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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; H – Hyderabad; T – Thiruvananthapuram;
T.N. tops in coverage under micro-irrigation

Of 3.64 lakh hectares, State accounts for 1.39 lakh hectares

T. RAMAKRISHNAN

Tamil Nadu has emerged as the leader in coverage of area under micro-irrigation 2018-19 year. Of about 1.94 lakh hectares brought under MI, Tamil Nadu accounts for around 1.39 lakh hectares, accounting for 20% of the total coverage in the country, according to the website of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

A scheme aimed at improving on-farm water use efficiency through a number of measures such as MI.

However, a senior official of the State Agriculture Department put the coverage figure slightly higher at 1.41 lakh hectares.

Chennai comes next to Tamil Nadu with a coverage of 17,968 hectares and Andhra Pradesh, 15,281 hectares,Maharashtra comes fourth with around 13,818 hectares and Uttar Pradesh with 12,600 hectares.

What Tamil Nadu officials point out is that they have

achieved by now what they did throughout the previous financial year.

With about three months to go for the end of the current year, they are hopeful of covering around 1 lakh more hectares.

Their target is around 2.2 lakh hectares. Their optimism is based on the extent of area sought to be covered by work orders that have been issued.

Till now, work orders have been issued for about 1.3 lakh hectares. In financial terms, around 170 crore has been spent. The government is planning to spend 670 crore more for the installation of 6600 MI systems, including sprinkler and drip irrigation.

This year, the focus of the officials is on drip irrigation, which will ensure greater degree of water saving than sprinkler.

As part of the Central scheme, small and marginal farmers will be given 100% subsidy for the establishment of the systems and big farmers, 75% subsidy.

Pumps to be sanctioned

The Central government sanctioned the installation of 11,000 solar agricultural pumps in the State.

This has been done under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhyaman (PM KUSUM) scheme.

The pumps will be of the capacity of 5 horse power (HP) and 7 HP. The officials are planning to have the solar pump sets up at the next 6 and 12 months.

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Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)

- Only 45% of the net sown area is covered under irrigation
- Assured irrigation
  - 4 farmers would invest more
  - 4 productivity enhancement
- Har Khet Ko Rani - expand coverage of irrigation
- Per Drop More Crop - improve efficiency
- Amalgamation of
  1. Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme
  2. Integrated Watershed Management Programme
  3. On Farm Water Management

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Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I—(200 marks)

- **Current events of national and international importance.**

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

- General Studies—II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

PAPER-IV

- Major crops-cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems: storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.

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Implement by 3 ministries

(a) Ministry of Rural Development
  - rain water conservation,
  - construction of farm pond, etc.

(b) Ministry of Water Resources
  - assured irrigation source,
  - canals, etc.

(c) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
  - efficient water conveyance
  - precision water application

- Decentralised planning
- District and State Irrigation Plans
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| Practice Question – Prelims |
| Q. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). |
| 1. Its main objectives are to expand the coverage of area under irrigation and improve water use efficiency. |
| 2. A Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) has been set up under the scheme, under the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to provide financial assistance to states. |
| Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct? |
| a) 1 only |
| b) 2 only |
| c) Both 1 and 2 |
| d) Neither 1 nor 2 |
Tata-Mistry ruling

How does the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal ruling impact corporate governance?

**JABIR JABIR**

The Tata-Mistry saga took a new twist on October 30, 2019, when the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) ruled that Cyrus Mistry, who was removed as Chairman of Tata Sons, was not guilty of criminal contempt. The NCLAT also directed Tata Sons to reinstate Mistry as the Chairman of the company.

**Part A—Preliminary Examination**

Paper I (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

**Part B—Main Examination**

**PAPER-III**

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

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**NCLAT Judgment on Mistry vs Tata Sons case**

**National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)**

1. Constituted under section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013
2. To resolve corporate law disputes and speed up resolution
3. **Important functions**
   1. Hear appeal against NCLT
   2. Hear appeal againstCCI
   3. Hear appeal against insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India.
4. **Composition:** Chairperson + 4 technical members + 4 judicial members

**Qualification**

(a) Chairperson - Judge of SC or Chief Justice of High Court
(b) Judicial member - Judge of High Court, judicial member of NCLT for 5 years
(c) Technical members - ability, integrity, knowledge and experience of not less than 25 years in law, industrial finance, Investment, Accountancy, etc.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

1. Its chairperson shall be a serving/retired judge of the Supreme Court of India or a serving/retired Chief Justice of a High Court.

2. NCLAT can hear appeal only against the orders passed by the National Company Law Tribunal.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Recently NCLAT order on ArcelorMittal acquiring Essar Steel was challenged by S Court overturned a part of the order.
Manual Scavenging

- Practice of manually cleaning, carrying, disposing or handling the human excreta from dry latrines and sewers

- UN → linked to India’s caste system

- Preamble → Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual

- Constitution → Right to live with dignity

- Fundamental Right

- DPSP → Protecting weaker sections and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from social injustice and all forms of exploitation

The Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993

- Prohibits employment of Manual scavenging and construction of dry latrines.

- Punishment → Imprisonment upto 1 year & fine

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper 1 (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

- Indian Polity and Governance—Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

- Economic and Social Development—Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

Paper II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

Paper III

General Studies—II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.

- Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. Right to live with dignity is a Fundamental Right guaranteed in Part III of the Constitution.

2. Protecting the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes from social injustice and all forms of exploitation is the duty of the State.

Which among the above statements is/are correct with reference to the Constitution of India?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2
Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.
- Economic and Social Development-Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

General Studies-I : Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Maharashtra should reject CAA: Pawar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PUNE

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday said that like eight other States, Maharashtra should refuse implementation of the new citizenship law, which he feared would hurt the religious and social harmony of India.

