

# **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS**



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# **2023 NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMIC SCIENCES**

SOURCE: TH

#### WHY IN NEWS?

2023 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences awarded to U.S. economist **Claudia Goldin** for **research on the workplace gender gap.** 

Claudia Goldin became the third woman to receive the Nobel Prize in economics

#### **ABOUT THE PRIZE:**

- Unlike the original Nobel Prizes in fields like physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace, which Alfred Nobel specified in his will, the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences is not among the original Nobel Prizes.
- The Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences was founded in 1968 by the central bank of Sweden, the Sveriges Riksbank, as a tribute to Alfred Nobel, renowned for inventing dynamite and establishing the Nobel Prizes.
- Its official name is the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
- It was instituted later to commend remarkable contributions to the field of economics.
- This Prize acknowledges individuals or entities for their exceptional research, findings, or contributions that have propelled the understanding of economics and its practical application to real-world issues.

#### **ABOUT CLAUDIA GOLDIN AND HER WORK:**

- Claudia Goldin, a prominent economist, has been a trailblazer in examining women's roles in the economy.
  She has authored several books on this subject, including "Understanding the Gender Gap: An Economic History of American Women" (Oxford, 1990) and "Career & Family: Women's Century-Long Journey toward Equity" (Princeton University Press, 2021).
- Fooldin's groundbreaking research has shed light on women's participation in the labor market over the past two centuries. It explains why the wage gap between men and women remains, despite many women having better educational qualifications than men in high-income countries. While her research primarily focuses on the United States, its findings apply to many other nations.

#### **MAJOR FINDINGS OF HER RESEARCH:**

- HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE: Prior to industrialization, women were more involved in economic activities related to agriculture and cottage industries. However, the shift towards industrialization and factory-based work posed challenges for women in leaving their homes for employment.
- \* ROLE OF THE SERVICES SECTOR: In the early 20th century, the growth of the services sector played a critical role in granting women greater access to higher education and employment opportunities. This sector offered more avenues for women to enter the workforce.





- ❖ MARRIAGE BARRIERS: By the early 20th century, while approximately 20% of women were employed, the proportion of married women in the workforce was only 5%. Goldin highlighted the impact of "marriage bars," which often prevented married women from continuing their careers as teachers or office workers.
- \* ROLE OF EXPECTATIONS AND CAREER CHOICES: Women's career expectations, often influenced by their mothers' experiences, played a significant role in the gender pay gap. These expectations led to career choices that did not necessarily prioritize long, uninterrupted, and successful careers.
- ❖ ROLE OF CONTRACEPTIVE PILLS: The availability of <u>easily accessible contraceptive pills by the late 1960s</u>
  <u>enabled women to have greater control over family planning and career decisions.</u> This led to more women pursuing fields like law, economics, and medicine and entering diverse employment sectors.
- ❖ ROLE OF PARENTHOOD IN THE PAY GAP: While initial earnings differences between men and women were minimal, women's earnings declined once they became parents, and their income did not increase at the same rate as men's, even if they shared similar educational backgrounds and professions.

#### **WOMEN IN INDIA:**

#### **EVOLUTION OF WOMEN'S ROLE AND STATUS IN INDIA:**

- During the Indus Valley civilization and the Vedic period, women held an equal footing in society, engaging in political activities such as Sabha and Samithis. Notable female figures during this period include Ghosha, Lopamudra, Sulabha Maitreyi, and Gargi.
- However, women's status began to decline in the later Vedic period, marked by social constraints and evidence of practices like sati during the Gupta Period.
- Throughout the medieval era, women, whether in Hindu or Muslim communities, experienced low social standing. Women from noble families adhered to purdah customs, seldom venturing outside. The practice of sati became more prevalent.
- Social reform movements during British rule led to improvements in the status of women in Indian society. Sati was abolished in 1829, and the Widow Remarriage Act was enacted in 1856.
- Women played a significant role in India's anti-imperialist movements.

#### **ROLE OF WOMEN IN INDIAN POLITICS:**

Historically, women in India have been underrepresented in politics, with limited female representation in positions of power.

- Increased female voter turnout in Lok Sabha elections, from 46.6% in 1962 to 66.9% in 2019, reflects growing female political involvement.
- The percentage of female representatives in the Lok Sabha has increased from 5% in 1951 to 14% in 2019.
- The representation of women leaders at the grassroots level is nearly 50%, particularly after the 73rd and 74th amendments in 1992, which reserved one-third of all seats for women.

