



Date – 4 May 2022

Atal Innovation Mission



- Atal Innovation Mission launched Phase-I of the second edition of 'Atal New India Challenge' (ANIC 2.0).
- ANIC 1.0 was launched in the year 2018 to call upon innovations and technologies to be relevant to the people.

Atal New India Challenge:

- Atal New India Challenge is a flagship program of Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog. The objective of the program is to seek, select, support and promote technology-based innovations that address regional challenges of national importance and social relevance.
- ANIC supports the selected startups in the commercialization phase during 12-18 months with solicitation of innovations in the prototype phase.

Approach:

- To solve problems of national importance and social relevance (production) by manufacturing products based on existing technologies.

- Helping to find new solutions, markets and initial customers (commercialisation) in the context of India.

Objective:

- To encourage innovations in important areas like education, health, water and sanitation, agriculture, food processing, housing, energy, mobility, space etc. for India's sustained growth and development.
- Supporting innovators on risks associated with access to resources for testing, piloting and market building, along with identifying the 'Commercialization Valley of Death' (the difference between research and commercialisation).

ANIC 1.0:

- ANIC 1.0 created an Open Innovation Challenge Format where challenge statements were published in the public domain and calls for applications were made.
- Installment based grant-in-aid up to Rs.1 crore to startup winners/individual innovators and assistance through AIM's innovation network.

ANIC 2.0:

- The first phase of ANIC 2.0 will address 18 challenges in 7 sectors, including e-mobility, road transport, space technology and applications, sanitation technology, medical equipment and materials, waste management and agriculture.

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM):

- AIM is a flagship initiative of the Government of India to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.
- It aims to develop new programs and policies to promote innovation in various sectors of the economy, provide forums and opportunities for collaboration to various stakeholders, raise awareness among people and create an umbrella/innovative role for monitoring the innovation ecosystem of the country. To develop the umbrella structure.

Major Initiatives:

- **Atal Tinkering Laboratory:** Through this, to solve the problems of the students in the schools of the country, their mental development is to be done.
- **Atal Incubation Centres:** These have been established to promote world class startups and add a new dimension to the incubator model.
- **Challenges of Atal New India:** Promoting product innovations and tailoring them to the needs of different sectors/ministries.
- **Mentor India Campaign:** A national mentor network created in collaboration with the public sector, corporates and institutions to support all initiatives of the Mission.
- **Atal Community Innovation Centre:** To encourage community centric innovation and ideas in unprotected/protected areas of the country including Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.
- **Atal Research and Innovation for Small Enterprises (ARISE):** To encourage innovation and research in the MSME industry.

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Sloth bear



- Recently, two sloth bears were rescued by the People for Animals Group (PFA) with the help of forest officials from a village in Jharkhand.
- The People for Animals is an animal welfare organization founded by Maneka Gandhi.

- The PFA was informed by the Madaris. Madari are a nomadic community who earn their living by using animals in street plays.

Sloth Bear:

- Sloth bears are found mainly in the Terai regions of Sri Lanka, India, Bhutan and Nepal.
- Sloth bears feed mainly on termites and ants and, unlike other bear species, they regularly carry their cubs on their backs.
- They are also very fond of eating honey, hence they are also called 'Honey Bear'.
- Sloth bears do not hibernate, that is, they do not go into a state of hibernation.
- **Scientific name:** Melursus ursinus (Melursus Ursinus).
- **Habitat:** Also called Honey Bear and Hindi Bear, it is part of the Ursidae family. They are found in tropical or sub-tropical regions of India and Sri Lanka.

Protection Status:

- **IUCN Red List:** Vulnerable
- **CITES:** Appendix-I
- **Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule-I

To risk:

- Habitat loss, poaching for body parts is the biggest threat to sloth bear species. Sloth bears are captured for use in spectacles or demonstrations. Also sloth bears are hunted for their aggressive behavior and damage to crops.

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100 years of establishment of Delhi University



- On 1st May 2022, the establishment of 'Delhi University' completed 100 years.

Establishment:

- The 'Delhi University' was established in the year 1922 by an act passed by the then British India's legislature – the Central Legislative Assembly.
- The University of Delhi originally consisted of three colleges – St. Stephen's College, which was established in the year 1881 by a missionary initiative called the 'Cambridge Mission to Delhi'; Hindu College, which was established in the year 1899, and Ramjas College, which was established on 14 May 1917 by Rai Kedar Nath, a renowned educationist and philanthropist.
- Earlier these three colleges were affiliated to 'Punjab University'.

