

ECONOMY

Set-6

1 Year Current Affairs

by Anirudh

UPSC 2020

हिंदी में



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A channel for helping to prepare for UPSC CSE.

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UPSC Past Prelims Discussion (2011-2019)

By Anirudh Aggarwal

Topics to discuss (Industries and Issues)

MSMEs

Distress in Telecom Sector

India Becomes Second largest Steel Producer

Purvodaya Scheme

Technical Textiles

Project SURE

L2 PRO India

WHY IN NEWS

Government to soon change definition of MSMEs: Nitin Gadkari

The update in the definition of MSMEs may allow a single definition for purposes related to taxation, investment, etc. The new definition is likely to be effected through an amendment to the MSME Act.

PTI | Last Updated: Oct 22, 2019, 04.29 PM IST

Save

MSME Sector

The sector contributes **about 45% to manufacturing output, more than 40% of exports and over 28% of the GDP.**

MSMEs require low capital to start the business, but create huge employment opportunities for about 111 million people, which in terms of volume stands next to agricultural sector.

Definition of MSME

Recently, the report of the ‘Expert Committee on MSME’ under the chairmanship of **U.K. Sinha** suggested the change in the definition of MSMEs- from **current investment based to turnover based definition**, as it would be more transparent, progressive, easier to implement.

Present Definition

Manufacturing Sector	
Enterprises	Investment in plant & machinery
Micro Enterprises	Does not exceed twenty five lakh rupees
Small Enterprises	More than twenty five lakh rupees but does not exceed five crore rupees
Medium Enterprises	More than five crore rupees but does not exceed ten crore rupees
Service Sector	
Enterprises	Investment in equipments
Micro Enterprises	Does not exceed ten lakh rupees:
Small Enterprises	More than ten lakh rupees but does not exceed two crore rupees
Medium Enterprises	More than two crore rupees but does not exceed five crore rupees

WHY IN NEWS

AGR crisis: India headed for a duopoly in telecom sector, say analysts

The SC on Wednesday rejected the AGR dues determined by telcos through a self-assessment exercise and ordered them to pay the principal together with interest and penalties



PTI

Last Updated: March 19, 2020 | 19:08 IST

DISTRESS IN TELECOM SECTOR

Telecom sector in India is facing financial distress.

India is currently the world's second-largest telecommunications market with a subscriber base of 1189.28 million (of which mobile telephone connections are 1168.32 million and landline telephone connections are 20.96 million).

Telephone density or teledensity is the number of telephone connections for every hundred individuals living within an area.

The overall tele density in the country is 90.23%. While the rural tele density is currently 57.01%, the urban tele density stands at 160.87%

A committee headed by Rajiv Gauba has been setup to help the struggling telecom sector.

Challenges being faced by Indian Telecom sector include- Tariff war, low level of capital expenditure, large accumulated debts, limited spectrum availability, import dependence, high regulatory dues and high taxes.

Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)

Earlier, Supreme Court had upheld the definition of **Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)** as stipulated by the Department of Telecommunication (DoT).

With this decision, telecom companies would have to pay over **1.47 lakh crore of AGR by 24th January.**

Telecom sector was **liberalised under National Telecom Policy, 1994** after which licenses were issued to companies in return for a fixed license fee.

To provide relief from steep fixed license fee, government in 1999 gave an option of **revenue sharing fee mod**

Under this, Telecom operators are required to pay licence fee and spectrum charges in the form of 'revenue share' to the Centre.

The **revenue amount used to calculate this revenue share is termed as the AGR.**

According to the DoT, the calculations should incorporate all revenues earned by a telecom company – **including from non-telecom sources** such as deposit interests and sale of assets.

Telecom companies have been of the view that AGR should comprise the revenues generated from telecom services only and non-telecom revenues should be kept out of it.

Which of the statement is correct regarding the steel sector ?

- 1) India is the largest producer of crude steel
- 2) Ministry of steel is the nodal agency for the Purvodaya scheme

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1 only

2 only

Both 1 and 2

Neither 1 nor 2

WHY IN NEWS

India ranks as second largest steel producer of crude steel: Dharmendra Pradhan

1 min read . Updated: 06 Feb 2020, 12:01 AM IST
ANI

India Becomes Second Largest Steel Producer Of Crude Steel

As per World Steel Association data, India became the **second largest steel producer** of crude steel **after China** in 2018 and 2019, by replacing Japan.

India's crude steel production in 2018 was **109.3 MT** (increase of 7.7% from **101.5 MT** in 2017).

