

Global status report on the public health response to dementia’.

Paper II: Health and Issues related Elderly

Why in News

Recently, the **WHO (World Health Organisation)** released a report ‘**Global status report on the public health response to dementia’**.

- It takes stock of progress made to date towards the 2025 global targets for dementia laid out in the WHO’s ‘**Global Dementia Action Plan**’ published in 2017.

Define Dementia

- It is a **syndrome** – usually of a chronic or progressive nature – that leads to **deterioration in cognitive function** (i.e. the ability to process thought) beyond what

might be expected from the **usual consequences of biological ageing.**

- It **affects** memory, thinking, orientation, comprehension, calculation, learning capacity, language, and judgement.

- However, the **consciousness is not affected.**

- 65% of total deaths **due to dementia are women**, and disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) due to dementia are roughly 60% higher in women than in men.

What are the Symptoms:

- **Memory loss, Difficulties with thinking,** Visual perception, Self-management, Problem solving or language and the ability to focus and pay attention.

- **Personality changes,** like depression, agitation, paranoia, and mood swings.

Reasons:

- When **brain cells are damaged** then dementia may occur. It can be **caused by a head injury, a stroke, a brain tumour** or due to **HIV infection**.

· Treatment:

- There is **currently no treatment available to cure dementia**, though numerous new treatments are being investigated in various stages of clinical trials.

· Major findings

- Dementia is currently the **seventh leading cause of death** among all diseases and one of the **major causes of disability** and dependency among older people worldwide.
- More than **55 million people** (8.1% of women and 5.4% of men over 65 years) are **living with dementia**.

- This number is estimated to rise to 78 million by 2030 and to 139 million by 2050.
- WHO's **Western Pacific Region has the highest number of people with dementia** (20.1 million), followed by the European Region (14.1 million).

• WHO's Efforts:

- **Global Action Plan on the Public Health Response to Dementia 2017-2025:**
 - It provides a comprehensive blueprint for addressing dementia.
- **Global Dementia Observatory:**
 - It is an international surveillance platform to **facilitate monitoring and sharing of information** on dementia policies, service delivery, epidemiology and research.
- **Guidelines on Risk Reduction of Cognitive Decline and Dementia:**

- It provides **evidence-based recommendations** on interventions for reducing modifiable risk factors for dementia.
- **Mental Health Gap Action Programme:**
 - It is a resource for **generalists, particularly in low- and middle-income countries**, to help them provide first-line care for mental, neurological and substance use disorders.
- **Indian Initiatives:**
 - **Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India:**
 - It **calls for the government to have its plan or policy on dementia** which must be implemented in all states and funded and monitored by the health ministry.

- **National Health Mission:**
 - It envisages achievement of universal access to equitable, affordable & quality health care services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs.

Source: IE

Karbi Anglong Agreement

Paper 3 -- Linkages between Development and Spread of Extremism.



In News

The Centre signed a tripartite agreement with five insurgent groups from the region and the state government.

Karbi Anglong region

- 1) Assam state's largest district administered by Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council
- 2) Tribal groups — Karbi, Dimasa, Bodo, Kuki, Hmar, Tiwa, Garo, Man (Tai speakers), Rengma Naga

Background

- 1) The Karbi have been demanding a separate state since 1946.
- 2) Later, their movement took the shape of an insurgency which intensified in the 1990s.

Salient features of the agreement

- 1) A special development package of Rs. 1000 crore will be allocated over five years by the Central Government and the Assam Govt.
- 2) In this agreement the Karbi armed groups have agreed to renounce violence and to engage in a peaceful democratic process established by the law of the land.
- 3) The Government of Assam will set up a Karbi Welfare Council for Karbi people outside the region.

