



Important Facts for Prelims (14th February 2019)

 drishtiias.com/printpdf/important-facts-for-prelims-14th-february-2019-

Awareness Campaign on Trans Fatty Acids

- The **Kerala** Health Department has drawn up an **action plan to generate public awareness** on the harmful effects of **trans fatty acids (TFA)** in commercially available food items and to encourage the local food industry to meet the current statutory limits set for TFA.
- This initiative is being supported by the **World Bank, World Health Organisation (WHO)**, the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**, and the **State Food Safety wing**.

National Board for Wildlife

- **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** which is charged with allowing forest land in Protected Areas to be diverted for industry cleared 682 of the 687 **projects (99.82%)**

that came up for scrutiny.

- Moreover, **only five projects** were rejected since August 2014.
- Few experts have criticised it as a mere "**clearance house.**" While, Officials state **following reason** for increased clearances:
 - Streamlined processes,
 - Regular meetings since 2014,
 - Online filling of applications, and
 - Projects coming to NBWL are one which has already passed scrutiny of respective state governments.

National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)

- National Board for Wildlife is a statutory Board **constituted officially in 2003** under the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.**
- The NBWL is **chaired by the Prime Minister** and is responsible for promotion of conservation and development of wildlife and forests.
- The board is '**advisory in nature**' and can only advise the Government on policy making for conservation of wildlife.
- It is an important body because it serves as an apex body for the review of all wildlife-related matters and for the approval of projects in and around national parks and sanctuaries

e-AUSHADHI Portal

- Recently the Government has launched the **e-AUSHADHI portal**, for **online licensing** of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs and related matters.
- The portal is intended for increased transparency, improved information management facility, improved data usability and increased accountability.
- This new e-portal is an **acronym for Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy Automated Drug Help Initiative.**
- The timelines is fixed for processing of applications with text message and e-mail status updates at each step of the process.
- It will provide **real time information** of the licensed manufactures and their products, cancelled and spurious drugs, contact details of the concerned authority for specific grievances, and thereby **aid the licensing authority , manufactures and consumers.**
- It can be noted that recently the Cabinet also approved the **draft National Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine (NCIM) Bill, 2018** which seeks to enhance transparency.

Hindi Becomes Third Official Language in UAE

- **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** has included **Hindi as the third official language** in their judicial system alongside **Arabic** and **English** to make justice delivery system simpler and more accessible to Indians.
- Indians form the **largest immigrant community in the UAE**, with more than three million living in Dubai.
- The landmark decision undertaken by the judicial department will benefit a major chunk of workers, who mostly come from Hindi speaking regions of central and north India.
- The Indian workforce in UAE can now file their complaints to the labour counts in the country in their own mother-tongue.
- **Note:**
Hindi is popular in many other countries, including Nepal, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Fiji and Mauritius. **Hindi and Nepalese share the same script- Devnagari.**