

Daily Current Affairs

 Date : 17 September, 2025



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RAJASTHAN

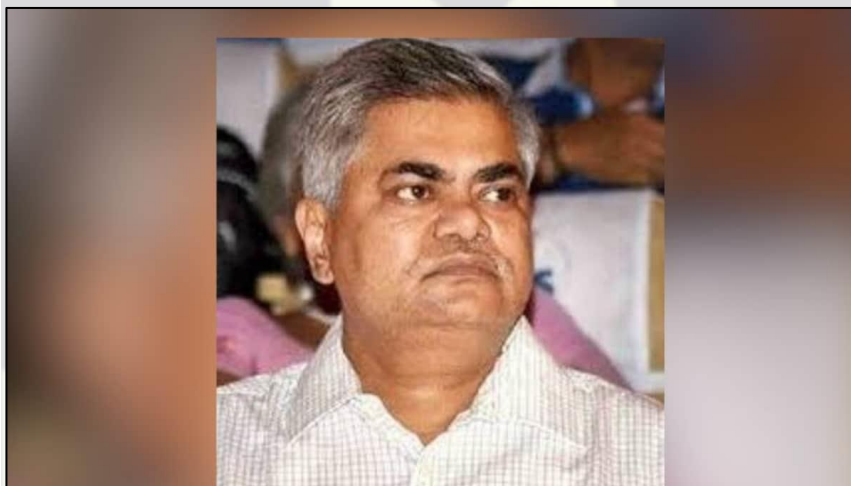


Rajasthan's New Chief Election Commissioner: Rajeshwar Singh



Why in News?

- On September 16, 2025, Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde issued an order appointing retired Indian Administrative Service officer Rajeshwar Singh as the State Chief Election Commissioner.



Key Points:

- Rajeshwar Singh replaced former Chief Election Commissioner Madhukar Gupta.

Rajasthan State Election Commission

- Under the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts of 1992, the State Election Commission was established in Part 9 and Part 9A to conduct free and fair elections to local bodies (Panchayati Raj and Urban Bodies) and to supervise, direct, and control the elections.
- The State Election Commission is a constitutional and independent body.
- For Panchayati Raj Institutions - Part 9, Article 243 K (t)

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- For Urban Bodies - Part 9 A, Article 243 ZA (y a)
- Under Section 120 of the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, the Rajasthan State Election Commission was established on June 17, 1994, and began functioning on July 1, 1994.
- Headquarters of the State Election Commission: Jaipur.
- The Rajasthan State Election Commission is a one-member body (the State Election Commissioner is the sole member).



Chief Election Commissioner

- The State Election Commissioner is responsible for supervising, directing, and conducting the preparation of electoral rolls for all elections to Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Bodies in the State.
- **Appointment:** The Chief Election Commissioner of the State is appointed by the Governor on the advice of the State Council of Ministers.
- **Tenure:** 5 years from the date of assuming office or reaching the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

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- **Resignation:** The State Election Commissioner submits his/her resignation to the Governor.
- The State Election Commissioner receives the same salary as a High Court judge (Rs. 225,000). No adverse changes can be made to the State Election Commissioner's service conditions during his/her term.

Functions of the State Election Commission

- Conducting elections (general elections, by-elections) to local bodies (Panchayati Raj and Urban Bodies) and supervising, directing, and controlling the elections.

Secretariat of the State Election Commission

- A Secretary (Chief Electoral Officer) has been appointed to assist the State Election Commissioner.
- The Chief Electoral Officer is a senior officer of the Secretary level (IAS rank).
- The first Chief Electoral Officer of the state was B.C. Mohanty.
- The current Chief Electoral Officer was Naveen Mahajan.

List of Rajasthan State Election Commissioners

S. No.	Name of Commissioner	Tenure
1.	Amarsingh Rathore	From 1 July, 1994 to 1 July, 2000
2.	Nekram Bhasin	From 2 July, 2000 to 2 July, 2002
3.	Inderjit Khanna	From 26 December, 2002 to 26 December, 2007
4.	Ashok Kumar Pandey	From 1 October, 2008 to 30 September, 2013
5.	Ramlubhaya	From 1 October, 2013 to 2 April, 2017
6.	Prem Singh Mehra	From 3 July, 2017 to 3 July, 2022
7.	Madhukar Gupta	From 14 August, 2022 to 16 September, 2025
8.	Rajeshwar Singh	From 16 September, 2025 to Present

Other Important Points:

- **State Election Commissioner with the longest tenure** - Amarsingh Rathore (6 years)
- **State Election Commissioner with the shortest tenure** - Nekram Bhasin.

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Rajasthan Mahila Nidhi Yojana receives ₹3,000 crore loan facility



Why in News?

- Recently, the Rajasthan Mahila Nidhi Yojana received a ₹3,000 crore loan facility from the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).



Key Points:

- The Rajasthan Mahila Nidhi Yojana is a significant scheme launched by the Rajasthan government to economically empower rural women.
- Under this scheme, easy, accessible, and quick loans are provided to Rajeevika Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and their women members.
- Under the scheme, eligible women receive loans up to ₹40,000 in just 48 hours, while loans above this amount are approved in 15 days.
- The scheme is implemented in all 41 districts of Rajasthan and special priority is given to poor, destitute, and disadvantaged women.
- Under this scheme, the government provides interest subsidy on loans to women, enabling them to access loans at only 1.5 percent annual interest.

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Facts for Prelims:

National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC):

- NCDC is a statutory body under the Union Ministry of Cooperation.
- **Established:** In 1963, under an Act of Parliament.
- **Function:** To promote and finance cooperative-development in agriculture, rural industries, and allied sectors.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi (It has 18 regional and state offices across the country).

Objective:

- To promote self-reliant and sustainable cooperatives in agriculture and rural industries.
- Providing cooperatives with access to long-term credit, working capital, and modern infrastructure.
- Providing technical guidance and project preparation support through its regional offices.

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Indo-Japan International Conference 'Biacon-2025'



Why in News?

- The Indo-Japan International Conference 'Biacon-2025' was organized from September 13 to 16, 2025, at the Biyani Group of Colleges in Jaipur to mark the 20th anniversary of the India-Japan Festival.

**BIYANI**
GROUP OF COLLEGES


Anniversary of India-Japan
Fest in Pinkcity of India

BIYANI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
BICON

September 13-16, 2025 | Jaipur, Rajasthan, India

From Collaboration to Transformation:
Advancing India-Japan Year of Science, Technology And Innovation Exchange

Sept. 13
Synergizing efforts in Science and Health for Sustainable Development
Discipline: Science, Nursing & Pharma
Venue: Utsav Auditorium
Biyani Girls College,
Vidhyadhar Nagar, Jaipur

Sept. 15
**Shaping a Sustainable Future:
Uniting Global Industry & Academia
across Diverse Disciplines**
Discipline: Education & Social Sciences
Venue: R.A. Poddar Auditorium
University of Rajasthan Campus, Jaipur
In association with R.A. Poddar Inst. of Management

Sept. 14
**Global Convergence:
Partnerships in Technology,
Business & Law for connected world**
Discipline: Commerce, Management, IT & Law
Venue: R.A. Poddar Auditorium
University of Rajasthan Campus, Jaipur
In association with R.A. Poddar Inst. of Management

Sept. 16
**Exploring New Opportunities
for Study and Career in Japan**
Discipline : High School Students
Venue: Takshila Auditorium
Maheshwari Public School, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur
*Closing Ceremony will take place at Biyani Girls College, Jaipur
In association with The Education Committee of Maheshwari Samaj

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF BICON-2025

- Inauguration of Biyani School of Global Languages
13th September, 2025 (Sat.)
- Entry to the Japanese Industry Zone in Neemrana
15th September, 2025 (Mon.)
- HR Conclave
13-14 September, 2025 (Sat.-Sun.)
- Exclusive Session on Higher Studies in Japan
16th September, 2025 (Tue.)

