

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 21 July, 2025



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News in Shorts

1. Agricultural status to animal husbandry and poultry farming

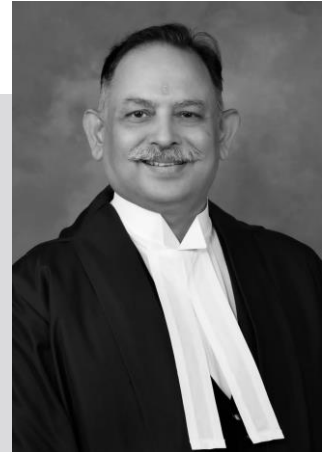


Rajasthan

Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court - Justice K. R. Sriram

➔ Why in News?

- Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Kishanrao Bagde administered the oath of office to Justice Kalpati Rajendran Sriram (K.R. Sriram) as the 43rd Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court at Raj Bhavan in Jaipur.



➔ Main Point

- Justice M.M. Shrivastava, former Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court.
- Justice K.R. Sriram was born on 28 September 1963 in Mumbai. He obtained LLB degree from Mumbai University and LLM degree in Nautical Science from London.
- He was enrolled as an advocate with the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa in July 1986. During his legal career, he practised in various judicial forums like Bombay High Court, Supreme Court, Consumer Forum, Customs and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal, Securities Appellate Tribunal and Company Law Board.
- His judicial service began on 21 June 2013 as an Additional Judge in Bombay High Court. On March 2, 2016, he was appointed as a permanent judge.
- On September 21, 2024, he was appointed as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court.

❖ Facts for Prelims:

High Courts (Constitutional Provisions)

- ♦ Part VI, Articles - 214 to 231.

Committee relating to the location of Rajasthan High Court (Report submitted on March 27, 1949)

1. B.R. Patel Committee.
2. H.P. Sinha Committee.
3. T.C. Puri Committee.

Rajasthan High Court Ordinance 1949

- ♦ Provided for a single High Court for the state of Rajasthan.
- ♦ Rajpramukh Sawai Man Singh II issued a notification for the establishment of the High Court on August 25, 1949.
- ♦ **Inauguration - August 29, 1949**
- ♦ **First Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court: Justice K.K. Verma (29.08.1949 -24.01.1950)**
- ♦ **Current Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court: Justice K.R. Sriram.**
- ♦ **Total number of seats of judges in Rajasthan High Court – 50**
- ♦ **Principal Bench: Jodhpur.**
- ♦ **Additional Bench: Jaipur.**
- ♦ **Chief Justice with the longest tenure – Justice Kailash Nath Wanchoo.**
- ♦ **Chief Justice with the shortest tenure – Justice Satish Kumar Mittal.**
- ♦ **First Acting Chief Justice – Justice J.M. Panchal.**
- ♦ **Chief Justices who were Chief Justices of the Supreme Court – Justice Kailash Nath Wanchoo, Justice J.S. Verma.**

Rajasthan tops in renewable energy production

➔ Why in News?

- According to the data of June 2025 released by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Rajasthan became the state producing the highest amount of renewable energy (solar energy, wind energy, biomass) in the country.



➔ Main Point

- After Rajasthan, Gujarat ranks second in the production of renewable energy.
- **Renewable energy capacity of Rajasthan – 37,818 megawatts (MW)**
- Rajasthan ranks first in solar energy, while it ranks fifth in wind energy.

Other important points:

- Rajasthan, where the intensity of solar radiation is 6 to 7 kilowatt-hours per square meter per day and there are more than 325 solar days in a year, has immense potential in the field of solar energy.
- According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the estimated potential of solar energy in the state is estimated to be around 142 gigawatts (GW).
- Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Limited (RRECL) is the state nodal agency of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for power generation from non-conventional energy sources in the state.
- Also, it is a state designated agency of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) to promote energy efficiency and energy conservation.

