

1. **FATF praises India's PMLA, terror financing** **GS 2 (International Relations)**

• **Why in News:**

- Global anti-money laundering and terror financing body FATF has launched its mutual evaluation report on India.
- The report commending the country's systems to tackle the menace of money laundering and terror financing. It also urged India to expedite its prosecutions in financial fraud cases.

• **Financial Action Task Force**

○ **About**

- Set up in 1989, FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.
- It was established during the G7 Summit in Paris.
- It currently comprises 38 member jurisdictions and 2 regional organisations.
- India became an Observer at FATF in 2006. On June 25, 2010 India was taken in as the **34th country member of FATF**.
- The inter-governmental body sets international standards that aim to prevent these illegal activities and the harm they cause to society.
- The FATF functions as an independent body guiding policy, with its president selected by the plenary for a one-year period.
- The FATF **Secretariat is located at the OECD headquarters in Paris**.

○ **Functions**

- The FATF has developed the FATF Recommendations, or FATF Standards, which ensure a co-ordinated global response to prevent organised crime, corruption and terrorism.
- It also works to identify national-level vulnerabilities with the aim of protecting the international financial system from misuse.
- They help authorities go after the money of criminals dealing in illegal drugs, human trafficking and other crimes.
- It also works to stop funding for weapons of mass destruction.

• **FATF's Mutual Evaluation Process:**

○ **About**

- Mutual Evaluation Process is a comprehensive and rigorous assessment conducted **to evaluate a country's compliance with international standards for combating money laundering (ML) and terrorist financing (TF)**.

○ **India and FATF's mutual evaluation report**

- In its previous evaluation in **June 2010**, India was placed in the **"regular follow-up"** category, which was removed in **June 2013**.
- India's next assessment is set for 2031.

• **Key highlights of the FATF's mutual evaluation report on India**

○ **India in the regular follow-up category**

- FATF placed India in the **"regular follow-up"** category for its compliance with anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terror financing (CTF) recommendations.
- This category signifies a high level of compliance in combating ML and TF, though some non-financial sectors require improvement in supervision and preventive measures.

'REGULAR FOLLOW-UP' CATEGORY

FATF on India: Effective anti-money laundering system, low prosecution

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 19

THE FINANCIAL Action Task Force (FATF) on Thursday placed India in the "regular follow-up" category for its compliance with anti-money laundering and counter-terror financing recommendations, saying it has an "effective" system, but added that "major improvements" are needed to strengthen prosecution in these cases.

In its mutual evaluation report,

GLOBAL WATCHDOG'S RED FLAGS

'MOST SIGNIFICANT' terror threat from Islamic State/al-Qaeda-linked groups active in and around Jammu & Kashmir

MAIN SOURCE of money laundering from illegal activities within the country **CONDUCT OUTREACH** towards non-profit organisations 'at risk of terror financing abuse'

the global watchdog listed some areas for improvement including the limited number of prosecutions and convictions, risk-profil-

ing of customers of financial institutions, monitoring of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

