

## 1 Food Fortification (Source: *The Hindu*)

To address the challenges associated with shortage of micro and macro nutrients in the food that is consumed the concept of food fortification is been introduced. This can be seen as an effective large scale nutrition intervention mechanism.

### Facts to know about Fortification

- It involves adding nutrients like iodine, vitamin A etc into daily **food or condiment** that is been consumed like rice, salt etc.
- It can be undertaken by adding the nutrients in industrial level like iodised salt or at household level by adding micronutrient powders.
- It can also be undertaken by the concept of **bio-fortification** involving genetic manipulation of crops like Golden rice(to combat Vitamin A deficiency).



### Advantages of Food Fortification

- It is an easy process to be undertaken and can be effectively be implemented on a large population base.
- It has minimal cost implication upon the government as well as upon the consumer. So can be easily be implemented on a longer duration without fear of scheme been scrapped.
- There is no need to bring any changes in the food habit of people. So minimal opposition from people can be expected.
- The higher cost of food products make it difficult for the consumer for food diversification. In such an instance fortification can be very helpful.
- It is safe method with no foreseen impact upon the society.
- Micronutrients are stable while cooking and storing. It means the nutrients will not lose their efficacy while cooking at high temperature and storing.
- India started fortification with Iodine in common salt to address the challenges of goitre.



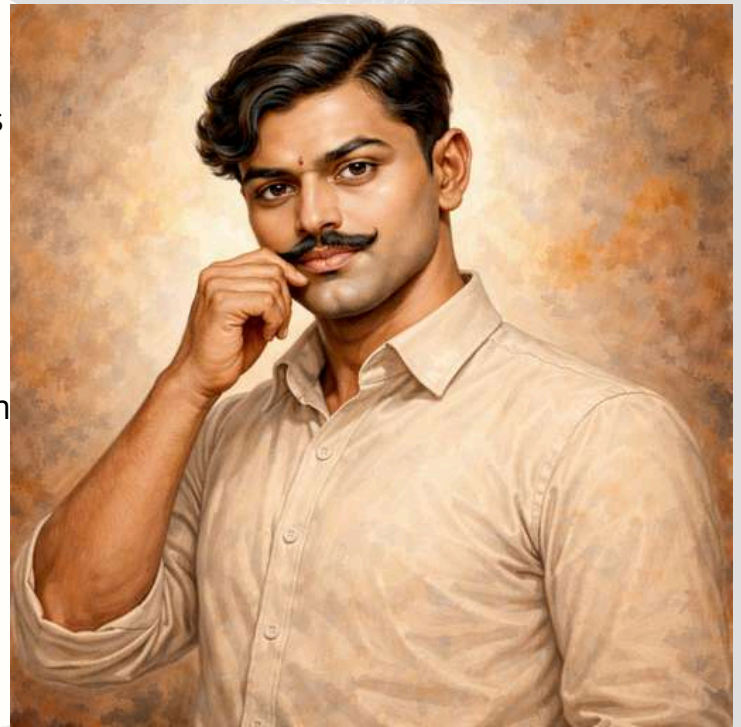
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## 2 Chandra Shekhar Azad (Source: **PIB**)

*Chandra Shekhar Azad was a freedom fighter credited with forming the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association(HSRA). He formed this from the precursor Hindustan Republican Association(HRA).*

### What you need to know?

- He was deeply influenced by the words of Gandhi ji and supported the Non-Cooperation movement.
- After the suspension of the Non-Cooperation movement, he was unhappy with the style of struggle adopted and joined the HRA under Ram Prasad Bismil.
- He was involved in the Kakori train conspiracy and in the shooting of John P Saunders.
- He was killed in a shoot-out with police at the Alfred Park in Allahabad.





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## **3** International Climate Initiative (Source: *The Hindu*)

To promote climate action and biodiversity conservation in global south ,the German government formed the International Climate Initiative in 2008.

### **What you need to know?**

- The initiative has four focus areas : Greenhouse gas mitigation, carbon sink restoration, biodiversity conservation and adapting to climate change.
- The initiative has close association with selected partner countries that have heavily contribute to greenhouse emission .
- The strategy of the international climate initiative upto 2030 is a publication of International Climate Initiative.





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## 4 Finance Commission (Source: *The Indian Express*)

*Finance commission decides upon the financial relations between union and state governments.*

### Facts to know ( Please look into the recommendations of sixteenth finance commission for prelims exam)

- It is formed under Article 280 of the constitution.
- The first commission was formed in 1951.
- Finance commission looks into vertical and horizontal fiscal imbalances existing between centre and state governments.
- Presently the 16<sup>th</sup> finance commission has been formed since 2023.
- The finance commission will consist of a chairperson and four other members.
- The finance commission will be constituted after every five years.
- The net distribution of taxes between centre and state shall be decided by the Finance commission.
- The commission shall also look upon the devolution of funds and strengthening of finance of the panchayats and municipalities.
- The first finance commission was headed by K.C Neogy ,while the sixteenth finance commission is headed by Aravind Panagariya.