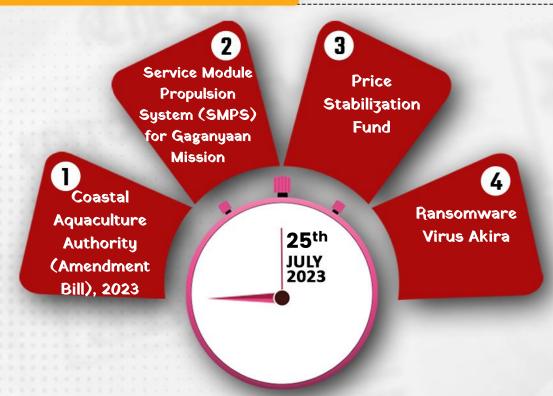


# CURRENT

AFFAIRS

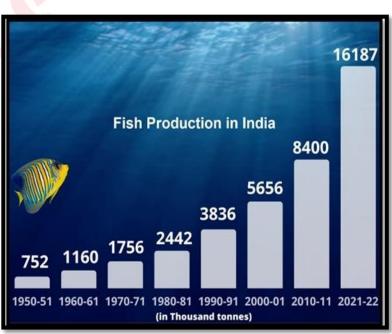
### PRELIMS+MAINS QUICK REVISION



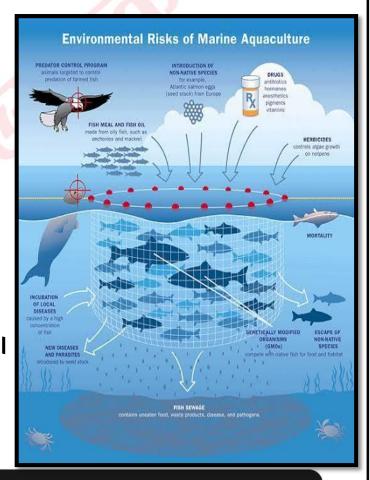
### Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment Bill), 2023

- → The bill has been introduced by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. The bill aims to amend the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) Act, 2005.
- → The following provisions have been made in the amendment bill-
  - It expands the scope of aquaculture,
  - makes certain types of activities non-criminal,
  - Promotes eco-friendly aquaculture systems like cage culture.
  - bans the use of harmful antibiotics and pharmacologically active substances in aquaculture,
  - Incorporates

     innovative provisions
     for biosecurity etc.



- → The Bill allows aquaculture activities to take place in Coastal Regulation Zones. In such a situation, intensive coastal aquaculture activities can have adverse effects on the environment.
- → The absence of content labelling on some drugs/production boosters is a major cause of concern.
- → Importing countries reject export shipments containing trace amounts of banned chemicals/drugs/antibiotic.
- → The proposed provision of the Bill has been accepted that coastal aquaculture and allied activities permitted under Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) will be deemed to be legal under CRZ regulation.



- → A voluntary certification program for antibiotic-free aquaculture inputs should be made mandatory.
- → Less stringent non-monetary penalties should be prescribed while framing the rules to protect the interest of traditional fish farmers.
- → Coastal aquaculture is the cultivation of shrimp, lobster or any other aquatic animal in brackish or brackish water.



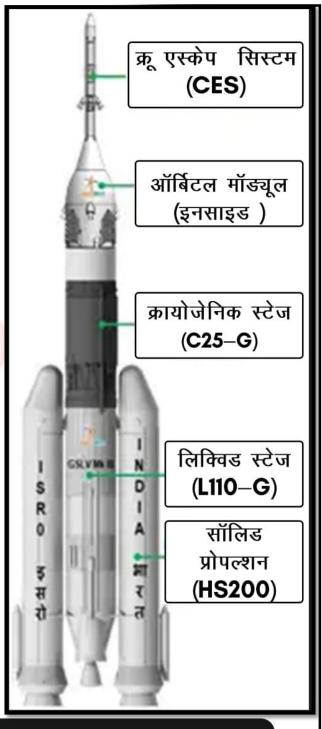
## Service Module Propulsion System (SMPS) for Gaganyaan Mission

- → After Chandrayaan, ISRO intensified the preparations for Gaganyaan. ISRO recently successfully flight-tested the Gaganyaan Service Module Propulsion System (SMPS) at ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri.
- → The test involved five Liquid Apogee Motor (LAM) engines with a thrust of 440 N and sixteen Reaction Control System (RCS) thrusters with a thrust of 100 N.
- → This service module of Gaganyaan will meet the requirements of the Orbital Module and perform tasks like orbit injection, circularization, on-orbit control, and de-boost manoeuvring.
- → The purpose of the Gaganyaan project is to demonstrate manned space flight capability. Under this mission, a crew of 3 members will be sent to an orbit located at an altitude of 400 km. The duration of this mission is 3 days.