❖ Facts for Prelims:

Rajasthan Integrated Clean Energy Policy 2024:

- ◆ The notification of this policy was issued by the state government on December 04, 2024.
- ◆ **Duration of Policy:** This policy is effective from the date of notification and will remain in force till March 29, 2029 or until replaced by another policy.

Goal:

- ◆ The policy aims to achieve the target of 1,25,000 MW (125 GW) of renewable energy projects in the state by the year 2029-30.

Division of 125 GW:

Sr. No.	Generation Type	Targeted Capacity
1.	Solar	90,000 MW
2.	Wind & Hybrid	25,000 MW
3.	Hydro, Pumped Storage Plant (PSP), Battery Energy Storage System	10,000 MW

- **Note:** Rajasthan has set a target of achieving more than 54 thousand MW of power capacity from conventional and renewable energy sources by the year 2031-32.

Best Magic Creator Award 2025

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, India's Suhani Shah won the title of 'Best Magic Creator' at the Federation Internationale des Societes Magiques (FISM) World Championship of Magic 2025 held in Italy.



➔ Main Point

- Known as the 'Olympics' of magic, FISM is the most prestigious global platform for magic professionals.
- Suhani Shah is the first Indian to be nominated and winner in the new category of Online Creators.
- Suhani Shah has done more than 5000 live performances so far.
- **Connection:** Udaipur native Suhani, a resident of Jaipur, was nominated along with top magicians from America, Europe and the Middle East.

National

Mizoram's 'Lunghun Ropui' declared 'Monument of National Importance'

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) declared Lunghun Ropui in Mizoram as a monument of national importance under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.



➡ Main Point

- After Kawchhua Ropui in Wangchia, it is the second megalithic site in the state to be declared a monument of national importance by ASI.
- The ancient carved monument is made up of stones called menhirs found in Lianpui village in Champhai district of eastern Mizoram.
- The upright memorial stones of Lianpui have elaborate carvings of human figures, birds, animals, Mithun heads, bells, lizards and other cultural motifs, reflecting the cultural practices of the Mizo people before the arrival of Christianity.
- The largest memorial stone among these has a height of 1.87 metres and a width of 1.37 metres. Lianpui village was named after the Lusei chief Lianpuia, who founded the village in the 18th century AD.

❖ Facts for Prelims:

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

- ◆ **Founded:** As The Asiatic Society of India in the year 1861 by Sir Alexander Cunningham with the assistance of the then Viceroy Canning.
- ◆ ASI functions under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
- ◆ Its main objective is to protect and care for the physical and tangible heritage such as ancient monuments and archaeological sites located in the country.
- ◆ **Headquarters:** New Delhi.

Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Parliament called for a review of the functioning of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).



➔ Main Point

- The high rate of failure in Aadhaar biometric verification was cited as a major issue in the review.
- This failure can deprive many beneficiaries of social welfare schemes.
- Biometric failure rate is high among the elderly, workers and tribals.
- The result is – deprivation of services like PDS, pension and MNREGA.
- There is a lack of transparency and regular audit in the functioning of UIDAI.
- And there is also a lack of a strong grievance redressal system.

Public Accounts Committee (PAC):

- This is a very important permanent parliamentary committee.
- Its function is to monitor financial accountability and government expenditure.
- It was established in the year 1921 under the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms.
- Which is reconstituted every year.

Structure:

- **Total members** – 22 members
 - **Lok Sabha** – 15 members
 - **Rajya Sabha** – 7 members
- **Basis of membership** – Elected through single transferable method of proportional representation, so that all parties get representation.
- **Speaker** – Traditionally from the opposition party.
- **Appointment of Speaker** – Is done by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

Main functions:

- Reviewing the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).
- To see whether the funds sanctioned by the Parliament were used for the right purpose and according to the rules.
- To check the efficiency, transparency and effectiveness of government expenditure.
- To report on financial irregularities in ministries and departments.