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Key Points:

- **Conference Inauguration:** The inauguration was conducted by Premchand Bairwa, Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan.
- **Closing Ceremony:** The Governor addressed and inaugurated the 'Global Language Lab' at Biyani College.
- **The main theme of the conference:** 'From Collaboration to Transformation: Advancing the India-Japan Year of Science, Technology, and Innovation Exchange.'
- **The objective of the conference:** Strengthening India-Japan relations and promoting new opportunities for global education, internships, placements, and entrepreneurship for students.



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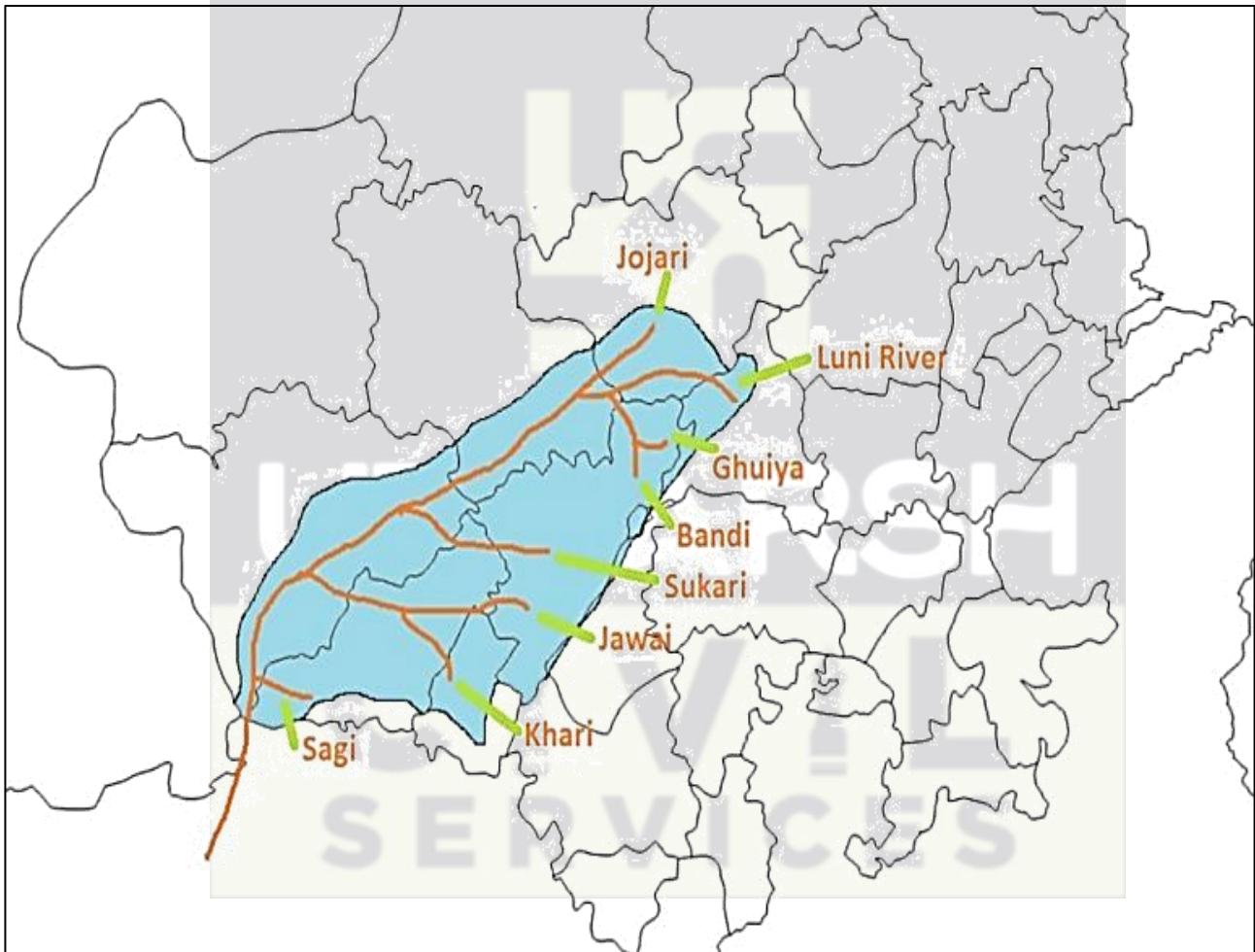
Jodhpur : JALORI GATE CIRCLE, JODHPUR | Support@utkarsh.com | Call us at : 9829 213 213
Jaipur : NEAR MAHESH NAGAR THANA, GOPALPURA BYPASS ROAD, JAIPUR

Supreme Court takes Suo Motu Cognizance of Jojri River



Why in News?

- Recently, the Supreme Court took suo motu cognizance of the increasing pollution in Rajasthan's Jojri River as a result of industrial units.



Key Points:

- The Jojri River has become completely toxic due to industrial waste, causing an environmental crisis.
- A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta ordered the matter regarding the Jojri River to be referred to the Chief Justice of India (CJI) so that appropriate guidelines can be issued.

- The Supreme Court has linked the matter to environmental protection and Article 21 (right to life) of the Constitution and has sought an immediate report from the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB) and the state government.
- Although the Rajasthan government allocated ₹400 crore in 2023, ₹172.58 crore in 2024, and ₹176 crore in 2025-26 to prevent pollution of the Jojri River.

Facts for Prelims:

Jojri River:

- **Origin:** From the hills of Pundlu village in Nagaur district.
- **Total length:** 150 km.
- After emerging from Nagaur, the Jojri River flows through Jodhpur, enters Balotra in the southwest, and joins the Luni River near Siwana.
- It is the only right-bank tributary of the Luni. It is the longest of the Luni's tributaries.
- **Other tributaries of the Luni are:** Jawai, Sukdi, Guhiya, Bandi, Jojri, Mithri, and Khari River.

