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July 06th



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2023

1. Cabinet gives nod to Data Protection Bill: The Hindu – Page 10

Why is it in news?	The Union Cabinet cleared the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill recently. The clearance paves the way for the Bill to be introduced in Parliament in the Monsoon Session, scheduled to begin on July 20.
UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE for prelims and Mains	<p>Prelims: Indian Polity and Governance</p> <p>Mains: General Studies II: Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional</p>
Important concepts	Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill
<p style="text-align: center;">Today's prelims practice question:</p> <p>Q. Consider the following statements about the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As per the draft bill, courts and law enforcement agencies enjoy wide exemptions from key requirements. 2. In the Shah Bano case, privacy was declared as key to the fundamental right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution. <p>Which among the statements mentioned above is/are correct?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. 1 only B. 2 only C. Both 1 and 2 D. Neither 1 nor 2 <p>Correct answer: A</p> <p>Explanation: The Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill comes after multiple versions floated by the Union government, a process that was started way back in 2017 with the K.S. Puttaswamy v Union of India judgment, where privacy was declared as key to the fundamental right to</p>	

life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution. As per the latest draft, courts and law enforcement agencies enjoy wide exemptions from key requirements, as the Bill's requirements do not apply when "personal data is processed in the interest of prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of any offence or contravention of any law" or "the processing of personal data by any court or tribunal or any other body in India is necessary for the performance of any judicial or quasi-judicial function".

Mains PYQ exercise:

There is a view that the Official Secrets Act is an obstacle to the implementation of Right to Information Act. Do you agree with the view? Discuss. (150 words) 10 (2019)

Today's mains practice question:

Do you think personal data protection is necessary in India? Highlight the provisions of the recently cleared Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill in this context.

DETAILED EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill:

- The data protection legislation specifies norms on management of personal data of Indian residents and requires explicit consent from people whose data is collected and used.
- The Bill essentially allows laypersons to complain to a Data Protection Board, consisting of technical experts, constituted by the government, if they have reason to believe that their personal data has been used without their consent (for example, mobile phone numbers or Aadhaar details).
- The Board will institute an investigation into the breach.
- The DPDP Bill also outlines practices for entities that collect personal data on how that data should be stored and processed to ensure there is no breach, as well as rights of persons whose data is being used.

- The Bill draws from an EU law — The General Data Protection Regulation — and benchmarks 23 instances in which taking consent for recording data is not possible.
- These are special circumstances like golden hour during an accident or natural disasters and so on.
- The Bill has a clause for offering voluntary undertaking in case an entity wants to admit that a breach has occurred and pay penalty as mitigation measure to avoid court litigation.
- Penalties can even reach up to ₹250 crore for each instance of breach ranging up to ₹250 crores and an upward revision of ₹500 crore can be made.
- As per the draft, the Data Protection Board of India could fine firms which do not protect user data with fines for individual offences ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹500 crore, which may apply in case of data breaches.
- As per the latest draft, courts and law enforcement agencies enjoy wide exemptions from key requirements, as the Bill's requirements do not apply when “personal data is processed in the interest of prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of any offence or contravention of any law” or “the processing of personal data by any court or tribunal or any other body in India is necessary for the performance of any judicial or quasi-judicial function”.
- Right to Information activists have raised concerns on an amendment to the RTI Act, 2005 in the DPDP Bill that would prohibit government departments from sharing personal information, arguing government departments may refuse to share information that could hold public officeholders accountable.

2. In boost to ties, Taiwan to set up office in Mumbai: The Hindu – Page 11

Why is it in news?

In a significant step aimed at boosting economic linkages, Taiwan recently announced it would

	open its third representative office in India in Mumbai, more than a decade after it last expanded its presence in India.
UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE for prelims and Mains	<p>Prelims: Current events of national and international importance.</p> <p>Mains: General Studies II: Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.</p>
Important concepts	Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC)
<p style="text-align: center;">Today's prelims practice question:</p> <p>Q. Consider the following statements about the Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first ever TECC is said to be announced to be set up in Mumbai. 2. It will provide visa services, document authentication, and emergency assistance to business-people, tourists, and Taiwanese nationals in India. <p>Which among the statements mentioned above is/are correct?</p> <p>A. 1 only B. 2 only C. Both 1 and 2 D. Neither 1 nor 2</p> <p>Correct answer: B</p> <p>Explanation: Talks to open a TECC in Mumbai have been long in the works, following the opening of the TECC in Chennai in 2012, which has emerged as a hub for Taiwanese firms. The TECC in Mumbai will help expand mutually beneficial trade and investment opportunities between Taiwan and India. It will provide visa services, document authentication, and emergency assistance to businesspeople, tourists, and Taiwanese nationals in western India.</p>	
Today's mains practice question:	Discuss the relations between India and Taiwan, with a focus on the importance of the relation for India.

