

# 1. Gross State Domestic Product

Topic: Economy



**In News:** Emerging from the shock of the Covid-19 pandemic, GSDP of 19 states and Union Territories exceeded their pre-Covid levels.

## More on the Topic:

- Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) or State Income is the most important indicator for measuring the economic growth of a State.
- Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is a measure in monetary terms, the sum total volume of all finished goods and services produced during a given period of time, usually a year, within the geographical boundaries of the State, accounted without duplication.

## Importance of State Domestic Product:

- The State Domestic Product (SDP) or State Income is the most important indicator for **measuring the economic growth of a State.**
- These estimates of economy, over a period of time, **reveal the extent and direction of the changes in the levels of economic development.**
- The State Domestic Product is classified under three broad sectors such as **Primary sector, Secondary sector and Tertiary sector** and is compiled economic activity wise as per the methodology prescribed by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), GOI and furnished to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI).

Source: Indian Express

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## 2. Forever Chemicals

**Topic: Environment and Ecology**



**In News:** A recent study published in Environment Science and Technology has found that rainwater from many places across the globe is contaminated with “forever chemicals”.

### More on the Topic:

- **“Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances,” (PFAs)** are called “forever chemicals” because of their tendency to stick around in the atmosphere, rainwater and soil for long periods of time.
- PFAs are **man-made chemicals** used to make nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics, cosmetics, firefighting forms and many other products that resist grease, water and oil.
- PFAs can **migrate to the soil, water and air** during their production and use. Since most PFAs do not break down, they remain in the environment for long periods of time.
- Some of these PFAs can build up in people and animals if they are repeatedly exposed to the chemicals.

### What harm do PFAs cause?

- A variety of health risks that are attributed to PFA exposure, including decreased fertility, developmental effects in children, interference with body hormones, increased cholesterol levels and increased risk of some cancers.
- Recent research has also revealed that long-term low-level exposure to certain PFAs can make it difficult for humans to build antibodies after being vaccinated against various diseases.

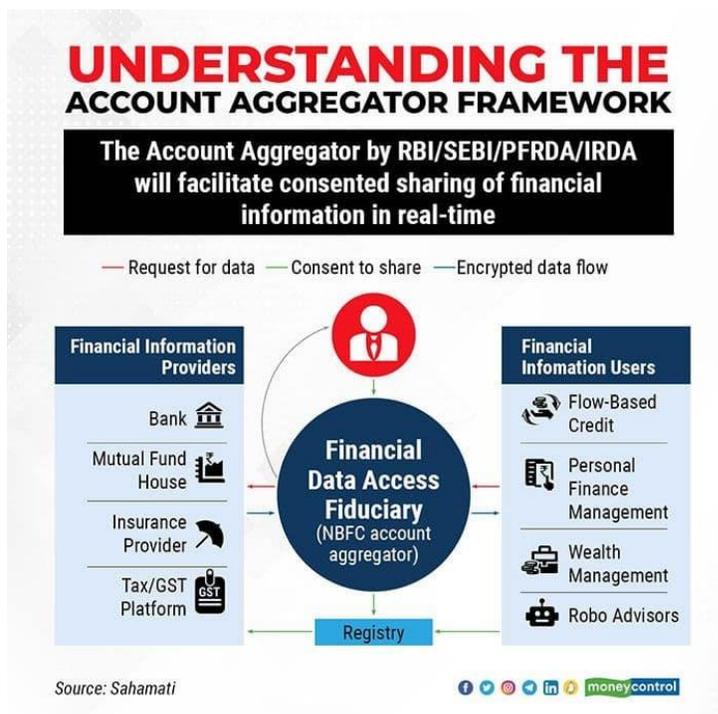
### How can these chemicals be removed from rainwater?

- While there is no known method that can extract and remove PFAs from the atmosphere itself, there are many effective, albeit expensive, methods to remove them from rainwater that has been collected through various rainwater harvesting methods.
- One way to do this would be **to use a filtration system with activated carbon**. The activated carbon will need to be removed and replaced regularly. Also, the old contaminated material must be destroyed.

Source: Indian Express

## 3. Account Aggregator Framework

Topic: Economy



**In News:** The Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has joined the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI’s) account aggregator framework.

