

30th October 2019

1. **Shri Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde to be the next Chief Justice of India**

- The President has appointed Shri Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde, Judge of the Supreme Court as the next Chief Justice of India and 47th in number with effect from November 18, 2019.

Related Information

Appointment of Judges

- The judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President.
- The CJI is appointed by the President after consultation with such judges of the Supreme Court and high courts as he deems necessary.
- The other judges are appointed by the President after consultation with the CJI and such other judges of the Supreme Court and the high court's as he deems necessary.
- The consultation with the chief justice is obligatory in the case of appointment of a judge other than Chief justice.

Appointment of Chief Justice from 1950 to 1973

- The practice has been to appoint the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court as the chief justice of India.
- This established convention was violated in 1973 when A N Ray was appointed as the Chief Justice of India by superseding three senior judges.
- Again in 1977, M U Beg was appointed as the chief justice of India by superseding the then senior-most judge.
- This discretion of the government was curtailed by the Supreme Court in the Second Judges Case (1993), in which the Supreme Court ruled that the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court should alone be appointed to the office of the Chief Justice of India.

Controversy over Consultation and Evolution of Collegium system

- The Supreme Court has given different interpretations of the word 'consultation' in the above-mentioned provisions.
- In the First Judges case (1982), the Court held that consultation does not mean concurrence and it only implies an exchange of views.
- In the Second Judges case (1993), the Court reversed its earlier ruling and changed the meaning of the word consultation to concurrence.
- In the Third Judges case (1998), the Court opined that the consultation process to be adopted by the Chief Justice of India requires 'consultation of plurality judges'.
- The sole opinion of the CJI does not constitute the consultation process.
- He should consult a collegium of four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court and even if two judges give an adverse opinion, he should not send the recommendation to the government.



Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)

- The court held that the recommendation made by the chief justice of India without complying with the norms and requirements of the consultation process are not binding on the government.

Collegium System

- Collegium system was born through “three judge’s case” and it is in practice since 1998.
- It is used for appointments and transfers of judges in High courts and Supreme Courts.
- There is no mention of the Collegium either in the original Constitution of India or in successive amendments.

National Judicial Appointments Commission

- The 99th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act of 2014 have replaced the collegium system of appointing judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts with a new body called the National Judicial Appointments Commission.
- However, in 2015, the Supreme Court has declared both the 99th Constitutional Amendment as well as the NJAC Act as unconstitutional and void.
- Consequently, the earlier collegium system became operative again.
- This verdict was delivered by the Supreme Court in the Fourth Judges case (2015).
- The court opined that the new system (i.e., NJAC) would affect the independence of the judiciary

Qualifications of Judges

- A person to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court should have the following qualifications.
 - a. He should be a citizen of India.
 - b. He should have been a judge of a High Court (or high courts in succession) for five years; or
 - c. He should have been an advocate of a High Court (or High Courts in succession) for ten years; or
 - d. He should be a distinguished jurist in the opinion of the president.
 - e. The Constitution has not prescribed minimum age for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court.

Topic- GS Paper 2 – Governance

Source- PIB

2. Global mobility report

- According to a report by Sustainable Mobility for All (SuM4All) initiative, not a single country — developed or developing — is on track to achieve sustainability in



Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)

the transportation sector and attain the Sustainable Development Goals mandated by the United Nations.

Related Information

SuM4All initiative

- It was launched in 2017, is an umbrella platform that brings together 55 public and private organisations and companies to act collectively to implement the SDGs and transform the transport sector.
- The report charted a Global Roadmap for Action (GRA), which provides a catalogue of policy measures that have been used and tested around the world to achieve four policy goals —
 - a. Universal access
 - b. Efficiency
 - c. Green mobility
 - d. Safety

Highlights of the report

- It analysed mobility performances of 183 countries on these key indicators.
- Developed countries outperformed developing countries on all mobility policy goals, except per capita transport-related greenhouse gas emissions.
- The gap is more striking on safety and air pollution, placing a higher burden on developing countries compared with the developed countries.
- Other indicators also showed wide disparities between developed and developing countries.
- In developing countries, the same indicator ranged between zero and 48, but averaged only four, showed the report.
- Further, the report classified all countries into four categories from A to D ('D' being the lowest-performing), based on key indicators.

GRA will work in three ways to the policy agenda on mobility:

- Charting mobility performances of 183 developed and developing countries,
- Providing a catalogue of suitable policy measures that have been used and tested around the world to achieve any of the four policy goals,
- Laying out a methodology to extract from this catalogue of policies those measures that are most impactful and relevant to a country's context

Topic- GS Paper 2

Source- Indian Express

3. Cyclone Kyarr



Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)

- According to the Indian Meteorological Department, the cyclonic storm Kyarr is moving away from the western coast and the rainfall activity over Goa is likely to reduce from the late evening.
- Many places in Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka are receiving rains for the last few days, mainly because of cyclonic storm 'Kyarr' in the Arabian Sea.

Related information

About Cyclone Kyarr

- It is a tropical cyclone that has intensified west of India in the Northern Indian Ocean's the Arabian Sea.
- Cyclone 'Kyarr' intensifies to become the first Super Cyclonic storm in the Arabian Sea in last 12 years after Cyclone Gonu ravaged the Oman coast in 2007.

India Meteorological Department

- It is an agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Government of India which was established in 1875.
- It is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology.
- India Meteorological Department ranks cyclones on a five-point scale-
 - a. Cyclonic storm
 - b. Severe cyclonic storm
 - c. Very severe cyclonic storm
 - d. Extremely Severe cyclonic storm
 - e. Super cyclonic storm.

