



29-09-2023 NEWS

Kanthalloor selected as the best tourist village in the country

- The best tourist village in the country - Kanthalloor
- Idukki district, Kerala
- Central Government Gold Award
- Central Department of Tourism

Kanthalloor Panchayat

- Head - Mohan Das
- Along the border of Tamil Nadu
- Main occupation
 - Vegetable and fruit cultivation
 - Apple and seasonal fruits
 - Called as Kerala's Kashmir

Tourism day

- World Tourism day - September 27
- Theme - Tourism and Green Investments
- National Tourism Day - January 25

Agronomist

- M.S. Swaminathan, eminent agricultural scientist, passes away
- Born : Maankombu, Tanjore
- August 07, 1925
- Education
 - UG - Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
 - PG - Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi - genetics and plant breeding
 - Doctor of Philosophy degree - University of Cambridge School of Agriculture
 - Took civil services exam and got selected for the Indian Police Services

Work

- 1954 - Assistant botanist at Central Rice Research Institute in Cuttack, Odisha
- 1988 - MS Swaminathan Research Foundation
- 1982-1988 - As Director General in International Rice Research Institute

Awards and honours

- More than 40 various awards including Volvo Environment Prize in 1999 & Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1971 and more than 38 Honorary doctorates.

Migrants

- India is ahead of China in terms of population
- India supplies most of the labor force to Gulf countries & Europe
- By 2020, the UN estimates that there will be 281 million migrants worldwide
 - India leads with 18 million migrants
- Significant figures in Indian economy

Problems faced by Indian migrants in abroad**In gulf countries**

- 9 million Indians live in Gulf countries
- issue - forced labor and under the kafala system - modern day slavery

Kafala system

- Exploitative Labor Organization of the Gulf States
- Organization to monitor migrant workers in Gulf countries especially in construction and domestic sectors
- Workers' visas are tied to employers
- To prevent workers from changing their jobs without the consent of their employers
- kafala system - Increases exploitation of people in diaspora sectors
- Employers take away passports and force migrants to work in addition
- A threat to Indian workers

Problems in West Asian countries

- Escalating conflicts and instability
- Eg. Shia - Radical Islamist and domestic conspiracy

Consequence

- Harmful working conditions and dangerous to the life of the workers America, Canada & England

Issue

- Discrimination and job insecurity

Discrimination

- Because of racist and colonial attitude
- Workers will suffer

Job insecurity

- Instead of giving priority to immigrants, they give priority to their countrymen
- Example : Trump Govt - Work stress for H1 visa holders

Separatist movement

- Canada - Indirectly providing support to the Khalistan movement

Action taken by Govt

- Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra
- It has been established by the Government of India in Dubai, Sharjah, Riyadh, Jada and Kuala Lumpur
- Aim - To help Indians
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Gulf States
- Goal - To increase employment and ensure the development and security of workers
- Madad portal

Development Fund for Indian Communities

- Special Fund - Assistance to Vulnerable Indian Migrants
- India's overseas project implementation
- Medical expenses, legal aid, air travel

Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana

- An insurance plan is mandatory for Indian workers going abroad

Conclusion

- Although various measures have been taken by the Government of India, there is still a need for implementation
- Cooperation with other countries is essential
- Formulation policies is mandated.

Chamoli, Uttarakhand**Tapovan Vishnugad****Hydropower Plant**

- 520 MW Hydro Power Project
- National Thermal Power Corporation Limited
- Across the river Dhauliganga
- 2011, World Bank Finance
- 2021, Severely affected by snow avalanches and flash floods
- Location - Tapova, Chamoli, Uttarkhand
- Tapovan - on the banks of Dhauliganga
- Dhauliganga - formed between the passes
- Dhauliganga - In Vishnuprayag, Alaknanda
- Alaknanda is a tributary of Ganga

Dispute

- Lakshmi Narayan temple, Hathiram
- Villagers have been relocated
- To prevent disaster caused by climate change and extreme weather event