

VEDHIK
DAJLY NEWS
ANALYSIS
19 - 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.

CONTENTS

- News WTO must rein in nations violating trade rules Goyal 1
GSP 02 B
- News WTO must rein in nations violating trade rules Goyal 2
GSP 02 B
- News India needs \$10 tn. to meet net zero
GSP 02 C
- Editorials - Missing an inclusionary vision for the urban poor
GSP 02 M
- News Bankers must support job creators, says Modi 1
GSP 03 A
- News Bankers must support job creators, says Modi 2
GSP 03 C
- Editorials - The heavy lifting on climate action must begin
GSP 03 P
- News India fully prepared to give befitting reply, says Rajnath
GSP 03 U
- News India, China agree to restart talks between border
commanders
GSP 03 U
- News War-like situation prevails near LAC
GSP 03 U

WTO must rein in nations violating trade rules: Goyal

‘It should review way it does business’

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the World Trade Organization (WTO) ministerial meet beginning later this month, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday hit out at countries not working transparently as per global trading rules, without naming China, and called for a reboot of the way the world body goes about its business to deal with such situations.

Taking on the developed nations for seeking to treat countries with low per capita incomes on a par with far richer nations, Mr. Goyal urged them to introspect on whether they were letting the least developed and developing nations down on trade, sustainability as well as climate change goals.

“The world today has to reassess whether countries across the world are truly and genuinely following the multilateral rules in terms of transparency, fair play and honest business practices.”



Piyush Goyal

the Minister noted and stressed that the WTO should reassess the way it has been conducting its affairs.

India, in contrast, was “proud of following the rules to a T” with everything done transparently in the public domain, he said.

“... So much so that our system allows for anyone to pay just ₹10 to take out any file from the government system [as] our Right to Information laws are so strong,” Mr. Goyal added.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

WTO must rein in nations violating trade rules: Goyal

Mr. Goyal was responding to a query from New Zealand's High Commissioner to India David Pyne on the changes needed in the global trade rules regime.

He said New Zealand wanted India to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) but it was an "agreement between two unequals".

"We are looking at a transparent, honest trading system in India and entering into an agreement with certain geographies that don't share information, don't give market access to everybody equitably and openly, where there are hidden subsidies about which I never get to act because I don't have the information, where you ask for data but you never get the data," Mr. Goyal said alluding to China, a key member of the RCEP.

"Our pharma industry has been trying for four years but not getting market access. And here, in India, we open up 100% automatic approval, anybody can come invest and buy our companies," he observed at the Global Economic summit hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry.

While reforming the WTO was critical to check such countries' flagrant vio-

lation of trade rules, any talk about these changes triggered the developed world into "immediately" seeking reforms related to whether Special and Differential Treatment trade benefits for the less developed and developing countries should continue.

Differentiated treatment

"I think it is so unfair. I can understand a discussion on which countries should be considered developing and which should now be considered developed. But to deprive countries of differentiated treatment in their business practices when they are at levels of \$1000, \$600 to \$3,000 per capita income, and putting them on the same benchmark as a country that makes \$60,000\$ or \$80,000 per capita, is grossly unfair," he asserted and urged the developed world to "look at their priorities".

The developed countries make "great noise" about sustainable development goals and climate change goals but they were not doing enough in terms of helping the less developed world to meet their obligations, while developing their economies and meeting the aspirations of billions, Mr. Goyal emphasised.

India needs \$10 tn. to meet net zero

It is to scale up green energy sources

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

To meet its goals of net zero, or being able to effectively eliminate carbon dioxide emissions by 2070, India will need close to \$10 trillion (₹700 lakh crore), according to an analysis by climate and energy research firm, CEEW Centre for Energy Finance (CEEW-CEF). CEEW is the Council for Energy, Environment and Water Research, a think tank here.

Most of this money, around \$8.4 trillion, would be needed to scale up generation from renewable energy and bringing together the necessary integration, distribution and transmission infrastructure. Another \$1.5 trillion would have to be invested in the industrial sector for setting up green hydrogen production capacity to advance the sector's decarbonisation.

Green hydrogen is made from renewable energy and can be used for many things, from heating to powering batteries as well as fuelling vehicles.

The study estimates that India would fall short by \$3.5 trillion to achieve its net zero target and hence, investment support of \$1.4 trillion would be required from developed economies to bridge the gap.



