

Daily Current Affairs

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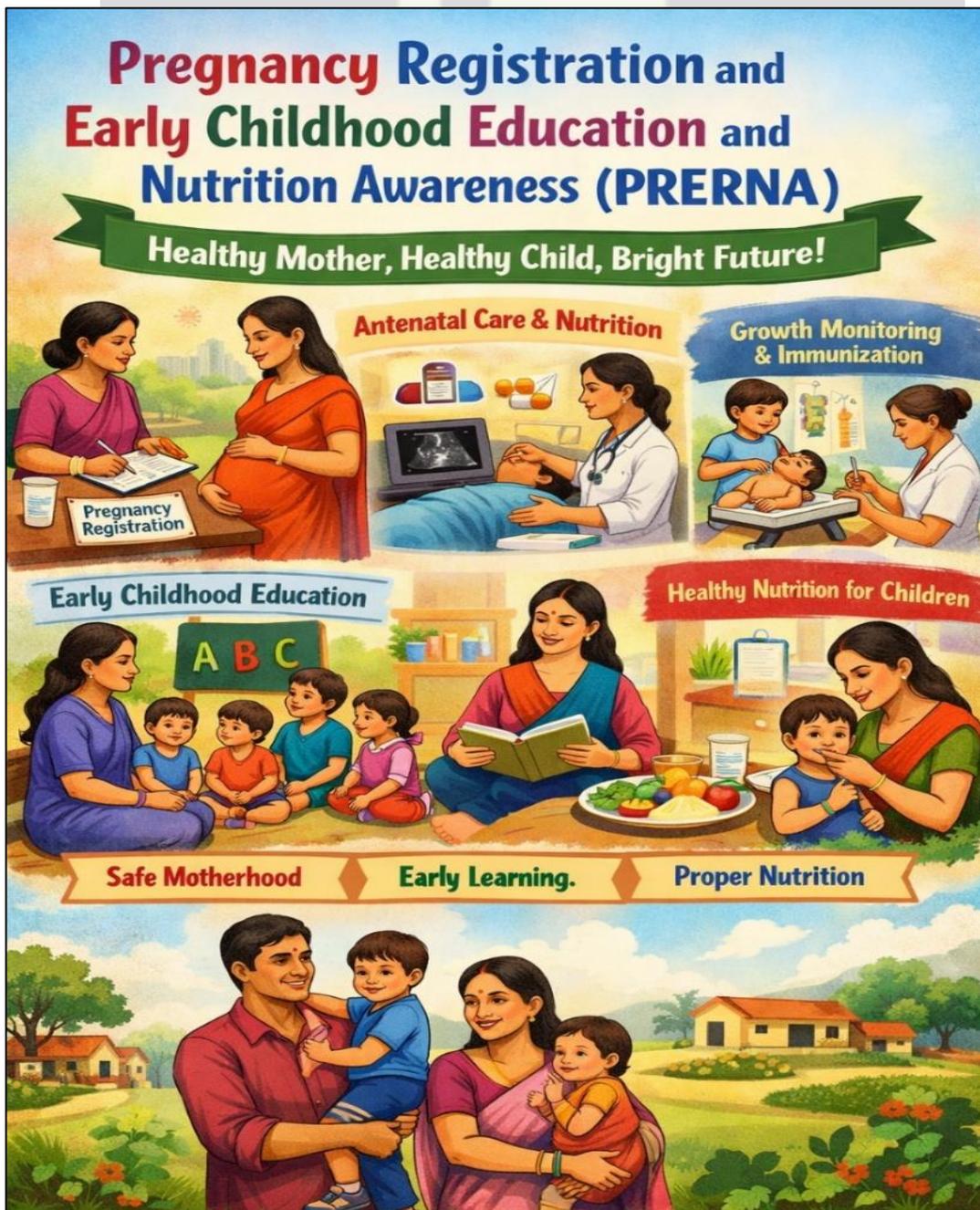
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RAJASTHAN

Prerna Campaign 2.0 (January 19 to February 19, 2026)

Why in News?

- A statewide 'Prerna Campaign 2.0' is being conducted in Rajasthan from January 19 to February 19, 2026.



