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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS



8th February 2024

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S.NO.	TOPIC
1.	UNIFORM CIVIL CODE IN INDIA
2.	BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA
3.	PRELIMS POINTERS

UNIFORM CIVIL CODE IN INDIA

SOURCE: [THE HINDU](#)

TAG: GS Paper I – **Salient features of Indian society,**
GS Paper II - **Indian Constitution, Issues related to women, secularism.**

Practice Question:

Mains

Q Discuss the possible factors that inhibit India from enacting for its citizens a uniform civil code (UCC) as provided for in the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP).

(150 words)

WHY IN NEWS?

- ❖ The **Uttarakhand Assembly** has passed the **Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill 2024**, making **Uttarakhand the first state** to enact a common law governing marriage, divorce, land, property, and inheritance for all citizens regardless of religion.

UNIFORM CIVIL CODE IN INDIA:

- ❖ The **Uniform Civil Code (UCC)** is a proposed set of laws that would be applicable to all citizens of India, irrespective of their religious or cultural background, in the same matters of **marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption**.
- ❖ The UCC aims to **standardize personal laws across diverse cultural, religious, and ethnic groups, promoting uniformity, consistency, and equality in civil laws**.
- ❖ The **UCC is enshrined in Article 44** of the Indian Constitution, which calls for the state to secure a Uniform Civil Code for its citizens.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

- ❖ **Pre-Independence Era:** During colonial rule, the Lex Loci Report of 1840 emphasized the need for uniformity in law but recommended keeping personal laws of Hindus and Muslims separate. The Queen's 1859 Proclamation assured non-interference in religious matters, maintaining the distinction between criminal law, which was codified uniformly, and personal laws, which varied by community.
- ❖ **Post-Independence (1947-1985):** Leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. B.R Ambedkar advocated for a UCC during the drafting of the constitution but faced opposition from religious fundamentalists. The UCC was included in the Directive Principles of State Policy (Article 44). Several reforms were initiated, including the Hindu Code Bill and subsequent laws addressing inheritance, marriage, minority rights, and adoption.
- ❖ **Judicial Interventions:**



- **Shah Bano case in 1985:** It brought attention to the need for a UCC. Shah Bano's fight for maintenance led to the **Supreme Court ruling recommending a UCC** and sparked national debates.
- **Daniel Latifi Case:** Challenging the Muslim Women's Act, the Supreme Court upheld its constitutionality while ensuring that divorced Muslim women receive maintenance beyond the iddat period, aligning with the **provisions of Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code**.
- **Sarla Mudgal Case:** This case clarified that a **Hindu marriage cannot be dissolved by conversion to Islam and subsequent remarriage**, maintaining the sanctity of Hindu marriage laws under the Hindu Marriage Act.
- **John Vallamattom Case:** The case challenged the **constitutionality of Section 118 of the Indian Succession Act**, which imposed restrictions on property donation by Christians. The court struck down the section as **discriminatory**, ensuring equal rights for all religious communities.

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE UNIFORM CIVIL CODE (UCC) IN INDIA:

- ❖ **Gender Equality:**
 - One of the central arguments in favor of the UCC is the **promotion of gender equality**.
 - The lack of a UCC can lead to instances where personal laws adversely affect the rights of women, and the UCC is seen as a means to ensure equal rights for all citizens, regardless of their religious or cultural background.
- ❖ **Constitutional Mandate:**
 - **Article 44** of the Indian Constitution stipulates the state's endeavor to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory.
 - The UCC is viewed as a **constitutional promise that needs to be fulfilled**, and it is seen as an **instrument for social justice**.
 - UCC is not antithetical to the constitutional provisions guaranteeing freedom of religion (**Articles 25 and 26**). It reinforces secular principles while promoting legal uniformity.
- ❖ **Reduction of Vote Bank Politics:**
 - Implementing **UCC would mitigate the influence of vote bank politics**, fostering governance based on merit rather than appeasement.
- ❖ **Elimination of Loopholes:**
 - Personal laws create a **parallel judicial system based on antiquated values**. UCC would streamline legal processes and eliminate such discrepancies.
- ❖ **Protection of Human Rights:**
 - Some provisions of personal laws may **violate fundamental human rights**.
 - UCC ensures a **legal framework that respects and protects individual rights universally**.
- ❖ **Legal Uniformity:**
 - The UCC aims to provide **uniformity in the application of laws**, particularly in the areas of **marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption**.
 - It is argued that this legal uniformity is essential for **upholding the values of gender rights, equality, and justice**.
- ❖ **Progressive Social Reforms:**
 - Proponents of the UCC argue that it is a crucial step toward promoting progressive social reforms, discouraging outdated customs, and addressing issues related to **gender justice, child marriage, divorce, and inheritance**.
 - Examples like the **Special Marriage Act and the Indian Succession Act** illustrate instances of voluntary adoption of UCC principles.



ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE UNIFORM CIVIL CODE IN INDIA:

- ❖ **Violation of Fundamental Rights:**
 - ☛ UCC may violate the fundamental rights of individuals, particularly regarding the **practice and propagation of religions**.
- ❖ **Threat to Cultural Autonomy:**
 - ☛ The UCC may be seen as a threat to cultural autonomy and diversity, as it seeks to impose a **uniform set of laws on all citizens**, regardless of their religious or cultural backgrounds.
 - ☛ **Regional variations exist**, such as **Kerala's abolition of the Hindu Joint Family**, and variations in **Muslim marriage and divorce laws across states**.
- ❖ **Opposition from Religious Groups:**
 - ☛ Many religious groups in India are opposed to the UCC, as they fear that it may undermine their religious practices and customs.
- ❖ **Lack of Consensus:**
 - ☛ There is a lack of consensus among political parties, religious groups, and civil society on the need for and implementation of the UCC.
- ❖ **Practical Difficulties:**
 - ☛ The implementation of the UCC would require significant logistical and administrative efforts to overcome the practical difficulties and complexities of its implementation.

CONCLUSION:

- ❖ Constitutional provisions such as Article 371A and 371G safeguard diversity, yet the pursuit of uniformity threatens India's pluralistic fabric. This underscores **the importance of a collaborative approach to the UCC, one that respects diversity while addressing discrimination and upholding fundamental rights, drawing from diverse cultural traditions to foster social transformation.**



BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA

SOURCE: THE HINDU

TAG: GS Paper II - *Government Policies & Interventions*

Practice Questions:

Mains

***Q. "Investment in infrastructure is essential for more rapid and inclusive economic growth."
Discuss in the light of India's experience. (2021)- 150 words***

WHY IN NEWS?

❖ ***Recently, the Government has extended the deadline for completion of the flagship highway development project Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I to 2027-28.***

WHAT IS BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA?

- ❖ Bharatmala Pariyojana is an umbrella programme launched under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- ❖ The first-phase of Bharatmala was announced in 2017 and was to be completed by 2022.

SAILENT FEATURES:

- ❖ **Objective:**
 - ☛ The primary objective of the Bharatmala Pariyojana is to develop and improve road connectivity in India, especially in border areas, coastal regions, and economic corridors.
- ❖ **Scope:**
 - ☛ Development of about 26,000 km of Economic Corridors.
 - ☛ Integration with existing Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) and North-South and East-West (NS-EW) Corridors.
 - ☛ Identification of 8,000 km of Inter Corridors and 7,500 km of Feeder Routes to enhance the effectiveness of existing corridors.
 - ☛ Integration with Sagarmala, a government initiative for the development of the maritime sector.
- ❖ **Traffic Management:**
 - ☛ Decongestion strategies, including the development of ring roads, bypasses, and elevated corridors in 28 cities.
 - ☛ Identification and improvement of 125 choke points and 66 congestion points to enhance logistic efficiency.
- ❖ **Multimodal Logistics Parks:**
 - ☛ Identification of 35 locations for the development of Multimodal Logistics Parks to reduce congestion, enhance logistic efficiency, and reduce logistics costs for freight movements.
- ❖ **Logistic Efficiency:**
 - ☛ Emphasis on enhancing logistic efficiency through the development of strategic infrastructure, such as ring roads, bypasses, and logistics parks.
- ❖ **City-Specific Initiatives:**
 - ☛ Focus on 28 cities for the development of ring roads to divert traffic and reduce congestion within urban areas.
- ❖ **Overall Impact:**



- The project aims to carry a majority of the freight traffic on roads, improve road infrastructure, and reduce logistics costs.

