



6 December, 2023

Seed Cooperative Society

Context: The Minister of Cooperation informed the Lok Sabha about the formation of Seed Cooperative Societies

Formation and Purpose:

- Ministry of Cooperation establishes Bhartiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002.
- BBSSL focuses on seed production, procurement, and distribution through cooperative networks to enhance crop yield, emphasizing preservation and promotion of indigenous natural seeds.

Membership Classification:

➤ Ordinary Members:

- Eligible entities include multi-State cooperative societies, cooperative societies, NCDC, government-controlled corporations, and others as permitted by the Central Registrar.
- Individual membership not allowed.
- Subscription to share capital based on different classes:
- **Class-1:** Co-operative organizations like IFFCO, KRIBHCO, NAFED, NCDC, and NDDB purchase at least 5,00,000 shares of ₹1,000 each.
- **Class-2:** State-level co-operative society, excluding those in Class-1, subscribes at least 1000 shares of ₹1,000 each.
- **Class-3:** National co-operative society and multi-state co-operative society (not designated as national) purchase at least 500 shares of ₹1,000 each.
- **Class-4:** Co-operative society (not state-level or primary) buys at least 10 shares of ₹1,000 each.
- **Class-5:** Primary level co-operative society acquires one share of ₹1,000.
- **Class-6:** Persons or associations permitted under clause 7(1) (d) become members by purchasing at least 2 shares of ₹1,000 each.
- Value of shares paid in full at one time; Share Certificate issued on realization of the full amount.

➤ Nominal or Associate Member:

- Admission based on non-refundable fee of ₹1,00,000.
- Open to companies under the Companies Act/Producer Companies Act, excluding Government Companies.

➤ Membership Applications:

- BBSSL receives 8,200 membership applications from 27 States/UTs.

Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism:

➤ Annual General Meeting (AGM):

- AGM scrutinizes fund utilization, reviews annual reports, and assesses subsidiary institutions' performance.

➤ Audit:

- Appoints auditors per MSCS Act, 2002 provisions during each AGM.
- Central Government can order a special audit at any time.
- Audit report presented before each House of Parliament for necessary actions.

Multi-state Cooperative Societies Act, 2002

- **Background of MSCS Act (2002):** The MSCS Act of 2002 replaced the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act of 1984, consolidating and amending laws related to cooperative societies.

➤ Objective of MSCS Act (2002):

- Enacted in 2002 to facilitate the incorporation, functioning, and organization of cooperative societies spanning more than one state.
- Aims to ensure the voluntary formation and proper operation of member-driven Multi State Cooperative Societies based on self-help and mutual aid.

- **Amendment in 2022:** The Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022, introduced in the Lok Sabha on December 7, 2022, proposes changes to the MSCS Act of 2002.

- **Definition:** "Multistate Cooperative Society" refers to a society registered under this act, including a national cooperative society and a federal cooperative.

➤ Aim & Objectives:

- Works for the interest and welfare of members across multiple states.
- Focuses on social and economic betterment through self-help and mutual aid.
- Organizes cooperative education programs for members, employees, and directors.

- **Eligibility:** Not mandatory for a society to have branches in more than one state; serving members in more than one state defines it as a "Multi State Cooperative Society."

- **Right to Vote:** Every member entitled to subscribe shares has the right to vote.

- **Conversion into MSCS:** A Cooperative Society can extend its jurisdiction by converting into an MSCS through an amendment to its bye-laws, registered by the Central Registrar.

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GPS and its working

Context: The changing technology has created a need of understanding the technology that is used by our devices for location management.

GPS Program Initiation and Evolution:

- Commenced by the U.S. Department of Defence in 1973; first satellite launched in 1978.
- Current constellation comprises 24 satellites orbiting the Earth in six distinct orbits.
- Program divided into three essential segments: Space, Control, and User.

Working of GPS:

1. Space Segment

- Consists of a constellation of 31 satellites in orbit around Earth.
- Satellites are positioned 20,000 kilometers above the planet.
- Each satellite continuously sends microwave signals to preset receivers.
- Satellites have inbuilt atomic clocks for synchronization.

2. Control Segment (Ground Segment):

- Manages and ensures proper functionality of the satellites.
- Includes master control station, backup master control station, command antennas, control antennas, and monitoring sites.
- Key functions: tracking satellite movements, analysis, monitoring transmissions, and communication with satellites.

3. Receivers/User Segment:

- Embedded in smartphones, trackers, and various devices.
- Essential across industries like transport, aviation, military, automobile, and IoT.
- Components: antenna and processor tuned to satellite signals.
- Utilizes trilateration to decode and interpret information.
- Requires line of sight to at least three satellites for accurate positioning.
- Signals include encrypted location and transmission time.
- Mathematical equations determine distances and deduce location via latitude and longitude coordinates.

4. Receiver Operation in GPS:

- Requires line of sight to a minimum of three satellites for accurate functioning.
- Signals from satellites include location and transmission time.
- Utilizes time differences in signal reception for trilateration.
- Mathematical equations calculate distances between satellites and the receiver.
- Determines location via latitude and longitude coordinates.
- Verification of accuracy often involves signals from a fourth satellite, eliminating the need for an atomic clock.

