

DAILY NEWS

ANALYSIS



17th April

Explained

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DNA Quiz

Playlist Link:

What to Read: <https://bit.ly/3FYdutC>

Daily News Analysis: <https://bit.ly/4ge9BgF>

EXPLAINED

1. NEW CJI ANNOUNCEMENT

Backdrop: CJI Khanna recommends Justice Gavai as successor.

Relevance: GS2/ Structure, Organization and Functioning of Executive and Judiciary.

About the news:

Justice Gavai is the next in line to be CJI (52nd CJI) in accordance with the seniority norm with Chief Justice Khanna scheduled to retire on May 13.

Appointment of CJI:

The Constitution of India does not mention any procedure for appointing the CJI.

- **Article 124 (1)** of the Constitution merely says, "There shall be a Supreme Court of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India."
- **Clause (2) of Article 124** of the Constitution says that every Judge of the SC shall be appointed by the President. Thus, in the absence of a constitutional provision, the procedure to appoint CJI relies on convention.

Convention:

- Under the Memorandum of Procedure for the appointment of CJI and SC Judges, the Law Ministry seeks the recommendation of the outgoing Chief Justice about the next appointment. The letter from the government kickstarts the appointment process for the next Chief Justice of India.
- As per the MoP, the most senior Judge of the apex court is considered fit to hold the office of the CJI and the views of the outgoing head of the judiciary have to be sought "at an appropriate time".
- Seniority, however, is not defined by age, but by the number of years a judge has been serving in the top court of the country.
- **Against the convention:**
 - ♦ **1964:** Gajendragadkar J superseded Imam J, who was seriously unwell.
 - ♦ **1973:** Justice A.N. Ray was appointed as CJI over three more senior judges, Justices J.M. Shelat, K.S. Hegde, and A.N. Grover. His appointment followed the historic

Kesavananda Bharati case, where he dissented in the "Basic structure" doctrine ruling.

- ♦ **1977:** Justice M.H. Beg was appointed as CJI instead of Justice H.R. Khanna, who was senior.

Role of Government:

The Central government has no role to play in the appointment of the CJI except for the Union Law Minister seeking the recommendation from the incumbent CJI, before sending it to the Prime Minister.

Eligibility to become the CJI:

Apart from being an Indian citizen, the person must:

- Have been for at least five years a Judge of a HC or of two or more such Courts in succession, **or**
- Have been for at least ten years an advocate of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession, **or**
- Be, in the opinion of the President, a distinguished jurist.

Tenure of CJI:

The tenure of a CJI is until they attain the age of 65 years.

Removal of CJI:

A Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting.

With the address in the same session presented to the President for removal on one of the two grounds:

Proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

Facts about Supreme Court Judge:

- Sir Harilal Jekisondas Kania was the first Chief Justice of India.
- **Female Judge:**
 - ♦ The first female justice in the SC was Fathima Beevi, appointed on 6 October 1989. There have been 11 female justices in the court since then.
 - ♦ Presently, there are 2 sitting female judges (Bela Trivedi & B. V. Nagarathna) out of the total 34 judges (including CJI) in the court.
 - ♦ B. V. Nagarathna is assumed to be the first female Chief Justice of India in 2027.

- **Judges from the Scheduled caste:** Currently, PB Varale, justices Gavai and CT Ravikumar are judges from the Scheduled Caste category.
 - ♦ After Justice KG Balakrishnan (2007–2010), Justice Gavai will be the second Dalit to become the CJI.
- **Judge from the Scheduled tribe:** Justice H.K. Sema (2002–2008) has been the only judge from a Scheduled Tribe community in the history of the Court.

2. AI HALLUCINATIONS

Backdrop: Hallucinations make AI models unreliable and limit their applications.

Relevance: GS3/Science and Technology

About the news:

AI hallucinations: Incorrect or misleading results that AI models generate.

Recently, when **OpenAI's DALL-E** was asked to generate a picture of a room with no elephants in it, the images created by the model were different. One contained a large picture of an elephant, while the other contained both a picture and a miniature elephant statue.

