

05– 09 – 2024

News: Coffee

- Recently, Coffee Board of India hinted that India's coffee production for 2024-25 may see a significant drop due to plant and berry losses caused by high temperatures, heavy rainfall, and landslides in key growing regions.

Coffee

- Coffee is a high – land plantation crop which is cultivated in regions having moderate temperature with heavy rainfall.
- It thrives well in Monsoon type of climate.
- India ranks 6th among the world's 80 coffee producing countries in a list topped by Brazil, with some of the finest robusta and some top-notch arabica cultivated.
- Brazil is followed by Vietnam, Colombia, Indonesia, Ethiopia and Honduras.
- India cultivates 3.7% of entire coffee in the world. Nearly 70% of India's coffee is exported, largely to European and Asian markets.
- India produced around 3.6 lakh metric tonnes of green coffee in 2023–24 crop year.

- According to The **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** statistics, **India is the fifth largest exporter of coffee** by volume.
- Coffee in India is traditionally grown in the **rainforests of the Western Ghats in South India**, covering Chikmagalur, Kodagu (Coorg), Wayanad, the Shevaroy Hills and the Nilgiris.
- **Karnataka accounts to nearby 3/4th of coffee production in India** followed by Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.

Climatic Conditions

- Coffee plant **requires hot and humid climate** with temperatures ranging between **15°C and 28 °C** and rainfall from **150 to 250 cm**.
- **Frost, snowfall, high temperature above 30°C and strong sun shine is not good for coffee crop** and is generally grown under shady trees.
- **Dry weather is necessary at the time of ripening** of the berries.
- **Stagnant water is harmful and the crop is grown on hill slopes at elevations from 600 to 1,600 metres above sea level**.
- **Well drained, loams containing good deal of humus and minerals like iron and calcium are ideal** for coffee cultivation.
- **India is the only country in the world where the entire coffee cultivation is grown under shade, hand-picked and sun dried**.

- Two types of coffee varieties are produced in India; Arabica and Robusta. Robusta variety of coffee is produced more than Arabica variety in India.
- Arabica variety is grown at higher altitudes and it has higher market value due to its aroma.
- Robusta variety is known for its strength and used in various blends.

Coffee Board of India

- Coffee Board of India is a statutory organization that was constituted under Section (4) of the Coffee Act, 1942.
- It functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- The Board comprises 33 Members including the Chairperson, who is the Chief Executive and it functions from Bangalore.
- The Board mainly focuses its activities in the areas of research, extension, development, and market intelligence, external & internal promotion for coffee.
- It is headquartered in Bangalore.
- Recently, government of India has decided to bring Coffee Promotion Bill to empower the Coffee Board of India. The revised bill addresses several functional areas of the Coffee Board, such as support for production, research,

extension, and quality improvement, promotion of coffee, and skill development of growers.

News: Jiyo Parsi Scheme

- Recently, the Minister for Minority Affairs launched the Jiyo Parsi Scheme portal to facilitate Parsi couples in applying for the Jiyo Parsi Scheme.

Jiyo Parsi Scheme

- Jiyo Parsi is a Central Sector Scheme under Ministry of Minority Affairs launched in 2013.
- The scheme is implemented to address the declining population of the Parsi community in India by using scientific protocol and structured interventions.
- It will provide financial assistance to Parsi couples for medical treatment under standard medical protocol, as well as support for childcare and assistance to dependent elderly.
- The beneficiaries and applicants will be able to check the status of their application and will be able to receive financial assistance online through the Direct Benefit Transfer mode.
- Since its inception in 2013-14, the scheme has supported more than 400 Parsi children.

- The Scheme will be **implemented by the Parzor Foundation** with the help of the Bombay Parsi Panchayat (BPP) and through the organizations and **Panchayat of the community concerned in existence for not less than three years.**

Target groups

- The scheme is **meant for only Parsi community.**
- **Parsi married couples of childbearing ages who seek assistance.**
- Adults/young men/women/adolescent boys/girls for detection of diseases resulting with consent of parents/legal guardians.

Objectives

- To **arrest the declining trend of Parsi population** by adopting a scientific protocol and structured interventions.
- The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of the Parsi community has reached below 1, which means that on an average, a Parsi woman in her total child bearing age has less than 1 child (0.8). 31% of Parsis are over the age of 60 years and more than 30% Parsis are —Never married.
- To **stabilize Parsis population and increase the population of Parsis in India.**
- Funds would be transferred electronically into bank account of Parzor Foundation.

- Monitoring, Impact assessment and evaluation of the scheme would be carried out by the Ministry.
- Monitoring through independent agencies will also be taken up.