

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 28 October, 2025



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RAJASTHAN



Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Rajasthan



Why in News?

- As announced by the Election Commission of India (ECI), the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process will be conducted in Rajasthan from October 28, 2025, to February 7, 2026.



Key Points:

- On October 22, 2025, the ECI convened a conference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of all states/union territories to assess preparations for the nationwide SIR exercise.
- According to the current 2025 voter list, Rajasthan has 54.8 million voters.

Important Dates:

- **October 28 – November 3, 2025:** Training and printing of counting forms.
- **November 4 – December 4, 2025:** Door-to-door distribution and collection of enumeration forms.
- **December 9, 2025:** Publication of the draft voter list.
- **December 9, 2025 – January 8, 2026:** Claims and objections period.
- **December 9, 2025 – January 31, 2026:** Notice phase, hearings, and verification.
- **February 7, 2026:** Publication of the final voter list.
- **Special Intensive Revision (SIR):** The Election Commission of India's (ECI) Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is a process of updating voter lists to ensure they are accurate and error-free. This exercise is carried out to ensure that no eligible voter is left out and no ineligible person is included in the list.

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- **Note:** The Election Commission of India has launched a unified ECINet app/website. It also has a 'Book a Call with BLO' feature, through which voters can directly contact the BLO and obtain various information.

Facts for Prelims:

- **Gyanesh Kumar:** Took charge as the 26th Chief Election Commissioner of India on February 19, 2025. He is a 1988 batch IAS officer of the Kerala cadre of the Indian Administrative Service.
- **Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu:** Joined the Election Commission of India as an Election Commissioner on March 15, 2024. He is a 1988 batch IAS officer from the Uttarakhand cadre.
- **Dr. Vivek Joshi:** Joined the Election Commission of India as an Election Commissioner on February 19, 2025. He is a 1989 batch IAS officer from the Haryana cadre.
- **Chief Election Commissioner of Rajasthan:** Rajeshwar Singh.
- **Chief Electoral Officer (Rajasthan):** Naveen Mahajan.

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Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Ordinance 2025



Why in News?

- Recently, the Chief Minister approved the 'Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Ordinance 2025'.



Key Points:

- Purpose of the amendment:** To promote business activities in the state and ensure the welfare and safety of workers.

Provisions:

- According to the amendments made to the ordinance, underage children will no longer be employed in shops and commercial establishments. The minimum age for apprenticeships, which was previously 12 years old, has now been raised to 14 years old.
- Adolescents between the ages of 14 and 18 will not be allowed to work at night, whereas previously this limit was 12 to 15 years old.
- The ordinance sets the maximum daily working hours for workers at 10 hours instead of 9. The maximum overtime limit has also been increased to 144 hours per quarter.

Rajasthan Factories (Amendment) Rules 2025

- On October 27, 2025, the Chief Minister also approved the Rajasthan Factories (Amendment) Rules 2025.



- Under this, the employment of women in specific factories has been approved. Special provisions have also been added regarding the safety and privacy of women at the workplace.

Facts for Prelims:

Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

- The main law against child labour in India is the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, which was amended in 2016.
- This Act completely prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 in any kind of work or occupation.
- According to the Act, employment of adolescents aged 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations or processes is prohibited.
- Children under 14 years of age can help their families in certain cases, provided the work is done after school hours or during holidays and is not hazardous.
- This Act is in line with Article 24 of the Indian Constitution, which prohibits employment of children under 14 years of age in hazardous occupations such as factories and mines.

Rajasthan AVGC-XR Summit – 2025



Why in News?

- The Rajasthan AVGC-XR Summit was held at the Birla Auditorium, Jaipur, on the occasion of International Animation Day.



Key Points:

- **Event:** October 28, 2025, Birla Auditorium, Jaipur.
- **Edition:** First.
- **Theme:** Building Trends from Traditions.
- **Objective:** To make Rajasthan a hub of India's creative economy.
- This summit will promote innovation, skill development, and entrepreneurship in the fields of animation, visual effects, gaming, comics, and extended reality (XR) in the state.
- This summit is aligned with the Rajasthan AVGC-XR Policy and the Atal Innovation Acceleration and Studio Support Initiative.

Key Awards:

- **Rama Patron Award** – Rajat Ojha
- **Rama Legendary Mentor Award** – Dr. Vibhuti.

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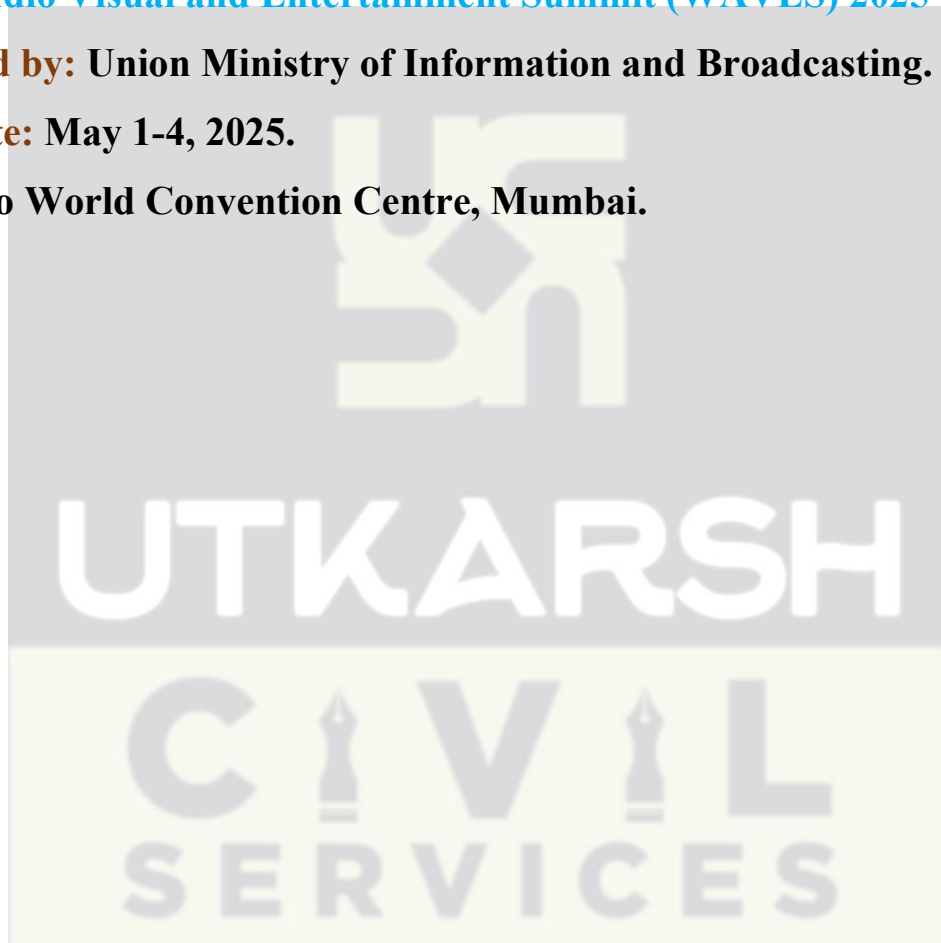


- **Rama Young Achiever Award – Sonam Shekhawat.**
- **International Animation Day has been celebrated annually on October 28th by the International Animated Film Association (ASIFA) since 2002.**

Facts for Prelims:

World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025

- **Organized by:** Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- **Event Date:** May 1-4, 2025.
- **Venue:** Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai.



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Society of Petroleum Geophysicists (SPG-2025) International Summit: Jaipur



Why in News?

- Recently, the Society of Petroleum Geophysicists (SPG-2025) International Summit – 2025 was inaugurated by Pankaj Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).



Key Points:

- Edition:** 15th.
- Event:** October 26-28, 2025.
- Venue:** Novotel Jaipur Convention Centre and Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre (JECC), Jaipur.
- Main Theme:** "Rock to Cloud: Geo-Exploration Empowering Energy Evolution."

Objectives:

- To serve as India's premier global platform on petroleum geoscience.
- To empower energy evolution through geo-exploration in the energy sector.

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NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	New Secretary of Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (RSSB), Jaipur - Recently, the Rajasthan government appointed Preeti Mathur as the new Secretary of the Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (RSSB), Jaipur. - Dinesh Kumar Sharma was appointed Managing Director of the Rajasthan Seeds Corporation, Jaipur.
2.	National Chambal Sanctuary and Gharial Breeding Centre - Recently, Rajasthan's Minister of State for Forests and Environment (Independent Charge), Sanjay Sharma, visited the National Chambal Sanctuary and Gharial Breeding Centre in Deori Morena, Madhya Pradesh. - The National Chambal Sanctuary and Gharial Breeding Centre works for the artificial breeding of critically endangered gharials. Eggs collected from the Chambal River ghats hatch, hatch, and are reared for approximately three years before being released into the river. Note: Rajasthan's first turtle conservation centre will be established on the banks of the Chambal River in Dholpur district.

3.