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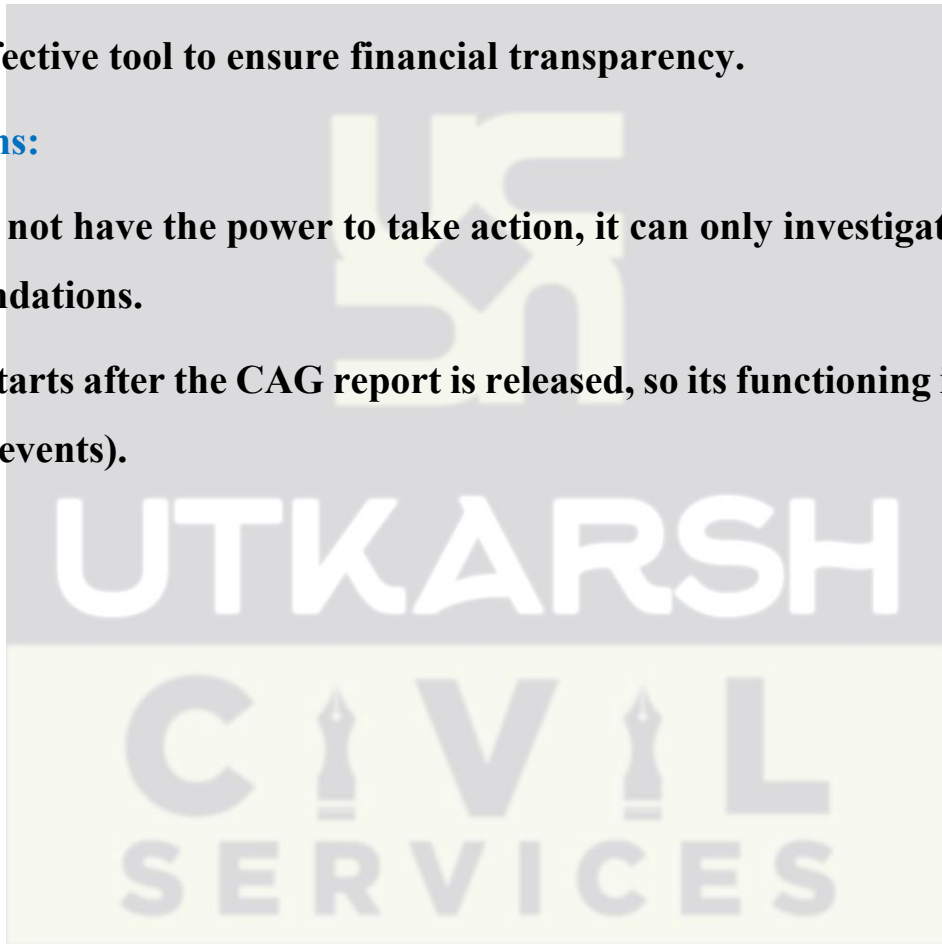


Importance

- PAC plays an important role in making the government accountable.
- It strengthens the monitoring role of the Parliament.
- Its reports are presented in the Parliament and discussed.
- It is an effective tool to ensure financial transparency.

Limitations:

- PAC does not have the power to take action, it can only investigate and make recommendations.
- Its work starts after the CAG report is released, so its functioning is post-facto (after the events).



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Digital Arrest Fraud

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the first case of conviction in digital arrest fraud was registered in West Bengal.



➔ Main Point

- Digital arrest is a fraud in which money is extorted from people using fear, deception and intimidation.
- Victims are informed through calls, e-mails or messages that they are involved in some illegal activity such as identity theft or money laundering.
- Fraudsters scare victims by threatening arrest, which prevents them from making informed decisions.
- Victims are asked to deposit money in fake accounts in the name of removal of name from investigation or refundable deposit.

'Gyanodaya' center of IIM Kozhikode

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK) launched a centre called 'Gyanodaya'.



➔ Main Point

- It is an academic innovation and publication centre.
- **Aim:** To promote innovative, inclusive and global pedagogy in teaching and knowledge dissemination.
- It is a significant step towards revolutionising management education.
- This initiative was launched under IIMK's Vision@2047.
- It is in line with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP).

