

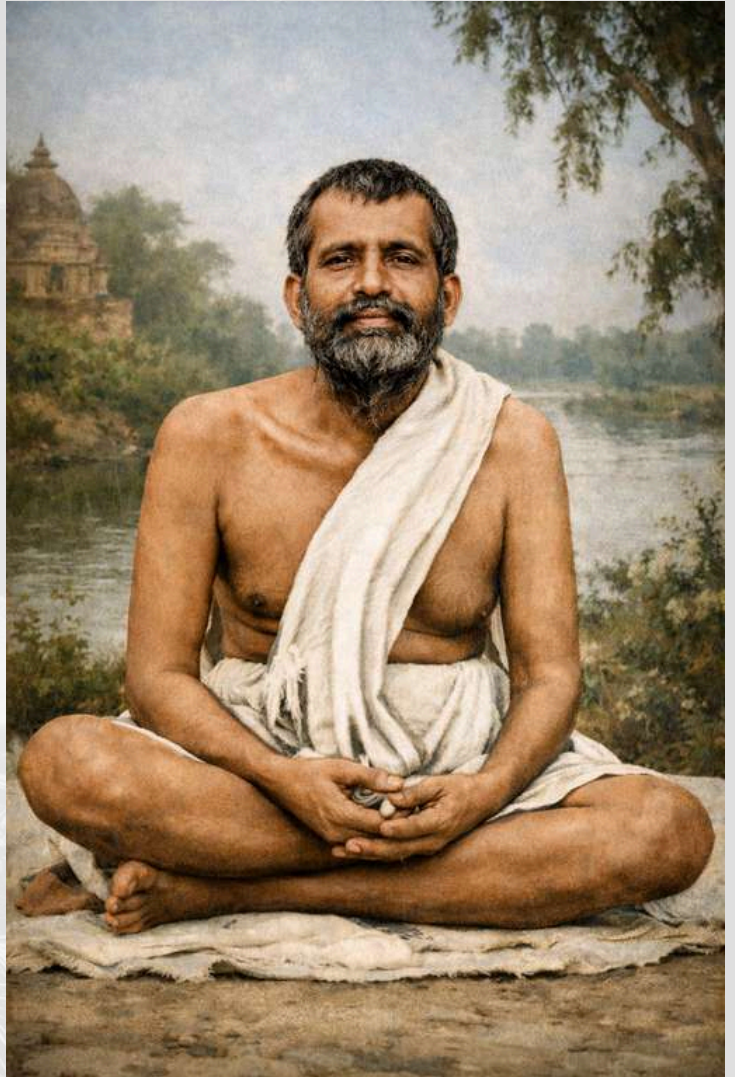


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1 Ramakrishna Paramahansa (Source: *The Hindu*)

Known as Gadadhar in his childhood, Sri Ramakrishna teachings led to the foundation of Ramakrishna Mission.

- He was known for reestablishment of the ideal of God realization in the modern world.
- He had deep faith and understanding of all religions
- Sri Ramakrishna did not write any book, nor did he deliver public lectures. His disciple Mahendranath Gupta compiled his lectures in the book- The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna.
- He showed how the ancient ideals and experiences could be realized even while following the normal modern way of life.
- Sri Ramakrishna elevated love from the level of emotions to the level of the unity of all Selves in God.
- He was the guru of Swami Vivekananda.



2 Coral Bleaching (Source: *Down To Earth*)

Corals are invertebrate animals belonging to a large group of colourful and fascinating animals called Cnidaria. Each individual coral animal is called a polyp.

What is bleaching?

- Coral bleaching occurs when the symbiosis between corals and their symbiotic zooxanthellae breaks down.
- Mostly caused by a rise in sea surface temperature.
- Coral bleaching can be reversed. But will take a lot of time

Where can we find them?

- Coral can be found in tropical ocean waters around the world.

Features of Corals

- Corals are generally classified as either “hard coral” or “soft coral”.
- Coral reefs are the largest living structure on the planet, and the only living structure to be visible from space.
- Coral polyps have relationship with tiny single-celled plants, known as zooxanthellae.
- Symbiotic relationship between plant and animal also contributes to the brilliant colours of coral.
- The reef-building corals preferring to grow at depths shallower than 30 m.



Benefits of Coral

- Coral reefs are often called the rainforests of the sea, both due to the vast amount of species they harbour.
- Reefs support an estimated twenty-five percent of all marine life.
- Reefs provide spawning, nursery, refuge and feeding areas for a large variety of organisms.
- Reef structures play an important role as natural breakwaters.
- Powerful attraction for tourism industry leading to job creation.



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3 **Suo Moto Power** (Source: *The Hindu*)

- The authority of a court or judicial body to initiate legal proceedings on its own accord, without a formal petition or party filing a case.
- Courts often exercise their suo moto jurisdiction by taking up matters based on media reports or act on letters written to them.
- Under Article 32 and 226 the case can be initiated by Supreme Court and High Court respectively.
- The basic motivation behind suo moto powers is to empower the courts to act swiftly and efficiently.
- Protection of Fundamental Rights by Supreme Court will ensure protection of the constitutional rights of the citizens. This can be done through Suo moto initiation of cases.



Please think whether PIL(Public Interest Litigation) and Suo Moto power of courts are the same. We shall update in forthcoming notes.



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4 Pax Silica Alliance (Source: *The Indian Express*)

Pax Silica is the US government's flagship effort on AI and supply chain security. The focus is on ensuring silicon supply chain.

- It is necessary for ensuring continuous supply of chips, advanced computing, and other high-tech systems.

What you need to know?

- India has recently joined as a member of the forum.
- Australia, Greece, Israel, Japan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom are members.
- Focuses to establish a durable economic order to drive AI-powered prosperity across partner nations.
- Formed to counter coercive dependencies in global manufacturing, particularly those linked to China's dominance.
- Aims to build trusted technology ecosystems, including ICT systems, fibre-optic networks, data centres, and foundational AI models.





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5 United Nations Secretary General (Source: *PIB*)

António Guterres is the present UN Secretary General. He is the Chief Administrative Officer of the UN secretariat.

- **Trygve Halvdan Lie** was the first secretary-general of the United Nations.
- No Indian has been elected to the post of UN secretary general.
- **Next election will be held in 2027 January. (Aspirants please have a thorough understanding about the post and role).**

What is the role of the Secretary General?

- Ensure coordination between various organs of the UN and implement the tasks assigned by the various organs of UN.
- Bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter which in their opinion may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security.
- To prevent international disputes from arising, escalating or spreading.



How appointed?

- Acting on the recommendation on the UN Security Council, which forwards the name of the recommended candidate to the 193-member body as its nominee for UN Secretary General
- General for a five-year period, the General Assembly votes on a consensus resolution put forward by its President.