Kolada and Ramsinghpura Solar Power Plants

- Recently, under the direction of the Chief Minister, solar power plants with a capacity of 2.94 MW were installed in Kolada and Ramsinghpura (Sawai Madhopur).
- This is the 956th solar plant in the state.
- Rajasthan has so far installed decentralized solar power plants with a capacity of over 2,000 MW under Component A and Component C of the PM-KUSUM scheme.
- Rajasthan ranks first in the country in Component A of this scheme and third in Component C after Maharashtra and Gujarat.

4.

Virendra Poonia

- Recently, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) appointed Dronacharya Awardee and Chief Sports Officer of the Rajasthan State Council, Virendra Poonia, as a member of the committee constituted to select coaches for the Dronacharya Awards.
- This six-member committee will be chaired by Ravindra Chaudhary, while the other members include Renu Kohli, P. Radhakrishnan, Madhukant Pathak, J.S. Bhatia, and Virendra Poonia.
- Previously, the Athletics Federation of India had appointed Olympian and former Rajasthan State Sports Council President Dr. Krishna Poonia as a member of the Indian Athletics Senior Selection Committee.

5.

Operation Shutdown

- Under Operation Shutdown, Jhalawar Police have busted an interstate cyber fraud gang that was defrauding crores of rupees by hacking into various government schemes.



NATIONAL



"Your Capital, Your Rights" Campaign



Why in News?

- The Union Finance Minister launched the nationwide awareness campaign "Your Capital, Your Rights" in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.



सत्यमेव जयते

वित्तीय सेवाएं विभाग
वित्त मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

वित्तीय क्षेत्र में अनक्लेम्ड एसेट्स के सुगम और
त्वरित निपटान के लिए अभियान
अक्टूबर - दिसंबर 2025
देश के सभी राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में



सत्यमेव जयते

वित्तीय सेवाएं विभाग
वित्त मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

“आपकी पूँजी, आपका अधिकार”

जागरूकता, सुगमता एवं क्रियान्वयन

“आपकी पूँजी
आपका अधिकार”





Key Points:

- **Launch:** October 4, 2025
- **Duration:** The campaign will be conducted in all states and union territories from October to December 2025.
- **Objective:** To help people locate and recover their unclaimed deposits, insurance payouts, dividends, share and mutual fund income.

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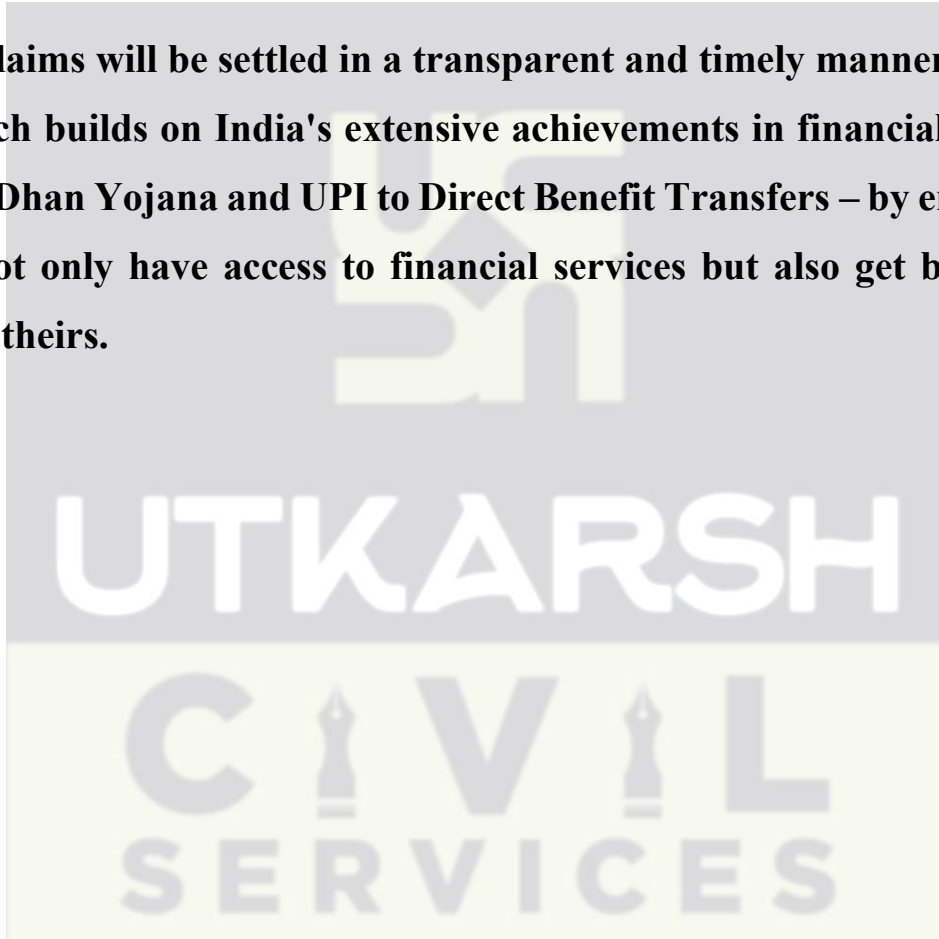
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Guiding Principles: "3A": Awareness, Access and Action:

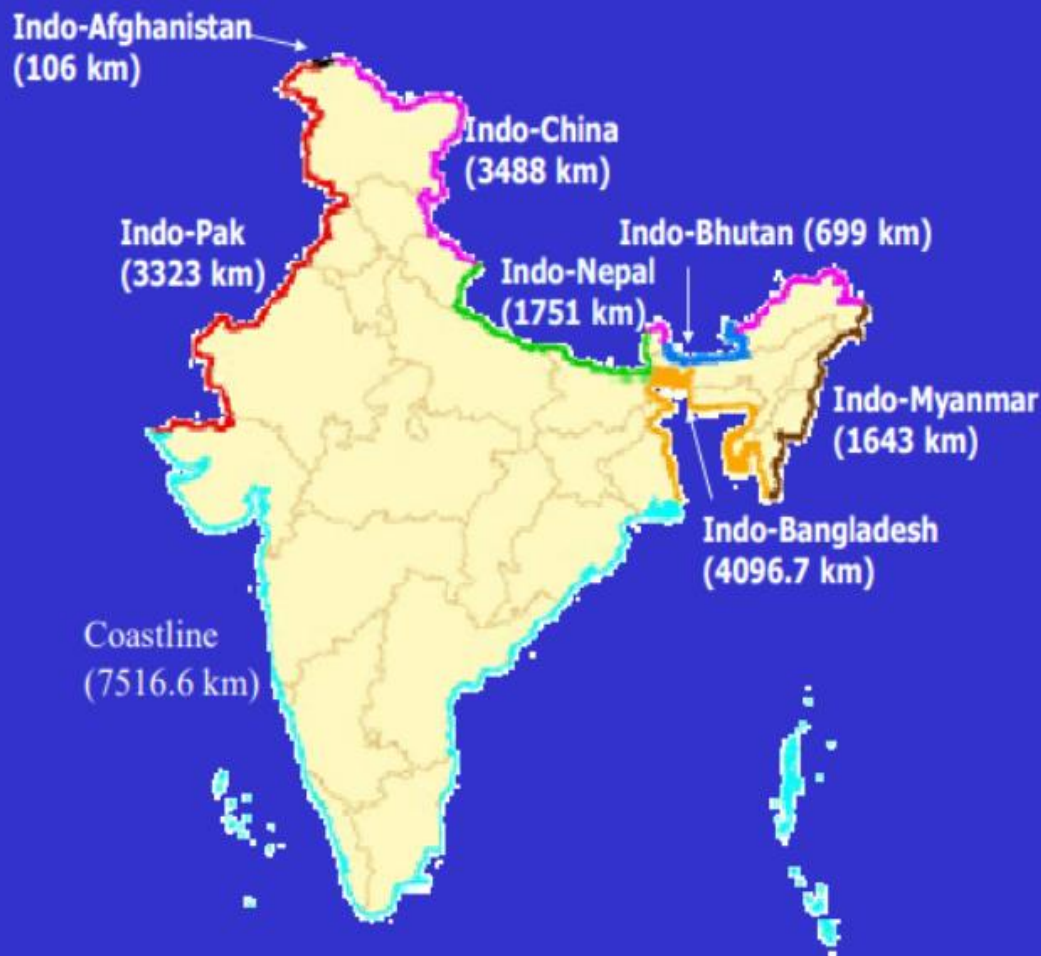
1. **Awareness:** Citizens should know what unclaimed financial assets are and how to recover them.
 2. **Access:** The process has been simplified through digitization and district-level outreach.
 3. **Action:** Claims will be settled in a transparent and timely manner.
- This launch builds on India's extensive achievements in financial inclusion – from Jan Dhan Yojana and UPI to Direct Benefit Transfers – by ensuring that citizens not only have access to financial services but also get back what is rightfully theirs.



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Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Raising Day

International Land Border



Key Points:

- **Event:** October 24, 2025
- **Rank:** 63rd
- The ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police) is one of the five Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) of India.
- The ITBP guards the 3,488-kilometer-long India-China border, stretching from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Established:** October 24, 1962, after the Sino-Indian War.

