

December 19, 2023

Nationally Determined Contribution:

(Importance level-4/5)

- **As a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement, India has achieved its two Nationally Determined Contribution targets.**
- To reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level. To achieve about 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030.

INDIA'S CLIMATE TARGETS: EXISTING AND NEW			
Target (for 2030)	Existing: First NDC (2015)	New: Updated NDC (2022)	Progress
Emission intensity reduction	33-35 per cent from 2005 levels	45 per cent from 2005 levels	24 per cent reduction achieved in 2016 itself. Estimated to have reached 30 per cent
Share of non-fossil fuels in installed electricity capacity	40 per cent	50 per cent	41.5 per cent achieved by the end of June this year
Carbon sink	Creation of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of additional sink through afforestation	Same as earlier	Not clear.

IMF:

(Importance level-4/5)

- **India's robust growth due to key sector reforms such as digitization and infrastructure has made it a star performer, according to the International Monetary Fund.**

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- The IMF predicts India will contribute over 16% to global growth in current year, making it one of the fastest growing large emerging markets. India's prudent macroeconomics policies is the major growth driver, says the report.



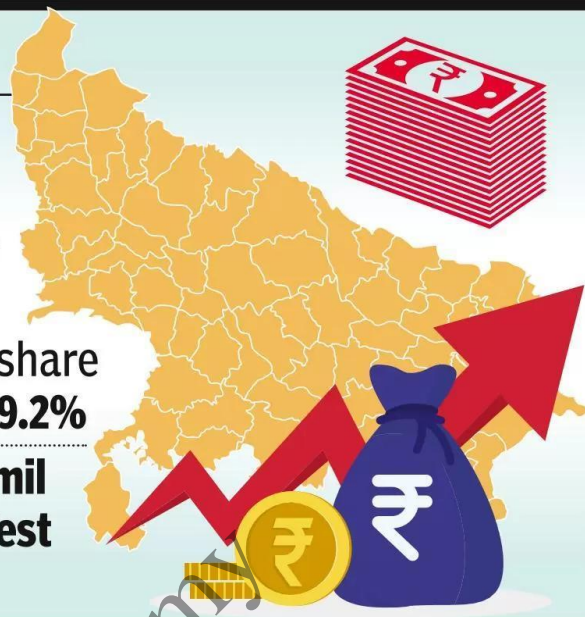
GDP:

(Importance level-5/5)

- **Maharashtra leads with a GDP share of 15.7 percent of the country's total GDP, Uttar Pradesh follows closely with a GDP share of 9.2 percent. Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the second largest economy of India.**
- Tamil Nadu bagged 3rd position with 9.1% of India's GDP share. Gujarat (8.2%) and West Bengal(7.5%) bagged the 4th and 5th spot respectively.

SURGING AHEAD

- **UP is second largest state in the country in GDP share after Maharashtra**, according to online blogging platform **soic.in**
- **Maharashtra** leads with a **GDP share of 15.7%**, **UP** follows closely with **9.2%**
- **UP** has outpaced states like **Tamil Nadu (9.1%)**, **Gujarat (8.2%)**, & **West Bengal (7.5%)**



Child marriage:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ A study in “The Lancet Global Health” journal revealed that **one in five girls and one in six boys in India are married, with progress to eliminate child marriage stagnating recently.**
- ➔ Girl Child marriages increased in six states including Manipur, Punjab, Tripura and West Bengal while eight states including Chhattisgarh, Goa, Manipur and Punjab witnessed a rise in boy child marriages.

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Post Office Bill:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Rajya Sabha passed the Post Office Bill which repealed and replaced the Post Office Act of 1898. The bill, according to the government will ensure the effective functioning of the Postal Department as a messenger service and as a provider of banking facilities.**
- ➔ The new legislation is a reflection of the way post offices and postmen have been transformed into a service-delivery institution.