#### **ROLE OF WOMEN IN INDIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH:**

- Women contribute around 18% to the national GDP, with substantial presence in agriculture, manufacturing, and services sectors.
- Approximately 432 million women of working age exist in India, with 343 million employed in the unorganized sector.
- India's startup ecosystem ranks third globally, with 10% led by women founders, and such ventures
  demonstrate greater sustainability.



In 2022, the share of women in CEO or Managing Director roles in Indian companies increased by 55%, signifying their growing role in driving the economy.

# **ROLE OF WOMEN IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:**

- Various environmental movements, including the Bishnoi, Chipko, Appiko, Silent Valley, and Narmada
   Bachao Andolan, highlight the central leadership of women in environmental preservation.
- Government policies, such as the Joint Forest Management program, mandate women's inclusion in management committees, emphasizing women's participation in sustainable development and environmental management initiatives.

#### INDIA AT 75: STATUS OF WOMEN IN INDEPENDENT INDIA

#### **GENDER GAP IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA:**

- Recent data shows some improvements in sex ratios.
- The sex ratio slightly improved from 933 to 943 women per 1,000 men in two decades.
- India saw a historic shift in 2021 with more women than men.
- However, experts believe this may not represent the true sex ratio.
- The child sex ratio dropped from 927 to 914, primarily due to discrimination and sex-selective abortions.

#### **WOMEN'S EDUCATION:**

- India's literacy rate improved to 74.04% in 2011, but it's still 15% below the global average.
- Around 23% of women aged 15-49 received no schooling.
- Fewer girls enrol in primary, secondary, and higher secondary levels than boys.
- Dropout rates are influenced by factors like family pressure, early marriage, and household responsibilities.

#### **HEALTHCARE SCENARIO:**

- India ranks lowest in health and survival among 146 countries.
- About 20% of women of reproductive age are undernourished.
- Nearly 60% of women aged 15-49 are anaemic.
- Children born to underweight mothers face higher risks of stunting.
- Female education plays a crucial role in child nutrition.

#### PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE:

- Despite improving literacy rates, female labour force participation has decreased.
- Only 9% of women were employed or seeking jobs in 2021-22.
- The pandemic hit women harder, with a 17% unemployment rate.
- Only 19.2% of working-age women were in paid work in 2021.
- Many women remain engaged in unpaid household work.

#### **CRIME AGAINST WOMEN:**

- Cases of abuse, harassment, and sexual violence, including marital rape, have increased.
- India reported a rape every 15 minutes on average in 2018.
- Online harassment and threats have become common.
- About one-third of Indian women have experienced physical or sexual violence.
- Domestic violence decreased slightly but remains a concern.



# **INDIA-TANZANIA RELATION**

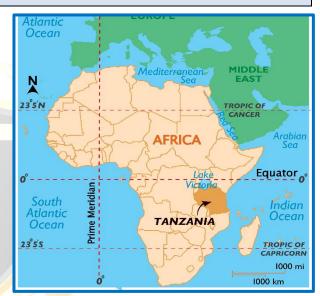
# SOURCE: PIB WHY IN NEWS?

- The State Visit of the President of Tanzania "Samia Suluhu Hassan" to India and launch of Strategic Partnership between India and Tanzania.
- Signed six pacts to boost cooperation in several key areas and agreed on a five-year roadmap to significantly expand defence engagement.



#### TANZANIA LOCATION WITH RESPECT TO INDIA:

- Formation
  - ✓ Tanzania became a sovereign state in 1964 when Tanganyika and Zanzibar united.
- Administrative Capitals
  - ✓ Dodoma is the official capital of Tanzania, while Dar es Salaam serves as the seat of most government administrations and is the largest city and port in the country.
- Geographical Location
  - ✓ Located in East Africa just south of the Equator, Tanzania shares borders with Uganda, Lake Victoria, and Kenya to the north.
  - ✓ To the east, it is bordered by the Indian Ocean, and to the south and southwest by Mozambique, Lake Nyasa, Malawi, and Zambia.