GPS Operational Mechanism:

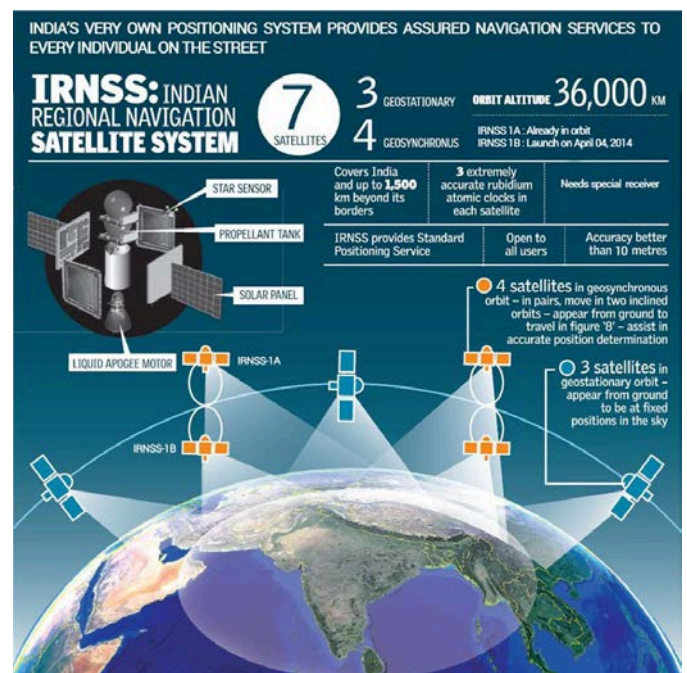
- Satellites continuously broadcast radio signals at L1 and L2 frequencies.
- Signals encoded with code-division multiple access for simultaneous transmissions.
- Receivers calculate precise location based on signals from at least four satellites.

Timekeeping Precision and Relativity:

- Satellites equipped with atomic clocks synchronized within 10 nanoseconds.
- Adjustments made for gravitational potential and relative velocities, considering both special and general relativity.
- Accurate timekeeping critical; without adjustments, errors of up to 10 km in a day due to clock offsets.

Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) Collaboration:

- Cooperation with other GNSS systems worldwide, including Australia, China, EU, India, Japan, South Korea, Russia, and the UK.
- Regular meetings between U.S. and other countries' officials to ensure technological compatibility.



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- International Committee on GNSS, under the UN, facilitates voluntary cooperation.

Indian Navigation Systems:

- India's NavIC system consists of seven satellites for regional navigation.
- Operation of GPS-Aided Geo Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) system for civil aviation safety.
- GAGAN employs rubidium atomic clocks and transmits data in multiple frequency bands.
- Master control facilities located in Hassan, Karnataka, and Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

UN Commission for Social Development

Context: Ruchira Kamboj, India's UN representative, led a informative member-state briefing for the upcoming 62nd UN Commission for Social Development in February 2024.

India assumed the Chair of the Commission for Social Development for the first time since 1975.

- The Commission for Social Development (CSocD) was established on 16 February 1946 as a functional commission by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- It serves as an intergovernmental organization, regulatory body, and advisory board.
- Currently, it maintains an active legal status.
- The headquarters of CSocD is situated in New York, USA.
- It operates under the umbrella of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- With a history spanning 77 years, CSocD was established on 16 February 1946.
- Its membership consists of 46 individuals elected by ECOSOC.
- Since the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, CSocD has been a key UN body responsible for the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Annual meetings are held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, typically in February, lasting about two weeks.
- In 2020, the Commission celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the 75th anniversary of the commission.
- Each year since 1995, CSocD addresses key social development themes; for instance, the 2020 focus was on "affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness."
- The 62nd session's theme is "Fostering Social Development and Social Justice through Social Policies for the 2030 Agenda."
- Emphasizes the crucial connection between social development, social justice, and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.



ECOSOC Subsidiary bodies
Functional Commissions
Commission for Social Development (CSocD)
Statistical Commission
Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)
Commission on Population and Development (CPD)
United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)

Responsibilities and Purpose:

- Responsible for reviewing issues related to the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Undertakes the outcome review of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly.
- Established in 1946 as the Social Commission, later renamed CSocD in 1966.
- Since 1995, the key UN body for the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action.
- Advises ECOSOC on social policies of general character and matters not covered by specialized inter-governmental agencies.
- Since 2006, addresses key social development themes as part of the follow-up to the Copenhagen Summit's outcome.

Meetings and Membership:

- Holds annual meetings in New York, typically in February.
- Originally comprised 18 members; increased to 46 through various expansions.
- Members elected by ECOSOC for four-year terms.
- Terms now begin immediately after the Commission's regular session, as per ECOSOC decision 2002/210.

Bureau:

- The Bureau includes a chair and four vice-chairs.
- Bureau members are elected by the Commission at the first meeting of a regular session, convened immediately after the end of a regular session for the sole purpose of electing a new bureau.

