

Daily Current Affairs

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RAJASTHAN



Water supply projects based on the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM)



Why in News?

- Recently, the Public Health Engineering Department announced the launch of the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM)-based water supply projects in Rajasthan for the first time.



Key Points:

- This model will be implemented to complete five drinking water projects in the state under the Jal Jeevan Mission. HAM is a type of public-private partnership (PPP) project.

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- These projects will provide 420,000 household tap connections in 5,000 villages across Rajasthan under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), benefiting approximately 2 million people in these project areas.
- **Estimated outlay:** ₹18,879 crore.
- Under HAM, the Public Health Engineering Department will invest 40 percent of the total capital cost, and the remaining 60 percent will be borne by the contractor. The contractor will receive their investment back in the form of annuity payments in 20 installments over a period of 10 years.
- This model will reduce the state government's initial financial requirements for water supply projects. The operation and maintenance of water supply projects will be provided by the project implementing contractor for 10 years.

Phase 1: Water supply projects based on the 'Hybrid Annuity Model':

S.N.	Project Name	Concerned Districts	Water Resource	Estimated Cost (₹ Crore)
1.	Water Supply Project from Chambal River	Karauli and Sawai Madhopur	Chambal River	3066.90
2.	Water Supply Project from Chambal River	Alwar and Bharatpur	Chambal River	4813.67
3.	Kalitir Water Supply Project	Dholpur and Bharatpur	Chambal River	606.79
4.	Water Supply Project from Jakham Dam	Chittorgarh, Pratapgarh, Rajsamand, and Udaipur	Jakham Dam	3266.18
5.	Water Supply Project from Indira Gandhi Canal Project (IGNP)	Sikar and Jhunjhunu	Indira Gandhi Canal	7125.97

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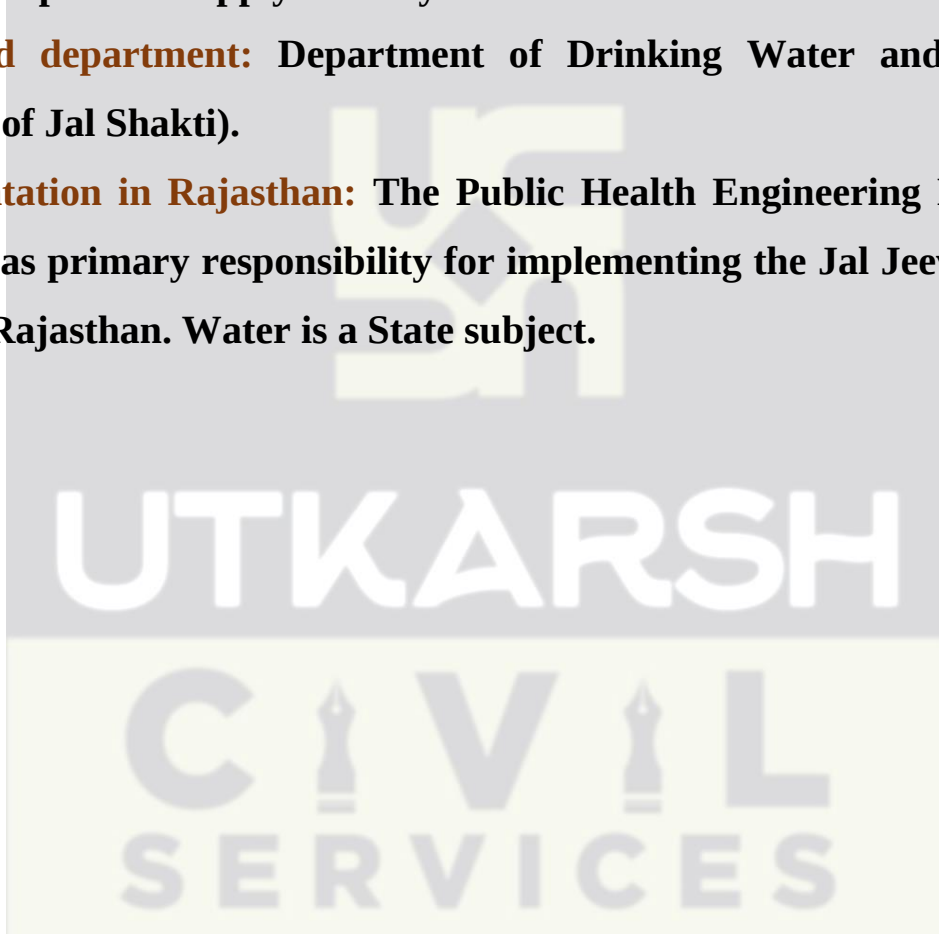
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Facts for Prelims:

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

- The Central Government launched the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in August 2019 in partnership with States/Union Territories with the objective of providing tap water supply to every rural household in the country.
- **Concerned department:** Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (Ministry of Jal Shakti).
- **Implementation in Rajasthan:** The Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) has primary responsibility for implementing the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Rajasthan. Water is a State subject.