- This classification is shared by only four other G20 countries [the UK, France, Italy and Russia (now suspended from FATF)].
- Most of the developing countries are in the **enhanced follow-up** category, which requires submission of reports on an annual basis, as against once in three years in the “regular follow-up” category
- India complied/largely complied with **37 of 40** recommendations and all of the “**Big-Five**”.
- **Lauds India’s PMLA, terror financing**
 - The report praised India’s systems to tackle the menace of money laundering and terror financing.
 - India is taking steps to address the **fast-tracking of trials** in terror financing and money laundering cases, which was identified as a priority.
- **Areas for Improvement**
 - **Limited Prosecutions and Convictions:** India has seen a limited number of prosecutions and convictions in money laundering and terror financing cases.
 - It flagged delays in the prosecution of terror financing cases due to challenges in the constitutionality of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) between 2014-2022.
 - Though the Enforcement Directorate (ED) increased investigations, the number of prosecutions and concluded trials has not shown a proportionate increase.
 - **Risk-Profiling:** Customer risk-profiling in financial institutions requires improvement.
 - **MCA Registry Monitoring:** Accurate ownership information in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) registry needs better oversight.
 - **Human Trafficking Link:** Greater focus is required on the connection between money laundering and human trafficking.
- **Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile Initiative & GST**
 - FATF praised India’s Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) initiative for boosting financial inclusion and reducing the cash-based economy.
 - The implementation of GST, requiring e-invoices and e-bills, was recognized for increasing transparency in the supply chain.
- **Key Compliance Measures**
 - India’s Cybercrime Coordination Centre, beneficial ownership registry by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, and Central KYC Records Registry (CKYCR) were highlighted as positive steps.
 - The establishment of task forces and high-level committees to combat corruption, black money, drug trafficking, and fake currency was commended
- **Enforcement Achievements**
 - The ED was recognized for confiscating assets worth ₹16,537 crore and securing restitution of ₹141.3 billion in the Vijay Mallya case.
 - ED’s success in pursuing complex, large-scale, cross-border money laundering cases and “hawala” operations was noted.
- **Shell Companies Task Force**
 - The report highlighted the removal of 3,82,875 shell companies and the disqualification of over 3 lakh directors who failed to file financial statements.
- **International Cooperation and Asset Recovery**
 - India’s strong coordination on illicit financial flows, financial intelligence, and international cooperation was appreciated.
 - The FATF also noted India’s ability to implement targeted financial sanctions.
- **Terrorism Threats in India**
 - India faces a “disparate range” of terrorism threats, including regional insurgencies in the Northeast and North, Left-Wing Extremist groups, and Islamic State or al-Qaeda-linked threats in Jammu and Kashmir.
 - The largest money laundering risks stem from fraud, corruption, and drug trafficking.
- **Non-Profit Sector Oversight**
 - India needs to ensure that non-profit organizations (NPOs) are safeguarded against misuse for terror financing.

- Email: iasncsc@gmail.com

- **Citadel:** Constructed on mud brick platforms, it was walled and likely served special public purposes.
- **Lower Town:** Also walled, built on a raised platform, indicating a systematic approach to construction.
- **Uniform Bricks:** The buildings were made from uniformly sized bricks.
- **Grid Pattern Streets:** The roads and streets were laid out in a grid pattern, intersecting at right angles.
- **Residential Buildings:** The Lower Town featured residential buildings, typically centered around a courtyard.
 - **Privacy Features:** Ground floor walls lacked windows, ensuring privacy; entrances did not directly expose the courtyard.
 - **Bathrooms and Drains:** Every house had a brick-paved bathroom connected to street drains. Many houses also had staircases leading to upper levels.
- **Drainage System**
 - A well-designed drainage system was a hallmark of Harappan cities. Every house was connected to street drains made of **mortar, lime, and gypsum**.
 - **Cleanable Drains:** Drains were covered with large bricks for easy lifting and maintenance.
 - **Sewage Pits:** Pits were located on either side of the streets for sewage management.
 - **Long Channels:** Long drainage channels with sumps for cleaning were constructed at intervals.
 - **Smaller Settlements:** In places like Lothal, houses were made of mud bricks, and the drains used burnt bricks.
- **The Great Bath**
 - The Great Bath is one of the special buildings located on the citadel. It was used for religious ceremonies or public gatherings.
 - **Design:** A large rectangular tank surrounded by corridors, with steps leading into the tank from the north and south. The tank was made watertight using mortar and gypsum.
 - **Connected Rooms:** Rooms flanked the tank, one of which housed a large well, with water flowing into a massive drain
- **Key Excavations, Locations, Findings**
 - **Mohenjo-daro, Harappa, Ganweriwala (all now in Pakistan), Rakhigarhi, and Dholavira(both in India)** are the five biggest Harappan sites out of about 2,000 sites in the civilisational area, which is spread over 1.5 million sq.km. in India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.
 - There are about 1,500 sites in northwestern India, including in **Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh**.
 - The **village of Daimabad** on the banks of the **Godavari river in Maharashtra** is the southernmost outpost of the Harappan civilisation.
 - There are about 500 sites in Pakistan, and a few in Afghanistan.
 - The civilisation burgeoned on the banks of the **Indus and Saraswati rivers**, the latter of which is believed to have dried up circa 1900 BCE.