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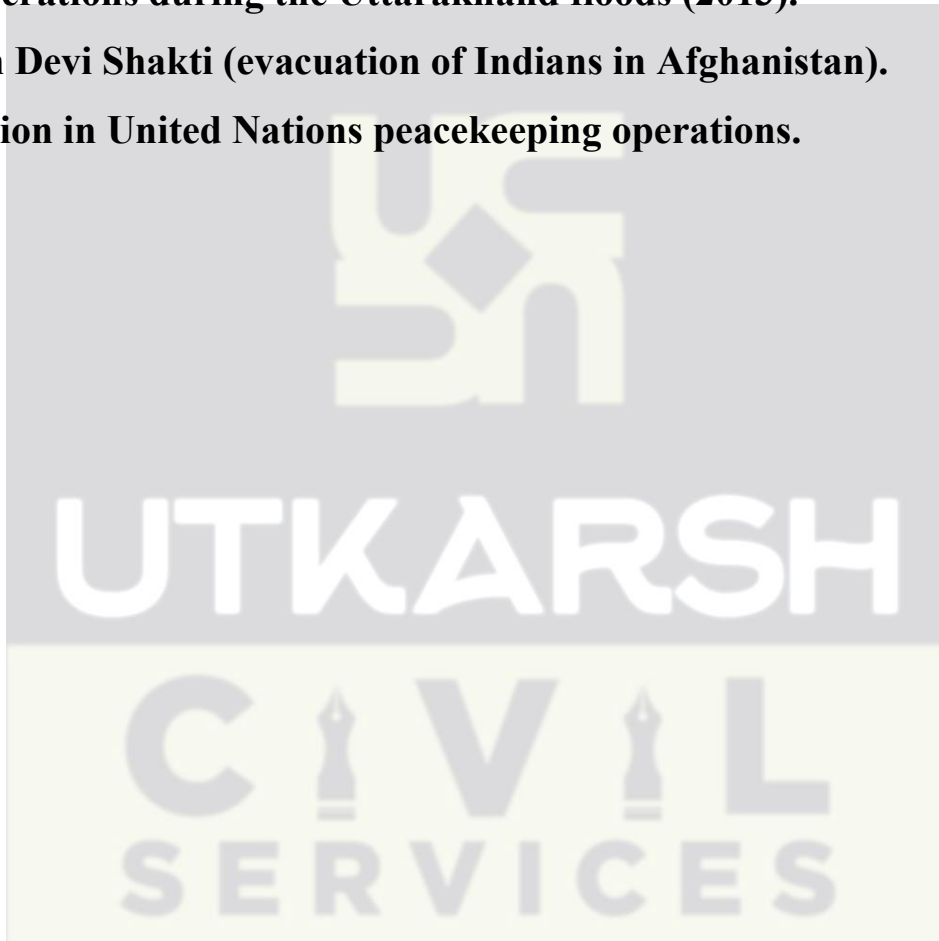
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- **Reorganized:** Revised in 1992 under the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act.
- **Motto:** “Valour, Determination, Devotion to Duty”.

Important Participations:

1. Rescue operations during the Uttarakhand floods (2013).
2. Operation Devi Shakti (evacuation of Indians in Afghanistan).
3. Participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations.



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INTERNATIONAL



India and Brazil Strategic Alliance Plan



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Why in News?

- Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva has announced a plan to form a strategic alliance with India. The plan aims to promote political, economic, and technological cooperation between the two countries.
- From October 15 to 17, 2025, Geraldo Alckmin, Vice President of Brazil and Minister of Development, Industry, Trade and Services, concluded a three-day visit to India to strengthen the India-Brazil strategic partnership and cooperation in defense, energy, health, and technology.



Key Points:

Key Cooperation:

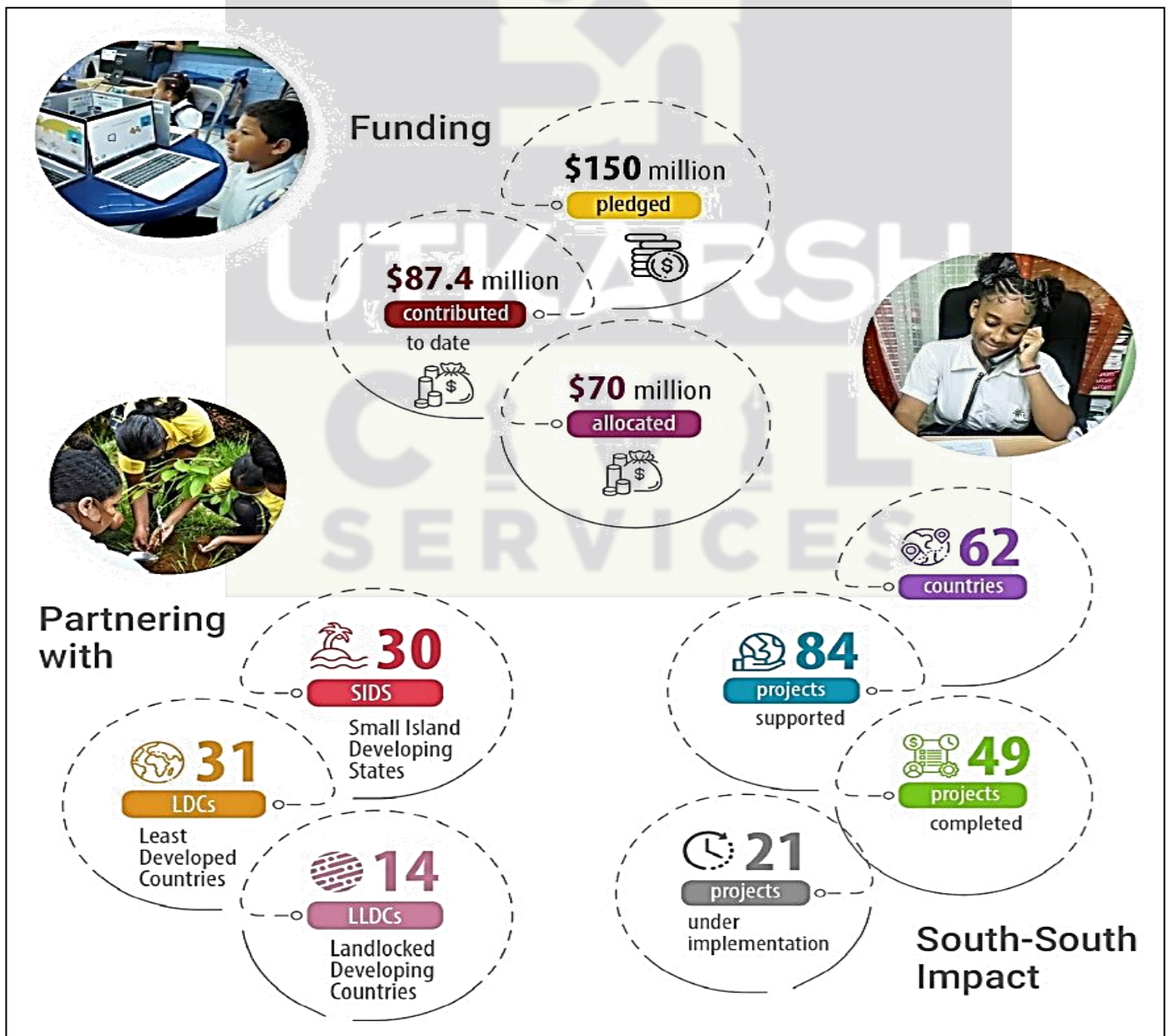
1. **Technology:** India proposed to supply the Akash medium-range air defense missile system developed by the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) to Brazil and discussed co-development and co-production.
- Brazil's Embraer Defence & Security and Mahindra Group signed a Strategic Cooperation Agreement (SCA) to promote the C-39 Millennium aircraft for the Medium Transport Aircraft (MTA) program of the Indian Air Force (IAF), in line with the Government of India's (GoI) vision of the "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiative.
2. **Bilateral Trade:** During the fiscal year 2024-25, bilateral merchandise trade stood at US\$12.19 billion.
- A target was set to increase bilateral trade to US\$20 billion in the next five years (by 2030).
3. **Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA):** Brazil and India agreed to update the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), signed in 2004 and in force since 2009, to reflect current economic trends and untapped potential.
4. **India-Brazil Business Forum:** Brazilian Vice President Geraldo Alckmin inaugurated and addressed the India-Brazil Business Forum jointly organized by CII, FICCI and CHI in collaboration with MEA (India) and Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services (Brazil).

80th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Session, 2025



Why in News?

- India's External Affairs Minister addressed the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, highlighting the need for UN reform and India's readiness to assume greater responsibility in advancing UN reforms.