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Rajasthan ranks first in the country in Dharti Aba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA)

Why in News?

- Rajasthan ranked first in the country for ensuring timely delivery of development works and government services in tribal areas under the Dharti Aba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA).



जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Government of India



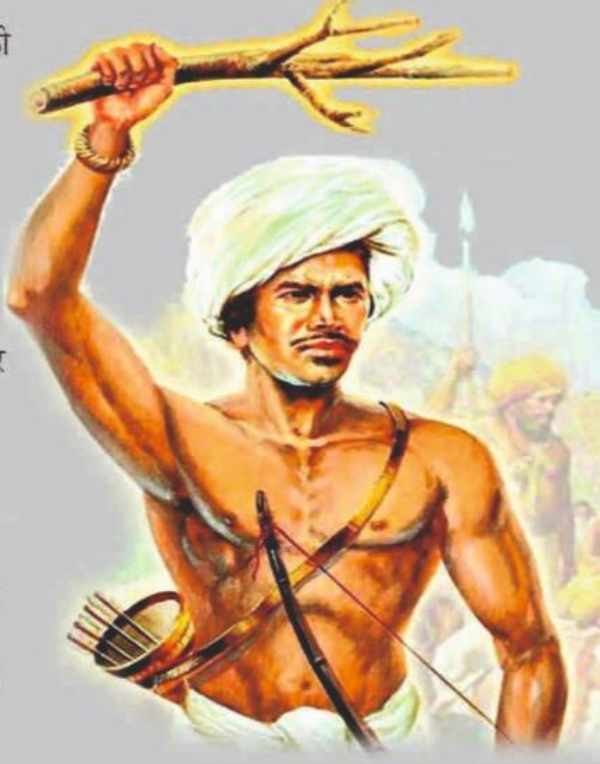
150th
Birth Anniversary Year of Bhagwan Bhai Munda
JANJATIYA GAURAV VARSH

भारत सरकार के जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय द्वारा
जनजातीय गौरव वर्ष का भव्य आयोजन किया जा रहा है

इस अवसर पर, मंत्रालय ने एक विशेष योजना शुरू की
है — धरती आबा जनजातीय ग्राम उत्कर्ष अभियान
— जिसका उद्देश्य है जनजातीय ग्रामों का समग्र
विकास

इस अभियान के लाभ क्या हैं ?

- ✓ हर जनजातीय ग्राम में विकास की समीक्षा और बेहतर सुविधाएं
- ✓ स्वस्थ, शिक्षा, और आजीविका में सुधार
- ✓ जल, बिजली, सड़क और इंटरनेट जैसे मूलभूत सुविधाओं का विस्तार
- ✓ महिलाओं और युवाओं के लिए रोजगार और कौशल विकास के नए अवसर
- ✓ ग्राम सभाओं को मजबूती, तथा सामाजिक न्याय और सम्मान का संरक्षण



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Key Points:

- Recently, President Draupadi Murmu presented the first prize to Rajasthan at the National Conclave of the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- The award was presented to Kunjilal Meena, Additional Chief Secretary, Tribal Development Department, Rajasthan.

Facts for Prelims:

Dharti Aba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA):

- **Cabinet Approval:** On September 18, 2024
- **Launch:** October 2, 2024 (Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti) by the Prime Minister from Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.
- **Total Outlay of the Scheme:** ₹79,156 crore (Central Share: ₹56,333 crore and State Share: ₹22,823 crore)
- **Involved Ministry:** Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- **Objective:** To provide access to basic amenities to over 63,000 tribal-dominated villages in aspirational districts.
- The Abhiyaan will cover approximately 63,843 villages in 549 districts and 2,911 blocks spread across all tribal-dominated villages and aspirational blocks in 30 States/Union Territories and will benefit over 5 crore tribal people.
- The objectives of the Mission include raising awareness about individual rights, entitlements and key government welfare schemes, ensuring doorstep delivery of documents and benefits, and promoting participatory governance through community mobilization.
- **Aspirational districts of Rajasthan under NITI Aayog's 'Aspirational Districts Programme':** Baran, Dholpur, Jaisalmer, Karauli and Sirohi.

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Khelo India University Games (KIUG) – 2025



Why in News?

- Recently, the venues for the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) 2025, to be held in seven cities in Rajasthan, were announced.



Key Points:

- Edition:** Fifth.
- Duration:** From November 24 to December 5, 2025.
- Venues:** Jaipur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kota, and Bharatpur.
- Opening:** At Sawai Man Singh Stadium, Jaipur.
- Closing:** At Poornima University, Jaipur.

