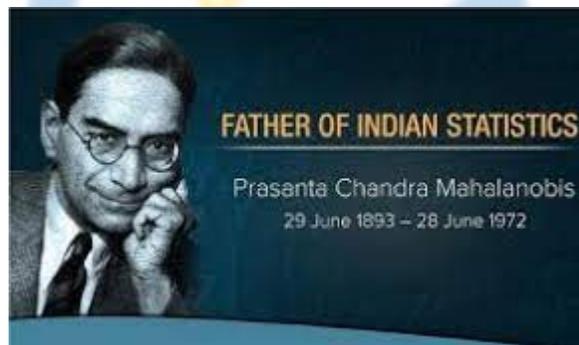




Date - 2 July 2022

National statistics day



- India celebrates National Statistics Day on 29 June every year in honor of the work and contributions of late Professor and Scientist Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis in the field of statistics and economic planning.
- The Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI) also recognizes outstanding contributions to the official statistical system by high quality research in the field of applied and theoretical statistics through awards established for this purpose.

Highlights of the Day:

Purpose:

- To popularize the use of statistics in daily life and to sensitize the public on how statistics helps in shaping and formulating policies.
- To raise public awareness about the role of statistics in socio-economic planning, especially among the younger generation.

- **Theme for the year 2022:** 'Statistics for Sustainable Development'.
- Statistics Day is celebrated every year with a theme of current national importance.

Prashant Chandra Mahalanobis

- Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis was a world renowned Indian statistician who founded the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in the year 1932.
- He was a trained physicist, at the behest of his teacher WH Macaulay, he read the book 'Biometrika'. It was only after reading this book that his inclination towards statistics started. Impressed by this book, he bought a complete set of editions of the magazine.
- He soon discovered that statistics could be used in various fields, including meteorology and anthropology, and this proved to be a turning point in his scientific career.
- Mahalanobis made many contributions to statistics, including the 'Mahalanobis distance', which is a statistical measure. In addition, he was a pioneer in the field of anthropometry or the study of human measurements in India and assisted in the design of large-scale sample surveys and sampling methods.
- He also created the Feldman-Mahalanobis model, a neo-Marxist model of economic development used in India's Second Five Year Plan, which promoted rapid industrialization in the country.
- Mahalanobis also served in the first Planning Commission of India. He also received many awards including Padma Vibhushan.

Relationship with Rabindranath Tagore:

- They met for the first time in 1910 at Shantiniketan.
- Rabindranath Tagore, a close aide of Mahalanobis, wrote in the second volume of the Samkhya, "These are dance steps of numbers in the field of time and space, weaving the illusion of presence, a constant flow of change that is and is never."
- Mahalanobis wrote a series of essays called 'Ravindra Parichay' ('Introduction to Rabindra') for the prestigious Bengali magazine Probashi.
- PC Mahalanobis also helped Rabindranath Tagore in the establishment of Visva Bharati.

Chronology:

- **1930:** For the first time, the 'Mahalanobis distance' was proposed, which is a measure for comparison between two data sets.
- The formula is used to find the distance between a point and a distribution based on measurements in multiple dimensions. It is widely used in the field of cluster analysis and classification.
- **1932:** Establishment of ISI in Kolkata, which was declared an Institute of National Importance in the year 1959.
- **1933:** Beginning of 'Samkhya: The Indian Journal of Statistics'.
- **1950:** Establishment of National Sample Survey and establishment of Central Statistical Organization (CSO) to coordinate statistical activities.
- **1955:** Became a member of the Planning Commission and remained in that post till 1967.
- He was instrumental in the preparation of India's Second Five Year Plan (1956–1961), which laid the roadmap for industrialization and development in India.
- **1968:** Awarded Padma Vibhushan.
- He was also honored with many awards by international organizations.

Swadeep Kumar

Internet shutdown



- Recently, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) published a report titled Internet Shutdown: Its Trends, Causes, Legal Implications and Impact on Human Rights, and states that

Internet Shutdown protects people and welfare is affected, information flow is hampered and the economy suffers.

Internet shutdown:

- Internet shutdown measures are commonly used when civil unrest occurs, to block the flow of information regarding government actions.
- Shutdown often involves completely restricting Internet connectivity or access to the affected services. However, governments increasingly resort to reducing bandwidth or limiting mobile service to 2G, which makes it extremely difficult to make meaningful use of the Internet while maintaining nominal access.
- Governments around the world have resorted to shutting down the Internet, citing many reasons
- It also makes it difficult to share and view videos, live broadcasts and other journalistic works that are often ordered during civil society movements, security measures as well as election proceedings, and human rights monitoring and reporting are seriously undermined.

Related International Frameworks:

- Internet shutdowns seriously affect many human rights, as well as rapidly impairing freedom of expression and security and access to information, a prerequisite for the full development of the individual as one of the foundations of democratic societies.
- It is a criterion for all other rights guaranteed in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other human rights instruments (ie the Universal Declaration of Human Rights).
- The Sustainable Development Goals reinforce the human rights obligations of states to function through a universally available and accessible Internet, free from unjust restrictions.
- Established to facilitate international connectivity in communications networks, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) works on the adoption of standards that ensure that networks and technologies interconnect and strives to improve access to the Internet.

Major findings:

Global Scenario:

- The first major Internet shutdown that caught the world's attention was in Egypt in 2011, and it was accompanied by hundreds of arrests and murders.