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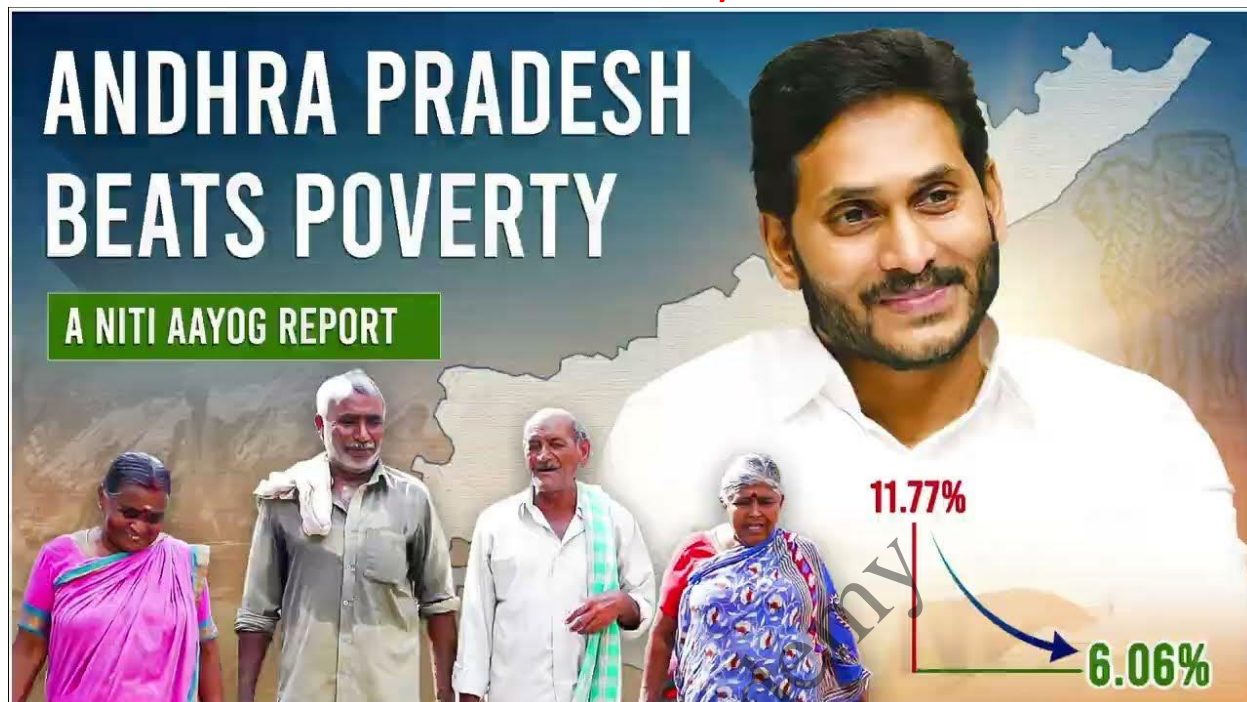
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NITI Aayog:

(Importance level-4/5)

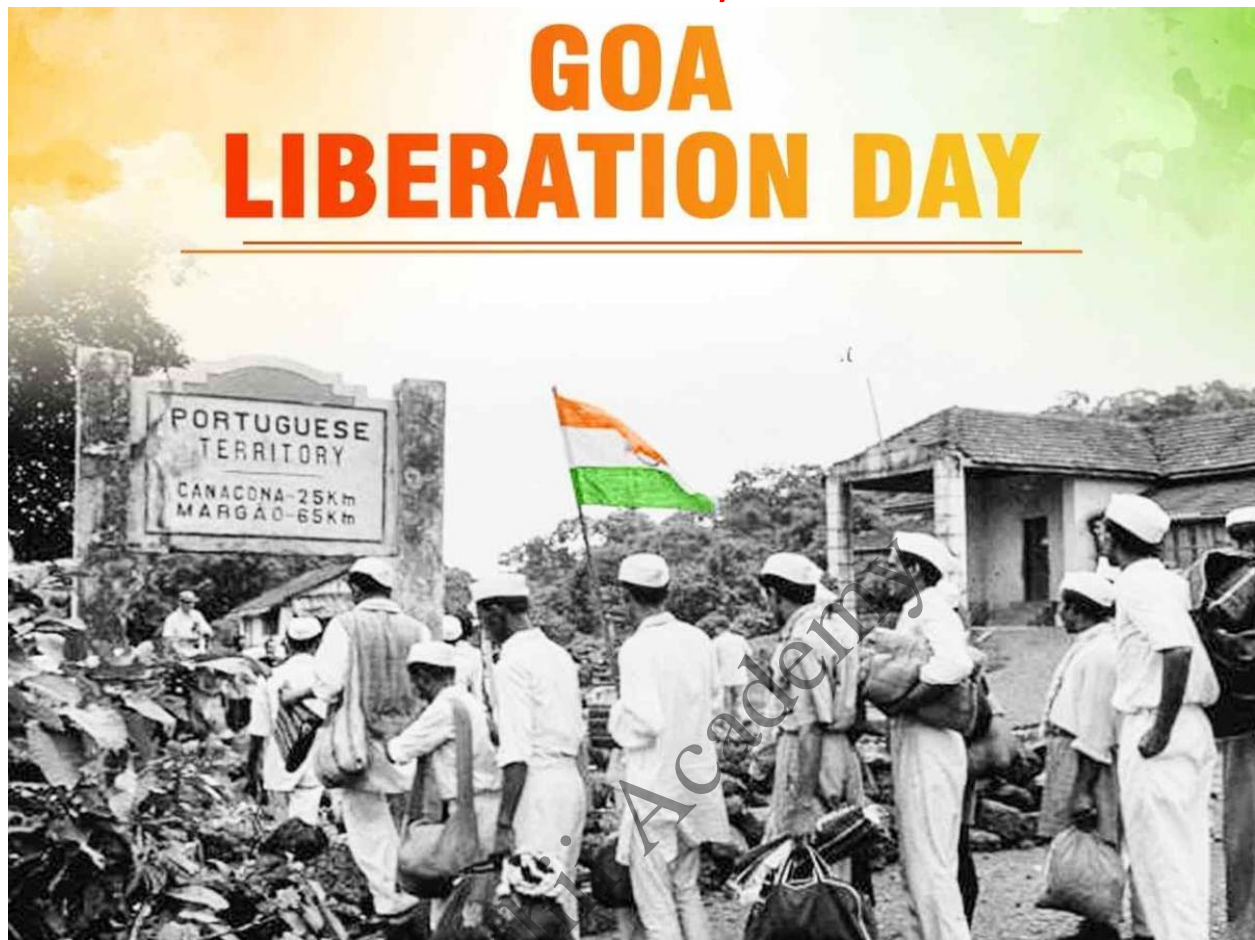
- **Andhra Pradesh has secured the first spot with a score of 94 in this year's reform index released recently by the NITI Aayog.**
- With a score of 92, Uttar Pradesh has been ranked second. Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Telangana have performed better than other Indian States.
- NITI Aayog launched the index in 2016 to rank states and UTs based on the implementation of provisions proposed under the model APMC Act.