Harappa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavator: Daya Ram Sahni (1921-22) • Findings: Seals, painted pottery, and beads; the discovery of a curved drainage wall indicates advanced sanitation systems. • Significance: Harappa was pivotal in identifying the civilization's characteristics and its geographical spread.
Mohenjo-daro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavator: Rakhal Das Banerji (1922) • Findings: Seals, pottery, and copper artifacts; the "Great Bath" indicates communal bathing practices and ritualistic significance. • Significance: Mohenjo-daro is crucial for understanding urban life and social structures within the civilization.
Dholavira	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Gujarat, India • Excavations: Led by R.S. Bisht (1989-2005) • Findings: Extensive water conservation systems, large reservoirs, and inscriptions in the Indus script. • Significance: Dholavira offers insights into advanced water management practices and urban planning.
Rakhigarhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Haryana, India • Excavations: Ongoing research has revealed extensive urban remains and indications of trade and craftsmanship. • Significance: It is one of the largest Harappan sites and challenges previous notions about the extent of the civilization.
Ganweriwala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Punjab, Pakistan • Findings: Less extensively excavated but contributes to the understanding of the civilization's distribution across a vast geographical area.
Mehrgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location: Balochistan, Pakistan • Significance: This site, dating back to 7000 BCE, is considered the precursor to the Harappan civilization and illustrates the transition to settled agricultural life.

• Decline of Harappan Civilization

- **Climatic Change** could have affected agricultural productivity and water supply.
- **Deforestation** may have led to soil erosion and reduced agricultural output.
- **Excessive Floods** could have devastated settlements and agricultural lands.
- **Unsustainable agricultural practices** may have depleted resources and affected the ecosystem.
- **Shifting or Drying Up of Rivers** could have severely impacted water availability.
- **The arrival of outside groups**, possibly including the Aryans, might have contributed to the decline.
- **A marked decline in distinctive artifacts**, such as seals and pottery, suggests a breakdown in the civilization's cultural practices.

3. White Revolution 2.0 GS 2 (Governance)

- **Why in News:** Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah recently launched the standard operating procedure for White Revolution 2.0.

- **White Revolution:**

- The White Revolution, also known as **Operation Flood**, was a landmark initiative that transformed India from a milk-deficient nation into the world's largest milk producer.
- Spearheaded by **Vergheese Kurien**, the "Father of the White Revolution," this movement played a pivotal role in enhancing dairy farming and milk production in India, significantly improving the socio-economic conditions of rural dairy farmers.

- **Background & Initiation of the Revolution:**

- The White Revolution began in 1970 with the launch of Operation Flood by the **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)**.
- Funded initially through the sale of surplus dairy commodities donated by the European Economic Community, the program aimed to create a nationwide milk grid, increase milk production, and provide fair prices to farmer
- **Key Objectives of the White Revolution:**
 - **Increase Milk Production:** Boosting India's milk output to make the country self-sufficient.
 - **Establish Dairy Cooperatives:** Organizing farmers into cooperatives to eliminate middlemen and ensure fair returns for milk producers.
 - **Provide Access to Markets:** Creating a reliable supply chain to connect rural milk producers directly with urban markets.

- **Achievements & Impact:**

- **World's Largest Milk Producer:** India's milk production increased from 21 million tonnes in the 1970s to over **220 million tonnes in 2022-23, making it the largest milk producer globally.**
- **Rural Empowerment:** The initiative empowered millions of rural families, providing them with a steady income and improving their livelihoods.
- **Nutritional Benefits:** Enhanced access to milk improved nutritional standards in India, contributing to better public health outcomes.
- **Cooperative Movement and Amul's Role:**
 - The cooperative model, pioneered by Amul under Dr. Kurien, became a cornerstone of the White Revolution.
 - Amul's success in Gujarat was replicated nationwide, inspiring the creation of numerous dairy cooperatives that collectively brought about a milk revolution.
- **Current Status and Challenges:**
 - **Production Growth:** As of 2023, India accounts for approximately 23% of global milk production, with an annual growth rate of around 6.2%.
 - **Challenges:** Despite its success, the sector faces challenges such as:
 - fluctuating milk prices,
 - climate change impacts, and
 - the need for modernization in dairy farming practices.

- **White Revolution 2.0:**

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah recently launched the standard operating procedure for White Revolution 2.0, a renewed effort to boost the dairy sector in India.
- **Key Objectives of White Revolution 2.0:**

White Revolution 2.0 to empower women, fight malnutrition: Amit Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Thursday launched the standard operating procedure for 'White Revolution 2.0' stating that milk dairies will aid empowerment of women and the fight against malnutrition.

