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Press Releases



PRS India
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ISRO
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UPSC SYLLABUS RELEVANCE
GS I | GS II | GS III
PRELIMS FACTS & MAINS ANALYSIS



**WESTERN GHATS:
7th DRAFT ESA
NOTIFICATION**

**Western Ghats:
7th Draft ESA
Notification**

Why in News?

The Union Environment Ministry has reissued its seventh draft notification proposing an Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) across the Western Ghats after earlier attempts remained unresolved.

Key Points

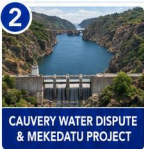
- Western Ghats extend across six states.
- ESA aims to balance ecological conservation with development.
- Restrictions proposed on mining, quarrying and sand mining.
- New thermal power plants and highly polluting industries to be restricted.
- Gadgil and Kasturirangan reports remain central to the debate.

Prelims Facts

- Approx. length: 1,500 km.
- UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- States: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala & Tamil Nadu.
- One of India's major biodiversity hotspots.

Mains Link

GS III – Environment, Biodiversity, Sustainable Development



CAUVERY WATER DISPUTE & MEKEDATU PROJECT

**Cauvery Water
Dispute &
Mekedatu Project**

Why in News?

The Mekedatu project and the Cauvery water-sharing dispute have again come into focus amid concerns over interstate water management between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Key Points

- Mekedatu is a proposed balancing reservoir project in Karnataka.
- Cauvery is an important inter-state river.
- Water-sharing involves Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry.
- Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) plays a key role.
- Supreme Court's 2018 judgment modified the earlier tribunal allocation.

Prelims Facts

- Cauvery originates at Talacauvery, Karnataka.
- Major tributaries: Bhavani, Hemavati, Kabini and Amaravati.
- Mekedatu is located in Karnataka.
- Inter-State River Water Disputes are dealt with under Article 262.

Mains Link

GS III – Federalism, Inter-State Water Disputes, Cooperative Federalism



**ICMR DEVELOPS PROMISING
CERVICAL CANCER THERAPY**

**ICMR Develops
Promising Cervical
Cancer Therapy**

Why in News?

An ICMR-supported research effort has developed a promising therapy targeting the HPV-E7 protein, potentially preventing the virus from turning infected cells cancerous.

Key Points

- Targets proteins involved in HPV-driven cancer development.
- Focuses on disrupting the interaction between HPV-E7 and host-cell proteins.
- Cervical cancer is strongly associated with persistent HPV infection.
- HPV vaccination is an important preventive measure.
- Highlights India's growing biomedical research capabilities.

Prelims Facts

- HPV: Human Papillomavirus.
- HPV-16 and HPV-18 are major high-risk types.
- Cervical cancer is largely preventable through vaccination and screening.
- ICMR functions under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Mains Link

GS III – Health, Biotechnology, Social Sector



**RUPEE & REAL EFFECTIVE
EXCHANGE RATE (REER)**

**Rupee & Real
Effective Exchange
Rate (REER)**

Why in News?

The Real Effective Exchange Rate (REER) of the rupee has come under discussion in the context of currency valuation and India's external competitiveness.

Key Points

- REER adjusts exchange rates for inflation differences.
- It is a trade-weighted index.
- Helps assess international price competitiveness.
- A rise in REER can indicate real appreciation.
- Exchange-rate movements affect exports, imports and the current account.

Prelims Facts

- REER: Nominal Effective Exchange Rate.
- NEER: Real Effective Exchange Rate.
- REER incorporates relative inflation.
- Currency weights reflect India's trade with major partners.

Mains Link

GS III – Indian Economy, External Sector, Balance of Payments



**GREAT SCHEME FOR
TECHNICAL TEXTILES**

**GREAT Scheme
for Technical
Textiles**

Why in News?

The government highlighted the GREAT Scheme under the National Technical Textiles Mission to support start-ups and innovators in technical textiles.

Key Points

- GREAT – Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles.
- Supports innovative start-ups in technical textiles.
- Encourages conversion of research ideas into commercial products.
- Promotes innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Linked with India's technical-textiles ecosystem.

Prelims Facts

- GREAT operates under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM).
- Technical textiles are designed primarily for functional performance.
- Applications: healthcare, agriculture, infrastructure, automobiles, etc.
- Scheme launched in 2023.

Mains Link

GS III – Industry, Innovation, Manufacturing, Employment

PRELIMS RAPID REVISION

Western Ghats
1,500 km | 6 states |
Biodiversity hotspot



Mekedatu
Cauvery basin |
Karnataka | Inter-state
water issue



HPV
Major cause of cervical
cancer | HPV-16 & 18
high-risk types



REER
Trade-weighted exchange
rate adjusted for relative
inflation



GREAT Scheme
Technical Textiles |
National Technical
Textiles Mission