India's energy needs are largely met with fossil fuels such as coal. ■ AFP

Country's goals

Reaching net zero by 2050 is earth's best chance, scientists say, to keep the globe's average temperature from exceeding 1.5 Celsius by the end of the century.

Last month, the CEEW in another study had computed that India's total installed solar power capacity would need to increase to 5,630 gigawatts by 2070. The usage of coal, especially for power generation, would need to peak by 2040 and drop by 99% between 2040 and 2060.

Further, crude oil consumption across sectors would need to peak by 2050 and fall substantially by 90% between 2050 and 2070. Green hydrogen could contribute 19% of the total energy needs of the industrial sector.

Missing an inclusionary vision for the urban poor

The Tamil Nadu draft resettlement policy clings to a tired model of peripheral resettlement that fails on social justice



KAREN COELHO

In Chennai, where involuntary resettlement of slum dwellers has been practised for at least two centuries, the last two decades alone have seen over 55,000 families forcibly moved to large state-built ghettos outside the city. In the absence of a policy, these relocations have been governed by *ad hoc* government orders or by guidelines of specific projects or funding agencies.

A narrow outlook

In October 2021, the Tamil Nadu government released its first-ever draft “Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy” for public comment. While long awaited, the policy is also premature. It is not anchored in a comprehensive housing and habitat policy that defines a framework for affordable housing, slum clearance, and land use in which the relocation of slum dwellers to remote peripheries is specified as a last-ditch option.

The draft policy aims to “ensure that slum dwellers are treated fairly and humanely when they are resettled from objectionable poramboke lands”. But resettlement needs to be located within an explicitly stated vision of integration and inclusion of vulnerable communities into the mainstream. Instead, this policy restricts its scope to managing procedures for eviction and resettlement.

Mass ghettos on the peripheries of cities have emerged all over the country as the default mode for re-

housing the evicted urban poor. The consequences have been well documented. In places such as Bawana (New Delhi), Vatwa (Ahmedabad), and Mahul (Mumbai), scholars, journalists, and fact-finding committees have highlighted the enduring pathologies produced by these poorly serviced colonies. While broken livelihoods are widely recognised as the most serious impact of resettlement, a host of other problems such as alcohol and substance abuse, criminalisation of youth, and safety threats to women and girls are also endemic to these sites. Many residents sell or rent out their allotments and return to informal settlements in the city to safeguard their painstakingly crafted pathways to a better life.

A resettlement policy, dealing as it does with the city’s most vulnerable populations, must be visionary, proactive and far-sighted. It should ensure minimal disruption of the ecologies of survival and mobility that these households have constructed over time. If it needs to uproot them, it must ensure that the state does everything it can to support their rapid reintegration into the urban mainstream and improve their lives. Delhi’s slum rehabilitation policy recognises this by defining *in situ* rehabilitation as its principle strategy, with relocation envisaged only “in rare cases”.

Tamil Nadu led the way

Chennai has a history of implementing innovative and inclusionary models of slum clearance. Tamil Nadu historically led the country in providing large-scale low-income housing through land acquisition or by regularising and upgrading informal settlements. The sites and services projects of



FILE PHOTO/ISTOCK/JOHN

the 1980s, which produced around 57,000 plots in Chennai, proved scalable, cost-effective, and successful in facilitating socioeconomic mobility for their residents over the long term. The projects built mixed-class and mixed-use neighbourhoods by providing plots of varying sizes for different income groups on State-acquired land, and incorporating industrial and commercial spaces within the sites. By allowing families to design, build, and incrementally expand their homes to accommodate growing families or rental units, these schemes vastly expanded the supply of affordable housing over time with minimal outlay by the State. Despite their peripheral location, they were sited near existing developments where trunk infrastructure such as roads, water supply and public transport was already available. Thirty years later, they have emerged as thriving and dynamic neighbourhoods, well integrated into the urban fabric.

The deficiencies

Instead of leveraging these achievements to allow low-income families to consolidate their foothold in the city, the Tamil Nadu resettlement policy implicitly clings

to the tired and discredited model of mass peripheral resettlement.

