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2nd Aug,22

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With Shubham Singla 





Explained: 3 reasons why GST collections continue to surge

Experts say that action against tax evaders, including steps being taken by state authorities, have resulted in better compliance and helped push the growth in GST collections along with economic recovery and higher inflation rate.

Written by [Aanchal Magazine](#) | New Delhi |

Updated: August 2, 2022 4:59:39 am



The gross GST collections have risen 28 per cent (File photo/Representational)

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3 reasons why GST collections continue to surge



Relevance: Prelims & GS Mains Paper III

Why in news?

- The gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections have risen 28 per cent year-on-year to Rs **1,48,995 crore** for **July (for sales in June)**, the **second highest level** since the July 2017 rollout of the indirect tax regime.
- **3 Reasons** for rise
 - **High inflation rate**
 - Buoyancy in **consumption** patterns triggered by the economic recovery
 - **Greater enforcement actions** against anti-evasion activities

GST Collection Trends

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said that Rs **1.40 lakh crore** is now the “rough bottom line” for monthly GST revenue collections.
- Before this, GST collections had recorded the highest-ever level of **Rs 1.68 lakh crore in April 2022 for year-end sales in March**.
- This is the sixth time that monthly **GST collections have crossed Rs 1.40 lakh crore** mark since inception of GST and **fifth month in a row since March 2022**.

3 reasons why GST collections continue to surge



Relevance: Prelims & GS Mains Paper III

Compensation end to States

- Under GST, as per the **Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Act, 2017**, the states were guaranteed compensation at the **compounded rate of 14 per cent** from the **base year 2015-16** for losses arising due to implementation of the taxation regime for five years since its rollout.
- **This came to an end on June 30, 2022.**
- The GST Council meeting held in June did not take any decision to extend the compensation mechanism despite at least a dozen states making a demand for the same.

Q. Consider the following statements about the GST Collection Trends:

1. The highest ever monthly GST collection has not exceeded Rs. 1,50,000 crores so far.
2. When the GST regime was adopted, the states were guaranteed compensation for losses arising due to implementation of the taxation regime for five years.
3. Usually, the monthly GST collections have been between Rs. 100,000 crore to Rs. 120,000 crore.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explained: 7 new districts in West Bengal — how and why are districts created or abolished in India?

In West Bengal, South 24-Parganas district sprawls over almost 10,000 sq km; North 24-Parganas is about 4,000 sq km in area — with populations of more than 8 million and more than 10 million each (2011).

By: [Explained Desk](#) | New Delhi |
Updated: August 1, 2022 6:31:26 pm



TMC party supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses during a rally to observe Martyr's Day in Kolkata, Thursday, July 21, 2022. (PTI)

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How and why are districts created or abolished in India?

Relevant for GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Polity & Governance

Why in news?

- The **West Bengal** cabinet has approved the creation of seven new districts in the state. This will take the number of districts in West Bengal to **30 from the existing 23**.
- In April this year, **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy **created 13 new districts** in his state. Reddy doubled the number of districts to **26**, Andhra Pradesh had only 13 districts.

Reason for Creation

- **Smaller units** would make **governance easier** and would benefit the people by bringing the government and the administration closer to them, and making them **more accessible**.
- Sometimes, the decision to create a new district is driven by **local demands**.

How and why are districts created or abolished in India?

Relevant for GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Polity & Governance

Procedure for Creation or scrapping

- This **power lies with the state governments**, who can pass a **law in the Assembly or simply issue an order and notify it in the gazette**. The **Centre does not have a say in the matter**.
- The **central government does play a role**, however, when a **change of name of a district or railway station** is contemplated. The request of the state government in this regard is sent to several central government departments before a **no-objection certificate** is issued.

Creation of new Districts

- The number of districts around the country has been going up steadily over the years.
- The 2001 Census recorded 593 districts, which went up to 640 in 2011. India currently has **more than 775 districts**.
- **Uttar Pradesh has the most districts (75)** in the country, followed by Madhya Pradesh (52). **Goa, by contrast, has only 2 districts**.

Q. Which body has the authority to create a new district in India?

- (a) Union Home Ministry
- (b) State legislature only
- (c) State Executive only
- (d) Both State Legislature and State Executive

Q. The 2001 Census recorded 593 districts, which went up to 640 in 2011. India currently has more than 775 districts. It is alleged that State governments create more and more districts to meet their political compulsions, adding to the financial burden of State administration. Should the power to create new districts be transferred to the Union government? (250 words, 15 marks)

Explained: 30k kg of drugs destroyed by NCB – what rules govern disposal of seized narcotics?