Why does it happen?

Hallucinations typically occur when AI models are prompted with queries that require “ingrained thinking, connecting concepts, and then responding.

AI models outputs are driven by statistical associations they learn during the training phase between a given combination of inputs and an output. As a result, when they encounter queries that are uncommon or absent in their training dataset, they plug in the gap with other associations that are present in the training dataset.

What can be done?

- **Training AI models with more data** on the queries, where the earlier version was reported to have been hallucinating.
- **Develop models for specialised tasks.** E.g. **Microsoft's Orca 2** is an **SLM** built for “built for “tasks such as reasoning, reading comprehension, math problem solving, and text summarisation.
- **Implement retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) technique:** Here, an AI model

produces its output by retrieving information from a specific database relevant to a particular query. E.g. For an AI Question, the AI model can be provided with the link to the Wikipedia article on artificial intelligence.

- **Training AI models in curriculum learning:** The model is trained successively on datasets with problems of increasing difficulty. E.g., An AI model can be trained first on shorter sentences, then on longer, more complex sentences.

Other AI-related terms:

- **Generative AI:** A content-generating technology that uses AI to create text, video, computer code or images. AI is fed large amounts of training data, finds patterns to generate its own novel responses.
- **Artificial general intelligence (AGI):** AI models that can perform tasks much better than humans while also teaching and advancing their capabilities.
- **Generative adversarial networks (GANs):** It composed of two neural networks to generate new data: a generator and a discriminator. The generator creates new content, and the discriminator checks to see if it's authentic.
- **Guardrails:** Policies and restrictions placed on AI models to ensure data is handled responsibly and that the model doesn't create disturbing content.
- **Large language model (LLM):** An AI model trained on massive amounts of text data to understand language and generate novel content in human-like language.
- **Small Language Model (SLM):** It refers to a type of AI model, similar to LLMs, but with a smaller size, fewer parameters, and lower computational needs.
 - ♦ SLMs are more efficient, faster to train, and easier to deploy on devices with limited resources.
 - ♦ Used in various applications like chatbots, language learning apps, and specialized tasks where resource constraints are a concern.
 - ♦ E.g. Phi-3.5, StableLM-zephyr, and Gemma 2, etc.
- **Multimodal AI:** A type of AI that can process multiple types of inputs, including text, images, videos, and speech.
- **Natural language processing:** A branch of AI that uses machine learning and deep learning to

give computers the ability to understand human language, often using learning algorithms, statistical models, and linguistic rules.

- **Turing test:** It tests a machine's ability to behave like a human. The machine passes if a human can't distinguish the machine's response from another human.
- **Zero-shot learning:** A test in which a model must complete a task without being given the requisite training data. E.g. Recognizing a lion while only being trained on tigers.

Global Efforts to Regulate AI:

- **Japan's Social Principles of Human-Human-Centric AI:** It manifests the basic principles of an AI-capable society: human-centricity; education/literacy; data protection; ensuring safety; fair competition; fairness, accountability, transparency, and innovation.
- **Europe's AI Act:** Provisions include prohibiting arbitrary and real-time remote biometric identification in public spaces for law enforcement, banning emotion detection, etc.
- **'Bletchley Declaration' by AI Safety Summit:** It calls to work together inclusively to ensure human-centric, trustworthy, and responsible AI.
- **Global Partnership on AI:** The 2023 GPAI Summit was held in New Delhi, where GPAI experts presented their work on responsible AI, data governance, and the future of work, innovation, and commercialization. India is a member of the GPAI.
- **UN Resolution on Artificial Intelligence:**
 - ♦ It supports "safe, secure, and trustworthy" AI development.
 - ♦ Aims to close the digital divide between rich, developed countries and poorer developing countries.
 - ♦ It calls for using AI ethically or properly to achieve the 2030 SDGs.

Indian Efforts:

- **Digital Personal Data Protection Act in 2023:** It can be used to address some of the privacy concerns regarding AI platforms.
- **The National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence #AIForAll strategy,** by NITI Aayog: It featured AI R&D guidelines focused on healthcare, agriculture, education, "smart" cities and infrastructure, and smart mobility and transformation.
- **Principles for Responsible AI:** An approach paper by NITI Aayog that explores the various

ethical considerations of deploying AI solutions in India.

