# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS ANALYSIS

# **21 SEPTEMBER 2023**

# **1 – About International Organisation of Legal Metrology certificates:**

# GS II

# **International Issues**

#### • Context:

• Indian authorities have just started giving OIML certificates.

#### • What exactly is OIML?

- With its headquarters in Paris, the OIML (International Organisation of Legal Metrology) was founded in 1955.
- A global organisation that establishes standards is the OIML.
- In order to be used by legal metrology authorities and industry, it creates model regulations, standards, and related documents.
- It is essential for harmonising national laws and rules regarding the functionality of measurement devices like:
- therapeutic thermometers,
- alcohol breath test devices,
- radar speed measurement devices,
- discovered ship tanks in ports, and
- fuel dispensers.
- In 1956, India formally joined the OIML.

#### • What does OIML certification mean?

- For instruments like digital balances and clinical thermometers, among others, the OIML-CS is a system for issuing, registering, and using OIML certificates and the OIML type evaluation/test reports that go along with them.
- India has been added, bringing the total number of nations eligible to issue OIML certifications to 13.
- What impact will this have on the Indian economy?

- The action is anticipated to benefit the Indian economy in a number of ways, including by increasing exports, generating foreign currency, and creating jobs.
- It will aid in lowering duplication and conserving resources.
- Source  $\rightarrow$  The Hindu

# 2 – About Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA):

# **GS III**

# **Indian Agriculture**

- Context:
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a programme that permitted young undocumented immigrants to reside and work in the US, has been ruled unlawful by a US court.
- About DACA:
- Illegal immigrants who entered the country as youngsters may ask for a two-year deferral in legal action, with the possibility of renewal.
- The government organisation specifies a set of requirements for DACA eligibility.
- the applicant must have immigrated to the United States before turning 16 and be younger than 31 on June 15, 2012.
- they should possess specific educational credentials,
- not been found guilty of a felony, serious misdemeanour, or
- do not in any other way endanger public safety or national security.
- These folks can then apply for a work permit and legally hold a job.
- Deferred action was defined as the use of "prosecutorial discretion" to postpone removal proceedings against a person for a predetermined amount of time.
- There is no legal status provided by deferred action.
- Source  $\rightarrow$  The Hindu

# 3 – Details of Hindi Diwas:

# GS I

# **Indian Culture**

# • Context:

• To celebrate the Constituent Assembly of India declaring Hindi the official language of the Union government, September 14 is recognised as Hindi Diwas, or Hindi Day.

#### • The Constitution's official language provisions are as follows:

- The official language of the Union will be Hindi in Devanagari script, according to Article 343 of the Constitution as established in 1950, which was part of the Munshi-Ayyangar formula.
- Indian numerals in their international format must be utilised for all official purposes by the Union.
- The English language shall continue to be utilised for all official purposes of the Union for a period of fifteen years after the beginning of this Constitution, just as it was doing before that.
- When the 15-year period ended, protests broke out because many non-Hindi speaking areas of India, particularly Tamil Nadu, were afraid that Hindi would be imposed.
- Due to the opposition, the Official Languages Act was passed by the Centre, stipulating that Hindi and English would both remain recognised as official languages.
- The government has since made various attempts to promote Hindi as India's national language, with the celebration of Hindi Diwas being one among them.

## • Numbers that Hindi can reach:

- There are 121 mother tongues included in the 2011 linguistic census, including 22 that are classified in the Constitution's 8th Schedule.
- With 52.8 crore people, or 43.6% of the population, claiming Hindi as their mother tongue, it is the most widely spoken language.
- Bengali, the mother tongue of 9.7 crore (8%) people and less than one-fifth of Hindi's population, comes in second.
- Over half of the population of the country speaks Hindi, according to the count.
- Hindi is either the mother tongue or second language for close to 55% of the population, according to the over 13.9 crore (almost 11%) who listed it as their second language.

#### • English's position in India:

- Although English is one of the 22 languages included in the 8th Schedule, it is one of the two official languages of the federal government, along with Hindi.
- Among the 99 unscheduled languages, it is one.
- In 2011, there were just 2.6 lakh native English speakers in India.
- In 2011, 8.3 crore people spoke it as a second language, just behind 13.9 crore people who spoke Hindi.
- Source  $\rightarrow$  The Hindu

# 4 – About the Saudi Arabia and India relations:

# GS II

# **International Issues**

- Context:
- The rapport between New Delhi and Riyadh has been progressively strengthening.
- Key information:
- A huge infrastructure project that would link India to Europe via West Asia and possibly compete with China's Belt and Road Initiative was recently unveiled by Saudi Arabia, India, and the United States.
- The India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council's inaugural meeting was co-chaired by Saudi Arabia and India.
- Eight agreements were signed by the parties, including ones on:
- transforming their hydrocarbon energy cooperation into a thorough renewable energy alliance,
- strategic reserves, petroleum, and
- to establish a joint task group for Saudi investment of \$100 billion.
- Additionally, they talked about the prospect of conducting business in local currencies and advancing talks for a free trade deal between India and the Gulf Cooperation Council, which includes Saudi Arabia.

