

Assam, Arunachal Pradesh CMs sign pact to resolve border dispute

(GS Paper 2, Governance)

Why in news?

- Recently, Assam Chief Minister and his Arunachal Pradesh counterpart signed an agreement to end border issues between the two states and decided to ‘restrict’ the number of disputed villages to 86 instead of 123.



What is the border issues between Assam & Arunachal Pradesh?

- The two states share an 804.1 km-long border.
- The grievance of Arunachal Pradesh which was made a union territory in 1972 is that several forested tracts in the plains that had traditionally belonged to hill tribal chiefs and communities were unilaterally transferred to Assam.
- After Arunachal Pradesh achieved statehood in 1987, a tripartite committee was appointed which recommended that certain territories be transferred from Assam to Arunachal.
- Assam contested this and the matter is in the Supreme Court.

Way Forward:

- They have decided to restrict the ‘disputed villages’ to 86 instead of 123.
- They will try to resolve the rest by September 15, 2022.

Department of Consumer Affairs launches ‘Jagriti’

(GS Paper 3, Economy)

Why in news?

- Recently, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) has launched “Jagriti”, a mascot for empowering consumers and generating awareness of their rights.
- Jagriti will be **projected as an empowered consumer** who is spreading awareness about consumer rights & addressing solutions to the problems faced by the consumers.

Key Highlights:

- The “Jagriti” mascot will be used to generate consumer awareness about various themes of the Department like provisions of Consumer Protection Act 2019, Hallmarking, National Consumer Helpline toll free number 1915, provisions of weights & measures Act, decisions of the Central Consumer Protection Authority and testimonials by consumers on grievance redressal.
- By bringing the Jagriti Mascot, DoCA aims to **strengthen its consumer awareness campaign** presence in digital and multimedia and reinforce a young empowered and informed consumer as a top-of-mind consumer rights awareness recall brand.



“Jago Grahak Jago”

- Jagriti mascot shall be shown along with tagline “Jago Grahak Jago” in all its media campaigns.
- The two are new synonymous with young aware consumers and bring sharp focus to consumer rights knowledge and movement.

25 million children missed out DTP vaccines: UN

(GS Paper 3, Health)

Why in news?

- A recent data by the **World Health Organisation and UNICEF** recorded the largest sustained decline in global childhood vaccinations in approximately 30 years.
- **India, Nigeria, Indonesia, Ethiopia and the Philippines** have recorded the highest number of children who did not receive their vaccines against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis in 2021.

Key Highlights:

- It said the percentage of children who received three doses of the vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP3) **fell 5 percentage points between 2019 and 2021 to 81 per cent**.
- As a result, **25 million children missed out on one or more doses of DTP** through routine immunisation services in 2021 alone. This is two million more than those who missed out in 2020 and six million more than in 2019, highlighting the growing number of children at risk from devastating but preventable diseases.
- According to the data, 18 million of the 25 million children did not receive a single dose of DTP in 2021, the vast majority of whom live in low- and middle-income countries.

- Among countries with the largest relative increases in the number of children who **did not receive a single vaccine between 2019 and 2021 are Myanmar and Mozambique.**
- Vaccine coverage dropped in every region, with the East Asia and Pacific region recording the steepest reversal in DTP3 coverage, falling nine percentage points in just two years.



Factors for decline:

- The decline was due to many factors including an increased number of children living in conflict and fragile settings where immunisation access is often challenging, increased misinformation and COVID-19 related issues such as service and supply chain disruptions, resource diversion to response efforts, and containment measures that limited immunisation service access and availability.

Inadequate coverage:

- Globally, **over a quarter of the coverage of HPV vaccines that was achieved in 2019 has been lost.** This has grave consequences for the health of women and girls, as global coverage of the first dose of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is only 15 per cent, despite the first vaccines being licensed over 15 years ago.
- It was hoped that 2021 would be a year of recovery during which strained immunisation programmes would rebuild and the cohort of children missed in 2020 would be caught-up.
- Instead, DTP3 coverage was set back to its lowest level since 2008 which, along with declines in coverage for other basic vaccines, pushed the world off-track to meet global goals.
- Inadequate coverage levels have already resulted in avoidable outbreaks of measles and polio in the past 12 months, underscoring the vital role of immunisation in keeping children, adolescents, adults, and societies healthy.

Immunisation Agenda 2030:

- WHO and UNICEF are working with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and other partners to deliver the global Immunisation Agenda 2030 (IA2030).
- It is a strategy for all countries and relevant global partners to achieve set goals on preventing diseases through immunisation and delivering vaccines to everyone, everywhere, at every age.

Def Ministry sets up committee to conduct performance & efficiency audit

(GS Paper 3, Defence)

Why in news?

- The Defence Ministry has set up an apex committee to conduct ‘**performance and efficiency**’ audit of capital procurements, logistics, inventory and maintenance of assets of the armed forces.

Agenda:

- The committee, headed by the Defence secretary, **will advise Defence Minister** on measures for overall improvement in **strengthening of internal oversight and risk management framework** in various aspects of functioning of the ministry.



Composition:

- The panel comprises Vice Chiefs of the three services, Secretary Defence (finance), Chief of Integrated Staff Committee, Controller General of Defence Accounts and Director General (acquisition) and other senior officials of the Ministry, including representatives from the Defence Research and Development Organisation.

Key Highlights:

- The setting up of the committee comes amid efforts to streamline the military procurement procedures and focus on enhancing the country's overall combat readiness.
- It is a major shift from the existing transaction-based compliance audit to carry out an outcome-based performance and efficiency audit.
- The broad areas that have been identified for the conduct of performance and efficiency audit include defence capital procurements, provisioning, logistics, inventory levels, maintenance of platforms/assets, role and performance of authority holding sealed particulars etc.
- The apex committee can also recommend any other specific area for performance and efficiency audit.

Way Forward:

- The committee will identify specific areas for the conduct of performance and audit by controller general of defence accounts and monitor performance audit reports and action taken thereon.