BHARATMALA PROJECT COMPONENTS

- ❖ **Economic Corridor:** In accordance with the road construction project guidelines, the central government is set to construct 9000kms of Economic Corridors.
- ❖ **Feeder Route or Inter Corridor:** An impressive 6000kms of roads fall within the Feeder Route or Inter Corridor category as outlined by the project.
- ❖ **National Corridor Efficiency Improvement:** For enhanced road connectivity, approximately 5000kms of roads will be constructed under the scheme, categorized as National Corridor for improved efficiency.
- ❖ **Border Road and International Connectivity:** The project includes provisions for constructing 2000kms of roads in the Border Road or International Connectivity category, linking cities and remote areas in border regions.
- ❖ **Port Connectivity and Coastal Road:** The central government has mandated the construction of 2000kms of roads to connect areas along shorelines and vital ports.
- ❖ **Green Field Expressway:** The primary focus will be on the construction and development of Green Field Expressways to effectively manage traffic and freight.
- ❖ **Balance NHDP Works:** In the project's final phase, approximately 10,000kms of new roads will be constructed and maintained as part of the Balance NHDP Works.

Sr. No.	Scheme	Length (km)	Cost (Rs. crore)
1.	Economic Corridors	9,000	120,000
2.	Inter-Corridors & feeder roads	6,000	80,000
3.	National Corridor Efficiency improvement	5,000	1,00,000
4.	Border & International connectivity roads	2,000	25,000
5.	Coastal & port connectivity roads	2,000	20,000
6.	Expressways	800	40,000
	Sub Total	24,800	3,85,000
7.	Ongoing Projects, including NHDP*	10,000	1,50,000
	Total	34,800	5,35,000

CHALLENGES OF BHARATMALA PROJECT

The *Bharatmala initiative, unveiled in 2017 with a slated completion date of 2022*, is currently facing significant delay due to the following reasons:

- ❖ **Cost Escalation:**



- Estimated project cost **increased by 100% to nearly Rs 11 trillion**, posing financial constraints
- Surging costs attributed **to raw material expenses, land acquisition, and construction of high-speed corridors.**
- ❖ **Implementation Deceleration:**
 - Slow pace of implementation **leading to delays in project completion.**
 - **Only 76% of the total length** of highway stretches awarded **under Phase-I.**
- ❖ **Project Approval Delays:**
 - Approval process slowdown until **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** sanctions revised project costs.
 - **Only 102 km** of projects awarded in the **first eight months** of the current financial year.
- ❖ **Timeline Extension:**
 - Initial completion target for Phase-I **extended to 2027-28** due to implementation challenges.
- ❖ **Scope and Specification Changes:**
 - Increase in project scope and enhanced specifications **contributing to rising costs.**
 - Discrepancy in sanctioned project costs compared to initially approved costs.
- ❖ **Uncertainty for Phase-II:**
 - Speculation arises about the future of Phase-II, **with possibilities of revisiting project plans.**
- ❖ **Strategic Planning Required:**
 - Project faces critical juncture, demanding careful consideration **and strategic planning for successful execution.**

WAY FORWARD

- ❖ **Strategic Procurement for Raw Materials**
 - Evaluate strategic procurement approaches to secure raw materials at competitive prices.
 - Engage in negotiations with suppliers, particularly in response to market fluctuations, to ensure favorable rates.
- ❖ **Efficient and Transparent Land Acquisition Practices:**
 - Implement transparent and efficient land acquisition methods to mitigate compensation disputes.
 - Explore alternatives like land pooling and community engagement to streamline the land acquisition process.
- ❖ **Feasibility Studies for High-Speed Corridors:**
 - Prioritize comprehensive feasibility studies before embarking on high-speed corridor projects.
 - Optimize corridor designs, striking a balance between functionality and cost-effectiveness.
- ❖ **Advocacy for Stable GST Policies:**
 - Advocate for stable and predictable GST policies to reduce uncertainties for the industry.
 - Engage with government authorities, providing insights into the industry's perspectives on the impact of tax rate changes.



