

THINK IAS

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An Institute For Civil Services

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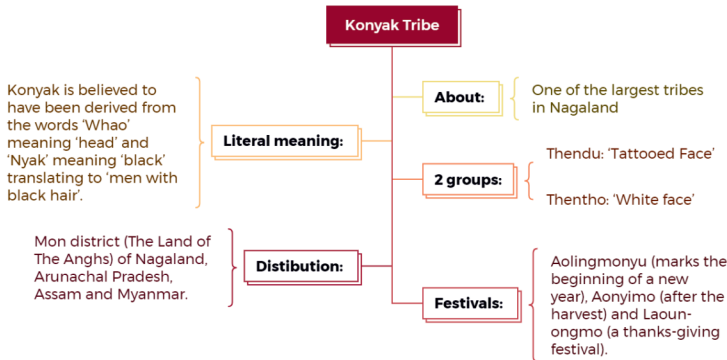
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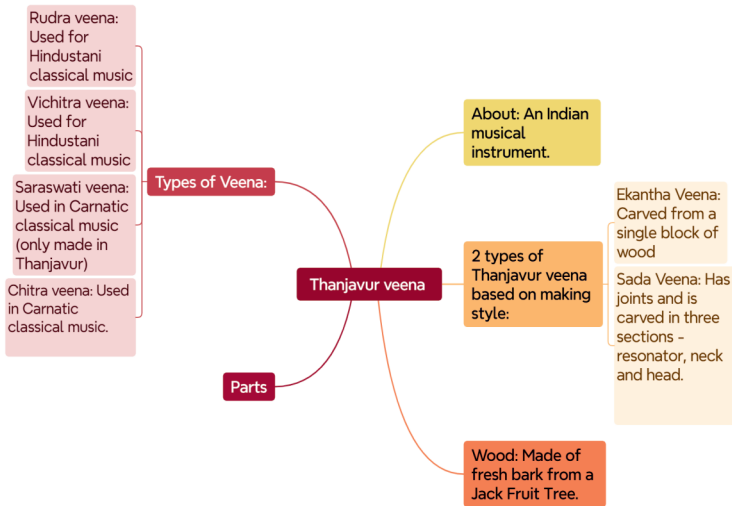
 **SAMYAK IAS, NEAR RIDDHI-SIDDHI, JAIPUR**

Art and Culture

1. Konyak Trib



2. Thanjavur Veena



3. Saoras become 5th particularly vulnerable tribal group to get habitat rights in the state - Indian Express

Context

With Saora tribals of Gajapati district getting habitat rights over their ancestral lands, Odisha has become the only state in the country to provide such rights to the highest number of particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs).



Geography

4. Namibia - Indian Express

- Location:** Southwestern coast of the Africa.
- Bordering countries:** South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Angola.



- **Maritime Boundary:** Atlantic Ocean (west)
- **Landforms:** Deserts, marshlands, savannas, mountains, and river valleys.
- **Desert:** Namib Desert runs along the country's coast on the Atlantic Ocean & gives way to the Central Plateau to the west with the Kalahari Desert located further inwards.
- **Rivers:** Kunene, the Okavango, the Mashi and the Zambezi (northern border) and the Orange (southern border).
- **Highest mountain:** Brandberg/ Mount Brand (western part).

5. Amid South China Sea tensions, PM in Brunei to discuss defence ties – Indian Express

Context

At a time when China's aggressive posture in the Indo-Pacific, including the South China Sea where Brunei has a maritime claim, is rattling the region, Indian Prime Minister reached the sultanate's capital Bandar Seri Begawan recently to hold bilateral talks with Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah on a range of issues – from commercial to cultural to defence ties.