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NEWS IN BETWEEN THE LINES

Mahaparinirvan Diwas



Today, the Prime Minister of India has paid homage to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar on his Mahaparinirvan Diwas.

About Mahaparinirvan Diwas:

- In Buddhism, **Parinirvana means freedom after death**, like reaching ultimate peace or release.
- Mahaparinirvan Diwas is the death anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.
- **6th December is dedicated to honoring Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar** and his significant contributions to society.

About Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar:

- Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was born in **1891** in Mhow, Central Province (now Madhya Pradesh).
- He was a **social reformer**, jurist, economist, polyglot, **scholar**, thinker, and powerful orator.

Contributions:

- He was **India's first Law Minister** and **Chair of the Drafting Committee** for the Constitution.
- He advocated for the **rights of Dalits** and **marginalized** classes.
- He led the **Mahad Satyagraha** and signed the **Poona pact** with Mahatma Gandhi in **1932**, altering the communal award for reserved seats.
- He authored significant journals and books, including "**Annihilation of Caste**" and "**Buddha and His Dhamma**."
- He established Bahishkrit Hitkarini Sabha, Independent Labor Party, and Scheduled Castes Federation.

Awards and Honors:

- He was awarded with **Bharat Ratna**, India's highest civilian honor, in **1990**.
- **Chaitya Bhoomi** in Mumbai stands as a tribute to Dr. Ambedkar.

Ethical Values: Integrity, Honesty, Dedication, compassion, tolerance, etc.

The National Organ and Tissue Transplantation Organisation



Recently, the National Organ and Tissue Transplantation Organisation (NOTTO) has initiated an inquiry into allegations of a **cash-for-kidney scam** against Indraprastha Apollo Hospital.

About NOTTO:

- The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) is a center for coordination and networking for the procurement and distribution of organs and tissues.
- It was launched in **2014**.
- It is under **Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, located in New Delhi.
- It also registers organ and tissue donations and transplantations in India.
- It's main objective is to fill the gap between **demand and supply**, and to ensure the quality of various tissues.
- It handles the dissemination of information to all concerned **organizations, hospitals** and **individuals**.
- It consists of two divisions: the **National Human Organ and Tissue Removal and Storage Network** and the **National Biomaterial Centre**.

Global Goal on Adaptation



Recently at COP28 summit, developing countries opposed the draft of the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) due to perceived inadequacies.

About Global Goal on Adaption:

- The Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) is a **collective commitment** under the **Paris Agreement** to reduce vulnerability to climate change, strengthen resilience, and enhance adaptive capacity.
- It was proposed by the **African Group of Negotiators** in **2013** and established in **2015**.
- Its objective is to enhance adaptive capacity, **strengthen resilience** and **diminish vulnerability** to the effects of climate change.

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Hornbill Festival



Recently, 24th edition of the Hornbill Festival commenced at Naga Heritage Village 'Kisama' in Nagaland.

About Hornbill Festival:

- The Hornbill Festival is a **10-day (December 1 to 10)** celebration that takes place annually in the first week of December.
- It has been organised since **2000**.
- The festival is also known as the "**Festival of Festivals**".
- **Germany, Columbia and US** are Country Partners and Assam is Partner state for this year's edition.
- It is one of the **largest indigenous festivals** organized by the **State Tourism and Art & Culture Departments** with support from the Union Government.
- The festival is named after the **Indian hornbill**, a bird that is often seen in Nagaland's forests and is significant in **Naga folklore**.

Place in News

Nigeria

Recently, in northwest Nigeria, an Army drone mistakenly targeted a religious gathering in which at least 85 people have been confirmed dead.

Nigeria (Capital: Abuja)

Location: Nigeria is an African country on the Gulf of Guinea. It is officially known as the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Boundaries: Nigeria shares its land boundaries with the Republic of Benin to the west, Chad and Cameroon to the east and Niger to the north.

Ethnic Groups: The three largest ethnic groups in Nigeria are the **Hausa** in the North, the **Yoruba** in the West and the **Igbo** in the East.

Reserves:

- Nigeria is the **12th largest producer of petroleum** in the world.
- It has a huge reserve of underexploited mineral reserves like **coal, bauxite, gold, tin, iron ore** and more.

Physical Features:

- The **Niger** and **Benue** rivers are the main rivers in Nigeria.
- The **Adamawa, Mambilla, Jos** and **Obudu** Plateaus are all in Nigeria.
- The **Niger Delta** is one of the **world's largest river deltas** and the **third largest delta on Earth**.



POINTS TO PONDER

- ❖ Which IPCC Assessment Report has won the IPCC Nobel Prize? - **IPCC Assessment Report 4**
- ❖ Which Asian nation initiated the e-auction of 20 crucial mineral blocks, encompassing lithium and graphite? - **India**
- ❖ Kangla Palace is a historical and archaeological site of which state? - **Manipur**
- ❖ Which organisations have jointly released the India Infrastructure Report 2023? - **IDFC Foundation, Infrastructure Development Corporation (Karnataka) Ltd. (iDeCK) and the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)**.
- ❖ How many districts in India have declared themselves to be manual scavenging free districts? - **714**

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