Mr. Shah said that according to the western concept, a woman is considered unemployed even though she does all the work at home, but he disagreed with it. He said White Revolution 2.0 will help the inclusion of women engaged in procurement of milk in formal employment as the money will be deposited in their bank accounts. The scheme aims at increasing



Amit Shah

procurement led by cooperatives from the present 660 lakh litres per day to 1,000 lakh litres. Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and Panchayati Raj, Rajiv Ranjan Singh was also present at the launch.

Mr. Shah said that in the past 70 years, necessary changes in cooperatives were not made due to which the bodies became very successful in some

States and were left to the mercy of State governments in others. He said the government has prepared a joint proposal of two lakh primary agriculture cooperative societies (PACS), dairy and fishery cooperatives, and sent it across the country, and all the States have accepted it. He said that once these PACS are registered, there will not be a single panchayat without a PACS, dairy or fisheries cooperative society.

The Minister said once this happens, co-operatives will be able to reach the whole country, which will lead to the creation of cooperative institutions at tehsil and district levels, and State institutions will gain strength and momentum.

- **Empower Women:** The initiative seeks to include women involved in milk procurement into formal employment by depositing earnings directly into their bank accounts. This approach aims to provide financial independence to women and formally recognize their contributions.
- **Increase Milk Procurement:** The program targets an increase in milk procurement by cooperatives from the current 660 lakh liters per day to 1,000 lakh liters.
- **Women's Role in the Dairy Sector:**
 - Amit Shah emphasized the crucial role of women in the dairy industry, particularly in cooperative dairies.
 - **In Gujarat alone, 36 lakh women are involved in dairy activities, contributing to a business worth ₹60,000 crore annually.**
 - The initiative aims to replicate such success nationwide, strengthening cooperative institutions at the panchayat, tehsil, and district levels.
- **Addressing Malnutrition:**
 - One of the significant benefits of White Revolution 2.0 is its potential impact on malnutrition.
 - Amit Shah highlighted that **increasing milk availability would primarily benefit poor and malnourished children**
 - He stressed that efforts by women, especially mothers, are key to combating child malnutrition, more so than government interventions.
- **Strengthening Cooperative Institutions:**
 - Amit Shah pointed out that the cooperative sector had not received necessary reforms in the past 70 years, leading to uneven success across states.
 - To address this, the government has prepared a proposal for two lakh Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS), dairy, and fishery cooperatives, which has been accepted by all states.
 - The initiative aims to ensure that every panchayat in the country will have a PACS, dairy, or fishery cooperative society, thereby expanding the reach of cooperatives nationwide.
- **Financial Support and Cooperative Integration:**
 - The government has assured full budgetary support for White Revolution 2.0, recognizing it as a priority area.
 - An important initiative under this program is "**Cooperation among Cooperatives**," tested successfully in Gujarat's **Panchmahal** and **Banaskantha** Key actions included:
 - Opening bank accounts for cooperative sector institutions in cooperative banks.
 - Issuing debit and credit cards to women involved in the Primary Cooperative Society and Milk Producers Committee, strengthening their financial position.
 - Establishing micro-ATMs and promoting digital transactions, enhancing the financial inclusion of women in rural areas.
 - **National Expansion of Cooperative Banking:**
 - Following successful experiments in Gujarat, where over 9 lakh accounts were opened and deposits increased by ₹4,000 crore in cooperative banks, the initiative will now be scaled up nationwide.
 - More than 2,600 micro-ATMs have already been distributed, and similar measures will be implemented across India to empower women financially.

Conclusion

- White Revolution 2.0 is a significant step towards empowering women, strengthening cooperatives, and addressing malnutrition in India.
- By integrating women into formal employment, enhancing milk procurement, and providing financial support, the initiative aims to transform the dairy sector and contribute to the broader socio-economic development of rural India.

4. Amoebic Meningoencephalitis GS 3 (Science and Tech)

- Why in News:** Kerala has recently faced a worrying surge in cases of amoebic meningoencephalitis, particularly affecting young children during the summer months.

