

## 1. Competition Commission Of India

**Topic: Governance**



**In News:** The Competition Commission on Tuesday slapped a penalty of Rs 936.44 crore.

**More on the Topic:**

- The decision was taken as Google was abusing its dominant position with respect to Play Store policies and directed the company to cease and desist from unfair business practices.
- Google was found **abusing its dominant position in multiple markets with its Android mobile operating system (OS)**.
- Google had **mandated pre-installation of the entire Google Mobile Suite (GMS)** by OEMs under Mobile Application Distribution Agreement (MADA), which could not be uninstalled.
- It has used its dominant position in the online search market, resulting in the denial of market access to competing apps.
- It has done the same in the Android app store market to protect its position in online general search, which violates competition law.

**CCI's Order:**

- CCI asked makers of devices that run on Android shouldn't be forced to pre-install Google services on their devices.
- Google has to provide **fair access to all stakeholders**.
- Google shall **not deny access to its Play Services APIs to disadvantage OEMs** (mobile manufacturers), app developers, and its existing or potential competitors.
- Google should not deny access to its Play Services plugins to "disadvantaged" original equipment manufacturers (OEMs).

**About Competition Commission of India?**

- CCI was formed under **The Competition Act (Amendment) 2007 by the union government**, consisting of a Chairperson and 6 Members.
- The Act follows the philosophy of modern competition laws.

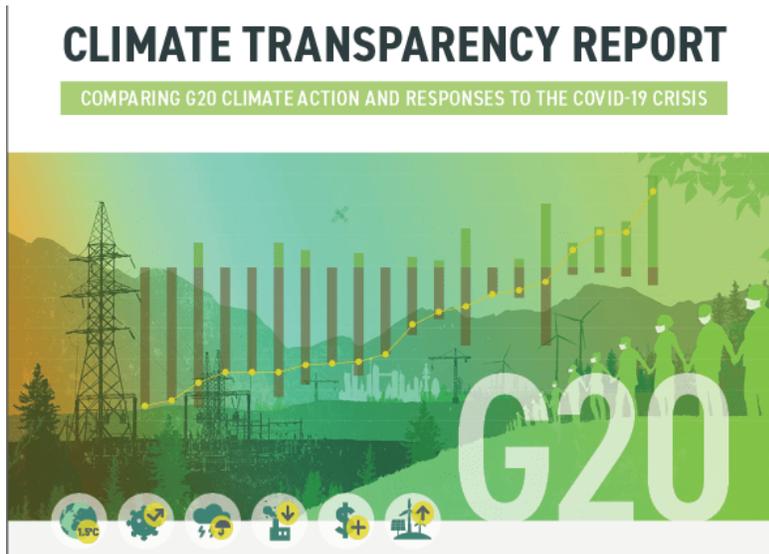
- The Act **prohibits anti-competitive agreements**, abuse of dominant position by enterprises and regulates combinations (acquisition, acquiring of control and M&A), which causes or likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition within India.
- It is the duty of the Commission **to eliminate practices having adverse effect on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.**
- The Commission is also required to give opinion on competition issues on a reference received from any statutory authority.

Source: Indian Express

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## 2. Climate Transparency Report 2022

Topic: Environment and Ecology



**In News:** Climate Transparency Report 2022 was released by a partnership of climate analysis organisations in G20 countries.

**More on the Topic:**

- **India witnessed a record heatwave** which greatly affected workers, labour migrants, low-income households and the homeless, and reduced the yields of wheat crops, which would have been useful to address supply shortages caused by the war in Ukraine.
- **142 million people in India may be exposed or roughly 10 per cent of the population to summer heatwaves at 1.5 Degrees Celsius.**
- Exposure to higher temperatures and the resulting reduction of working hours has led to substantial income losses in services, manufacturing, agriculture, and construction.
- **India suffered an income loss of 5.4 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**, the highest among the G20 nations in 2021.

### Global Emission:

- **USA ranked first**, as America contributes 25 per cent of GE, followed by the European Union with 22 per cent.
- **India is only responsible for 3 per cent of global emissions.**
- G20 members account for around 85 per cent of global GDP, 75 per cent of international trade and two-thirds of the world's population, and are responsible for around **three-quarters of global emissions.**

### Major Findings:

- To limit warming to 1.5 Degrees Celsius, the G20 carries high responsibility. For developed countries, this includes providing climate finance to assist developing countries' mitigation and adaptation actions.
- The G20 members are still not taking the necessary level of accountability of action.
- several countries including India have submitted stronger Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) targets over time, but their overall level of ambition and action is still insufficient to meet 1.5 Degrees Celsius.
- **The combined mitigation effect of all 2030 targets assessed is projected to lead to warming of 2.4 Degrees Celsius**, with current policies leading to a 2.7 Degrees Celsius world by 2100.
- This underlines the urgent need for G20 members to strengthen current climate policies, intensify implementation, and submit more ambitious 2030 targets that align with midcentury net zero targets.

