

VEDHIK
DAJLY NEWS
ANALYSIS

13 - NOVEMBER 2021

FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" would help students, especially beginners save time and streamline their preparations with regard to Current Affairs. A content page and an Appendix has been added segregating and mapping the content to the syllabus.

It is an appreciable efforts by Vedhik IAS Academy helping aspirants of UPSC Civil Services Examinations. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Babu Sebastian, former VC - MG University in extending all support to this endeavour. Finally I also extend my thanks to thank Ms. Shilpa Sasidharan and Mr. Shahul Hameed for their assistance in the preparing the compilations.

We welcome your valuable comments so that further improvement may be made in the forthcoming material. We look forward to feedback, comments and suggestions on how to improve and add value for students. Every care has been taken to avoid typing errors and if any reader comes across any such error, the authors shall feel obliged if they are informed at their Email ID.

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Permanent commission for 11 women Army officers

Centre's decision follows SC warning of contempt action

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Union Government on Friday agreed to grant permanent commission (PC) to 11 women Army officers who met the eligibility criteria after the Supreme Court threatened to initiate contempt proceedings.

The Centre, which was initially reluctant, conveyed its acquiescence to a Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud to grant PC to the officers within 10 days.

Short Service Commission (SSC) women officers, who have not approached the court but nonetheless meet the various eligibility criteria, would be granted PC in three weeks, the Government informed the court.

In October, the court similarly intervened in favour of



granting PC to 39 other SSC women officers.

"We appreciate the fair stand of the Army authority in putting at rest all outstanding issues pertaining to women SSC officers," the court recorded at the end.

The Bench, also comprising Justice A.S. Bopanna, was hearing a contempt petition filed by the 11 officers, who alleged they were denied PC despite crossing the eligibility threshold.

However, the court clarified that "by way of abundant caution, it is clarified that those officers who have disciplinary and vigilance clearance will be eligible to grant of PC, subject to their meeting of other conditions..."

In August, over 70 women officers approached the court, challenging the Army's decision finding them ineligible for PC. They said they were disqualified despite satisfying the 60% assessment threshold for PC as prescribed by the court. The order had said PC should be given to women SSC officers who obtained 60% marks in their assessment, subject to their meeting the medical criteria prescribed by the Army's August 1, 2020, order and receiving disciplinary and vigilance clearance.

China's Communist Party hails 'helmsman' Xi after 'historic' meet

A resolution was passed at plenum demanding loyalty to ensure his 'core position'

ANANTH KRISHNAN
HONG KONG

A day after the Communist Party passed a "historical" resolution elevating the status of Chinese leader Xi Jinping on a par with its tallest past leaders, China's ruling party referred to Mr. Xi as its "helmsman", a title previously only reserved for Mao Zedong.

On Thursday, an annual party meeting called a plenum passed its first "historical resolution" since 1981 – and only the third such declaration in its 100-year history – that extolled Mr. Xi's leadership and demanded loyalty to ensure his "core position" in the party.

The plenum also announced that the party would hold a once-in-five-year leadership congress next year, when Mr. Xi is set to begin a third five-year term, having already abolished term limits, from a position of dominance.

On Friday, a senior Party official further underlined Mr. Xi's "core" status and referred to him as the party's "helmsman", a term that only Mao had been honoured with.

"This is the call of the



Shifting paradigm: Members of the Communist Party of China during a voting at the sixth plenum in Beijing. • AP

times, the choice of history, and the common aspiration of the people," Jiang Jinqun, head of the Policy Research Office of the Central Committee, said at a press conference in Beijing.

"In firmly upholding and safeguarding General Secretary Xi's core position, the party has its decision-maker, the people have their mainstay, and the giant 'rejuvenation' ship of the Chinese nation has its helmsman. And in the face of rough waves, we will be able to 'stay on the fishing boat despite the wind and waves.'"

He added that Mr. Xi's ideological contribution to the party, called "Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a

New Era", would play "a guiding role" and "ensure the party can keep moving forward in the right direction."

Thursday's "Resolution on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century" devoted considerable space to praising Mr. Xi's leadership and called for the party to "resolutely uphold his core position".

It made several mentions of the need to "ensure that all party members act in unison" to support Mr. Xi as the "core".

This was the third resolution on history passed by the party, and the previous two marked significant changes in its politics. In 1945, Mao

Zedong passed a resolution that moved the party away from Stalinist influence and marked the start of Mao's decades-long political and ideological dominance.