3. WTO FORECASTS

Relevance : GS 3/ Economy /GS 2 International Organisation

Backdrop: WTO Revises Global Trade Forecast – 2025

In the News :

WTO Revises Global Trade Forecast – 2025

- **WTO expects global merchandise trade volume to decline by 0.2% in 2025.**
- **Earlier projection (start of 2025): positive growth.**
- **2024 trade growth: +2.9%**

Reasons for the Downward Revision

- **Imposition of reciprocal tariffs by the U.S.** may reduce global trade growth by 0.6 percentage points.
- **Spreading trade policy** uncertainty may reduce it further by 0.8 percentage points.
- Combined impact could result in a total decline of 1.5% in world merchandise trade in 2025.

Solid blow

A slide under current conditions, would be three percentage points lower than expected under a low tariff baseline scenario



■ If U.S. goes ahead with reciprocal tariffs, global merchandise trade volume growth may reduce by 0.6 percentage points this year

■ Additionally, the spreading trade policy uncertainty could shave off another 0.8 percentage points

UNCTAD's Global Outlook

- **Global economic growth is projected to slow to 2.3% in 2025.**
- **Indicates a possible recessionary trend.**
- **Risks: Subdued demand, trade shocks, financial instability, systematic uncertainty.**
- **Developing countries are especially vulnerable to these pressures.**

About WTO

The World Trade Organization is the international body dealing with the global rules of trade between WTO members.

- Location: Geneva, Switzerland
- Established: 1 January 1995
- Created by: **Uruguay Round negotiations** (1986-94)
- Membership: 166 members representing 98 per cent of world trade

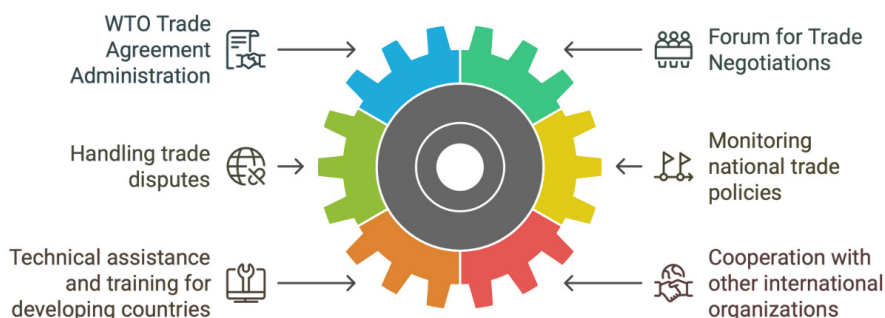


GATT (1948–1994)

- Temporary trade pact; signed in 1947, came into force in 1948.
- Aimed at reducing tariffs; ITO plan failed (Havana Charter not ratified).
- Functioned without legal status; limited to goods trade.
- Key rounds: Kennedy, Tokyo, Uruguay.

WTO (from 1995)

- Established via Marrakesh Agreement (1994), started on 1 Jan 1995.
- Successor to GATT; covers goods, services (GATS), and IPR (TRIPS).
- Stronger dispute resolution and permanent institution.
- Formed after the Uruguay Round; started with 123 members.

Functions**For Agriculture (WTO Agreement on Agriculture - AoA)**

| Box | Description | Trade Effect | Status | Examples |
|------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Green Box | Minimal or no trade distortion | Non-distorting | Allowed without limits | R&D, food security, environmental programs |
| Amber Box | Trade-distorting; subject to reduction commitments | Distorting | Regulated | MSP (Minimum Support Prices), price supports |
| Blue Box | Trade-distorting but tied to production-limiting programs | Less distorting | Allowed | Subsidies for limiting crop area |

De Minimis Clause in WTO AoA: Refers to subsidies that are small enough that they are not deemed to distort trade significantly.