Role of Delhi University in India's Freedom Movement:

- In the year 1933 the erstwhile 'Viceregal Lodge' – where the 'Gandhi-Irwin Pact' had been signed two years earlier – became part of the university's assets. This colonial-era building now houses the office of the Vice-Chancellor.
- Although the 'Viceregal Lodge' was constructed in 1902, but before that there used to be a 'Hunting Lodge' in this place and during the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, British officers fled and hid in this 'Hunting Lodge'.

- After the Central Assembly bombings of April 8, 1929, 'Bhagat Singh' was imprisoned in the Viceregal Lodge and was tried in the same building.
- When revolutionary Chandrashekhar Azad was living away from the British government, he was hid by the students of 'Ramjas College' (a college of the university).
- The students of 'Hindu College' (another college of the university) were actively involved in the 'Quit India Movement' of 1942.
- According to former Vice-Chancellor Dinesh Singh, Delhi University has a charter of its own, which was prepared by its then (1938-1950) Vice-Chancellor, 'Maurice Gwyer'. Maurice Gwyer was also the Chief Justice of India from 1937 to 1943.
- The Vice President of India acts as the 'Chancellor' of the University.
- It has been recognized as an Institute of Eminence (IoE) by the University Grants Commission (UGC).

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Undertrial Prisoners: India



- Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi advocated for the early release of 3.5 lakh undertrials who have been in jails for years for not taking quick decisions in criminal cases and urged

the Chief Ministers of the states and Chief Justices of the High Courts. It is requested to focus on solving this problem.

- The Prime Minister was addressing the 39th Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices.

Need:

- 76 percent of the prisoners in India's prisons are 'undertrial prisoners', and this number is the highest in 25 years. These are the poor, downtrodden and poverty-stricken people, who are unable to pay the security deposit. These people rot in jails for years and their cases are not taken up.

Reasons for delay in getting justice:

- The overburdened judiciary is a major reason for delay in justice.
- Police and prison officers often fail to fulfill their roles, leading to delays in trial.
- Most of the cases under trial are from disadvantaged social groups – several surveys have found that 50-55% of the cases under trial are related to minority communities and depressed classes.
- Due to paucity of resources he is unable to find lawyers for himself, and the attitude of police and jail authorities is hostile towards him, and they rarely help him.

Suggestion:

- Keeping in view the human rights of prisoners, it is necessary that they are given proper accommodation and facilities in the jails.
- An 'Under Trial Prisoner Review Committee' should be constituted in each district consisting of District Judge, District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police. The responsibility of constituting such a panel for each district should be entrusted

to the 'National Legal Services Authority', working in coordination with the 'State Legal Services Authority'.

- The 'Legal Services Authorities' in the states should play a major role in creating awareness among prisoners about their rights – especially the provisions relating to their 'right to liberty'.
- However, the real solution to this problem is not only in 'expeditious release of prisoners on bail', but in expediting the process of trial.

Comments made by the Supreme Court in May 2021:

- In its judgment, the Supreme Court of India, in view of the second unchecked escalation of the acute COVID-19 pandemic, ordered interim release to 'eligible prisoners'.

Main Comments:

- The apex court, in the case 'Arnesh Kumar v State of Bihar (2014)', stressed the need to adhere to the norms. In this case, the police were asked not to make unnecessary arrests—especially in cases involving punishment of less than seven years of imprisonment.
- The officers in all the districts of the country were asked to give effect to Section 436A of the 'Code of Criminal Procedure' (CrPC). Under Section 436A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, undertrials who have completed half of the maximum jail term prescribed for an offense can be released on personal bond.
- The apex court had suggested the 'legislature' to consider making a provision for 'containment of convicts' to avoid overcrowding of prisons. In 2019, the prisoner rate in prisons had increased to 118.5%. Apart from this, a huge amount of budget is also required for the maintenance of the prisons.

Number of undertrials:

- India has the highest number of 'undertrial prisoners' in the world, and more than half of the total undertrials were detained in less than six months during 2016.
- According to the 'National Crime Records Bureau' (NCRB) report released in 2016, 4,33,033 people were lodged in jails in India at the end of 2016, of which 68% were undertrials.
- It suggests that the high proportion of 'undertrial prisoners' in total jailed prisoners may be the result of unnecessary arrests and ineffective legal aid during remand hearings.

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