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Key Sports and Venues:

S.No.	Location	Sports Complexes	Events
1.	Jaipur	SMS Stadium, Poornima University, Jagatpura Shooting Range, Rajasthan University	Athletics, badminton, basketball, hockey, swimming, tennis, football, archery, shooting, mallakhamb, cycling
2.	Jodhpur	Chainpura Indoor Hall	Table tennis and yoga
3.	Ajmer	Patel Stadium	Rugby
4.	Udaipur	-	Judo, beach volleyball, canoe-kayaking
5.	Bikaner	MGM University	Kabaddi
6.	Kota	Raghurai Sports Complex	Fencing and volleyball
7.	Bharatpur	Lohagarh Stadium Hall	Boxing and wrestling

Facts for Prelims:

Committees for the Khelo India University Games 2025:

Organizing and Coordination Committee:

- **Number of Members** - 19
- **Chairman** - Chief Minister of Rajasthan.
- **Vice-Chairman** - Union Sports Minister.
- **Members** - Senior officials of the Rajasthan Government, officials from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), and the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

Executive Committee: (for monitoring and supervision)

- **Number of Members** - 29
- **Chairman** - Chief Secretary of Rajasthan.
- **Vice-Chairman** - Sports Secretary of the Government of India.

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NEWS IN SHORTS



S. No.	News
1.	Ruma Devi Receives Young Country Award ■ To provide skill development to the youth in traditional craftsmanship of India and to preserve the heritage, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal recently honoured Ruma Devi of Barmer with the 'Young Country Award' at The Constitution Club of India, New Delhi.
2.	Rajasthan at the 10th World Wushu Kung Fu Championships ■ 10th World Wushu Kung Fu Championships. ■ Arkeshwar won in the Kung Fu Fan category, while Rajat won in the Xingyiquan category. ■ Rajasthan athletes in the competition: Arkeshwar Medatwal, Rajat Prakash Gupta, and Bhav Shrimali. ■ Event Duration: October 14-20, 2025, in Emeishan, China. ■ Organizer: International Wushu Federation (IWUF)
3.	'Shaurya Park' and 'Cactus Park': Jaisalmer ■ Recently, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated 'Shaurya Park' and 'Cactus Park' in Jaisalmer. ■ Also, the Defence Minister participated in the 'Army Commanders Conference' themed 'Year of Reforms' in Jaisalmer.



We Rise Initiative



Why in News?

- Recently, the 'We Rise – Women Entrepreneurs Reimagining Inclusive and Sustainable Enterprises' initiative was launched by NITI Aayog and DP World.



Key Points:

- **Launched by:** It was launched under the aegis of the Award to Reward (ATR) initiative of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP).
- **Objective:** To help women entrepreneurs in India grow their businesses globally through business facilitation, mentoring, and strategic partnerships.
- Under this program, women-led micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with high-growth potential across the country will be identified and prepared for global trade.
- Selected entrepreneurs will also be provided with the opportunity to showcase their products at Dubai's Bharat Mart (an international B2B and B2C marketplace located in the Jebel Ali Free Zone).

Women Entrepreneurship Platform:

- **Development:** Developed in 2018 as an aggregator platform at NITI Aayog, converted to a public-private partnership in 2022.
- **Objective:** It serves as a national aggregator to strengthen India's women entrepreneurship ecosystem and make women-led growth a reality.
- **Function:** WEP acts as an enabler, addressing six key ecosystem needs – access to finance, market linkages, training and skills, mentorship and networking, compliance and legal support, and business development services.

Bathousim

Why in News?

- The Bathou religion of the Bodo community in Assam will receive a separate code in the upcoming census.

Key Points:

Bathou Religion:

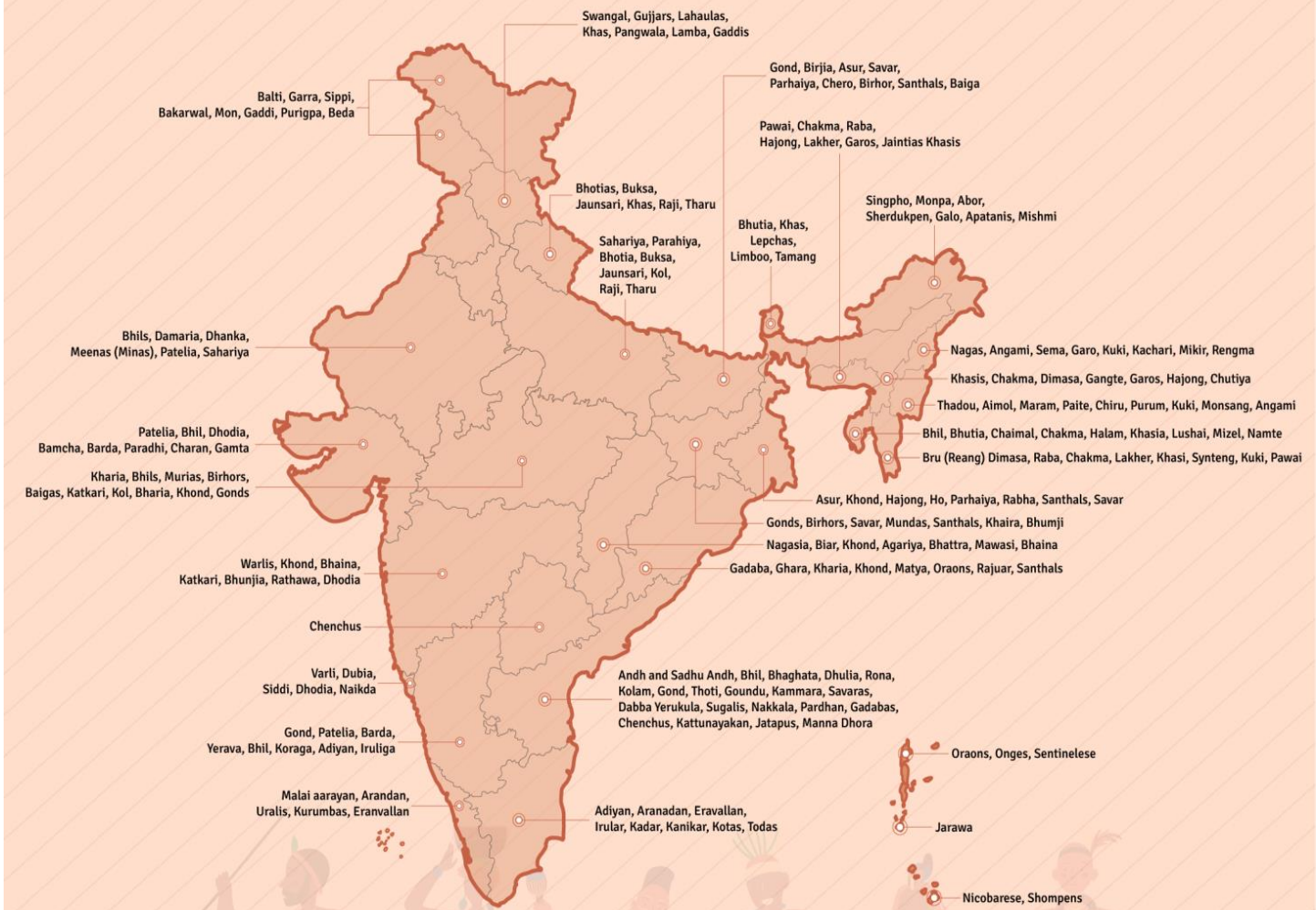
- It is the traditional belief of the Bodos, the largest plains tribe in Assam.
- The word 'Bathou' is derived from the Bodo language, where 'ba' means 'five' and 'thou' means 'deep philosophical thought'.
- The belief system is based on five elements: Bar (Air), Dwi (water), Ha (Earth), Or (Fire), and Okhrang (Sky).

Bathousim Beliefs

- This community worships Brawrai Bathou as the supreme deity. In the Bodo language, the word 'Brawrai' refers to an 'elder' person in the context of power or knowledge.
- The Bathou religion is centered on the Sijou plant (*Euphorbia splendens*), which is planted in the Bathou altar at the center as a symbol of the Bathou religion of the Bodo people.
- This plant is a living symbol of Bathoubray, the supreme deity of the Bodo people.
- The Bodos, plant the Sijou tree on a high altar surrounded by a bamboo fence consisting of eighteen pairs of poles woven from five pieces of bamboo.

- The five bamboo strips symbolize the five bonds of Bathou, namely (i) birth (ii) marriage or procreation, (iii) sorrow (iv) enthusiasm, and (v) death.

भारत में प्रमुख जनजातियाँ



- अनुसूचित जनजाति भारत की जनसंख्या का 8.6% है (जनगणना 2011)। मसौदा राष्ट्रीय जनजातीय नीति, 2006 में भारत की 698 अनुसूचित जनजातियाँ दर्ज हैं।
- विशेष रूप से कमज़ोर जनजातीय समूह (PVTGs) ऐसी जनजातियों का समूह है जो जनजातीय समूहों के बीच अधिक असुरक्षित/सुभेद्य हैं। 75 सूचीबद्ध PVTGs में से सबसे अधिक संख्या ओडिशा में पाई जाती है।
- गोंड के बाद भील सबसे बड़ा आदिवासी समूह (भारत की कुल अनुसूचित जनजातीय आबादी का 38% है)।
- भारत की सबसे अधिक जनजातीय आबादी मध्य प्रदेश में पाई जाती है (जनगणना 2011)।
- संथाल भारत की सबसे पुरानी जनजाति है। संथालों की शासन प्रणाली, जिसे मांडू-परगना के नाम से जाना जाता है, की तुलना स्थानीय स्वशासन से की जा सकती है।
- अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति सूची (परिशोधन आदेश), 1956 के अनुसार, लक्षद्वीप के ऐसे निवासी जो स्वयं और जिनके माता-पिता दोनों इन द्वीपों में पैदा हुए थे, उन्हें अनुसूचित जनजाति के रूप में माना जाता है।
- संविधान का अनुच्छेद 342 अनुसूचित जनजातियों के विनिर्देशन के लिये अपनाई जाने वाली प्रक्रिया का निर्धारण करता है।
- अनुच्छेद 275 अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण को बढ़ावा देने और उन्हें बेहतर प्रशासन प्रदान करने के लिये केंद्र सरकार द्वारा राज्य सरकार को विशेष धन देने का प्रावधान करता है।



INTERNATIONAL



India and Food and Agriculture Organization Partnership: 80 Years Completed



Why in News?

