



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 17-01-2024

GS-1

1. Nasik's kala ram temple

GS-2

2. Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)
3. DAVOS summit

GS-3

4. Operation AMRITH
5. Tea association of India

Nasik's kala ram temple

Syllabus: GS-1; Art and Culture

Context

- *The story of Nashik's Kalaram temple, visited by Modi — and by Ambedkar many decades ago*



More to know

- **Kalaram Temple, is a Hindu temple in Nashik** of Nashik district in Maharashtra, dedicated to the deity Rama.
- It is a temple situated in **Panchavati** area of the Nashik.
- The temple derives its name from a black statue of Rama. The literal translation of kalaram is "**black Rama**".

History

- The original temple dedicated to an unknown deity was very old, estimated to be of the **Rashtrakuta Period** from 7th to 11th centuries.
- According to an anecdote, during the period of early Turkish invasions, the idol of the deity was thrown in the **Godavari River** by the Temple Brahmins in order to save it.
- The new temple was funded by one **Sardar Rangarao Odhekar**, and was rebuilt around 1788.
- According to ancient epic of the Ramayana, **Rama was sent in exile for fourteen years**. After the tenth year of exile, Rama along with Lakshmana and Sita, lived for two and half years on the northern bank of the Godavari near Nasik. This place is known as Panchavati.

B.R. Ambedkar's satyagraha

- The temple came middle of the conflict caused by Satyagraha organised and led by B.R. Ambedkar.
- Ambedkar organised a large protest outside this temple on 2 March 1930, **in order to enter into the temple**.
- Many dalit protesters arrived to the town by trucks, they surrounded the temple and sat around it. They sang songs, often raised war cries, demanded to enter in the temple.
- The people of Nashik boycotted the protesters. On the day of Rama Navami 9 April 1930, the dalit protesters tried to stop the temple ratha yatra; fights and stone pelting began in-between Hindus and dalit protesters, later Ambedkar reached at the riot spot, he and other all the protesters suffered minor injuries.
- Somehow a protester named Bhaskar Kendre broke the police cordon who were protecting the temple and enter in it and fell on the floor. This satyagraha ran till 1935.

Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)

Syllabus:GS-2: Governance –grievance redressal.

Context:

- *The Government is using next generation “Artificial Intelligence” (AI) enabled technology to enhance capacity of the Centralised Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) portal.*

CPGRAMS Overview:

- *Online platform available 24x7 for citizens to lodge grievances related to service delivery.*
- *Connected to all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and States.*
- *Role-based access for Ministries and States.*
- *Accessible through a standalone mobile app and **integrated with UMANG.***

Grievance Tracking:

- *Unique registration ID provided for tracking the status of filed grievances.*
- *Appeal facility available if citizens are not satisfied with the Grievance Officer's resolution.*
- *Feedback option after the closure of grievances; 'Poor' rating enables filing an appeal.*
- *Petitioners can track the status of appeals using the grievance registration number.*

Issues Not Addressed:

- *RTI Matters*
- *Court-related/Subjudice matters*
- *Religious matters*
- *Suggestions*
- *Grievances of Government employees regarding service matters, unless they've exhausted prescribed channels per DoPT OM No. 11013/08/2013-Estt.(A-III) dated 31.08.2015.*

DAVOS summit

Syllabus: GS-2: International Relations.

Context:

- *The World Economic Forum (WEF) is holding its Annual Meeting from January 15 to 19 in Davos, Switzerland.*

Who initiated the World Economic Forum?

- **Founder:** *Klaus Schwab*
- **Background:** *Mechanical engineering graduate turned professor of business policy at the University of Geneva*
- **Initiation:** *Founded the World Economic Forum (WEF) in 1971, initially known as the European Management Forum*
- **Concept Introduced:** *Introduced the concept of "stakeholder capitalism"*
- **Definition:** *Schwab defines stakeholder capitalism as a form of capitalism where companies consider the needs of all stakeholders, not just shareholders, seeking long-term value creation*
- **WEF's Perspective:** *A company should serve all its stakeholders, including employees, suppliers, and the community it is part of*
- **Purpose:** *WEF serves as a platform for business, government, and civil society leaders to discuss and find solutions to major global issues*
- **Annual Event:** *Leaders gather in the high Alps to brainstorm on challenges and find solutions*



What happens at WEF?

- **Focus Evolution:** *Initially centered on helping European firms catch up with US management practices*

- **Shift in Focus:** Expanded to cover economic and social issues in 1973 due to events like the collapse of the Bretton Woods fixed exchange rate mechanism and the Arab-Israeli War
- **Membership System:** Introduced a membership system in 1975 for the world's leading 1,000 companies
- **International Partnerships:** Established a partnership with China's economic development commissions in 1979, coinciding with the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the US
- **Annual Meeting:** Takes place in Davos, Switzerland, bringing together around 3,000 participants, including investors, business leaders, political leaders, economists, celebrities, and journalists
- **Duration:** Lasts up to five days
- **Sessions:** Involves approximately 500 sessions covering various global issues
- **Purpose:** Provides a forum for stakeholders to meet and discuss global and **regional socio-economic issues.**
- **Funding Source:** The World Economic Forum (WEF) is **primarily funded by partnering corporations**, typically global enterprises with an annual turnover exceeding \$5 billion.
- **Historical Connection:** Davos was the setting for Thomas Mann's novel "**The Magic Mountain**," telling the story of a young man who initially plans to stay for three weeks but ends up spending seven years at a sanatorium in Davos.
- **Mission Focus:** Holding the meeting in Davos allows WEF to cut through global political distractions and concentrate on its mission of creating a more prosperous global economy.

