

Daily Current Affairs

Date : 06 April 2026



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Gauransh Sharma



Why in News?

- Gauransh Sharma from Jaipur secured first place in the 2nd Skill Craft Open International FIDE-Rated Chess Tournament.



Key Points:

- **Event Dates:** March 27–29, 2026, New Delhi.
- 1,221 players from across the globe participated in this competition.
- Prior to this, he had also won a gold medal at the national level in the School Games Federation of India (SGFI) championships.
- Shaurya Prabhakar finished in second place with a score of 8/9.

Tarbandi (Fencing) Scheme

Why in News?

- Taking into account the demands of small farmers, the Government of Rajasthan has removed the mandatory land requirement of 1.5 hectares for the fencing scheme, reducing it to 0.5 hectares.



Key Points:

- **Objective:** To enhance farmers' economic security and boost crop production by protecting crops from stray animals.

Eligibility:

1. The farmer must be a resident of Rajasthan.
2. Possession of 0.5 hectares of land is mandatory (if an individual does not possess 0.5 hectares personally, a group of 2 or more farmers may avail the benefits of the scheme jointly).
3. **Community Participation:** A group of 10 or more farmers joining together requires a minimum of 5 hectares of land.

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Subsidy Amount:

- General Farmers:** A subsidy of 50 percent of the cost or ₹100 per meter—up to a maximum amount of ₹40,000 per farmer—covering up to 400 running meters. (Whichever amount is lower).
 - Small and Marginal Farmers:** 60 percent of the cost or ₹120 per meter (maximum amount: ₹48,000).
 - Group Scheme (10 farmers joining together):** 70 percent of the cost or ₹140 per meter (maximum: ₹56,000).
- **Application Process:** Via 'e-Mitra' through the 'Raj Kisan Saathi' portal.
 - **Required Documents:** Aadhaar Card, copy of Jamabandi (land records—not older than 6 months), bank account details, Jan Aadhaar Card, and Small/Marginal Farmer Certificate.

Other Important Points:

1. Geo-tagging is mandatory before the fencing work begins and upon its completion.
2. The subsidy amount is deposited directly into the farmer's bank account.
3. Priority for a farmer group is determined based on the group's first applicant.
4. **Validity:** The current financial year.

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Mission Hariyalo Rajasthan – Chief Minister's Tree Plantation Campaign

Why in News?

- This is an ambitious green initiative by the State Government, launched with the aim of enhancing greenery in Rajasthan and rectifying environmental imbalances. A target of planting 100 million (10 crore) saplings across the state has been set for the 2026 monsoon season.



Key Points:

Inauguration:

- This mission was launched on August 7, 2024, on the auspicious occasion of Hariyali Teej. Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma flagged off this statewide campaign by planting a Peepal sapling in Gahota, located in the Dudu district.
- **5-Year Target:** This is a long-term plan with the objective of planting a total of 500 million (50 crore) saplings between 2024 and 2028.

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Related Departments (Nodal Department)

- **Lead Department:** The Forest Department, Government of Rajasthan, serves as the nodal agency for this entire mission.
- **Collaborating Departments:** The Education Department, the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (under MGNREGA), and Urban Local Bodies are also working in collaboration on this initiative.

Key Directives and Strategy

1. Site Selection and Coordination

- Coordination with the Revenue Department and the Public Works Department.
- Tree plantation on railway premises, along major roads, and on pasturelands.
- Drone seeding in hilly and forest areas.

2. Preparation for Plantation

- Completion of all preparations prior to the onset of the monsoon season.
- Timely completion of fencing, pit digging, and irrigation arrangements.

3. Sapling Type and Quality

- Priority given to the plantation of Goolar (Cluster Fig) trees.
- Provision of free fruit-bearing saplings to farmers.
- Plantation carried out with due consideration for soil productivity.

