



**UPSC  
Mentorship**  
A Unit of Mentorship India

# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

13 July 2024



SOURCES



## Table of Contents

1. Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple Tiger Reserve.....	2
2. Centralised recruitment for tribal residential schools leads to language, cultural barriers.....	3
3. Former Karnataka Minister Nagendra held in PMLA case.....	4
4. India shows good progress on SDGs: NITI Aayog report.....	5
5. GST system reforms panel rejigged.....	7
6. The verdict of 2024, its amplified message.....	9
7. The PDS impact on household expenditure.....	10
8. Kejriwal gets interim bail in Delhi excise policy case.....	12
9. New species of dogfish shark discovered in Kerala harbour.....	12
10. Centre declares June 25 as 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas'.....	13
Daily Quiz.....	15
Solutions.....	17



## GS I

### 1. Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple Tiger Reserve

Source: The Hindu

Context: Female jumbo found dead in Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple Tiger Reserve

**Location:**

- It is located in the Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka
- This unique Bio-geographical habitat is in the middle of the bridge between the Western and Eastern Ghats.
- The tiger reserve derives its name from 'BILIGIRI ', the white rocky cliff which has a temple of Lord 'VISHNU', locally known as 'Rangaswamy'.
- It was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2011.
- The total area of the Tiger Reserve is 574.82 km.
- Vegetation: The forests of BRT Tiger Reserve are principally of dry deciduous type and are interspersed with moist deciduous, semi-evergreen, evergreen and shola patches occurring at varying altitudes.
- Flora: The major species include: Anogeissus latifolia, Dalbergia paniculata, Grewia teliaefolia, Terminalia alata, Terminalia bellirica, Terminalia paniculata etc.
- Fauna: Animals including tiger, elephant, leopard, wild dog, bison, sambar, spotted deer, barking deer, four-horned antelope, sloth bear, wild boar, common langur, bonnet macaque, varieties of reptiles, birds, etc., are found in the Tiger Reserve.



## GS II

### 2. Centralised recruitment for tribal residential schools leads to language, cultural barriers

Source: The Hindu, Page 1

Context: The recent centralisation of recruitment for tribal residential schools across the country, which introduced Hindi competency as a mandatory requirement, has resulted in a flood of requests for transfers.



## Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)

- EMRS started in the year 1997-98 to impart quality education to ST children in remote areas to enable them to access the best opportunities in education and to bring them at par with the general population.
- EMRS are established in the States/UTs from the grants received under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India.

### Features:

- EMRS are co-educational residential schools from Class VI to XII.
- Eklavya schools will be on par with Navodaya Vidyalayas and will have special facilities for preserving local art and culture besides providing training in sports and skill development.
- Each school has a capacity of 480 students with equal number of seats for boys and girls
- Non-ST students can be admitted in these schools on seats up to 10% of the total seats.
- CBSE curriculum is followed in these schools, and education is completely free.
- The National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), an autonomous organisation, has been set up under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to establish and manage EMRS across the country.

### Government Target:

As per the Budget 2018-19, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal population will have an EMRS by the year 2022.

### What are the New Guidelines?

- The new guidelines in 2018-19 gave the Union government more power to sanction schools and manage them.
- A National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) was set up and entrusted with the management of the State Education Society for Tribal Students (SESTS), which would run the EMRS on the ground.
- The new guidelines set a target of setting up an EMRS in every tribal sub-district and introduced a “population criteria” for setting them up.
- One EMRS will be set-up per sub-district that has at least a 20,000-odd Scheduled Tribe (ST) population, which must be 50% of the total population in that area.
- The minimum land requirement for setting up an EMRS was reduced from 20 acres to 15 acres.

### What are the Challenges?

- **Requirement of 15-acre Area:** As per the Standing Committee Report, requirement of 15-acre area is making the identification and acquisition of land troublesome, especially in hilly areas, leftwing extremism-affected areas and the northeast.



- **Population Criteria:** The Standing Committee noted that the population criteria is depriving a scattered tribal population of the benefit of EMRS. Sometimes, when the population criteria are fulfilled, 15-acre plots are not available.
- **Shortage of Teachers:** Despite the setting up of the NESTS, there was a shortage of teachers. Though the new guidelines allowed NESTS to suggest measures for teacher recruitment, they never made them mandatory for the States to follow. This led to non-uniformity in the quality of teachers, not enough recruitment in reserved positions, and a large number of schools recruiting teachers contractually, in a bid to save on salary expenses.