End of an era

In 1981, Deng Xiaoping passed a resolution that marked a move away from the excesses of Maoism and a one-man personality cult to launch the reform era.

In keeping with the shift away from one-man rule, Deng was called a "paramount" leader but not a "helmsman" and he eschewed building a cult of personality.

Deng also left behind a legacy of what was called "collective leadership" with a 10-year term limit for his two successors, Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao. The model ensured three largely smooth transfers of power, turning a page over the chaos of Maoism.

The party, however, has now done away with both collective leadership and term limits, with Thursday's plenum only the latest declaration of support to enshrine the status of its current leader as the party's "core".

NAM at 60 marks an age of Indian alignment

The ideological moorings of India's non-alignment faded along with Jawaharlal Nehru's idealism



KRISHNAN SRINIVASAN

The birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru this month and the 60th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement prompt reflection on Nehru's major contribution to the field of international relations. The concept of not aligning a country's policy with others can be traced to the Congress of Vienna of (1814-15) when the neutrality of Switzerland, by which that country would keep out of others' conflicts, was recognised.

One world and free India

Mahatma Gandhi, icon of Indian Independence, believed in non-violent solutions and spirituality, with India having a civilising mission for mankind which accorded well with Nehru's desire to innovate in world politics and his conception of modernity. In 1946, six days after Nehru formed the national government, he stated, "we propose... to keep away from the power politics of groups aligned against one another... it is for One World that free India will work." Nehru, the theoretician, saw world problems as interlinked; not a binary of right and wrong, but as

a practical person, his instructions to delegates at international meetings were to consider India's interests first, even before the merits of the case; this was the paradox of a moral orientation in foreign policy and the compulsions of the real world.

In essence, Indian non-alignment's ideological moorings began, lived and died along with Nehru's idealism, though some features that characterised his foreign policy were retained to sustain diplomatic flexibility and promote India while its economic situation improved sufficiently to be described as an 'emerging' power. Nehru was opposed to the conformity required by both sides in the Cold War, and his opposition to alliances was justified by American weapons to Pakistan from 1954 and the creation of western-led military blocs in Asia. Non-alignment was the least costly policy for promoting India's diplomatic presence, a sensible approach when India was weak and looked at askance by both blocs, and the best means of securing economic assistance from abroad. India played a lone hand against colonialism and racism until many African states achieved independence after 1960.

India played a surprisingly prominent role as facilitator at the 1954 Geneva Peace Conference on Indochina, whereafter non-alignment appeared to have come of



age. The difficulty was always to find a definition of this policy, which caused a credibility gap between theory and practice. In the early years, there was economic dependence on donor countries who were nearly all members of western military pacts. Indian equidistance to both Koreas and both Vietnams was shown by India recognising neither; yet it recognised one party in the two Chinas and two Germanies, and the Treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of 1971, fashioned with the liberation war of Bangladesh in view, came dangerously close to a military alliance,

NAM's failures

When Yugoslavia and Egypt became non-aligned by defying the great powers and convened the first Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in 1961, Nehru, who never endorsed con-

frontational methods, became a third but hesitant co-sponsor, because in theory, a coalition or movement of non-aligned nations was a contradiction in terms. According to then Defence Minister Krishna Menon's epigram, true non-alignment was to be non-aligned towards the non-aligned. Nehru's misgivings were confirmed when only two members, Cyprus and Ethiopia, of the conference supported India in the war with China. Among the Non-Aligned Movement's members was a plenitude of varying alignments, a weakness aggravated by not internalising their own precepts of human rights and peaceful settlement of disputes on the grounds of not violating the sacred principle of sovereign domestic jurisdiction. Other failures were lack of collective action and collective self-reliance, and the non-establishment of an equitable international economic or information order. The Movement could not dent, let alone break, the prevailing world order.

The years following Nehru's death saw the atrophy of his idealism, and non-alignment during his successors moved from pragmatism under Indira Gandhi and opportunism after the dissolution of the former Soviet Union, to the semi-alignment of today. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party, by ideology, inclination and threat perception, is inclined to greater

alignment with the United States whether under the nebulous rubric of the Indo-Pacific or otherwise.

Longevity of organisations

The Centre for Policy Research produced a document in 2012 titled 'Non-alignment Mark 2.0' which left no trace; the same body's paper, 'A rethink of foreign policy', this year elides it altogether. Every international organisation has a shelf life, though many survive for years in semi-neglect. The League of Nations was given the coup de grâce after seven years of inactivity only in 1946, even after the United Nations had come into being. The Commonwealth will last only as long as the British find it useful. It is hard to see any future for Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (BRICS) or its various institutional offspring, given the state of India-China relations. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has faded into oblivion. Few among even our serving diplomats could tell what transpired at the last Non-aligned Conference or where the next will be held, while the symbolic anniversary, unanimously agreed upon in 1981 of 'The First September, Day of Non-alignment', has come and gone unnoticed.

