

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 11 October, 2025



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RAJASTHAN



Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana: Rajasthan Ranks First



Why in News?

- In the rankings released under the 'Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana', the state of Rajasthan has secured the first position in the country for the month of September 2025.



Key Points:

- The rankings are based on the overall progress of the scheme on the parameters of beneficiary registration, payment to beneficiaries and cash benefit transfer to beneficiaries within 30 days, and prompt resolution of all complaints received.
- Under this scheme in Rajasthan, more than 16 lakh beneficiaries have been benefited by providing benefits worth Rs 552 crore from the year 2023-24 to September 2025.

'Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana' (PMMVY)

- **Launched by** the Central Government on January 1, 2017, as a centrally sponsored maternity benefit scheme.
- This scheme is a key component of the Government of India's 'Mission Shakti' related to women empowerment.
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Women and Child Development.

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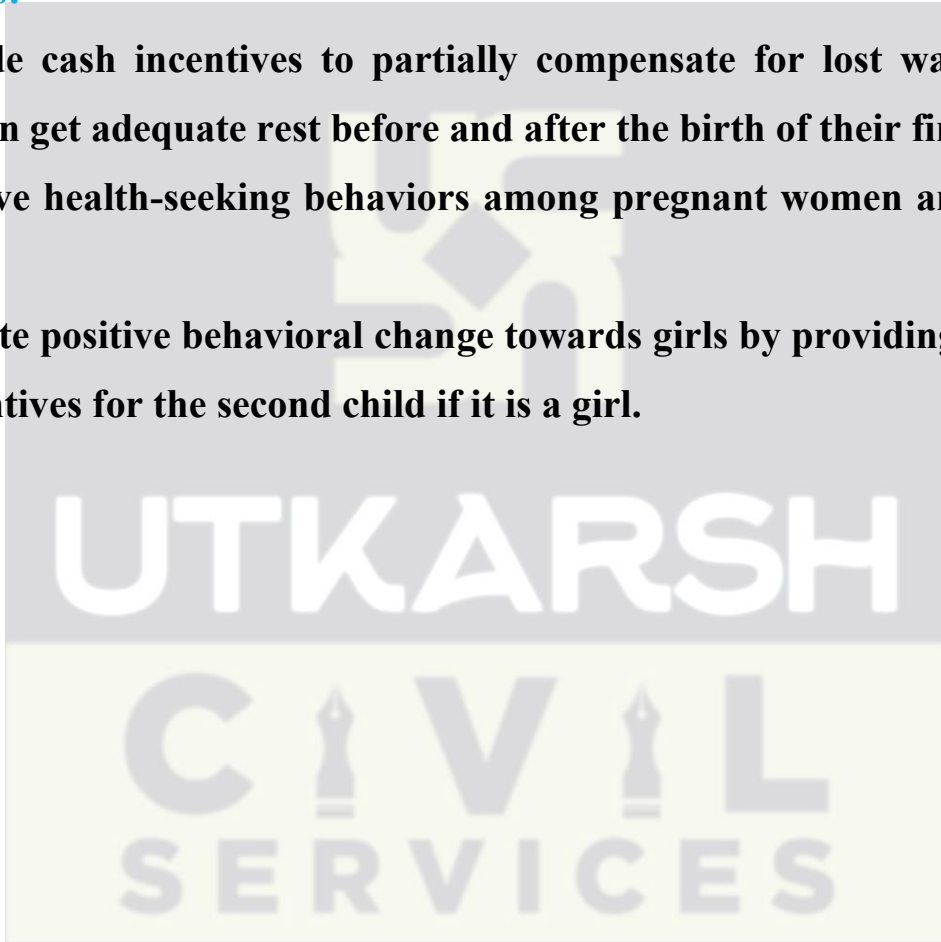
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- **Provision:** Under the scheme, a first-time pregnant woman is provided with ₹5,000 in two installments, and a second-time pregnant woman is provided with a lump sum of ₹6,000 only upon the birth of the girl child and completion of vaccination.

Objectives:

- To provide cash incentives to partially compensate for lost wages so that women can get adequate rest before and after the birth of their first child;
- To improve health-seeking behaviors among pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- To promote positive behavioral change towards girls by providing additional cash incentives for the second child if it is a girl.



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Rajasthan Land Revenue (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2025



Why in News?

- On October 3, 2025, the Governor approved the Rajasthan Land Revenue (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2025.



Key Points:

- **Amendment:** This bill amends the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act, 1956.
- **Objective:** The amendment bill will simplify the management of land parcels under the Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited (RIICO), as well as the processes of their exchange, land conversion, etc.
- **Effective:** The provisions of the amendment bill will not apply to any land allotted for industrial purposes on or before 18.09.1979, whose lease has been cancelled by the State Government or RIICO, on or before the date of passage of the bill.

Other Important Points:

Amendment to the Rajasthan Land Revenue (Land Allotment for Establishment of Power Plants) Rules, 2007:

- Recently, the Rajasthan Revenue Department amended the land allotment rules for the establishment of renewable energy source plants.
- According to the amendment, government or private companies will have to pay rent for setting up plants such as solar or wind power. This rent has been fixed at ₹30,000 per hectare per year.

Facts for Prelims:

Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited (RIICO)

- RIICO is a government undertaking, established on March 28, 1969, as the Rajasthan State Industrial and Mineral Development Corporation (RSIMDC) under the Companies Act, 1956.
- On January 1, 1980, it was split into two separate entities:
 1. **RIICO** – Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited.
 2. **RSMDCL** – Rajasthan State Mineral Development Corporation.