Brunei

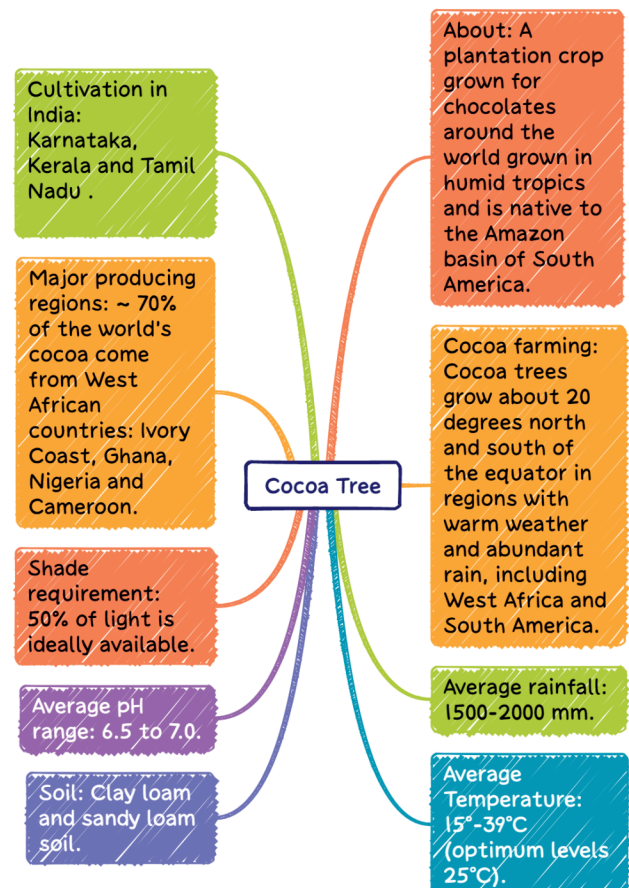


- **Location:** Country in Southeast Asia, situated on northern coast of island of Borneo.
- **Border:** Apart from northern coastline on South China Sea, it is completely surrounded by Malaysian state of Sarawak.
- **Landforms:** Coastal plain (north) & rugged hills (south).
- **Highest Point:** Pagon Peak
- **Major Rivers:** Belait, Tutong, and Brunei, Pandaruan etc.
- **Climate:** Equatorial climate influenced by monsoon systems

6. Cocoa

Context

Scientists and entrepreneurs are working on ways to make more cocoa that stretch well beyond the tropics, from Northern California to Israel.



Polity

7. The new Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill

Context

Recently, the central government introduced the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha. Brought in in the wake of climate-induced disasters, the Bill shows much evidence of a further centralisation of an already heavily-centralised Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Need to revisit the Centre's efforts in addressing the issue of financial preparedness when it comes to the management of and response to disasters.

The conversation should not revolve around whether the Centre or State is responsible for the loss of lives in Mayanad, Kerala, but what is it that can be done to manage disasters and avert their future occurrence.

Dilutes the wording of the National Disaster Response Fund: As it removes the purposes for which the fund shall be used.

Excess centralisation of decision making on funds: The severity of the disaster must necessitate a prompt response by the central government, currently absent in the Act.

Restricted definition of 'disaster': The government is currently not planning to classify heatwaves as a notified disaster under the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Not inclusive enough definition of disaster: This poses a problem as the very nature of climate-induced disasters is incongruous to the idea of a traditional disaster under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and the proposed Bill.

Way Forward

Institutional development: It mandates the creation of many authorities and committees at the national, State and district levels.

Provides statutory status to pre-act organisations: National Crisis Management Committee and a High Level Committee which complicates the chain of action to be followed in case of disasters.

Planning: Strengthens the working of the National Disaster Management Authority and the State Disaster Management Authorities to prepare State and national level plans.

Establishment of institution: Urban Disaster Management Authority for State capitals and cities with municipal corporations.

Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill

Concerns

World Affairs

8. International Criminal Court

Context

- **About:** A permanent judicial body established by the Rome Statute (1998) to investigate, prosecute, and try individuals accused of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression, and to impose prison sentences upon individuals who are found guilty of such crimes.
- **Origin:** Founded by the Rome Statute adopted in July 1998
- **Operation:** 2003.
- **HQ:** Hague, Netherlands.
- **Funding:** Contributions from the States Parties and by voluntary contributions from Governments, international organizations, individuals, corporations, and other entities.
- **Judges:** 18 judges, each from a different member country, elected to non-renewable 9-year terms.
- **Presidency:** 3 judges (President and 2 Vice-Presidents) elected from among the judges.
 - Jurisdiction: The ICC is only competent to hear a case if:
 - The country where the offence was committed is a party to the Rome Statute; or
 - The perpetrator's country of origin is a party to the Rome Statute.
 - The ICC may only exercise its jurisdiction if the national court is unable or unwilling to do so.
 - The ICC only has jurisdiction over offences committed after the Statute's entry into force on 1 July 2002.
- **Relation with United Nations (UN):** Not a United Nations (UN) organization but when a situation is not within the Court's jurisdiction, the UN Security Council can refer the situation to the ICC, granting it jurisdiction.

Polity

	International Court of Justice (ICJ) La Cour Internationale de Justice (CIJ)	International Criminal Court (ICC) La Cour pénale internationale (CPI)
Year Court Established	1946	2002
UN-Relationship	Official court of the U.N., commonly referred to as the "World Court."	Independent. May receive case referrals from the UN Security Council.
Location	The Hague, The Netherlands	The Hague, The Netherlands
Types of Cases	Contentious between parties & Advisory opinions	Criminal prosecution of individuals
Subject Matter	Sovereignty, boundary, & maritime disputes, trade, natural resources, human rights, treaty violations, treaty interpretation, and more.	Genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, crimes of aggression
Funding	UN-funded.	Assessed contribution from state parties to the Rome Statute; voluntary contributions from the U.N.; voluntary contributions from governments, international organizations, individuals, corporations and other entities.

9. Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)

Context

Member states of Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) signed charter and MoU for establishment of CSC secretariat recently.