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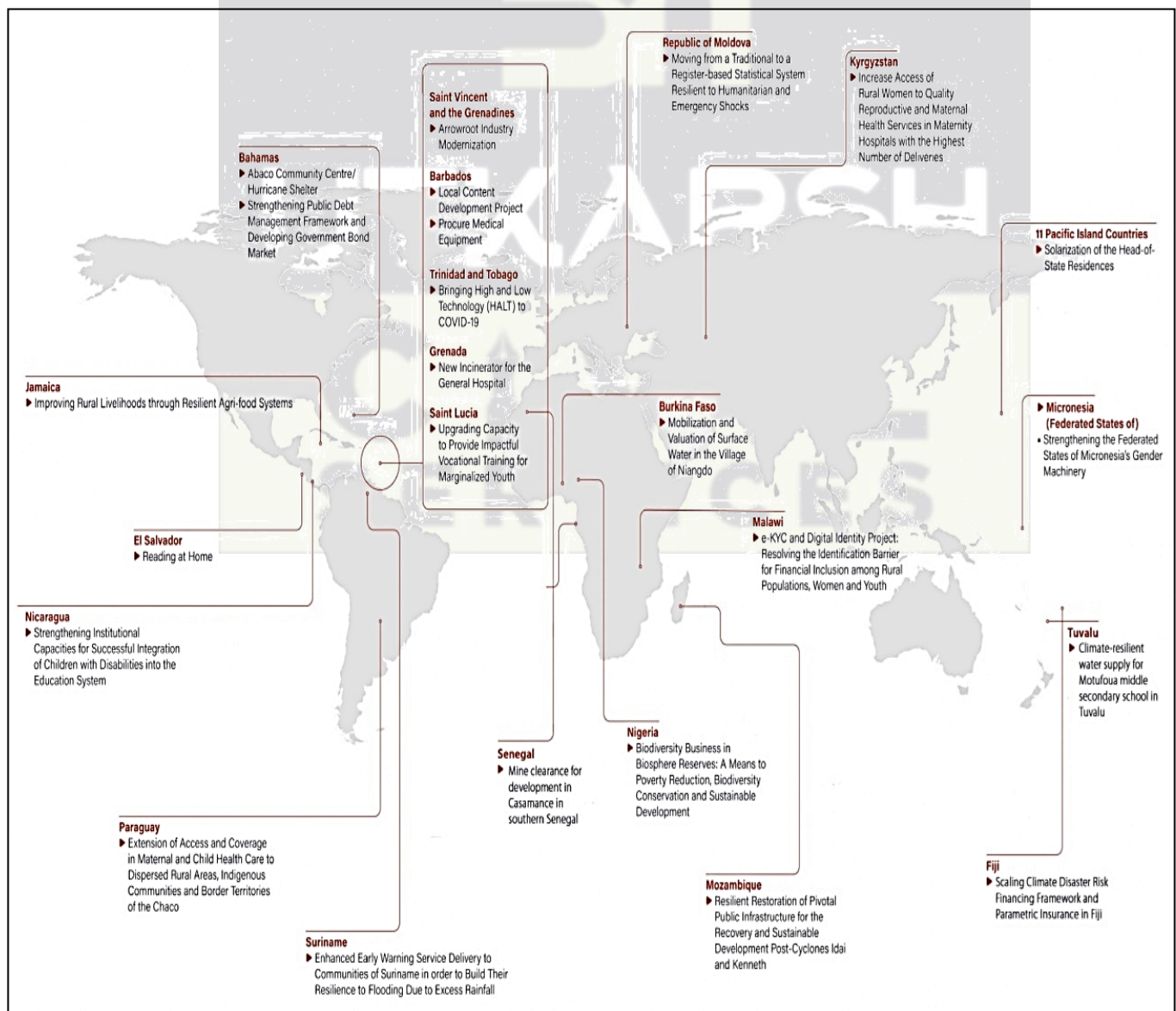


Key Points:

India-UN Development Partnership Fund:

- The \$150 million India-UN Development Partnership Fund, established in 2017, is supported and administered by the Government of India and implemented in collaboration with the United Nations system.
- The Fund supports South-owned and South-led, demand-driven, and transformative sustainable development projects in developing countries, with a primary focus on least developed countries and small island developing States. UN agencies implement Fund projects in close collaboration with partner governments.

Projects run by the India-UN Development Partnership:



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Need for Reforms in the United Nations:

1. **Outdated and Unreliable:** The UN Security Council reflects the geopolitical realities of 1945, not the 21st century.
 - Emerging powers like India, Brazil, Germany, and Japan lack permanent membership, while the Global South is underrepresented, limiting the UN's legitimacy.
2. **Decision-Making Deadlock:** The UN often faces decision-making deadlocks due to conflicts, limited resources, and terrorism.
 - The five permanent members (P5) have veto power, allowing any country to block resolutions even if a majority supports them, as seen with the US on resolutions related to Russia and Israel in Ukraine.
3. **Financial Dependence:** Excessive dependence on a few major donors, especially the US, creates leverage to influence UN policies and actions, undermining impartiality and global trust.
4. **Administrative Issues:** The UN's vast bureaucracy is slow to respond to crises and is plagued by corruption, misuse of funds, and misconduct.
5. **Erosion of Sovereignty:** Some nations perceive the UN as a threat to sovereignty and argue that proposals on climate change, human rights, or immigration may overshadow national interests.
6. **Competition of Global and Regional Institutions:** The rise of organizations such as the G20, BRICS, and the African Union, while bypassing the UN, provides alternative and more active platforms for international cooperation and further highlights the need for reform.

India's Role in UN Reforms:

1. **Security Council Expansion:** As a member of the G4 group (India, Brazil, Germany, Japan), India supports expanding the membership of the UN Security Council with six new permanent seats for Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, and Western Europe.

2. **Supporting the Global South:** As an advocate for developing countries, India can advance reforms that prioritize the interests of the Global South by highlighting key issues such as sustainable development, climate justice, and equitable economic growth.
3. **Promoting multilateralism:** In an era of great power competition, India can represent reason and understanding, promoting diplomacy over conflict.
4. **Contribution to international peacekeeping:** Through its contributions to UN peacekeeping, India strengthens its claim for more effective participation in UN decision-making.
5. **Strengthening the counter-terrorism framework:** Having directly confronted terrorism, India can lead efforts to strengthen the UN counter-terrorism framework, support a comprehensive international convention on terrorism, and ensure accountability for states that sponsor or harbor terrorist groups.
6. **Demonstrating global leadership and soft power:** Initiatives like International Yoga Day, adopted with the support of 177 member states, reinforce India's ability to build consensus and promote multilateral cooperation.
7. **Other:**
 - Decolonization
 - Human rights
 - Anti-apartheid efforts
 - International cooperation

India's Taliban Policy



Why in News?

- The Afghan Foreign Minister visited New Delhi, the highest-level visit from the Taliban since 2021.
- Following this, India upgraded its technical mission in Kabul to a full-fledged embassy but did not formally recognize the Taliban government, continuing its policy of "dialogue without recognition."



Key Points:

Policy of "Dialogue without Recognition":

- **Meaning:** De jure recognition of a government and de facto engagement with a regime are distinct political acts governed by international law.
- **India:** Does not recognize the legal legitimacy of the Taliban but maintains functional diplomatic channels through its embassy in Kabul.
- **International Legal Basis:** The Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations (1961) and Consular Relations (1963); these allow embassies to function without formal recognition of the host government.

Other important points:

The importance of India-Afghanistan relations:

Sector	Details
Security and Counter-terrorism	Assurance by the Taliban that Afghanistan will not be used as a base for anti-India groups, including condemnation of terrorist attacks.
Infrastructure Development and Reconstruction	India has invested more than USD 3 billion in Afghanistan, including projects such as the Salma Dam, Zaranj-Delaram Highway, Kabul Parliament Building, hospitals, and power substations.
Economic Cooperation	Afghanistan's mineral wealth presents significant opportunities for India in mining and trade.
Connectivity and Regional Trade	India's major connectivity projects include the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline and the Chabahar Port (Iran-Afghanistan-India corridor).

