

Today's Important Topic for UPSC CSE Aspirants (World Coffee Conference)

Comprehensive Explanation for Questions:

Inside Story of the News (World Coffee Conference):

- Bengaluru, the coffee capital of India, is all set to host the fifth edition of the World Coffee Conference (WCC 2023) between September 25 and 28.
- **It is the first time India and Asia are preparing to host this most prestigious global coffee event.**
- The earlier editions of WCC were held in London (2001), Brazil (2005), Guatemala (2010), and Ethiopia (2016).
- **The event is to be jointly organized by the International Coffee Organization (ICO), the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, the Government of Karnataka & the Coffee Board of India.**
- **The Mascot of the 5th World Coffee Conference 2023: Coffee Swami**
- **The theme of the 5th World Coffee Conference 2023: Sustainability through Circular Economy and Regenerative Agriculture.**
- **Brand Ambassador of 5th World Coffee Conference 2023: Rohan Bopanna (Lawn Tennis Player)**
- **Note: It is organized once every four years.**

About International Coffee Organization:

- **The International Coffee Organization (ICO) was established in 1963 under the aegis of the United Nations and following the approval of the first International Coffee Agreement in 1962.**
- **It is a property of the London-based International Coffee Organization (ICO), boost the economic importance of coffee globally.**
- **The International Coffee Organization (ICO) is the main intergovernmental organization for coffee, bringing together exporting and importing Governments to tackle the challenges facing the world coffee sector through international cooperation.**
- **ICO Member Governments represent 93% of world coffee production and 63% of world consumption.**
- **It administers the International Coffee Agreement (ICA), an important instrument for development cooperation.**
- **The mission of the Organization is to strengthen the global coffee sector and promote its sustainable expansion in a market-based environment for the benefit of all actors in the Global Coffee Value Chain (G-CVC).**
- **India is a member of this organization.**

Do You Know about it?

- **The International Coffee Organization was established in 1963 when the first International Coffee Agreement (ICA) entered into force in 1962 for a period of five years, and it has continued to operate under successive Agreements negotiated since then.**
- **These include the ICA 1968 (and its two extensions), the ICA 1976 (with one extension), 1983 (and its four extensions), the 1994 Agreement (with one extension) and the 2001 Agreement (with three extensions).**
- **The latest Agreement, the ICA 2007, was adopted by the Council in September 2007 and entered into force definitively on 2 February 2011.**

About Coffee Cultivation:

- The vast majority of the world's coffee comprises two species — *Coffea Arabica* (Arabica) and *Coffea Canephora* (Robusta).
- **Coffee, especially Arabica, is considered a sensitive crop, vulnerable to climate variability and change.**
- Coffee crops in the top 12 coffee-producing countries — Brazil, Colombia, Ethiopia, Honduras, Peru, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Vietnam, Indonesia, Uganda, and India.
- Climatic Conditions required for Coffee Cultivation:
 - Climate:
 - **Coffee is a tropical plant which is also grown in semi-tropical climate.**
 - **The coffee tree requires heat, humidity, and abundant rainfall.**
 - Temperature:
 - Coffee requires an average temperature between 20°-27°C.
 - Although it grows in day temperature over 32°C in the Arabian Peninsula.
 - Rainfall:
 - Coffee needs abundant rainfall, i.e., 100 to 200 cm annually.
 - The hill slopes which receive orographic rainfall are thus best for coffee cultivation.
 - Soil:
 - The ideal soil is one with a good sub-surface drainage, and one that is easily workable.
 - The presence of humus and other nitrogenous matter in the soil is an advantage.
 - Well-drained volcanic soils like the terra-roxa of Brazil which contain much potash as well as organic material are the best.
 - Shade:
 - **Direct sunlight is harmful for coffee plants;** therefore, these are planted under shade of taller trees such as bananas.
 - In Brazil, leguminous plants are used which not only provide shade but also enrich soil with nitrogen.
 - Topography:
 - Generally, coffee is grown on slopes having height between 600 to 1,800 metres.
 - **The suitability of slopes for coffee is because these are well-drained and cooler.**
 - Water stagnation is very harmful for coffee plants; therefore, hill slopes are best suitable for it.

History of Coffee in India:

- **In 1600 AD, the mythical holy saint Baba Budan planted "Seven seeds" of "Mocha" in the courtyard of his monastery on "Baba Budan Giri" in Chikmagalur, Karnataka.**
- **During the 18th century, commercial coffee plantations were established as a result of British entrepreneurs being able to conquer the hostile terrain of south India.**
- Since then, the Indian coffee industry has grown rapidly and also earned a distinct identity in the coffee map of the world.
- Indian coffee contributes significantly towards the socio-economic development of remote hilly areas while sustaining the unique environmental biodiversity of the region.
- In ecologically vulnerable areas of the Western and Eastern Ghats, India's coffee is cultivated in dense natural shade.

- Coffee plays a key role in maintaining the region's distinctive biodiversity and is also responsible for the socioeconomic growth in such remote, hilly areas.
- India is today home to 13 unique coffee varieties sourced from 13 distinct coffee growing regions – most of them in the southern part of the country.
- Indian coffees are well suited for cappuccinos and espressos alike.
- **Indian coffees are popular globally – both due to their subtle flavour and stimulating intensity.**
- India is the only country in the world where all coffees are grown under a 'well-defined two-tier shade canopy of evergreen leguminous trees.
- **India's coffee growing regions are one of the 25 biodiversity hotspots in the world and have no parallel anywhere in the world.**
- Moreover, three districts in Karnataka - Chikmagalur, Kodagu and Hassan have contributed the highest production of coffee. Of which Chikmagalur accounts for 80,150 MT of coffee production (combining arabica and robusta coffee).
- **Karnataka is the major producer of coffee in the country.**
- With over 70% production in comparison to other states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Meghalaya & Tripura.

Do You Know about the Import & Export status of Coffee (2022)?

- Producing Countries: Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Honduras, India, Uganda, Mexico & Guatemala.
- Exporting Countries: Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, Indonesia, Honduras, Peru, India, Uganda, Mexico & Ethiopia.
- Importing Countries: USA, Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, Canada, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, UK.

Source : <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/for-the-first-time-in-asia-world-coffee-conference-to-be-held-in-bengaluru/article67142983.ece>

; <file:///C:/Users/aniksingh/OneDrive%20-%20Wiley/Desktop/WCC%20brochure%202023.pdf>

; <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/mornings-sans-coffee-global-production-under-threat-due-to-climate-hazards-finds-study-88175>

; <https://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/essay/cultivation-of-coffee-5-growth-conditions-required-for-the-cultivation-of-coffee/25568>

; <https://tractorgyan.com/tractor-industry-news-blogs/1091/top-7-coffee-producing-states-in-india#:~:text=Karnataka%20is%20the%20major%20producer,Nadu%2C%20Andhra%20Pradesh%20and%20Odisha.>

; <https://indianestates.co.in/history-indian-coffee/>

& https://www.worldstopexports.com/coffee-imports-by-country/#google_vignette