Amoebic Meningoencephalitis

- Amoebic encephalitis is a rare but lethal **central nervous system**
- It is caused by **free-living amoebae (FLA)** found in freshwater bodies.
- There are 2 types of amoebic encephalitis, namely **primary meningoencephalitis** and **granulomatous amoebic encephalitis (GAE)**.

Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM)

It is most commonly caused by ***Naegleria fowleri***, this infection attacks brain tissue, leading to severe swelling and a high fatality rate, typically between 97% and 100%. Initial symptoms resemble those of bacterial meningitis, complicating timely diagnosis.

- Granulomatous Amoebic Encephalitis (GAE):** It is caused by other amoebae like ***Acanthamoeba***, this form progresses more slowly but is also often fatal.

How Kerala reduced mortality from amoebic meningoencephalitis

Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis is caused by infection with *Naegleria fowleri*, a free-living amoeba commonly called a 'brain eating amoeba'. This infection destroys brain tissue, causing severe brain swelling, and death in most cases. PAM is rare and usually occurs in healthy children, teens, and young adults, and has a high fatality rate.



5. Food Processing Sector Reforms in Last 10 Years GS 3 (Economy)

Why in News:

- While addressing the **3rd edition of World Food India 2024**, the Indian PM said the government has undertaken many reforms in the past 10 years to the growth of the food processing sector.

- The PM also said that the Global Food Regulators Summit by the FSSAI will bring together global regulators (WHO, FAO) and domestic institutes to issues such as food safety, quality standards, and best practices.

What is World Food India (WFI)?

- The **1st edition of the WFI** was launched by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)** in 2017, with the objective of

- Introducing the world to rich Indian food culture.
- As well as promoting investments in the diverse food processing sector of the country.

- In view of celebrating **2023 as the International Year of Millets** and to bring the global food processing industry together, the MoFPI organised the **2nd** edition WFI in 2023.

WORLD FOOD INDIA 2024

PM: Food-processing sector saw wide-ranging reforms in 10 years



Union Ministers Pralhad Joshi, Chirag Paswan and MoF Minister of State, Food Processing Industries, Dr. Anand Kumar, at the inauguration of World Food India 2024 in New Delhi, Thursday.

The PM observed India has a vibrant and diverse food culture. "The backbone of the Indian food ecosystem is the farmer. It is farmers who have ensured the creation of nutritious and delicious traditions of culinary excellence. We are supporting their hard work with innovative policies and focused implementation," he said.

"In the modern era, through progressive agricultural practices, strong administrative measures and cutting-edge technologies, our effort is to ensure that India sets global benchmarks for innovation, sustainability and safety in the food sector," he added.

"At such a juncture, World Food India is an ideal platform for us to work with the world through B2B interactions and exhibitions, Reverse Buyer-Seller meets, and country-state and sector-specific sessions," the Prime Minister said.

"Further, I am sure that important topics such as food irradiation to enhance food safety and reduce food wastage, plant-based proteins to promote nutrition and sustainability as well as the circular economy will be showcased," he added.

On the inaugural day, a high-level CEO roundtable under the co-chairmanship of Minister of Commerce & Industry (Piyush Goyal) and Minister of Food Processing Industries (Chirag Paswan) was organised.

