

## World Energy Transition Outlook 2022

### ❖ Context

- Recently, the **International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)** launched the **World Energy Transitions Outlook 2022** at the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- The Outlook **sets out priority areas and actions based on available technologies** that must be realized by 2030 to **achieve net zero emissions by mid-century**.
- It also **takes stock of progress across all energy uses to date**, clearly showing that the **current pace and scale of the renewables-based transition is inadequate**.
- It outlines **priority actions** till 2030 to keep 1.5°C alive.
- It calls on governments to **fast-track energy transition** for more energy security, resilience and affordable energy for all.

### ❖ Key Findings of the Outlook

- **Global annual additions of renewable power will triple by 2030** as recommended by the IPCC.
  - **Coal power** will have to resolutely be replaced, **fossil fuel** assets phased out and infrastructure upgraded.
- The Outlook sees **electrification and efficiency as key drivers** of the energy transition, enabled by renewables, hydrogen, and sustainable biomass.
- **End-use decarbonisation** will take center-stage with many solutions available through electrification, green hydrogen, and the direct use of renewables.

### ❖ Recommendations

- Renewables will have to **scale-up massively** across all sectors from 14 percent of total energy today to around **40 per cent in 2030**.
- The world's largest energy consumers and carbon emitters from the G20 and G7 must show leadership.
  - They **must implement ambitious plans and investments** domestically and abroad.
  - They will **need to support the global supply** of 65 per cent renewables in power generation by 2030.
- **Climate finance, knowledge transfer and assistance** will have to increase for an inclusive and equal world.
- ❖ International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
  - It is an **intergovernmental organization** mandated to facilitate cooperation, advance knowledge, and promote the adoption and sustainable use of renewable energy.
  - It was **founded in 2009** and its statute entered into force on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010.
  - **Headquartered** in Masdar City, Abu Dhabi.
  - IRENA is an official **United Nations observer**.
  - **165 states** and the European Union are members of IRENA.

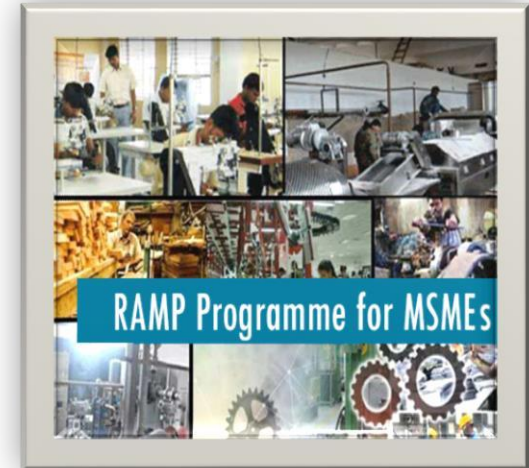
## RAMP scheme

### ❖ Context

- The Union Cabinet approved a **USD 808 million or Rs 6,062.45 crore**, World Bank assisted programme on “**Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance**” (RAMP).

### ❖ Key Highlights

- RAMP is a **new Central sector scheme** and would **commence in FY 2022-23**.
- It was formulated and proposed by the Government of India in line with the **recommendations** made by **U K Sinha Committee, KV Kamath Committee** and Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (**PMEAC**).
- The scheme will support various CoronaVirus Disease 2019 (COVID) Resilience and Recovery Interventions of the MoMSME (**Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**).
- Though the program will **specifically target 5.55 lakhs MSMEs** including 70,500 women MSMEs, the scheme will **directly or indirectly benefit 63 MN enterprises**.
- The programme would be a:
  - **“Policy Provider”** - **evidence-based policy and program design**, to enable the delivery of more **effective and cost-efficient MSME interventions** to improve competitiveness and business sustainability.
  - **“Knowledge Provider”** through bench-marking, sharing and demonstrating best practices/success stories by leveraging international experiences,
  - **“Technology Provider”** providing **access to high-end technology** resulting in the digital and technological transformation of MSMEs through state of art Artificial Intelligence, Data Analytics, Internet of things (IoT), Machine Learning etc.



## Face to Face Centres

- The programme aims at **impact enhancement of existing MSME schemes**, especially on competitiveness front, by:
  - Improving access to market and credit,
  - Strengthening institutions and governance at the Centre and State,
  - Improving Centre-State linkages and partnerships,
  - Addressing issues of delayed payments and greening of MSMEs.
  - Building implementation capacity at national level and scale up implementation capacity and MSME coverage in States.
- In States where the presence of MSMEs is on the lower side, the programme will usher in larger formalization.
- Important component of RAMP is preparation of **Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs)**, in which all states/UTs will be invited.
- The SIPs would include an outreach plan for identification and mobilisation of MSMEs under RAMP, identify key constraints and gaps, set milestones and project the required budgets for interventions in priority sectors.
- The programme has identified **two results areas**:
  - Strengthening Institutions and Governance of the MSME Program,
  - Support to Market Access, Firm Capabilities and Access to Finance.

