

## Prelim Bits 28-04-2023 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### Exercise of Veto in United Nations Security Council

*India has emphasised that the exercise of veto in the UN Security Council is driven by political considerations and not by moral obligations.*

#### Veto initiative

- UN General Assembly had adopted by consensus, without a vote, the resolution 'Standing mandate for a General Assembly debate when a veto is cast in the Security Council'.
- This is also known as the 'Veto Initiative'.
- Following the resolution, the use of the veto in the Council by a permanent member now triggers a General Assembly meeting, where all UN members can scrutinise and comment on the veto.
- In the 15-nation Security Council, only the five permanent members, China, France, Russia, the U.K. and the U.S., have veto powers.
- The remaining 10 members are elected as non-permanent members for two-year terms and do not have veto powers.

#### India's stand

- India had voiced regret over the lack of inclusivity in tabling the resolution and had said it has serious concerns about such take it or leave it initiatives
- The veto as a matter of principle should be abolished.
- However, as a matter of common justice, it should be extended to new permanent members so long as it continues to exist.
- either all nations are treated equally in the context of voting rights or else the new permanent members must also be given the veto.
- India underlined the need to address all five aspects of UNSC reform, including the question of veto, in a comprehensive manner.

#### Reference

1. [The Hindu | Exercise of veto in UNSC](#)

### Nano DAP fertilizer

*After the Nano Urea, the Government of India has now approved the Nano Di Ammonium Phosphate as well.*

#### Features

- Nano Fertilizers hold great promise for application in plant nourishment because of

the size-dependent qualities, high surface-volume ratio and unique optical properties.

- Nano fertilizer releases plant nutrients in a controlled manner contributing to higher nutrient use efficiency.
- It saves the soil and also increases the production and hence is the best for the farmers.
- The first mass manufacturing plant of nano DAP will be set up in Kalol of Gujarat.

## **Benefits**

- The use of nano urea and nano DAP will lead to a reduction in imports as well as the government's fertiliser subsidy bill.
- DAP is the second most consumed fertiliser in the country after urea.
- By using liquid DAP and liquid urea, the farmers can increase the number of earthworms in their land.
- This helps them to move towards natural farming without reducing production and income.
- This will also help in conserving the land.

## **Reference**

1. [PIB | Nano DAP fertilizer](#)

## **Manamadurai Pottery**

*The Manamadurai pottery recently earned a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.*

## **Features**

- The Vaigai river enriches the clay used for the Manamadurai pottery.
- The circumference of the pot and the neck should be proportionate so that the pot sits flat on the ground.
- The right proportion of mud, clay and heating makes this product very strong. The main raw materials for making these pots are soil and water.
- The sand, collected from different places of the district, is used for making pottery and dried for two days. The particles of the mud get separated by sieving.

## **Uniqueness of the pottery**

- A unique type of clay is sourced from water bodies like Nedunkulam, Nathapurakki, Sundaranadappu, Seikalathur to make these pots.
- While making these pots, the five elements of nature namely earth, water, fire, sun and air are used.
- The basic material for pottery is mud, which represents the earth. Mud is mixed with water, another element of nature.
- This is followed by baking in fire, adding the third element. The air percolates through the pores in the clay, marking the fourth element.
- And finally, the cavity enclosed by the pot or any related article represents space.

## Reference

1. [The Hindu | Manamadurai Pottery](#)

## Command Cyber Operations and Support Wings

*Army Commanders Conference (ACC) had decided to operationalise Command Cyber Operations and Support Wings (CCOSWs) in the immediate future with current focus on net-centric operations.*

### Need for CCOSWs

- Rapid migration towards net centricity, which entails an increased reliance on modern communication systems.
- In order to augment the capabilities of the forces by absorption of niche technologies and equipment.
- To nominate lead directorates and 'test bed' formations to evolve optimal employment philosophies and scaling to facilitate better exploitation.
- Need to review tech human resource capabilities to maintain an effective and lethal fighting force.
- To achieve that the Army wants to amend the Technical Entry Scheme (TES) available for B.Tech graduates to become officers.
- The expansion of cyber warfare capabilities by our adversaries has made the cyber domain more competitive and contested than ever before.

## Reference

1. [Business Line | Command Cyber Operations and Support Wings](#)

## Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET)

*The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a new initiative to be better prepared for future outbreaks of a similar scale and devastation as the COVID-19 pandemic.*

### Features

- PRET Initiative is aimed at providing guidance on integrated planning for responding to any respiratory pathogen such as influenza or coronaviruses.
- The initiative was announced at the Global Meeting for Future Respiratory Pathogen Pandemics held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The three-pronged approach includes updating preparedness plans that affirm priority actions, increase connectivity among stakeholders in pandemic preparedness planning, financing and monitoring of pandemic preparedness.
- The initiative can also serve to operationalize the objectives and provisions of the Pandemic Accord.

## Reference

1. [Down to Earth | PRET](#)



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