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CIVIL
SERVICES



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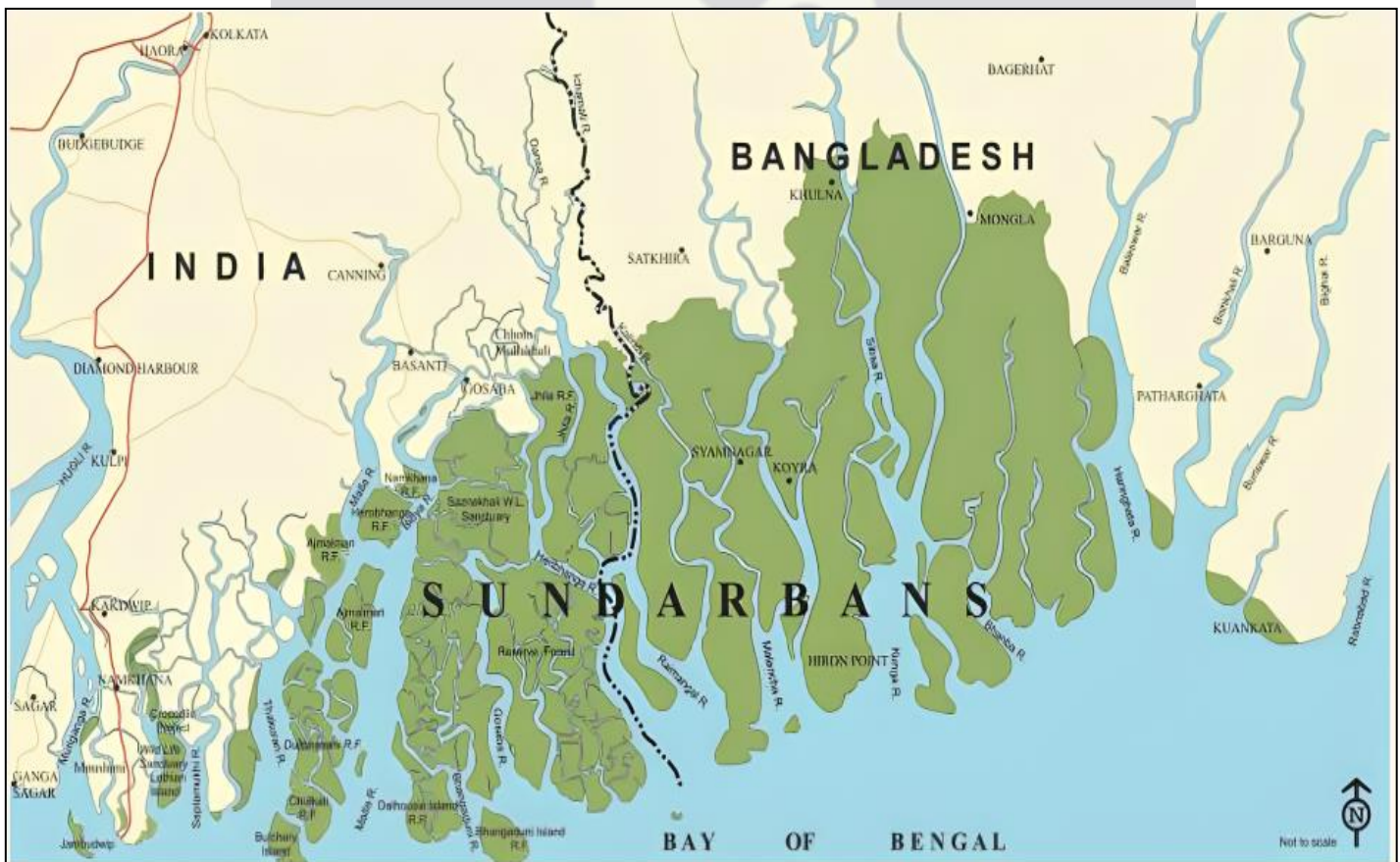
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ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Sunderbans' SAIME model receives global recognition from FAO

Why in News?

- The Sustainable Aquaculture in Mangrove Ecosystems (SAIME) model of the Sundarbans (West Bengal) has been granted global technical recognition by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).



Key Points:

SAIME Model:

- It is a community-based initiative in the Sundarbans of West Bengal.
- **Developed by:** Nature Environment and Wildlife Society (NEWS).

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- **Objective:** To strike a balance between mangrove conservation and aquaculture-based livelihoods.
- **Model:** Under this model, 5-30 percent of aquaculture pond areas are kept under mangrove cover, which supports fish and shrimp farming while protecting the ecosystem.
 - o Farmers use mangrove litter as natural feed for black tiger shrimp, a high-value species traditionally cultivated in the region, reducing dependence on chemical inputs.
- **Significance:** This approach promotes climate-resilient aquaculture, which has doubled farmers' annual net profits, strengthened coastal resilience against sea-level rise and coastal erosion, and serves as a carbon sink.

Other Key Points:

Sundarbans

- **Geographical Location:** On the Bay of Bengal shores (India and Bangladesh) in the deltas of the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna rivers.
- **Climate:** Tropical and subtropical.
- **Dominant flora of the Sundarbans:** *Excoecaria agallocha* (Gewa), *Ceriops decandra* (Goran), *Sonneratia apetala* (Keora), and *Heritiera fomes* (Sundari).
- **Key fauna of the Sundarbans:** Bengal tiger, Gangetic and Irrawaddy dolphins, estuarine crocodiles, and olive ridley turtles.
- **Features:** The Sundarbans comprises the world's largest mangrove forest area and a mosaic of islands between land and sea that are constantly shaped by tidal waters.
- The Sundarbans were designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987 in India and in 1997 in Bangladesh.

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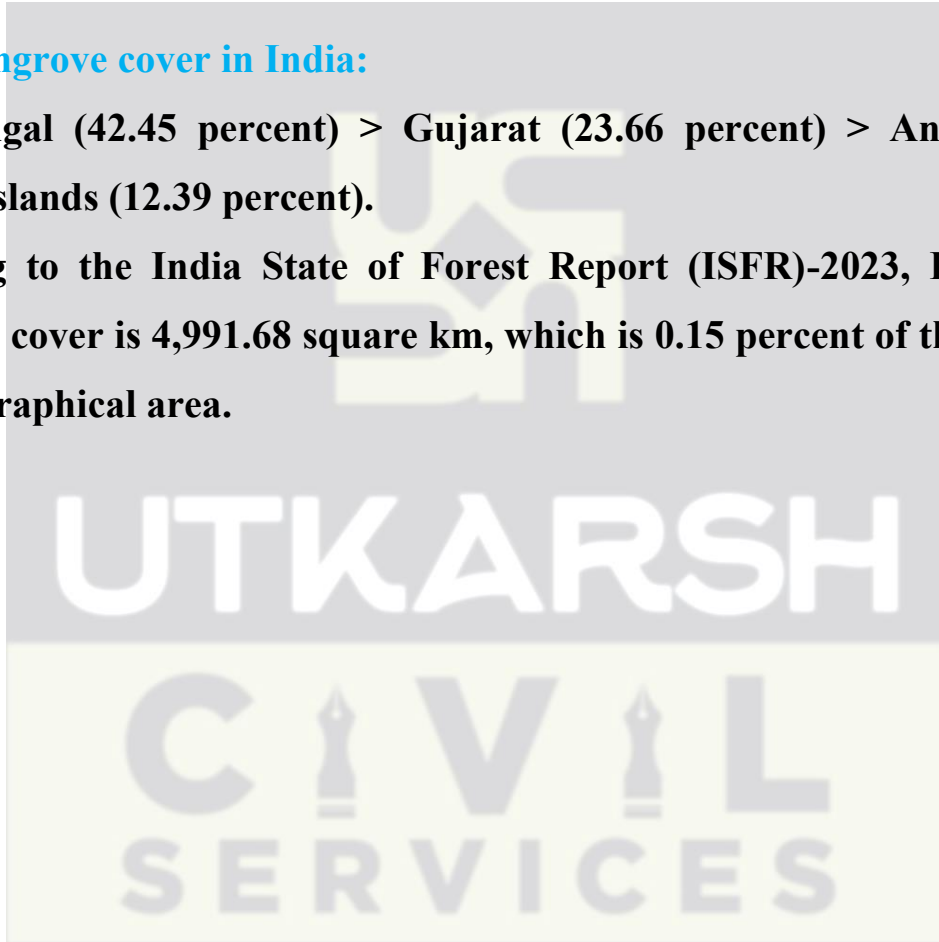
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- The Sundarbans Wetland (India) was declared a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention in 2019.
- Shared ecosystem and joint conservation and monitoring of the Sundarbans under the signing of the India-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding (2011).

Note: Mangrove cover in India:

- West Bengal (42.45 percent) > Gujarat (23.66 percent) > Andaman and Nicobar Islands (12.39 percent).
- According to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR)-2023, India's total mangrove cover is 4,991.68 square km, which is 0.15 percent of the country's total geographical area.



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🕒 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 🕒

National Critical Minerals Mission: Centers of Excellence



Why in News?

- On October 25, 2025, the Ministry of Mines recognized two more institutions, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, and the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET), Hyderabad, as Centers of Excellence (COEs) under the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM), in addition to the seven already recognized institutions.





Key Points:

- This decision follows the approval given by the Project Approval and Advisory Committee (PAAC) at its meeting in the Ministry of Mines on October 24, 2025.
- Each Center of Excellence (COE) will function as a consortium on a hub-and-spoke model to promote research and development in critical minerals and bring together the core capabilities of each component.
- The nine recognized Centers of Excellence together comprise approximately 90 industry and academic/R&D stakeholders.

National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM):

- **Announcement:** The Finance Minister announced the establishment of the Critical Minerals Mission in the Union Budget 2024-25 on July 23, 2024.
- **Duration:** 2024-25 to 2030-31 (seven years)
- **Objective:** To reduce India's dependence on imports of critical minerals and ensure self-reliance for high-tech industries, clean energy, and national defense, in line with the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision.
- **Stages:** The mission covers all stages, including mineral exploration, mining, beneficiation, processing, and recovery from end-of-life products.