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Key Points:

- **Full name of the campaign:** Pregnancy Registration and Early Childhood Education and Nutrition Awareness - 2.0 (PRERNA - 2.0)
- **Organizer:** Directorate of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS).
- **Program objective:** 'Empowered Anganwadi, Well-nourished Childhood'.
- Under this campaign, all eligible beneficiaries deprived of ICDS services, pregnant women (in the first three months), lactating mothers, children aged 0 to 6 years, and adolescent girls in aspirational districts will be registered. Registered beneficiaries will be provided facilities under ICDS.
- **Targeted schemes:** Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Chief Minister Matritva Poshan Yojana, Supplementary Nutrition, Chief Minister Amrit Aahar Yojana, etc. Beneficiaries are targeted to receive benefits from these schemes through Anganwadi centers.
- Under this campaign, 'Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)' will be identified for malnutrition management, on the lines of the 'Amma Program'.

Facts for Prelims:

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS):

- **Started:** October 2, 1975

Objectives:

- To improve the nutritional and health status of children aged 0 to 6 years.
- To lay the foundation for the psychological, physical, and social development of children.
- To reduce mortality rate, morbidity, malnutrition, and school dropout rate.
- Currently, 363 Child Development Projects are operational in Rajasthan under this program.

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Other important points:

- **Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) ID:** As part of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has introduced the ABHA ID, a unique 14-digit number, with the primary objective of creating a centralized repository for citizens' health records.
- According to data from July 2025, Rajasthan ranks second in the country in the creation of ABHA IDs. More than 62.3 million ABHA IDs had been created in the state by July 2025.

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CIVIL
SERVICES

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69th School National Under-19 (Boys/Girls) Wushu Competition: Rajasthan

Why in News?

- Rajasthan won a total of 12 medals, including 5 gold medals, at the 69th School National Under-19 (Boys/Girls) Wushu Competition held in Imphal (Manipur).



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Key Points:

- **Organizer:** School Games Federation of India (SGFI)
- **Event:** Held from January 14 to 19, 2026 in Imphal, Manipur.
- **Rajasthan's Performance:** Total: 5 gold, 4 silver, and 3 bronze medals.
- First place in the girls' category with 3 gold and 2 silver medals.
- Second place in the boys' category with 2 gold, 2 silver, and 3 bronze medals.

Rajasthan's Gold Medal Winners:

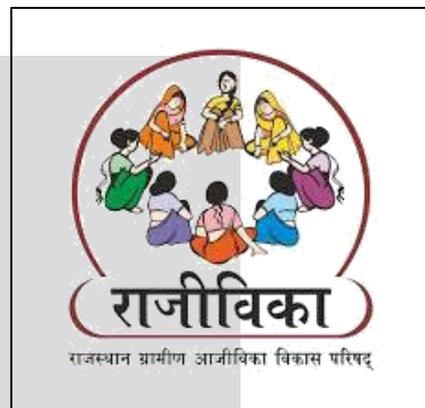
- Karmveer (52 kg weight category),
- Kartik Yadav (80 kg weight category),
- Kusum Suthar (52 kg weight category),
- Divyanshi (65 kg weight category)
- Kanak Kanwar (75 kg weight category).

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Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Development Council (RGAVP)

Why in News?

- The Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Development Council (Rajeevika) organized a special session titled “Legenda: The Real Women Behind the Myths” at the Jaipur Literature Festival (JLF) 2026.



Key Points:

Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Development Council (RGAVP) or Rajeevika

- The Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Development Council (RGAVP) or Rajeevika was established in 2010, by the Government of Rajasthan as an autonomous body under the administrative control of the Department of Rural Development.
- It is a society registered under the Rajasthan Societies Act - 1958.
- **Chairperson:** Chief Minister.

Objectives:

- To bring about effective convergence between government and non-government initiatives for rural development.
- To assist in the formation and strengthening of Self-Help Groups, Producer Organizations, Community Development Organizations, and Federations of Self-Help Groups.
- To promote small and micro-enterprises in agricultural and non-agricultural sectors to increase the income of the poor.

13th Edition of India Stonemart

Why in News?

- The 13th edition of India Stonemart will be held in Jaipur from February 5 to 8, 2026.



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Key Points:

- **Venue:** Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center (JECC), Sitapura.
- **Organizer:** Centre for Development of Stones (CDOS).
- **Sponsor:** Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation Limited (RIICO)
- **Theme:** Stone for Sustainability.
- This is an international exhibition being organized with the aim of giving global recognition to Rajasthan's natural stone industry. Producers, exporters, buyers, architects, designers, and experts from the stone industry, both from India and abroad, will participate in this event.
- This event is an extremely important platform for the stone industry, which will serve as a powerful medium to showcase the state's industrial capabilities, export potential, and investment opportunities at the global level. It will also play a significant role in promoting industry, trade, and employment generation.