DETAILED EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC):

- Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC) — the term used to describe Taiwan's de facto diplomatic missions because India and Taiwan do not maintain formal diplomatic relations — came in the light of Taiwan and India witnessing significant progress in numerous domains, including economics and trade, science and technology, critical supply chains.
- Talks to open a TECC in Mumbai have been long in the works, following the opening of the TECC in Chennai in 2012, which has emerged as a hub for Taiwanese firms.
- The TECC in Mumbai will help expand mutually beneficial trade and investment opportunities between Taiwan and India.
- It will provide visa services, document authentication, and emergency assistance to businesspeople, tourists, and Taiwanese nationals in western India.
- While India and Taiwan do not maintain formal diplomatic ties, the two sides in 1995 decided to open a TECC in New Delhi and an "India Taipei Association" in Taipei, which was a "turning point" to promote relations.
- The move in 1995 proved to be a turning point as we put in place the requisite institutional framework for promoting India-Taiwan relations.
- The Chennai office in 2012 was then instrumental in southern India becoming a hub for Taiwanese investment.
- Today, we are on the cusp of a major expansion for a number of reasons.
- There is a critical mass and more importantly, the requisite strategic interest for both sides in the context of what is happening geopolitically, and the restructuring of global and regional value chains."
- The opening of the TECC in Mumbai thus had its own strong logic, and was not necessarily linked to the current downturn in India-China

relations, which have been in a state of freeze since Chinese transgressions across the Line of Actual Control starting in April 2020.

- The opening of offices in 1995 and 2012 did not create much of a fallout on India-China relations despite Chinese sensitivities on Taiwan, partly because India had conveyed to Beijing that the offices would not be official and there would be no government-to-government engagement.

3. Chandrayaan-3 integrated with launch vehicle LVM3: The Hindu – Page 12

Why is it in news?	The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), which is planning to launch the Chandrayaan-3 moon mission in July, integrated the spacecraft with the Launch Vehicle Mark-III (LVM3).
UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE for prelims and Mains	Prelims: Science and Technology Mains: General Studies III - Awareness in the fields of Space.
Important concepts	Chandrayaan-3
<p align="center">Prelims PYQ Exercise-Find answer:</p> <p>Q. Consider the following statements: The Mangalyaan launched by ISRO (2016)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. is also called the Mars Orbiter Mission 2. made India the second country to have a spacecraft orbit the Mars after USA 3. made India the only country to be successful in making its spacecraft orbit the Mars in its very first attempt <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	
<p align="center">Today's prelims practice question:</p> <p>Q. Consider the following statements about Chandrayaan-3:</p>	

1. The RAMBHA is a lander payload, which measures near surface plasma (ions and electrons) density and its changes with time.
2. ChaSTE is a rover payload, which determines the elemental composition (Mg, Al, Si, K, Ca, Ti, Fe) of Lunar soil and rocks around the lunar landing site.

Which among the statements mentioned above is/are incorrect?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: B

Explanation: RAMBHA and ChaSTE are Lander payloads. Radio Anatomy of Moon Bound Hypersensitive ionosphere and Atmosphere (RAMBHA) is to measure the near surface plasma (ions and electrons) density and its changes with time. Chandra's Surface Thermo physical Experiment (ChaSTE) is to carry out the measurements of thermal properties of lunar surface near polar region. LASER Induced Breakdown Spectroscope (LIBS) and Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) are Rover payloads. Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) is to determine the elemental composition (Mg, Al, Si, K, Ca, Ti, Fe) of Lunar soil and rocks around the lunar landing site.

Mains PYQ exercise:	What is India's plan to have its own space station and how will it benefit our space programme? (2019)
Today's mains practice question:	What is the importance of Chandrayaan-3? Bring about the mission objectives of Chandrayaan-3, in the light of the experience with Chandrayaan-2.

