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‘Swachh Sahakar, Samriddh Sahakar’ (Clean Cooperation, Prosperous Cooperation) Campaign in the Department of Cooperation



Why in News?

- From May 4 to May 29, 2026, the ‘Swachh Sahakar, Samriddh Sahakar’ campaign is being conducted in a phased manner within the Department of Cooperation.

सहकारिता विभाग में
**‘स्वच्छ सहकार,
समृद्ध सहकार’**
अभियान का शुभारम्भ

सत्यमेव जयते
राजस्थान सरकार

- ▶ 4 से 29 मई तक तीन चरणों में संचालित होगा अभियान
- ▶ ‘5S’ पद्धति अपनाने से स्वच्छता, सुव्यवस्था एवं कार्यकुशलता को मिलेगा बढ़ावा
- ▶ शासन सचिव, सहकारिता ने नेहरू सहकार भवन में कार्यालयों का सघन निरीक्षण कर दिए आवश्यक दिशा-निर्देश

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Key Points:

- **Main Objective of the Campaign:** To strengthen the work culture, make offices clean and well-organized, and enhance administrative efficiency.
- This campaign will be conducted in the Head Office and subordinate offices of the Department of Cooperation; it will involve activities ranging from general office cleaning to the disposal of identified records and scrap material.
- **Goal of the Campaign:** To implement the '5S' methodology in practice across all offices and institutions to ensure efficient management, cleanliness, operational efficiency, and quality service delivery.
- **Seiri (Sort):** Identifying and segregating obsolete and old files, materials, and equipment, followed by their disposal in accordance with established rules.
- **Seiton (Set in Order):** Keeping essential files, records, and equipment organized at designated locations, and ensuring clear labeling on cupboards, racks, storage areas, and desks.
- **Seiso (Shine):** Making workplaces clean, safe, and appealing through the regular cleaning of office rooms, corridors, storage areas, etc.
- **Seiketsu (Standardize):** Establishing a process for regular maintenance by adopting uniform standards for office organization, file management, and cleanliness.
- **Shitsuke (Sustain/Discipline):** Fostering a culture of cleanliness and an organized work ethic among all staff members.

Facts for Prelims:

The Cooperative Movement in Rajasthan:

- The cooperative movement in Rajasthan began in the year 1904, originating in Ajmer.

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- **Year 1904:** The ‘Cooperative Credit Societies Act’ was enacted by the British Government of India. Subsequently, on October 25, 1905, the state's first cooperative society was established in Bhinai (Ajmer).
- **Year 1904:** The state's first cooperative agricultural bank was established in Deeg.
- **Year 1910:** The first central cooperative bank was launched in Ajmer.

Major Institutions in Rajasthan Related to Cooperatives:

Name of Institution	Year of Establishment	Headquarters
Rajasthan State Cooperative Bank Limited (Apex Bank)	1953	Jaipur
Rajasthan State Cooperative Marketing Federation Limited (RAJFED)	1957	Jaipur
Rajasthan State Oilseed Growers' Cooperative Federation (Tilam Sangh)	1990	Jaipur
Rajasthan Institute of Cooperative Education and Management (RICEM)	1990	Jaipur
Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation Limited (RCDF)	1977	Jaipur
Rajasthan State Cooperative Consumer Federation Limited (CONFED), Jaipur	1967	Jaipur
Rajasthan State Cooperative Land Development Bank Limited	1957	Jaipur

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Rajasthan Honour of the Dead Body Act, 2023

Why in News?

- The Government of Rajasthan has implemented all provisions of the 'Rajasthan Honour of the Dead Body Act, 2023' across the entire state.



Key Points:

- Rajasthan is the first state in the country to implement the 'Honour of the Dead Body Act'.
- With the enactment of this law, holding protests by keeping a dead body, politicizing a corpse, and delaying funeral rites without valid reason will now be considered criminal offenses in Rajasthan.
- The objective behind implementing this Act is to uphold the dignity of the deceased. Additionally, it aims to curb instances where dead bodies are misused to press demands for compensation or other concessions.

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- According to this Act, it is mandatory to perform the funeral rites of the deceased within 24 hours. Delays will be permissible only under specific circumstances namely, if the relatives of the deceased are arriving from out of town, or if a post-mortem examination is required.

Provisions of the Act:

S. No.	Offense	Punishment Provision
1	Refusal by a family member of the deceased to take custody of the dead body	Imprisonment up to one year, fine, or both
2	Use of the dead body for protest by a family member, or permitting another person to do so	Imprisonment up to two years and fine
3	Use of a dead body for protest by a non-family member	Imprisonment ranging from a minimum of six months to five years and fine
4	Disclosure of any genetic data/information and breach of confidentiality by an authorized person(s)	Imprisonment ranging from a minimum of three years to ten years and fine
5	Refusal by the family to claim the body even after 24-hour notice by a Magistrate	Imprisonment up to one year, fine, or both

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NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	<p>The Country's First and Only Government Multi-Site Online Ticketing Platform: OBMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed by the Department of Information Technology and Communications (DoIT&C), Rajasthan, the Online Booking Management System (OBMS) is the country's first and only government-operated multi-site online ticketing platform.This is the first government platform of its kind in the country where tickets can be booked for various tourist destinations, natural sites, and other places of interest across the state.Developed by the DoIT&C, this system promotes entirely paperless entry and QR code-based ticketing.OBMS was honored with the Silver Award at the SKOCH Awards in 2025.
2.	<p>Fourth Edition of the Virtual Knowledge Series</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">On May 4, 2026, the Rajasthan Foundation, in collaboration with RIICO, organized the fourth edition of the 'Virtual Knowledge Series.'The event was attended by the presidents and members of all 26 national and international chapters of the Rajasthan Foundation, as well as expatriate Rajasthanis and investors.Note: During this session, detailed information regarding RIICO's 'Direct Land Allotment Policy' covering the entire process from application to final allotment was provided.The 'Direct Land Allotment Policy-2025' of the Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) is a key initiative designed to boost industrial investment.Its primary objective is to provide land in a transparent and expedited manner to investors who have signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with the State Government under the 'Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit.'