Performance in Previous Years

- **2024 Target: 70 million (7 crore) saplings** → 72.2 million (7.22 crore) saplings planted.
- **2025 Target: 100 million (10 crore) saplings** → 117.4 million (11.74 crore) saplings planted.
- **Target for the five-year period (2024–2028): 500 million (50 crore) saplings.**

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Key Highlights

- **Annual Target of 100 Million:** An objective has been set to plant 100 million (10 crore) saplings across the state during the 2026 monsoon season.
- **Environmental Conservation:** The primary objective is to combat desertification, improve air quality, and promote biodiversity.
- **Annual Target (2024-25):** A target of planting 70 million (7 crore) saplings was set for the first year, which was successfully achieved.
- **Budget:** A budgetary provision of approximately ₹4,000 crore has been allocated for this mission.

New Initiatives and Facilities

- **"Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam":** This campaign is inspired by the Prime Minister's "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative, which aims to emotionally connect every citizen with the act of tree plantation.
- **Namo Nurseries and Namu Vans:** The Chief Minister has issued directives to establish at least one 'Namo Nursery' in every district and to develop a 'Namo Van' in every Panchayat Samiti.
- **Matru Vans and Ram Vatikas:** 'Matru Vans' and 'Ram Vatikas'—sites of religious and cultural significance (such as the Jagmeru Hill in Banswara)—are being developed in every district.
- **Geo-tagging:** To ensure the protection of the saplings, every planted sapling is being geo-tagged; furthermore, a protocol has been established to update their photographs every four months to track their survival rate.
- **Nursery Development:** The state's existing network of over 540 nurseries is being upgraded, and plans are underway to establish 50 new nurseries.
- **Fencing and Drip Irrigation:** Fencing and drip irrigation systems are being implemented at designated locations identified for the establishment of Sandalwood forests.

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NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	<p style="text-align: center;">Narendra K. Sharma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The Rajasthan High Court has promoted Narendra K. Sharma to the post of Joint Registrar of the High Court.■ Prior to this, he was serving as the Deputy Registrar at the Jaipur Bench of the Rajasthan High Court.
2.	<p style="text-align: center;">Ram Vatika</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Following the success of the 'Lav-Kush Vatika' initiative, the Forest Department will now establish two 'Ram Vatikas' in every district, modeled on the same lines.■ In line with this initiative, a Ram Vatika is currently being developed on the Jagmeru Hill in Banswara.





India-UN Development Partnership Fund (UNDPF)



Why in News?

- India and the United Nations reviewed the operations of the India-UN Development Partnership Fund.



India-UN Development Partnership Fund



Key Points:

India-UNDPF:

- Inception:** Launched in 2017 with a corpus of \$150 million, under the leadership of the Government of India.
- Objective:** To assist the Global South in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and shared prosperity.
- Vision:** It supports demand-driven and country-led sustainable development projects that are owned and led by countries of the Global South.
- Key Focus:** Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- Implementation:** Managed by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and implemented by UN agencies in partnership with partner governments.

Yuva Sangam

Why in News?

- Registration has concluded for the exposure tours organized by various institutions under the sixth phase of Yuva Sangam, covering 22 States and Union Territories.

Key Points:

Yuva Sangam

- This is an initiative of the Government of India aimed at strengthening mutual interaction among youth belonging to various States and Union Territories of India.
- Its concept was formulated by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with various other Ministries and Departments, and it was launched under the banner of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.
- The 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' (EBSB) project was launched on October 31, 2015, with the objective of strengthening national integration by deepening the ties between States and Union Territories.
- It has been organized collaboratively, modeled after the 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' (KTS).