Section 52-A of the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 allows probe agencies to destroy seized substances after collecting required samples.

Written by [Saurabh Parashar](#) , Edited by Explained Desk | Chandigarh | Updated: August 2, 2022 2:04:22 am



Flames rise from burning illegal narcotics, seized from various operations, during a mass drugs disposal programme organised by Guwahati's Police Commissionerate, in Kamrup district, July 30,

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What rules govern disposal of seized narcotics?

Relevance: Prelims & GS Mains Paper II; Polity & Governance

Why in news?

- The **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** on July 30 destroyed 30,000 kg of seized drugs at four locations – Kolkata, Chennai, Delhi and Guwahati — in the virtual presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- The narcotic substances were destroyed under a drug disposal campaign that began June 1 as part of ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’.

Law that allows the destruction of seized drugs

- ▶ **Section 52-A of the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985** allows probe agencies to destroy seized substances after collecting required samples.
- ▶ Officials concerned must make a **detailed inventory** of the substance to be destroyed.
- ▶ **Every law enforcement agency competent to seize drugs is authorised to destroy them after taking prior permission of the area magistrate.** These include state police forces, the CBI and the NCB among others.

CACHE TECHNOLOGY

Explained| What is the technology powering hybrid electric vehicles?



Ishan Patra

JULY 31, 2022 22:46 IST
UPDATED: JULY 31, 2022 22:46 IST

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What are the pros and cons of hybrid electric vehicles? How is it different from normal EVs?

The story so far: In recent months, automakers Maruti Suzuki, Toyota and Honda have launched hybrid electric vehicles in India, offering car buyers more choices in the nascent electric vehicle market. These new hybrid electric vehicles from different automakers, are relying on hybrid technology and its

What are the pros and cons of hybrid electric vehicles? How is it different from normal EVs?

Relevance: Prelims & GS Mains Paper III; Science & Technology

Why in news?

- In recent months, automakers Maruti Suzuki, Toyota and Honda have launched hybrid electric vehicles in India.
- These new hybrid electric vehicles have advantages over conventional internal combustion engine (ICE)-powered vehicles.

What is a hybrid electric vehicle?

- ▶ **Hybrid-** Can be powered by the **electric motor alone, which uses energy stored in batteries**, by the **ICE**, or both.
- ▶ HEV are designed by Three Methods:
 - **Series Design-** A series HEV **uses only the electric motor to drive the wheels**, while the **ICE powers the generator, which in turn recharges the battery.**
 - **Parallel Design-** A parallel HEV, based on the driving condition, uses the best power source to power the vehicle. It will **alternate between the electric motor and the ICE** to keep the car moving.
 - **Series-parallel (power split) Design-** A series-parallel HEV offers a **combination of both models** and allows to split power, wherein power is routed from the ICE alone or from the battery to the electric motor to drive the vehicle.

What are the pros and cons of hybrid electric vehicles? How is it different from normal EVs?



Regenerative braking system

- In all three designs, the battery is charged through **regenerative braking technology**.
- Based on the type of RBS, the **energy recovery happens in multiple ways**.
 - A **kinetic system** can **recover the energy lost during braking** and then use this energy to recharge the high-voltage battery of the vehicle.
 - An **electric system generates electricity** through a motor during sudden braking.
 - A **hydraulic system uses pressurised tanks to store the vehicle's kinetic energy** and can offer a high energy recovery rate which is ideal for heavy vehicles.
- The efficiency of HEVs and EVs will in large part be determined by their ability to recover as much energy as possible while braking.

What are the pros and cons of hybrid electric vehicles? How is it different from normal EVs?

Advantages of using hybrid technology

- **Better fuel efficiency**
- **More power**
- **Minimum emission**
- The design of hybrid vehicles for **reduced engine size and car weight** as compared to ICE vehicles, translates into increased mileage to favour the demand for these vehicles.

Challenge

- ▶ **High Cost of HEVs**
- **Battery**, a vital component of an HEV, increases the cost of the vehicle, making it pricier than vehicles powered only by an ICE.
- **RBS** also adds to the higher cost of an HEV.

Q. Regenerative Braking System in Hybrid Electric Vehicles can be based on which of the following technologies?

1. Direct use of lost Kinetic energy during braking to charge battery
2. Generation of electric energy on sudden braking
3. Use of Hydraulic system to store lost Kinetic energy

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

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