PRELIMS POINTERS:

8th February, 2024

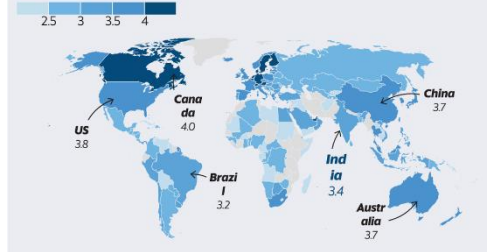
TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
<p>WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2024</p>	<p>WHY IN NEWS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>The Vice-President's speech at the 23rd Edition of the World Sustainable Development Summit, organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), has garnered attention, emphasizing the importance of collective action and innovation in addressing pressing global challenges related to sustainable development, environmental conservation, and climate change.</i> <p>ABOUT THE WSDS, 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The 23rd World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) by TERI is scheduled from 7-9 February 2024 in New Delhi. ❖ Theme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ "Leadership for Sustainable Development and Climate Justice." ❖ Focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Addressing complex and interconnected challenges through inclusive, resilient, and creative leadership. ❖ Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Representatives from international organizations, government, businesses, academia, civil society, and youth. ❖ Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Deliberations on sustainable development integration, nature-based solutions, adaptation, sustainable consumption, energy transition, and climate action. ❖ Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☛ Reinforce commitment and action for a more sustainable and equitable world through initiatives like Act4Earth. <p>ABOUT TERI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ TERI is a non-profit research institute founded in 1974 as Tata Energy Research Institute. ❖ Renamed The Energy and Resources Institute in 2003. ❖ Conducts research on energy, environment, and sustainable development. ❖ Aims to create local and national strategies for global issues. ❖ Focus areas include clean energy, water and pollution management, sustainable agriculture, and climate resilience. ❖ Based in New Delhi. 
<p>WORLD BANK'S LOGISTICS PERFORMANCE INDEX REPORT 2023</p>	<p>WHY IN NEWS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>India's significant improvement in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index Report 2023, climbing to 38th out of 139 countries, reflects the success of initiatives such as the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan and digital reforms like the Unified Logistics Interface Platform.</i> <p>ABOUT THE REPORT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Logistics Performance Index (LPI) by World Bank Group. ❖ Assesses trade logistics performance and improvement areas.



- ❖ Measures **ease of supply chain connections**.
- ❖ **Parameters:** Customs, Infrastructure, Shipment arrangements, Services quality, Tracking, Timeliness.
- ❖ **Reported biennially, LPI 2023 covers 139 countries.**
- ❖ Introduces indicators from big datasets to measure **trade speed, enhancing methodology.**

India gains six spots on logistics performance, ranks 38th among 139 nations

Scores on World Bank's Logistics Performance Index 2023 (out of 5)



KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RECENT REPORT

- ❖ India's rank has **risen by sixteen places from 54 in 2014 to 38 in 2023.**
- ❖ Inter-Ministerial team focuses on targeted **action plans to improve logistics performance across six parameters.**
- ❖ **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan and National Logistics Policy** aim to enhance efficiency and reduce costs.
- ❖ Digital initiatives like **Unified Logistics Interface Platform and Logistics Data Bank** facilitate **ease of doing business.**
- ❖ Various measures by line Ministries, including railway track electrification and **automation of port-related operations, contribute to logistics efficiency.**

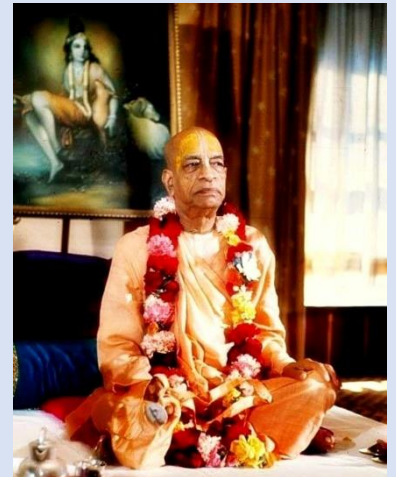
150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SRILA PRABHUPADA JI

WHY IN NEWS?

- ❖ **"PM Narendra Modi to Address Program Commemorating 150th Anniversary of Srila Prabhupada Ji on 8TH FEB,2024 , Releases Commemorative Stamp and Coin"**

ABOUT SRILA PRABHUPADA:

- ❖ Born in Calcutta, India in 1896.
- ❖ Met spiritual master **Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati in 1922**, later became his disciple.
- ❖ Requested to **broadcast Vedic knowledge in English.**
- ❖ Founded **Back to Godhead magazine in 1944.**
- ❖ Honored with title "**Bhaktivedanta**" in 1947.
- ❖ **Retired in 1950** to focus on writing and study.
- ❖ Translated and wrote extensively on Vedic literature.
- ❖ **Established International Society for Krishna Consciousness in 1966.**
- ❖ Founded **New Vrindaban community** in West Virginia in 1968.
- ❖ Introduced **Vedic education system and Gurukula school in 1972.**
- ❖ Inspired construction of cultural centers and temples worldwide.
- ❖ **Notable contribution:** Author of numerous authoritative **books on Vedic philosophy.**
- ❖ His works **translated into over fifty languages**, widely respected in academic circles.