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✂ NEWS IN SHORTS ⚡

S. No.	News
1.	<p>First Woman Player from Rajasthan to Play in WPL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Happy Kumari Khichad, a resident of Jhunjhunu, is the first woman player from Rajasthan to debut in the Women's Premier League (WPL).Happy was bought by Gujarat Giants for ₹10 lakh.
2.	<p>National Chintan Shivir of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries: Udaipur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A two-day Chintan Shivir (brainstorming session) was organized by the Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries in Udaipur on January 19 and 20, 2026.The objective of this Chintan Shivir is to strengthen India's food processing ecosystem through policy, innovation, entrepreneurship, and stakeholder collaboration.
3.	<p>21st IBA Annual Banking Technology Awards 2024-25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rajasthan Gramin Bank (RGB) won five awards at the 21st IBA Annual Banking Technology Awards 2024-25.At the ceremony held in Mumbai, RGB won a total of five awards: Winner in the Best Digital Financial Inclusion category for technological advancements, Runner-up in the Best Technology Bank and Best IT Risk Management categories, and outstanding performance in the Best Digital Sales and Best Fintech & DPI Adoption categories.
4.	<p>Yuva Sambal Mela – 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Event: January 20, 2026, in Bikaner.Organizer: Department of Skill, Employment and Entrepreneurship, Rajasthan.

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5. **Farmer Rights Registration Fortnight (Innovation of Rajsamand District)**

- Recently, the Rajsamand district administration launched an initiative called 'Farmer Rights Registration Fortnight'.
- In the first phase of this campaign, more than 15,000 farmers have been registered.
- Under this initiative, started on the initiative of Rajsamand District Collector Arun Kumar Hasija, officers and employees visit farms and fields to register farmers.

6. **Maru Mahotsav-2026: Jaisalmer**

- **Event:** Maru Mahotsav-2026 will be held from January 29 to February 1, 2026.

7. **69th National School Cricket Competition**

- **Venue:** Sikar (Rajasthan)
- **Organizers:** Directorate of Elementary Education, Bikaner and School Games Federation of India (SGFI)
- **Inauguration:** Jhabar Singh Kharra, Minister of State for Urban Development and Local Self-Government.

SERVICES

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Kaziranga Elevated Corridor Project

Why in News?

- The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the Kaziranga Elevated Corridor Project (4-lane construction of the Kaliabor-Numaligarh section of NH-715) in Kaliabor, Assam, at a cost of over ₹69.50 crore.

Key Points:

- **Bagurumba Dance:** The Prime Minister participated in the cultural festival of the Bodo community in Guwahati.
- Bagurumba dance is a classical Bodo folk dance style inspired by nature.
- **Kaziranga Elevated Corridor:**
- **Foundation Stone Laid:** January 18, 2026, by the Prime Minister.
- **Objective:** To ensure the uninterrupted movement of animals and reduce human-wildlife conflict.
- The 86-kilometer-long Kaziranga Elevated Corridor project is a national highway project that includes a 35-kilometer elevated wildlife corridor passing through the Kaziranga National Park.

Launch of two new Amrit Bharat Express trains:

1. Guwahati (Kamakhya) - Rohtak Amrit Bharat Express
2. Dibrugarh - Lucknow (Gomti Nagar) Amrit Bharat Express

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Wings India, 2026



Key Points:

- **Event:** January 28-31, 2026 in Hyderabad (Begumpet Airport), a biennial event.
- **Theme for 2026:** "Indian Aviation: Paving the Future - From Design to Deployment, Manufacturing to Maintenance, Inclusivity to Innovation and Safety to Sustainability".
- This is Asia's largest civil aviation event.
- **Organizers:** Jointly organized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Airports Authority of India, and FICCI.
- This international conference includes a Global CEO Forum and a Ministerial Plenary Session, in addition to 13 thematic sessions covering key areas such as Women in Aviation, Air Cargo, Business Aviation and Small Aircraft, Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), and Drones.

Chips to Startup (C2S) Program

Why in News?

- Over 100,000 individuals have enrolled for chip design training, of which approximately 67,000 have been trained so far.
- The Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL) has enabled large-scale practical chip design, receiving 122 submissions from 46 institutions, including 56 chips designed by students, which have been successfully fabricated, packaged, and delivered.