India tops country in prompt payments: IMF

➔ Why in News?

- According to the note 'Growing Retail Digital Payments: The Importance of Interoperability' released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on July 20, 2025, India has become a global leader in instant payments.



➔ Main Point

- India has secured the first position in the fast and secure digital payments sector.
- The core of this transformation is the Unified Payment Interface, known as Unified Payment Interface (UPI).
- In June 2025, ₹24 lakh crore worth of transactions took place through 18.39 billion UPI transactions.
- Unified Payment Interface (UPI) drives 85 percent of India's and 50 percent of digital payments globally.

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Other Important Points:

Unified Payment Interface (UPI):

- Launched in the year 2016 by the National Payments Corporation of India.
- It facilitates inter-bank transactions through mobile phones.
- Currently UPI operates in eight countries including UAE, Singapore, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, France and Mauritius.



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Science and Technology

32nd Singapore-India Bilateral Maritime Exercise (SIMBEX) 2025

➔ Why in News?

- The 32nd Singapore-India Bilateral Maritime Exercise (SIMBEX) 2025 is being held between the Indian Navy and the Singapore Navy in Singapore.



➔ Main Point

- Four indigenous warships will participate from India's side:

1. INS Delhi.
2. INS Satpura.
3. INS Kiltan.
4. INS Shakti.

SIMBEX:

- SIMBEX is an annual maritime military exercise between India and Singapore.
- **Started Year:** 1994
- Initially it was known as 'Lion King Exercise'.

The INVICTUS Project

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the European Space Agency (ESA) and Frazer-Nash Consultancy of the United Kingdom launched the INVICTUS project to develop and test hypersonic technologies.



➔ Main Point

- INVICTUS is a Latin word meaning 'undefeated'.
- INVICTUS is a research program to develop hypersonic technology for future reusable vehicles capable of horizontal launch.
- It is a reusable experimental aerospace vehicle, which will be capable of flying at speeds of Mach 5 (five times the speed of sound).
- This vehicle will demonstrate key technologies for sustained hypersonic flight in the atmosphere and can be upgraded, allowing the exchange of materials, software and propulsion systems between flight test campaigns.

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- **Funding:** By ESA's General Support Technology Programme (GSTP) and Technology Development Element (TDE).
- **Objective:** To build a vehicle capable of flying at Mach 5 speed in the atmosphere in the time frame of 2027-28 and to develop a hydrogen-powered spacecraft by 2031.
- This new technology, which is capable of cooling superheated air in a fraction of a second, has already been successfully demonstrated through integration with conventional jet engines.

Other important points:

European Space Agency (ESA):

- An intergovernmental organization, founded in 1975, its objective is to shape the development of Europe's space capabilities and to ensure that investments in space benefit the citizens of Europe and the world.
- It includes a total of 23 member countries.

Environment and Ecology

Right to Operate Atomic Minerals in Offshore Areas Rules, 2025

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Offshore Atomic Minerals Operation Rights Rules, 2025 were notified by the Union Ministry of Mines under Section 35 of the Offshore Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002.



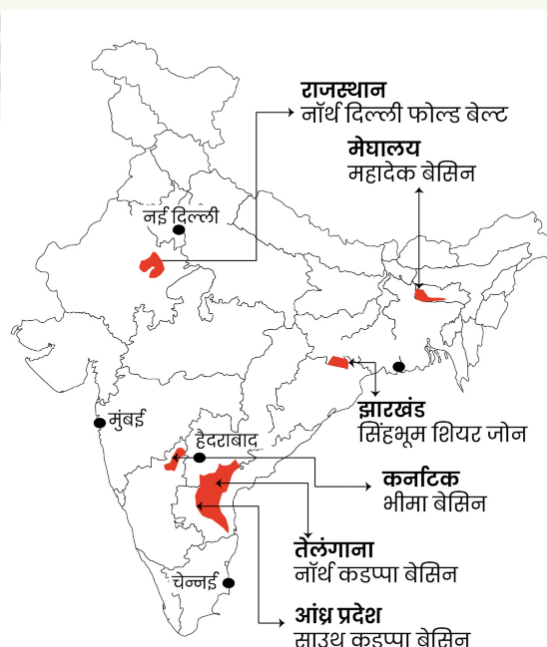
➔ Main Point

- Atomic Minerals of India: Uranium, thorium and graphite are produced in India. Other minerals also found are beryllium, zircon and antimony.