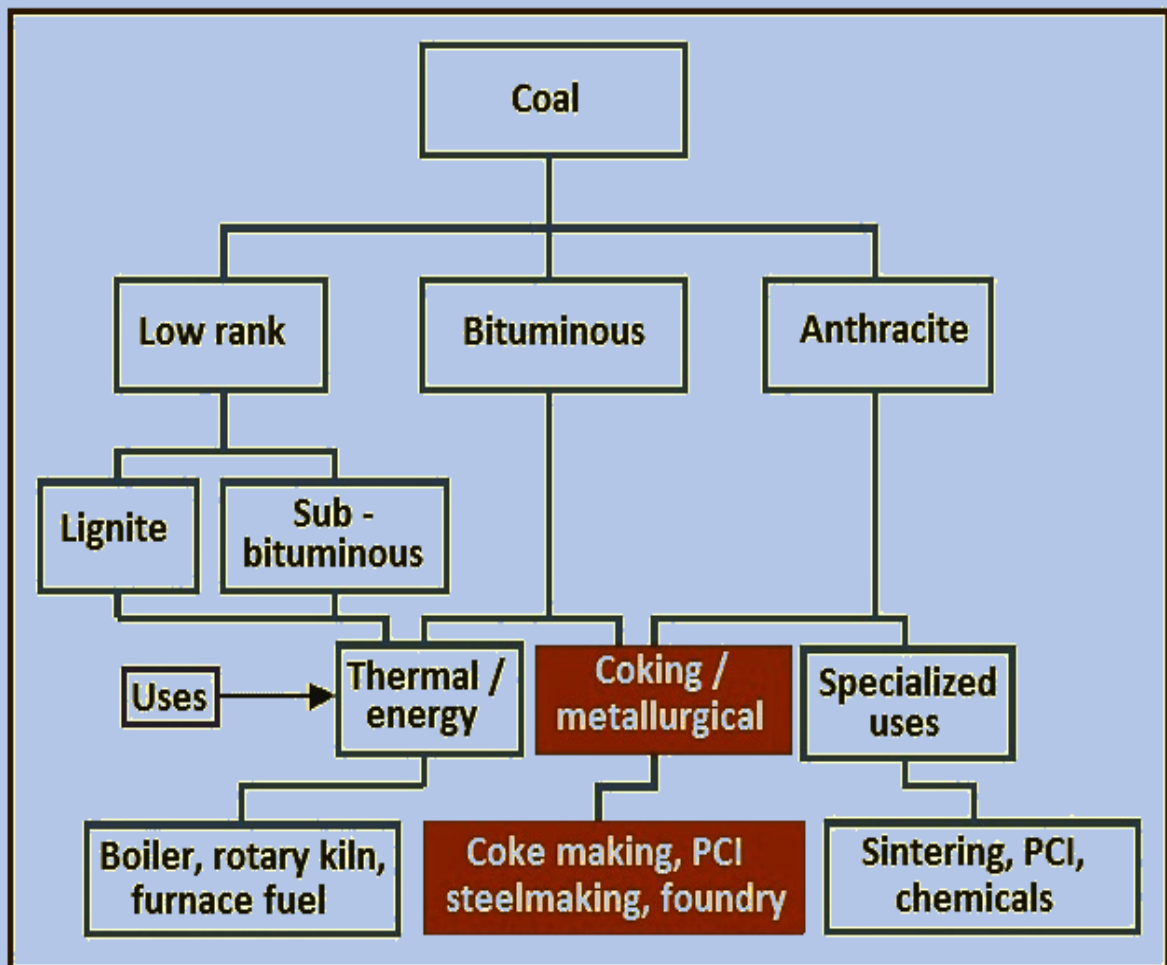
✂ NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	<p>Surtaal Art Festival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari inaugurated the 'Surtaal Art Festival', organized jointly by the Anjana Welfare Society and the Jawahar Kala Kendra, at the Jawahar Kala Kendra in Jaipur on September 16, 2025. Event: September 16 to 25, 2025. Eminent artistic figures from Rajasthan will be honored during the festival. 
2.	<p>'Srijan Ki Suraksha 2025' Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing the inherent connection between nature, revered as 'mother', and women, revered as motherly power, and recognizing the disadvantaged status of both in contemporary society, the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority (RSLSA) is launching a scheme for eco-feminism, 'Srijan Ki Suraksha 2025'. Inspired by the Piplantri model (a village in Rajsamand district), with principles of eco-feminism, this scheme aims to empower women and protect the environment through a collaborative and community-centered approach, leveraging existing legal frameworks. 

3.

Approval for a 3200 MW Coal-based Project

Types of coal and their uses



- Recently, the Empowered Committee of the Central Government approved the establishment of a 3200 MW coal-based project in Rajasthan.
- The establishment of this 3200 MW coal-based project will result in an investment of approximately ₹40,000 crore, which will increase revenue and create employment opportunities in the state.

4.

National Tribal Food Festival-2025: Udaipur



- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, will organize the 'National Tribal Food Festival-2025' in Udaipur from September 17 to 19, 2025, to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Lord Birsa Munda.
- **Organiser:** Manikyalal Verma Tribal Research and Training Institute, Udaipur.



Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act)



Why in News?

- The Supreme Court has ruled that political parties cannot be considered "workplaces." Therefore, the provisions of the POSH Act do not apply to them.





Key Points:

POSH Act 2013:

- This Act is based on the 1997 Vishakha judgment.
- This law applies to workplaces in:
 - o Government and Private sectors
 - o Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
 - o Educational institutions
 - o Hospitals and Sports complexes
 - o Domestic workers.
- **Internal Complaints Committee:** Its formation is mandatory in workplaces with 10 or more employees.
 - o At least 50% of the members and the chairperson of this committee must be women.
- **Local Complaints Committee:** This is formed in each district. It addresses complaints related to workplaces with fewer than 10 employees.
- Complaints must be filed with the Internal Complaints Committee or the Local Complaints Committee within a period of 3 months from the date of the incident, and an investigation must be completed within 90 days.

World Heritage Convention Tentative List: UNESCO





Key Points:

- Seven natural sites in India are recently added to the Tentative List of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention.
- This increases the total number of Indian sites on the UNESCO Tentative List to 69.
- Inclusion of any site or monument in the Tentative List is mandatory before it can be included in the World Heritage List.

7 Indian sites included in the Tentative List:

- **Deccan Traps in Panchgani and Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra):** This volcanic region is one of the largest in the world, containing basalt lava flows and a high level of biodiversity.
- **Geological Heritage of St. Mary's Islands (Karnataka):** Located off the coast of Udupi, these islands are renowned for their unique hexagonal columnar basaltic rock formations resulting from volcanic activity.
- **Meghalayan Age Caves (Meghalaya):** These extensive cave systems found in the East Khasi Hills are known for their geological significance, with one cave identified as a symbol of the Meghalayan Age.
- **Naga Hill Ophiolite (Nagaland):** Located in the Kiphire region, this site has the rare geological feature of an oceanic plate pushing against a continental plate. It also serves as a habitat for many endangered species.
- **Natural Heritage of Erra Matti Dibbalu (Andhra Pradesh):** Located near Visakhapatnam, these 'red sand hills' or 'red sand dunes' are considered national geoheritage monuments, reflecting past climate changes and sea-level fluctuations.
- **Natural Heritage of Tirumala Hills (Andhra Pradesh):** Part of the Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve, these hills are a biodiversity hotspot known for their unique Eparchean Unconformity geological feature.
- **Natural Heritage of Varkala (Kerala):** The site is famous for its coastal cliffs and unique geological formations, which are also a notified National Geoheritage Monument.



INTERNATIONAL



Busan International Film Festival, 2025



Why in News?

- India will participate in the Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) 2025 and the Asian Content and Film Market (ACFM) in South Korea.
- Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Dr. L. Murugan, will lead India's first ministerial delegation to BIFF.



BIFF



30th BUSAN
International Film Festival
17-26 September 2025



Key Points:

- **Edition:** 30th
- **Venue:** Busan, South Korea
- **Event Date:** September 17-26, 2025

Key Features of India's Participation:

- **'Waves Bazaar' Initiative:** India pavilions will be set up at both BIFF and ACFM under the theme "India - Creative Economy for the World."

Indian Cinema Showcased at Busan:

- India's performance this year is the most impressive yet, with over ten films showcasing the diversity of Indian narratives:

- **Spying Stars (Padma Shri Nila Madhab Panda)** is competing in the inaugural competition section.

- **If on a Winter Night (Sanju Surendran)**
- **Kok Kok Kokuk (Maharishi Tuhin Kashyap)**
- **Shape of Momo (Tribeni Roy)**
- **Bayan (Bikas Ranjan Mishra)**
- **Don't Tell Mother (Anoop Lokur)**
- **Full Plate (Tannishtha Chatterjee)**
- **Karinji (Sheetal N.S.)**
- **I, Poppy (Vivek Chaudhary)**

Five Indian projects have been selected for the Co-Production Market at the Asian Content and Film Market (ACFM):

- **Difficult Daughters:** Directed by Soni Razdan; Produced by Alia Bhatt, Shaheen Bhatt, Alan McAlex, and Greeshma Shah.
- **The Last of Them Plagues:** Directed by Kunjila Maskilamani; produced by Payal Kapadia, Jio Baby, and Kani Kusruti.
- **Lanka (The Fire):** Directed by Saurav Rai; produced by Sudipta Sadhukhan, Viraj Sailot, and Ankita Purkayastha.
- **Moon:** Directed and produced by Pradeep Kurba.
- **The Magical Men:** Directed by Biplab Sarkar; co-produced by India and international partners.
- **Bharat Parv:** The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting will organize "Bharat Parv," a cultural evening of Indian art, music, and cuisine.

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Other Important Points:

About BIFF and ACFM:

- The Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) is one of Asia's most prestigious film festivals, recognized by FIAPF along with the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) and the Cannes Film Festival. The Asian Contents and Film Market (ACFM) serves as a leading co-production and financing platform, connecting filmmakers with global investors and partners.
- **Busan International Short Film Festival:** Started in 1980.
- **54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI):** Will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28, 2025.