Krishnan Srinivasan is a former Foreign Secretary

Negotiators at COP26 brainstorm over draft

Next sessions of climate talks will be held in Egypt and UAE

Negotiators at COP26 brainstorm over draft

This is considered the highest level endorsement of developing countries' position that enough hasn't been done in the past by developed countries to keep promises.

India has demanded a trillion dollars over the next decade from developed countries to adapt to and mitigate the challenges from global warming and has kept this as a condition for delivering on climate commitments made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In a late evening intervention, Richa Sharma, who is part of India's negotiating team said: "The outcomes of COP26 must reflect the urgency in scaling up finance and other means of implementation support to developing countries. We express our disappointment at the lack of significant pro-

gress in climate finance related agenda items. We add our voice in support of other parties and groups like LDCs that have called for continuation of the long term finance agenda under the convention; for a mandate to the standing committee of finance to deliver a multilaterally agreed definition of climate finance, and for a structured process that will deliver the new quantified goal for climate finance well before 2025."

An earlier version of the draft also called upon countries to "accelerate" the phase out of coal subsidies, a point that wasn't taken to kindly by India and China. Despite India's commitments to increasing its reliance on renewable energy in the coming decade, it also expects to double its use of coal.

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The 2022 edition of the Conference of Parties, or the 27th COP, will take place at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, and the 28th edition in 2023 will be held in the UAE, the Council decided even as a final agreement to conclude COP26 proved elusive until the time of going to press.

Even as the ongoing COP26 in Glasgow was reaching its conclusion on Friday evening in Glasgow, negotiators from 200 countries continued to be in discussions polishing a draft agreement that has been ready since Wednesday. For a final agreement, all countries have to agree to every word in the text agreement, drafted by the team of COP president Alok Sharma. This text is a synthesis of all the discussions since November 1 when the COP26 began.

The COP26 will not unveil a treaty as in 2015 when the Paris Agreement came into being but is expected to guide implementation of the Paris Agreement, that exhorted countries to take steps to keep temperatures from rising beyond 2 degrees Celsius by the turn of the century and "pursue efforts to keep it" to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Negotiators at Glasgow started ambitiously keeping the 1.5 degrees Cel-



Dangers ahead: Members from the Red Rebel Brigade taking part in a protest during the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Britain, on Friday. ■ REUTERS

sus target but several outstanding issues and disagreements – most prominently on climate finance – have proved to be stumbling blocks.

Promises not kept

Developing countries such as India and China are pushing for formal acknowledgement from the West that they have not delivered on past promises of providing \$100 billion annually until 2020.

Developed countries have promised to deliver on this by 2023-24 but India and several other low-income and developing countries have demanded financing post 2025 and also funds for the loss and damage that has already been incurred in

their countries due to climate catastrophes.

Though much of the text is ready, bones of contention are usually single verbs that open paragraphs of the draft text: "Urges," "Considers", "Notes" as each of them, in UN climatespeak denote specific degrees of commitment.

For instance, para 48 of the text currently says: "(The Presidency) Urges developed country Parties to fully deliver on the USD 100 billion goal urgently and through to 2025 and emphasises the importance of transparency in the implementation of their pledges."

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U.S. clears way for spouses of H-1B visa holders to work

It agrees to provide automatic work authorisation permits

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON

In yet another immigration-friendly move that would benefit thousands of Indian-American women, the Biden administration has agreed to provide automatic work authorisation permits to the spouses of H-1B visa holders, most of whom are Indian IT professionals.

An H-4 visa is issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to immediate family members (spouse and children under 21 years of age) of the H-1B visa holders. The visa is normally issued to those who have already started the process of seeking employment-based lawful permanent resident status in the U.S.



The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows U.S. companies to employ foreign workers in specialty occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise. The technology companies depend on it to hire tens of thousands of employees each year from countries like India and China.

A settlement was reached

by the Department of Homeland Security in a class-action lawsuit, which was filed by the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) on behalf of immigrant spouses this summer.