Criteria for Subsidies:

- For **Developed Countries:** if they do not **exceed 5%** of the value of production.
- For **Developing Countries:** **threshold is set at 10%** of the value of production.
- Exemptions:** Subsidies falling below these thresholds are not subject to reduction commitments under the AoA.

WTO Publication

- World Trade Report** is an annual publication that aims to deepen understanding about trends in trade, trade policy issues and the multilateral trading system.
- Annual Report** summarises the WTO's activities over the past year and provides detailed information on the organization's structure, staff and budget.

- "Global Trade Outlook and Statistics"** analyses recent global trade developments and presents the organization's forecasts for merchandise trade volume.

4. OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE

Relevance : GS 3/ Environment and Ecology

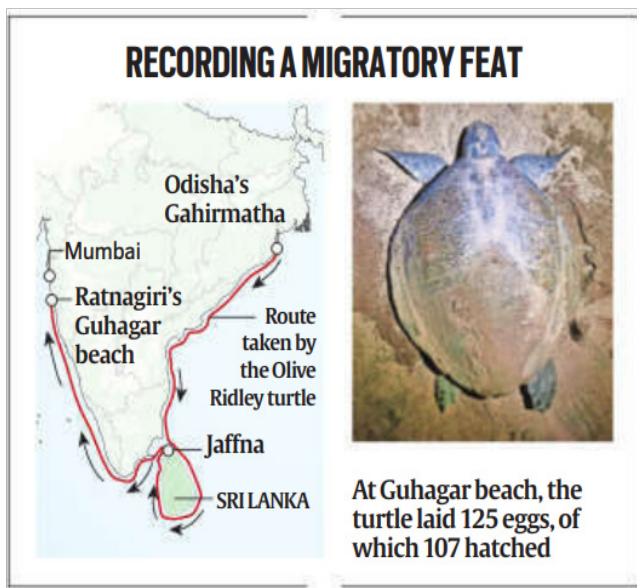
Backdrop: The remarkable 4,500-km journey of Turtle 03233



- Found in **warm waters** of the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans.
- India's **coastlines**—especially **Odisha's Gahirmatha Beach, Rushikulya, and Devi River mouth**—are some of the most important nesting sites.
- Andaman Islands:** Several sites along the east coast, such as **Cuthbert Bay, Harguna Beach,** and others, are important for Olive Ridley nesting



- India is one of the few places in the world where this happens regularly.
- Omnivorous: eats **jellyfish, crabs, shrimp, snails,** and sometimes **algae.**
- Listed as **Vulnerable** by the IUCN.
- Threats include:
 - Coastal development
 - Marine pollution
 - Entanglement in fishing nets (especially **trawl nets**)
 - Climate change affecting nesting beaches



- Known for Mass Nesting: Arribada
- Thousands of females** come ashore **simultaneously** to nest—one of nature's most spectacular phenomena.

Protection Measures



Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (India) – Schedule I (full protection).



Use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in trawlers is encouraged.



Special protection during nesting season (November to May).