## Chilika Lake's Dolphin Population Falls

### ❖ Context

- The dolphin population along Odisha's coast and in its water bodies has increased but the number of **Irrawaddy dolphins in Chilika lake has fallen.**

### ❖ Key Highlights

- A total of **six species of dolphins** - Irrawaddy, bottlenose, humpback, striped, finless and spinner dolphins - have been recorded.
- Chilika lake**, which is a **major tourist attraction for its Irrawaddy dolphins**, saw the numbers of its flagship aquatic animal drop sharply from **162 in 2021 to 151 this year.**
- There has also been a **fall in the number of bottlenose dolphins at Chilika**, from 26 in 2021 to 16 in 2022.
- Odisha now has a total of **208 Irrawaddy dolphins.**

### ❖ Chilika Lake

- Chilika Lake is a **brackish water lagoon.**
- It is **spreaded over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts** of Odisha state on the east coast of India, at the **mouth of the Daya River.**
- It is the **biggest lake of India after Vembanad Lake.**
- This lake is the **largest coastal lagoon in India** and the **largest brackish water lagoon in the world** after The New Caledonian barrier reef.
- It has been listed as a **tentative UNESCO World Heritage site.**
- Major attraction at Chilika is **Irrawaddy dolphins** which are often spotted off Satpada Island.
- In **1981**, Chilika Lake was **designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.**

### ❖ Irrawaddy Dolphin

- The Irrawaddy dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) is a **euryhaline species of oceanic dolphin.**
- It has a **slate blue to a slate gray** color.
- Distribution:**
  - It is distributed in the nearshore waters of **south and southeast Asia.**
  - The only **concentrated lagoon populations** are found in **Chilika Lake in Odisha, India and Songkhla Lake in southern Thailand.**
  - Three discrete riverine populations occur in the Mekong, Mahakam and Ayeyarwady Rivers of Cambodia, Indonesia and Myanmar, respectively.
- Conservation Status:**
  - IUCN Red List-** Endangered Species.
  - WPA 1972-** Schedule I.



## News in Between the Lines

### NIDAN Kendras

#### ❖ Context

- Minister of Science and Technology informed Parliament.

#### ❖ Key Highlights

- The **Department of Biotechnology** started the **Unique Methods for Management of Inherited Disorders (UMMID)** initiative to address the **burden of genetic disorders** in the country.

### Face to Face Centres





- One of the components of the UMMID initiative is establishing NIDAN Kendra (**National Inherited Disorders Administration Kendras**) for providing clinical care.
- The care broadly encompasses the activities of :
  - **Prenatal testing** for genetic disorders,
  - **New-born screening** for relatively common treatable genetic metabolic disorders,
  - **Genetic counselling** of pregnant mothers carrying foetuses with high risk of genetic disorders.
- NIDAN kendras have been established at five government hospitals in pilot phase.

❖ **Context**

- Minister of Mines informed Parliament.

❖ **Key Highlights**

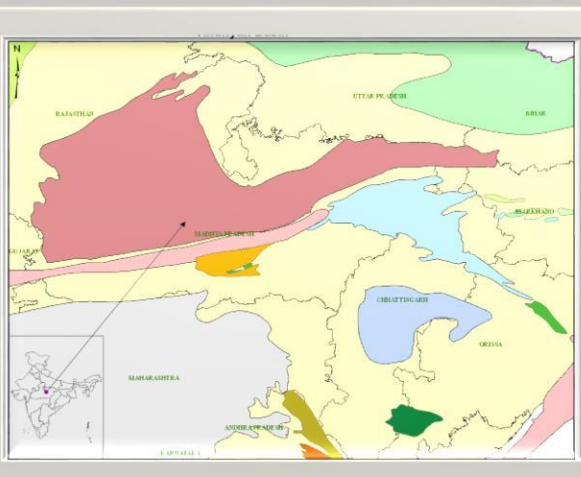
- **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** has identified two geological heritage sites in the Indian Himalayan Region of India.
- The sites are preserved in the respective states.
- Ministry of Culture has been approached by the Ministry of Mines to explore the possibility of including the sites under the purview of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 (amended in 2010), by making suitable amendment.

