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Topic wise content



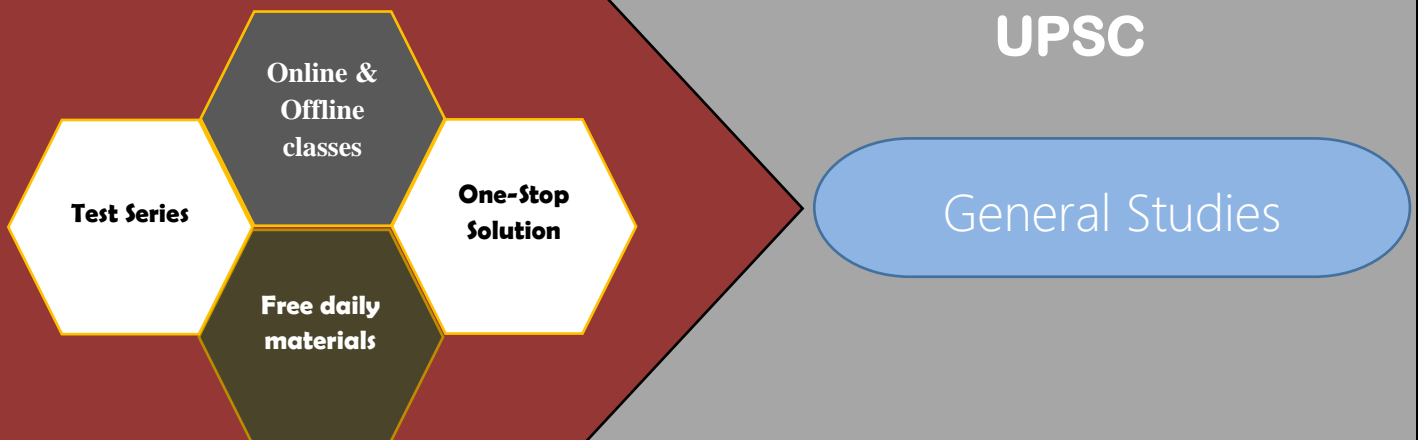
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National Statistics Day

Notes for civil services preparation



National Statistics Day

- Every year, the Statistics Day is celebrated on **29th June**, the birth anniversary of **Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis**, to recognise his invaluable contribution in establishing the **National Statistical System**.

Key Points

Aim:

- - To popularise the use of statistics in everyday life and sensitise the public as to how statistics help in shaping and framing policies.

Theme for 2021:

- **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)- 2** (End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture).

Related Events:

- - Winners of **P.C. Mahalanobis National Award in Official Statistics, 2021** and **Prof C. R. Rao National Award for Young Statistician, 2021** will be announced
 - In 2019, the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** instituted Prof. P C Mahalanobis National Award in official statistics for recognizing outstanding achievement of official statisticians in central government, state governments and institutions.
 - The Ministry **also recognises the outstanding contribution for high-quality research work** in the field of applied and theoretical statistics benefitting the official statistical system through the **C R Rao and Prof. P V Sukhatme awards, awarded in alternate years.**

Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (1893-1972)

- He is considered **the father of modern statistics in India**, founded the **Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)**, shaped the **Planning Commission** (which was **replaced by the NITI Aayog** on 1st January 2015) and pioneered methodologies for large-scale surveys.
- He introduced **innovative techniques for conducting large-scale sample surveys**, calculated **acreages** and crop yields, using the method of random sampling.
- He also devised a statistical method called '**Fractile Graphical Analysis**', used to compare socio-economic conditions of varied groups.

Timeline:

- **1930:** Proposed the Mahalanobis Distance for the first time, which is a measure of comparison between two data sets.
- The formula is used to find the distance between a point and a distribution, based on measurements in multiple It is widely used in the field of cluster analysis and classification.
- **1932:** Founded the ISI in Kolkata which was declared as an institute of national importance in 1959.
- **1933:** Launched 'Sankhya: The Indian Journal of Statistics'.
- **1950:** Established the National Sample Survey and set up the Central Statistical Organisation to coordinate statistical activities.
- **1955:** Became a member of the Planning Commission and continued in that capacity till 1967.
- He was instrumental in **formulating India's second five-year-plan (1956-1961)**, which laid the blueprint for industrialisation and development in India.
- 1968: Honoured with the **Padma Vibhushan**.
- He was also conferred a large number of awards by international organisations.

