The same boiling water that *softens* the potato *hardens* the egg. It’s about what you’re made of. Not the circumstances.
Lecture

1- Quote
2- Editorials
3- Current Affair Q
4- Subjective Q
5- Vocabulary
6- Maps Practice
7- Capital & Currency
8- News Analysis
9- Revision
United Kingdom
Country in Europe

Currency: Pound sterling
Capital: London
Germany

Country in Europe

Currency: Euro
Capital: Berlin
EXIT WEST

MOHSIN HAMID

From the
Man Booker-
shortlisted author
of "The Reluctant
Fundamentalist"

The Man Booker Prize

Awarded for Best original novel, written in the English language, and published in the UK

Location Guildhall, London, England

Presented by Man Group

First awarded 1969
Universal access to electricity has been a familiar and long-standing promise of governments.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has signalled he is serious.

Success, however, will require more than just budgetary fund allocation; it will depend largely on addressing structural issues that plague the broken power sector.

**Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana**, or ‘Saubhagya’ scheme, launched by Mr. Modi aims to make electricity accessible to every household by the end of 2018.

Under the scheme, expected to cost a little over ₹16,000 crore, poor households that have no access to electricity will be provided electricity connections free of cost.

This builds on previous work carried out under the
- 1)-Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana -> 2015, and
- 2)-Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana UPA 2005,

Both of which also aimed to provide free electricity connections to the poor.
Hopes to improve electricity access within villages that are already classified as “electrified”, according to the criterion that 10% of households enjoy access to electricity.

Saubhagya scheme does very little to address the real problem of affordability.

Failing to account for illegal connections taken by households which find it difficult to afford legal access to power.

A free electricity connection can ease the financial burden on the poor to some degree, but it will not address the recurring burden of power bills.

Aim of improving affordability would require that supply be increased drastically to lower the price paid by retail consumers.

Government’s claims that India is a power-surplus nation, the power generation utilities remain vastly under-utilised.

This is due to demand for electricity from State distribution companies dropping in tandem with their deteriorating financial status.
Continue...

- **Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY)** - two years ago to restructure debt of State distribution agencies, has failed to make enough of a difference to this state of affairs.
- In the absence of the freedom to sell at a profitable price, distribution agencies have had very little incentive to demand more electricity from power generators, as evident in the constantly falling **plant load factor (PLF)**.
- **Saubhagya**, unfortunately, does very little to address the fundamentals of India’s crippling power problem.

**Ratio between the actual energy generated by the plant to the maximum possible energy that can be generated with the plant working at its rated power and for a duration of an entire year.**

Utilization factor \( \left( \frac{L_{\text{max}}}{\text{Cap}} \right) \) = \( \frac{\text{Peak output in a period}}{\text{Output if the plant operated in full rated capacity over the period}} \)

Also known as **Plant load factor (PLF)** or **Use factor**.
This year’s session of the UN General Assembly has confirmed the growing ineffectiveness of the world body.

June 1945, India’s princely states sent a single representative to sign the Charter of the United Nations at the San Francisco conference.

A charter that realised Alfred Tennyson’s poem where he called for a “Parliament of man, Federation of the world.”

A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, then the Dewan of Mysore added prose to that poetry as he spoke on behalf of undivided India with the words, “There is one great reality... which all religions teach... the dignity of the common man.”

A word war—> Divided Indian and Pakistani delegations stood up over the past week to face each other more than 70 years later.

India Pakistan word-war was outdone (superior performance- भी मात) by the U.S. and North Korea who sparred over Pyongyang’s latest provocations.
UN’s 72nd General Assembly one of its most disappointing sessions

Secretary General António Guterres in his speech on September 19—“We are a world in pieces, we need to be a world at peace,” he said, listing the world’s seven biggest threats:

• 1)-Nuclear peril,
• 2)-Terrorism,
• 3)-Unresolved conflicts and violations of international humanitarian law,
• 4)-Climate change,
• 5)-Growing inequality,
• 6)-Cyber warfare and misuse of artificial intelligence, and
• 7)-Human mobility, or refugees.