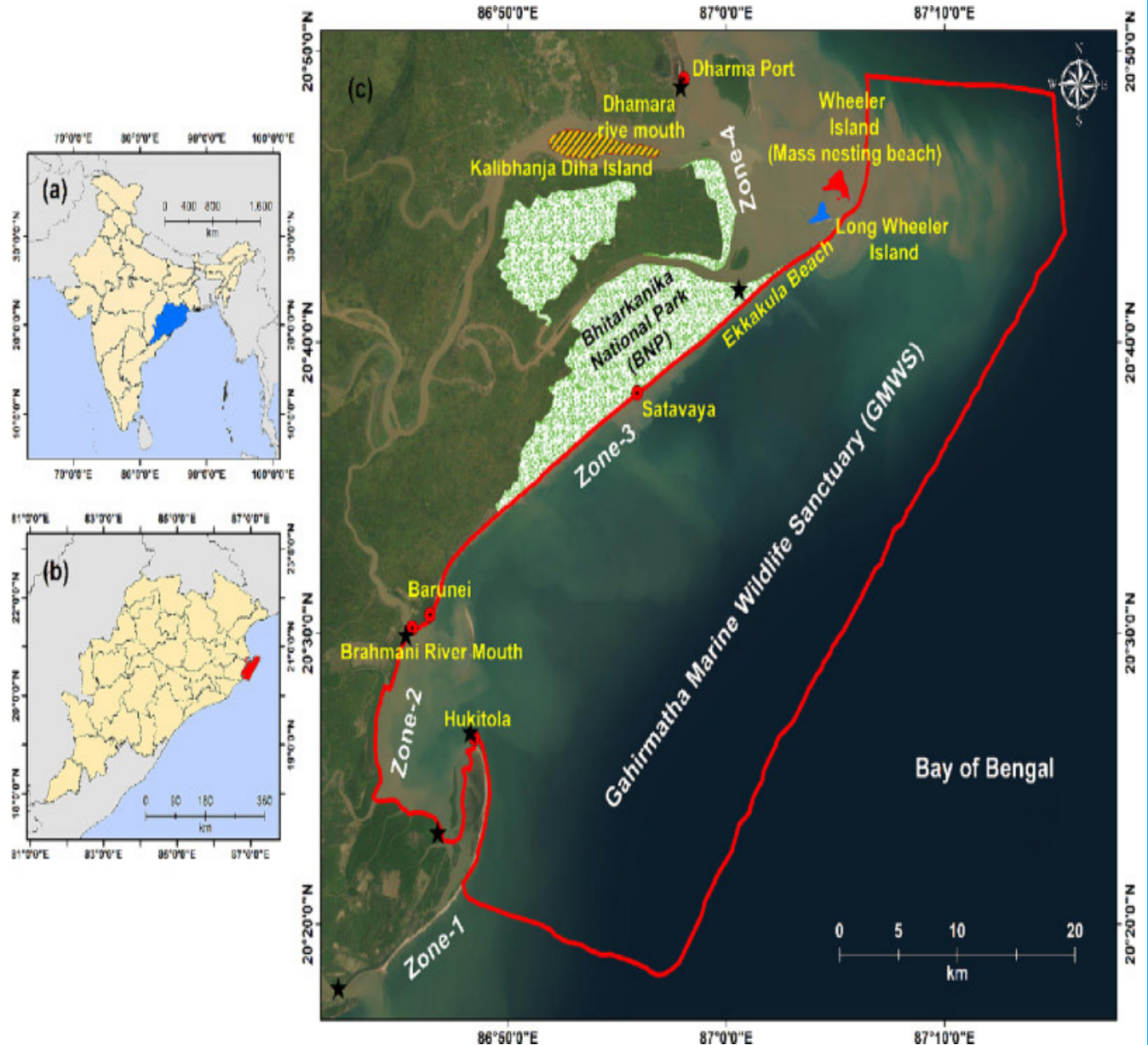
Turtles vs. Tortoises vs. Terrapins: What's the Difference?

| Feature | Turtle | Tortoise | Terrapin |
|--------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Habitat | Mostly aquatic (oceans, rivers) | Fully land-dwelling | Semi-aquatic (brackish water) |
| Shell Shape | Flatter, streamlined for swimming | Dome-shaped, heavier shell | Slightly flattened |
| Feet | Webbed or flippers | Short, sturdy legs with claws | Webbed feet with claws |
| Diet | Omnivorous | Mostly herbivorous | Omnivorous |
| Lifespan | 20–80 years (some >100) | 80–150+ years | 30–60 years |
| Example | Olive Ridley, Leatherback, Green Turtle | Galápagos Tortoise, Indian Star Tortoise | Indian Pond Terrapin |

Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary

Location:

- Kendrapara district, Odisha
- It is situated between the mouths of the **Dhamra and Brahmani rivers** and is close to **Bhitarkanika National Park**



Features:

- A pristine beach, variety of flora and fauna, including wild boar, leopards, and crocodiles
- India's first and only marine sanctuary dedicated to the protection of sea turtles, especially the Olive Ridley.
- Lies within and adjacent to the Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary, forming a vital ecosystem of mangroves, estuaries, mudflats, and shallow coastal water