General measures to tackle insurgency

- 1) Political - give autonomy, strike agreements
- 2) Economic - Infra development, special packages
- 3) Social - preserve culture and languages
- 4) Security - special forces and bilateral exercises

Safe Northeast

- 1) The year 2019 and 2020 saw the lowest number of insurgency related incidents and casualties of civilians and security forces during the last two decades
- 2) Vision of 'Insurgency Free Prosperous North East'
- 3) In comparison to 2014, there has been an 80 percent reduction in insurgency incidents in the year 2020

Recent agreements

NLFT Agreement (Tripura), Bru Refugee Rehabilitation Agreement and the Bodo Peace Accord

Source:PIB

WTO Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights

Paper III: Issues relating to Intellectual Property Rights

What is Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights ?

- 1) The TRIPS Agreement, which came into effect on 1 January 1995, is to date the most comprehensive multilateral agreement on intellectual property.
- 2) Covers: copyright and related rights; trademarks including service marks; geographical indications including appellations of origin; industrial designs; patents including the protection of new varieties of plants; the layout-designs of integrated circuits; and undisclosed information including trade secrets and test data.
- 3) Standards, Enforcement and Dispute Resolution

4) Applies to all WTO members, “minimum standards” agreement

Features

1) Article 31 allows compulsory licensing and government use of a patent without the authorization of its owner.

- o Authorization, given by a government, to use a patented invention without the consent of the patent-holder

- o Under Section 92 of the 1970 Indian Patents Act, the central government has the power to allow compulsory licenses to be issued at any time in case of a national emergency or circumstances of extreme urgency.

2) In 2001, the WTO signed the Doha Declaration, which clarified that in a public health emergency, governments could compel companies to license

their patents to manufacturers, even if they did not think the offered price was acceptable.

3) Allows members to exclude some types of plant and animal inventions from patenting in their countries.

Related

Process and product patents, National IPR Policy, Berne Convention, Paris Convention, Rome Convention, Laws in India related to IPR

Source:Indian Express

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana

Paper II: Government policies and interventions



Why in News

More than 28.68 crore loans for an amount of **Rs. 14.96 lakh crore** have been sanctioned by banks, NBFCs and MFIs since the launch of **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)**.

About Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY):

- It was **launched by the government in 2015** for providing **loans up to Rs. 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro-enterprises.**
- **MUDRA**, which stands for **Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd.**, is a financial institution set up by the Government.
- It **provides funding** to the non-corporate small business sector **through various last-mile financial institutions** like Banks, **Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)** and **Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs).**
- **MUDRA does not lend directly to micro-entrepreneurs/individuals.**

Three Products:

- MUDRA has created three products i.e. '**Shishu**', '**Kishore**' and '**Tarun**' as per the stage of growth and funding needs of the beneficiary micro unit.

1)Shishu: Covering loans up to Rs. 50,000.

2)Kishore: Covering loans above Rs. 50,000 and up to Rs. 5 lakh.

3)Tarun: Covering loans above Rs. 5 lakh and up to Rs. 10 lakh.

- Loans under this scheme are **collateral-free loans**.

Achievements:

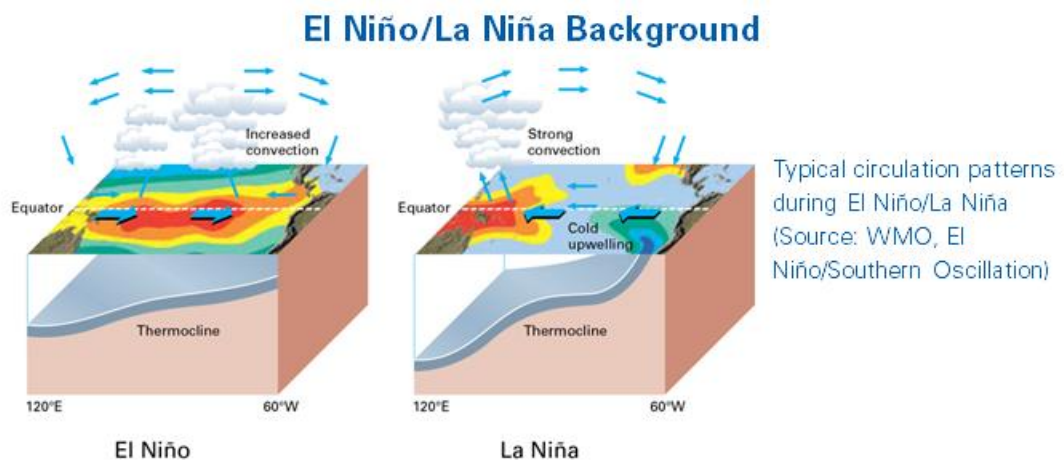
- **Loans** have been given to **disadvantaged sections of society** such as **women entrepreneurs, SC/ST/OBC borrowers, Minority community borrowers, etc.** The focus has also been on **new entrepreneurs**.