'After a long wait'

"This (H-4 visa holders) is a group that always met the regulatory test for automatic extension of EADs (employment authorisation documents), but the agency previously prohibited them from that benefit and forced them to wait for reauthorisation. People were suffering. They were losing their high-paying jobs for absolutely no legitimate reason causing harm to them and U.S. businesses," Jon Wasden from AILA said.

Panel report on data Bill stalled again

Opposition protests last-minute changes removing clauses on accountability

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

The report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Personal Data Protection Bill has been stalled once again, after a few last-minute changes were proposed, deleting clauses that hold data fiduciaries such as Facebook, Twitter and so on accountable. Apart from this, the penalty clause was reworked, drastically reducing the prescribed amount.

According to informed sources, three key sub-clauses were removed from the draft Bill that was circulated to the committee members on Thursday night by Chairman P.P. Chaudhary. At the meeting, the members protested since each clause of the Bill had already been de-



Three key sub-clauses were removed from the draft Bill, said SOURCES. • GETTY IMAGES

liberated upon and Friday's meeting was to adopt the final report. The bone of contention was Clause 28 pertaining to "rights in relation to automated decision making". Three sub-clauses, which basically give the data owner the right to file a complaint against the data con-

troller, were removed.

Many Opposition members registered their protest. "We have been discussing this Bill for more than two years now. Each clause has been deliberated upon. Clause 28 and all its sub-clauses were debated and unanimously adopted. Then why bring in this last-minute change," one member told *The Hindu* on condition of anonymity.

On objections by the members, Mr. Chaudhary reportedly argued that these provisions were better placed in the Information Technology (IT) Act rather than here. Officials of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, who were present, said the latest IT rules for the intermediar-

ies dealt with social media accountability and there would be a duplicity if this was also included in the data protection law, the sources said.

The provisions of penalty for misuse of data were also amended. The draft Bill provides for a penalty of ₹5 crore-15 crore, with an upper limit of 2-4% of the total turnover of a data firm. This provision of fining the errant firm up to 2-4% of turnover was removed. "In our discussions so far, we have not touched upon this clause. The penalty clause had been same as the Bill drafted by the Government," a member said.

The discussions have been pushed to the meeting on November 22.

Govt. to assess learning gaps via nationwide test

National Achievement Survey test was held on Friday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The first National Achievement Survey (NAS) in four years was conducted on Friday, in a bid to assess the competencies of children in Class 3, 5 and 8. This will “help to assess the learning interruptions and new learnings during the COVID pandemic and help to take remedial measures,” said the Education Ministry.

Given that schools across the country were closed for 18 months from March 2020, and the vast majority of students did not have any access to remote education, the NAS is expected to reveal the level of learning losses caused by the shutdown.

However, the pandemic affected the conduct of the survey as well, as schools in many States have still not re-



The NAS being conducted at a school in Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu. •BASHKARAN N.

opened classes for younger students. Even where schools are officially open, attendance is voluntary.

The survey test was conducted in language, mathematics and environmental studies in Classes 3 and 5 and language, mathematics, science, and social science in Class 8. The survey was expected to cover 38 lakh

students in 1.23 lakh schools in 733 districts in all States and Union Territories. The sampled schools include State and Union Government-run schools as well as private and aided schools. The test paper was provided in a multiple choice format in 22 different languages. The test was developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which will also analyse the results, while the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) conducted the test on Friday.

The Ministry said in the 24 States and Union Territories from which information had been received on Friday, almost 92% of the target sample and 96% of target schools participated in the survey. There was no information from 12 other States.

Centre turns to Chief Ministers to sustain economic recovery

Modi to meet bankers on November 18; Sitharaman to host a meeting with CMs

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

With an eye on sustaining the economic recovery and spurring investment flows, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will preside over a meeting with bankers next week to take stock of concerns of critical sectors of the economy, while Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will host a meeting with State Chief Ministers and Finance Ministers on Monday.

The Prime Minister is expected to interact with bankers on the second day of a two-day meeting scheduled for November 17 and 18, said a senior Government official. Unlike such meetings in the past, this time, challenges of sectors such as cement and steel, among others, were being identified and would be consolidated ahead of the Prime Minister's session.

“The parley with States will be about the state of the economy as a whole, as we



Finding answers: Issues faced by the cement and steel sectors will be consolidated ahead of the PM's session. •SUDHAKARA JAIN

are now at a critical juncture. The robust recovery has to be maintained, it can't be that we just do well this year,” the official said.

State-level issues

While this Centre-State meeting was independent of pre-Budget consultations, the official said the Budget 2022-23 would be focused on sustaining the recovery, as opposed to this year's Budget, which was largely about coping with the COVID-19

pandemic.

Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan, at a briefing about Monday's meeting, said several things that were needed to be done to take India to a higher growth path were in the States' domain. “Nothing can happen without the States. The focus of this interaction will be on State-level issues, challenges and opportunities, and evolving an inclusive growth trajectory for all Indians,” he said.

“The hope is that after this discussion where the States' views and inputs on how things can be done better and their challenges will be aired, each State would have a clearer appreciation of what needs to be done and the Centre will support them in whatever needs to be done,” he added.

Two-way process

Ajay Seth, Economic Affairs Secretary, said the meeting would not just be focusing on enhancing public infrastructure spending, but also on attracting more investments and creating jobs.

“States would be requested to look at investor concerns such as land availability, land pricing, water and electricity supply issues and various approvals from urban local bodies. It will be a two-way process where States can also talk about the reforms needed at the Central level,” he said.

Small investors, salaried can now buy govt. bonds easily: PM

Modi says RBI's Retail Direct, Integrated Ombudsman put 'citizen at the centre'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday kicked off two RBI initiatives to make it easier for small investors to directly invest in government securities, and provide a simpler redressal mechanism for customers of regulated entities such as banks, finance companies and payment service providers.

"So far, in the government securities market, our small investors class, salaried class, small traders had to invest through banks and mutual funds in an indirect manner," Mr. Modi observed. "Now, they can do it in a simple and safe manner



Front and centre: The emphasis of the government and RBI was to boost financial inclusion, Mr. Modi signalled. ■ REUTERS

with good returns," he said.

Taking on past governments for ignoring financial inclusion, he said: "Unproductive savings and informal lending was affecting the situation of common citizens

and their participation in the country's progress was virtually nil.

"Till six years ago, India's banking, pension, insurance... was like an exclusive club. The ordinary citizen,

the poor, farmers, small traders, women, Dalits, backward classes – for all of them, these facilities were too far," he asserted, contrasting that with the current situation where the government and the RBI had kept the ordinary citizen at the centre of their attention.

The ombudsman scheme will provide 'cost-free redress of customer complaints involving deficiency in services', the RBI said.

Stressing that proactive resolution of citizen's grievances was the very cornerstone of democracy, Mr. Modi said an integrated ombudsman would help resolve people's grievances.

The numbers game

In spite of the risks it poses, the climate crisis is yet to get political resonance in India

The 26th United Nations Conference of Parties (COP) in Glasgow, Scotland may not have a significant outcome as yet in sight. Prior to the summit, there was a frantic attempt by leaders of western countries, particularly the United States and summit host the United Kingdom, to have most countries agree on a mid-century net zero goal, or when emissions dip to near zero or are balanced out by taking out an equivalent from the atmosphere. This put China and India, both major greenhouse gas emitters, on the defensive, and they dug in their heels more strongly on issues such as climate equity and justice. Their argument, that the climate crisis is largely due to the West because of over a century of unmitigated carbon dioxide emissions, and so those countries must bear the lion's share of reparations in the form of finance and access to clean technologies, is an old one, enshrined over the years in earlier COP deliberations. While China has indicated a 2060 net zero year, India surprisingly agreed to a net zero year of 2070 as well as more initiatives by 2030 to move towards having a significantly larger share of its energy needs met by renewable energy.

The target year 2070 is far from 2050, by when scientific consensus says, emissions must decline to zero for earth to have a fighting chance to keep temperatures at manageable levels. So India, now the third highest emitter of carbon dioxide, giving itself a 50-year deadline will unlikely help prevent temperatures from rising beyond the danger mark. However, India has also indicated that for its 2030 goals, it needs a trillion dollars, by 2030, from developed countries. India, it must be remembered, is a \$2 trillion economy and expects to be a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25 – though the novel coronavirus pandemic has made it unlikely – and close to \$10 trillion by 2030. Developing countries were collectively promised, nearly a decade ago, \$100 billion annually until 2020 and only a small fraction has been realised. Even the Glasgow summit has shown how hotly contested every dollar is. The conundrum of global warming is that irrespective of how irrefutable the evidence is, it is unlikely that elected representatives of developed countries will impose punitive taxation on their citizens for climate reparations. However, a quicker transition to renewable energy sources may be made by enabling greater sharing of technology and at a time where countries discuss tariff barriers that impede better, cleaner technology from being adopted faster than they should be. In spite of the risks it poses, the climate crisis is yet to get political resonance in India. Unless it appears on electoral platforms, the push away from fossil fuel will not happen; and India might not have a realistic chance at adapting to disasters at minimal cost.