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Uranium:

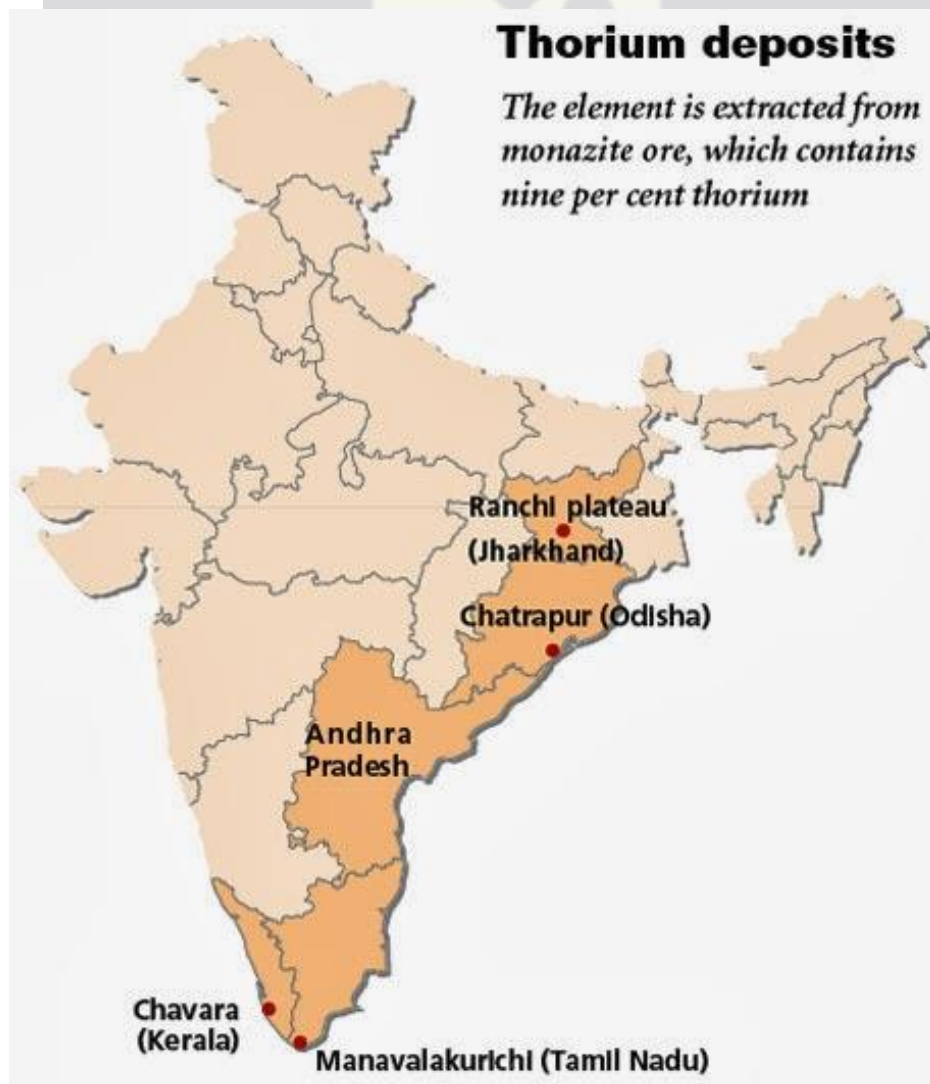
- Uranium reserves in India are mainly found in crystalline rocks.
- 70 percent of the country's uranium reserves are concentrated in Jharkhand.
- **Major deposits of uranium** : Singhbhum, Hazaribagh, Bagjata (Jharkhand), Gaya (Bihar), Saharanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Lambapur-Peddagattu (Andhra Pradesh).
- **Uranium mines** : Jaduguda, Bhatin, Bagjata, Banduhurang, Mohuldih, Narwapahar, Turamdih.
- **Jaduguda (Jharkhand)** : It is the first mine in the country where uranium was produced on a commercial scale.
- Currently, India produces about 2 percent of the world's uranium.
- Global uranium producing countries: Kazakhstan (42 percent), Canada (13 percent), Australia (12 percent).