Bhitarkanika National Park

- India's **second-largest mangrove ecosystem** after the Sundarbans. characterized by an intricate network of creeks and canals, nourished by the **river systems of the Brahmani, Baitarani, Dhamra, and Patasala**, creating a distinctive and dynamic wetland ecosystem.
- Diverse range of **mangrove vegetation and wildlife typically found in tropical and subtropical intertidal zones.**
- Bhitarkanika serves as an important **breeding ground for saltwater crocodiles**
- **To the east, the Gahirmatha Beach**—which forms the coastal boundary of the sanctuary—is globally renowned as **the largest nesting site of the Olive Ridley sea turtles**, adding immense ecological significance to the region.

Turtles and Tortoises Found in India

| Species | Type | Habitat | Shell Pattern | Diet | Protection Status |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Olive Ridley Turtle | Sea Turtle | Coastal beaches, ocean | Olive green, heart-shaped | Omnivorous | Schedule I, IUCN: Vulnerable |
| Green Sea Turtle | Sea Turtle | Coastal areas, ocean | Smooth greenish shell | Herbivorous | Schedule I, IUCN: Endangered |
| Hawksbill Turtle | Sea Turtle | Coral reefs | Overlapping scales, amber | Carnivorous (sponges) | Schedule I, IUCN: Critically Endangered |
| Loggerhead Turtle | Sea Turtle | Deep sea | Reddish-brown shell | Carnivorous (hard-shelled prey) | Schedule I, IUCN: Vulnerable |
| Indian Flapshell Turtle | Freshwater | Rivers, lakes | Olive-brown, soft edges | Omnivorous | Schedule I, IUCN: Least Concern |
| Indian Roofed Turtle | Freshwater | Rivers (Ganges, Brahmaputra) | Prominent keel on shell | Omnivorous | Schedule I, IUCN: Vulnerable |
| Indian Star Tortoise | Land Tortoise | Dry forests, scrubland | Star-shaped patterns | Herbivorous | Schedule I, IUCN: Vulnerable |
| Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle | Freshwater | Chambal & Ganga River | Bright red crown (males) | Herbivorous | Schedule I, IUCN: Critically Endangered |

Convention on Migratory Species

- It is an intergovernmental treaty under the UNEP
- It is also known as **the Bonn Convention**,
- Entered into force: 1 November 1983**

“**Migratory species**” means the entire population or any geographically separate part of the population of any species or lower taxon of wild animals, a significant proportion of whose members cyclically and predictably cross one or more national jurisdictional boundaries;

What species are covered by CMS?

Mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and one insect are listed on the Convention's two Appendices, including many whales and dolphins, bats, gorillas, antelopes, albatrosses, raptors, waterbirds, sharks, sturgeons, marine turtles and the Monarch Butterfly.

| Appendix | Description |
|-------------------|---|
| Appendix I | Lists endangered migratory species that require strict protection. |

Appendix II

Includes species with **unfavourable conservation status** or those that would **benefit from international cooperation**. Enables the development of agreements and action plans for their conservation.

India and the CMS:

India has signed a **non-legally binding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with CMS on conservation and management of **Siberian Cranes (1998)**, **Marine Turtles (2007)**, **Dugongs (2008)**, and **Raptors (2016)**.

DECODED**5. FICTION OF BALANCED TRADE**

Relevance: GS 2/Effect of Policies and Politics of Developed and Developing Countries on India's interests.

Backdrop: The global conditions created by the threatened US tariffs represent both a challenge and an opportunity for India.

MAINS PYQ

Q. What are the key areas of reform if the WTO has to survive in the present context of the 'Trade War', especially keeping in mind the interest of India? (2018)

About the news:

Development so far:

- The United States, after imposing tariffs on countries across the world, has given a 90-day moratorium on the country-specific tariffs, a uniform 10% tariff on all imports, and 25% tariffs on imports of autos, steel, and aluminium.
- The responses so far have ranged from tariff retaliations by China and Canada to countries reaching out to strike deals with the US.
- Tit-for-tat responses from China have pushed China-US trade to a complete breakdown.
- The possibility of a global recession cannot be ignored due to the declining profit margins for producers across supply chains and uncertainty about the immediate future.
- The concurrent decline in yields and stock returns in the US suggests that foreign investors are liquidating their US financial assets. Bond market stress is often the precursor to a financial crisis.