This program is guided by the framework of the 'Five Ps':



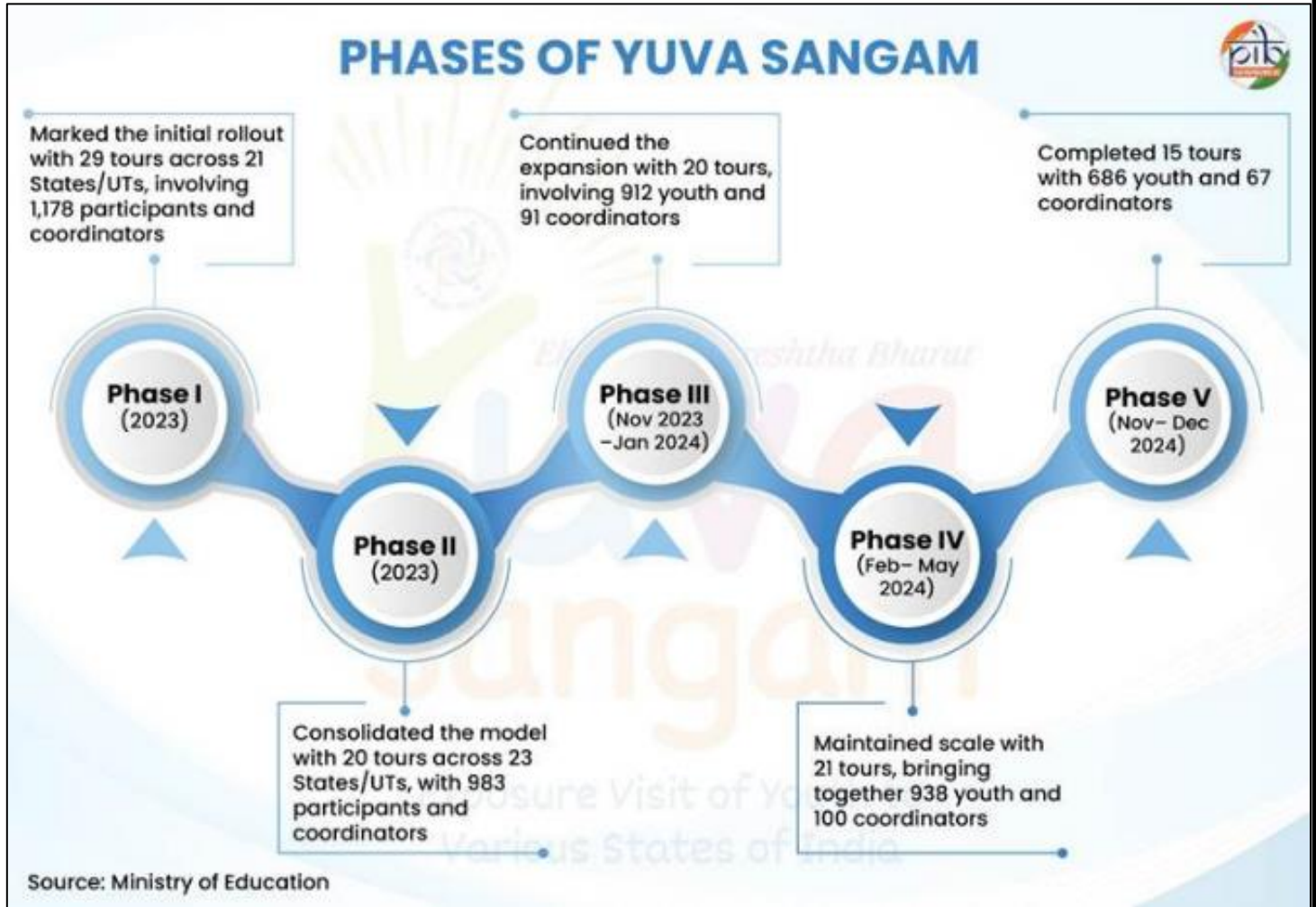
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Program Itinerary:



Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)

Why in News?

- Prime Minister Modi chaired a special meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security to review the situation in the context of the ongoing conflict in West Asia and to deliberate on mitigation measures.



Key Points:

Cabinet Committee on Security

- It is the apex decision-making body in India responsible for matters related to national security, defence expenditure, and strategic affairs.
- It handles crisis situations, defence-related issues, and high-risk strategic decisions.
- It is chaired by the Prime Minister and comprises the Ministers of Defence, Home Affairs, Finance, and External Affairs, while the National Security Advisor serves as the coordinator.
- It is a non-constitutional body constituted under the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961.