-:20:-

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy unveiled the first National Policy on Geothermal Energy.

Why in News?

- The policy aims to make geothermal energy a major part of the country's renewable energy mix and achieve India's ambitious target of net-zero emissions by 2070.



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Key Points:

Key features of the policy:

- Identification of 381 hot water springs and 10 provinces as potential areas.
- Support for both high-enthalpy (power) and low-enthalpy (heating, cooling, agriculture, industry, etc.) uses.
- It covers all aspects from resource assessment to end-use, including hybrid systems, storage, and repurposing oil/gas wells for geothermal energy.

Sustainability and Regulation

- The policy ensures safe reinjection (reinjecting water back into the ground) in sensitive areas, compliance with regulations, and stakeholder consultation.
- Single-window clearances have been provided through state nodal agencies.

Financing

- 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) has been permitted and collaboration with domestic innovation and the oil and gas sector has been promoted.
- Risk-sharing, concessional loans, viability gap financing (VGF), green bonds, feed-in tariffs, and blended finance have been offered.
- Grants, tax/GST exemptions, tax holidays, accelerated depreciation, and property tax relief have been proposed.
- **Collaboration and Capacity Building:** International collaboration and peer learning have been promoted.

Leases and Data Infrastructure

- **Exploration leases:** 3-5 years, development leases: up to 30+ years, with concessional land.
- A centralized geothermal data repository will be established with provision for mandatory data submission.

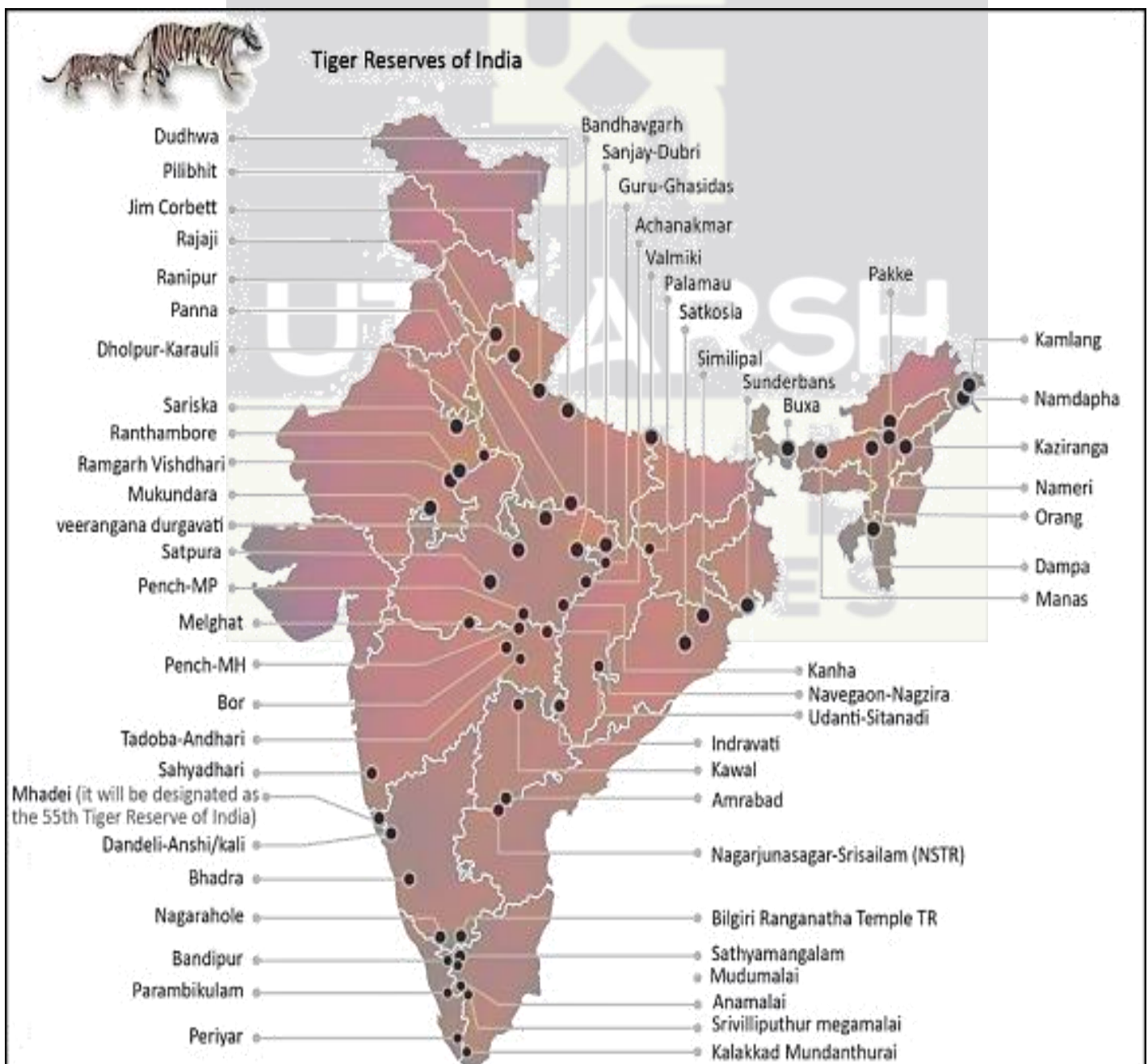
Simlipal Tiger Reserve (STR)



Why in News?

- Recently, the Union Environment Ministry has ordered an investigation into allegations of fraudulently obtaining consent for the relocation of villagers from the core area of the Simlipal Tiger Reserve.

Simlipal Tiger Reserve:



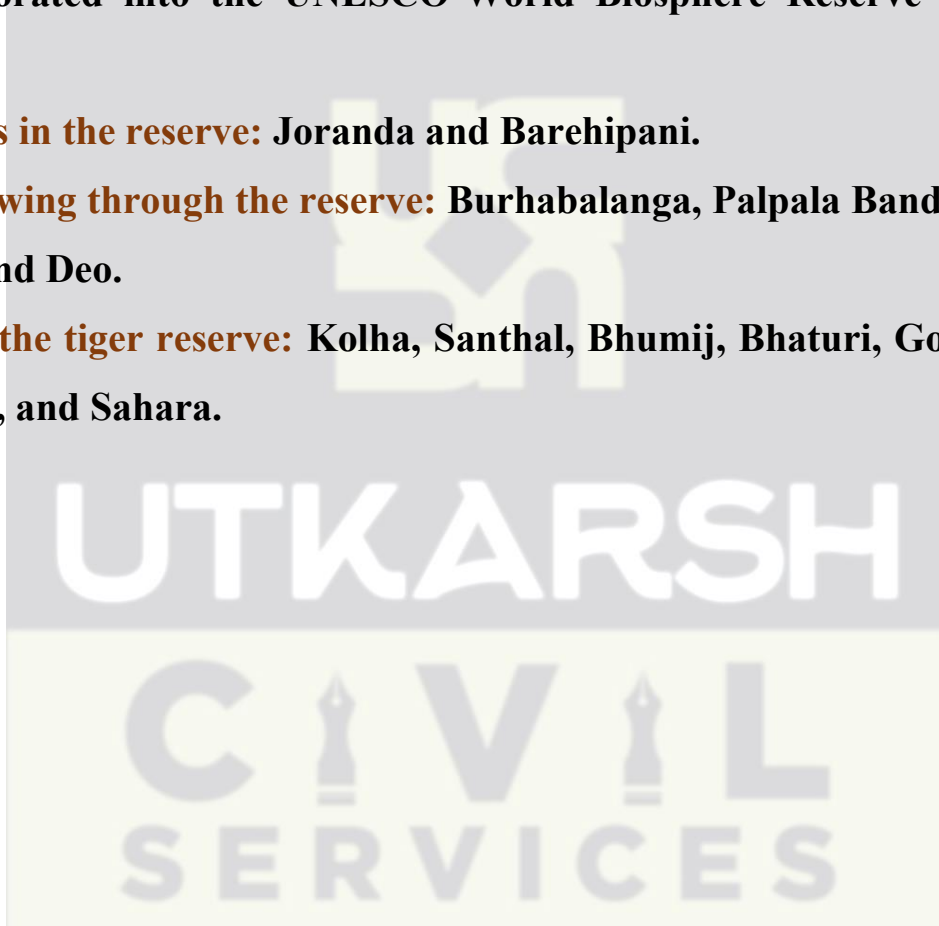
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Key Points:

- **Location:** Mayurbhanj district, Odisha.
- **Notification:** Declared a tiger reserve in 1956 and included under Project Tiger in 1973.
 - o Incorporated into the UNESCO-World Biosphere Reserve Network in 2009.
- **Waterfalls in the reserve:** Joranda and Barehipani.
- **Rivers flowing through the reserve:** Burhabalanga, Palpala Bandan, Salandi, Kahari, and Deo.
- **Tribes in the tiger reserve:** Kolha, Santhal, Bhumij, Bhaturi, Gond, Kharia, Mankidia, and Sahara.