- As per a survey conducted by Ministry of Labour and Employment, PMMY helped in **generation of 1.12 crore net additional employment from 2015 to 2018.**
- Out of the **1.12 crore** of estimated increase in employment, **women accounted for 69 lakh (62%).**

Source:PIB

El Niño and La Niña events

Paper I:Geography



Why in News

climate change can cause extreme and more frequent El Niño and La Niña events.

The findings have been obtained **using one of South Korea's fastest supercomputers, Aleph.**

Findings:

- 1) **Increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide**
 - 2) **El Niño events will lose heat to the atmosphere more quickly**
 - 3) **reduced temperature difference between the eastern and western tropical Pacific**
 - 4) **There can be a weakening of Tropical Instability Waves (TIWs) in the projected future which can cause a disruption of the La Niña event.**
- **TIWs** are a dominant feature of monthly variability in the equatorial Pacific and Atlantic Ocean.

- **ENSO:**
 - **El Nino and the Southern Oscillation**, also known as ENSO is a **periodic fluctuation in sea surface temperature (El Niño) and the air pressure of the overlying atmosphere (Southern Oscillation)** across the **equatorial Pacific Ocean**.
 - **El Nino and La Nina** are complex weather patterns resulting from variations in ocean temperatures in the Equatorial Pacific Region. They are **opposite phases of** what is known as the **ENSO cycle**.
 - El Nino and La Nina episodes **typically last nine to 12 months**, but some prolonged events may last for years.

El Nino:

- El Nino is a **climate pattern that describes the unusual warming of**

surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

- It is the “**warm phase**” of ENSO.
- It occurs **more frequently than La Nina.**
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- **Impact:**
 - The warmer waters **cause the Pacific jet stream to move south of its neutral position.** With this shift, **areas in the northern US and Canada are dryer and warmer** than usual. But in the US Gulf Coast and Southeast, **these periods are wetter** than usual and have increased flooding.
 - As El Nino brings rain to South America, it **brings droughts to Indonesia and Australia.**

- El Niño also has a **strong effect on marine life off the Pacific coast.**
 - During normal conditions, **upwelling** brings water from the depths to the surface; this water is cold and nutrient rich.
 - During El Niño, **upwelling weakens or stops altogether.** Without the nutrients from the deep, there are fewer phytoplankton off the coast. This affects fish that eat phytoplankton and, in turn, affects everything that eats fish.
 - The warmer waters **can also bring tropical species, like yellowtail and albacore tuna,** into areas that are normally too cold.
- **La Nina:**
 - La Nina, the “**cool phase**” of **ENSO**, is a pattern that describes the unusual cooling of the tropical eastern Pacific.

- La Nina events **may last between one and three years**, unlike El Nino, which usually lasts no more than a year.
- Both phenomena tend to peak during the **Northern Hemisphere winter**.

Impact:

- Off the west coast of the Americas, **upwelling increases**, bringing cold, nutrient-rich water to the surface.
- It usually has **a positive impact on the fishing industry of western South America**.
- It can also lead to **a more severe hurricane season**.
- Causes the **jet stream** to move northward and to weaken over the eastern Pacific.
- **Causes drought in the South American countries** of Peru and Ecuador.

- There are **increased temperatures in Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and off the Somalian coast.** It also leads to **heavy floods in Australia.**

Source: Indian Express