Special Information Regarding Rajasthan:

- In the 2024-25 field season, GSI has initiated 195 projects, including 35 in Rajasthan, focused on identifying and assessing critical mineral deposits.
- In 2021-22 and 2022-23, GSI conducted surveys for rare earth elements (REE), including neodymium, in Sirohi and Bhilwara districts of Rajasthan.
- The Department of Atomic Energy discovered approximately 1,11,845 tonnes of in-situ rare earth element oxides (REO) in Balotra, Rajasthan.

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Use of Critical Minerals:

Sector	Sub-sector	Use	Special Details
Green Energy Transition	Solar Energy	Critical minerals such as silicon, tellurium, indium, and gallium are used in the production of photovoltaic (PV) cells for solar panels.	India's current solar capacity of 64 GW is highly dependent on these minerals.
	Wind Energy	Dysprosium and neodymium are used in permanent magnets for wind turbines.	India aims to increase its wind energy capacity from 42 GW to 140 GW by 2030.
	Electric Vehicles (EVs)	Lithium, nickel, and cobalt are key materials used in lithium-ion batteries.	National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP).
	Energy Storage and Hydrogen Fuel	Lithium-ion batteries use lithium, cobalt, and nickel.	—

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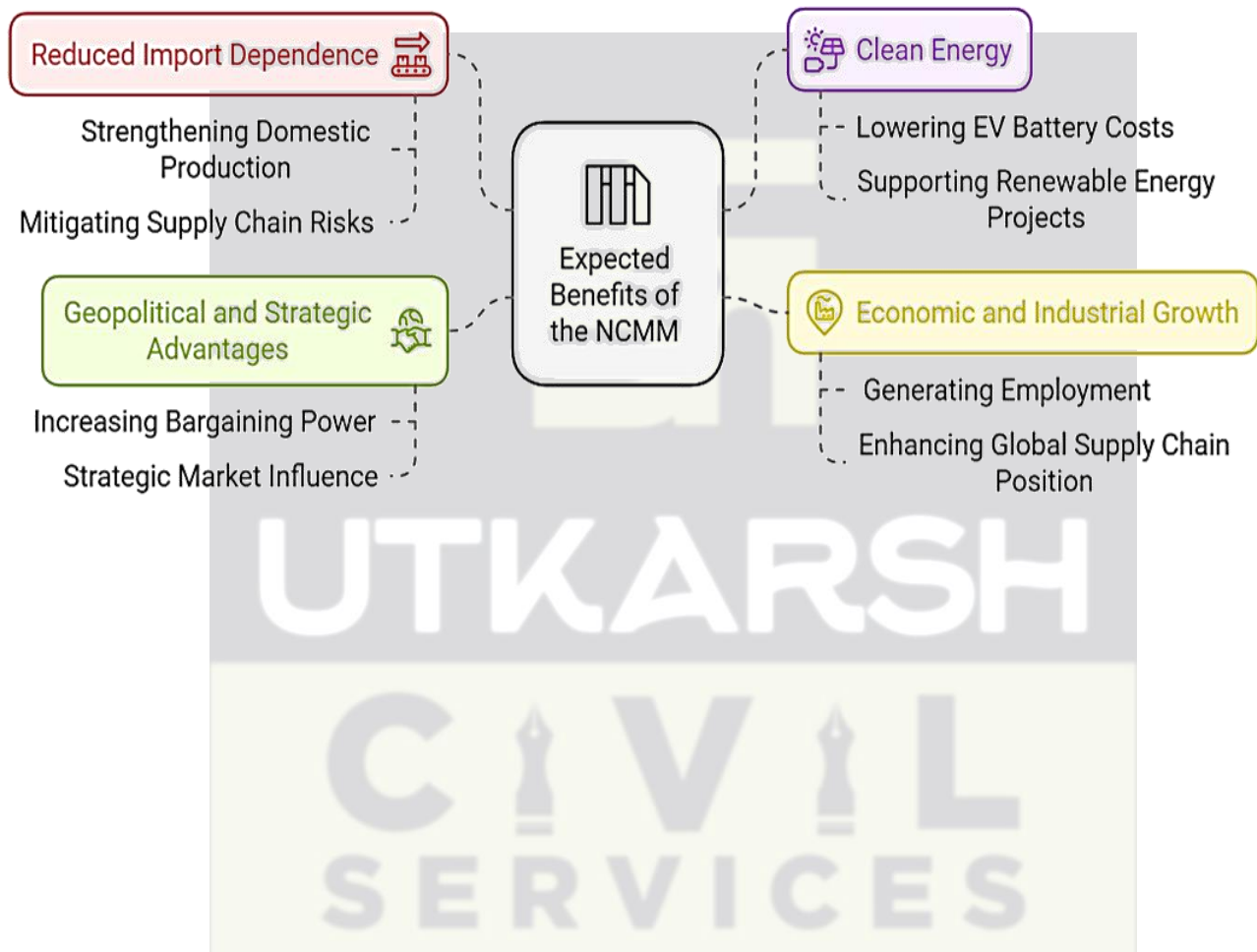
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Electronics and Telecommunications	Useful in semiconductors, fiber optics, and circuit boards.	—	
Defence and Aerospace	Essential in missile guidance systems, aircraft, and satellite technologies.	—	
Medical Equipment	Key components in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machines, pacemakers, and other advanced healthcare technologies.	—	

- **India's dependence on imports:** India is heavily dependent on China for six critical minerals (bismuth, lithium, silicon, titanium, tellurium, and graphite), reflecting its vulnerability to supply disruptions.
- **Global context:** China dominates the global supply chain for critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, and rare earths, and refines over 60 percent of these minerals.

- **Significance:** India aims to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 45 percent by 2030 (from 2005 levels), achieve 50 percent of its power capacity from non-fossil sources by 2030, and reach net-zero emissions by 2070.



Diwali Celebration: INS Vikrant



Why in News?

- During this special occasion of his visit from 19 to 20 October 2025, the Prime Minister participated in a night maritime flying activity on INS Vikrant.
- The Honorable Prime Minister of India celebrated Diwali 2025 on the pride of the Indian Navy, the indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant.



Key Points:

History and Development:

- **Naming:** In honor of India's first aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant (R11), which was decommissioned in 1997.
- **Formal construction began:** In February 2009 at Cochin Shipyard Limited.
- **Launch:** Launched in August 2013.
- **First Sea Trials:** August 2021
- **Design:** Conceived and developed by the Indian Navy's in-house Warship Design Bureau (WDB).
- **Commissioning:** Commissioned on September 2, 2022, in Kochi, India joins the ranks of countries capable of indigenously designing and building aircraft carriers.
- **Indigenous Materials:** 76 percent of the ship is manufactured domestically, including special steel supplied by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).
- **Employment Generation:** Approximately 2,000 direct and 12,500 indirect employment opportunities were created at Cochin Shipyard Limited.

Capabilities and Specifications:

1. The aircraft carrier is 262.5 meters long and 61.6 meters wide, with a dead displacement of approximately 45,000 tons.
2. It is powered by four gas turbines, which together generate approximately 88 megawatts of power.
3. **Maximum speed:** 28 knots.
4. The ship can accommodate approximately 1,600 personnel, including female officers and sailors, and has approximately 2,200 compartments.
5. It operates on the Short Take-Off But Arrested Recovery (STOBAR) system, which allows aircraft to take off using a ski-jump and land using arrestor wires.
6. INS Vikrant is capable of operating approximately 30 aircraft, including the MiG-29K, Kamov-31, MH-60R, MiG-29 KUB, Chetak, and ALH Dhruv.
7. The ship is so powerful that it can generate enough electricity for approximately 5,000 homes.

Technical and Operational Capabilities:

1. **Varuna 2025 Exercise:** INS Vikrant participated in Varuna 25 (an Indo-French naval bilateral exercise) with the Carrier Strike Group Charles de Gaulle in March 2025.
2. **Battlefield-Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX 2025):** Participated in India's largest biennial exercise in the Indian Ocean region.
3. **Konkan Exercise 2025:** Conducted a bilateral exercise with the British Royal Navy off the coast of Mumbai, involving air, surface, and subsurface military operations.
4. **Operation Sindoor:** During Operation Sindoor, the carrier ship Vikrant was at the center of the Indian Navy's offensive deterrence posture. Deployed in the North Arabian Sea, Vikrant played a key role in the specific strategy.