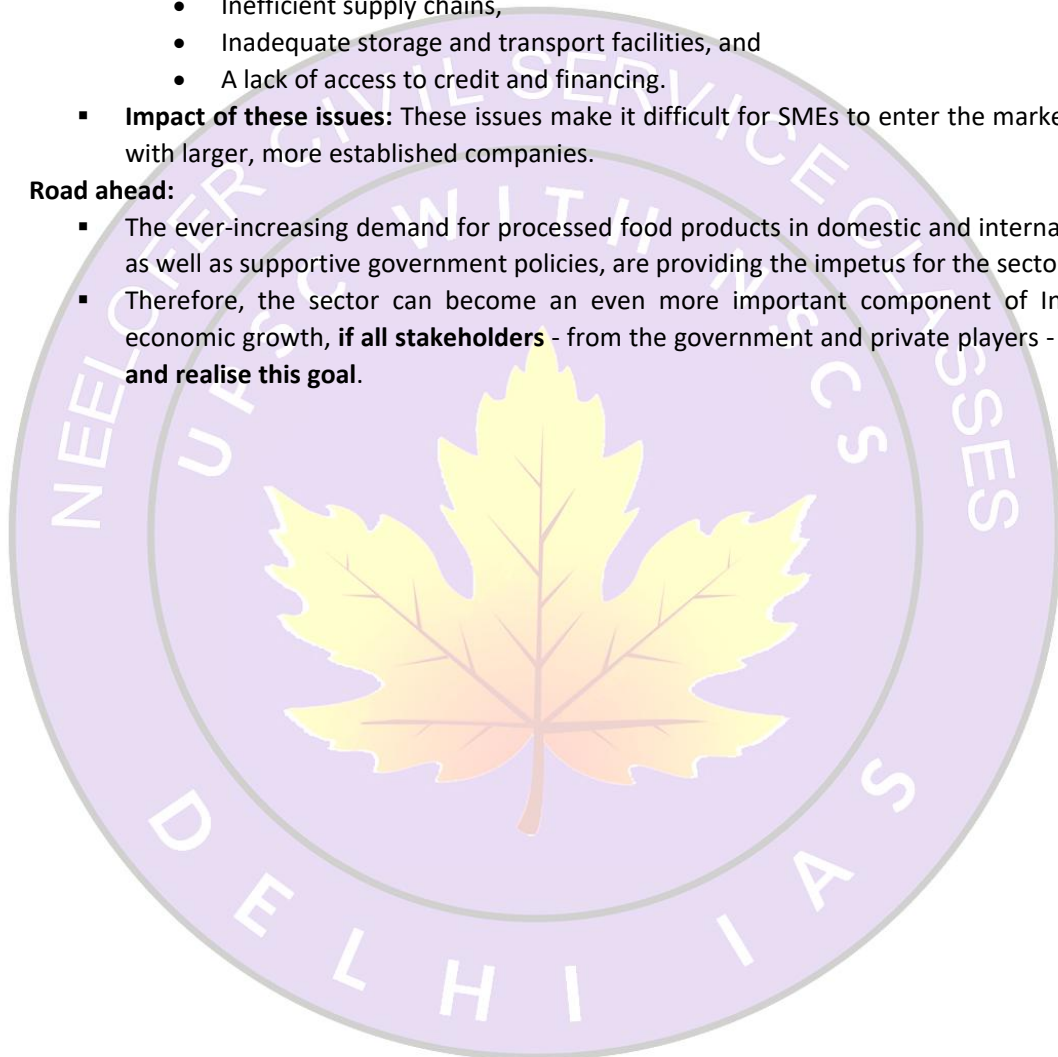
Addressing the gathering, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi welcomed the global dignitaries and highlighted India's remarkable journey in achieving food security, sustainability, and innovation.

He reiterated the government's commitment to secure good quality food for domestic consumption, ensuring a hunger-free world, He emphasised ensuring welfare of farmers through initiatives aimed at boosting incomes, improving access to technology and providing fair prices for their produce.

Paswan said that the 3rd edition of World Food India marks a pivotal moment in India's journey as a global leader in the food processing industry, which has become a key contributor for driving exports, employment, and income for farmers.