The policy defines its scope as resettling people evicted “for implementing court orders, other developmental projects or enforcing various acts or rules”. In other words, it simply subserves the government’s implacable intent to remove “encroachers” – defined as non-titleholders – for a wide range of discretionary purposes ranging from mitigating disaster vulnerability to clearing land for “smoothing traffic” or for various infrastructural or developmental projects. Since a large proportion of urban land across Indian cities, including plots purchased and registered, lack the holy grail of legal title, the policy builds on a foundation of widespread vulnerability to eviction without recourse. Contrast this with Odisha’s award-winning slum rehabilitation project which is transforming urban economies and futures by giving land rights to slum dwellers.

Despite pious language, the Tamil Nadu draft policy is churlish about any real commitments to integration. For example, in addressing the crucial question of distance, it stipulates that travel time by bus or train “should not be more than half an hour to reach the nearest urban areas from where people are expected to be relocated”. This is, perhaps deliberately, ambiguous. The “nearest urban area” could be a small town. A resettlement colony sited a 30-minute bus ride from a small town can effectively ruralise urban workers, as has occurred in the Gudapakkam resettlement colony built in 2014, about 50 km from Chennai city. A clear stipulation of the maximum distance from the previous residence would do the job that this clause pretends to be

doing. The Delhi policy, for instance, specifies that the alternate accommodation will be provided “within a radius of 5 km”.

A sensitive policy would build measures to ensure the adequacy, quality and timeliness of amenities in resettlement sites. While “integrated townships with all amenities” has been the stated norm for two decades now, resettlement colonies saw these amenities arrive slowly, haltingly, sometimes a decade or more after the move, often following sustained pressure from residents and activists, and often too late to prevent the irrevocable breakdown of fragile livelihood and educational trajectories. High drop-out rates, of women from the labour force and children from schools, have been the norm in these colonies.

Engage with the problems

Given this record, the resettlement policy must demonstrate a more convincing intent to provide decent service standards at the new sites. “Transport facilities” cannot mean starting with a few bus routes and increasing them over time, but must comprise adequate, reliable and affordable arrangements before resettlement to ensure that workers seamlessly maintain their links to their workplaces. Livelihood support cannot simply mean “skill development training” which almost surely will not translate into employment for an over-40-year-old vendor from the city. Most crucially, an effective policy must engage seriously with the complex problems that render these settlements unsafe for women, children and youth.

Karen Coelho is an Associate Professor at the Madras Institute of Development Studies

Bankers must support job creators, says Modi

Banks must be proactive in lending to smaller businesses: PM

Bankers must support job creators, says Modi

Comparing the current situation to the national leap of faith triggered by the key turning points in 1930 (the Dandi March) and 1942 (the Quit India movement) for India's freedom struggle that eventually culminated in attaining Independence in 1947, he said: "When I am talking of a leap now, after 75 years of Independence, we have reached a situation that in a real sense, the ground is firm for making the leap, the target is set, we just have to set off."

"Be it a public or private sector bank, the more we invest in citizens, the better it will be for the country's people. The historic reforms that we have undertaken in 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat' has opened new opportunities for the country. To fund and invest in our aspirations, can there be a better time than now?" the Prime Minister asked.

To allay bankers' fears about post-lending investi-

gation and arrests, he said: "In national interest, any honest work done in good faith – keep my words written down and save this video clip – I am with you. Mistakes also happen, but if any such difficulty comes, I am standing here to become a wall and protect you. But we have to do our bit to take the country forward. With such a firm foundation and such a big opportunity to touch the sky, if we waste our time in thinking, then I believe coming generations will never forgive us."

"If our infrastructure companies work on the scale of projects from the previous century, with technologies from the previous century, can they then meet our aspirations for the 21st century? Today, if they have to work on a large scale and make bullet trains and expressways, they need larger equipment and capital for that," Mr. Modi said.

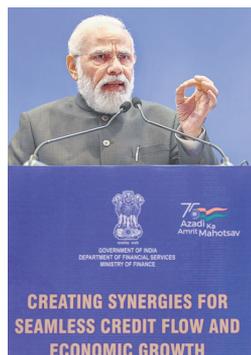
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asked bankers to be more proactive in lending to smaller businesses and help improve the viability and scale of their borrowers' operations to facilitate the country's leap into the next phase of growth.

The country's banking system was very strong now with bad loans at a five-year low, thanks to reforms to resolve their challenges over the past six or seven years. More than ₹5 lakh crore had been recovered from the lakhs of crores extended as loans before 2014 that had turned bad, he said.