INDEXES AND REPORTS

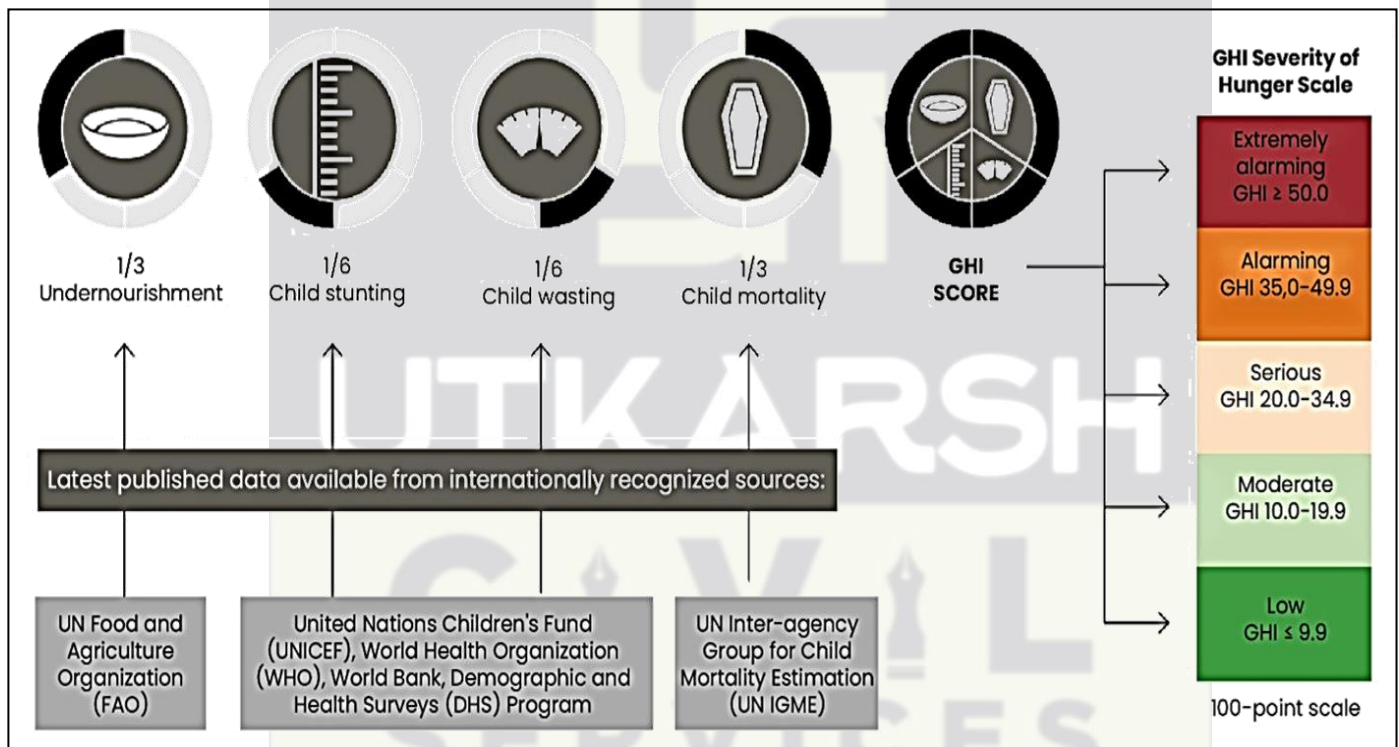


Global Hunger Index, 2025



Why in News?

- Recently, the 2025 Global Hunger Index (GHI) report was released with the title “20 Years of Tracking Progress: Time to Recommit to Zero Hunger.”



Key Points:

- 2025 Edition:** 20th
- Assessment:** It presents a rigorous assessment of global progress towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of zero hunger by 2030.
- Issued/Published by:** Irish humanitarian organization Concern Worldwide, German aid agency Welthungerhilfe, and the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV).

Indicators: Includes four indicators of a multidimensional nature:

1. **Undernourishment:** The proportion of the population whose calorie intake is inadequate.
2. **Child stunting:** The proportion of children under five years of age who have low height for their age.
3. **Child wasting:** The proportion of children under five years of age who have low weight for their height.
4. **Child mortality:** The proportion of children who die before their fifth birthday.

Key points of the report:

- At the current pace, at least 56 countries will not reach low hunger by 2030.
- Hunger in 42 countries is classified as 'Serious' or 'Alarming'.
- **Highest hunger levels globally:** South Asia and six countries in sub-Saharan Africa – the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Madagascar, Kenya, Somalia, and Zambia.
- Regions with the lowest hunger levels globally: Europe and Central Asia.

Report's assessment of India:

- India's GHI score (2025) is 25.8, classified as serious, ranking 102nd out of 123 countries.
- **Child wasting:** Remains serious at 18.7 percent, the second highest globally.
- **Child stunting:** 32.9 percent, the 21st highest.
- Undernourishment affects 12 percent of the population.
- Under-five mortality has improved significantly to 2.8 per cent, reflecting steady progress in child survival.

MILITARY EXERCISES

JAIMEX-25 Maritime Exercise



Why in News?

- From October 16 to 18, 2025, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sahyadri and an indigenously built Shivalik-class guided missile stealth frigate participated in the sea phase of JAIMEX-25 (Japan-India Maritime Exercise).
- Also, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sahyadri participated in the port phase in Yokosuka, Japan on October 21, 2025.



Key Points:

- **Launch:** Strengthens the 'Special Strategic and Global Partnership' established in 2014 between India and Japan.
- **Location:** Held west of Kyushu from October 16 to 18, 2025.
- **Japanese ships involved:** JS Asahi, JS Oumi, a submarine, the 2nd Artillery Brigade (Japan Ground Self-Defense Force - JGSDF), and the Western Aircraft Control and Warning Wing (Japan Air Self-Defense Force - JASDF).
- **Objective of the exercise:** To enhance tactical capabilities, interoperability, and multi-layered defense cooperation between the Indian Navy, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF), JGSDF, and JASDF.

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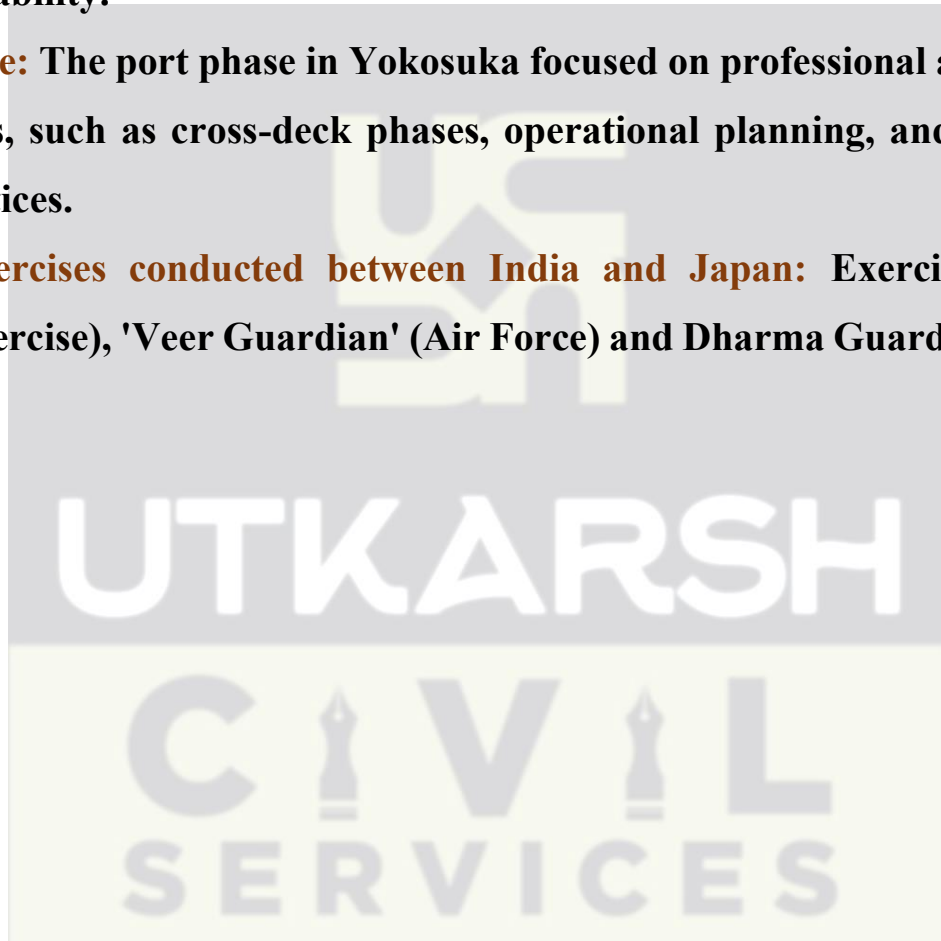
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Phase:

- 1. Sea Phase:** INS Sahyadri, JMSDF ships Asahi and Oumi, and the submarine Jinryu conducted advanced anti-submarine warfare exercises, missile defense drills, flight operations, and underway replenishment to enhance interoperability.
 - 2. Port Phase:** The port phase in Yokosuka focused on professional and cultural exchanges, such as cross-deck phases, operational planning, and sharing of best practices.
- **Other exercises conducted between India and Japan:** Exercise Malabar (Naval exercise), 'Veer Guardian' (Air Force) and Dharma Guardian (Army).



🏆 AWARDS 🏆

National Science Awards, 2025



Why in News?

- On October 26, 2025, the National Science Awards 2025, the country's highest honor, were announced for outstanding and inspiring contributions by scientists, technologists, and innovators in various fields of science, technology, and technology-based innovation.



Key Points:

- **Objective:** To inspire the next generation, strengthen the research ecosystem, and accelerate India's journey as a global leader in science and technology innovation.
- **Fields:** The awards are given in 13 fields: Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, Earth Sciences, Medicine, Engineering Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Technology and Innovation, Atomic Energy, Space Science and Technology, and other allied fields.

