

1. The world must live and work together again (Page no.- 6)

GS Paper- 2 (IR)

It started with a backlash against globalisation that took two forms: economic and cultural. The economic backlash was straightforward. The poor and the unemployed in the developed world began to feel that they had no stake in the globalised system, and demanded to know why their governments' policies benefited people in faraway lands such as China and India with what used to be their jobs.

2. Social science operates with multiple truths (Page no.- 6)

GS Paper- 2 (Social Justice)

It is not that there is a dearth of aptitude tests around the country to sustain the rat race of 'competition success'. It is not that the pathetic and obsessive glorification of 'toppers' needs a top up. Still, our education policymakers often forget that the binary of a 'yes' and a 'no' is not an all-mighty sacrosanct truth.

3. Symbolism and beyond (Page no.- 6)

GS Paper- 2 (IR)

India's current regime has a penchant for symbolism and optics, a tendency that becomes more pronounced when the symbolism is religious. So it was not a surprise that Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a short visit to Lumbini in Nepal on Buddha Jayanti.

4. Improving cold chain systems (Page no.- 7)

GS Paper- 3 (Indian Economy)

The pandemic has taught us a great deal. We have all become familiar with terms such as variants, waves, vaccine supply chains and quarantine. It has also encouraged an interest in preventive health technology, especially in vaccines. This interest is understandable, given that India accounts for the second highest caseload of COVID-19 globally.

5. Gyanvapi and the Places of Worship Act (Page no.- 8)

GS Paper- 2 (Indian Polity)

The Supreme Court directed the District Magistrate of Varanasi to ensure protection of the area at the Gyanvapi mosque complex where a 'shivling' is said to have been found during the survey there.

The Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 was enacted to freeze the status of all places of worship in the country as on August 15, 1947.

Lawyers for the Gyanvapi mosque administration argue that the ongoing civil cases filed by Hindu devotees constitute an attempt to change the status of the place of worship and violates the Act. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad, however, contends that the Places of Worship Act is not applicable to the Gyanvapi issue, as there was no change to the religious structure since 1947.

6. Boon to ban: How the wheat export story changed in two months (Page no.- 8)

GS Paper- 3 (Indian Economy)

As Russia and Ukraine, the largest exporters of wheat were at war, India has been looking forward to fill this gap by boosting its own exports.

However, food security campaigners insisted on a cautious approach. They argued that ensuring the stability of prices and the availability of grain for internal consumption should be the top two priorities than increasing exports.

The extreme temperatures recorded in March and April, across North India, were the reason behind the sudden turnaround of the government, forcing them to ban wheat exports.

7. Stagflation (Page no.- 8)

Prelims GS Paper- 1 (Indian Economy)

Stagflation refers to an economic situation marked by stagnant economic output and high price inflation. The idea became popular during the 1970s when the U.S. economy witnessed high price inflation due to the oil shock as well as an economic recession marked by negative economic growth. Economists at the time could not explain the prevalence of high price inflation and stagnant economic output at the same time. The prevailing notion among economists back then was that an economy can either experience high price inflation or stagnant economic output, but never both at the same time.

8. '1 in 6 global deaths in 2019 linked to pollution' (Page no.- 12)

GS Paper- 3 (Environment)

Pollution caused nearly nine million deaths in 2019, or about one in six deaths worldwide. This number has remained effectively unchanged since the previous such analysis in 2015 by the Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health, says a report published in The Lancet Planetary Health on Wednesday.

Though the number of deaths from pollution sources associated with extreme poverty (such as indoor air pollution and water pollution) fell, these reductions are offset by increased deaths attributable to industrial pollution (such as ambient air pollution and chemical pollution).

9. Avian enthusiasts flock together for Himalayan exercise (Page no.- 12)

GS Paper- 3 (Environment)

Uttarakhand reported the highest number of bird species, at 293, while the highest number of checklists (lists of birds seen and heard by birdwatchers), at 192, was uploaded from Jammu & Kashmir, according to the primary report from birdwatchers in the Himalayan regions of India, Nepal and Bhutan who came together for a unique inter-country exercise to document as many birds of the mountain range as possible. The exercise was undertaken on May 14 and a total of 607 species were documented in just one day.

10. Wholesale inflation quickened to record high of 15.1% in April (Page no.- 14)

GS Paper- 3 (Indian Economy)

Inflation in wholesale prices quickened to 15.1% in April, the fastest pace in the current data series, driven largely by a spike in fuel and food prices, especially of perishables such as fruits, vegetables and milk. The rate was 14.5% in March.

The previous inflation record in the current series of the Wholesale Price Index using 2011-12 as base year was 14.9% in November 2021. There was negligible base effect at work as wholesale price inflation stood at 10.7% last April.