- ✓ To the west, it is bordered by Lake Tanganyika, Burundi, and Figure 1. SOURCE: WORLD ATLAS Rwanda.
- ✓ kilimanjaro: Tanzania is home to Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro, which reaches a height of 5,895 meters.
- ✓ Lake Tanganyika: The country also boasts the world's second deepest lake, Lake Tanganyika, which reaches a depth of 1,436 meters.
- > Tanzania's Location in Relation to India
  - ✓ Tanzania is situated in East Africa, while **India is located in South Asia.**
  - ✓ Geographically, the **two countries are quite distant and not adjacent**.
  - ✓ They are **separated by the Indian Ocean**, with India to the **northeast and Tanzania** to the southeast of the African continent.
  - ✓ The Indian Ocean is the body of water that lies between them.

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF INDIA-TANZANIA RELATIONS:

- Tanzania and India have traditionally enjoyed close, friendly and co-operative relations.
- Shared Ideological Commitments
  - ✓ During the **1960s to 1980s**, the two nations had a **strong political relationship** driven by shared ideologies, **including anti-colonialism**, **anti-racism**, **and socialism**.
- Respect and Recognition

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✓ Tanzania's former President Julius Nyerere was highly respected in India, receiving awards like the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1974 and the International Gandhi Peace Prize in 1995.



# **International Cooperation:**

✓ India and Tanzania collaborated closely in **international forums** during this period.

# > Transition to Economic Reforms and Modern Relations

✓ Post-Cold War Era: In the post-Cold War period, both countries initiated economic reform programs and expanded their external relations to engage globally in politics and economics.

#### **Evolution of the Relationship**

- ✓ Modern and Pragmatic Relationship: In recent years, the relationship between India and Tanzania has transformed into a modern and pragmatic one.
- ✓ Economic Engagement: There's increased and diversified economic engagement between the two nations.
- ✓ Development Partnership: India is offering Tanzania more capacity-building training opportunities, concessional Lines of Credit (LOCs), and grants.

#### **Establishment of Indian Missions**

Diplomatic Presence: The High Commission of India in Dar es Salaam was founded on November 19, 1961, and the Consulate General of India in Zanzibar was established on October 23, 1974.

#### **ELEVATION OF INDIA-TANZANIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP:**

#### India's Commitment to the Global South:

- India's dedication to uniting the Global South under a common platform was highlighted.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi played a crucial role in making the African Union a full member of the G20, reflecting India's efforts to promote Africa-India relations.

#### **Strategic Partnership**

- ✓ The bilateral relationship between India and Tanzania has been upgraded to a 'Strategic Partnership.'
- ✓ Both nations will now collaborate in various areas, including maritime security, defence cooperation, development partnership, trade and investment, among others.

# Strategic Partnership

- ♣ A strategic partnership between two nations, though not a clearly defined term, is understood as referring to a bilateral partnership in strategic issues such as defence and security, but is not an actual alliance.
- **↓** A strategic partnership **offers avenues of** further convergence in the designated issues, in case the geopolitical scenario changes or there is an increase in the geostrategic significance of the partner nation.
- 4 India has signed strategic partnerships with more than 30 countries since the first one with France in 1998.

#### **KEY FOCUS AREAS AND AGREEMENTS DURING RECENT VISIT:**

#### Defence Cooperation

- ✓ The two countries discussed **Defence cooperation**, and a **five-year roadmap for Defence cooperation** was established.
- ✓ This highlights the **growing military ties** between India and Tanzania.
- Maritime Security



✓ India and Tanzania will enhance cooperation in maritime security in the Indian Ocean region, recognizing their shared maritime security challenges.

#### **Blue Economy**

✓ Tanzania expressed interest in cooperating with India in the blue economy sector, encompassing. tourism, maritime trade, services, infrastructure, marine scientific research, seabed mining, ocean conservation, and maritime safety.

#### **Trade and Investment**

- ✓ Both nations aim to increase bilateral trade volumes and promote trade in local currencies, such as the Indian Rupee and Tanzanian Shilling.
- ✓ India is one of Tanzania's top five sources of investment, with significant projects creating employment opportunities.
- ✓ India is the fifth largest investor in Tanzania with about \$3.7 billion in investments in the country.
- ✓ Tanzania has set a target of receiving \$3 billion in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from India by 2025.