"The transparent and committed manner in which the Government has worked is also reflected in the money received back by banks. In our country, when someone runs away after taking a bank loan, it is discussed a lot. But when a strong government gets it back, no one discusses it," he noted wryly in an address to bankers and industrialists on "Creating synergies for seamless credit flow and economic growth".

He added that efforts to bring absconding loan defaulters back into the country were still on. Policies, le-



Today, banks' strength has grown so much that they are ready to energise the country's economy and can play a big role in making India self-reliant. I consider this phase a big milestone for India's banking sector
NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

gislation as well as diplomatic channels had been deployed to convey a clear message - This is the only way, come back.

Prior to 2014, some had begun to think that banks belonged to them. "It had become a way of thinking that banks are our own. 'All that is inside banks is also ours. Whether it stays in the bank or with me, what difference does it make...' And whatever was desired, was asked for. And whatever was asked for, was given. At that time, it wasn't known that in 2014, the country will reach a different verdict," he said.

'A big milestone'

"Today, banks' strength has grown so much that they are ready to energise the country's economy and can play

a big role in making India self-reliant. I consider this phase a big milestone for India's banking sector. But you would have seen that milestone is also an indicator of our future journey. I see this as a starting point for Indian banks' new future as well," he remarked.

It is time for bankers to support wealth and job creators. Banks must work on enhancing the country's balance sheet while enlarging their own, he stressed.

Mr. Modi urged each bank branch to ensure that they have at least 100 clients doing 100% transactions digitally by August 15, 2022 and set goals such as helping 10 youth or small businesses in their domains.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

The heavy lifting on climate action must begin

Glasgow's success was that it finished building the scaffolding for climate action, and countries must respond now



NAVROZ K. DUBASH

Will the recently concluded, and much reported on, Glasgow climate meeting (COP26) make a difference to humanity's efforts to address global climate change? Glasgow's success was that it finished building the scaffolding for climate action initiated through the Paris Agreement. But true success depends on whether countries are receptive to these nudges. Without generating greater political support for implementation within countries, international negotiations do risk becoming the 'blah, blah, blah' talk-fests that youth activists such as Greta Thunberg warn about.

Hits and misses

Yet, Glasgow was necessary for stronger action to address climate change because it put in place levers that stimulate domestic processes, such as the formulation of domestic pledges or 'Nationally Determined Contributions' (NDCs). Drawing on the insights from a webinar organised by the Centre for Policy Research, what were Glasgow's successes and failures?

Mitigation, or efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as always, grabbed the headlines. Glasgow strengthened the Paris Agreement mechanism of eliciting pledges from countries and ratcheting them up over time. It requested countries to update and strengthen 2030 emission targets in their NDCs by the end of 2022, earlier than previously expected, created a benchmark of five yearly cycles for updates, urged countries to prepare long-term emissions strategies, and strengthened mechanisms to scrutinise both.

Success at Glasgow was explicitly defined around 'keeping 1.5 degrees alive' through such pledges. When added up by modellers, the flurry of net-zero pledges extracted pre-Glasgow, including a surprise net zero by 2070 pledge by India, showed that limiting warming to 1.5° is still technically feasible, but only just. In the jargon of climate negotiations, Glasgow clarified the 'ambition cycle', and this appears to have had results in the form of enhanced pledges.

There are two problems with this interpretation. First, the Paris, and Glasgow, approach focusing on target-setting gives insufficient importance to the challenge of implementing those targets. Long-term aspirational targets to 'keep 1.5 alive' get the headlines, but detailed shorter term 2030 targets, for which today's politicians can be held accountable, have received less attention. A focus on shorter term targets and their implementation – which India to its credit has been highlighting – will be important. Second, by calling on countries to strengthen targets to align with the Paris Agreement objectives without explicitly considering that countries have different roles and responsibilities in doing so risks side-stepping, again, the long-standing issue of climate equity. Future arguments over how we know whether a country's pledges are adequate and fair are guaranteed.

On coal use

The question of equity crystallised around a specific high profile clause calling for the 'phase down of unabated coal power and phase out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies'. India ended up at the centre of this particular storm, because it was the Indian Minister who read out an amendment modifying 'phase-out' to 'phase-down' for coal, among other changes, although the language originated from the U.S.-China statement. India's real concerns included not precluding subsidies for social pur-



poses, such as for cooking gas; querying whether from an equity point of view, all countries should be asked to limit coal use at the same time; and noting the lack of mention of oil and gas.