KOKBOROK LANGUAGE SCRIPT

WHY IN NEWS?

- ❖ **The recent controversy surrounding the Kokborok language script preferences for examinations in Tripura has garnered attention, leading to protests and dialogue.**

ABOUT THE KOKBOROK LANGUAGE SCRIPT

- ❖ Kokborok is the language spoken by the **Borok people of Tripura.**
- ❖ The term "**kok**" means "**verbal**" and "**borok**" means "**people**" or "**human**".



- ❖ State language of Tripura since **January 19, 1979**.
- ❖ Official language of the **Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC)** since April 20, 1999.
- ❖ Represented by **Language Code 17 out of 47 in India**, with 99 languages lacking a code.
- ❖ Borok or Tripuris reside not only in Tripura but also in neighbouring regions and **countries, totalling around 1.5 million**.
- ❖ **Belongs to the Sino-Tibetan linguistic group**, recognized by British historians as part of the **Tibeto-Burmese linguistic group**.
- ❖ **Around 179 languages with 544 dialects exist in India**, with **116 Sino-Tibetan languages**, mainly in North-Eastern India.

Vowels (sarithai) & diacritics

অ	আ	ই	উ	এ	ঐ	ং	ঁ
o	a	i	u	e	aw	ang	an
[oʔa]	[a]	[i]	[u]	[e]	[ə]	[ŋ]	[ʔ]

Consonants (kwhathai)

ক	খ	গ	ঙ	চ	জ	ত	থ
ka	kha	ga	nga	cha	ja	ta	tha
[kʔ]	[kʰʔ]	[gʔ]	[ŋʔ]	[tʃʔ]	[dʒʔ]	[tʔ]	[tʰʔ]
দ	ন	প	ফ	ব	ম	য়	র
da	na	pa	pha	ba	ma	ya	ra
[dʔ]	[nʔ]	[pʔ]	[pʰʔ]	[bʔ]	[mʔ]	[jʔ]	[rʔ]
ডা	ল	স	হ				
ua	la	sa	ha				
[wʔ]	[lʔ]	[sʔ]	[hʔ]				

Numerals (lekhathai)

১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭	৮
সা	নাই	থম	ত্রাই	বা	দোক	স্নি	চার
sa	nwi	tham	brwi	ba	dok	sni	char
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
৯	১০						
চুকু	চি						
chuku	chi						
9	10						

NORTHERN IRELAND

WHY IN NEWS?

- ❖ *The appointment of Michelle O’Neill as the first Nationalist First Minister of Northern Ireland has broken a two-year political deadlock, signalling potential progress in the region’s governance.*

ABOUT NORTHERN IRELAND

❖ **Geographical Location:**

- ☛ Northern Ireland is the **smallest of the four parts of the United Kingdom**, located in **western Europe**.
- ☛ It shares the **island of Ireland** with the **Republic of Ireland**, with the **North Channel** separating it from Scotland to the east.
- ☛ **England and Wales** lie across **the Irish Sea** to the east and **southeast**.



❖ **Geography:**

- ☛ Northern Ireland is often referred to as **Ulster**, as it includes **six of the nine counties from the ancient kingdom of Ulster**.
- ☛ It has rolling hills surrounded by low mountains, **with Lough Neagh, the largest lake in the United Kingdom**, located near its centre.
- ☛ The **northern coast** features thousands of rock columns.
- ☛ The climate is cool and **rainy with strong winds**.

NAGOYA PROTOCOL

WHY IN NEWS?

Recently, Cameroon adopts Nagoya Protocol to benefit from its rich biodiversity.