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Awarded in four categories:

Category	Description	Recipients/Winners for the Year 2025
Vigyan Ratna (VR) Award	Recognizes lifetime achievements and contributions in any field of science and technology.	Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar (Physics) – <i>Posthumously</i>
Vigyan Shri (VS) Award	Recognizes distinguished contributions in any field of science and technology.	Dr. Gyanendra Pratap Singh (Agricultural Sciences), Dr. Yousuf Mohammad Shaikh (Nuclear Energy), Dr. K. Thangaraj (Biological Sciences), Prof. Pradeep Thalappil (Chemical Sciences), Prof. Aniruddha Bhalchandra Pandit (Engineering Sciences), Dr. S. Venkata Mohan (Environmental Sciences), Prof. Mahan MJ (Mathematics & Computer Science), Jayan N (Space Science & Technology)
Vigyan Yuva–Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar	Recognizes and encourages young scientists up to the age of 45 years.	Dr. Jagdish Gupta Kapuganti (Agricultural Sciences), Dr. Satendra Kumar Mangrauthia (Agricultural Sciences), Debarka Sengupta (Biological

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(VY-SSB) Award		Sciences), Dr. Deepa Agashe (Biological Sciences), Dr. Dibyendu Das (Chemical Sciences), Dr. Waliur Rahman (Earth Sciences), Prof. Arkaprava Basu (Engineering Sciences), Prof. Sabyasachi Mukherjee (Mathematics & Computer Science), Prof. Shweta Prem Agarwal (Mathematics & Computer Science), Dr. Suresh Kumar (Medical Sciences), Prof. Amit Kumar Agarwal (Physics), Prof. Surhud Shrikant More (Physics), Ankur Garg (Space Science & Technology), Prof. Mohanshankar Shivprakasham (Technology & Innovation)
Vigyan Team (VT) Award	Presented to a team of three or more scientists/researchers/innovators who have made an exceptional contribution as a team in any field of science and technology.	Team – Aroma Mission, CSIR (Agricultural Sciences)

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IMPORTANT DAYS



World Statistics Day, 2025: October 20



Key Points:

Day	World Statistics Day	National Statistics Day
Date	20 October 2025	29 June 2025
Edition	4th	19th
Objective	To create public awareness about the importance of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy making for national development, especially among the younger generation.	
Started In	20 October 2010	Year 2007
Theme for 2025	“Quality Data and Statistics for All”	“75 Years of National Sample Survey”

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Other Points	This day is celebrated once every five years. It is celebrated under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission. Significance: In 2010, the United Nations Commission proposed celebrating October 20 as World Statistics Day. United Nations Statistical Commission: It is the supreme body of the global statistical system. The United Nations Statistical Commission was established in 1947 and is headquartered in New York.	The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released a commemorative coin and a customized My Stamp on June 29, 2025, at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, to commemorate the completion of 75 years of the National Sample Survey. Statistical publications released on this occasion: Sustainable Development Goals – National Indicator Framework Progress Report 2025 and Nutritional Intake in India 2022-23 and 2023-24 Significance: Commemorates the birth anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, renowned Indian statistician, founder of the Indian Statistical Institute, and architect of India's Second Five-Year Plan.
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United Nations Day, 2025: October 24



Key Points:

- **Reason:** It marks the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, established on October 24, 1945.
- **Basis for Establishment:** The UN Charter entered into force on October 24, 1945, after it was signed at the conclusion of the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco on June 26, 1945.
- The UN Charter was ratified by 51 countries, including the five permanent members of the Security Council (the United States, Britain, Russia, China, and France).

United Nations:

- **Introduction:** The United Nations (UN) is an intergovernmental organization established after World War II. It is the successor to the League of Nations and works to promote global peace, security, and cooperation through its specialized agencies.

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- **Development:** Membership has increased from 51 countries (1945) to 193 (2025). (India is a founding member of the United Nations.)
- **Expansion of scope:** It has expanded to include health, the environment, gender equality, human rights, and sustainable development, and has also responded to global crises such as pandemics, refugee crises, and climate change.
- **United Nations agencies:** The United Nations operates several agencies, such as UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO, and UNDP, which work in areas such as education, health, women's empowerment, and environmental protection.

Main organs of the United Nations:

1. **Security Council:** Ensures global peace and security.
2. **General Assembly:** Deliberates on important issues by all member states.
3. **International Court of Justice:** Legally resolves international disputes.
4. **Secretariat:** Conducts the UN's administrative work.
5. **Economic and Social Council:** Addresses economic, social, and environmental issues.

Major achievements of the United Nations:

Field	Achievements
Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution	The United Nations has deployed more than 70 peacekeeping missions in conflict zones such as Congo, Lebanon, and South Sudan since 1948. UN peacekeeping forces were awarded the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize for their work in preventing armed conflicts and creating conditions for dialogue.
Decolonization and Nation-Building	Supported the independence of more than 80 countries, mainly in Asia and Africa.

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Global Health	Through the World Health Organization (WHO) – eradication and response to various diseases.
Humanitarian Assistance	World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provide critical humanitarian relief.
Human Rights Protection	Adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), establishment of the Human Rights Council (2006), and creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
Sustainable Development	Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (2000–2015) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (2015–2030).
Climate and Environmental Action	Establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1988; adoption of the Paris Agreement (2015).
International Law and Justice	Strengthened the rule of law through the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and the Geneva Conventions.
Education and Social Welfare	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

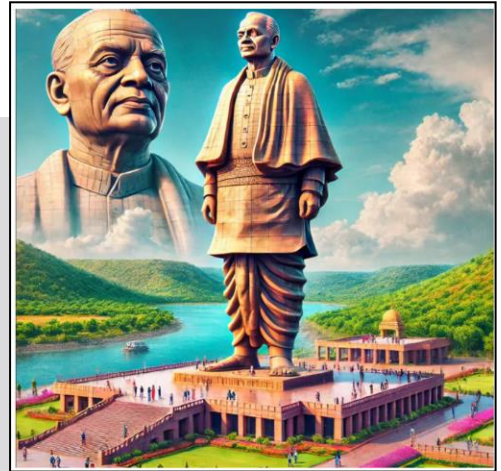
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National Unity Day, 2025: October 31



Key Points:

- **Reason:** Celebrated to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary (2025) of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (the Iron Man).
- **Origin:** It was first celebrated in 2014 by the Government of India to reaffirm the nation's strength, unity, and resilience against threats to its integrity.



Patel's Contribution to the Building of India:

Year	Contribution
1910	Received the title of Barrister from Middle Temple, London.
1913	Joined the Indian National Congress.
1917	Elected Secretary of the Gujarat Sabha, the Gujarat branch of the Indian National Congress.
1918	Led the Kheda Satyagraha, advocating for farmers' rights during a famine.
1922	Arrested during the Non-Cooperation Movement.
1928	Led the Bardoli Satyagraha (Tax Refusal Campaign) and earned the title "Sardar."
1931	Elected President of the Indian National Congress (Karachi Session).
1942	Arrested during the Quit India Movement.
1946	Played a key role in drafting the Constitution of India.
1947	Became Independent India's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister.
1947-48	Led the integration of princely states into the Indian Union.
1948	Directed "Operation Polo" for the merger of Hyderabad into India.
1950	Passed away on 15 December 1950 in Bombay (now Mumbai).

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- **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's ideology:** A blend of Gandhian philosophy and a pragmatic approach to politics and governance;
 1. Purna Swaraj (complete independence and self-reliance).
 2. Satyagraha (a truly transformative means of bringing about social and political change).
 3. Equality (fight against untouchability, caste discrimination, and alcoholism) and secularism (Hindu-Muslim unity).
 4. Strong democracy and constitutional governance.

Honors and titles

- **Iron Man of India:** Patel was awarded this title for his unparalleled efforts in ensuring India's unity and integrity.
- **Bharat Ratna:** India's highest civilian award, awarded posthumously in 1991.
- **National Unity Day:** In 2014, the Government of India initiated the observance of his birth anniversary as "National Unity Day."
- **Statue of Unity:** The world's tallest statue was inaugurated in Kevadia, Gujarat, on October 31, 2018.
- **Sardar Sarovar Dam:** The dam built on the Narmada River in Gujarat is named after him.
- **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy:** A highly prestigious institute for training police officers was established in Hyderabad in Patel's honor.

SPORTS

Jyothi Surekha Vennam: Archer



Why in News?

- Indian archer Jyothi Surekha Vennam won a bronze medal at the Archery World Cup Final in Nanjing, China.



Key Points:

- She is the first Indian female compound athlete to win a medal at this competition.
- Jyoti defeated second-seeded Ella Gibson of Britain.
- Asian Games champion Jyoti began her campaign by defeating Alexis Ruiz of the United States in the quarterfinals.

Other Key Points:

- India performed brilliantly at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai, winning a total of 7 medals, including 2 gold, 1 silver, and 4 bronze.

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