### Recommendations:

- **Increase the deployment of renewable energy** and create sustainable jobs.
- **Use targeted support for poorer households** instead of expanding subsidies for all.
- **Expand climate finance for zero-carbon investments** both domestically and through international cooperation.

Source: Hindu

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## 3. Mission Life

**Topic: Government Policies**





**In News:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the presence of U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, launched 'Mission LiFE' (Lifestyle For Environment), a new initiative for sustainable and healthy lifestyle at the Statue of Unity in Gujarat.

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

- Mission LiFe is a global initiative by India **to help the world in its fight against climate change and lead to a sustainable way of life** to achieve the sustainable development goals set by the U.N.
- It was introduced by the Indian Prime Minister **at COP26 in Glasgow.**
- It aims to **nudge individuals and communities to practice a lifestyle that is synchronous with nature** and does not harm it.

#### **How sustainable is Mission LiFE?**

- It envisages a **circular economy through people's participation.**
- It also plans **to nurture a global network of individuals**, namely "pro-planet people" or P3, who will have a shared commitment to adopt and promote environment-friendly lifestyles.
- It identifies **the sustainable actions across 7 categories** i.e., Energy Saved, water saved, Single Use Plastic Reduced, Sustainable Food Systems Adopted, Waste Reduced (Swachhata Actions), Healthy Lifestyles Adopted, and E-Waste reduced.

#### **Mission Life Strategy:**

- Mission LiFE aims at following a **three-pronged strategy** for changing our collective approach toward sustainability.
- **Demand Side (Phase I):** First is by nudging individuals to practice simple yet effective environment-friendly actions in their daily lives;
- **Supply Side:** Second is by enabling industries and markets to respond swiftly to the changing demand (supply) and;
- **The Policy Side:** The third is to influence government and industrial policy to support both sustainable consumption and production.

#### **Implementation of the Programme:**

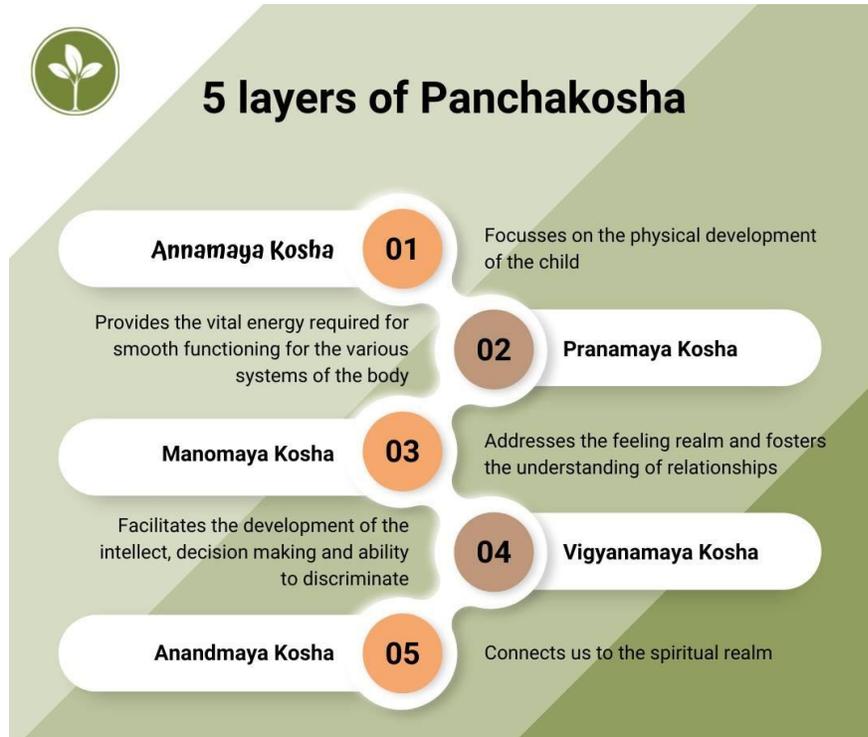
- The mission will be incubated, curated and piloted by **Niti Aayog and subsequently implemented by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.**
- The mission will be implemented till 2027-28 with annual targets.
- In 2022-23, the mission will focus on Phase I.