State	Name of site	Location	Brief Description
HP	Siwalik Fossil Park	Saketi, Sirmaur District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rich collection of vertebrate fossils recovered from Siwalik rocks of Plio-Pleistocene Age.</li> <li>• Deposition of Siwalik sediments took place in the narrow linear depression, called <b>foredeep</b>.</li> <li>• The depression started developing in the front of Himalayas since the inception of uplift in middle Miocene.</li> </ul>
Sikkim	Stromatolite bearing Dolomite/Limestone of Buxa formation	Mamley, near Namchi, South District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site provides one of the rare examples of early life in Sikkim Himalaya.</li> <li>• The dolostones are profusely stromatolitic (<b>Precambrian algal structures</b>).</li> </ul>

## Geological Heritage Sites of Himalayan Region



## Vindhyan Basin



❖ **Context**

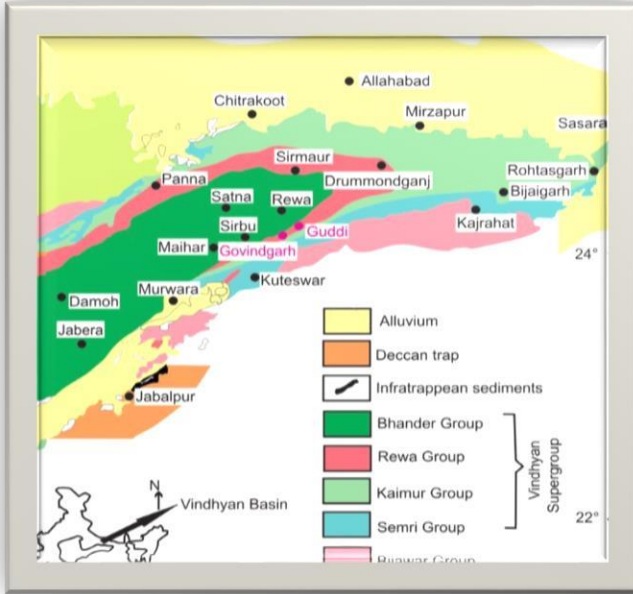
- **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC)** is on its way to commercialise another Basin – the Vindhyan Basin.

❖ **Key Highlights**

- This would be the **ninth producing Basin of India** and the **eighth by ONGC**.
- The exploratory Well Hatta#3, in the **Son valley sector** of Madhya Pradesh, on testing, produced over 62,044 cubic metres/day gas, thus confirming the production potential of **Proterozoic Basin** for the first time in India.
- Active exploration in the Vindhyan Basin began with the acquisition of seismic data in the late 1980s.
- The very first well **Jabera#1**, drilled in the Basin in 1991, produced gas of around 2000 cubic metres/day.
- The **eighth Indian Basin – the Bengal Basin** – was dedicated to the nation on 20th December 2020.

### Face to Face Centres





- The **other seven basins** are - Krishna-Godavari (KG), Mumbai Offshore, Assam Shelf, Rajasthan, Cauvery, Assam-Arakan Fold Belt and Cambay.

❖ **About Vindhyan Basin**

- The Vindhyan basin is a **classic example of Proterozoic intracontinental basin** that developed in the **central part of the Indian shield** along with several other basins such as Cuddapah, Chattisgarh, etc.
- The strata are **exposed in three major sectors: Son valley, Bundelkhand and Rajasthan**. The Vindhyan Basin, containing more than **5000 m thick sequence of sandstones, shales and limestones**, occupies an area of about 1,62,000 sq.km of which about 80,000 Sq.km extends into the Ganga valley in the north and northeast beneath the Tertiary sediment of the Himalayan foredeep.
- The Vindhyan Basin was **formed as a result of a large crustal downwarp** in the northern part of the Indian Platform, after the Delhi orogeny.

## VARUNA Exercise



❖ **Context**

- The 20th edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between **Indian and French Navies** – ‘VARUNA’ is being conducted in the **Arabian Sea**.

❖ **Key Highlights**

- The Bilateral Naval Exercises between the two Navies were initiated in **1993**.
- The exercise was **christened as ‘VARUNA’ in 2001** and has become a vital part of India – France strategic bilateral relationship.

## Import of Plastic Bottles



❖ **Context**

- After banning the import of plastic waste in 2019, the **Environment Ministry has permitted** containers made of **polyethylene terephthalate**, as **plastic waste**, to be imported for processing.

❖ **Key Highlights**

- Firms which had applied for permission could import polyethylene terephthalate flakes and bottles **up to 50% of their production capacity**.
- **Polyethylene terephthalate** is a category of plastic, and nearly **90% of the domestic supply of containers** using them is already recycled.
- The government had banned the import of plastic waste in 2019 to promote the management of locally generated plastic waste.
  - It was intended to reduce packaging pollution in line with ‘Swachh India’ and ‘Swasth India’ campaigns.