On coal specifically, India is actually on a strong footing substantially, as our investments in new coal-fired plants have been much less than projected even a few years ago. Nonetheless, the term 'phase-out' is of considerable importance to vulnerable countries, and, that India introduced the amendment although the language originated elsewhere, has given us a somewhat unnecessary diplomatic black eye. From an environmental point of view, more explicit discussion of coal, but ideally all fossil fuels, is a positive, including for India. From a developmental view, however, India is concerned that explicit mention of coal constrains us in our choice of fuel. A possible way out is for India to explicitly seek global support for an accelerated transition away from coal, an approach taken by South Africa.

Adaptation – preparing for the reality that some climate impacts are unavoidable – has long been neglected in global negotiations, reflecting a global power imbalance that places less weight on the concerns of vulnerable nations. In this context, it was a partial win that Glasgow set up an explicit two year work programme for a 'global goal' on adaptation.

However, the important complementary agenda of 'loss and damage' – compensating for unavoidable impacts that go beyond adaptation – received at most lip service. Even though there was

discussion of a specific mechanism, backed by funding, to the dismay of small, vulnerable nations, only a 'dialogue' was established. At the core is the fear among some developed countries that taking forward the loss and damage agenda will open the door to a call for reparations.

Finance, the central issue

Climate finance promised to be the central issue of COP26, with considerable frustration from developing countries that the decade-long commitment of \$100 billion had not been met. Beyond expressing 'deep regret' at this failure – a diplomatic slap on the face for developed countries – Glasgow did no more than establish a work programme on post-2025 financing and continue tracking progress on the \$100 billion. The exception was a call to double adaptation finance by 2025. Since current levels of finance are already low, this implies mobilising about \$40 billion, which is well short of estimated needs; the United Nations finds current needs are \$70 billion and rise considerably in coming years.

However, there were indications that the climate finance discussion may become more complex. South Africa announced it had received multi-donor support of \$8.5 billion to support a 'just transition' out of coal, and India is reportedly negotiating support from the World Bank to address coal mine closures. Former Bank of England Governor Mark Carney indicated that companies committed to net zero initiatives could marshal a scarcely believable \$130 trillion, suggesting growing efforts to mobilise private finance. Developing countries have long insisted that publicly funded climate finance is a right devolving from the 'polluter pays' principle rather than aid. However, these tendencies suggest that to access substantial funds may require embracing a more multi-stranded approach.

There were two particularly important 'nuts and bolts' elements

of what is called the 'Paris Rulebook' that were completed in Glasgow. First, the transparency framework was completed, which includes reporting rules and formats for emissions, progress on pledges and finance contributions. While India and some other countries pushed for separate rules for developed and developing countries, the Glasgow outcomes narrowed this gap. To ratchet up pledges and action over time, this enhanced transparency is crucial and, other than issues of capacity, there is little justification for separate developing and developed country transparency requirements.

The second key was completion of agreed rules for carbon markets, the complexities of which had stymied agreement for four years. For example, credits generated from earlier periods, including through the Clean Development Mechanism were permitted, but only from 2013 onwards. Rules were put in place to limit the scope for 'double-counting' of credits by more than one country.

Support at home is now key

What Glasgow accomplished was necessary, if not sufficient, for accelerated climate action. The meeting hit many, but not all, of its procedural benchmarks by building scaffolding for the future. But the real determinant of success or failure rests on national politics and popular support for climate change within countries – how countries use the scaffolding. For India, these politics are complex because they revolve around simultaneously balancing concerns over whether our policy space will be limited by inequities embedded in the global mitigation efforts, and our own interests as a vulnerable country in enhancing and accelerating climate action. A balanced view requires consideration of both objectives.

Navroz K. Dubash is a Professor at the Centre for Policy Research

India fully prepared to give befitting reply, says Rajnath

'Rezang La a symbol of our tough stand'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Rezang La monument symbolises the Government's stand of giving a befitting reply to anyone who threatened the sovereignty and integrity of the country, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday after inaugurating the revamped war memorial in eastern Ladakh.

"The renovation of the memorial is not only a tribute to our valiant armed

forces, but also a symbol of the fact that we are fully prepared to protect the integrity of the nation," he said.

