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1 Forever Chemicals (Source: The Hindu)

Forever chemicals, also known as Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), are a large group of man-made chemicals known for their persistence in the environment and potential health risks.

Sources

- PFAS are used in a wide range of consumer products due to their beneficial properties. Some common examples include:
 - Non-stick cookware
 - Waterproof clothing and textiles
 - Food packaging (pizza boxes, popcorn bags)
 - Carpets and furniture
 - Cosmetics (mascara, foundation)
 - Firefighting foams

Harmful Effects

- They cause a variety of health risks that are attributed to PFA exposure, including decreased fertility, developmental effects in children, interference with body hormones, increased cholesterol levels, and increased risk of some cancers.

2 Bauxite Mines in India and Uses of Bauxite (Source: The Hindu)

Bauxite Mines in India





चरितलाना मार्ग

ENLITE IAS

ENLIGHTENING MINDS, LIGHTENING JOURNEYS

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Uses of Bauxite

- **Aluminium Production:** Primary raw material for aluminium extraction, used in aircraft, automobiles, electrical equipment and construction.
- **Construction Industry:** Aluminium obtained from bauxite is used in roofing sheets, doors, windows, bridges and structural components.
- **Transportation:** Used indirectly in manufacturing aircraft, railway coaches, automobiles and ships due to aluminium's lightweight and corrosion-resistant properties.
- **Refractory Industry:** Used in manufacturing heat-resistant bricks and furnace linings, particularly high-alumina refractories.
- **Chemical Industry:** Used to produce alumina-based chemicals, aluminium sulphate and other industrial compounds.
- **Abrasives:** Calcined bauxite is used in producing abrasives for grinding, polishing and surface finishing.
- **Cement Industry:** Used as a raw material in manufacturing high-alumina cement.
- **Electrical Industry:** Aluminium extracted from bauxite is used in power transmission cables and electrical conductors.
- **Packaging Industry:** Aluminium is widely used in beverage cans, food containers, foils and packaging materials.