- About:** — A regional security grouping which comprises India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Mauritius.
- Aim:** — To promote regional security by addressing transnational threats and challenges of common concern to the Member States.
- Original name:** — Trilateral for Maritime Security Cooperation - formed from trilateral meetings between NSAs and Deputy NSAs from India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka in 2011 & came to a standstill after 2014 due to rising tensions between India and the Maldives & re-branded as the CSC in 2020.
- Members:** — India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka
- Observer nation:** — Seychelles.
- 5 pillars:**
 - maritime safety and security
 - countering terrorism and radicalisation
 - combating trafficking and transnational organised crime
 - cyber-security and protection of critical infrastructure
 - humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.
- Secretariat:** — Colombo

Economy

10. World Bank hikes India's economic growth forecast to 7% for 2024-25

Context

In its report, India Development Update: India's Trade Opportunities in a Changing Global Context, released recently, the World Bank said India's growth continued to be strong despite a challenging global environment.

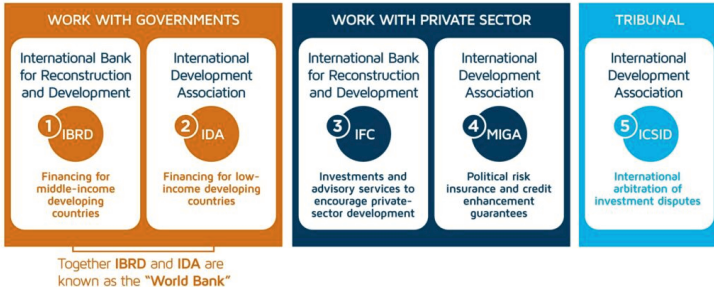
Forecast

- **Growth forecast:** 7% for the financial year ending March 2025.
- **Growth in manufacturing sector:** Grew by 9.9%
- **Female urban unemployment:** It fell to 8.5% in early FY24/25
- **Urban youth unemployment:** It remained elevated at 17%.

World Bank

- **About:** An international organization dedicated to providing financing, advice, and research to developing nations to aid their economic advancement.
- **Aim:** To fight poverty by offering developmental assistance to middle- and low-income countries.
- **Establishment:** In 1944 out of the Bretton Woods Agreement
- **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C

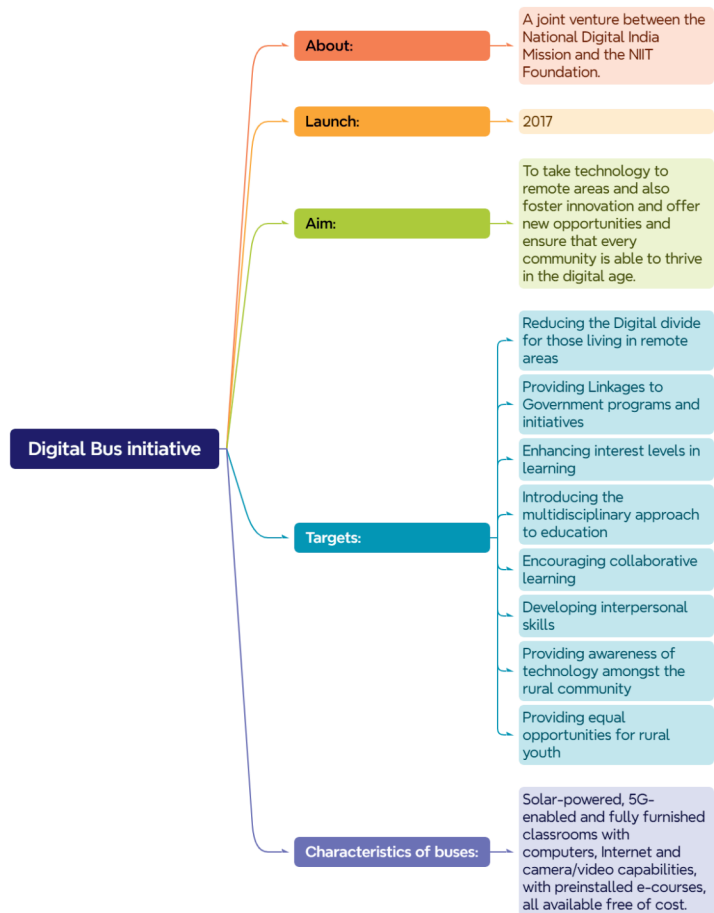
- Comprises 5 institutions
- Collectively, all 5 institutions are known as the "World Bank Group"



11. How the Digital Bus initiative has empowered young adults in remote areas of the country - The Hindu

Context

A four-person team who provide hands-on training and a curated programme in digital and financial literacy, IT skills, and entrepreneurship to around 48,700 young adults and kids across villages in India: this is the Digital Bus initiative, a joint venture between the National Digital India Mission and the NIIT Foundation.



Sci. & Tech.

12. Grom-E1 Missile - Indian Express

Context

