

**26-07-2022****Karakoram Anomaly****Why in Newspapers?**

A recent study examines why glaciers in the Karakoram Range in south-central Asia are not affected by climate change like glaciers elsewhere.

**Quick Issue?**

- Researchers have attributed this phenomenon, called the Karakoram Anomaly, to the recent resurgence of Western Disturbances (WDs).
- The 'Karakoram Anomaly' is characterized as the stagnation or inconsistent growth of glaciers in central Karakoram in contrast to other nearby mountain ranges of the Himalayas and glacial retreat in other mountain ranges of the world.

**Historical Background?**

- This is the first time that a study has brought to the fore the importance that Western Disturbances during the accumulation period increase the amount of rainfall that play a role in modifying the regional climate anomaly.
- Previous studies over the years have highlighted the role of temperature in establishing and maintaining the anomaly.
- Western Disturbances (WDs) are the primary cause of snowfall for the region during winters.
- Studies show that they are responsible for about 65% of the total seasonal snowfall and about 53% of the total seasonal rainfall, so they are the most important sources of moisture.
- In addition, the Western Disturbance affecting the Karakoram has increased the rainfall intensity by about 10% in the last two decades, which makes its role in maintaining the regional anomaly all the more important.
- The Karakorams are part of a complex of mountain ranges in the center of Asia that includes the Hindu Kush to the west, the Pamirs to the northwest, the Kunlun Mountains to the northeast, and the Himalayas to the southeast.
- The Karakoram covers parts of Afghanistan, China, India, Pakistan and Tajikistan.

**Other Key Facts?****Importance of Himalayan glaciers**

- The Himalayan glaciers are of great importance in the Indian context, especially for the millions of residents who depend on these perennial rivers for their daily water needs.
- These glaciers are shrinking rapidly due to the effect of global warming. It is very important to reduce the pressure on water resources in the coming decades.

**Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam**

**Que. Siachen Glacier is located at:**

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) East of Aksai Chin | (b) East of Leh           |
| (c) North of Gilgit    | (d) North of Nubra Valley |

**Answer: (d) North of Nubra Valley**



## National Land Management Corporation

### Why in Newspapers?

For the governance of the National Land Management Corporation (NLMC), the Central Government has appointed a Joint Secretary to the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE).

### Quick Issue?

- He will serve as the interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Special Purpose Vehicle. He will monetize surplus land and buildings of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

### Historical Background?

- Sanjay Kumar Jain has been appointed as the interim CEO.
- The government has also appointed the nominated people on the board of NLMC.
- The government will initiate the process of creating assets along with 3,479 acres of surplus land, which has been identified by nine PSUs.
- Other PSUs and government departments will also prepare a list of assets to be monetized through NLMC.
- NLMC was established on June 3, 2022 as a wholly owned company of the Government of India.
- An initial authorized share capital of Rs 5,000 crore was fixed in addition to the paid-up share capital of Rs 150 crore.
- It will hold, own, manage and monetise the land and assets of those PSUs which will be closed down.
- It will look after additional non-core land assets of state-owned companies as part of strategic disinvestment.

### Other Key Facts?

#### Directors of NLMC include:

- Rajesh Kumar Choudhary, Additional Secretary, Public Enterprises Department.
- Joint Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management, which handles asset monetization.
- Nominees from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Department of Heavy Industries and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.
- NLMC will have 13 directors. Of these, 7 will be government officials and 6 will be private sector officials. The board will finalize the guidelines and criteria for selecting private sector professionals in the real estate, construction, investment banking and legal sectors.

### Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

**Que. 'National Land Monetization Corporation', which was in the news recently, works under which of the following ministry?**

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| (a) Ministry of Finance               | (b) Ministry of Earth Sciences                  |
| (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry | (d) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare |

**Answer: (a) Ministry of Finance**