The Battle of Rezang La is considered one of the 10 greatest and most challenging military conflicts in the world, he noted.

The memorial was constructed in 1963 in the Chushul plains, at an altitude of over 15,000 feet.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10
RESTARTING TALKS ▶ PAGE 10

India, China agree to restart talks between border commanders

Special mechanism meeting comes a month after last talks ended in acrimony

SUHASINI HAIDAR
ANANTH KRISHNAN
NEW DELHI/HONG KONG

After a month-long freeze on discussion on disengagement from the Line of Actual Control (LAC), Indian and Chinese diplomats have decided to reconvene talks between border commanders "at an early date". The decision was made at the 23rd meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) led by the Foreign Ministries on both sides and comprising diplomatic, border security and military officials.

The officials also agreed that they must "ensure a stable ground situation and avoid any untoward incident" in the interim, until the situation is resolved. The 13th round of border commander-level talks on October 10 ended with an acrimonious exchange between the two sides.

"It was agreed that both sides should hold the next [14th] round of the Senior Commanders' meeting at an early date to achieve the objective of complete disengagement from all the friction points along the LAC in



Sensitive zone: Chinese tanks during disengagement along the Line of Actual Control in February 2021. ■ FILE PHOTO

the western sector in accordance with the existing bilateral agreements and protocols," said the statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Thursday, after virtual talks led by Naveen Srivastava, Additional Secretary (East Asia), and Hong Liang, Director-General of the Boundary and Oceanic Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "Candid and in-depth discussions" were held, it said. This is the ninth round of WMCC talks just in the past year since the Galwan incident in June 2020.

The MEA statement was more specific about the desired outcome being "complete disengagement", with

India keen on completing disengagement in areas such as Hot Springs, Demchok and Depsang, where massive troop deployments continue well into the winter season. China, reportedly more reticent on committing to any further disengagement after the agreements on the Pangong Tso (lake) area and Gogra point were completed earlier this year, only spoke of resolving the "remaining issues".

The statement from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said both sides had agreed, in accordance with the understanding reached by the two Foreign Ministers, S. Jaishankar and Wang Yi, in Dushanbe in September, to "continue their ef-

orts to further de-escalate the border situation", and would "strive to shift" from urgent dispute settlement to regular management and control "at an early date". Beijing said both sides also agreed "to consolidate existing achievements of disengagement", and abide by bilateral agreements "to avoid recurrence" of incidents.

New resolve

Despite the differences, the releases after the WMCC talks were in stark contrast to the openly accusatory language in statements that followed the 13th round of military talks, and indicates a new resolve by both sides to continue the LAC talks.

A statement from New Delhi in October said India had made "constructive suggestions for resolving the remaining areas but the Chinese side was not agreeable and also could not provide any forward-looking proposals".

The Chinese military had laid the blame at India for the stalemate saying it had made "unreasonable and unrealistic demands" and "hoped that the Indian side would avoid misjudging the situation".

‘War-like situation prevails near LAC’

We need land in Leh, says councillor

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

A councillor of one of the villages along the China border in Ladakh on Thursday requested Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to allot alternative land for the border residents in Leh city as a “war-like” situation prevailed in the area for the past one year.

Mr. Singh was in Chushul in eastern Ladakh to inaugurate a revamped war memorial.

Chushul’s councillor Konchok Stanzin handed a three-page letter to Mr. Singh where he also mentioned how the Indian Army blocked the locals from accessing certain grazing grounds while on the other hand the Chinese gave unfettered freedom to their nomads to move.

“The Chinese have given unfettered freedom to their nomads to move freely. They [Chinese], very often, use their nomads communi-

ty to transgress on our land in a step-by-step approach. Sadly, the movement of the nomads belonging to this side of border are restricted by Indian Army from grazing their livestock on the traditional pastureland from Hot Spring, Finger Area to Kailash Range [Nyanlung Yokma/Gongma]. The nomads on the Indian side are soldiers without uniform,” Mr. Stanzin’s letter stated.

He suggested that a trading point with China be opened at Chushul, on the lines of what exists at Lipulekh in Uttarakhand and Nathu La in Sikkim.

Indian and Chinese troops are engaged in a stand-off at various points in eastern Ladakh since April-May 2020.

India and China have held 13 rounds of senior Commanders talks so far for complete disengagement from all the friction points but the meetings have remained inconclusive.

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-drawing 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;
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.