- → Under this mission, the government has approved two unmanned missions and one manned mission.
- → Gaganyaan mission will be launched from LVM-3
  (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mk III). The vehicle will have solid-stage, liquid-stage and cryogenic-stage engines.
- → Important technologies included in Gaganyaan:
  - Human-rated launch vehicle to carry crew safely into space
  - Survival system to provide an Earth-like environment to the crew in space



- Crew emergency escape provision: Evolving crew management for the rescue of crew members from an emergency, and for the training, recovery and rehabilitation of the crew.
- → Importance of Gaganyaan Mission:
  - India's ambition to set up its own space station will get a boost.
  - India will become the fourth country after the United States, China and Russia to have sent humans into space.
  - The success of the mission will bring India's space research program into the ranks of developed countries.



### Price Stabilization Fund

- → The government has started procuring tomatoes through the Price Stabilization Fund to address the current rise in tomato prices and to guarantee affordability to consumers. Consumers can get these tomatoes at a very low price.
- → The Price Stabilization Fund was set up during the financial year 2014-15.
- → Its main goal is to absorb and reduce excessive price volatility in certain commodities and important food products.
- → By guaranteeing fair prices for farmers' produce, the measure promotes farmers while protecting consumers from windfall price hikes.
- → Under the Price Stabilization Fund programme, the procurement of commodities is done directly by the farmers or farmer organizations at the farm gate or mandis.

- → The Price Stabilization Fund reduces the costs of middlemen and guarantees that benefits reach farmers more effectively by purchasing products directly from primary producers.
- → The Price Stabilization Fund Management Committee (PSFMC) is responsible for the central management of the PSF.
- → This committee is important to keep an eye on how the cash is being utilised.



- → It evaluates and accepts state and federal agency and government-sponsored bids for the purchase and distribution of goods.
- → State governments, union territories and federal agencies can borrow money through the PSF system without paying interest.
- → These loans are meant to cover their working capital needs as well as other costs associated with the acquisition and distribution of goods. They are able to control pricing thanks to financial support and guarantee that consumers can buy necessities at reasonable prices.



#### Ransomware Virus Akira

- → Cyber security agency Indian Computer Emergency
  Response Team (CERT-In) has warned Internet users
  about the attack of the Internet ransomware virus Akira.
- → Akira steals important personal information and encrypts the data to extort money from people. This computer malware is targeting Windows and Linux-based systems.
- → The government has asked internet users to update their devices and use anti-virus to avoid this virus. Apart from this, users have been asked to use tools like AnyDesk, WinRAR and PCHunter with caution.
- → This sensitive data may include financial records, personal identification details and confidential documents. The attackers then take advantage of this information to extort money from the victims.
- → Akira ransomware is not limited to any specific operating system. It targets both Windows and Linux-based systems, making it a potent threat to a wide range of users.

- → One of the most dangerous aspects of the Akira ransomware is its use of a dual extortion strategy.
- → The ransomware group first encrypts the victim's data, making it inaccessible. They then threaten to release the stolen data on their dark web blog if the victim does not pay the ransom.
- → The ransomware group behind Akira is known to access victim environments through Virtual Private Network (VPN) services.



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- → This is especially effective in cases where users have not enabled multi-factor authentication, leaving them vulnerable to attacks.
- → The primary objective of the Akira ransomware is financial gain. By encrypting and holding data hostage, attackers aim to extort money from their victims in exchange for restoring access to their systems and sensitive information.
- → If the victim does not meet the ransom demand, this ransomware group follows through with its threat and releases the stolen data on its dark web blog.