**Source: Hindu**

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### 3. National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage

**Topic: Polity and Governance**



**In News:** Union Minister for Education and Skill Development launched the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage.

**More on the Topic:**

- Foundational, Preparatory, Middle & Secondary are the four stages of NCF for school education.
- Developing the foundational framework was one of the most important and challenging aspect under NEP 2020, as it has a huge bearing on shaping the future of our country.
- National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage, **uses ‘play,’ at the core of the conceptual, operational, and transactional approaches** to curriculum organization, pedagogy, time and content organization, and the overall experience of the child.
- National Curriculum Framework will provide stimulating experiences for the child’s **development in all dimensions – cognitive, social-emotional, physical,** and will also enable the achievement of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy for all our children.

**Important Highlights:**

- For ages three to six, **there should not be any prescribed textbooks** for the children, and activity books can guide teachers to sequence activities and learning experiences.
- **Learning through Play, toy based learning, avoiding stereotypes, gender representation in textbooks, ethical and moral awareness.**

- Children exposed to age-appropriate, physical, educational, and social activities through play-based methods learn better and grow better.
- **The primary medium of instruction would optimally be the child's home language/mother tongue/familiar language.**
- Curriculum must reflect the cultural and social context in which the child is growing.
- Empowering teachers in terms of training, infrastructure and other facilities. The framework has listed the '**panchakosha**' concept for children's education.

Source: Indian Express

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## 5. China Plus One Strategy

Topic: Economy



**In News:** Globally more companies and countries are following China Plus Policy.

**More on the Topic:**

- Jeevan Pramaan is a **biometric-enabled digital service for pensioners**.
- Pensioners of Central Government, State Government or any other Government organization can take benefit of this facility.
- The scheme was launched on November 10, 2014.
- The beneficiaries of the scheme are over three crore retired employees of government and PSUs.
- **The identity of a person will be established through Face Authentication technique** and the Life Certificate can be submitted from any Android based smart phone.
- It reduced Pensioners' dependence on external bio-metric devices and has made the process more accessible and affordable.

Source: PIB

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## 6. Pokkali Rice

**Topic: Environment and Ecology**



**In News:** Pokkali, a GI-tagged rice variety, could be on the verge of extinction.

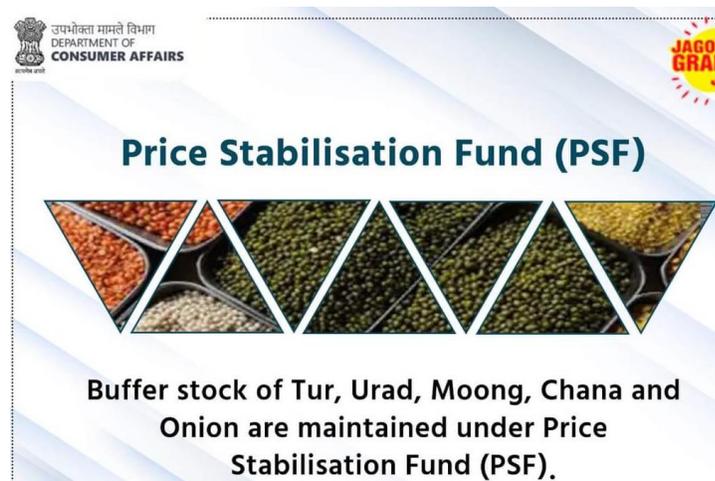
**More on the Topic:**

- Pokkali rice is a **saline-tolerant, indigenous rice variety** grown in some districts of Kerala.
- Pokkam means height and Aali means plant. This lesser-known rice variety is developed in low-lying coastal areas and employs one of the oldest organic farming techniques.
- **Pokkali is a system in which the farming alternates between rice and prawn;** the fields are used alternately for rice farming and prawn and shrimp cultivation.
- Fish excreta and scales, along with the decomposed stubble, provide excellent natural manure for another season of Pokkali.

**Source: Down to Earth**

## 7. Price Stabilisation Fund

**Topic: Government Schemes**



**In News:** NAFED has been creating a buffer stock of onion on behalf of the government under the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) for the last few years.



**More on the Topic:**

- **PSF is any fund created to absorb extreme volatility in selected commodity prices.**
- Such goods will be procured directly from farmers or farmers' organisations at the farm gate/mandi, and made available to consumers at a more affordable price.

**Objective of the Scheme:**

- Maintaining a strategic buffer of commodities such as pulses, onion and potato for subsequent calibrated release.
- This would moderate price volatility. Discourage hoarding and speculation.

**Source: Business Standard**

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