#### More on the Topic:

- It is part of **RBI regulated financial data sharing system**.
- It is an RBI-regulated non-banking finance company (NBFC) that **facilitates the collection of financial information** pertaining to a customer from financial information providers on the basis of the consent of the customer.

- Account aggregation **involves compiling financial data from multiple sources all at one place.**
- This will enable **collection of financial data from multiple inputs, ranging from loans to investments, at one place** to ensure seamless sharing of information with financial institutions and service providers.
- It aims to ensure **quick sharing of data with explicit permission of users**, all while eliminating the need for paperwork.
- In this framework, **AAs will act as an intermediary and the information will come from FIPs such as banks and AMCs and will be subsequently forwarded to financial information users (FIUs)** that request the data.
- The framework aims to streamline financial inclusion, especially in the lending space.

Source: Hindu

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## 4.Grameen Udyami Project

**Topic: Government Schemes**



**In News:** National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in collaboration with Seva Bharti and Yuva Vikas Society has launched the second phase of Grameen Udyami Project.

**More on the Topic:**

- Grameen Udyami is a multi-skilling project, funded by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- The project is being implemented in **six states including Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Gujarat.**
- It will augment skill training in tribal youth and ensure the inclusive and sustainable growth of tribal communities.
- It will also impart functional skills to them for enabling livelihoods and increase in Rural/Local Economy.
- I will enhance employment opportunities and reduce forced migration due to lack of local opportunities.

- It will also enable conservation of natural resources.

Source: Indian Express

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## 5. NIDAAN Portal

Topic: e-Governance



**In News:** The portal--NIDAAN or the National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco-offenders--has been developed by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

**More on the Topic:**

- NIDAAN is a **one-stop solution for all narcotics offenders' related data and will help investigative agencies** as an effective tool to connect the dots while probing narcotics cases,
- It is part of the narcotics coordination mechanism (NCORD) portal.
- The NIDAAN platform **sources its data from the ICJS (inter-operable criminal justice system) and the e-Prisons (a cloud-based application) repository** and it is planned to integrate it in the future with the crime and criminal tracking network system or CCTNS.
- **The ICJS, an initiative of the Supreme Court e-committee**, was created to enable **seamless transfer of data and information among different pillars of the criminal justice system**, like courts, police, jails and forensic science laboratories, from one platform.

Source: Business Standard

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## 6. Air Quality and Health in Cities Report

### Topic: Reports and Indices



**In News:** The report, Air Quality and Health in Cities was released by U.S.-based Health Effects Institute.

#### More on the Topic:

- The report analysed **pollution and global health effects for more than 7,000 cities around the world** and focusing on two of the most harmful pollutants - fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2).
- While exposures to PM2.5 pollution tend to be higher in cities located in low- and middle-income countries, exposure to NO2 is high across cities in high-income as well as low- and middle-income countries.

#### India Specific Findings:

- **Delhi and Kolkata were ranked first and second in the list of top 10 most polluted cities when PM2.5 levels were compared**, with Delhi and Kolkata reporting an average annual exposure of (relative to population) of 110 ug/m<sup>3</sup> and 84 ug/m<sup>3</sup> respectively. ug/m<sup>3</sup> refers to microgram per cubic metre.
- However **no Indian city appeared in the list of top 10 – or even top 20 - polluted cities when NO2 levels were compared**. This list saw Shanghai at the top with an average annual exposure of 41 ug/m<sup>3</sup>.
- Average NO2 levels for Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai, according to the report, ranged from 20-30 ug/m<sup>3</sup>.
- **NO2 comes mainly from the burning of fuels in older vehicles, power plants, industrial facilities and residential cooking and heating.**
- As city residents tend to live closer to busy roads with dense traffic, they are often exposed to higher NO2 pollution than residents of rural areas.

**Source: Business Standard**

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## 7. 'Paalan 1000'; a National Campaign and Parenting App at the Early Childhood Development

**Topic: Government Programs**



**In News:** The 'Paalan 1000'; a National Campaign and Parenting App at the Early Childhood Development was launched recently.

### **More on the Topic:**

- 'Paalan 1000' focuses on the cognitive development of children in the starting two years of their life.
- It will provide practical advice to caregivers about everyday routines and will help clear doubts.
- During the first two years of a child's life, the growing child needs the right nutrition, stimulation, love and support.
- The first 1,000 days establish a solid platform for a child's physical, mental, emotional, cognitive and social health.

**Source: Business Standard**