Main Functions:

- It develops industrial areas in various parts of the state.
- As a financial institution, it provides loans to small, medium, and large industries.
- It provides financial assistance, technical guidance, and support in infrastructure development to industries.
- In the year 2021-22, RIICO was awarded as the best SIIDC (State Industrial Development Corporation) in the country by COSIDICI.

NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	Professor Puran Koli ■ Professor Puran Koli of the Department of Chemistry at Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur, has been recognized by Stanford University, California, among the top 2 percent of research scientists in the world for the year 2025. ■ Professor Koli has been recognized for his innovative research work in solar energy conversion and storage. He has developed simple, affordable, and sustainable photovoltaic cells.
2.	Group Captain Yogesh Parihar ■ Group Captain Yogesh Parihar was awarded the President's Award for Distinguished Service Medal on the Indian Air Force's Foundation Day. ■ Group Captain Yogesh Parihar of Jodhpur joined the Indian Air Force in 2003.
3.	People's Poet Pradeep Sharma Sahitya Samman - 2025 ■ Bikaner poet, lyricist, and musician Rajendra Swarnkar was awarded the 'People's Poet Pradeep Sharma Sahitya Samman - 2025'. ■ This award was given at a ceremony organized by the Hindi Sahitya Sansad, Churu.

4. **Fourth Edition of the Prime Volleyball League: Hyderabad**

- Five players from Rajasthan were selected for the fourth edition of the Prime Volleyball League held in Hyderabad.
- Sandeep (Churu) – Bengaluru Torpedoes team.
- Ashok Bishnoi (Barmer) – Calicut Heroes team.
- Dushyant Singh and Rohit Yadav (Jaipur) – Goa Guardians team.
- Kamlesh Khatik (Bhilwara) – Mumbai Meteors team.

5. **Mayo College's 150th Anniversary**

- Mayo College, Ajmer, is celebrating its 150th anniversary in October 2025.
- Mayo College was founded in 1875, by Richard Bourke, who also served as Viceroy of India from 1869 to 1872.
- The school is one of the oldest public boarding schools in India.
- The first student of this school was Maharaja Mangal Singh of Alwar.

6. **Rajasthan's First Community Radio Station**

- Recently, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology (MPUAT), Udaipur, launched 'Rajasthan's First Community Radio Station'.
- The community radio station launched by the university is named 'MPUAT Pratap Radio 90.4 FM'.
- This radio station will include programs related to crop pest control, market prices, animal husbandry, horticulture, education, and entertainment.

7.

Hotel Rambagh Palace: Jaipur

- Hotel Rambagh Palace has been named the Best Hotel in India in the Condé Nast Traveler UK Readers' Choice Awards 2025.
- Additionally, the hotel ranked 14th among the Best Hotels in India in the Condé Nast Traveler US Readers' Choice Awards.
- Hotel Rambagh Palace is also known as the 'Jewel of Jaipur'.

8.

World Mental Health Day: State-Level Event

- A state-level event for World Mental Health Day was organized at the Rajasthan International Centre in Jaipur.
- World Mental Health Day is celebrated every year on October 10th.
- **Theme for the year 2025:** 'Mental Health in Humanitarian Emergencies.'
- **Dipika Padukon:** The Union Health Ministry appointed Dipika Padukone as India's first ever Mental Health Ambassador, on World Mental Health Day. She will partner with government to promote awareness, break stigme, and support the initiatives like Tele MANAS.

9.

Salawas Sewage Treatment Plant

- A project involving the reuse of treated wastewater from a sewage treatment plant (STP) is being implemented in Salawas, Jodhpur, with Israeli cooperation.
- **Partner agencies of the Salawas STP:** Israeli Embassy, Jodhpur Municipal Corporation, and the Council on Energy, Environment and Water.