#### • Changing Indo-Saudi relations:

- Diplomatic ties between the two nations were established in 1947.
- A turning point in the relationship that led to the signing of the Delhi Declaration was King Abdullah's trip to India in 2006.
- The Riyadh Declaration, which transformed bilateral relations into a strategic partnership, came after it in 2010.
- The King Abdulaziz Sash, the highest civilian distinction in the country, was presented to the Prime Minister of India in 2016, demonstrating the value Saudi Arabia placed on its relationship with India.
- Six Memorandums of Understanding/Agreements were inked in a variety of industries in 2019, and it was claimed that the kingdom would invest over \$100 billion in India.
- A contract was also inked to open the door for Saudi Arabia to join the Prime Minister's International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- With the signing of the Strategic Partnership Council (SPC) Agreement in 2019, a high-level council to direct Indo-Saudi cooperation was established.
- The SPC presently has separate subcommittees for economy and investments as well as for political, security, social, and cultural cooperation.
- Economic Relations:

#### • Trade:

- Saudi Arabia's second-largest trading partner is India;
- India's fourth-largest trading partner is Saudi Arabia.
- The value of bilateral trade in FY2022-23 was \$52.76 billion.
- In FY23, India's overall trade with Saudi Arabia made up 4.53% of that total.

#### • Indian investment activity:

• 2,783 Indian businesses were registered as joint ventures or 100% owned firms as of 2022, and they have made investments in the kingdom totaling almost \$2 billion.

#### • Saudi investments:

- \$3.15 billion in Saudi direct investments were made in India.
- The \$44 billion West Coast Refinery & Petrochemicals Project in Maharashtra, which is being built by Saudi Aramco, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, and an Indian consortium consisting

of Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation, and Bharat Petroleum Corporation, is one of the significant investments that have been proposed.

#### • Cooperation on Energy:

- Saudi Arabia, which was India's third-largest supply of oil and petroleum products in FY23, is a crucial partner in safeguarding the country's energy security.
- In FY23, India bought 39.5 MMT of crude from the nation, making up 16.7% of all of India's crude imports.
- 7.85 MMT, or 11.2% of its total petroleum product imports, of India's LPG came from Saudi Arabia in FY 23.

#### • Defence Collaboration:

- Between India and Saudi Arabia, there is substantial naval cooperation, and two iterations of the bilateral naval exercise Al Mohed al Hindi have already been completed.
- Both parties also work closely together to enhance capability and develop the defence industry.

#### • Saudi Arabian Indians:

- More than 2.4 million people make up the kingdom's large Indian population, which is regarded highly for its contribution to the country's growth and serves as a real link between the two nations.
- As part of Operation Kaveri, Saudi Arabia assisted the evacuation of Indian citizens trapped in Sudan through Jeddah as well as the facilitation of Indian Hajj and Umrah travellers.
- Source  $\rightarrow$  The Hindu

## 5 – About the idea of fraternity in India:

# GS II

# **Constitution related issues**

- Key information:
- The political sphere is where brotherhood should be primarily understood.
- That is to say, despite its complicated past, which dates back to Plato, the idea entails the liberation and empowerment of the people.

• Along with the notions of liberty and equality, it continues to be an important pillar of liberal political thought despite neglect.

#### • The Indian setting:

- A complex Indian society on the cusp of becoming an independent republic was made aware of the need for liberty, equality, and fraternity during the independence struggle in India and the following birth of constitutional democracy.
- The authors of the Indian Constitution were aware of the value of fraternity in a society that was split along numerous hierarchical social divides.
- Fraternity also happens to be the constitutional principle that has received the most disregard in both the intellectual and political spheres.
- Although it is still one of the key objectives of India's parliamentary democracy and the fundamental political goal of its constitutional democracy, fraternity today differs from the political fraternity enshrined in the country's Constitution.
- Where the idea first appeared:
- Plato:
- The philosopher uses the word philia (love) to describe his passionate desire to seek wisdom in Plato's Lysis.
- That is, the exchange of information makes love and friendship with others more meaningful.
- The word "share" is emphasised, which gives us an early glimpse of the fraternity discourse in ancient Greece.
- Aristotle:
- Aristotle represents the emergence of the polis, which is the logical setting for a man who is still primarily a political being and hence belongs to the polis rather than the wild.
- The most enduring characteristics of the polis ended up being justice and camaraderie between citizens.
- This is where the notion of political fraternity first emerged.
- Middle Ages:
- In the turbulent Christian civilization of mediaeval Europe, fraternity grew primarily through religion.
- After the French Revolution of 1789, the idea of fraternity eventually made its way into politics through the triptych of "liberté, égalité, fraternité."

#### • The boundaries of brotherhood:

- In order to achieve the level of political fraternity emphasised by the Indian Constitution, a number of prerequisites must be met.
- If fraternity ignores societal injustices before invoking social unity, it is meaningless.
- Such solidarity is based on hatred for an imagined enemy and has a tendency to uphold the status quo, which benefits the rich at the expense of continuing to oppress the disadvantaged.
- The rhetoric of aggressive nationalism, which paints a domestic religious minority as its arch enemy, is rapidly replacing the call of such a fraternity.
- In this nation, religious minority have frequently encountered such social and political hostility.
- Fundamentalism of any kind eliminates the prospect of brotherhood since a fanatic can be everything but brotherly.
- Conclusion:
- In India, caste and the ideal of political fraternity cannot coexist because of the country's social environment.
- For the other to emerge, the first must make way.
- The responsibility of future politics is to determine which one endures and which is eliminated.
- Source → The Hindu