

## **Prelim Bits 12-10-17**

### **Sewage Treatment Plants in PPP**

\n\n

\n

- Government has approved setting up of India's first ever Sewage Treatment Plants under Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) at Haridwar and Varanasi.

\n

- It will ensure that untreated sewage from the cities does not flow into the Ganga, giving a boost to Namami Gange Programme.

\n

- As per HAM, the government will contribute to 40% of the project cost to the Private entity in the first five years through annual payments.

\n

- The remaining payment will be made on the basis of the assets created and the performance of the developer.

\n

- Thus the annuity payment based on performance of the sewage infrastructure assets will ensure the continued performance of the sewage plants.

\n

- It also allows the financial risk to be shared between the government and private entity.

\n

\n\n

### **Nirmal Ganga Sahbhagita**

\n\n

\n

- Nirmal Ganga Sahbhagita is an initiative of Ministry of water resources.

\n

- It is mainly to assist the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) located on the banks of the river Ganga for achieving the objective of Clean Ganga.

\n

- It aims at sensitizing the ULBs about the pollution arising primarily due to dumping of solid waste in the river and involving them in stoppage of such dumping.

\n

\n\n

## **SANKALP and STRIVE**

\n\n

- \n
  - Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has recently approved SANKALP and STRIVE schemes.
- \n
  - Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) aimed at providing market relevant training to youths across the country.
- \n
  - Skill Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) aimed at improving the quality and the market relevance of vocational training provided in ITIs.
- \n
  - The project will also strengthen the apprenticeship programme through industry-cluster approach.
- \n
  - Both Schemes are under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and supported by **World Bank loan assistance**.
- \n
  - The two schemes will help in setting up national body for vocational education - Vocational Education and Training (VET).
- \n
  - VET shall regulate accreditation and certification in both long and short term thereby bringing about uniformity in vocational training.
- \n
  - SANKALP is a centrally sponsored scheme and STRIVE is a central sector scheme.
- \n

\n\n

## **Central sector schemes and Centrally Sponsored Scheme**

\n\n

- \n
  - Central sector schemes are 100% funded by the Union government and implemented by the Central Government machinery.
- \n
  - Central sector schemes are mainly formulated on subjects from the Union List.
- \n

- They account for 11% of the Central Government's expenditure.  
\n
- In Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) a certain percentage of the funding is borne by the States and the implementation is by the State Governments.  
\n
- Centrally Sponsored Schemes are formulated in subjects from the State List to encourage States to prioritise in areas that require more attention.  
\n
- They account for 10% of Central governments expenditure.  
\n

\n\n

## **Film and Television Institute of India**

\n\n

- Shri Anupam Kher, veteran cine star, has been appointed as Chairman of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII).  
\n
- FTII is an autonomous institute under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.  
\n
- It is registered under Societies' Registration Act of 1860.  
\n
- It is a member of the International Liaison Centre of Schools of Cinema and Television (CILECT), an organisation of the world's leading schools of film and television.  
\n

\n\n

## **Survey in Arabian Sea Region**

\n\n

- The first ever assessment of the conservation status of Sharks, rays and Chimaeras in the Arabian Sea Region (ASR) was recently carried out.  
\n
- The assessment revealed that 3 marine species viz Pondicherry shark, the red sea torpedo and the tentacle butterfly ray might be possibly extinct in the ASR.  
\n
- The guitar fish found in coastal waters of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and the Ganges shark were classified as “Critically Endangered”.  
\n

- The ASR covers the waters of the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Sea of Oman, and the Gulf.

\n

\n\n

## Chondrichthyans

\n\n

\n

- Chondrichthyes is a class that contains the cartilaginous fishes.
- \n
- Sharks, rays and chimaeras are collectively called as chondrichthyans.
- \n
- Cartilaginous fishes are jawed vertebrates with paired fins and skeletons made of cartilage rather than bone.
- \n
- They paired nares, scales, a heart with its chambers in series.
- \n
- India banned the exploitation and trade of sharks fins of all species and rays.
- \n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: PIB, The Hindu, BusinessLine.**

\n