Goa Liberation Day 2023:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **Goa Liberation Day 2023, celebrated annually on December 19, holds special significance as it commemorates the liberation of the state from Portuguese colonial rule.**
- ➔ The year 2023 marks the 62nd anniversary of this momentous occasion, highlighting the resilience and determination of the people of Goa in their quest for freedom.
- ➔ The history of Goa Liberation Day is rooted in the struggle against colonial tyranny. Goa, with a cultural and religious identity distinct from the rest of India, remained under Portuguese rule for about 451 years. Despite India gaining independence from British rule in 1947, the Portuguese refused to relinquish control over Goa.
- ➔ The Indian government engaged in diplomatic discussions, but when negotiations failed, it resorted to the military option to liberate the region.
- ➔ In 1961, on December 19, the Indian Army successfully captured Goa, marking the end of centuries of Portuguese colonial rule. The liberation was a pivotal moment in Goa's history, symbolizing the triumph of the people's will over oppression.



World Bank's latest report:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **The World Bank's latest report reveals India's leading position in global remittances, reaching \$125 billion in 2023.**
- ➔ While remittances to low- and middle-income countries grew by 3.8%, challenges include declines in the Middle East and North Africa. The report underscores the crucial role of inclusive labor markets and social protection policies.



‘Golden Owl’:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ In a remarkable display of excellence, three officers from the Indian Armed Forces, undergoing the prestigious Command and Staff Course at Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) in Sri Lanka, have been honored with the coveted ‘Golden Owl’ award for their outstanding performance.
- ➔ The award, presented by Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, recognizes their exceptional achievements in analytical skills, strategic thinking, and their potential for future leadership.

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NSDC & Saudi Arabia:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has recently inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the government of Saudi Arabia, marking a significant step towards protecting the rights of skilled labourers from India.**
- ➔ This collaboration aims to enhance transparency and ensure the well-being of Indian workers employed in Saudi Arabia.
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Government of India and the Asian Development Bank:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) recently solidified their collaboration with the signing of a \$250 million policy-based loan on December 15, 2023.**
- ➔ This financial support, part of the Industrial Corridor Development Programme (Subprogramme 2), aims to enhance manufacturing competitiveness, fortify national supply chains, and integrate with global value chains.

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Under-19:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ **In a fantastic cricket match, Ashiqur Rahman Shibli helped Bangladesh's Under-19 team win a big tournament called Under-19 Asia.**
- ➔ Shibli did amazingly well with his bat, scoring a second century in five matches, leading Bangladesh to an impressive win over UAE.
- ➔ The Bangladesh team played brilliantly throughout the tournament, winning all five matches they played. In the final game against UAE, they showed their skills and won the championship.

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AIFF:

(Importance level-4/5)

- In just over 6 years since its inception, Zinc Football Academy, a CSR initiative of Hindustan Zinc, has achieved yet another significant milestone by being awarded the prestigious 'Elite 3-star' rating by the All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- This recognition firmly places Zinc Football among the best youth development academies in India, marking a historic moment in the academy's journey.
- Zinc Football Academy's program operates on a full-scholarship model, demonstrating its commitment to fostering and nurturing young footballing talent.

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ITF:

(Importance level-4/5)

- ➔ In a fitting recognition of their outstanding achievements on the tennis court, Novak Djokovic and Aryna Sabalenka have been named the 2023 ITF World Champions by the International Tennis Federation.
- ➔ Both players showcased remarkable consistency and skill throughout the year, earning this prestigious honor. Djokovic, in particular, set a new record with his eighth ITF World Champion award.

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