



## Current Affairs of the Day

### GS Paper II

- Apex court approves CBSE assessment formula
- ‘Continue demolition of illegal buildings in Aravali forest land’
- Sri Lanka reports cases of delta variant amid a daunting third wave

### GS Paper III

- Chinese astronauts dock with the new space station



## Apex court approves CBSE assessment formula

### Highlights:

1. The Supreme Court gave in principle clearance to the schemes placed on record by the CBSE and the ICSE to assess the final marks of Class 12 students whose exams were cancelled due to COVID-19.
2. The CBSE has divided the marks assessment process into two components — theory and practical. The theory component would be assessed by first giving 30% weightage to average scores obtained by the students in Class 10 in their three best performing subjects out of a total five. Secondly, another 30% weightage would be given to marks based on the theory component of the final exam taken in Class 11. Finally, 40% weightage would be given for marks obtained in one or more unit tests, mid-term exams and pre-board exams in Class 12.
3. So, if the total marks for theory is 80, the 30% weightage of Classes 10 and 11 would come to 24 marks each and the 40% weightage derived from performances in tests conducted in Class 12 would translate to the remaining 32 marks.
4. On the practical side, calculation would be on the “actual basis” of the marks uploaded by the schools on the CBSE’s portal.

### ‘Continue demolition of illegal buildings in Aravali forest land’

1. The Supreme Court refused to halt the demolition of about 10,000 unauthorised residential constructions encroaching into the ecologically fragile Aravali forest land near Lakarpur Khori village in Haryana.
2. The Supreme Court had refused to give encroachers any quarter on June 7 while ordering the demolition. The court had categorically said that “land-grabbers cannot take the refuge of the rule of law” and demand fairness.
3. The Bench said the residents had enough time to prove their claims in accordance with a notification issued by Haryana in 2020. The court said the onus was on the State to rehabilitate the residents in compliance with a 2003 scheme. The demolition would continue.



## Sri Lanka reports cases of delta variant amid a daunting third wave

1. Sri Lanka detected the highly transmittable Delta or B.1.617.2 variant of COVID-19 in five patients, amid a stubborn third wave persisting through a near-month-long lockdown in the country.
2. The Delta variant comes with three main factors — it is highly transmittable, it causes severe disease, and it evades single-dose vaccine.

### Economic distress

1. While health authorities grapple with the prevailing spike and prepare to tackle the Delta variant, people across the country, especially daily wage earners, are reeling under the economic blow of the lockdown.
2. Scores of garment sector workers, domestic workers, and youth employed in small shops and restaurants have lost their jobs since the pandemic struck. The country witnessed an increase in unemployment to 5.8% last year, the highest since 2009 after the civil war ended.

## Chinese astronauts dock with the new space station

1. The first group of Chinese astronauts entered the country's under-construction space station, a major step in China's plans to have a fully functioning station by next year.
2. The Shenzhou-12 spaceship carrying the three astronauts completed an "automated rendezvous and docking" with the Tianhe module, the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA).
3. This is the first of two manned space missions planned for this year, part of an intense schedule of launches aimed at completing the space station in 2022.
4. The official Xinhua news agency said the mission will help test technologies related to long-term astronaut stays and health care, the recycling and life support system, the supply of space materials, extravehicular activities and operations, and in-orbit maintenance.