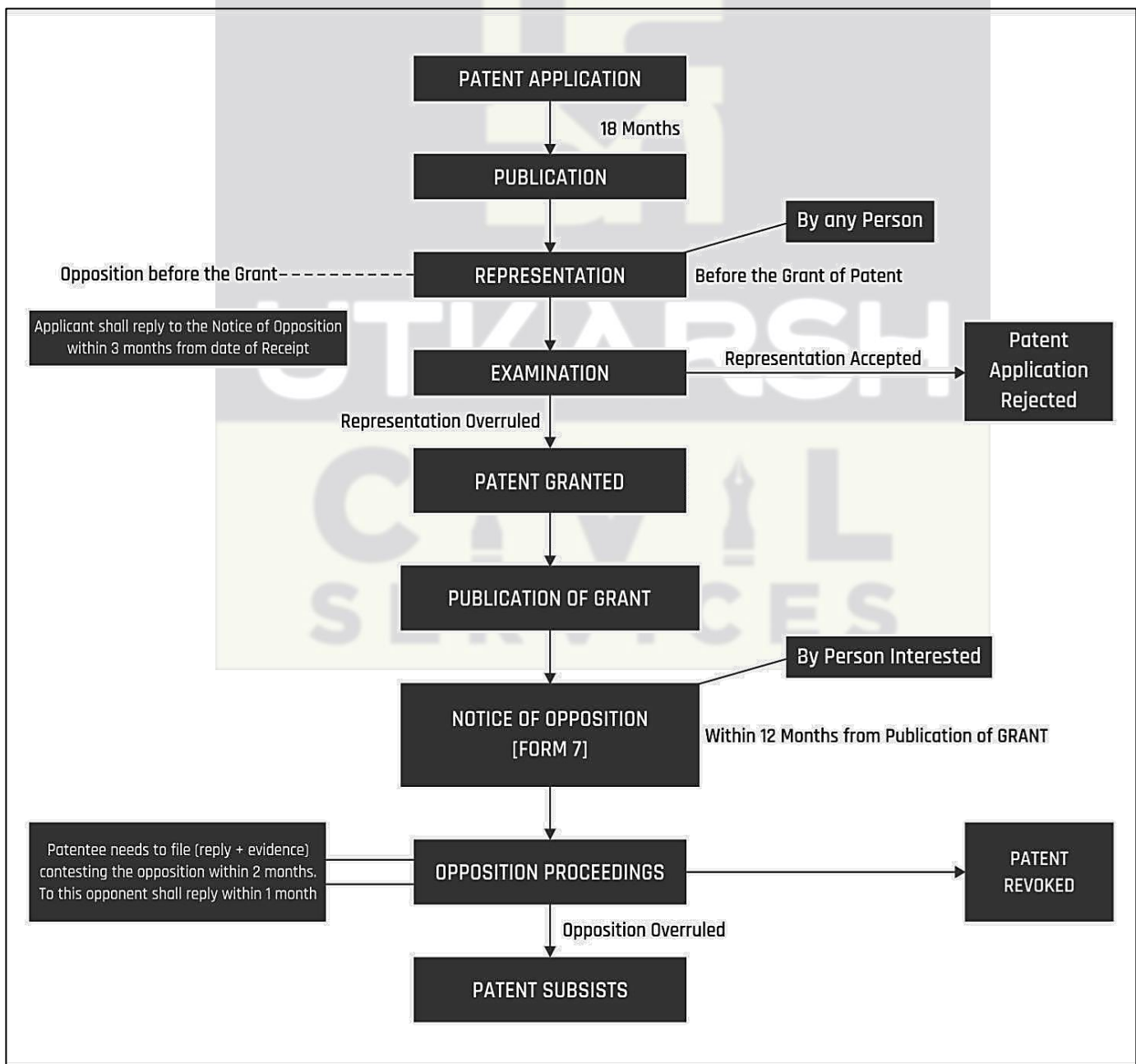
⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ⌚

Section 3(d) of the Indian Patent Act, 1970



Why in News?

- The Indian Patent Office (IPO) has revoked the patent for Novartis's heart disease drug Vymada under Section 3(d) of the Patent Act.





Key Points:

About Section 3(d) of the Patent Act

- It aims to prevent the practice of "evergreening" patents. Evergreening means extending the term of a patent by making minor modifications to an existing drug without any significant therapeutic improvement.

Significance of Section 3(d)

- Ensures the availability of affordable medicines, expanding India's role as the "Pharmacy of the World."
- It is in line with the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and the Doha Declaration on Public Health (2001).
- Encourages genuine innovation.
- Strikes a balance between incentives for innovation and the availability of affordable medicines.



SCHEMES



National Gokul Mission



Why in News?

- The Prime Minister inaugurated the 'Sex Sorted Semen' Centre established under the "National Gokul Mission" scheme in Bihar.

Bringing prosperity with **RASHTRIYA GOKUL MISSION**



Rs. 2,316 crore disbursed to the States/UTs in the **last 5 years**



Over 8 crore dairy farmers benefited



19 bovine IVF Labs formed



2 National Kamdhenu Breeding Centres established





Key Points:

- 'Semen-sex sorting' is a technique that increases the chances of birth of female calves with approximately 90% accuracy.

National Gokul Mission:

- **Launch:** 2014
- **Ministry:** Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- **Scheme Type:** Central Sector Scheme

Objectives:

- Development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds.
- Genetic improvement of bovine populations.
- Increasing milk production and productivity of bovine progeny.
- **Related Department:** Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India.