-:21:-

Thorium:

- **Occurrence:** Monazite is found in soil at about 8-10 per cent concentration.
- India has one of the largest thorium reserves in the world, concentrated mainly in the monazite sands of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Odisha.
- According to the Department of Atomic Energy (DoAE), India has identified over 11.93 million tonnes of in-situ monazite resources containing over 1 million tonnes of thorium.



Personalities

Yulia Sviridenko – first female prime minister of Ukraine

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, Yulia Sviridenko was appointed as the new Prime Minister of Ukraine amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict.



➔ Main Point

- Earlier she was the Finance Minister (Economy Minister) of Ukraine.
- She has replaced Denis Shmyhal.
- Denis Shmyhal has now been appointed as the Defense Minister.
- Yulia is an experienced economist and diplomat.

Important Days

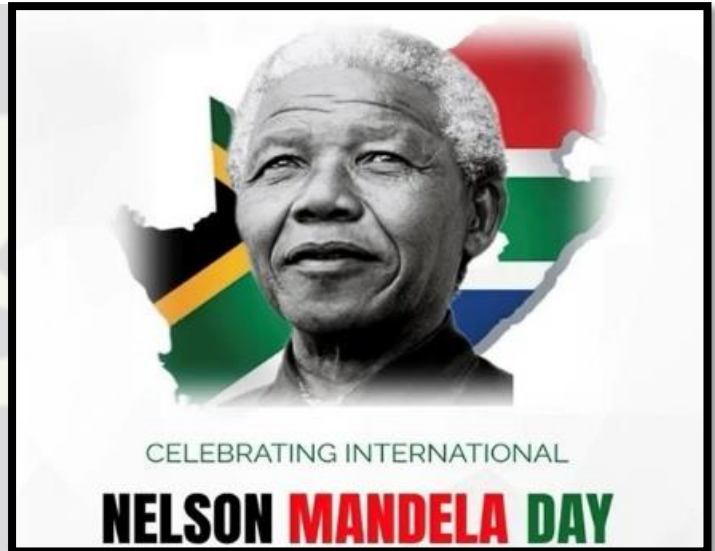
International Nelson Mandela Day 2025

➔ Why in News?

- 'International Nelson Mandela Day' is celebrated every year on 18 July.

➔ Main Point

- This day commemorates the struggle made by Nelson Mandela, the first black president of South Africa.
- The purpose of this day is to inspire people for justice, peace and equality.
- This day was started in the year 2009 by the Nelson Mandela Foundation. In the same year, the United Nations General Assembly officially recognized this day.
- Mandela spent 27 years of his life in jail fighting against apartheid.
- **Theme of 2025:** 'Fighting poverty and inequality is still in our hands'.
- **Autobiography of Nelson Mandela:** Long Walk to Freedom



International Chess Day 2025

➔ Why in News?

- 'World Chess Day' is celebrated every year on 20 July.



➔ Main Point

- This day is celebrated to commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) on 20 July, 1924.
- UNESCO proposed to give international recognition to this day in the year 1966.
- The roots of chess are found in the game called 'Chaturanga' in ancient India.

Sports

International Mathematical Olympiad 2025

➔ Why in News?

- Recently, the Indian team secured 7th position out of 110 countries in the 66th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) held at Sunshine Coast, Australia.