Even a cursory glance shows that each of these issues saw little movement at the UNGA.
North Korea
✓ Taliban regime in Afghanistan

- The truth is that sanctions do not work on rogue (दुष्ट) states;
- They only help isolate their populations from the world,
- Which in turn tightens the regime’s stranglehold on its people, and strengthens its resolve to disregard (उपेक्षा) the UN.

- Iran did, the imminent threat from U.S. of walking out of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (P5+1 agreement) would make them question the efficacy of the UN in guaranteeing any deal struck.

- Other decisions of the Trump administration in the U.S., to walk out of the climate change agreement as well as threaten to cancel its funding contributions to the UN, have further reduces the respect it is viewed with.
Despite inviting former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to prepare a report on Rakhine state, post-democracy Myanmar has been able to carry out one of the region’s most frightening massacres just days after the report was submitted.

Half a million Rohingya fled for their lives from Rakhine villages.

Similar impotency (नपुःकता) has been imparted to the UN on the issue of terrorism -> India’s grievances.

UN’s powerlessness to enforce even the basic strictures against terrorists it sanctions.

Russia and the U.S. ->?

Clearly the vision of the UN dreamt by Tennyson or Mudaliar or any of the leaders over time has far to go.
News Analysis...

- **Page-1-** All help, but no troops to Afghanistan
- India will expand aid to strife-hit nation, Nirmala Sitharaman says after meeting U.S. Defence Secretary

*Meeting of minds:* Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with her U.S. counterpart James Mattis at South Block in New Delhi on Tuesday.

* (*)
Andhra Pradesh opts for green fleet of e-buses

A week after Himachal Pradesh flagged off India’s first commercial electric bus (e-bus) service on the Kullu Manali-Rohtang pass,

The Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) has set in motion plans to replicate similar e-bus services in the State, starting with the ghat road connecting Tirupati and Tirumala.
## Behind bars

As of mid-July, around 7,448 Indian nationals are lodged in foreign jails in 81 countries. Here are the top 10 countries according to the number of Indian prisoners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Indian Prisoners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>2,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>1,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Due to privacy laws U.S.A., Canada, Australia and many European countries don’t share prisoner information. Thus, the governments’s information is based on available data.**

*Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates hold 46% of all prisoners

*West Asian countries hold 57% of all prisoners*

Source: Press Information Bureau
Page-9- Centre forms group to work on plans for 5G roll-out by 2020

The Centre has created a support fund of about ₹500 crore to facilitate research and development for 5G.

‘We missed the opportunity to participate when the standards were being set for 3G and 4G, and don’t want to miss the 5G opportunity.
Be Happy, Share & Help Each Other!!!

Page-13 - BSF pushes back Rohingya from Tripura

On instructions from the Home Ministry, the Border Security Force recently pushed back four Rohingya Muslims who were trying to cross over an unfenced stretch on the Bangladesh border in Tripura.

This is the first instance of Rohingya being pushed back since the Home Ministry circular on August 19 to identify and deport them.

An official said the BSF had identified 75 vulnerable locations on a 21-km stretch in Tripura.
Page-15- Centre backs local cyber security tech

‘Made in India’ solutions to get preference in official procurement with the objective of securing data

With a view to promoting domestic technology and preventing data theft by foreign entities, the government will soon announce a policy that accords preference in official procurement to ‘Made in India’ antivirus and cyber security solutions.
Fat Soluble Vitamins are - A, D, E & K or K, E, D & A

International Union for Conservation of Nature & Natural Resources (IUCN)
Establishment -> 1948
HQ -> Gland, Switzerland
Focus -> Nature  Conservation & Biodiversity

World Press Freedom Index, 2017
India - Ranking -> 136
Total 180 countries were included.
Index Annually published->  Reporters Without Borders