- The 3rd edition of the WFI 2024 will be organised from 19th to 22nd September 2024.
- **Food Processing Sector in India**
 - **Scenario:**
 - Food processing in India - '**A Sunrise sector**' - has an **essential role in linking Indian farmers to consumers** in the domestic and international markets.
 - **Major sectors** constituting the food processing industry in India are processed fruits and vegetables, ready-to-eat/cook (RTE/RTC), mozzarella cheese, processed marine products, edible oils, beverages, and dairy products.
 - The sector has grown substantially, averaging an annual growth rate of **around 7.3%**, during 2015-2022.
 - The industry has a share of **12.22% in the employment generated** in all Registered Factory sectors engaging **approximately 2.03 million people**.
 - **Unregistered food processing sector** supports employment to 5.1 million workers, constituting 14.18% of employment in the unregistered manufacturing sector.
 - **Growth drivers:**
 - **Agri-commodity hub:**
 - Due to its **diverse agro-climatic conditions**, it has a wide-ranging and large raw material base suitable for food processing industries.
 - India has **access to several natural resources** that provides it with a competitive advantage in the food processing sector.
 - India is the **largest producer of milk and spices** and one of the leading producers of fruits and vegetables, poultry, and meat.
 - **Huge consumer base; strong economy; conducive policies; One District, One Product (ODOP); etc.**
 - **Future prospects:** The market size of the food processing sector in India is estimated **to reach US\$ 1,274 billion in 2027 from US\$ 866 billion in 2022**, backed by changing lifestyle and food habits due to rising disposable income and urbanisation.
- **Steps Taken by the Government (MoFPI) to Boost Food Processing Sector in India:**
 - **PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY):** It has been envisaged as a comprehensive package which will result in creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.
 - **PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme:** It aims to enhance existing individual micro-enterprises in the unorganised segment of the food processing industry.
 - **Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI):** It aims to –
 - **Boost domestic manufacturing, increase exports**, while supporting food manufacturing entities with stipulated sales.
 - **Make investment for expansion of processing capacity.** For example, **100% FDI** is permitted in the food processing sector
 - Incentivise emergence of strong Indian brands. Food processing units qualify for **complete profit exemption** in the first five years.
 - **The One District One Product (ODOP) scheme:**
 - It was launched under the PMFME to provide the framework for value chain development and alignment of support infrastructure.
 - ODOP approved for 713 districts in 35 States/UTs with 137 unique products.
 - **The Mega Food Park (MFP) scheme:**
 - The scheme follows a cluster approach, establishing modern food processing units within well-defined agri/horticultural zones.
 - Under the MFP scheme 41 projects were approved, of which 24 are operational as of December 2023.

- **Operation Greens:**
 - It was launched to boost Farmer Producers Organisations (FPOs), agri-logistics, processing facilities, and professional management, focusing initially on Tomato, Onion, and Potato (**TOP**) value chains from **2018**.
 - As part of the "Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package", the scheme was extended from TOP crops to all fruits and vegetables (**TOTAL**).
- **Challenges and Road Ahead for Food Processing Sector in India:**
 - **Challenges:**
 - **Lack of cutting-edge infrastructure:** Many food processing businesses operate in the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) sector, which often lacks the resources needed to upgrade their facilities and machinery to the latest technology.
 - **The industry is also plagued by:**
 - Inefficient supply chains,
 - Inadequate storage and transport facilities, and
 - A lack of access to credit and financing.
 - **Impact of these issues:** These issues make it difficult for SMEs to enter the market and compete with larger, more established companies.
 - **Road ahead:**
 - The ever-increasing demand for processed food products in domestic and international markets, as well as supportive government policies, are providing the impetus for the sector.
 - Therefore, the sector can become an even more important component of India's GDP and economic growth, **if all stakeholders** - from the government and private players - **come together and realise this goal**.



MCQ Current Affairs**20th Sept, 2024**

1. With reference to White Revolution 2.0, consider the following:

- A. Enhancing local milk production
- B. Empowering women farmers
- C. Increasing milk procurement by private companies
- D. Boosting dairy exports

How many of the above are key focus areas of White Revolution 2.0?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) Three only
- d) All four

2. What does the term "Kleptoparasitism" refer to?

- a) The mutual exchange of resources between species
- b) One animal relying on the waste or leftovers of another species
- c) The exchange of food in return for protection between species
- d) One animal benefiting by stealing resources gathered by another

3. With reference to Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme 2024 (VSV 2.0), consider the following statements:

- A. It will enable taxpayers and the Income Tax Department to resolve disputes through a streamlined appeals process.
- B. It will waive penalties and interest for settlements, ensuring no prosecution will be initiated for cases resolved under the scheme.
- C. Cases involving searches, prosecutions, and undisclosed foreign income are excluded from eligibility under the scheme.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

4. With reference to Financial Action Task Force (FATF), consider the following statements:

- A. It is an intergovernmental policy-making and standard-setting body dedicated to combating money laundering and terrorist financing.
- B. Once a member, a country must endorse and support the most recent FATF recommendations and commit to being evaluated by other members.
- C. India and China are not members of the FATF.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) One only
- b) Two only
- c) All three
- d) None

5. Consider the following statements regarding the Square Kilometer Array Telescope:

- A. It is a radio telescope that aims to study the origin of the universe, formation and evolution of galaxies.
- B. It is collocated in Australia and South Africa.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) A only
- b) B only
- c) A and B
- d) Neither of two



Answers Current Affairs

20th Sept, 2024

1. c
2. d
3. c
4. b
5. c