Potential Emergence of El Niño

Why in News?

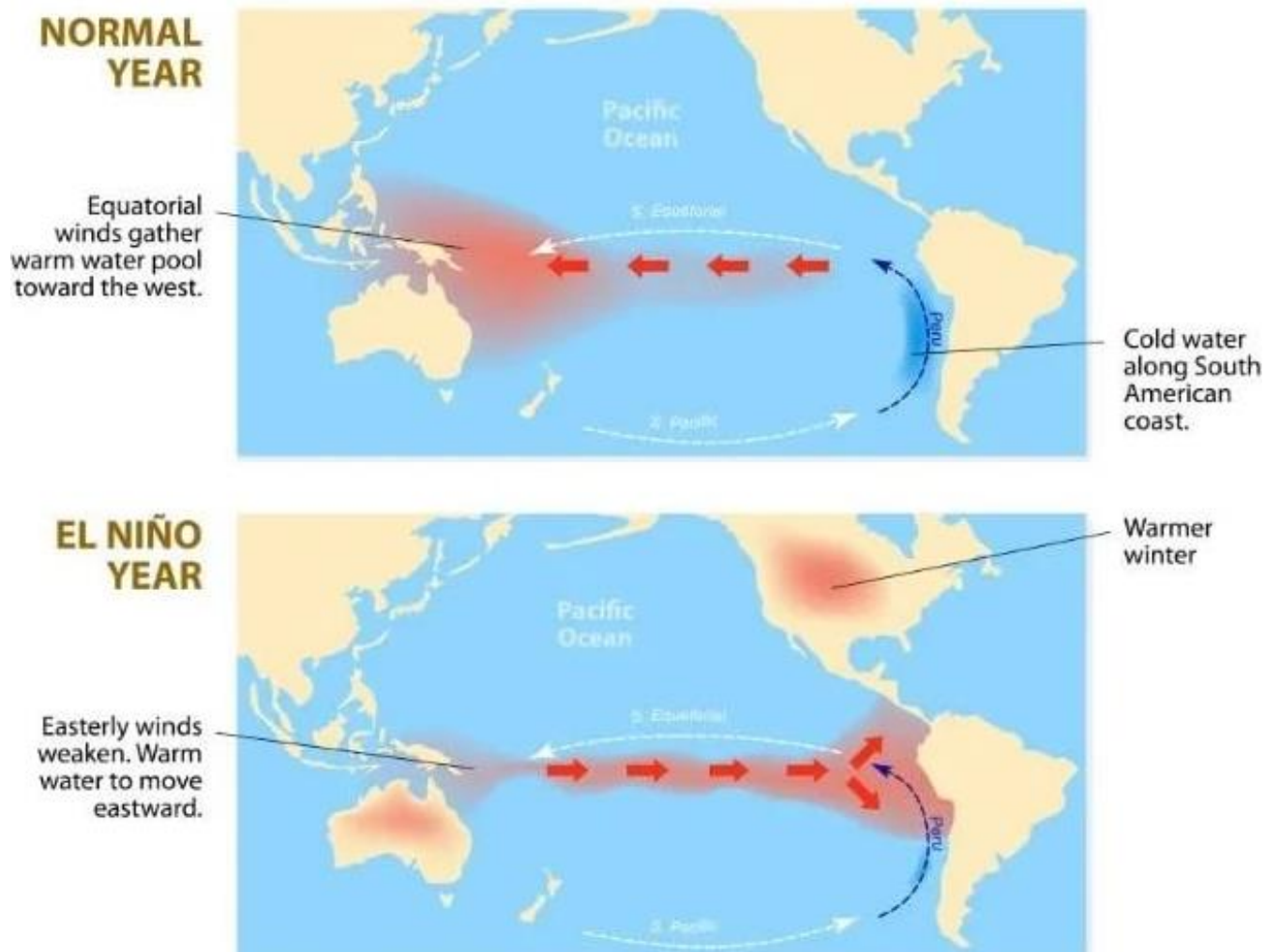
- The potential emergence of an El Niño event, coupled with shocks to global oil prices, has further heightened concerns regarding rising inflation in India.