Key Points:

- **Introduction:** A national capacity building and innovation initiative that provides students with hands-on experience in chip design, fabrication, and testing.
- **Launched:** Year 2022
- **Implementing Agency:** Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- **Objective:** To catalyze the incubation of 25 startups and enable 10 technology transfers.
- **Duration:** 5 years
- **Outlay:** Rs. 250 crore.
- **Features:**
 1. Access to Infrastructure (Shared EDA tools, HPC, FPGA boards, and Smart Labs)
 2. Direct Fabrication (Through Semiconductor Laboratory, Mohali)
 3. Chip Design (National Chip IN Centre, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing; C-DAC, Bengaluru)
 4. Innovation (Startups, Incubators, Patents, IP Cores, ASICs)
 5. Collaborative Partnerships (With global EDA, semiconductor companies, and industry)

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Significance of the Scheme/Program

1. Due to the continuously increasing global demand for advanced electronics and AI-driven applications, the semiconductor industry is expected to reach approximately \$1 trillion by 2030.
2. The global semiconductor workforce faces a shortage of semiconductor talent, resulting in a need for 1 million additional skilled professionals by 2032.
3. This program involves 305 academic institutions and 95 startups under the Design Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme.

Key outcomes of the Chips to Startup (C2S) program:

1. A total of 56 chips designed by students were successfully fabricated, packaged, and delivered.
2. Participating institutions have filed over 75 patents in chip design and semiconductor manufacturing processes.
3. Access to high-performance computing has been provided through the PARAM Utkarsh supercomputer.
4. The ChipIn Center at the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), Mohali, conducted 6 shared wafer runs over the past years, enabling 122 chip design submissions from 46 institutions.

Will for Peace, 2026

Why in News?

- India did not participate in the BRICS Plus naval exercise, Will for Peace, 2026.

- **India's argument:** Such exercises are not institutional BRICS activities.

Key Points:

- **Introduction:** The BRICS Plus naval exercise is a host-led, non-institutional maritime exercise.
- **Venue:** January 9-16, 2026, Simon's Town, Cape Town, South Africa.
- **Host Country:** South Africa
- **Participating Navies:** Russia, China, United Arab Emirates, South Africa.
- **Observer Nations:** Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Ethiopia.
- **Theme:** Year 2026: "Joint Action to Ensure the Security of Major Shipping Routes and Maritime Economic Activities".
- **Objective:** To conduct joint maritime operations focused on the security of major shipping routes and maritime economic activities, promoting cooperation among Global South countries.
- It was held as part of the broader 'BRICS Plus' initiative, extending beyond the original BRICS membership.

Other Important Points:

- **BRICS:** India held the BRICS chairmanship in 2016.
- **BRICS:** "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability"
- **Establishment:** British economist Jim O'Neill coined the term 'BRIC' in 2001 to represent the emerging economies of Brazil, Russia, India, and China.

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- **First BRIC Summit:** 2009.
- In 2010, South Africa joined BRIC, thus becoming BRICS.
- **Current Members:** 11 countries (New members: Indonesia, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Egypt)
- **Objective:** To reform global governance and provide alternatives to the Western-dominated institutions (IMF, World Bank, UNSC).
- **BRICS Countries; 3 Pillars of Cooperation:**
 1. Political and Security.
 2. Economic and financial.
 3. Cultural and people-to-people exchanges.
- **Global impact:**

Global population	49.5% share
Global GDP	40% share
Global trade	26% share

Self-Reliance and Global Production Hub for Defence Manufacturing: India

Why in News?

- Recently, the Defence Minister inaugurated a fully automated medium-caliber ammunition manufacturing facility at Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited.

Key Points:

- The development of the Nagastra drone and the successful testing of the Bhargavastra anti-drone system by the Solar Group demonstrates the growing technological prowess of the private sector.

Growing Defence Indigenization and Exports:

Indigenous Defence Production:

- 2014 – ₹46,000 crore.
- 2025-26 – ₹1.5 lakh crore.
- Role of the Private Sector:** The private sector accounts for approximately 20 percent of this production. The government aims to increase the private sector's share in defence manufacturing to 50 percent or more.
- Exports:** Export of defence equipment to more than 100 countries, including countries like the USA and France.

Defence Exports:

- 2014 – Approximately ₹1000 crore.
- 2024-25 – ₹24,000 crore.