### 3. Former Karnataka Minister Nagendra held in PMLA case

Source: The Hindu, Page 5

Context: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) arrested former Karnataka Minister B. Nagendra, Congress MLA, on Friday in connection with the alleged scam in the State-run Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd., where funds up to ₹88 crore were allegedly embezzled.

What is the ED?

- The ED is a multi-disciplinary organisation mandated with investigation of offences of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws. It functions under the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance.
- **Structure:** Headquarters: ED with its headquarters at New Delhi, is headed by the Director of Enforcement. There are five regional offices at Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Kolkata and Delhi headed by Special Directors of Enforcement.
- **Recruitment:** Recruitment of the officers is done directly and by drawing officers from other investigation agencies. It comprises officers of IRS (Indian Revenue Services), IPS (Indian Police Services) and IAS (Indian Administrative Services) such as Income Tax officer, Excise officer, Customs officer, and police.
- **Tenure:** Two years, but directors' tenure can be extended from two to five years by giving three annual extensions. The Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946 (for ED) and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003 (for CV Commissioners) have been amended to give the government the power to keep the two chiefs in their posts for one year after they have completed their two-year terms.

**Functions:**

- **COFEPOSA:** Under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 (COFEPOSA), this Directorate is empowered to sponsor cases of preventive detention with regard to contraventions of FEMA.



- **Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA):** It is a civil law enacted to consolidate and amend the laws relating to facilitate external trade and payments and to promote the orderly development and maintenance of foreign exchange market in India.
- ED has been given the **responsibility to conduct investigation into suspected contraventions of foreign exchange laws and regulations**, to adjudicate and impose penalties on those adjudged to have contravened the law.
- The ED has been entrusted with the **responsibility of executing the provisions of PMLA by conducting investigation to trace the assets** derived from proceeds of crime, to provisionally attach the property and to ensure prosecution of the offenders and confiscation of the property by the Special court.

## GS III

### 4. India shows good progress on SDGs: NITI Aayog report

Source: The Hindu, Page 10

**Context:** NITI Aayog on Friday released its fourth evaluation report of India's progress on the 16 sustainable development goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 by all United Nations member countries, giving India a score of 71 out of 100, as compared to 57 in 2018.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):**

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015.
- **Focus:** It identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 specific targets to be achieved by 2030.
- **Mandate:** The programme is internationally non-binding, but all countries have committed to work towards these goals as transiting to sustainable development is a common global endeavour.

**Difference of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):**

- The Sustainable Development Goals replaced the MDGs.
- The SDGs are broader in scope than the MDGs and reflect the view that development needs to be economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable.
- There are 17 SDGs focused on five elements: people, planet, peace, prosperity, and partnership.

**Arising Concerns**



### Slow Progress:

- According to available reports, progress is off track.
- From 2015 to 2019, there were some improvements, although insufficient to achieve the goals.
- The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and other global crises have virtually slowed down the progress.
- World leaders agreed to step-up efforts to deliver SDGs by 2030. But how far these global pronouncements are operative at the ground level remains a big question.

### Less Attention:

- Little or no attention towards the goals related to the environment and biodiversity (including responsible consumption and production, climate action, life below water, and life on land) is a matter of great concern.
- The present trend, if it continues, will lead to accelerated environmental degradation and the purpose of transiting towards sustainability defeated.

### Actions Required:

#### The UN Sustainable Development Goals Report, 2023 identified five key areas for urgent action:

- Commitment of governments to seven years of accelerated, sustained and transformative actions to deliver on the promises of SDGs.
- Concrete, integrated and targeted government policies and actions to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality and to end the war on nature with a focus on advancing the rights of women and girls and empowering the most vulnerable.
- Strengthening of national and subnational capacity, accountability, and public institutions to deliver accelerated progress.
- Recommitment of the international community to deliver and mobilise resources to assist developing nations.
- Continued strengthening of the UN development system.