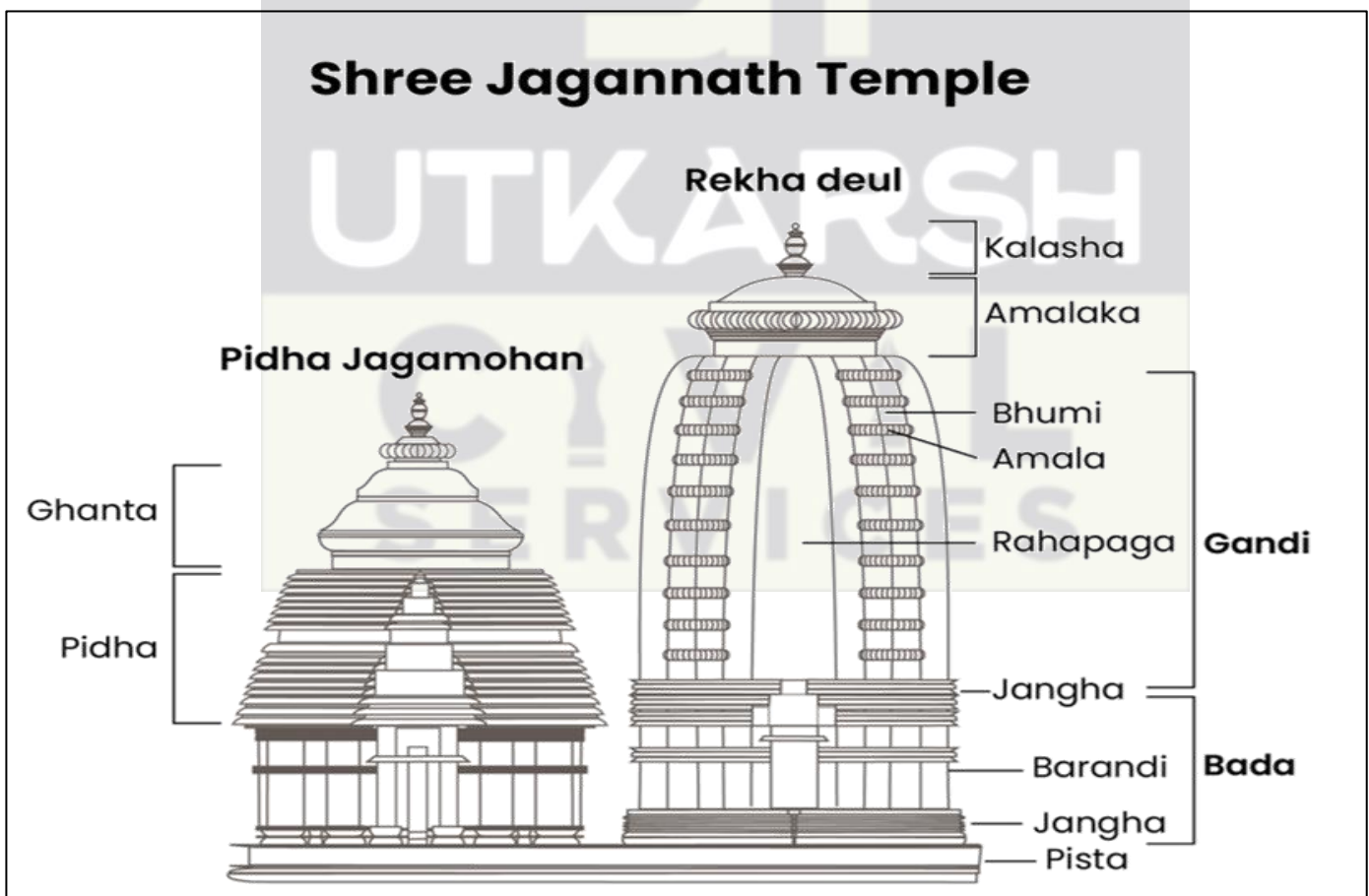


'Gyan Yagna Mandap'



Why in News?

- The Shri Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) has announced plans to establish a state-of-the-art digital library, the 'Gyan Yagna Mandap', in Puri to preserve the invaluable records, manuscripts, and sacred documents associated with the 12th-century Jagannath Temple. This digital library will be developed on the site of the old Raghunandan Library in Puri.



Key Points:

- This historic library was once a repository of rare palm-leaf manuscripts and texts in Sanskrit, Odia, and Bengali.

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- Rare records and sacred documents of the Jagannath Temple, including the Madala Panji (temple chronicle), ritual records, and ancient palm-leaf manuscripts, will be digitized and preserved.
- A research center will also be established for the in-depth study of Jagannath culture.

Jagannath Temple:

- **Location:** Puri, Odisha.
- **Nickname:** White Pagoda
- **Dedicated to:** Lord Jagannath (an incarnation of Lord Vishnu), sister Goddess Subhadra and elder brother Lord Balabhadra (the holy trinity).
- **Built by:** King Ananta Varman Chodaganga Deva of the Ganga Dynasty.
- **Architectural style:** Kalinga architecture.
- One of the Char Dhams for pilgrimage in India (Dwarka, Badrinath and Rameswaram).
- It has four component parts which include the Vimana or Deula (sanctum sanctorum), Jagamohana, Natamandapa and Bhogamandapa.
- The architectural style of the temple is a combination of two types of temple structures, namely Rekha and Peedha.

Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021



Why in News?

- The Supreme Court ruled that the statutory age limit restrictions under the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021, will not apply retroactively to couples who initiated the surrogacy process before the law came into force on January 25, 2022.



Key Points:

- This exemption will also apply to cases where embryos were created and frozen before the Act came into force.
- The Court also held that the right to choose reproductive options, including surrogacy, is an integral part of personal liberty and privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution.

Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021

Key Provisions:

- The Act allows only altruistic surrogacy, while completely prohibiting commercial surrogacy and declaring it a punishable offense.

Eligibility for Intending Couples:

- Married Indian couples, with the wife between 23 and 50 years of age and the husband between 26 and 55 years of age.
- They must not have any living biological or adopted children.
- **Eligibility for Surrogate Mother:** Married woman between 25 and 35 years of age with at least one child of her own.
- **Rights of Surrogate Child:** A child born through surrogacy will be considered the biological child of the intending couple and will have all the rights and privileges of a natural child.



ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY



National Red List Roadmap



Why in News?

- India presented the 'National Red List Roadmap' to strengthen biodiversity conservation.



