rare earth minerals, gas supply, and waste management; also introducing separate sub-indices for renewable energy and different categories of minerals.
- **Revised Product Basket and Classification:** Product Basket: Expanded to 1,042 products classified into 463 item groups. This is aligned with National Industrial Classification Framework (NIC-2025)
- **Geometric Mean Method:** Adopted to ensure smoother and statistically consistent linking between the old 2011–12 series and the new 2022–23 series.
- **Greater Sectoral Granularity:** Separate sub-indices for renewable energy and rare earth minerals improve sector-specific policy analysis and industrial monitoring.
- **Dynamic Factory Panel:** Newly commissioned factories can now be added while permanently closed units may be removed to maintain representativeness of industrial production data.
- **International Standards Compliance:** India's IIP release timeline follows data dissemination norms prescribed by the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund.

### Significance and Future Prospects

The revised IIP offers a more accurate measure of India's industrial structure and changing production patterns. Updated sectoral weights based on the latest GVA data improve the reliability of industrial growth estimates and policy analysis. The strong growth in capital goods and infrastructure-related industries suggests continued investment momentum, while the slowdown in consumer goods and contraction in mining indicate areas requiring attention. Overall, the new series provides policymakers, businesses and investors with a more comprehensive tool for assessing industrial performance and economic trends.

### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



- Q.) Increase in absolute and per capital real GNP do not connote a higher level of economics development, if (2018)
- Industrial output fails to keep pace with agriculture output.
  - Agriculture output fails to keep pace with industrial output.
  - Poverty and unemployment increase.
  - Imports grow faster than exports.

### Practice questions

Q.) With reference to the revised Index of Industrial Production (IIP) series, consider the following statements:

- The base year of the IIP has been revised from 2011–12 to 2022–23 to align it with the revised GDP and GVA series.
- The revised IIP expands its coverage by including activities such as water supply, sewerage, waste management and gas supply.
- The product basket covered under the IIP has been reduced to improve statistical efficiency and ease of compilation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

### RELEVANCE

GS III : Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, growth, development

## India's seafood exports hit record 8.46 billion dollars, shrimp powers the surge

India's marine exports achieved a historic milestone in 2025-26, reaching an all-time high of \$8.46 billion (about ₹72,000 crore) with export volumes touching 19.72 lakh tonnes. Compared to the previous year, exports grew by 16.13% in volume and 13.44% in value, reflecting the increasing competitiveness of India's seafood sector despite challenging global market conditions.

### Key Driver of Growth – Frozen Shrimp

The growth was led by **frozen shrimp**, which accounted for over **66% of total seafood export earnings**. India exported **7.93 lakh tonnes of frozen shrimp worth \$5.62 billion**, with the **United States** remaining the largest market, followed by China, the European Union, Southeast Asia and Japan. While *L. vannamei* shrimp dominated exports, black tiger shrimp recorded the fastest growth, expanding by over 40% in both volume and value.

### Government Support

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) and the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF), promote aquaculture, disease management, fish processing and modern post-harvest infrastructure. Since 2015, the government has invested ₹39,272 crore in fisheries development. The **Marine Products Export Development Authority** further supports exports through market promotion, training, international outreach and buyer-seller engagements, while quality standards are ensured by the Export Inspection Council.

### Infrastructure Strength and India's Global Position

India's export performance is backed by strong production and logistics capabilities. **Visakhapatnam** emerged as the largest seafood export gateway, followed by **Jawaharlal Nehru Port**, while **Kochi** accounted for **nearly 10% of export earnings**. Dried seafood exports crossed 4.1 lakh tonnes, recording over 62% growth in volume and nearly 70% growth in value. India is now the second-largest aquaculture producer in the world and contributes about 8% of global fish production.

### Significance and Future Prospects

The fisheries sector has become a key contributor to India's food security, employment and export earnings, supporting nearly 30 million fishers and fish farmers directly and many more across the value chain. Rising global demand, expanding aquaculture capacity, improved infrastructure and sustained policy support are expected to strengthen India's position in international seafood markets, making fisheries an increasingly important pillar of inclusive and export-led economic growth.

### PYQ Compass

UPSC questions previously asked from the themes discussed on this page.