ECONOMIC SCENARIO

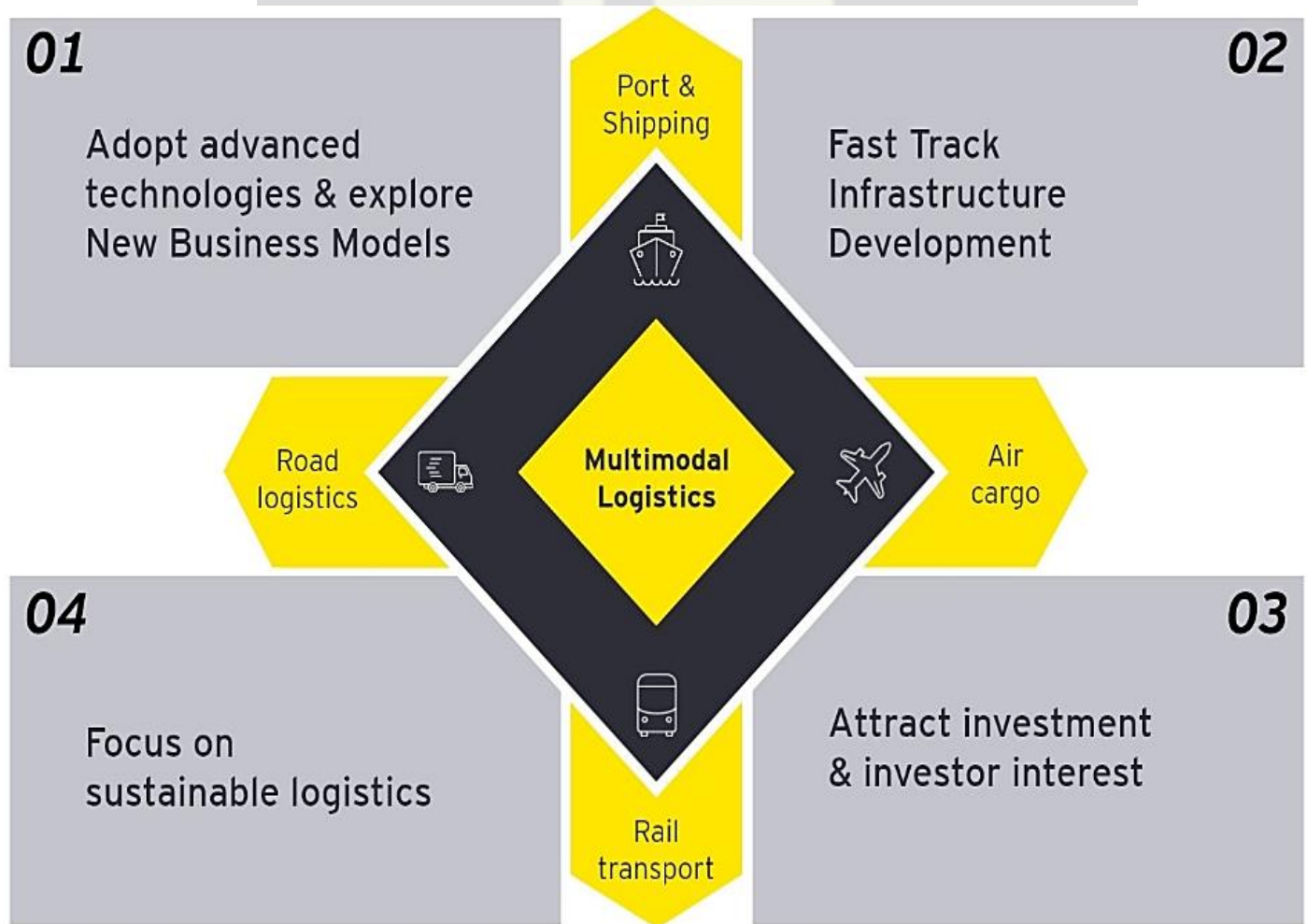


National Logistics Policy: Three Years Completed



Why in News?

- The National Logistics Policy (NLP) completes three years on September 17, 2025.



Key Points:

- **Launch:** September 17, 2022
- **Department:** Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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- The National Logistics Policy focuses on strengthening soft infrastructure, promoting digitization, fostering human resource development, and enabling regulatory reforms.
 - **Objective:** To reduce logistics costs to global standards, improve India's ranking in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI) to the top 25 by 2030, and establish a robust, data-driven decision support system to ensure an efficient and integrated logistics ecosystem.
 - **Duration:** 2022-2025
 - **Target:** To be among the top 10 in the Logistics Performance Index by 2030.
- Key Achievements:**
- It has facilitated secure API integration across more than 30 digital systems, enabling over 1.6 billion digital transactions by August 2025.
 - The Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) is included under the National Logistics Policy.
 - It has facilitated secure API integration across more than 30 digital systems.
 - The Logistics Ease of Doing Business (LEADS) Index assesses logistics performance across states and union territories.
 - The Logistics Data Bank has tracked over 75 million EXIM containers across 101 Inland Container Depots (ICDs).
 - The 2024 version incorporated new criteria such as corridor access and terminal speed, while the 2025 version incorporated digital logistics and sustainability standards.
 - LEADS (Logistics Ease Across Different States) played a key role in India's rise to 38th position in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index.

-:30:-

- Large-scale Multi-Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs) are being developed to improve multi-modal transportation by integrating services such as customs clearance, cold storage, and packaging.
- The e-Logs portal has engaged over 35 logistics and industry associations and successfully resolved 100 out of 140 issues raised by stakeholders.
- To improve digital integration and ease of doing business, an institutional mechanism called the Service Improvement Group (SIG) has been established to address policy and regulatory issues.
- In pursuit of green and sustainable logistics, the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore has developed the Transport Emission Measurement Tool (TEMT).

Other Key Points:

- **Logistics:** It involves the planning, coordination, storage, and movement of resources—people, raw materials, inventory, equipment, etc.—from one location to another, from production points to consumption, distribution, or other production points.

🎓 POLITY 🎓

Representation of the People Act



Why in News?

- Regarding Section 23(4) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, the Supreme Court has clarified that voters can use Aadhaar numbers, as this provision allows it.

The First Schedule

Allocation of seats in the House of the People

The Second Schedule

Total number of seats in the Legislative Assemblies

The Third Schedule

Allocation of seats in the Legislative Councils

The Fourth Schedule

Local authorities for purposes of elections to Legislative Councils

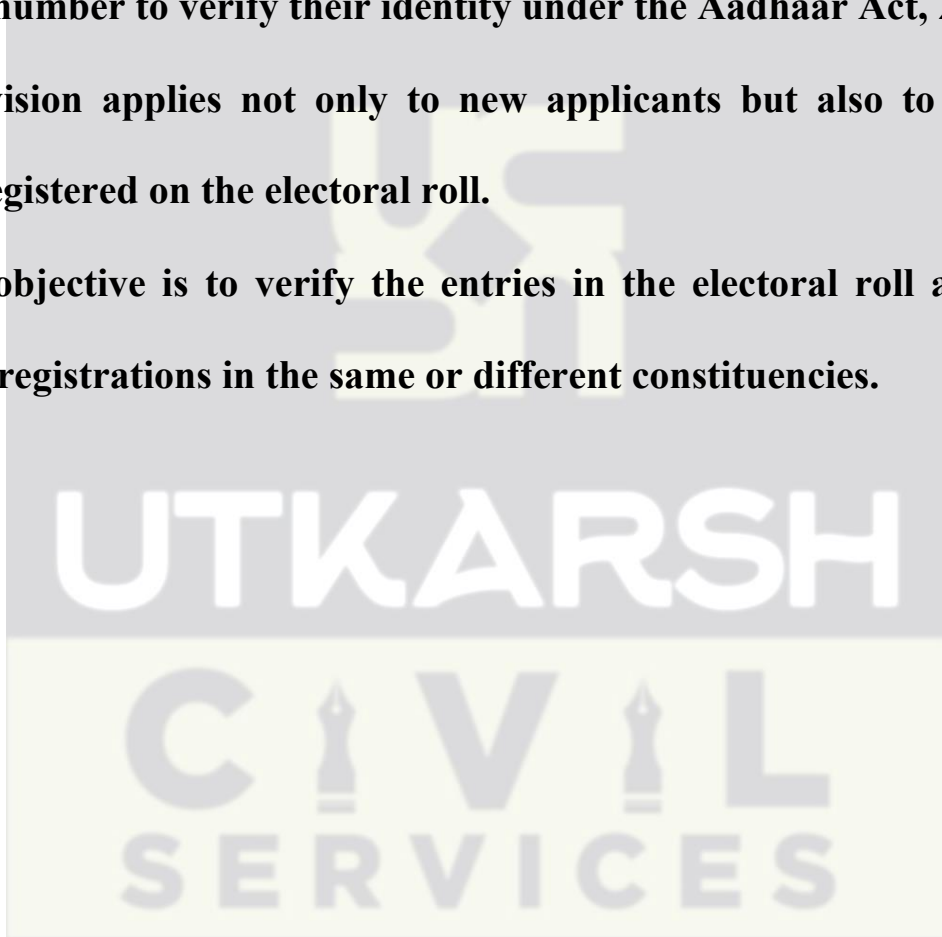
RPA, 1950 Schedules



Key Points:

Provisions of Section 23(4):

- The Electoral Registration Officer may require a person to provide their Aadhaar number to verify their identity under the Aadhaar Act, 2016.
- This provision applies not only to new applicants but also to individuals already registered on the electoral roll.
- Its main objective is to verify the entries in the electoral roll and identify duplicate registrations in the same or different constituencies.