Key Points:

- Vision 2025–2030 outlines a comprehensive biodiversity monitoring and conservation project for the National Red List Assessment of Indian flora and fauna. It is being promoted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Key Points of Vision 2025–30

- **Vision:** A coordinated and participatory Red List system will be established at the national level. This system will reflect the actual conservation status of flora and fauna found in India's diverse ecosystems.
- This is a five-year initiative. It aims to assess the extinction risk of approximately 11,000 species.
- **Key agencies:** The initiative is led by the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) for flora and fauna and the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) for fauna.
- **Methodology:** The project will follow the IUCN species conservation cycle: assessment, planning, action, networking, and communication.
- Red List assessments will be used to measure progress towards conservation goals.
- India is one of the world's 17 megadiverse countries, home to approximately 8% of the world's flora and 7.5% of its fauna. The country also has four biodiversity hotspots: the Himalayas, the Western Ghats, Indo-Burma, and Sundaland.
- However, to date, only 6.33% of India's plant species and 7.2% of its fauna have been assessed on the global IUCN Red List.

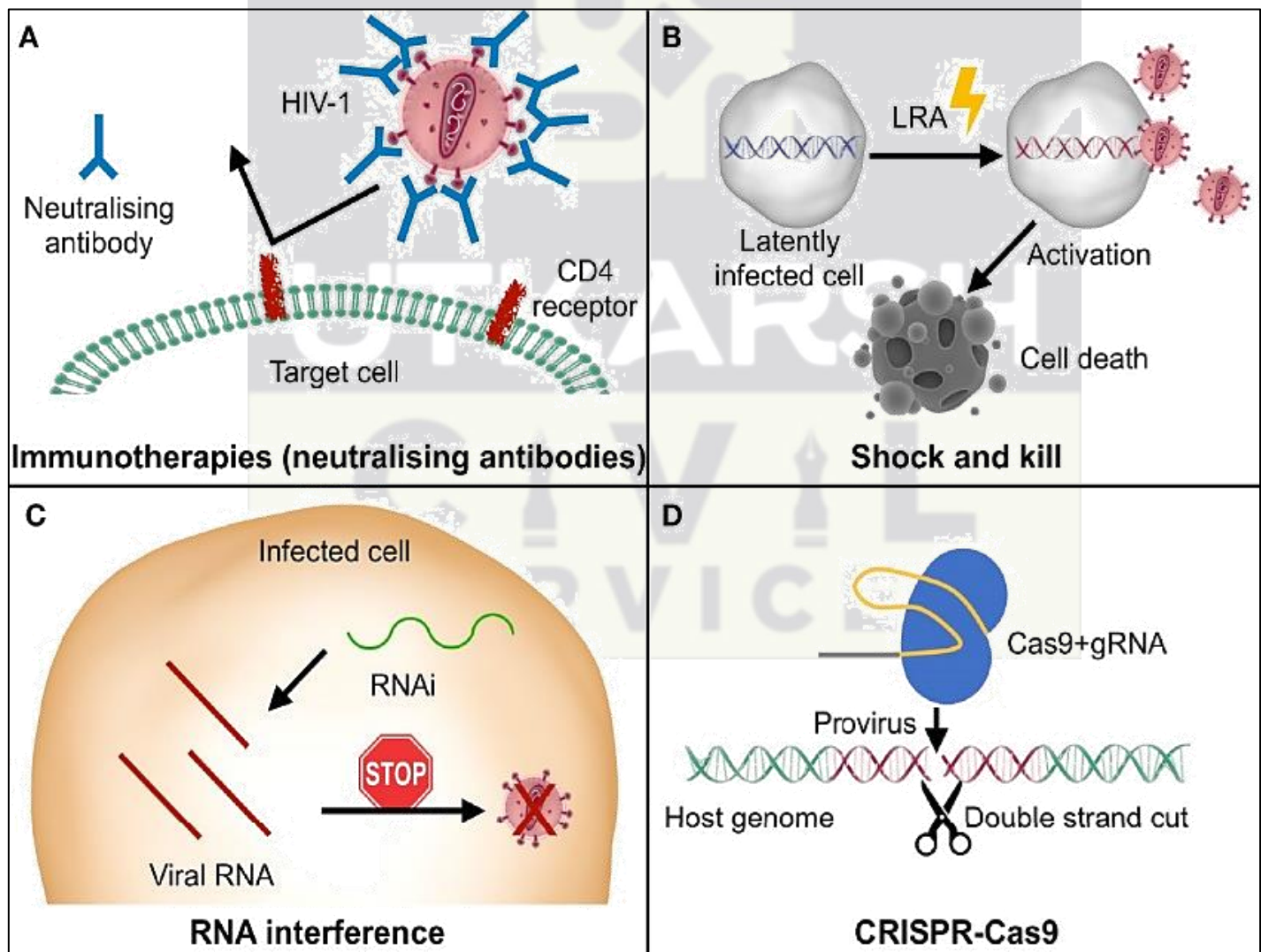
⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ⌚

New Antibody Discovered: 04_A06



Why in News?

- Recently, scientists at the University of Cologne, Germany, discovered a super antibody that is capable of neutralizing almost all known HIV variants by up to 98 percent.