#### **Development Partnership**

- ✓ India's development partnership will continue to focus on areas such as water, health, education, capacity building, scholarships, and ICT.
- ✓ Lines of Credit (LoCs) worth over USD 1.1 billion have been extended by India to Tanzania for various projects, including water infrastructure.

# Education, Skill Development, and ICT

- ✓ India will support Tanzania in space technologies and digital public infrastructure.
- ✓ **Collaboration on vocational training centers** and ICT centers is planned.

#### **Space Cooperation**

✓ Tanzania congratulated India on the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3's lander on the moon and expressed interest in space technology cooperation.

# > Health

- ✓ Both nations will strengthen cooperation in the health sector.
- ✓ This includes assistance in providing ambulances and essential medical equipment.

#### People-to-People Relations and Cultural Exchanges

- Promoting people-to-people contacts, cultural exchanges, and tourism is a priority.
- ✓ The signing of a Cultural Exchange Program for 2023-27 was noted, and Tanzania is invited to participate in the Surajkund Mela in 2024.

# **Regional and International Issues**

- ✓ The two nations pledged to collaborate on regional and international matters.
- They discussed issues related to the Indo-Pacific and UN reforms.
- ✓ India appreciated Tanzania's support during its term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.

# **Fight Against Terrorism**

Both nations strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and highlighted the need to address this global threat.

#### **WAY FORWARD:**

### Enhancing Bilateral Ties

- ✓ Diplomatic Cooperation: Continue to strengthen diplomatic ties, engaging in dialogue, and supporting each other's interests on regional and global issues.
- ✓ Development Partnership: Collaborate on capacity-building, infrastructure development, and technology transfer, focusing on sectors like water, health, education, and information technology.
- **Promoting People-to-People Relations**



- ✓ Cultural Exchanges: Encourage cultural interactions, academic exchanges, and tourism to further connect the peoples of India and Tanzania.
- ✓ Indian Diaspora
  - Acknowledge the contributions of the **Indian diaspora in Tanzania**, fostering closer ties between both countries.
  - Tanzania is home to more than 50,000 people of Indian origin.
  - Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award and 'Bharat Ko Janiye' quiz generate interest in Tanzania.
- > Capacity Building and Technology Exchange
  - ✓ Education and Skill Development: Develop vocational training institutions and expand capacitybuilding opportunities for Tanzanian youth.
  - ✓ Information Technology: Share expertise in space technologies, digital infrastructure, and public services.
- > Infrastructure Development
  - ✓ **Tanzanian Development: Extend lines of credit and support infrastructure** development projects in Tanzania.
  - ✓ Indian Institutes: Support the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) campus in Zanzibar and other educational initiatives to enhance technical education.

# **Prelims Specific**

# Scientific Report on Lake Victoria Basin

- Nature Report
  - ✓ A recent scientific report published in the journal Nature highlights significant changes in precipitation and increased extreme climate events in the Lake Victoria Basin (LVB).
- Impact on Lake Victoria Basin
  - ✓ **Extreme Weather Threat:** The region is experiencing heavy rains, wind storms, and floods that pose threats to both human populations and endemic biodiversity.
  - ✓ **Human Population**: The LVB is home to nearly 40 million people, and they are strongly affected by frequent extreme weather events, including regular flooding.
  - ✓ **Displacement:** The extreme flooding caused the displacement of over 200,000 people in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania.
  - ✓ Environmental Degradation: Rapid population growth, agricultural expansion, urbanization, and industrialization have led to severe pressure and degradation of Lake Victoria and its surrounding wetlands and forests.

# About Lake Victoria:

- World's Second-Largest Freshwater Lake: Lake Victoria is the second-largest freshwater lake globally.
- Location: It is situated in East Africa and shares its borders with Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya.
- Alternative Names: In different regions, Lake Victoria is known as Victoria Nyanza in Kenya, Nalubaale in Uganda, and Ukerewe in Tanzania.





#### > Importance:

- ✓ The lake is a source of the White Nile River, which flows northward to join the Blue Nile in Sudan, forming the Nile River.
- ✓ It also supports the world's largest freshwater fishery, producing one million tons of fish annually and providing livelihoods to four million people.

**Important Fact:** A rift valley is a geological feature characterized by a linear depression or lowland area on the Earth's surface. It is formed by the stretching and pulling apart of the crust and is typically marked by steep walls or cliffs on either side.