NAGOYA PROTOCOL

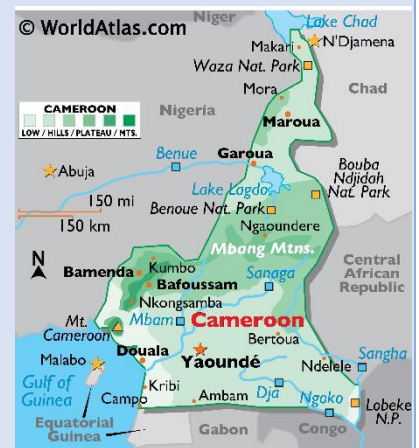


- ❖ The **Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity** is an **international agreement** which aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way.
- ❖ The **Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)** was adopted on **October 29, 2010, in Nagoya, Japan**. It came into force on October 12, 2014, following the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, 90 days after adoption.
- ❖ **Supplementary to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD).**
- ❖ India signed the Nagoya Protocol in 2011 and ratified it in October 2012.



CAMEROON

- ❖ **World's 53rd-largest country**, located in **Central and West Africa**.
- ❖ Positioned on the **Bight of Bonny**, part of the **Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean**.
- ❖ Geographically situated between **latitudes 1° and 13°N, and longitudes 8° and 17°E**.
- ❖ Controls **12 nautical miles** of the Atlantic Ocean.
- ❖ Referred to as **"Africa in miniature"** due to diverse climates and vegetation.
- ❖ Features **coastal areas, desert, mountains, rainforest, and savanna**.
- ❖ Borders **Nigeria and the Atlantic Ocean to the west, Chad to the northeast, Central African Republic to the east, and Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Republic of the Congo to the south**.



'INDIAN OIL MARKET OUTLOOK TO 2030' REPORT

WHY IN NEWS?

- ❖ **India will lead global oil demand growth by 2030**, driven by factors such as **urbanization, industrialization, a growing middle class, and efforts to improve access to clean cooking**.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REPORT:

- ❖ India is projected to contribute nearly **1.2 million barrels per day (mb/d)** to global oil demand growth, accounting for over **one-third of the expected global increase**.
- ❖ **Diesel** will continue to be the **primary driver of India's oil demand growth**.
- ❖ **Jet kerosene demand** is expected to grow at an **average rate of 5.9% per year**.
- ❖ **Gasoline demand** is projected to **increase by 0.7% on average annually**, as the electrification of vehicles reduces demand.
- ❖ **Biofuels** are anticipated to play a significant role in India's transport sector **decarbonization efforts**.



INDIA ENERGY WEEK:



ELECTION COMMISSION

- ❖ The event focuses on **strengthening partnerships in the energy sector**.
- ❖ **India Energy Week 2024** is scheduled from **6th to 9th February 2024** in **Goa, India**.
- ❖ The event is inaugurated by the **Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi**.
- ❖ It is held under the patronage of the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India**.
- ❖ The Federation of **Indian Petroleum Industry (FIPI)** officially supports the event.

WHY IN NEWS?

- ❖ **Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey** is set to retire on **February 14**, and his successor will be picked through a **consultative process being adopted for the first time**.

ABOUT ELECTION COMMISSION (EC):

- ❖ **Independent constitutional authority** overseeing **Union and State elections**.
- ❖ **Established on January 25, 1950**; headquartered in **New Delhi**.
- ❖ Manages elections for **Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, President, and Vice President**.
- ❖ **Not involved in panchayat and municipal elections**; separate State Election Commissions handle these.



CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

- ❖ **Part XV (Article 324-329) of the Indian Constitution**: deals with elections and establishes a commission for these matters.
- ❖ **Article 324**: Superintendence, direction and **control of elections to be vested in an Election Commission**.
- ❖ **Article 325**: No person to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be **included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex**.
- ❖ **Article 326**: Elections to the **House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of States to be based on adult suffrage**.
- ❖ **Article 327**: Power of Parliament to make **provision with respect to elections to Legislatures**.
- ❖ **Article 328**: Power of Legislature of a State to **make provision with respect to elections to such Legislature**.
- ❖ **Article 329**: Bar to interference by courts in electoral matters

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS FOR APPOINTMENT:

- ❖ **Committee comprises PM Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, and a Union Minister**.
- ❖ Similar committee appointed **Lokpal and Central Vigilance Commissioner**.

REASON FOR CHANGE

- ❖ Supreme Court petitions in **2015, 2017, 2021, and 2022** called for a **fair and transparent system to select Election Commissioners**, prompting government action.