Key Points:

- Name of this antibody: "04_A06"

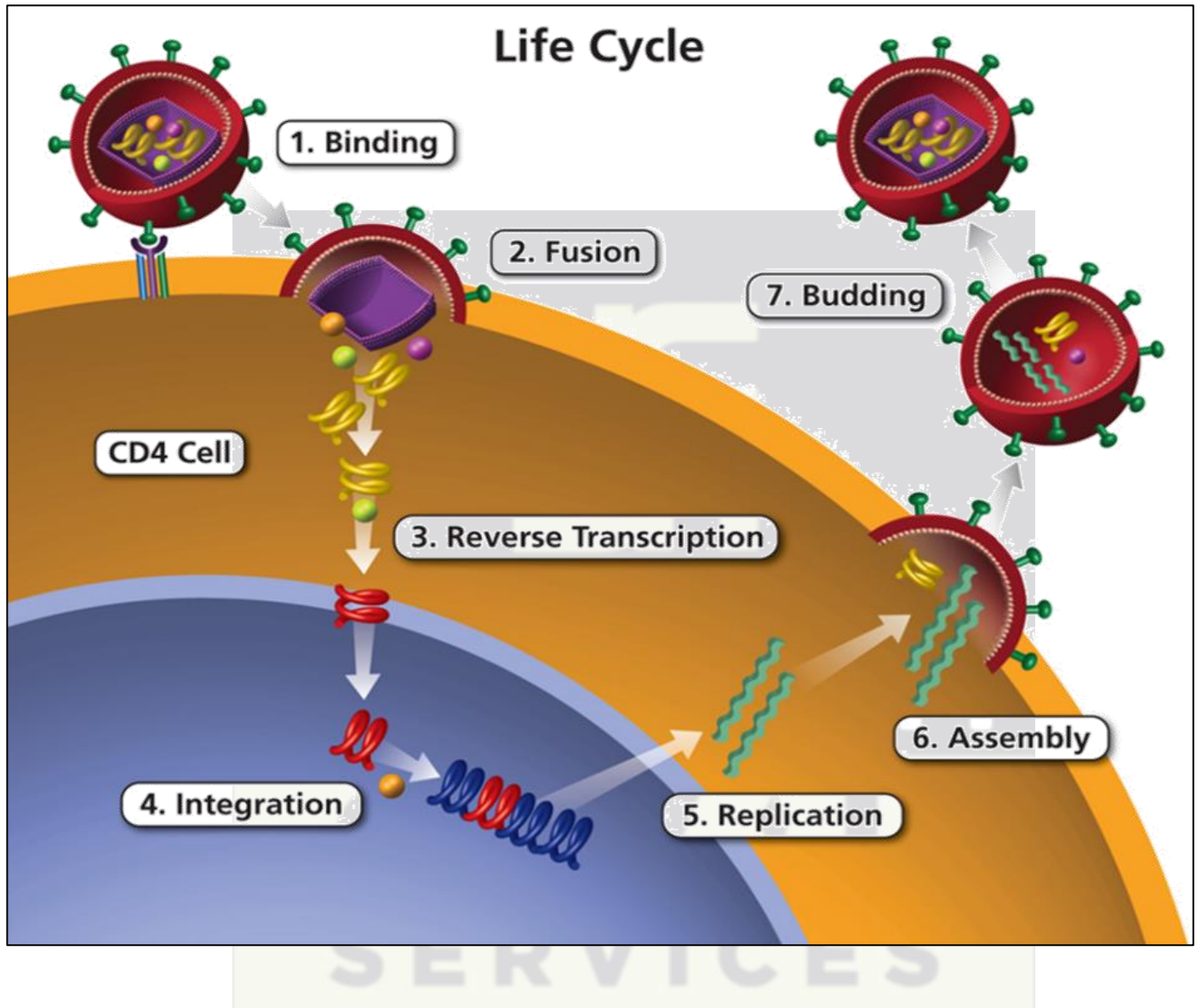
- This antibody was tested on more than 300 different HIV strains, and it blocked 98.5 percent of them. This means it affects almost every type of HIV virus. Importantly, this antibody also affects variants that have previously evaded other treatments.
- This antibody was obtained from a rare HIV-infected population called elite neutralizers, meaning people whose immune systems have the ability to fight the virus on their own for a long time. Scientists created thousands of antibodies from the blood cells of these individuals, of which 04 A06 proved to be the most effective.
- This research was conducted in collaboration with the University of Cologne, the German Center for Infection Research, the European Research Council, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Other Key Points:

HIV:

- **Meaning:** Human immunodeficiency virus, a virus that attacks the immune system in the human body.
- It primarily targets CD4 immune cells.
- HIV weakens the immune system, making the body vulnerable to opportunistic infections and cancer.
- **Transmission:** Transmitted through certain bodily fluids, such as blood, semen, vaginal fluids, and breast milk.
- **Severity:** If left untreated, the virus destroys a person's immune system and progresses to the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) stage.

HIV Life Cycle:



'T-Dome' Air Defense System: Taiwan



Why in News?

- Recently, on the occasion of National Day, Taiwan announced the development of a multi-layered air defense system, the 'T-Dome', which will have high-level detection and interception capabilities.