➔ Main Point

- The Indian team also set a new national record with a cumulative score of 193 out of 252 marks, which is the highest ever score by India at the IMO.
- **Indian Team:** 6 Participants.
- **Total Medals:** 6
 - **3 Gold Medals:** Kanav Talwar, Aarav Gupta and Aditya Mangudi.
 - **2 Silver Medals:** Abel George Mathew and Adish Jain.
 - **1 Bronze Medal:** Archit Manas.

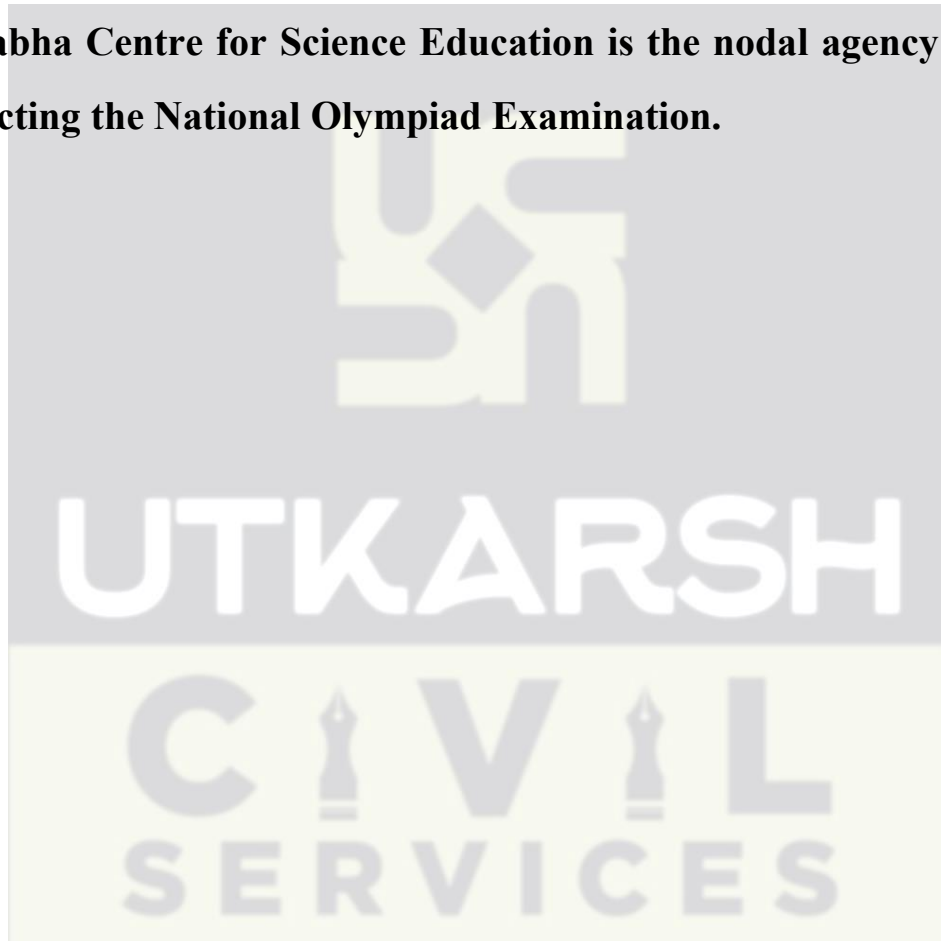
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- This is the second time after the year 1998 that the country has won three gold medals at the Olympiad.
- In the year 2024, India had achieved the fourth best position with four gold medals.
- Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education is the nodal agency responsible for conducting the National Olympiad Examination.



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News in Shorts

S. No.	News
1.	<p>Agricultural status to animal husbandry and poultry farming</p> <div></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Recently, Maharashtra has become the first state in the country to officially give the status of agriculture to animal husbandry and poultry farming.◆ This decision is expected to directly benefit about 3.7 crore animal breeders.◆ This will give equal participation to small farmers, animal breeders and rural entrepreneurs in agricultural schemes.

SERVICES