What else happens at WEF?

- **International Diplomacy:** WEF has served as a location for pivotal international diplomacy, providing a setting where leaders can ease tensions.
- **Historic Meetings:** Notable examples include the first ministerial-level meetings between North and South Korea, and discussions between East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on German reunification.
- **South African Political Transition:** In 1992, South African President de Klerk, Nelson Mandela, and Zulu prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi had their first joint appearance outside South Africa at the Annual Meeting, marking a milestone in the country's political transition.
- **G20 Origins:** In 1998, participants at WEF emphasized the need to include major developing countries, leading to the idea of creating the G20. The first G20 meeting was held in Bonn, Germany, later that year, initially restricted to finance ministers and focusing on global finance.
- **G20 Summit:** The G20 meeting evolved into a summit in 2008, with the United States hosting a G20 summit in Washington DC to address the impact of the global economic crisis.

- **WEF Publications:** *WEF regularly publishes global rankings and indices, including the Global Competitiveness Report and the Global Gender Gap Report.*

Operation AMRITH

Syllabus: GS-3: Science and Technology –Health Science.

Context:

- *Kerala Launches Operation AMRITH To Combat AMR*

Operation Amrith (Antimicrobial Resistance Intervention For Total Health):

- *Initiated by the Kerala Drug Control Department.*
- *Focuses on curbing the overuse of antibiotics in the state.*

Pharmacy Regulations:

- *Pharmacies mandated to maintain **accurate records of antibiotic sales.***
- *Display posters stating '**antibiotics not sold without doctor's prescription.**'*
- ***Compliance with prescription regulations is essential.***

Alignment with KARSAP:

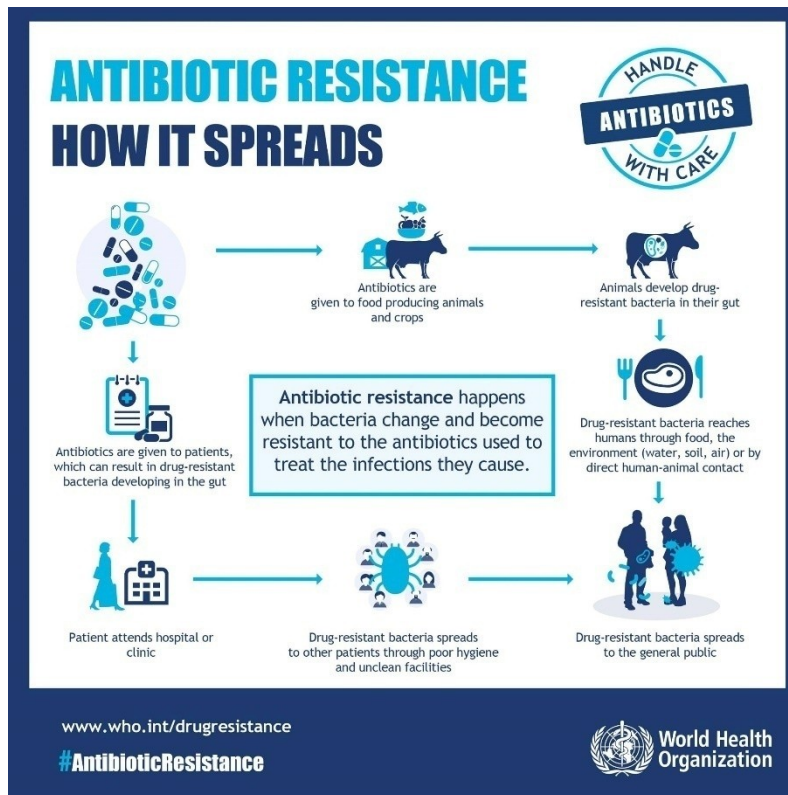
- *Operation Amrith is in line with **Kerala's Anti-Microbial Resistance Strategic Action Plan (KARSAP).***
- *Reflects a **multi-sectoral approach** to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR).*

Various Initiatives Implemented:

- *Antibiotic Literate Kerala Campaign introduced.*
- *Block-level AMR Committees established.*
- *Kerala Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network (KARS-NET) implemented for surveillance purposes.*

Objective of the Move:

- *Raise awareness about AMR.*
- *Ensure responsible antibiotic use.*
- *Prevent the spread of drug-resistant infections.*



Tea association of India

Syllabus: GS-3: Industry – Tea plantation.