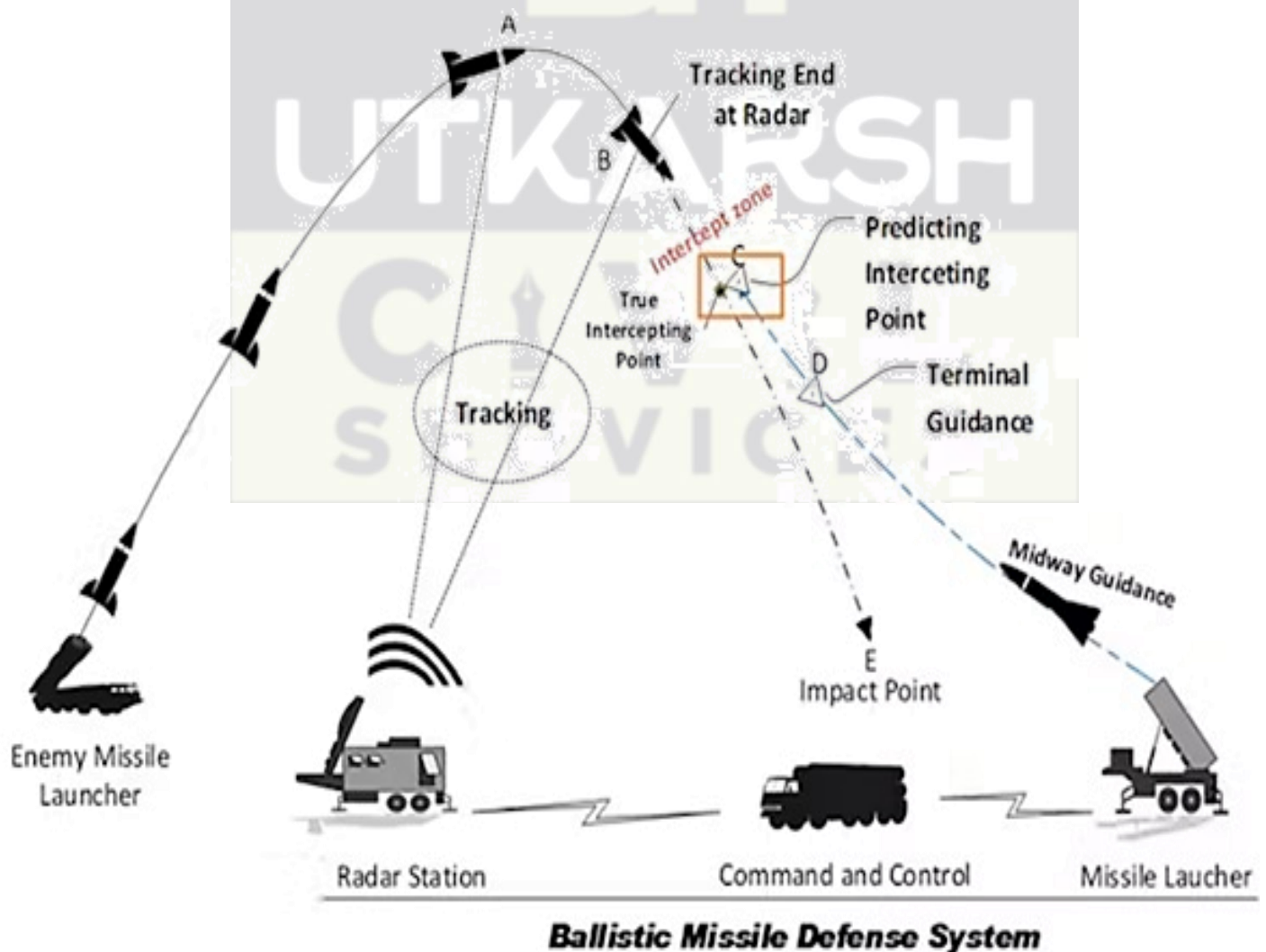


Key Points:

- The island will increase its defense spending to more than 3 percent of GDP next year and to 5 percent by 2030.
- Taiwan is modeling this security shield after America's 'Golden Dome' and Israel's 'Iron Dome'.

Other Key Points:

- **Air Defense System:** A multi-layered security system that protects the country's airspace. Its main objective is to detect, track and destroy enemy air attacks such as fighter jets, helicopters, drones, cruise missiles, ballistic missiles in time.



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- Recently, India announced the development of an air shield called the 'Sudarshan Chakra'.

India's Air Defense Systems:

Air Defense Systems		Description
Short Range Air Defense System (SHORAD) and Medium Range Air Defense System (MRAD)		
AKASH System	Missile	Range: 25–30 km Developed by: DRDO Targets: fighter jets, helicopters and drones. Tracking via radar and automated counterattack
SPYDER Defence	Air	Range: 15–20 km Imported from Israel. Fast reaction, ideal for short-range attacks
QR-SAM		Range: 25–30 km Development: India Tank-like mobile unit – deployable on the battlefield.
BARAK-8 (India–Israel joint system)		Range: 70–100 km Can be launched from both sea and land. Targets: cruise missiles, aircraft, helicopters
NASAMS-II		Range: 25–40 km It can shoot down both aircraft and cruise missiles for areas like Rashtrapati Bhavan and Parliament.
Long Range Air Defense System (LRAD)		
MR-SAM and LR-SAM		Range: MR-SAM (Medium Range - Surface To Air Missile): 70 km LR-SAM (Long Range - Surface To Air Missile): 150 km Effective against high-speed targets, useful for both Air Force and Navy
XRSAM		Range: 250–350 km Indigenous version similar to the S-400

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**CIVIL
SERVICES**

Famous Air Defence Systems of the World:

Country	System	Range	Feature
Russia	S-400 / S-500	400–600 km	Among the most powerful systems in the world.
USA	THAAD, Patriot, Aegis	160–200 km	Efficient in defense against ballistic missiles.
Israel	Iron Dome, David's Sling, Arrow 3	70–300 km	Multi-layered defense model.
France	ASTER-30	120 km	Leading system in the EU.

UTKARSH

CIVIL
SERVICES

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SAKSHAM



Why in News?