Q.) Defining blue revolution, explain the problems and strategies for pisciculture development in India. (2018)



### Approved Activities under

## PMMSY



### RELEVANCE

GS III : Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, growth, development

## Practice Questions and answers

Q.) With reference to the Delhi High Court's guidelines on de-indexing of names and the Right to be Forgotten, consider the following statements:

1. De-indexing removes a judgment or court order permanently from public records and judicial databases.
2. The relief may be granted to individuals acquitted or discharged of criminal charges, victims of sexual offences, and persons involved in matrimonial or private civil disputes.
3. Public figures and persons convicted of serious crimes are generally not entitled to such relief.
4. De-indexing prevents a person's name from appearing in name-based internet searches while allowing access to the record through case details, citations or court records.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 2 and 4 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Ans : (c) 2, 3 and 4 only**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. De-indexing does not remove judgments from public records; it only restricts name-based searchability.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct as per the Delhi High Court's guidelines on the Right to be Forgotten.
- Statement 4 is correct because records remain accessible through case numbers, citations, court details and other identifiers, but not through a simple name search.

Q.) With reference to the persistence of illicit (spurious) liquor in India, consider the following statements:

1. High prices and taxes on legally sold alcoholic beverages can encourage the consumption of illicit liquor.
2. Methanol is often added to illicit liquor because it is a costlier alternative to ethanol and enhances profitability.
3. Weak enforcement and inadequate monitoring across production and distribution networks contribute to the spread of illicit liquor.

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

**Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only**

**Statement 1: Correct** Higher taxes and prices on legally manufactured liquor can make illicit liquor a cheaper alternative for consumers, particularly in low-income segments. This price differential often creates demand for unregulated alcoholic products.

**Statement 2: Incorrect** Methanol is not used because it is a costlier substitute for ethanol. On the contrary, illicit producers may use methanol or methanol-contaminated industrial alcohol because it is cheaper and more easily available. However, methanol is highly toxic and can cause poisoning, blindness, organ failure and death even in small quantities.

**Statement 3: Correct** The spread of illicit liquor is often linked to weaknesses in enforcement, including inadequate monitoring of production units, diversion of industrial alcohol, gaps in supply-chain regulation and insufficient inspections at various stages of distribution and retail sale.

## Practice Questions and answers

Q.) With reference to the nutritional challenges highlighted by the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), consider the following statements:

1. India faces a "double burden of malnutrition", where undernutrition and obesity coexist within the population.
2. Rising obesity levels imply that undernutrition is no longer a significant public health concern in India.
3. The growing prevalence of obesity increases the risk of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular disorders.

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

**Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only**

**Statement 1: Correct** The NFHS highlights that India faces a double burden of malnutrition, where problems of undernutrition (stunting, wasting and underweight) coexist alongside rising levels of overweight and obesity. This means different forms of malnutrition are affecting different sections of the population simultaneously.

**Statement 2: Incorrect** The rise in obesity does not mean undernutrition has disappeared. India continues to face significant challenges related to child stunting, wasting, anaemia and underweight populations. The coexistence of both conditions is precisely why it is termed a "double burden."

**Statement 3: Correct** Obesity is a major risk factor for several non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and stroke. Rising obesity rates therefore create additional pressures on public health systems and healthcare expenditure.

Q.) With reference to the revised Index of Industrial Production (IIP) series, consider the following statements:

1. The base year of the IIP has been revised from 2011–12 to 2022–23 to align it with the revised GDP and GVA series.
2. The revised IIP expands its coverage by including activities such as water supply, sewerage, waste management and gas supply.
3. The product basket covered under the IIP has been reduced to improve statistical efficiency and ease of compilation.

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

**Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only**

**Statement 1: Correct** The revised IIP updates the base year from 2011–12 to 2022–23, ensuring consistency with the recently revised GDP and GVA series and making industrial statistics more representative of the current economy.

**Statement 2: Correct** The new series broadens industrial coverage by incorporating water supply, sewerage, waste management and gas supply activities, sectors that were previously not adequately represented.

**Statement 3: Incorrect** The revision has actually expanded the product basket from 839 items to 1,042 items, while item groups have increased from 407 to 463, improving representativeness rather than reducing coverage.