Context:

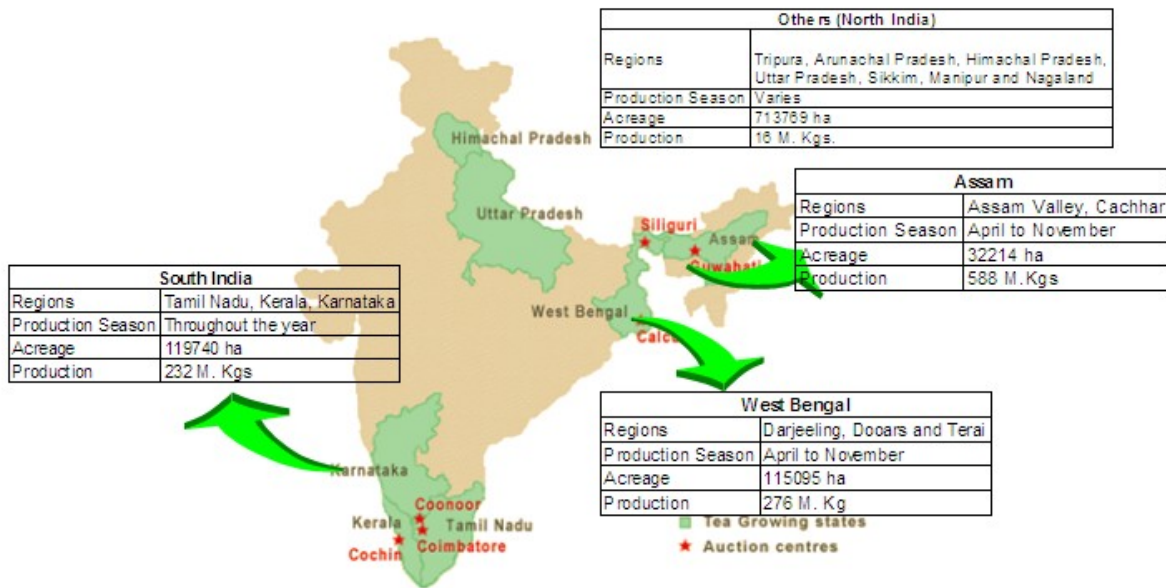
- *Tea Association of India warns of return to 'dark phase' for industry.*

What is the issues?

- *India's tea industry is facing challenges similar to those in the period of 2002-07.*
- *Major issues include stagnant prices, oversupply, a growing gap between demand and supply, and a focus on producing cheaper teas.*
- *The industry previously experienced a **significant market slump in 2002-07** due to regulations, falling demand, entry of cheaper teas from other countries, and a decline in exports.*

- *Tea prices have **largely remained unchanged**, with a brief increase noted in 2020 due to the pandemic.*
- *Many tea estates are struggling to cope with **rising input costs, leading to closures, changes in ownership**, or survival through subsidies from group companies.*
- *There is a fear that the industry may lose future interest if the current situation persists.*
- ***Oversupply is a significant concern** causing an imbalance between tea availability and consumption.*
- *Market power is **concentrated among a few key players**, contributing to the challenges faced by the industry.*
- ***Quality of teas has declined** to make the beverage more affordable, leading to a "race to the bottom."*
- *The president of the **Tea Association of India (TAI)**, Mr. Jalan, emphasized the need to reposition tea and suggested measures for the Tea Board of India to consider.*
- *Proposed steps include **regulating the sale of tea waste** in the domestic market at lower prices, **restricting the import of poor-quality teas**, and promoting tea based on its health benefits.*
- *Regulating waste could **decrease supply by 15-20 million kg**, while restricting imports could **remove 30 million kg of low-quality teas**.*
- ***Assam contributes about 55% of India's tea production**, which has increased by 39% from 981 million kg in 2008 to 1,336 million kg in 2022.*
- *Tea production in 2023 is projected to be **around 1,365 million kg**, similar to the 2022 production.*
- *India's tea exports until October 2023 were 182.69 million kg, a 2% decrease compared to 2022, while tea imports increased from 27 million kg in 2021 to 30 million kg in 2022.*

Tea growing regions of India:



Parameter	Description
Soil	<i>Well-drained acidic soils (pH 4.5-5.5), preferably sandy loam or loamy with ample organic matter.</i>
Climate	<i>Tropical and subtropical climates; ideal temperature 20-30°C; consistent rainfall (150-300 cm annually); preferred altitude 600-2,100 meters.</i>
Irrigation	<i>Adequate water supply, often using drip irrigation or sprinklers; proper drainage to avoid waterlogging.</i>
Labour	<i>Labor-intensive with activities like plucking, pruning, weeding, and processing; skilled and semi-skilled labor required.</i>
Topography	<i>Hilly terrains with slopes for proper drainage; terracing common in hilly regions for planting and management ease.</i>

About TAI

- *The Indian Tea Association is a trade association representing Indian tea producers.*
- *Headquartered in Kolkata (Calcutta).*
- *Founded in 1881.*
- **Objective:** *Protect the interests of tea planters in British India and promote Indian tea consumption.*
- **Offices:** *Had offices in London and India.*
- **Labor Recruitment:** *Established rules for plantation labor recruitment.*

- **Labor Standards:** *In the early twentieth century, attempted to improve treatment standards for laborers.*