

## **Prelim Bits 03-12-2019**

### **Hand-in-Hand Exercise**

- It is India -China joint training exercise.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the exercise is scheduled at Umroi, Meghalaya.
- The theme is counter terrorism under United Nations mandate.
- Two tactical exercises - counter terrorism scenario and Humanitarian and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations are scheduled.
- The aim of the exercise is to practice joint planning and conduct of counter terrorist operations in semi urban terrain.

### **Manufacturing PMI**

- Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an indicator of the economic health and investor sentiments about the manufacturing sector (Manufacturing PMI) and services sector (Services PMI).
- Recent PMI survey has showed that Manufacturing activity increased in November from a two-year low in the previous month.
- The value of the Index rose to 51.2 in November, up from 50.6 in October.
- It is driven by a modest increase in the growth of new orders and production.
- **PMI** - Its purpose is to provide information about current business conditions to company decision makers, analysts and purchasing managers.
- It is based on five major indicators: new orders, inventory levels, production, supplier deliveries, and the employment environment
- For India, the PMI Data is published by Japanese firm Nikkei but compiled and constructed by Markit Economics.
- In a PMI survey, a standard questionnaire is administered to business entities.
- The respondents can either give a "Positive, Neutral or Negative" response and each response is marked as "1, 0.5 or 0" on the score card respectively.
- In adding up the response, a reading above 50 indicates economic expansion, while a reading below 50 points shows contraction of economic activities.
- **IIP** - IIP measures actual production output across the industrial sector.
- It shows the change in production volume in major industrial subsectors like manufacturing, mining and electricity. It covers broader industrial sector compared to PMI.
- As it is a comparison over the previous year, it is season neutral.

- PMI shows the growth oriented positive trends and not just the volume of past production that can be traced in an ordinary Index of Industrial Production.
- The PMI is released on the 1st of every month and the IIP is known on the 12th, the PMI score is assumed to be a precursor to the IIP.
- But the correlation between PMI and IIP isn't strong and the relationship between the two variables is quite low and insignificant.

## Power of Siberia Gas Pipeline

- Russia, one of the world's largest exporters of natural gas, is launching a major pipeline from Siberia to China.
- The power of Siberia gas pipeline is the first cross-border gas pipeline between Russia and China.
- The pipeline will cover 8,000 km connecting Siberia to China's Yangtze river delta in Shanghai.
- **Route** - Gas is being sourced from Chayandinskoye and Kovytkva fields in eastern Siberia, and is then piped to Blagoveshchensk, the last town on the Russian side of the border.
- From there, it is tunnelled under the Amur River, before entering Heihe on the Chinese side which stretches for 5,111 km inside china.
- Under the agreement, Russia will deliver 1 trillion cubic meters of natural gas to China over the next 30 years.
- The project is anchored by a \$400 billion gas deal.



## **Operation Clean Art**

- Operation Clean Art is the first pan India operation to crackdown on the smuggling of mongoose hair in the country.
- It was conceived by the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) with the aim of closing down the mongoose hairbrush trade across the country.
- An adult mongoose yields over 30-40 gm of long hair, from which only 20-25 gm of “brush-making hair” is recovered.
- The mongoose is listed in Schedule II Part 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act.
- Any smuggling or possession of its body part is a non-bailable offence.
- Most of these animals were poached by hunting communities across the country and its hair is used as brushes by artists community for its superior quality and better colour.

## **Tiger Corridors**

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India has mapped out 32 major tiger corridors across the country.
- The management interventions in these corridors will be operationalised through a Tiger Conservation Plan, mandated under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- The tiger corridors are,

## **Shivalik Hills & Gangetic Plains**

1. Rajaji-Corbett - Uttarakhand
2. Corbett-Dudhwa - Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Nepal
3. Dudhwa-Kishanpur-Katerniaghat - Uttar Pradesh, Nepal

## **Central India & Eastern Ghats**

4. Ranthambhore-Kuno-Madhav - Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan
5. Bandhavgarh-Achanakmar - Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
6. Bandhavgarh-Sanjay Dubri-Guru Ghasidas - Madhya Pradesh
7. Guru Ghasidas-Palamau-Lawalong - Chhattisgarh & Jharkhand
8. Kanha-Achanakmar - Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
9. Kanha-Pench - Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra
10. Pench-Satpura-Melghat - Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra
11. Kanha-Navegaon Nagzira-Tadoba-Indravati - Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh
12. Indravati-Udanti Sitanadi-Sunabeda - Chhattisgarh, Odisha
13. Similipal-Satkosia - Odisha
14. Nagarjunasagar-Sri Venkateshwara National Park - Andhra Pradesh

## Western Ghats

15. Sahyadri-Radhanagari-Goa - Maharashtra, Goa
16. Dandeli Anshi-Shravathi Valley - Karnataka
17. Kudremukh-Bhadra - Karnataka
18. Nagarahole-Pusphagiri-Talakavery - Karnataka
19. Nagarahole-Bandipur-Mudumalai-Wayanad - Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
20. Nagarahole-Mudumalai-Wayanad - Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
21. Parambikulam-Eranikulam-Indira Gandhi - Kerala, Tamil Nadu
22. Kalakad Mundanthurai-Periyar - Kerala, Tamil Nadu

## North East

23. Kaziranga-Itanagar WLS - Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
24. Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong - Assam
25. Kaziranga-Nameri - Assam
26. Kaziranga-Orang - Assam
27. Kaziranga-Papum Pane - Assam
28. Manas-Buxa - Assam, West Bengal, Bhutan
29. Pakke-Nameri-Sonai Rupai-Manas - Arunachal Pradesh, Assam
30. Dibru Saikhowa-D'Ering-Mehaong - Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
31. Kamlang-Kane-Tale Valley - Arunachal Pradesh
32. Buxa-Jaldapara - West Bengal

**Source: PIB, The Hindu**