Steel being a **deregulated sector**, the Government does not set any annual targets for steel production

World Steel Association

Trade association



worldsteel
ASSOCIATION



worldsteel.org

World Steel Association, often abbreviated as worldsteel, is the international trade body for the iron and steel industry. The association is one of the largest and most dynamic industry associations in the world, with members in every major steel-producing country. [Wikipedia](#)

Headquarters: [Brussels, Belgium](#)

Founded: 10 July 1967

Which among the following state is not included in the Purvodaya Scheme?

- (a) Jharkhand
- (b) Chhattisgarh
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Tamil Nadu

WHY IN NEWS

‘Purvodaya’: Govt kickstarts formation of steel clusters in the eastern region

By: FE Bureau | Published: January 12, 2020 12:19:53 AM

According to the National Steel Policy announced in 2017, the government is aiming at a total production capacity of 300 million tonne by 2030-31 and out of which, around 200 million tonne is envisaged from the five eastern states.

Advertisement

FINANCIAL EXPRESS

Purvodaya Scheme

Ministry of Steel in partnership with **CII** and **JPC** will launch this scheme.

The proposed Integrated Steel Hub, encompasses **Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Northern Andhra Pradesh.**

It would enable swift capacity addition and improve overall competitiveness of steel producers both in terms of cost and quality.

Joint Plant Committee (JPC) is the only institution in the country, officially empowered by the **Ministry of Steel to collect data on the Indian iron and steel industry.**

As per the National Steel Policy 2017, government aims to develop a total steel production capacity of 300 million tonne by 2030-31, **where around 200 million tonne is envisaged from the five eastern states.**

WHY IN NEWS



Technical Textiles

Technical textiles (TT) are textiles materials and products manufactured primarily for **technical performance and functional properties** rather than aesthetic or decorative characteristics.

Indian technical textiles segment constitutes **around 6% of the \$250 billion global technical** textiles market

The penetration level of technical textiles in India varies **between 5%-10%** against the level of 30% to 70% in developed countries.

National Technical Textile Mission

The aim of the mission is to position the country as a global leader in technical textiles and increase domestic use as well.

It envisages a domestic market size to reach \$40-50 billion by 2024, which is valued at \$16 billion presently.

Mission Directorate will be operational in the Ministry of Textiles.

Advantages of Technical Textiles

Technical Textiles are used individually or as a component/part of another product to enhance its functional properties.

They are not a single coherent industry and market segment is diverse and broad based.

Its usage is in diverse industries from aero space to railways to construction etc. and is developing in other industries also due to technological advances.

Project SURE

SURE stands for ‘**Sustainable Resolution**’ – a firm commitment from the industry to move towards fashion that contributes to a clean environment.

The project has been launched by the **union Textiles Ministry**, along with **Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI)**; **United Nations in India**; and **IMG Reliance**.

WHY IN NEWS

Press Information Bureau
Government of India
Ministry of Textiles

02-August-2019 17:00 IST

Pashmina Products Receive BIS Certification

Pashmina Products

Recently, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has published an Indian Standard for identification, marking and labelling of Pashmina products to certify its purity



More about Pashima Goat And Textile

The **Changthangi or Pashmina goat** is a special breed of goat indigenous to Ladakh.

They are raised for **ultra-fine cashmere wool** (which grows as a thick, warm undercoat on the goat), known as Pashmina once woven.

The textiles are **handspun** and were **first woven** in **Kashmir**.

The nomadic Pashmina herders (called Changpa) live in the **hostile and tough terrain of Changthang** and are **solely dependent** on Pashmina for their livelihood

WHY IN NEWS

DPIIT launches website and mobile app for IPR

Posted On: 14 OCT 2019 3:53PM by PIB Delhi

Secretary Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Guruprasad Mohapatra launched the website and mobile application **[Learn to Protect, Secure and Maximize Your Innovation]** on Intellectual Property

L2PRO INDIA

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), launched the website and mobile application **L2Pro India (Learn to Protect, Secure and Maximize Your Innovation)** on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs).

It has been developed by Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM)-DPIIT in collaboration with Qualcomm and National Law University (NLU), Delhi.

The modules of this e-learning platform will aid and enable in understanding IPRs for their ownership and protection, integrate IP into business models and obtain value for their R&D efforts.

Learners will be provided e-certificates by CIPAM-DPIIT and NLU Delhi and Qualcomm on successful completion of the e-learning modules.

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