### About Sustainable Development:

- These are the developments that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- According to the Brundtland Commission, in its report Our Common Future (1987):
- Sustainable development calls for concerted efforts towards building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for people and the planet.

### Role of NITI Aayog in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals:

- NITI Aayog has the twin mandate to oversee the adoption and monitoring of the SDGs in the country and promote competitive and cooperative federalism among States and UTs.
- The task at hand for NITI Aayog is not just to periodically collect data on SDGs but to proactively realise the goals and targets.



### Brundtland Report:

- In 1987, the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), which had been set up in 1983, published a report entitled “Our Common Future”.
- The document came to be known as the “Brundtland Report” after the Commission’s chairwoman, Gro Harlem Brundtland.

## 5. GST system reforms panel rejigged

Source: The Hindu, Page-11

**Context:** Reconstituted GoM is tasked with identifying possible sources of revenue evasion, improving coordination between central and State tax authorities, reviewing IT systems; move aimed at including new ministers from AP, Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

### What is the current status of GST revenue?

- GST has replaced 14 indirect taxes, leading to a streamlined tax system.
- In April 2024, GST collections reached a record high of ₹22.1 trillion, marking a 15.5% increase compared to the previous year.
- For the first quarter of the financial year, GST revenues were ₹85.57 trillion, slightly higher than the ₹85.05 trillion collected in the same period last year.
- This represents a 10.2% growth in GST collections, surpassing the estimated nominal GDP growth.
- Such growth in revenues is attributed to robust economic performance and enhanced compliance facilitated by improved tax administration and technology integration.

### What changes are required for a better GST system?

- **Expand the GST Base:** Include sectors like petroleum products, electricity, and real estate in the GST. Currently, petroleum products are excluded due to their significant contribution to state revenues (over 40%), but their inclusion could reduce the cascading effect of taxes on other sectors.
- **Rationalise Rates:** Reduce the number of GST rates to simplify the system. For instance, merging the 12% and 18% rates into a 16% rate could be revenue neutral, while increasing the items taxed at 5% to 8% could enhance revenue without major disruptions.
- **Limit Exemptions:** Exemptions should be confined to unprocessed foods and perishables. Taxing other items, previously exempted, at a lower rate of 8% can broaden the tax base and increase revenue without impacting price stability significantly.
- **Focus on Major Taxpayers:** By keeping thresholds high, the system can concentrate on larger taxpayers. Data from Karnataka shows that although 93% of GST dealers were small businesses, they accounted for only a small portion of the turnover and tax paid. This approach ensures that compliance efforts are efficiently targeted.





## Editorial, Ideas and Opinions

### 6. The verdict of 2024, its amplified message

Source: The Hindu, Page 6

Context: The turnout in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections was only 1% lower when compared to the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, but this was still the third highest turnout ever in an Indian national election.

#### An engagement with the electoral process:

- Voter turnout is the most robust indicator of voter's electoral participation, and the turnout figures for 2024 only indicate a high level of participation among Indian voters, more so among women voters.
- The enthusiasm shown by Indians for the 2024 election continued even after voting was over. There was keen interest in the exit poll predictions.
- A Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) survey indicates 17% of Indians showing no trust in EVMs, while another 43% indicated some trust in it. Nearly 30% of Indians also mentioned decreased trust in EVMs.

#### Some of the concerns, key issues:

- The verdict of 2024 has indicated that issues of national pride, national identity, and national security are important.
- But at the same time, and equally important, are the day-to-day issues of the people such as unemployment and price rise which no political party can afford to ignore for long.
- The findings of the Lokniti-CSDS survey indicate that unemployment and price rise were the twin issues of disenchantment.
- The BJP emerged as the single largest party but suffered a major setback in Uttar Pradesh, the State where the Ram Mandir was built and inaugurated with much pomp and show. This development is an indication of the mistake the BJP made in depending too much dependence on the issue of Hindutva at the cost of the bread and butter issues.
- The verdict of 2024 has indicated that there is a limit to identity politics, whether it is about caste or religion.