- Recently, India and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) completed 80 years of their partnership on World Food Day, 2025.



Key Points:

Food and Agriculture Organization:

- It is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) that leads international efforts to end hunger.

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- **Established:** On October 1945 (the oldest permanent specialized agency of the UN).
- **Headquarters:** Rome, Italy.
- **Members:** 195 member states (194 countries and the European Union); India is a founding member of FAO.

Functions:

- FAO coordinates the efforts of governments and technical agencies in programs for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and land and water resources development.
- It leads international efforts to combat hunger.
- It is a forum for negotiating agreements between developing and developed countries and a source of technical knowledge and information to support development.

Reports published by FAO:

1. State of the World's Forests (SOFO)
2. State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA)
3. State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO)
4. State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI).

FAO and India's Relationship:

- **Beginning:** Since the establishment of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945.
- **Partnership:** FAO began its operations in India in 1948. It has an office in New Delhi. FAO's nodal ministry in India is the Ministry of Agriculture.
- The main objective of the Government of India is to double farmers' incomes by increasing efficiency and ensuring equity in a sustainable manner.

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Priority areas

Sustainable and improved agricultural productivity and increased farm incomes	Strong food and nutrition security systems
Supporting effective natural resource management, community development, and cross-border cooperation for the global public good	Greater social inclusion, improved skills and employment opportunities in the agricultural sector

Food Processing in India:

Opportunities	Challenges
■ Expanding Market: The food processing sector is growing rapidly, valued at US\$336 billion in 2023 and projected to double by 2032. ■ Impact: This expansion creates jobs, adds value to agriculture, and strengthens India's GDP.	■ Lack of Infrastructure and Crop loss: India lacks adequate cold chain, storage and transportation facilities, leading to wastage of about 30 percent of food grains.

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- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Urbanization: Growing urban population and busy lifestyles are driving the demand for ready-to-eat, packaged and convenience foods, which is expected to cross ₹ 12 lakh crore by 2025.■ Impact: This situation opens up immense possibilities for product diversification and new brands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Technology and Financial constraints for SMEs: Small and medium enterprises struggle with the high cost of modern machinery and limited access to credit. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Health, wellness, and organic foods: Sustainability is driving demand for organic and plant-based products. The organic market is estimated to reach ₹75,000 crore by 2025, and consumers are willing to pay more. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Regulatory Complexity: India's food processing sector is grappling with multiple and overlapping regulations enforced by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), and state-level agencies. This increases compliance costs and creates uncertainty, especially for small and medium enterprises (SMEs). |

	■ The absence of a single-window clearance system and frequent regulatory changes further hamper domestic growth and export competitiveness.
■ Technology and Innovation: The adoption of automation, AI, robotics, and smart packaging is transforming efficiency and quality. ■ Impact: This shift in the Indian food tech market opens up new opportunities for global competition.	■ Lack of skilled workforce and low research and development (R&D): The sector faces a skills gap, with millions of trained workers in food technology in demand. Low investment in research and development limits innovation and the development of value-added products.
■ Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Rural Employment: India has 63 million MSMEs, contributing approximately 30 percent to GDP. ■ Impact: It helps farmers move up the value chain and supports rural livelihoods.	■ Low share in global processed exports: Processed products comprise only 16 percent of India's agricultural exports, compared to 25 percent in the US and 49 percent in China. This clearly indicates that India's export potential has not yet been fully realized. ■ Frequent quality-related rejections damage India's export credibility. The European Union found contamination in 527 products in 2024. Furthermore, the lack of harmonization between Indian and global standards further limits competitiveness in international markets.

Tuvalu Islands



Why in News?

- Recently, Tuvalu officially became the 90th member state of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).



Key Points:

Tuvalu Islands:

- **Location:** Tuvalu, formerly known as the Ellice Islands, is a Polynesian island nation located in the South Pacific Ocean, between Hawaii and Australia. It consists of nine islands, four of which are reef islands and five coral atolls.

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- **Independence:** Tuvalu became independent from the United Kingdom in October 1978.
- **Geographic Condition:** There are no rivers. Tuvalu's climate is hot and rainy.
- **Characteristics:**
 - With a land area of 26 square kilometers, it is the fourth-smallest country in the world.
 - Except for the tiny Vatican City, Tuvalu has the fewest inhabitants of any independent nation.
- **Capital:** Funafuti
- **Languages:** Most people speak Tuvaluan. English is widely used.
- **Currency:** Tuvalu dollar (equivalent to the Australian dollar)

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The indigenous antibiotic naphthromycin

Why in News?