❖ **Environmentalists’ Concerns**

- As per **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Smriti Manch (PDUSM)** there is **no shortage of polyethylene terephthalate waste** in India.
- As per the industry data, more than **14 lakh tonnes of such plastic are consumed annually in India**, and even with a global highest 80% recycling rate, approx. 2.8 lakh tonnes of plastic bottles waste never gets collected.
- While the **whole world is banning such imports** to strengthen local plastic waste management, India would have been the first country to re-allow the import of plastic waste.

## Sariska Tiger Reserve

❖ **Context**

- Recently, the **fire broke out in the Sariska Tiger Reserve** and gradually spread over an area of about 10 square kilometers.

❖ **About Sariska Tiger Reerve**

- Sariska Tiger Reserve is a tiger reserve in Alwar district, Rajasthan, India.
- It stretches over an area of 881 km<sup>2</sup> (340 sq mi).
- **Flora:**
  - It comprises scrub-thorn arid forests, dry deciduous forests, grasslands, and rocky hills.





- The dominant tree in the forests is dhok. Other trees include the salar, kadaya, dhak, gol, ber and khair.
- Shrubs are numerous, such as kair, adusta and jharber.
- **Fauna:**
  - Wildlife includes tigers, leopards, wild pigs, nilgai (Indian antelope), chital, porcupines, peafowl, partridges, and thrushes.
- **Kankwari Fort**, a Shiva temple of the 12th century, and a 10th-century **Neelkanth (Shiva) temple** are of archaeological interest.
- This area was a hunting preserve of the Alwar state and was declared a **wildlife sanctuary in 1958**.
- It was given the **status of a tiger reserve** making it a part of India's Project Tiger in 1978.
- The wildlife sanctuary was **declared a national park in 1982**, with a total area of about 273.8 km<sup>2</sup> (105.7 sq mi).
- It is the **first reserve in the world with successfully relocated tigers**.
- It is an important biodiversity area in the Northern Aravalli leopard and wildlife corridor.

## Shrinkflation



### ❖ Context

➤ Recently, Due to rising costs many companies are practicing “Shrinkflation”.

### ❖ About Shrinkflation

- In economics, shrinkflation, also known as the grocery shrink ray, deflation or package downsizing.
- It is the process of **items shrinking in size or quantity**, or even sometimes reformulating or reducing quality, while **their prices remain the same or increase**.
- Rather than increase the price of a product, **the company simply offers a smaller package for the same sticker price**.
- Raising the price per given amount is a strategy employed by companies, mainly in the food and beverage industries, **to stealthily boost profit margins** or maintain them in the face of rising input costs.
- It is a **form of hidden inflation**.
- **Examples:**
  - In 2014, **Coca-Cola** reduced the size of its large bottle from 2 liters to 1.75 liters.
  - In 2010, **Tetley** reduced the number of tea bags sold in one box from 100 to 88.

## Lesser Snowfall, Greater Rainfall on Himalayas



### ❖ Context

➤ **Minister of Earth Science** informed Parliament.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- Recent study has shown that there have been lesser snowfall and greater rainfall in the Himalayas in the last few years.
- **Studies from National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)** show that over four glacierized basins (**Chandra, Bhaga, Miyar and Parvati**) of western Himalaya show an overall decreasing trend of precipitation during 1979-2018..
- Increased rainfall in place of snowfall during spring would lead to early exposure of glaciers, **enhanced glacier melt rate** as well as could **accelerate the frequency and magnitude of avalanches and flash floods**.
- Avalanches, landslides are natural phenomena that cannot be prevented. However, early warning and forecasts for rainfall and snowfall are being issued by various institutions under **MoES and Ministry of Defence**.

[Daily Current Affairs](#)

[Daily Pre PARE](#)

[Daily MCQ Quiz](#)

## Face to Face Centres

**DELHI MUKHERJEE NAGAR:** 9205274741, 42 | **LAXMI NAGAR :** 9205212500, 9205962002 | **RAJENDRA NAGAR:** 9205274743 | **UTTAR PRADESH PRAYAGRAJ:** 0532-2260189, 8853467068 | **LUCKNOW (ALIGANJ):** 0522-4025825, 9506256789 | **LUCKNOW (GOMTI NAGAR):** 7234000501, 7234000502 | **GREATER NOIDA:** 9205336037, 38 | **KANPUR:** 7887003962, 7897003962 | **GORAKHPUR :** 7080847474, 9161947474 | **ODISHA BHUBANESWAR:** 9818244644/7656949029