Dubbing the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) “plays” by the Centre to “divert attention” from serious issues plaguing the country, the former Union Minister expressed apprehension that the Centre might dismiss the State governments opposing the new law. He said the Centre was avoiding dialogue with stakeholders.

The NCP is a ruling constituent, along with the Congress, in the Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government headed by the Shiv Sena.

Congress to hold silent protest at Rajghat

Rahul, Sonia to participate; party vows to protest Constitution against ‘dictatorial government’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Senior leaders of the Congress, including Rahul and Sonia Gandhi, promised to take part in the Congress’s silent protest against the new Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). The party has given an February 18 as the deadline for the Centre to scrap the “undemocratic” move.

On the evening of February 17, the party would hold a protest rally at Rajghat, where the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi are kept. The party said it would return to Rajghat to hold a silent protest if the Centre did not scrap the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC), and if it did not agree to the party’s demands.

The Congress has been protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) since December 2019. The party has been trying to mobilise public opinion against the changes in the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). The party has been saying that the changes in the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) will lead to a “nationalist” and “exclusive” society.

There have been widespread statements against the Constitution of India, making people aware of the danger of the “Constitution Amendment Act” and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). The party has been saying that the changes in the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) will lead to a “nationalist” and “exclusive” society.

The party has been saying that the changes in the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) will lead to a “nationalist” and “exclusive” society.
Census
- Largest single source of variety of information about the people of India
- Conducted once in 10 years
- 2011 Census - 29 questions asked
  - Usual details + Particular details

NPR - National Population Register
- Register of usual residents of country
- Objective - Create a comprehensive identity database of every usual resident in the country

NRIC - National Register of Indian Citizens
- Prepared based on NPR
- NPR \rightarrow Universal dataset
  \rightarrow Verification of Citizenship status
  \rightarrow NRIC
- Prepared at local, sub-district, district and state levels
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Legal Backing</th>
<th>CENSUS</th>
<th>NPR</th>
<th>NRIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Maintained by</td>
<td>Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India</td>
<td>Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India</td>
<td>National Registration Authority; Registrar General of Citizen Registration (RaI)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Details | 29 questions
- Usual details
- Particular details (Based on 2011 Census) | Demographic details
Biometric details
Aadhaar details | 12 details including National Identity Number for every citizen |

*Note: No decision on introducing a National Identity Card (as on 22nd Dec 2019)*

### Current issues
- NPR
  - Announcement by certain State governments that NPR will not be implemented in their state
  - Legal Position
    - Centre ⇒ in charge of Census
    - States ⇒ Deploy staff to carry out Census related works
    - Practically ⇒ State Govt’s Co-operation required to conduct Census
  - As per
    - Census Act, 1948
    - Citizenship Rules, 2003

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy
NRIC

1. Is NRIC final? → No
   - Adequate provisions available in Citizenship Rules, 2003

2. Draft Local
   - Register of Indian Citizens
   - Published + Invitation for Objections/Claims
     → Objections or Request for Inclusion within 30 days
     → Sub-district (or) Taluk Registrar 90 days
     → Disposal

3. Disposal
   - Included
     → Entries transferred to National Registrar
     If appeal succeeds
     → Disposal
   - Not included
     → District Registrar 90 days
     Within 30 days

NRIC

1. Is NRIC final? → No
   - Adequate provisions available in Citizenship Rules, 2003

2. C. Govt.
   - Yet to notify a date for generation of NRIC
   - Not yet prescribed rules for documentary proof of citizenship
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to ‘National Register of Indian Citizens’.

1. The Registrar General, India functions as Registrar General of Citizen Registration.
2. The National Identity Number of every citizen shall be maintained in this register.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to National Population Register (NPR).

1. NPR is a database of usual residents of the country.
2. NPR is a subset of NRIC.
3. It is maintained by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India.

Which of the above statement/s is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) All the above

PRACTICE QUESTIONS DISCUSSION
Practice Question – Prelims

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

1. Its main objectives are to expand the coverage of area under irrigation and improve water use efficiency.

2. A Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) has been set up under the scheme, under the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to provide financial assistance to states.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Practice Question – Prelims

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

1. Its chairperson shall be a serving/retired judge of the Supreme Court of India or a serving/retired Chief Justice of a High Court.

2. NCLAT can hear appeal only against the orders passed by the National Company Law Tribunal.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims

Q3. Consider the following statements.

1. Right to live with dignity is a Fundamental Right guaranteed in Part III of the Constitution.

2. Protecting the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes from social injustice and all forms of exploitation is the duty of the State.

Which among the above statements is/are correct with reference to the Constitution of India?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

Practice Question – Prelims

Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to ‘National Register of Indian Citizens’.

1. The Registrar General, India functions as Registrar General of Citizen Registration.

2. The National Identity Number of every citizen shall be maintained in this register.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2
Practice Question – Prelims
Q5. Consider the following statements with reference to National Population Register (NPR).
1. NPR is a database of usual residents of the country.
2. NPR is a subset of NRIC.
3. It is maintained by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India.

Which of the above statement/s is/are incorrect?

a) 1 only  
b) 2 only  
c) 3 only  
d) All the above

Practice Question – Mains
GS-II
Q. ‘NPR is the first step to NRIC’. In this context, what do you mean by NPR and NRIC? Discuss the challenges in implementing them in India. (150 words, 10 marks)
Practice Question – Prelims Answers

Q1. Option ‘c’ – Both 1 and 2
Q2. Option ‘a’ – 1 only
Q3. Option ‘c’ – Both 1 and 2
Q4. Option ‘c’ – Both 1 and 2
Q5. Option ‘b’ – 2 only