- Recently, India has developed its first indigenous antibiotic, naphthromycin, according to the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Key Points:

- **Development:** It is an antibiotic developed in collaboration with the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
- **Trade Name:** "Miknaf"
- **Treatment:** This innovation is designed to treat community-acquired bacterial pneumonia (CABP).
- It is effective against resistant respiratory infections, particularly useful for cancer patients and poorly controlled diabetes patients.
- **Effectiveness:** It targets both typical and atypical pathogens, offering a potent solution.

Features:

- It is the first molecule completely conceived, developed, and clinically validated in India.
- It is the country's first indigenously developed antibiotic aimed at combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR):

- This occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites no longer respond to antimicrobial drugs.

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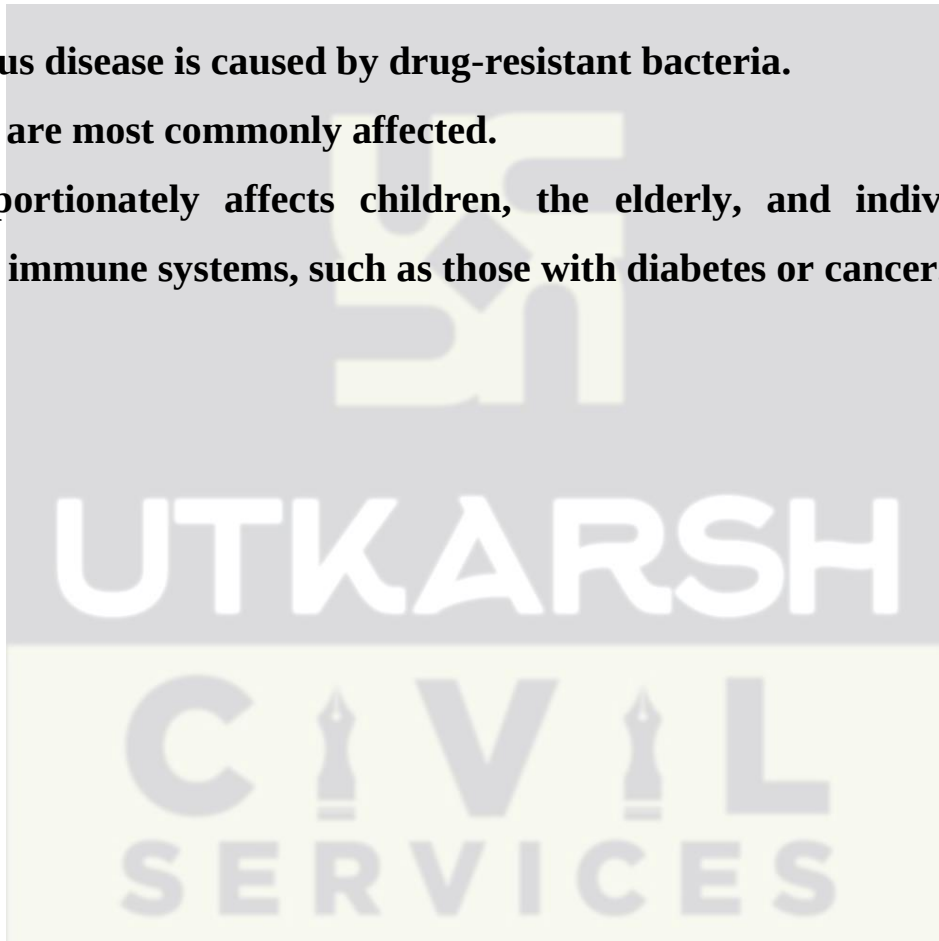
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- As a result of drug resistance, antibiotics and other antimicrobial drugs become ineffective, making infections difficult or impossible to treat.
- AMR is a natural process driven by genetic changes in pathogens over time, its spread is significantly accelerated by human activities.

Pneumonia:

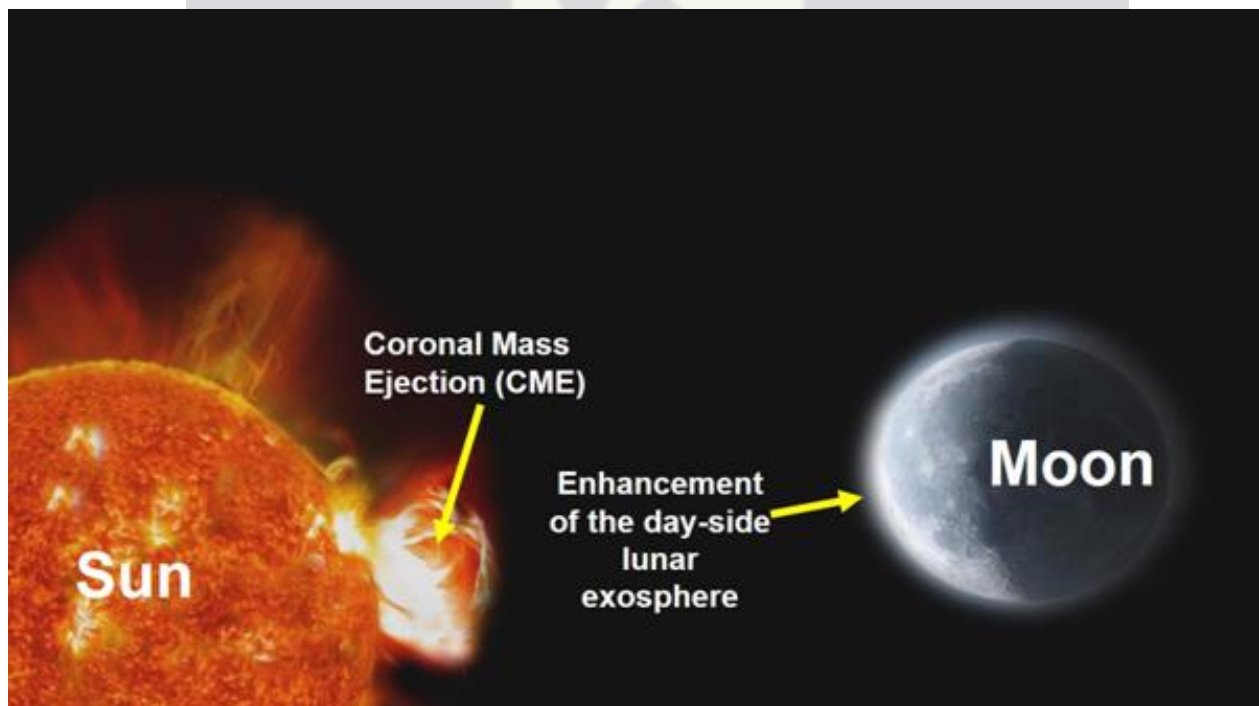
- This serious disease is caused by drug-resistant bacteria.
- The lungs are most commonly affected.
- It disproportionately affects children, the elderly, and individuals with weakened immune systems, such as those with diabetes or cancer.



Chandrayaan-2: Observed the effects of a solar flare on the Moon for the first time.

Why in News?

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced that the CHACE-2 payload on the Chandrayaan-2 lunar orbiter has directly observed the impact of a solar coronal mass ejection (CME) on the Moon for the first time.



Key Points:

- The study, titled "Impact of a Coronal Mass Ejection on the Lunar Exosphere as Observed by CHACE-2 on the Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter," was published in Geophysical Research Letters on August 16th this year.
- This observation will help in understanding the lunar exosphere and thin atmosphere, and the effects of space weather on its surface.

Event:

- On May 10, 2024, the first evidence of a CME-induced increase in lunar exospheric pressure was recorded when solar radiation hit the Moon.
- A tenfold increase in the total number density of neutral atoms was observed, confirming long-predicted theoretical models.

Chandrayaan-2:

- **Launched on:** Chandrayaan-2 was launched on July 22, 2019, from Sriharikota using a GSLV-MK3-M1 rocket. It carried eight scientific instruments and successfully entered lunar orbit on August 20, 2019.
- Although contact with the Vikram lander was lost during the landing attempt on September 7, 2019, the orbiter is fully operational and continues to function in orbit around the Moon.
- ISRO reported that one of the payloads on Chandrayaan-2, the Chandra's Atmospheric Compositional Explorer 2 (CHACE-2), recorded the effects of solar coronal mass on the Moon's exosphere.

Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explorer-2 (CHACE-2) Payload:

- CHACE-2 is a neutral gas mass spectrometer payload on the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter, developed by ISRO to study the structure and dynamics of the Moon's extremely thin atmosphere, known as the lunar exosphere.
- **Objective:** Its primary goal is to analyze the chemical composition, spatial and temporal variations, and density of the lunar exosphere in the mass range of 1-300 amu, as well as to detect water vapor and heavy molecules to understand lunar surface-exosphere interactions.

