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## ***3rd January 2022***

### ***Topic: Agriculture Infrastructure***

### ***Importance: Punjab PCS Mains***

### ***Why in news?***

- The Soil Conservation Department is awarded a quality control wing.

### Some Facts

#### Soil Conservation

Soil conservation is essential to environmental sustainability by helping to protect natural resources and watersheds, restore habitats for plants and wildlife, improve water quality and make soils healthier.

#### Father of Indian soil science?

Dr. J. W. Leather "considered the father of Indian Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry"

#### When did the first soil survey of India take place?

Soil Survey of India established in 1956 for the purpose of conducting scientific soil surveys.

#### When Soil Survey Started in India?

The foundation of the national level soil surveys in India was laid in 1953 when the Government of India invited Dr. F. F. Rickens, Soil Specialist from USA advice on organizing soil survey programs in the country.

### Purpose:

- In a bid to ensure precise planning, designing, estimation besides transparent and accountable implementation of public works, the Cabinet approved setting up of Design, Quality Control Monitoring and Evaluation Wing in the Soil and Water Conservation Department.

### Soil conservation Practices:

- Soil conservation is essential to environmental sustainability by helping to protect natural resources and watersheds, restore habitats for plants and wildlife, improve water quality and make soils healthier.
- Soil conservation is also a source of economic opportunity. Productive and healthy soils help farmers meet the increased demand for agricultural products from

a growing global population, boosting economic growth.

### ***Who is the father of Indian soil science?***

- The Department of Soil Sciences originated with the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute established in Pusa, Bihar in 1905. Workers like Dr. J. W. Leather “considered the father of Indian Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry” sowed the seed for the research in the field of soil science at Pusa.

### ***When Soil Survey Started in India?***

- The foundation of the national level soil surveys in India was laid in 1953 when the Government of India invited Dr. F. F. Rickens, Soil Specialist from USA advice on organizing soil survey programs in the country.

### ***When did the first soil survey of India take place?***

- Soil Survey of India established in 1956 for the purpose of conducting scientific soil surveys.
- Soil Survey of India, established in 1956, conducted comprehensive soil surveys in selected areas such as the Damodar Valley.

*(Source: Punjab Tribune)*

## ***Topic: Polity***

### ***Importance: Punjab PCS Mains***

#### ***What is the news?***

- The High Court of Punjab and Haryana offers shared parenting for separated couples.
- In a significant order likely to change how children of separated parents are raised, the High Court of Punjab and Haryana called for “shared parenting”.

#### ***Whom to suggest this concept?***

- A Division Bench has made it clear that the concept of shared parenting could be suggested to the “parties” when they approach the police for lodging complaints alleging cruelty and other offenses.

#### ***Background:***

- The direction came after the Bench of Justice Ritu Bahri and Justice Ashok Kumar Verma observed that the court was seized of a number of cases in which a child’s emotional and psychological requirements were not being properly taken into account while deciding the divorce petitions filed by the parents under the Hindu Marriage Act.
- “The concept of shared parenting can be extended at the initial stage, when parties approach the police station,” the Bench asserted.
- The Bench said the parents would not have to travel for



years to the courts, if the concept of shared parenting was advised at the initial stages. Referring to the Law Commission's report of May 2015, the Bench asserted it had been observed that a child had the birthright to meet his parents and grandparents.

- It was further observed in the report that several disputes could be resolved through mediation. But professional assistance might be required in the case of mediation as neither the court, nor the mediators, were qualified to understand child psychology. "A time-bound resolution is a key factor to achieve the objective of ensuring that the welfare of the child is met," the Bench said.

*(Source: Punjab Tribune)*

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