Key Points:

What is El Niño?

- El Niño refers to the warming of ocean waters in the central-eastern equatorial Pacific region, an event that occurs every few years.
- During El Niño, surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific rise, and trade winds—the east-to-west winds blowing near the equator—weaken.
- **Impact:** In El Niño years, India experiences higher temperatures and reduced rainfall, leading to drought conditions in certain regions.
- This adversely affects agriculture, water resources, and ecosystems.

THE EL NIÑO PHENOMENON



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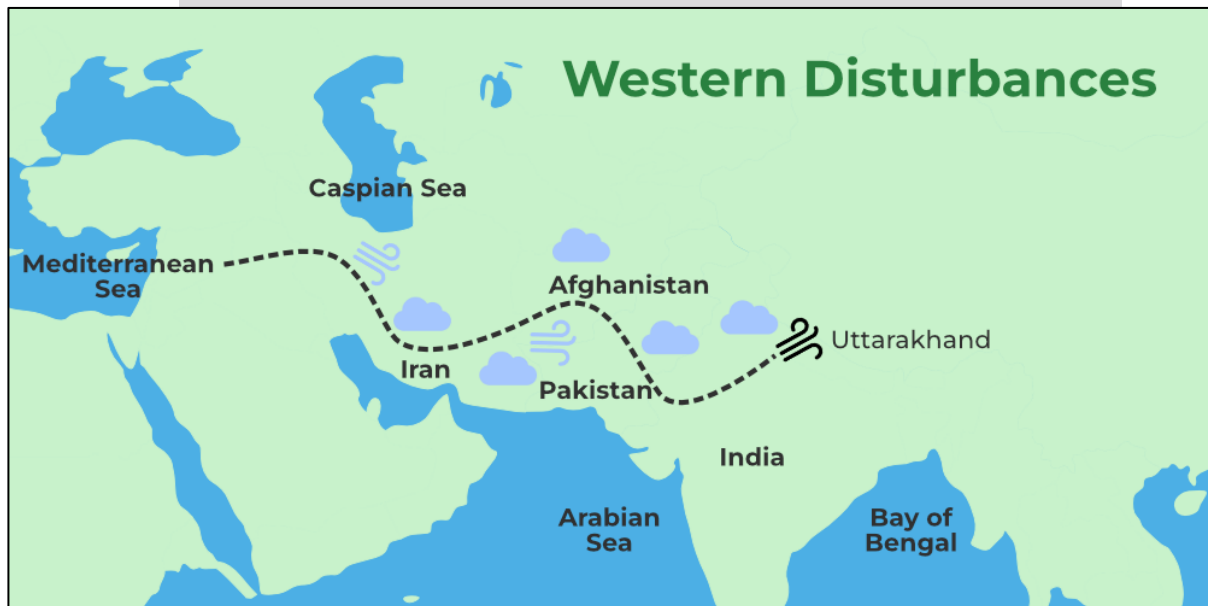
Geography and Geology

Western Disturbances



Why in News?

- It is anticipated that two consecutive Western Disturbances will impact Northwest India.



Key Points:

Western Disturbances (WDs):

- Origin and Formation:** Western Disturbances form due to the interaction and collision of different air masses within the Mediterranean Sea region.
- They exist within the Subtropical Westerly Jet Stream (SWJ) of the mid-latitudes, which propels them in an eastward direction.
- Weather and Impact Zones:** These are primarily active during the winter season of the Northern Hemisphere (December to March) and affect the Western Himalayas, as well as North India, Pakistan, and the regions surrounding the Tibetan Plateau.
- Significance for India:** Crucial for Rabi crops (such as wheat and mustard) and essential for the replenishment of glaciers in the Himalayan region, among other benefits.
- Associated Meteorological Hazards:** Heavy snowfall, hailstorms, fog, cloudbursts, avalanches, frost, and cold waves.