INDEXES AND REPORTS



AI for a Developed India: An Opportunity for Accelerated Economic Growth Report: NITI Aayog



Why in News?

- According to the NITI Aayog report, AI can play a key role in achieving economic growth rates of over 8% to realize the vision of a 'Developed India.'





Key Points:

- Widespread use of AI could increase India's projected GDP from \$6.6 trillion to the ambitious target of \$8.3 trillion by 2035, covering nearly half of the required growth gap.

Three Key Aspects Highlighted in the Report

- **Accelerating AI Adoption in Industries:** This could account for 30-35% of the required growth, such as the use of AI in banking and manufacturing.
- **Research and Development from Generative AI:** This can contribute around 20-30% to the required growth, such as AI-enabled drug discovery, software-assisted vehicles, etc.
- **Innovation in technology services:** This can contribute an additional 15-20% to the required growth.

MILITARY EXERCISES

Multinational Exercise Pacific Reach, 2025 (XPR, 25)



Why in News?

- On September 14, 2025, the Indian Navy's latest indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessel (DSV), INS Nistar, participated in the multinational exercise Pacific Reach 2025 (XPR, 25).



Key Points:

- **Commencement of Exercise:** September 15, 2025
- **Host Country:** Singapore.
- **Active Participant or Observer Countries:** More than 40.
- **Venue:** Changi Naval Base, Singapore; Sea Phase Conducted in South China Sea.

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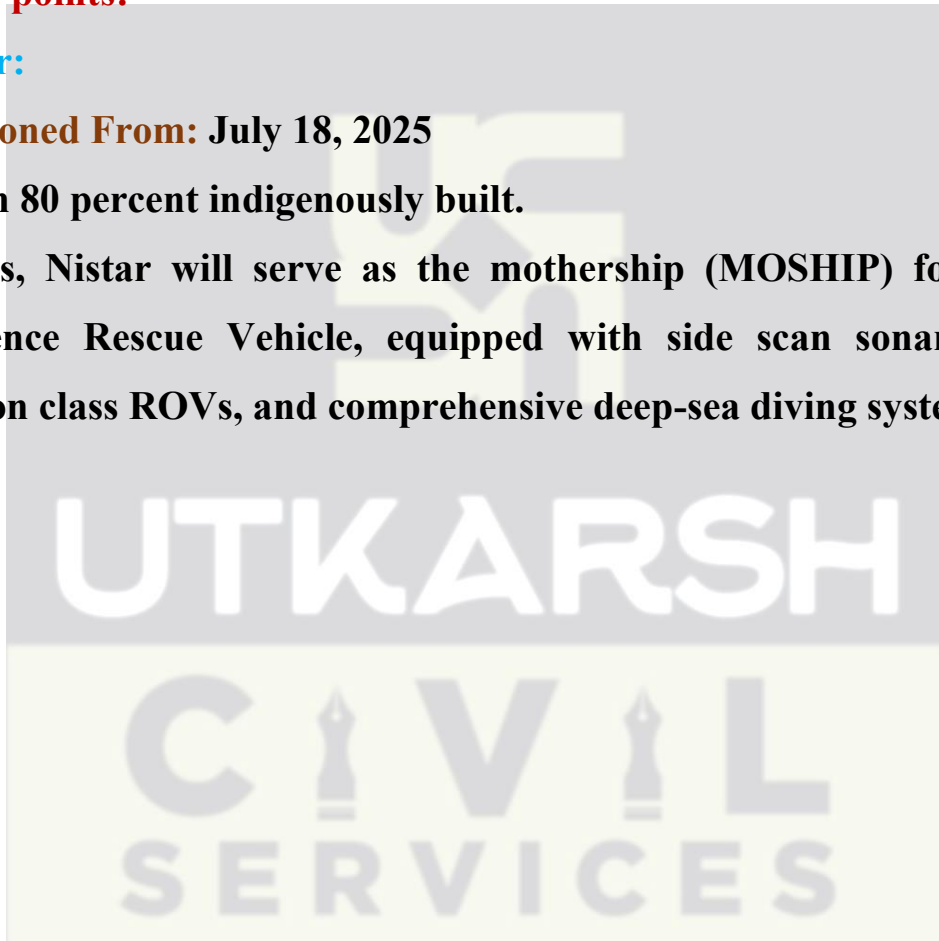


- **Objective:** To bring together submarine rescue platforms and assets operated by different countries to streamline procedures, develop best practices, and enhance interoperability.
- **Phases:** The exercise will be conducted in two phases: harbor and sea phases.

Other key points:

INS Nistar:

- **Commissioned From:** July 18, 2025
- More than 80 percent indigenously built.
- In Abhyas, Nistar will serve as the mothership (MOSHIP) for the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle, equipped with side scan sonar, task and observation class ROVs, and comprehensive deep-sea diving systems.





IMPORTANT DAYS



31st World Ozone Day: September 16



Why in News?

- On September 16, 2025, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) organized the 31st World Ozone Day in New Delhi to commemorate the signing of the Montreal Protocol.



Key Points:

- **Theme for 2025:** 'From Science to Global Action'.
- **Reason:** The Montreal Protocol, signed on September 16, 1987, regulates the production and consumption of man-made chemicals referred to as ozone-depleting substances (ODS).
- **First World Ozone Day:** Held in 1994.

Key Highlights of World Ozone Day 2025

1. **Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)** were provided with refrigeration and air conditioning (RAC) training equipment.
2. A short video film on 'Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) Training Equipment Support to Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)' was released.
3. **Content Releases:**
 - Announcement of the winning entries from the online national-level poster and slogan competitions for schoolchildren
 - The 27th edition of 'Montreal Protocol: India's Success Story' was released, highlighting India's achievements in Montreal Protocol implementation.

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4. Publications Released

- Study on the techno-economic feasibility of district cooling systems (DCS) in India.
- Study on alternative technologies with low global warming potential (GWP) for chillers in large air-conditioned buildings.
- Study on best practices for installation and maintenance of ammonia/alternative technologies with low global warming potential in the cold chain.
- Study on low GWP technologies in the transport cooling sector.

Other important points:

- India has achieved the target of reducing HCFC production and consumption by 67.5 percent and completely eliminated HCFC-141B.
- India successfully phased out ODS such as chlorofluorocarbons, carbon tetrachloride, halons, methyl bromide, and methyl chloroform for controlled use by January 1, 2010.