DETAILED EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

Chandrayaan-3:

- ISRO announced its plans to launch the third moon mission in mid-July aboard the e Launch Vehicle MarkIII (LVM3) (formerly GSLV Mk-III) rocket from Sriharikota.
- Chandrayaan-3, India's third moon mission, follows Chandrayaan-2, to demonstrate end-to-end capability in safe landing and roving on the lunar surface.
- It consists of an indigenous lander module (LM), a propulsion module (PM), and a rover with an objective of developing and demonstrating new technologies required for interplanetary missions.
- A propulsion module will carry the lander-rover configuration to a 100 km lunar orbit.
- Once the Vikram lander module makes it safely to the moon, it will deploy Pragyan, which will carry out insitu chemical analysis of the lunar surface during the course of its mobility.
- The lander, rover and the propulsion module will have payloads for performing experiments designed to give scientists new insights into the characteristics of earth's lone natural satellite.
- The lander will have four payloads — Radio Anatomy of Moon Bound Hypersensitive Ionosphere and Atmosphere (RAMBHA), Chandra's Surface Thermo physical Experiment (ChaSTE), Instrument for Lunar Seismic Activity (ILSA) and the LASER Retroreflector Array (LRA).
- The six-wheeled rover will have two payloads — the Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) and the LASER Induced Breakdown Spectroscope (LIBS).
- In addition to these, there will be one payload on the propulsion module, the Spectro-polarimetry of HABitable Planet Earth (SHAPE).
- According to the ISRO, the lander has the capability to soft land at a specified lunar site, and deploy the rover, which will carry out in-situ chemical analysis of the lunar surface during the course of its mobility.
- The lander and the rover have scientific payloads.
- The main function of the PM is to carry the LM from launch vehicle injection till final lunar 100km circular polar orbit, and separate the LM from the PM.
- The PM also has one scientific payload, which will be operated post-separation of the LM.
- After its launch in mid-July, the orbital raising will take place.

- The lander and orbiter will orbit the moon before touching down on the moon.
- The ISRO has added more fuel to the lander.
- Chandrayaan-3 will be going on the same path as its predecessor and will be landing on the same site.

4. 'A global rupee may raise volatility': The Hindu – Page 14

Why is it in news?	As the Government of India presses ahead with its plan to internationalise the Indian Rupee (INR), an Inter-Departmental Group (IDG) of officials of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have in a report cautioned that internationalisation may result in increased volatility in the rupee's exchange rate in the initial stages.
UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE for prelims and Mains	<p>Prelims: Economic and Social Development.</p> <p>Mains: General Studies III - Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization, of resources, growth, development and employment.</p>
Important concepts	Triffin dilemma
<p style="text-align: center;">Prelims PYQ Exercise-Find answer:</p> <p>Q. Convertibility of rupee implies: (2015)</p> <p>(a) being able to convert rupee notes into gold.</p> <p>(b) allowing the value of rupee to be fixed by market forces.</p> <p>(c) freely permitting the conversion of rupee to other currencies and vice versa</p> <p>(d) developing an international market for currencies in India</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Today's prelims practice question:</p> <p>Q. Consider the following statements:</p>	

1. The internationalisation of Indian Rupee refers to the process of making the Indian rupee a globally accepted currency.

2. A vostro account is an account that domestic banks hold for foreign banks in the former's domestic currency.

Which among the statements mentioned above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Correct answer: C

Explanation: Internationalisation of Indian Rupee refers to the process of making the Indian rupee a globally accepted currency, similar to other major currencies like the US dollar, Euro, and Japanese yen etc. This process aims to promote India's economic growth and development by increasing the use of the rupee in cross-border transactions, foreign investment, and global trade. It requires the liberalization of India's capital account, which means allowing free flow of capital in and out of the country without any restrictions. A vostro account is an account that domestic banks hold for foreign banks in the former's domestic currency. Domestic banks use it to provide international banking services to their clients who have global banking needs.

Today's mains

practice question:

What do you understand by the concept of internationalisation of Rupee?

Explain the benefits and challenges of internationalisation of Rupee.

DETAILED EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANT CONCEPTS

Triffin dilemma:

- Triffin dilemma relates to conflict of interests that arise between short term domestic gains and long-term global gains for currencies which act as global reserve currency.
- As with dollars, there is huge global demands as China and India including other nations keep them as forex reserves.

- This shall increase flowing out of dollars from US outwards and hence affect Balance of Payments sheet of US. In correcting the short-term BoP problems of US, it had to control the excessive supply thus flow of dollars affecting international liquidity with long term impacts.
- Triffin dilemma or paradox is the conflict of economic interest of those countries whose currency acts as a world foreign exchange reserve like USA dollar, Euro, Japanese Yen etc.
- In this paradox these countries wish to hold the currency for domestic need but also has to comply with the demand in international market.
- This paradox is present due to high debt burden and stagnate economic growth which had made Developed world monetary policy overburdened.
- They cannot meet it as it would lead to balance of payment current account deficit as they would have to convert their Gold into dollars, Euro or any other international currency to meet the demand leading to speculation.
- To overcome this problem, economists such as Keynes proposed a supranational currency, for example SDRs in current times.
 - SDRs act as global reserve currency and every country has share in it based on their voting rights in IMF
 - Instead of using dollars, supply of which is limited by US minting, SDRs can be used as reserves with various countries
 - Central banks can use these reserves to invest in international banks (WB, ADB, AIIB) to guide the global infrastructural development
 - In this way nations will not have to depend upon US to store reserves to safeguard their BoP.
- So, the best way to counter it would be to use SDR as reserve in Central bank.
- By investing in these SDR they would expand their balance sheet and it is a kind of equity so Central bank could invest in world bank or any other institutes which in turn would decide which global public goods deserve resources.

