

Depopulation

- The world population touched eight billion. India was the largest contributor to the last billion and is set to surpass China as the world's most populous nation by 2023.
- China's population has begun to decline, while India's population is expected to grow for another 40 years. By current United Nations estimates, India's population will begin to decline only in 2063, by which time it will be just shy of 1.7 billion. The world's population is expected to grow until 2086. Countries such as Japan, South Korea, and Europe, are experiencing falling fertility and nearing the inflection point of population declines.



THE HINDU

Fertility in India

- It is now well-established that fertility in India is falling along expected lines as a direct result of rising incomes and greater female access to health and education.
- India's total fertility rate is now below the replacement rate of fertility parts of India have not only achieved replacement fertility but have been below the replacement rate for so long that they are at the cusp of real declines in population. Kerala, which achieved replacement fertility in 1998, and Tamil Nadu, which achieved this in 2000, are an example. In the next four years, both Tamil Nadu and Kerala will see the first absolute declines in their working-age populations in their histories.
- With falling mortality (barring the pandemic), the total population of these States will continue to grow for the next few decades, which means that fewer working-age people must support more elderly people than ever before.
- Among the female elderly in particular, economic dependence is a serious concern. Both States will also need to re-examine the continued sustainability of low immigration.

Three challenges

- A depopulating future poses at least three unique challenges to India. First, a skewed sex ratio remains a danger.
- As the latest round of the NFHS showed, families with at least one son are less likely to want more children than families with just one daughter.
- Second, the stark differences between northern and southern States in terms of basic literacy as well as enrolment in higher education, including in technical fields, will mean that workers from the southern States are not automatically replaceable.

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Special marriage act

- Navtej Singh Johar judgment of 2018 (decriminalizing homosexuality) and the Puttaswamy's judgment of 2017 (affirming the Right to Privacy as a fundamental right).
- A specific type of marriage, documentation of certain marriages, separation.

About Special marriage ACT

- The Special Marriage Act, of 1954 was brought into the Indian legal system in 1954

Objectives of the Special Marriage Act, of 1954

- The following are the key goals that may be derived from the Act's Preamble:
- A specific type of marriage, Documentation of certain marriages,
- Separation Purpose of the Special Marriage Act, 1954.
- The purpose of the Act is to establish consistent legal measures to protect those who want to marry across castes or religions.
- By establishing a system for inter-faith marriages, the Act serves the interests of all Indian people.
- The Act includes provisions for lawful marriage, prerequisites for a valid marriage, dissolution of an inter-faith marriage, marriage registration, and other regulations.
- Elements of the Special Marriage Act, 1954.
- Unlike the previous marriage legislation, this Act applies to all Indian citizens, regardless of religion or caste. As a result, any individual desirous of marrying another individual might do so under the aforementioned Act.
- Since the Act considers marriage to be a legal transaction, no rituals or ceremonies are conducted.

- The marriage is carried out in accordance with the law i.e., through court marriage.

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NAN SCAM

- The NAN is Chhattisgarh's nodal agency for procuring and distributing food grains under the Public Distribution System (PDS).
- In 2015, when former Chief Minister and BJP leader Raman Singh was in power, the Opposition alleged that the government was distributing substandard quality grains under the PDS and that officials had received Kickbacks from rice millers to allow this. The State's Anticorruption Bureau (ACB) launched a probe into the matter.
- While conducting raids at the NAN office, the agency found unaccounted-for cash worth over three crores.
- It also tested the food samples for their quality, finding many samples of salt and rice unfit for human consumption.
- The ED moved the Supreme Court seeking a transfer of the case to the CBI.
- The ED alleged that the current Congress-ruled Chhattisgarh

government was weakening the Investigation.



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BLUE Bugging

- It is a form of hacking that lets attackers access a device through its discoverable Bluetooth connection.
- Once a device or phone is blue bugged, a hacker can listen to the calls, read and send messages and steal and modify contacts.
- It started out as a threat to laptops with Bluetooth Capability.

How does blue bugging hack devices?

- Blue bugging attacks work by exploiting Bluetooth-enabled devices.
- The device's Bluetooth must be in discoverable mode, which is the default setting on most devices.
- The hacker then tries to pair with the device via Bluetooth.

- Once a connection is established, hackers can use brute force attacks to bypass authentication.
- They can install malware in the compromised device to gain unauthorised access to it.
- Blue bugging can happen whenever a Bluetooth-enabled device is within a 10-meter radius of the hacker.

How can one prevent blue bugging?

- Turning off Bluetooth and disconnecting paired. Bluetooth devices when not in use, updating the device's system software to the latest version, and limited use of public WiFi and using VPN as an additional security measure are some of the ways to prevent bluebugging.

Which devices are most susceptible to such attacks?

- Any Bluetooth-enabled device can be blue bugged. Bluetooth-enabled is susceptible to such hacks.
- Apps that enable users to connect to their TWS (True Wireless Stereo) devices or earbuds can record conversations.
- The apps of these TWS devices can record conversations.
- Once hacked, the attacker can make and listen to calls, read and send

messages, and modify or steal your contacts,

NEWS BRIEF

- A bilateral training exercise between.
- India and Australian armies will kick-start in Rajasthan.
- 'Austra Hind 22' is scheduled to take Place at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges.
- From November 28 to December 11.
- It will be a yearly event conducted alternatively in India and Australia.

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UNESCO award for Mumbai museum restoration

Project

- The restoration of the 100-year-old Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya in Mumbai has won the 'Award of Excellence in this year's UNESCO Asia Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.
- The museum is a part of the Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai's world heritage property.
- It was established as the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India in 1922.
- China's anti-lockdown protests spread to dozens of campuses.

- The G20 presidency is an opportunity to focus on global good: PM. Egyptian President Sisi to be chief guest at Republic Day celebrations.

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