Ozone:

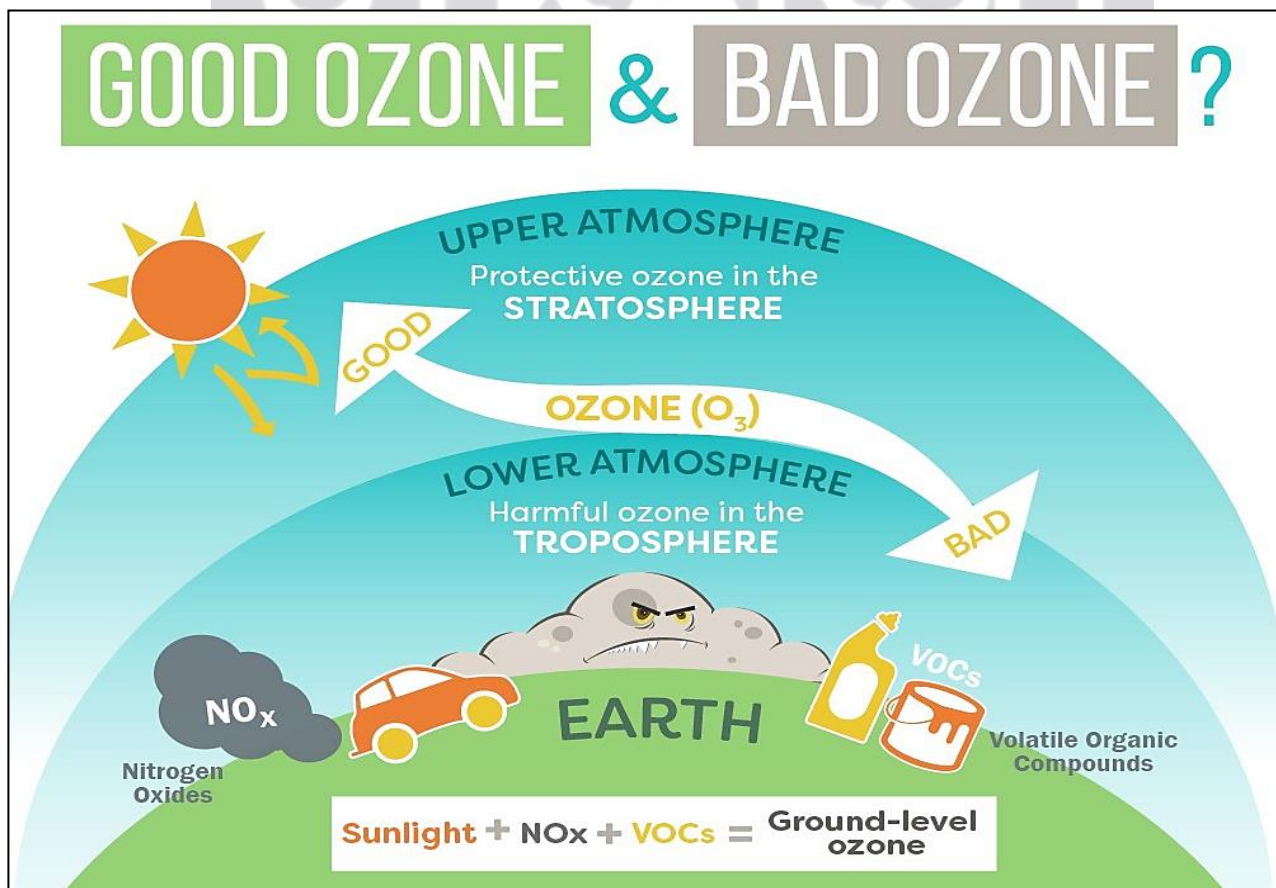
- **Atomic:** It is a gas composed of three atoms of oxygen.
- **Chemical properties:** Ozone is a pale blue gas with a characteristic odor at room temperature that is slightly soluble in water.
- **Availability:** It is found in two main regions of the Earth's atmosphere; the stratosphere and the troposphere.
- **Importance:** The ozone layer, approximately 10 to 40 miles above the Earth's surface, reduces the amount of harmful ultraviolet radiation (UV radiation) reaching the Earth's surface.
 - This protective layer, known as stratospheric ozone or good ozone, prevents adverse health effects such as cataracts and skin cancer and protects agriculture, forestry, and aquatic life.

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 17 September, 2025



- **Global efforts:** The Vienna Convention was signed in 1985 and the Montreal Protocol in 1987.
- **India signed the Montreal Protocol on:** June 1992
- **Gothenburg Protocol:** The Gothenburg Protocol was established in 1999 to control pollutants that cause acidification and tropospheric ozone depletion.
- It sets limits on air pollutants including sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, ammonia, and volatile organic compounds that are hazardous to human health and the environment.
- **Montreal Protocol:** The Montreal Protocol was signed on September 16, 1987, with the aim of controlling the production and consumption of various substances that deplete the ozone layer.
- The Kigali Amendment (2016) agreed in Montreal to phase out fluorocarbon (HFC) products and components.



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National Engineers Day



Why in News?

- September 15, the birth anniversary of M. Visvesvaraya (1861–1962), is celebrated as National Engineers Day.



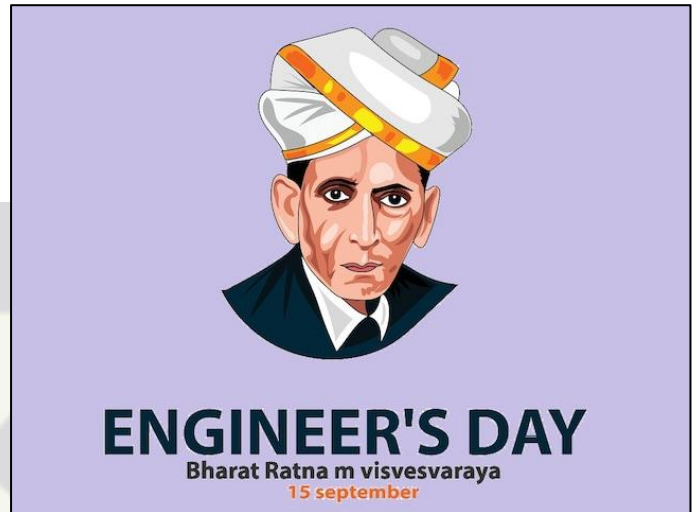
Key Points:

M. Visvesvaraya:

- **Born:** Muddenahalli (Karnataka).
- **Education:** Civil Engineering from the College of Engineering, Pune.

Contributions

- He designed a pipe siphon in a channel of the Panzara River, which helped in water management.
- He was the chief engineer in the construction of the Krishna Raja Sagara Dam in Mysore.
- **Administrator:** Served as the Diwan of Mysore and founded the University of Mysore which revolutionized irrigation and water management in southern India.
- **Works:** Published books on the Indian economy, "The Reconstruction of India" and "The Planned Economy of India."
- **Honors:** He was awarded India's highest civilian honor, the Bharat Ratna, in 1955.





Important Mission

Swachhata Hi Seva Abhiyan, 2025



Why in News?

- The Swachhata Hi Seva Abhiyan, 2025 was launched on September 17, 2025, under the Swachh Bharat Mission.



कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम
Employees' State Insurance Corporation
श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India

स्वच्छता ही सेवा अभियान 2025



स्वच्छ और हरित भारत की ओर कदम बढ़ाएँ!
(17 सितम्बर - 2 अक्टूबर 2025)


मुख्य कार्यक्रम

25 सितम्बर को पूरे देश में श्रमदान
एक दिन, एक घंटा, सबके साथ!

लक्ष्य

- गंदी जगहों को साफ-सुथरा और अच्छा बनाना।
- बाजार और भीड़ वाले इलाकों को साफ-सुथरा रखना
- सफाई मित्र के लिए स्वास्थ्य जांच और मदद शिविर





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Key Points:

- **Edition:** 9th.
- **Duration From:** September 17 to October 2, 2025 (15 days).
- **Organized by:** Jointly launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- **Theme for 2025:** 'Swachh otsav'
- **Focus for 2025:** Cleanliness Targeted Units (CTUs) – namely, dark spots, neglected and inaccessible areas, and areas with excessive waste.
- **Nationwide Voluntary Labour Donation Campaign** – “One Day, One Hour, Together” to be held: September 25, 2025
- **Swachhata Utsav is based on five key pillars:**
 - (i) **Conversion of Cleanliness Target Units (CTUs)** – Elimination of difficult, dark, and neglected areas.
 - (ii) **Swachhata Sarvajanik Sthal** – General sanitation and cleaning activities in public places.
 - (iii) **Safaimitra Suraksha Shivir** – Health check-ups of sanitation workers for their well-being through single-window service, safety, and respect camps.
 - (iv) **Swachhata Harit Utsav** – Organizing eco-friendly and zero-waste festivals.
 - (v) **Public Awareness for Sanitation** – Spreading the message of sanitation to the masses, especially in rural India, with an emphasis on Gram Sabhas for the ODF Plus model and the declaration of Swachh Sujal Village.