'Cybercrime went up by 500% during pandemic'

Defence chief Gen. Rawat stresses need for national framework to thwart online attacks

STAFF REPORTER
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS), General Bipin Rawat, has stressed the need for a national framework to thwart cyberattacks that have been on the rise in the country.

While a national cybersecurity strategy is in the offing, the country is also in dire need of a data protection law, with cybercriminals increasingly weaponising data as a tool against national security in the post-pandemic era, he added.

Gen. Rawat was delivering the inaugural address of the 14th edition of c0c0n,

the annual cybersecurity and hacking conference organised by the Kerala Police, which formally got under way on Friday.

Relying on technology

"Cyber crimes have gone up by almost 500% in India during the global pandemic. We need to consider the emerging threats from new technologies such as drones, ransomware, Internet of Things (IoT) devices and also the role of nation states in such cyber attacks. The lockdown, which witnessed a deeper adoption of interconnected devices and hybrid work environment,



Gen. Bipin Rawat

has increased our dependence on technology. This renders us digitally more vulnerable than ever before," he said.

Highlighting the possibility of Government officials who deal with sensitive in-

formation becoming prime targets for cyberattacks, Gen. Rawat lamented the fragmented approach that prevailed in handling the threat. The national cybersecurity strategy was aimed at amalgamating individual cyberprowess, he said.

General Rawat said the Information Technology Act, 2000, that dealt with cybersecurity and cybercrimes is not equipped to consider new-age changes in the mode of functioning of businesses and *modus operandi* of crimes in cyberspace.

The CDS also lamented the delay in passing the Personal Data Protection Bill

that had been tabled in Parliament two years ago.

"Data is the new goldmine for any organisation, especially for the bad elements that lurk in the dark web. With cyber criminals and inimical actors increasingly using information to threaten national security, the matter is of serious concern," General Rawat said.

Kerala Police Chief Anil Kant, Additional Director-General of Police Manoj Abraham, Information Security Research Association president Manu Zacharia and Society for the Policing of Cyberspace executive director Bessie Pang spoke.

General Studies Paper I	
A	History of Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of art forms, literature and architecture from ancient to modern times;
B	Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues;
C	Freedom struggle-its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country;
D	Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country;
E	History of the world will include events from 18 th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization,
F	Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.-their forms and effect on the society
G	Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India;
H	Effects of globalization on Indian society;
I	Role of women and women's organization;
J	Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism
K	Salient features of world's physical geography;
L	Geographical features and their location- changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes;
M	Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.
N	Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent);
O	Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India);
P	Population and associated issues;
Q	Urbanization, their problems and their remedies
General Studies Paper II	
A	India and its neighbourhood- relations;
B	Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate;
C	Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests;
D	Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
E	Indian Constitution, historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure;
F	Comparison of the Indian Constitutional scheme with other countries;
G	Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein; Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
H	Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these;
I	Structure, organization and functioning of the executive and the judiciary, Ministries and Departments;

J	Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions;
K	Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional bodies;
L	Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies;
M	Mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections;
N	Salient features of the Representation of People's Act;
O	Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential;
P	Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures;
Q	Issues relating to poverty and hunger,
R	Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States, Performance of these schemes;
S	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to education and human resources;
T	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to health
General Studies Paper III	
A	Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment;
B	Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth;
C	Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
D	Infrastructure Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. Government budgeting;
E	Land reforms in India
F	Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems;
G	Storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints;
H	e-technology in the aid of farmers; Technology Missions; Economics of Animal-Rearing.
I	Issues of buffer stocks and food security, Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping;
J	Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management;
K	Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices
L	Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology;
M	Indigenization of technology and developing new technology;
N	Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life;
O	Issues relating to intellectual property rights
P	Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
Q	Disaster and disaster management
R	Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security;
S	Money-laundering and its prevention;

T	Various forces and their mandate;
U	Security challenges and their management in border areas;
V	Linkages of organized crime with terrorism;
W	Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security;
X	Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
General Studies Paper IV	
A	Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions;
B	Dimensions of ethics;
C	Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;
D	Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
E	Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour;
F	Moral and political attitudes;
G	Social influence and persuasion.
H	Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections.
I	Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
J	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
K	Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems;
L	Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions;
M	Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as
N	sources of ethical guidance;
O	Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding;
P	Corporate governance.
Q	Probity in Governance: Concept of public service;
R	Philosophical basis of governance and probity;
S	Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
T	Case Studies on above issues.