#### More or less an ideal democracy:

- In a functioning democracy, it is important to have a strong Opposition along with a stable and strong government. The verdict of 2024 resembles the true character of an ideal democracy. The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has a majority in the Lok Sabha with 293 seats, with the BJP being the single largest party with 240 seats. The INDIA bloc/alliance has a strength of 234 MPs in the Lok Sabha with the Congress being the largest Opposition party with 99 seats.
- The views expressed by the people of India are taken seriously and both the ruling party and the Opposition work in tandem for the next five years, trying and resolving issues rather than complicating them.



## 7. The PDS impact on household expenditure

Source: The Hindu, Page 6

**Context:** The Public Distribution System (PDS) is an important social security programme in India. Its objective is to ensure food security. Today, up to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population are eligible for subsidised foodgrains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013.

**Public Distribution System (PDS):**

- The Public Distribution System (PDS) in India is a government-run program that aims to distribute essential food items to the country's economically vulnerable populations at subsidised rates. It plays a crucial role in ensuring food security for millions of Indians. In this post, let us cover the Public Distribution System (PDS) in India.
- Till 1992, PDS was a general entitlement scheme for all consumers without any specific target. But in 1992, PDS became RPDS (Revamped PDS) focusing the poor families, especially in the far-flung, hilly, remote, and inaccessible areas. In 1997 RPDS became TPDS (Targeted PDS) which established Fair Price Shops for the distribution of food grains at subsidised rates.

**The objectives of the PDS are:**

- To provide essential food items at affordable prices to vulnerable sections of the population.
- To stabilise prices of essential commodities in the market.
- To prevent hoarding and black marketing of food grains.
- To reduce hunger and malnutrition among economically disadvantaged communities.

**Why is PDS important?**

- Food grains to the poor, at prices lower than the price of food grains at private shops.
- Food grains are directly purchased from farmers, assuring farmers with a greater price.
- The PDS provides essential commodities such as rice, wheat, sugar, and kerosene oil. The specific commodities and their quantities may vary from state to state.
- The PDS primarily targets below-poverty-line (BPL) families, although the identification of beneficiaries has evolved.
- Some states have expanded the PDS to include Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) beneficiaries, who are considered the poorest of the poor.
- Additionally, the National Food Security Act (NFSA) of 2013 extended PDS coverage to a broader category of beneficiaries, including priority households and eligible households.

**Summary:**

The government has achieved significant milestones in the PDS reforms. As part of the implementation of NFSA, almost all states have undertaken PDS reforms.

The PDS has faced challenges related to the identification of beneficiaries, leakage, corruption, and inefficiencies in the distribution system.

- Inadequate storage and logistics infrastructure can lead to food grain wastage.
- Market prices of food commodities can fluctuate, impacting the effectiveness of price stabilization efforts.

The PDS is a critical social welfare program in India, but it continues to face challenges related to implementation and coverage. Ongoing efforts to modernise and improve the system are aimed at making it more efficient, transparent, and accountable while ensuring that food reaches those in need.



## In Brief

### 8. Kejriwal gets interim bail in Delhi excise policy case

Source: The Hindu, Page 1

Context: SC relief in the ED case will not see the Delhi CM released from jail as he is under remand in a related CBI case; top court leaves it to Kejriwal to take a call on stepping down from CM post.

#### About Interim Bail:

- An interim bail is a short-term temporary relief to individuals entangled in legal proceedings before the hearing for the grant of regular or anticipatory bail.
- The period for interim bail can be extended, but if the accused individual does not pay the court to confirm or extend the interim bail, they will lose their freedom and may end up in jail or face a warrant.
- **Grounds for Granting Interim Bail:**  
In the *Parminder Singh and Ors. v. The State of Punjab* (November 02, 2001) case, the Delhi High Court listed certain scenarios where interim bail should be granted which are as follows:  
No likelihood of the accused fleeing from justice,  
No chance of tampering with the evidence,  
A clear case for custodial interrogation is not made out,  
The application for a grant of anticipatory bail cannot be heard at an early date.
- **Some common grounds:** In case the accused has a serious medical condition requiring urgent or specialised treatment. After considering the humanitarian factors such as familial responsibilities, age, health of the family members. If the investigation is taking an unreasonable amount of time despite his cooperation with authorities.

### 9. New species of dogfish shark discovered in Kerala harbour

Source: The Hindu, Page 10

Context: Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) recently discovered a new species of deep-water dogfish shark *Squalus hima* from a fishing harbour in Kerala along the Arabian Sea.