Significance:

1. Self-Reliance and Strategic Autonomy -

- Reduced dependence on foreign countries.
- Reduced supply chain vulnerability
- Improved maintenance, repair, and overhaul capabilities

2. Economic Multiplier Effect -

- Stronger domestic defense industry
- Employment and livelihood generation
- Foreign exchange savings
- Integration of MSMEs in the defense supply chain

3. Strategic Impact

- Significant partner in the global defense value chain
- India as a security provider

Key Initiatives:

1. Towards Indigenization -

- Positive Indigenization Lists
- Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme
- Defense Industrial Corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
- iDEX – Innovations for Defence Excellence
- Srijan – Self-reliance through Joint Action

2. Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) - 2020

- Buy Indian – IDDM – Prioritizing the Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured category

3. Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) - 2025

- Ease of doing business
- Support for innovation and indigenization
- Industry-friendly provisions
- Emphasis on digital integration and transparency



SCHEMES



Woomaniya Initiative



Why in News?

- Government e-Marketplace (GeM) celebrated the 7th anniversary of the Woomaniya initiative.



Key Points:

Additional Information:

- **Launched:** Year 2019
- **Objective:** To increase access to government markets for women entrepreneurs and self-help groups, and to eliminate intermediaries and entry barriers.
- To strengthen the participation of women-led micro and small enterprises in public procurement.
- Over time, it has evolved into a national ecosystem that supports women-led small and medium enterprises and enhances their participation in public procurement.

🎓 POLITY 🎓

Lokpal: Foundation Day

📣 Why in News?

- Lokpal Foundation Day is celebrated every year on January 16 to mark the enactment of Section 3 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013.

📌 Key Points:

- **Establishment:** January 16, 2014 (under Section 3 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013)
- The Lokpal resolved in its meeting held on March 14, 2024, that January 16 of every year will be celebrated as Lokpal Day due to the establishment of the body called Lokpal of India through a notification issued on January 16, 2014 under Section 1(4).
- **First Lokpal Day:** January 16, 2025

📖 Historical Background:

- **1960:** K.M. Munshi demanded this arrangement in India.
- **1963:** The word 'Lokpal' was used in Parliament on April 3, 1963: L.M. Singhvi.
- **1966:** First Administrative Reforms Commission (Morarji Desai).
- **1968:** The Lokayukta and Lokpal Bill, 1968 was introduced for the first time. 9 times the bill was introduced.
- **2011:** The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 was introduced for the 10th time.
- **Passed by Rajya Sabha:** December 17, 2013
- **Passed by Lok Sabha:** December 18, 2013
- **Presidential assent:** January 1, 2014
- **Effective:** January 16, 2014
- **First Lokpal P. C. Ghosh, assumed office:** March 23, 2019

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- Maharashtra was the first state to establish the Lokayukta in 1971.
- **Composition:** 1 Chairperson + maximum 8 members
- **NOTE:** At least 50% of the members must be judicial and 50% representation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, minorities, and women is mandatory.
- **Term of Office:** 5 years / 70 years (whichever is earlier)
- **Eligibility:**
 - **Chairperson:** A serving or former Chief Justice of India or a Supreme Court Judge
 - **Members:** Selection from among serving or former Supreme Court Judges or Chief Justices of High Courts.
 - **Appointment Process:** The Chairperson and members are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a selection committee consisting of:
 1. The Prime Minister
 2. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
 3. The Leader of the Opposition
 4. The Chief Justice of India or his nominee
 5. An eminent jurist nominated by the President
 - **Jurisdiction of the Lokpal:** The Prime Minister (with exceptions relating to national security, foreign relations, atomic energy, space, and public order) + Union Ministers + Members of Parliament + Central Government officials from Groups A to D.
 - **Powers/Functions:** Has the powers of a civil court.
 - Power to supervise investigations conducted in cases filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
 - Authorize search and seizure.
 - Recommend prosecution or disciplinary action.
 - Can issue directions to the CVC.

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Central Information Commission - CIC

Why in News?

- The Central Information Commission has ruled that lawyers cannot use the Right to Information Act to obtain case-related details for their clients.

Key Points:

CIC – Additional Information -

- **Establishment:** A statutory body constituted under the Right to Information Act, 2005.
- **Objective:** To ensure access to information for citizens.
- **Functions:** To receive and inquire into complaints from citizens relating to the RTI Act.
- **Members:** One Chief Information Commissioner and a maximum of 10 Information Commissioners.
- **Appointment:** The Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a committee. This committee includes:
 1. The Prime Minister (Chairperson)
 2. The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha
 3. A Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister
- **Tenure:** 3 years