- These institutes have competent knowledge of areas where to invest which are more important like infrastructure in developing countries, tackling climate change etc.
- This would help in creating overall demand, prevent this paradox to happen, assets bubbles creation can be prevented.
- This would help in identifying the important area of investment and help in global recovery.

MODEL MAINS ANSWER FOR TODAY'S EXPECTED MAINS QUESTION

Q. Do you think personal data protection is necessary in India? Highlight the provisions of the recently cleared Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill in this context.

<p>Why this question</p>	<p>The question theme is reflected several times in UPSC (including prelims) and APPSC mains.</p> <p>UPSC PYQs</p> <p>There is a view that the Official Secrets Act is an obstacle to the implementation of Right to Information Act. Do you agree with the view? Discuss. (150 words) 10 (2019)</p>
<p><u>First step is to understand the demand of the question</u></p>	<p>Question has two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Necessity of personal data protection in India. 2. Provisions of DPDP Bill.
<p>Introduction</p>	<p>The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has drafted a Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Bill.</p> <p>A data protection law must safeguard and balance peoples' right to privacy and their right to information, which are fundamental rights flowing from the Constitution.</p> <p>The purpose of the bill is to provide for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognises both the right of individuals to protect</p>

	<p>their personal data and the need to process personal data for lawful purposes.</p> <p>It is India's first attempt to domestically legislate on the issue of data protection.</p>																				
Body	<p>Necessity of personal data protection in India</p> <table> <tr> <th>Dimension</th><th>Content</th></tr> <tr> <td>Necessity</td><td>To avoid data abuse and unlawful access</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>To protect privacy</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>For data accuracy</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>For compliance with world standards</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>To protect from cyber attacks</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>To secure sensitive data</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Individual empowerment</td></tr> </table> <p>Provisions of DPDP Bill</p> <table> <tr> <th>Dimension</th><th>Content</th></tr> <tr> <td>Provisions</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firstly, usage of personal data by organisations must be done in a manner that is lawful, fair to the individuals concerned and transparent to individuals. Secondly, personal data must only be used for the purposes for which it was collected. The third principle talks of data minimisation. The fourth principle puts an emphasis on data accuracy when it comes to collection. </td></tr> </table>	Dimension	Content	Necessity	To avoid data abuse and unlawful access		To protect privacy		For data accuracy		For compliance with world standards		To protect from cyber attacks		To secure sensitive data		Individual empowerment	Dimension	Content	Provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firstly, usage of personal data by organisations must be done in a manner that is lawful, fair to the individuals concerned and transparent to individuals. Secondly, personal data must only be used for the purposes for which it was collected. The third principle talks of data minimisation. The fourth principle puts an emphasis on data accuracy when it comes to collection.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The fifth principle talks of how personal data that is collected cannot be “stored perpetually by default” and storage should be limited to a fixed duration.• The sixth principle says that there should be reasonable safeguards to ensure there is “no unauthorized collection or processing of personal data”.• Seventh principle states that “the person who decides the purpose and means of the processing of personal data should be accountable for such processing”.
		The bill ensures that individuals should be able to “access basic information” in languages specified in the eighth schedule of the Indian Constitution.
		Individuals need to give consent before their data is processed.
		Individuals also have the right to withdraw consent from a Data Fiduciary.
		The Bill also proposes to set up a Data Protection Board to ensure compliance with the Bill.
Conclusion:	The personal data protection is necessary in India. However, putting too much focus on safeguarding such data is counterproductive, as it inhibits	

innovation and limits corporate development, impedes public services, reduces competitiveness.

As a result, India needs a balanced approach to data protection. It may yield various advantages by safeguarding individual privacy while supporting innovation, research, and development. Businesses will be able to function normally. It would also boost investors' confidence and help India become a leader in the global data economy. Overall, it will result in a more sustainable and responsible use of data, which will benefit all stakeholders.