

### Antimicrobial resistance



- While it is the nature of pathogens to evolve, this ever increasing crisis is constantly being exacerbated by unsound medical, and animal husbandry practices.
- It is precisely the sort of misuse and overuse of antimicrobials, as revealed by the survey, which cause the development of drug-resistant pathogens that in turn pose great risk to life and exacerbate morbidity.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that bacterial AMR was directly responsible for 1.27 million global deaths in 2019 and contributed to 4.95 million deaths.
- AMR invalidates the multiple gains that modern medicine has achieved over the years, makes infections harder to treat, but also renders other medical procedures and treatments such as surgery, caesarean sections, and cancer chemotherapy, much more risky, WHO warns.
- Rational prescription of antibiotics, and curbs on the use of drugs to promote growth in animals and plants.
- It is also clear that there is an antibiotic research and development pipeline crisis, and urgent measures are required to develop new drug
- The 'First Multicentric Point Prevalence Survey of Antibiotics'
- Over 70% of the patients in tertiary care hospitals across 15 States and two Union Territories were prescribed antibiotics; over 50% of antibiotics prescribed have the potential to cause AMR.
- But the most crucial reveal was that 55% of the patients surveyed were prescribed antibiotics as prophylaxis (The term prophylaxis means preventive.), or as a preventive; only 45% were prescribed antibiotics to actually treat infections; of this, only 6% were prescribed the drugs after identifying the specific bacteria.
- AMR occurs when pathogens evolve, fortifying themselves against drugs, and stop responding to antimicrobial drugs.

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**candidates**, and more equitable access to them.

- The **role of doctors and the government** in regulating the use of drugs **is crucial in this battle**, but more so the latter.
- **Patients** too are impatient with the medical process, **expecting immediate relief** to ailments; but medical science offers no magical remedy.
- The Hindu

### PMI

#### The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)

- The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) is a **measure of the prevailing direction of economic trends in manufacturing**.
- The PMI is based on a **monthly survey of supply chain managers** across 19 industries, covering both upstream and downstream activity.
- The value and movements in the PMI and its components can provide **useful insight to business decision makers**, market analysts, and investors, and is a leading indicator of overall economic activity
- The headline PMI is a number from 0 to 100. A PMI above 50 represents an

**expansion** when compared with the previous month.

- A PMI reading under 50 represents a **contraction**, and a reading at 50 indicates no change. The further away from 50 the greater the level of change.
- The PMI is calculated as:
  - $PMI = (P1 * 1) + (P2 * 0.5) + (P3 * 0)$
  - Where:
    - P1 = percentage of answers reporting an improvement
    - P2 = percentage of answers reporting no change
    - P3 = percentage of answers reporting a deterioration.
  - The Hindu

#### Competition commission of India

- **The Competition Act, 2002** was passed by the Parliament in the year 2002, to which the **President accorded assent in January, 2003**.
- It was subsequently amended by the **Competition (Amendment) Act, 2007**.
- In accordance with the provisions of the **Amendment Act**, the **Competition Commission of India and the Competition Appellate Tribunal have been established**. The **Competition Commission of India is now fully functional with a Chairperson and six members**.

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- The provisions of the Competition Act relating to anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominant position were notified on May 20, 2009.
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- The Competition Commission of India is now fully functional with a Chairperson and six members.
- The provisions of the Competition Act relating to anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominant position were notified on May 20, 2009.
- The Competition Commission of India ('Commission') has been established to enforce the competition law under the Act. The Commission consists of a Chairperson and not more than 6 Members appointed by the Central Government.
- It is the statutory duty of the Commission to eliminate practices having adverse effect on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade carried on by other participants, in markets in India as provided in the Preamble as well as Section 18 of the Act.
- The Commission is also mandated to give its opinion on competition issues to government or statutory authority and to undertake competition advocacy for creating awareness of competition law.

The Hindu

### The Gambia



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## PRITHVI programme

A poster for the PRITHVI programme. It features a hand holding a glowing Earth. The text includes: 'Cabinet Decisions Jan 5, 2024', 'Empowering Tomorrow's Earth Science', 'Cabinet Nods to PRITHvi Vigyan (PRITHVI) Scheme', and 'Financial Outlay : Rs. 4,797 crore'. A list of schemes is provided: ACROSS, O-SMART, PACER, SAGE, and REACHOUT.

**Cabinet Decisions**  
Jan 5, 2024

### Empowering Tomorrow's Earth Science

Cabinet Nods to PRITHvi Vigyan (PRITHVI) Scheme

**Financial Outlay : Rs. 4,797 crore**

- Atmosphere & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)
- Ocean Services, Modelling Application, Resources and Technology (O-SMART)
- Polar Science and Cryosphere Research (PACER)
- Seismology and Geosciences (SAGE)
- Research, Education, Training and Outreach (REACHOUT)

- The Union Cabinet cleared a ₹4,797-crore programme called 'Prithvi' (Earth) that is expected to subsume five existing schemes of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
- These programmes are to improve and increase long term observations of the atmosphere, ocean, geosphere, cryosphere, and solid earth to track changes in the planet;
- Develop models to understand and predict weather, ocean and climate hazards, and understand the science of climate change; explore polar and high seas regions of the earth to discover new phenomena and resources; develop technology for exploration and sustainable harnessing of oceanic resources for societal applications; and translate knowledge and insights from earth



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Awareness and address contingencies that may arise.

- These are in consonance with the Government of India's vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) and the Maritime Security Strategy to build its role as the 'Preferred Security Partner' in our extended maritime neighborhood.

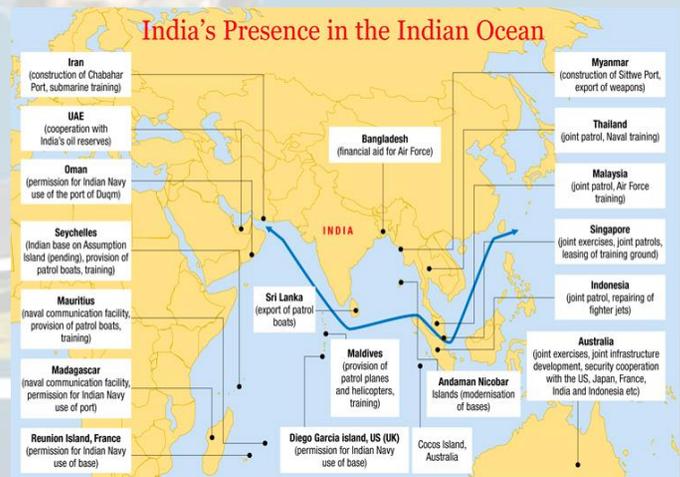
- Besides this, India proactively engages with regional Navies to enhance friendship/cooperation and promote maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

- Operational interactions with friendly foreign countries include activities like Joint Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Surveillance, Coordinated Patrols on annual / bi-annual basis along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), Maritime Exercises, etc.

- India also exchanges Maritime Information bilaterally with Friendly Foreign Countries to create Maritime Domain Awareness in IOR.

- This includes information on military and naval assets of hostile / adversarial countries; assessment of maritime activities of mutual concern and activities related to transnational maritime based threats.

- Besides these, India also participates in regional frameworks such as Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum (ARF), East Asia Summit (EAS) and the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus) to expand its cooperation and exchanges with the Indo-Pacific region.



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