### About *Squalus hima*:

- It is a new species of dogfish shark discovered off the southwest coast of India.
- *Squalus* is a genus of dogfish sharks in the family Squalidae. commonly known as spurdogs and are characterised by smooth dorsal fin spines.
- They also have an angular short snout, a small mouth almost as wide as the snout, first dorsal fin origin behind the pectoral fins, and body without any spots.
- They are exploited for their liver oil, which contains high levels of squalene (or squalane when it is processed for products).
- It is in high demand for the pharmaceutical industry, particularly for making high-end cosmetic and anti-cancerous products.
- On the Indian coast, two species of *Squalus* are found from the southwest coast of India, and the new species, *Squalus hima* n.sp., is very similar to *Squalus lalannei*, but differs in many characteristics.
- The newly discovered *Squalus hima* differs from other species by the number of precaudal vertebrae, total vertebrae, teeth count, trunk & head heights, fin structure, and fin colour.



## 10. Centre declares June 25 as ‘Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas’

Source: The Hindu, Page 9

Context: The Union government has decided to observe June 25 — the day Emergency was imposed in 1975 — as Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas, Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

### June 25 :

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the day would serve as a reminder of what happens when the Constitution of India is trampled over.
- “It is also a day to pay homage to each and every person who suffered due to the excesses of the Emergency, a Congress-unleashed dark phase of Indian history,”.
- Government of India declares 25th June as Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas to pay tribute to all those who suffered and fought against the gross abuse of power during the period of Emergency
- “On June 25, 1975, the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in a brazen display of a dictatorial mindset, strangled the soul of our democracy by imposing the Emergency on the nation. Lakhs of people were thrown behind bars for no fault of their own, and the voice of the media was silenced,”.



### What is an Emergency?

It refers to **legal measures and clauses within a country's constitution or laws** that enable the government to respond swiftly and effectively to **extraordinary situations, such as war, rebellion, or other crises** that threaten the nation's stability, security, or **sovereignty and democracy of India**.

### Provisions in Constitution:

These provisions are outlined in **Article 352 to Article 360** under Part XVIII of the Constitution. The emergency provisions in the Indian Constitution draw inspiration from **Germany's Weimar Constitution**.

### Significance:

These provisions usually **give the executive branch temporary authority to bypass standard legislative procedures**, limit certain rights and freedoms, and implement policies that would ordinarily fall outside its jurisdiction under normal conditions.

### Types of Emergency in the Indian Constitution

- National Emergency (Article 352)
- State Emergency or President Rule (Article 356)
- Financial Emergency (Article 360)



## Daily Quiz

**1. Which deity is the Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple dedicated to?**

- A) Lord Vishnu
- B) Lord Shiva
- C) Lord Rama
- D) Lord Krishna

**2. Which of the following statements about Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) is true?**

- A) They are managed by private organisations.
- B) They cater exclusively to urban students.
- C) They aim to provide quality education to tribal children.
- D) They are funded entirely by the state governments.

**3. Which of the following acts empowers the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to enforce economic laws in India?**

- A) Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988
- B) Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999
- C) Right to Information Act, 2005
- D) Indian Penal Code, 1860

**4. Which statement accurately reflects the purpose of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?**

- A) SDGs aim to reduce poverty only in developing countries.
- B) SDGs provide a framework for global cooperation to address social, economic, and environmental challenges.
- C) SDGs are legally binding agreements that all countries must adhere to.
- D) SDGs focus solely on economic growth at the expense of environmental conservation.

**5. What is the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India?**

- A) A tax levied on goods only
- B) A single tax on the supply of goods and services
- C) A tax applicable only to imported goods
- D) A tax imposed on services only



**6. Consider the following statements regarding PMLA:**

**Statement:** Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is responsible for enforcing provisions related to money laundering offences.

**Reason:** The ED investigates and prosecutes cases involving money laundering based on predicate offences specified in the Act.

- A) Both the statement and reason are correct, and the reason is the correct explanation of the statement.
- B) Both the statement and reason are correct, but the reason is NOT the correct explanation of the statement.
- C) The statement is correct, but the reason is incorrect.
- D) The statement is incorrect, but the reason is correct.