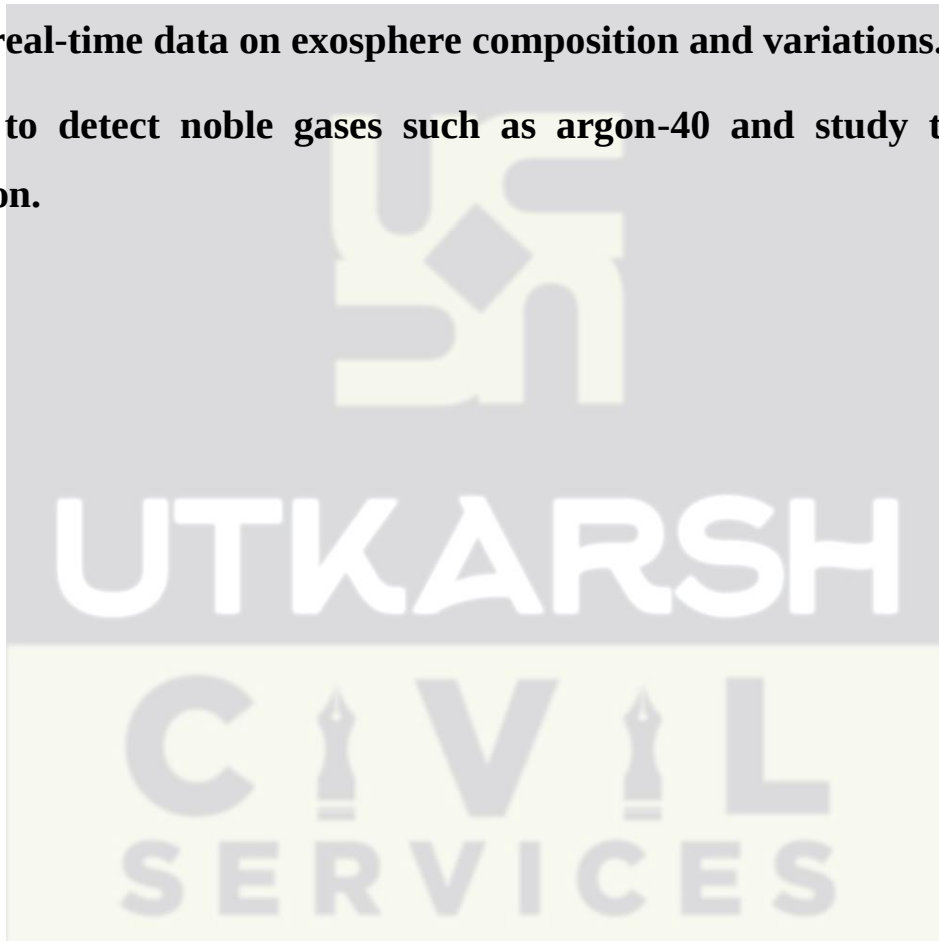
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Key Features:

1. Successor to the CHACE (Chandrayaan-1) and MENCA (Mars Orbiter Mission) instruments.
2. Equipped to measure neutral gases and isotopic abundances on the Moon.
3. Provides real-time data on exosphere composition and variations.
4. Designed to detect noble gases such as argon-40 and study their spatial distribution.



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SPORTS



Tanvi Sharma: Badminton



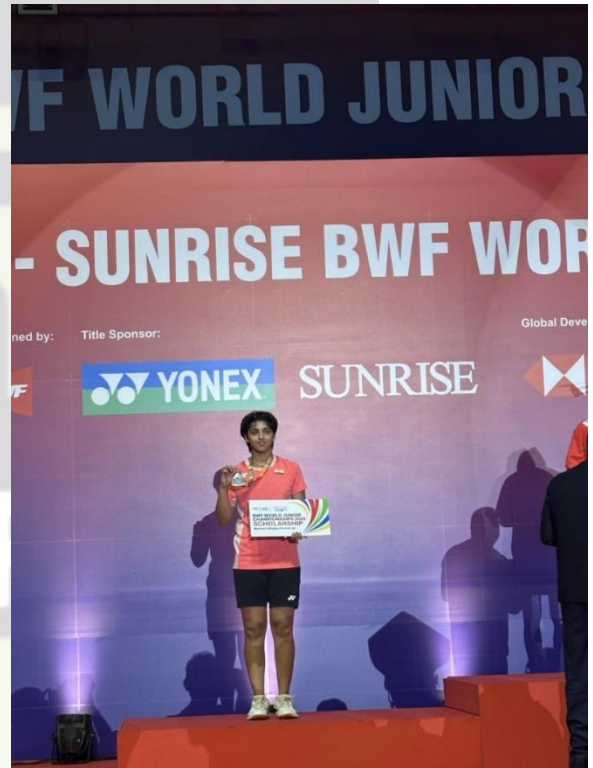
Why in News?

- Indian badminton player Tanvi Sharma won the silver medal in the women's singles event at the BWF World Junior Championships.



Key Points:

- Tanvi Sharma got defeated by second-seeded Anyapat Phichitpreechasak of Thailand in the women's singles final.
- Tanvi became the fifth Indian and third female shuttler to win a silver medal at the Junior World Championships.
- Note: Besides Tanvi, Saina Nehwal won the silver medal in 2006, Aparna Popat in 1996, Cyril Verma in 2015, and Shankar Muthusamy in 2022.
- Saina Nehwal is the only Indian to win a gold medal at this championship. Nehwal won the title in 2008.



Tanvi Sharma's Achievements:

- In 2021, Tanvi won her first national medal – a bronze medal in the Under-15 singles category at the National Ranking Championships in Goa.
- In 2024, she won gold medals in both the Under-15 and Under-17 singles categories at the National Championships in Odisha.