- The #KeepItOn coalition, which monitors Internet shutdown episodes around the world, documented 931 shutdowns in 74 countries from 2016-2021.
- More than 10 shutdowns were implemented by 12 countries during that period. Many shutdowns have been faced in all regions globally, but most of the reports have been in Asia and Africa.
- Of the shutdowns filed by civil society groups, 132 were officially justified by the need to control the spread of hate speech, propaganda or other forms of content deemed illegal or harmful.

Indian Scenario:

- India has blocked or disrupted internet connections 106 times and India has at least 85 internet shutdown episodes in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Nearly half of all shutdowns recorded by civil society groups from 2016-2021 were in the context of protests and political crises, including 225 shutdowns during public demonstrations related to a wide range of social, political or economic grievances.

Shutdown during election:

- It eliminates access to digital tools that are vital for campaigning, promoting public discourse, voting and overseeing electoral processes.
- In 2019 alone, 14 African countries blocked access to the Internet during the election period.
- These disruptions disrupt the work of impartial journalists and the media in general. Shutdowns in Uganda undermined media coverage of elections in 2021 amid reports of violent repressive measures.
- Shutdowns after protests during the election period were also reported in countries such as Belarus and Niger.

Effect of internet shutdown:

- **On economic activity:** It causes huge economic cost to all sectors, disrupts financial transactions, commerce and industry.
- The World Bank recently calculated that internet shutdowns in Myanmar alone cost about US\$2.8 billion from February-December 2021, reversing the economic progress made over the past decade.
- **On education:** It undermines learning outcomes and interferes with education planning and communication between teachers, school administrators, families.

On access to health and humanitarian aid:

- Studies have shown significant impacts of shutdowns on health systems, including mobilizing immediate medical care, disrupting the delivery of essential drugs and equipment maintenance, limiting the exchange of health information between medical personnel, and essential mental health support.
- Internet shutdowns have a profound effect on the ability of human agents to provide assistance. The flow of information critical to the supply and delivery of goods and services can be obstructed.
- Internet shutdowns in Myanmar reportedly put local aid organizations in jeopardy, as it prevented them from seeking and receiving funds.

Guidelines of Supreme Court of India for Internet Shutdown:

- As ruled by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Anuradha Bhasin vs Union of India (2020) that internet shutdown does not violate Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. It acts as a reasonable restriction and should be enacted only when there is a real threat to public safety or national security. Some balance testing should be done and the government should use this extremely restrictive measure only when absolutely necessary.

Swadeep Kumar

Hate Speech and Communal Violence : Must be stopped for the Stability of Country

Context :

Recently the incident in Udaipur shocked the entire India. It is not only a communal killing but it is a wallop on our communal harmony also . Incident of Udaipur may be related to the conspiracy of our rival countries .

Introduction :

The term hate speech refers to threatening speech or abusive speech . Hate speeches in Public sometimes disrespect the religious beliefs which resulted

in the form of reactionary speeches . Gradually this action and reaction converts into violent struggle .this communal violence always destruct this country multidimensionally . Therefore this should be the responsibility of the state as well as the patriotic citizens of the country to prevent this country from such communal violence for which all of us should open heartily criticize the hate speeches .

Provisions of the punishment in IPC against the Hate Speeches

- In IPC section Section 153(A) provides that the head speech is the punishable offense and there shall be the punishment of imprisonment which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both
- Section 295A of IPC also defines the contours of free speech and its limitations with respect to offenses relating to religion.
- Section 298 IPC penalizes 'uttering, words, etc., with deliberate intent to wound the religious feelings of any person'.
- Section 505(1) and (2) IPC penalizes publication or circulation of any statement, rumor or report causing public mischief and enmity, hatred or ill-will between classes.
- Apart from the above provisions, several other provisions are also there to punish the hate speakers (Mainly speeches disrespecting the values of any religion)

The measures which should be adopted to stop communal violence

- The root cause of the communal violence is hate speeches and the political provocation. Therefore action against the hate speeches must be taken immediately irrespective to the religion
- The atmosphere of insecurity among the minorities must be disappeared through the organizing the all religious priests meetings and through other cultural programme
- Composite cultural activities must be promoted
- Political communalization must be denounced
- Religious priests should come forward in this regard to propagate the real crux of the religion
- The relevance of the ideologies of Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi must be taught at school
- The incidents of the communal conflicts of our past should not be exposed through any means (Through Cinema)
- The political parties who contested the election on the basis of communal agenda must be rejected by the patriotic and responsible citizens of India

Conclusion

- On the basis of the above discussion ,it can be concluded that most of the hate speeches are related for the political benefits and delivered by those people who are not very popular and renowned persons but our media just made them popular . All these types of people must be denounced by the media channels . They should not be valued and it is expected by our fourth pillar of the democracy to pay his responsibility . They should not only work for the TRP and commercial benefits .
- Government should not discriminate regarding taking action against any hate speakers. The recent incident in Udaipur should be condemned by all the people of all religions simultaneously. The Government should take immediate action against those people who have delivered hate speeches in the past .
- We have earned the freedom of India after the great sacrifices of our ancestors and communal harmony has been the integral characteristics of Indian culture for a long time which must be intact . We should not be trapped under the conspiracy of our rival countries .

Anshul

YOJNA IAS