**7. What is the primary purpose of presenting an interim budget?**

- A) To outline long-term economic policies
- B) To present the financial performance of the previous year
- C) To obtain parliamentary approval for new taxes
- D) To meet the expenditure requirements until the formation of the new government

**8. Where are dogfish sharks commonly found?**

- A) Tropical coral reefs
- B) Deep ocean trenches
- C) Nearshore coastal waters
- D) Polar regions

**9. What is the primary role of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in the Public Distribution System (PDS)?**

- A) Procurement of food grains from farmers
- B) Distribution of food grains to consumers
- C) Management of retail outlets for food distribution
- D) Exporting surplus food grains

**10. Samvidhaan Hatya Divas, observed on June 25th in India, commemorates:**

- A) The adoption of the Indian Constitution
- B) The assassination of Mahatma Gandhi
- C) The imposition of Emergency in India
- D) The anniversary of the proclamation of the Indian Republic



## Solutions

### 1. Answer- A) Lord Vishnu.

**Explanation:** The Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple, often referred to as the BR Hills Temple, is dedicated to Lord Ranganatha, a form of Lord Vishnu. Lord Ranganatha is depicted as reclining on the serpent Adishesha, and the temple is situated atop the Biligiri Rangan Hills (BR Hills) in Karnataka, India. This temple is highly revered by devotees, especially those belonging to the local Soliga tribe, who worship Lord Ranganatha as their principal deity. The deity is believed to be very ancient, with historical and cultural significance that dates back several centuries. Therefore, the correct deity to whom the Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple is dedicated is Lord Vishnu, represented in his form as Lord Ranganatha.

### 2. Answer- C) They aim to provide quality education to tribal children.

**Explanation:** EMRS are established and managed by the government with the primary goal of providing quality education to tribal children in remote and far-flung areas.

### 3. Answer-B) Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999

**Explanation:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) primarily enforces provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) to combat economic crimes.

### 4. Answer-B) SDGs provide a framework for global cooperation to address social, economic, and environmental challenges.

**Explanation:** The SDGs are a set of 17 interconnected goals adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They provide a blueprint for addressing global challenges and aim to ensure peace and prosperity for people and the planet.

### 5. Answer- B) A single tax on the supply of goods and services

**Explanation:** GST is a comprehensive indirect tax levied on the supply of goods and services across India, aimed at replacing multiple indirect taxes levied by the central and state governments.





**6. Answer-A) Both the statement and reason are correct, and the reason is the correct explanation of the statement.**

**Explanation:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is indeed responsible for enforcing the PMLA in India. It investigates cases of money laundering based on predicate offences such as terrorism, drug trafficking, and organised crime, as specified in the Act.

**7. Answer-D) To meet the expenditure requirements until the formation of the new government**

**Explanation:** An interim budget is primarily presented to ensure continuity in government expenditures and functions until a new government is formed and a regular budget is passed.

**8. Answer -C) Nearshore coastal waters**

**Explanation:** Dogfish sharks are typically found in temperate and subtropical waters, often nearshore and in continental shelf areas, although some species can also inhabit deeper waters.

**9. Answer- A) Procurement of food grains from farmers**

**Explanation:** The FCI procures food grains from farmers at Minimum Support Prices (MSP) and supplies these grains to State Governments for distribution through the PDS.

**10. Answer- C) The imposition of Emergency in India**

**Explanation:** Samvidhaan Hatya Divas, observed on June 25th in India, commemorates the day when Emergency was imposed in India in the year 1975. Emergency was declared by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, suspending civil liberties and curtailing fundamental rights. This event is a significant milestone in Indian political history, marking a period of authoritarian rule and constitutional crisis.

### MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION

**1. Examine the current status and required changes for a better GST system in India based on recent revenue performance and proposed reforms.**





**UPSC  
Mentorship**

A Unit of Mentorship India



कौशल भारत - कुशल भारत



75  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

## GET IN TOUCH

+919999057869

[www.upsmentorship.com](http://www.upsmentorship.com)

@mentorship.india

C - 103, Second Floor, Sector-2  
Noida - 201301

[contact@mentorshipindia.com](mailto:contact@mentorshipindia.com)