

# Important Terms in 18th November -2020 News

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## **UNESCO:**

- UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture.
- UNESCO's programmes contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals defined in Agenda 2030, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015.
- UNESCO-IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission) is leading a global effort to establish ocean-based tsunami warning systems as part of an overall multi-hazard disaster reduction strategy.
- Recently, UNESCO-IOC approved the recognition of two communities of Odisha viz., Venktraipur and Noliasahi as Tsunami Ready Communities.
- It has 193 Members and 11 Associate Members. India joined UNESCO in 1946.
- In 2019, the USA and Israel formally quit UNESCO.
- It is headquartered in Paris, France.

## **Delhi Special Police Establishment Act:**

- The Central Bureau of Investigation traces its origin to the Special Police Establishment (SPE) which was set up in 1941 by the Government of India.
- The functions of the SPE then were to investigate cases of bribery and corruption in transactions with the War & Supply Deptt. Of India during World War II.
- Even after the end of the War, the need for a Central Government agency to investigate cases of bribery and corruption by Central Government employees was felt.
- The Delhi Special Police Establishment Act was therefore brought into force in 1946. The CBI's power to investigate cases is derived from this Act.

## **Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy:**

- Under this Policy, exploration blocks shall be awarded on a continuous basis through e-bidding in a transparent manner.

### **Features:**

- Revenue sharing model instead of Profit sharing for hydrocarbon exploration.
- Under revenue sharing model, the government share accrues immediately on production, unlike in cost-recovery where the contractors first claimed its costs before splitting leftover profits, if any.
- Unified license for all types of hydrocarbons.
- Freedom to carve out acreages of choice under OALP bid rounds.

- Full marketing and pricing freedom of gas.

#### **National Data Repository:**

- NDR is a government-sponsored E&P data bank with state-of-the-art facilities and infrastructure for preservation, upkeep and dissemination of data to enable its systematic use for future exploration and development.
- Following are the data that is being stored in NDR: Seismic Data, Well & Log Data, Spatial Data, other data like Drilling, Reservoir, Production, Geological, Gravity & Magnetic etc.
- Having an NDR for India has helped in enhancing prospects of petroleum exploration and facilitating the Bidding Rounds by improving the availability of quality data.

## **Important Terms in 06th November -2020 News**

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#### **United Nations General Assembly:**

- UNGA is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, serving as the main deliberative, policy-making, and representative organ of the UN.
- UN is an international organization founded in 1945. It is currently made up of 193 Member States.
- The other five organs of the UN are: Security Council, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the UN Secretariat.

#### **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund:**

- NIIF is a government-backed entity established to provide long-term capital to the country's infrastructure sector.
  - The Indian government has a 49% stake in NIIF with the rest held by foreign and domestic investors.
  - With the Centre's significant stake, NIIF is considered India's quasi-sovereign wealth fund.
- It was set up in December 2015 as a Category-II Alternate Investment Fund.
- Across its three funds viz. Master Fund, Fund of Funds, and Strategic Opportunities Fund, it manages over USD 4.3 billion of capital.
- Its registered office is in New Delhi.

**Pandemic:**

- According to the WHO, a pandemic is declared when a new disease for which people do not have immunity spreads around the world beyond expectations.

**Epidemic:**

- An epidemic is a large outbreak, one that spreads among a population or region. It is less severe than pandemic due to a limited area of spread.

**Pinaka Missile:**

- Development: The development of the Pinaka multi-barrel rocket systems was started by the DRDO in the late 1980s, as an alternative to the Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher systems of Russian make called the 'Grad', which are still used by some regiments.  
-After successful tests of Pinaka Mark-1 in the late 1990, it was first used successfully in the battlefield during the 1999 Kargil War. Subsequently, multiple regiments of the system came up over the 2000s.

# Important Terms in 04th November -2020 News

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**Purchasing Managers' Index:**

- PMI is an indicator of business activity – both in the manufacturing and services sectors.
- It is calculated separately for the manufacturing and services sectors and then a composite index is also constructed.
- The PMI summarizes whether market conditions as viewed by purchasing managers are expanding, neutral, or contracting.
- The purpose of the PMI is to provide information about current and future business conditions to company decision makers, analysts, and investors.

**National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd:**

- NCGTC is a private limited company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 in 2014, established by the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, as a wholly owned

company of the Government of India, to act as a common trustee company for multiple credit guarantee funds.

- Credit guarantee programmes are designed to share the lending risk of the lenders and in turn, facilitate access to finance for the prospective borrowers.

### **Indus Valley Civilization:**

- The history of India begins with the birth of the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC), also known as Harappan Civilization.
- It flourished around 2,500 BC, in the western part of South Asia, in contemporary Pakistan and Western India.
- The Indus Valley was home to the largest of the four ancient urban civilizations of Egypt, Mesopotamia, India and China.
- In the 1920s, the Archaeological Department of India carried out excavations in the Indus valley wherein the ruins of the two old cities, viz. Mohenjodaro and Harappa were unearthed.
- In 1924, John Marshall, Director-General of the ASI, announced the discovery of a new civilisation in the Indus valley to the world.

### **Budapest Convention:**

- The Council of Europe's (CoE) Cybercrime Convention, also known as the Budapest Convention is the sole legally binding international multilateral treaty on cybercrime. It coordinates cybercrime investigations between nation-states and criminalizes certain cybercrime conduct.
  - It was open for signature in 2001 and came into force in 2004.
  - The Budapest Convention is supplemented by a Protocol on Xenophobia and Racism committed through computer systems.
  - India is not a party to it. India recently voted in favour of a Russian-led UN resolution to set up a separate convention. The resolution seeks to set up new cyber norms considered as a counter alternative to the US backed Budapest Accord