Sociology

Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

Why in News?

- The Gujarat Legislative Assembly has passed the Gujarat Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026. With the passing of this bill, Gujarat has become the second state in the country—after Uttarakhand—to adopt a Uniform Civil Code.



Key Points:

Gujarat Uniform Civil Code Bill

- **Objective:** To bring marriage, divorce, inheritance, equal property rights, and live-in relationships under a single uniform law for all, rather than having separate rules based on religion.
- **Exceptions:** Its provisions will not apply to Scheduled Tribes (STs) and specific groups whose traditional rights are protected under the Constitution.

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Key Provisions:

- **Bigamy**—that is, marrying more than once—is prohibited. No individual may enter into a second marriage while their spouse is still alive.
- Individuals living in a live-in relationship are required to register it mandatorily.

Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

- Under the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), Article 44 of the Constitution directs the State to endeavor to implement a Uniform Civil Code for all citizens throughout India.
- In Goa, a form of Uniform Civil Code is already in practice under the Portuguese Civil Code of 1867.

Need in India:

- **Equality before the Law:** A uniform law would replace the personal laws of various religions (such as the Hindu Marriage Act, Muslim Personal Law i.e., Sharia, etc.).
- Women's rights vary according to their religion, and many traditional laws are patriarchal in nature. Consequently, women often do not receive equal rights regarding inheritance and property.
- The Supreme Court has emphasized the need to implement the UCC to address these issues in several cases, such as the Shah Bano case (1985) and the Sarla Mudgal case (1995).
- **National Integration:** This Code separates religion from personal laws, thereby fostering social harmony.

Schemes and Policies

Coal Gasification Promotion Scheme

Why in News?

- A Union Minister presented India's roadmap to reduce dependence on imported petroleum, ammonia, and fertilizers. This roadmap highlights the Coal Gasification Promotion Scheme.



Key Points:

Coal Gasification Promotion Scheme:

- **Approval:** Granted in 2024 to promote coal and lignite gasification projects across both the public and private sectors.
- **Objective:** To boost the production of Syngas and value-added products from coal. Its aim is to reduce dependence on imported petroleum, ammonia, and fertilizers.

Categories:

- **Category I:** PSU-led projects.
- **Category II:** Projects led by the private sector combinedly.
- **Category III:** Demonstration and small-scale projects.

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F-15 Fighter Aircraft



Why in News?

- During the recent conflict in the Middle East, a U.S. F-15E Strike Eagle was shot down over Iran.



Key Points:

- The F-15E Strike Eagle is a dual-role fighter aircraft. It is capable of executing both air-to-air and air-to-ground missions.
- Other aircraft and helicopters utilized in the current conflict include the U.S. A-10 Warthog, F-18, and F-22 fighter jets, Blackhawk helicopters, and Iran's Yak-130, among others.
- Key drones deployed include Iran's “Shahed-136 and the U.S. Lucas drone”.

⌚ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 🌡️

INS Aridhaman

📣 Why in News?

- India's third nuclear-powered submarine, 'INS Aridhaman', has been inducted into the Navy. INS Aridhaman belongs to India's Arihant-class of submarines.



📌 Key Points:

India's Nuclear-Powered Submarine Program




- The Advanced Technology Vessel (ATV) program was initiated over three decades ago. It involved the participation of private companies and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), alongside cooperation received from Russia.

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Significance of Nuclear-Powered Submarines for India

- Completion of the Nuclear Triad
- Strategic Deterrence
- Stealth and Endurance
- Expansion of Nuclear Doctrine

India's Nuclear-Powered Submarines

Feature	INS Aridhaman 	INS Arihant 	INS Arighat 
Displacement	7,000 tons	6,000 tons	6,000 tons
Vertical Launch Tubes	Eight	Four	Four
Strike Range	K-15 (700 km), K-4 (3,500 km)	K-15 (700 km)	K-4 (3,500 km), K-15 (750 km)
Nuclear Reactor	Not specified	83 MW Light-water	83 MW Light-water