

15.1.2018

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. HAVRE

- It is the world's largest deep ocean volcanic eruption happened in New Zealand. It was recently confirmed by the researchers.
- Named as Havre, the deep ocean volcanic eruption was first discovered in 2002. A solidified volcanic rock known as pumice raft — 400 square kilometres in size — found floating in the ocean near New Zealand in 2012 showed that underwater eruption had occurred. The eruption involved 14 aligned vents causing a “massive rupture”.

2. SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER (SAD)

According to a recent study, in India, more than 10 million people suffer from a self-diagnosable ailment called Seasonal affective disorder (SAD). Its milder version usually resolves itself within months.

SAD occurs in climates where there is less sunlight at certain times of the year. Sometimes, it is mistaken to be a “lighter” version of depression, which is untrue. It is a different version of the same illness and people with SAD are just as ill as people with major depression, according to psychiatrists.

Symptoms: Symptoms include fatigue, depression, a feeling of hopelessness and social withdrawal.

Vulnerable group: Women are overwhelmingly more susceptible to SAD than men. Statistics released by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) show that SAD occurs four times more often in women than in men. The age of onset is estimated to be between 18 and 30 years but can affect anyone irrespective of age. SAD generally starts in late fall and early winter and goes away during spring and summer. Depressive episodes linked to summer can occur, but are much rarer than winter episodes.

Prevention: A few ways in which people can prevent winter depression include ensuring a healthy and balanced diet. Staying well hydrated is key during the winter months since it gives you more energy, mental clarity and an enhanced digestive function. Getting enough sunlight and engaging in regular outdoor physical exercise are also important.

Treatment: Treatment for SAD involves enough light exposure, artificial light exposure, sun therapy and drugs, if needed. Artificial light exposure is effective but may take four to six weeks to see a response, although some patients improve within days. Therapy is continued until sufficient and daily natural sunlight exposure is available.

3. GLOBAL MANUFACTURING INDEX

The World Economic Forum (WEF) has released its Global Manufacturing Index. This is WEF's first 'Readiness for the future of production report'. The report has been developed in collaboration with A T Kearney and calls for new and innovative approaches to public-private collaboration are needed to accelerate transformation.

The report has categorised 100 countries in **four major groups** for its ranking:

- ❑ Leading (strong current base, high level of readiness for future).
- ❑ High Potential (limited current base, high potential for future).
- ❑ Legacy (strong current base, at risk for future).
- ❑ Nascent (limited current base, low level of readiness for future).

4. ZYGAENID

- ❑ It is a newly discovered species of moth. This discovery represents the first record of *Elcysma* from Arunachal Pradesh. Researchers have suggested that the new species be commonly called Apatani Glory, named after a local tribe called Apatani.
- ❑ The species was discovered from the Talle Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❑ This species has only been seen during autumn, notably in the month of September, indicating that it is a univoltine species, meaning it has one brood of young in a year.

5. MITINI PRACTICE

Under Sikkim Forest Tree (Amity & Reverence) Rules 2017, the Government of Sikkim has come up with a unique way of preserving trees by encouraging people to forge a relationship of brotherhood or sisterhood with trees through a practice locally known as Mith/Mit or Mitini. With this, Sikkim is keen to not just preserve its forest cover but also forge amity between people and trees.

- ❑ Under the rules, State government shall allow any person to associate with trees standing on his or her private land or on any public land by entering into a Mith/Mit or Mitini relationship.
- ❑ A person can also adopt a tree "as if it was his or her own child in which case the tree shall be called an adopted tree." Another way to forge a relationship with a tree is by "preserving a tree in remembrance of a departed relative in which case the tree shall be called a smriti tree."
- ❑ In case an individual wants to forge a relationship with a tree which does not stand on his or her land but another's, the person concerned shall execute an agreement with the owner and compensate him or her in terms of the market value of the timber or the wood contained in the tree. If the person desires to enter into a relationship with a tree located on public land then permission from the said department or agency needs to be taken.
- ❑ The Rules also prohibit felling or damage to any tree registered as Mith/Mit or Mitini, adopted or smriti and points out that any such violation shall be treated as a forest offence.

Questions:

1. Which one of the following statement is true about HAVRE?

1. It is the world's largest deep ocean volcanic eruption happened in New Zealand.
2. Named as Havre, the deep ocean volcanic eruption was first discovered in 2002.

A) 1 ONLY B) 2 ONLY C) BOTH D) NONE

2. GLOBAL MANUFACTURING INDEX (GMI) released by-

- A. World Economic Forum
- B. World Bank
- C. IBRD
- D. United Nations Temporary Executive Authority

3. Which one of the following statement is true about Apatani?

1. The Apatani are a tribal group of people living in the Ziro valley of Arunachal Pradesh in India.
2. UNESCO has proposed the Apatani valley for inclusion as a World Heritage Site for its "extremely high productivity" and "unique" way of preserving the ecology.

A) 1 ONLY B) 2 ONLY C) BOTH D) NONE