Does the US want Balanced Trade?

It is believed that the US is targeting bilaterally balanced trade, with exports close to imports for each country in its trade with the US.

This is the reason Trump rejected the EU proposal of both regions dropping their tariffs on each other to zero, because zero tariffs will not guarantee balanced trade with the EU.

Why is Balanced trade just a fiction?

- Trade deficits also reflect imbalances between national savings and domestic investment. Thus, events such as the discovery of productive investment opportunities in a country can induce it to borrow abroad or sell equity in new projects to foreigners to finance the savings shortfall. This shows up as a trade and current account deficit.
- Similarly, long periods of low interest rates due to accommodative monetary policy or large public budget deficits due to fiscal expansions can reduce national saving rates. These, too, show up as trade and current account deficits.

- When a country runs a trade deficit with another, it is paying for the excess purchases by selling some of its assets to its trade partner. By levying tariffs, the US is, in effect, expressing extreme unhappiness with foreigners for accepting US assets as payment for the trade deficit.

Challenge for India:

- **Risks for Indian exports and growth** due to the negative effects on global demand.
- **Rising competition** with ultra-cheap Chinese goods, as China looks to find other outlets to compensate for the loss of its US market.

Amid chaos, there is also opportunity:

- **Possibility of a decline in the cost** of imported goods and components used in India, which should reduce inflationary pressures in the Indian economy.
- **Enhanced space for monetary policy** to become more accommodative to support growth.
- **Increased Investment:** India is well-positioned to attract some of the businesses (E.g, Apple) that want to reorient their production chains away from China.

What can be done?

- **Quickly strike a trade deal with the US:** A deal that commits India to buying more goods from the US while protecting Indian service sector exports (As of now, the US has not included services in its tariffs, but this could change).
- **Bring in agricultural reforms** to compensate for the US demand for easier access to Indian markets for its agricultural goods.
- **Negotiations on trade agreements** with other trading groups, including the EU, ASEAN, CPTPP, MERCOSUR, as well as bilateral or multilateral treaties.
- **Lower average tariff rates:** It will make domestic producers internationally competitive by forcing them to confront foreign competition.

PRACTICE QUESTION

- Q.** The global conditions created by the threatened US tariffs represent both a challenge and an opportunity for India. Discuss.

DNA QUIZ

Q1. With reference to the Indian judiciary, consider the following statements: (2021)

1. Any retired judge of the Supreme Court of India can be called back to sit and act as a Supreme Court judge by the Chief Justice of India with the prior permission of the President of India.
2. A High Court in India has the power to review its own judgement as the Supreme Court does

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q2. Recently, the terms Orca 2, Turing test, and DALL-E are actually and appropriately discussed in the context of which one of the following?

- (a) Development of Hypersonic missiles.
- (b) Newly founded asteroid
- (c) Artificial Intelligence
- (d) Cryptocurrency

Q3. Which of the following are the main functions of WTO?

1. To organize meetings of member countries to arrive at trade agreements covering international trade
2. To ensure that member countries conduct trade practices as per agreement agreed upon and signed by the member countries

3. To provide a platform to negotiate and settle disputes related to international trade between and among member countries

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Q4. Consider the following statements: (2019)

1. Some species of turtles are herbivores.
2. Some species of fish are herbivores.
3. Some species of marine mammals are herbivores.
4. Some species of snakes are viviparous.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q5. With reference to Balance of Payments, which of the following constitutes/constitute the Current Account?

1. Balance of trade
2. Foreign assets
3. Balance of Invisibles
4. Special Drawing Rights

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) 1, 2 and 4

| Answer | | | | |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 (c) | 2 (c) | 3 (d) | 4 (d) | 5 (c) |