- The Indian Army has begun procurement of the indigenously developed Saksham Counter-Unmanned Aerial System.



Key Points:

- **SAKSHAM:** Situational Awareness for Kinetic Soft and Hard Kill Assets Management.
- It is a modular and advanced command and control system that operates over a secure Army data network.
- The system is capable of detecting, tracking, and neutralizing enemy drones and unmanned aerial systems in real-time. This ensures complete airspace security in the newly defined Tactical Battlefield Space.
- The Tactical Battlefield Space is an area extending up to an altitude of approximately 3,000 meters (10,000 feet) above the ground.
- It has been developed in collaboration with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).



ECONOMIC SCENARIO



Expansion of the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)



Why in News?

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has expanded the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) by including nine additional commodities (agricultural crops), increasing the total number of agricultural commodities tradable on the platform from 238 to 247.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE MARKET (NAM)

The National Agriculture Market is a pan-India electronic trading portal.

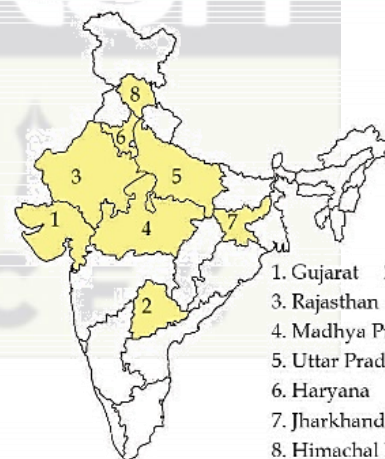
It connects the existing Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) and other market yards.

585 APMCs selected by states are linked to the portal, creating a unified national market for agriculture commodities.

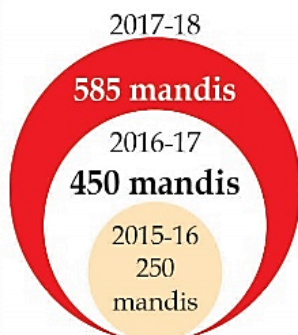
The Centre has provided the software free of cost to states and granted up to Rs 30 lakh per mandi/market as a one-time measure for related equipment and infrastructure requirements.

States to Fulfill Following Criteria To Receive Assistance

- Make single license to be valid across the state
- Enforce a single point levy of market fee
- Provision for electronic auction as a mode for price discovery



1. Gujarat
2. Telangana
3. Rajasthan
4. Madhya Pradesh
5. Uttar Pradesh
6. Haryana
7. Jharkhand
8. Himachal Pradesh



Benefits of NAM

FOR FARMER: NAM promises more options for sale. It would increase his access to markets through ware house-based sales and thus eliminates the need to transport his produce to the mandi

FOR LOCAL TRADER : NAM offers the opportunity to access a larger national market for secondary trading

BULK BUYERS, EXPORTERS: Benefit from being able to participate directly in trading at the local mandi/market level through the NAM platform, thereby reducing their intermediation costs



Key Points:

National Agriculture Market (e-NAM):

- **Introduction:** Pan-India electronic trading portal.
- **Launch:** April 2016
- **Funding:** 100 percent funded by the Central Government.
- **Implementation:** Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC).
- **Beneficiaries:** Farmers, mandis, traders, buyers, processors, and exporters.

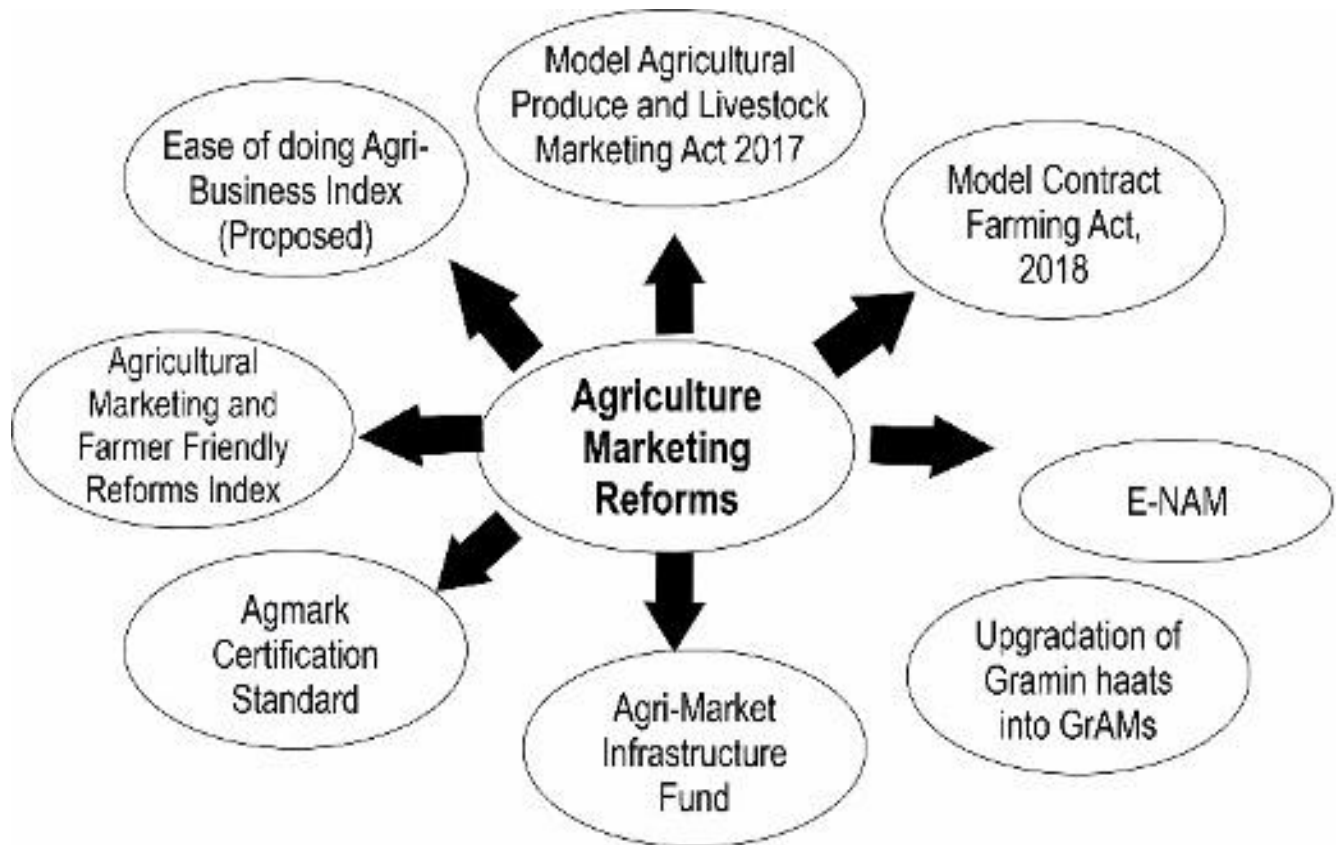
Key Objectives:

1. **Creation of a unified market:** Integrating state-level markets for pan-India agricultural trade.
 2. **Improving efficiency:** Streamlining and standardizing marketing processes in markets.
 3. **Ensuring Transparency:** Enabling better pricing through transparent auctions and wider buyer access.
 4. **Ensuring Quality:** Implementing quality testing so that prices reflect product quality.
 5. **Benefits to Consumers:** Supporting stable prices and availability of quality products.
- **Features:** Pan-India network, quality assurance and testing, streamlined licensing and market fees, direct online payments, improved market access and information, and logistics and integration.
 - **Monitoring:** It follows a coordinated approach with the SFAC at the national level and supporting agencies at the state level, along with the relevant state departments.

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Other Key Points:

Agricultural Marketing Reforms:



🎓 POLITY 🎓

Appointment of District Judges



Why in News?

- The Supreme Court stated that judicial officers who have a total of seven years of experience as lawyers and in service will be eligible for direct recruitment as District Judges.



Key Points:

- The Supreme Court clarified that both lawyers and serving candidates can be appointed as District Judges under Article 233 of the Constitution. Furthermore, the seven-year experience requirement will now apply to judicial officers as well.

Appointment of District Judges

- Article 233 deals with the appointment of District Judges.
- District Judges in a state are appointed by the Governor, in consultation with the relevant High Court.



INDEXES AND REPORTS



Times University Rankings – 2026 Recently, a comprehensive



Why in News?

- The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026 have been released.



Key Points:

- **Publisher:** Times Higher Education magazine.
- **Methodology:** It assesses universities based on 18 performance indicators, including teaching, research, knowledge transfer, and international outlook.
- **Top rank (global):** University of Oxford (for the 10th consecutive year).
- The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, leads the country, retaining its position in the 201–250 band.

AWARDS

Nobel Peace Prize, 2025: Maria Corina Machado



Why in News?

- The Nobel Peace Prize for the year 2025 has been awarded to Maria Corina Machado of Venezuela.



Key Points:

- The prize recognizes her tireless efforts to promote democratic rights for the Venezuelan people, to fight against dictatorship, and to achieve a just and peaceful democratic transition.
- Established by Alfred Nobel in 1901, the Nobel Peace Prize recognizes individuals or organizations that promote peace, disarmament, and global harmony.

Maria Corina Machado:

- Maria Corina Machado is a prominent Venezuelan political leader, pro-democracy activist, and opposition leader.
- For years, she has fought for the restoration of freedom, transparency, and human rights in the country.
- Machado has strengthened democratic values among the people by leading a peaceful and non-violent movement against Venezuela's authoritarian regime.



IMPORTANT DAYS



World Mental Health Day, 2025: October 10



Key Points:

- **This year's theme:** 'Mental Health in humanitarian emergencies'.
- **Objective:** To raise awareness about mental health, reduce stigma around mental illnesses, and encourage support mechanisms that promote mental well-being.
- **First celebrated:** October 10, 1992
- **Initiator:** World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH)
- **First dedicated theme (1994):** "Improving the Quality of Mental Services Throughout the World".
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare unveiled several new initiatives aimed at expanding access to mental health services across India.
- The TeleManas app was launched on the occasion of World Mental Health Day 2025.



Such as:

1. **Launch of TeleManas App Enhancements (Multilingual UI, Chatbot, Accessibility, Emergency Module):** The latest enhancements include a multilingual user interface, accessibility features for visually impaired users, an artificial intelligence (AI)-powered chatbot named Asami, and an emergency response module.
 - It will also be available in 10 additional regional languages – Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Oriya, and Punjabi – in addition to English and Hindi.
2. **First Mental Health Ambassador Appointed:** Actress Deepika Padukone has been appointed as the first Mental Health Ambassador to help raise awareness and normalize conversations on mental health.