Topic- GS Paper 1 –Geography

Source- Live mint

4. Gill-Oxygen Limitation Theory

- In a new research paper, scientist theory explains biological reasons that force fish to move poleward as climate change heats up the ocean.

Related Information

- The Gill-Oxygen Limitation Theory, known as GOLT, explains the biological reasons that force fish, particularly larger or older ones, to move poleward when the waters in their habitats heat-up due to climate change.
- This is because, as fish grow, their demand for oxygen increases. However, the surface area of the gills (two-dimensional) does not grow at the same pace as the rest of the body (three-dimensional).
- The larger the fish, the smaller it's surface area relative to the volume of its body.



Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)

- So, the fish move to waters whose temperatures resemble those of their original habitats and that satisfy their oxygen needs.
- As the global sea surface temperature has increased by approximately 0.13°C per decade over the past 100 years, “suitable” waters are more and more found towards the poles and at greater depths.

Topic- GS Paper 3– Science and Technology

Source- Sea Around Us

5. Melbourne Mercer Global Pension Index

- According to Melbourne Mercer Global Pension Index India has marginally improved its ranking to 32nd position in terms of providing pension and retirement benefits to citizens compared to the last year.
- The country's score in the Melbourne Mercer Global Pension Index (MMGPI) 2019 rose to 45.8 from 44.6 last year.

Related Information

About Index

- It will cover 37 countries, is based on how they fare on providing pension and retirement benefits to citizens across different income groups.

Highlights of the Index

- In the overall list, the Netherlands had the highest index value (81.0), while Thailand had the lowest value (39.4).

India and Index

- India stood at 32nd position in 2019 out of 37 countries, while it was ranked at 33rd place in 2018 out of 34 countries in the list.
- India's index value increased largely due to the improvement in all three sub-indices of adequacy, sustainability and integrity.
- As per the index, the improvement was due to slight increase in scores across various dimensions, including net household savings, greater flexibility in managing retirement and part-time work, steady progress in governance and reporting around private pension plans.
- The report said that the draft wages and social security reforms that have been initiated in India indicate the intent of policymakers in creating an inclusive and sustainable pension system.
- The report added that index value can further be enhanced by complementing above reforms with greater participation of the organised sector in supplemental pension plans.



Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)

- It cited the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) which is available to all citizens below the age of 40, but is aimed at the unorganised sector and encourages them to save voluntarily before retirement.
- The report also mentioned new schemes introduced by the government for different segments of workers in the unorganised sector like
 - a. PM Karam Yogi Maan-Dhan Scheme for retailers and shop keepers
 - b. PM Kisan Pension Yojan (PM-KMY) for small and marginal farmers
 - c. Pradhan Mantri Shram-Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM) that covers workers in the unorganized sector with an equal contribution by the government.

Topic- GS Paper 2 – Governance

Source- Times of India

6. Sentinel-3 World Fire Atlas

- Compared to August 2018, there were almost five times as many wildfires across the world in August 2019; the European Space Agency (ESA) has announced citing data from its Sentinel-3 World Fire Atlas.

Related Information

Sentinel-3

- It is an Earth observation satellite constellation developed by the European Space Agency as part of the Copernicus Programme.
- It has been developed by ESA over the southern countries of the ESA member states.
- It aims to provide continuity to ESA ATSR World Fire Atlas (operating from June 1995 to March 2012) taking on board all the improvements of Sentinel-3 SLSTR instrument.

How They Are Mapped?

- The Sentinel-3 World Fire Atlas uses a method that enables it to identify all active fires at night.
- The sensors on satellites measure thermal infrared radiation to take the temperature of Earth's land surfaces.
- This information is used to detect and monitor the heat emitted by the fire.

Topic- GS Paper 3 –Environment

Source- Economics Times

7. Andhra Pradesh launches online platform SMARTPORT



Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)

- Andhra Pradesh, which is ranked number 1 in Ease of Doing Business in the country, is set to become a pioneer by bringing port-related services also under the EDB ambit through a new initiative called SMARTPORT.
- SMARTPORT will be covered under the Public Service Delivery Guarantee Act and tracked through a single-desk portal to bring in transparency and accountability and establish a corruption-free environment in port-related services, state Industries and Infrastructure.
- SMARTPORT will enable online services like the request for entry of vessels into Indian waters, furnishing cargo declaration, request for entry certificate of vessels, furnishing import/export parameters and request for a final clearance certificate.

Topic- GS Paper 3 –Economic Development

Source- Deccan Herald

8. Govt sets up panel of secretaries led by Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba to help ease stress in the telecom sector

- The government has set up a committee of secretaries (CoS) under Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba to suggest measures to mitigate financial stress in the telecom sector, which is looking at a payout of Rs 1.33 trillion to clear statutory dues.
- The Supreme Court (SC) had on October 24 agreed with the Department of Telecom's (DoT's) definition of adjusted gross revenue (AGR), asking the telcos to pay dues and interest within three months.
- The telcos had subsequently appealed to the government to reduce the amount and also extend the deadline or provide a moratorium.

Topic- GS Paper 3 –Indian Economy

Source- Business Standard



Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)

gradeup

A promotional banner for the Gradeup Green Card. On the left, there is an illustration of a person with glasses and a white shirt sitting at a desk with a laptop. The background is dark blue with green diagonal stripes. The text is white and green.

Gradeup Green Card
Unlimited Access to All Mock
Tests of State PCS Exams

[CHECK HERE](#)