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3.

Phase II of the Compliance Reduction and Deregulation Exercise

राजस्थान सरकार ने
'कम्प्लायंस रिडक्शन एंड
डीरेगुलेशन अभ्यास'
के द्वितीय चरण की कार्ययोजना को
अंतिम रूप दिया

16 विभागों में समस्त 28 प्राथमिकता क्षेत्रों
की कार्ययोजना को अंतिम रूप देकर
MIS पोर्टल पर किया अपलोड



- To promote 'Ease of Doing Business' in Rajasthan, the State Government is currently conducting the second phase of the Compliance Reduction and Deregulation (CRD) exercise.
- The main objective of this initiative is to minimize administrative hurdles encountered in business operations and to eliminate unnecessary regulations.

4.

The Country's First Panchgavya Therapy Course

- Rajasthan's Minister of Animal Husbandry, Joraram Kumawat, recently inaugurated the classes for the 'country's first Panchgavya therapy course' at the Gaushamvardhan Ashram (Cow Conservation Ashram) located in Moklawas, Jodhpur.
- This course is being conducted under the joint aegis of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Rajasthan Ayurveda University, Jodhpur, and the Lakshya Environment and Public Welfare Society (a recognized center affiliated with the university).
- The curriculum will provide practical training encompassing the principles of Panchgavya, medicinal preparation, treatment of various ailments, Panchakarma techniques, human health and lifestyle, as well as cow health, *Gaushala* (cow shelter) management, and self-employment opportunities based on cow-derived products.

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5. **Establishment of Sandalwood Forests in Three Districts of the State**

- With the objective of promoting sandalwood cultivation and conservation in the southern region of the state, the Government of Rajasthan will establish sandalwood forests in Banswara, Sirohi, and Udaipur.
- **Banswara:** In the Jhantaliya region.
- **Udaipur:** In the Banki forest block.
- **Sirohi:** In the Janapur region.

6. **Unveiling of the Statue of Kargil Martyr Vijendra Singh Shekhawat**

- Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari recently unveiled a statue of Kargil martyr Vijendra Singh Shekhawat in Khandela, located in the Sikar district.

7. **Rajasthan's 'Od' Community in the Spotlight**

- Recently, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma organized a dialogue session with members of the 'Od' community.
- In the state, the Od community is renowned for its unique architectural craftsmanship and water conservation skills. The community has made a remarkable contribution to enriching the tradition of water conservation in Rajasthan.
- Members of the Od community are considered experts in the construction of forts, palaces, and water reservoirs.

8. **Visit of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj to Rajasthan**

- From May 1 to May 4, 2026, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj visited Rajasthan to review the progress and implementation of various central government schemes.
- The committee conducted a field visit to Sawai Madhopur to undertake a ground-level assessment of schemes such as PMAY-G, the Livelihood Mission, and PMGSY.
- **Committee Chairman:** Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka.

9.

Cyclist Manju Chaudhary

- Manju Chaudhary, hailing from Khokhsar West (Baytu, Barmer), won one gold and one bronze medal at the 'Asmita Khelo India Women's National Track Cycling League,' held on May 2 and 3, 2026, at the Shivalik Velodrome in Rudrapur, Uttarakhand.

10.

Operation Re-Call

- With the assistance of the CEIR (Central Equipment Identity Register) portal operated by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India the Jaipur Police recently recovered 790 lost mobile phones through 'Operation Re-Call'.
- The Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) is a centralized system primarily aimed at blocking and tracking stolen or lost mobile phones.

11.

Sub-Junior State Shootingball Championship (Under-17)

- **Venue:** Veena Bharti Senior Secondary School, Soorsagar, Jodhpur; held from May 1 to May 3, 2026.
- **Boys' Category Winner:** Jaipur defeated Sri Ganganagar in the final with a score of 21-19, 21-16.
- **Girls' Category Winner:** Jaipur defeated Ajmer in the final with a score of 21-12, 21-18.

12.

Devarshi Narad Jayanti and Journalists' Felicitation Ceremony

- **Organizer:** Vishwa Samvad Kendra (VSK), held in Jaipur.
 - **Chief Guest:** Dr. Vasudev Devnani, Speaker of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly.
- Awards:**
- **Electronic Media Category:** Lakhbir Singh.
 - **Digital Media Category:** Ram Gopal Jat.
 - **Print Media Category:** Madan Kalal.



Prasar Bharati



Why in News?

- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has appointed Prasoos Joshi as the new Chairman of Prasar Bharati.



Key Points:

Prasar Bharati

- **Introduction:** It is an autonomous statutory body that functions as India's public service broadcaster.
- It operates Doordarshan and Akashvani for domestic and international coverage.
- **Objective:** To disseminate impartial and balanced information on matters of public interest, without any bias or prejudice.
- **Key Coverage Areas:** Education, literacy, agriculture, rural development, environment, health, and science.

Fire Safety Week (May 4 to 10, 2026)

Why in News?

- On May 4, 2026, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched a nationwide Fire Safety Week at Kartavya Bhawan-1 in New Delhi.



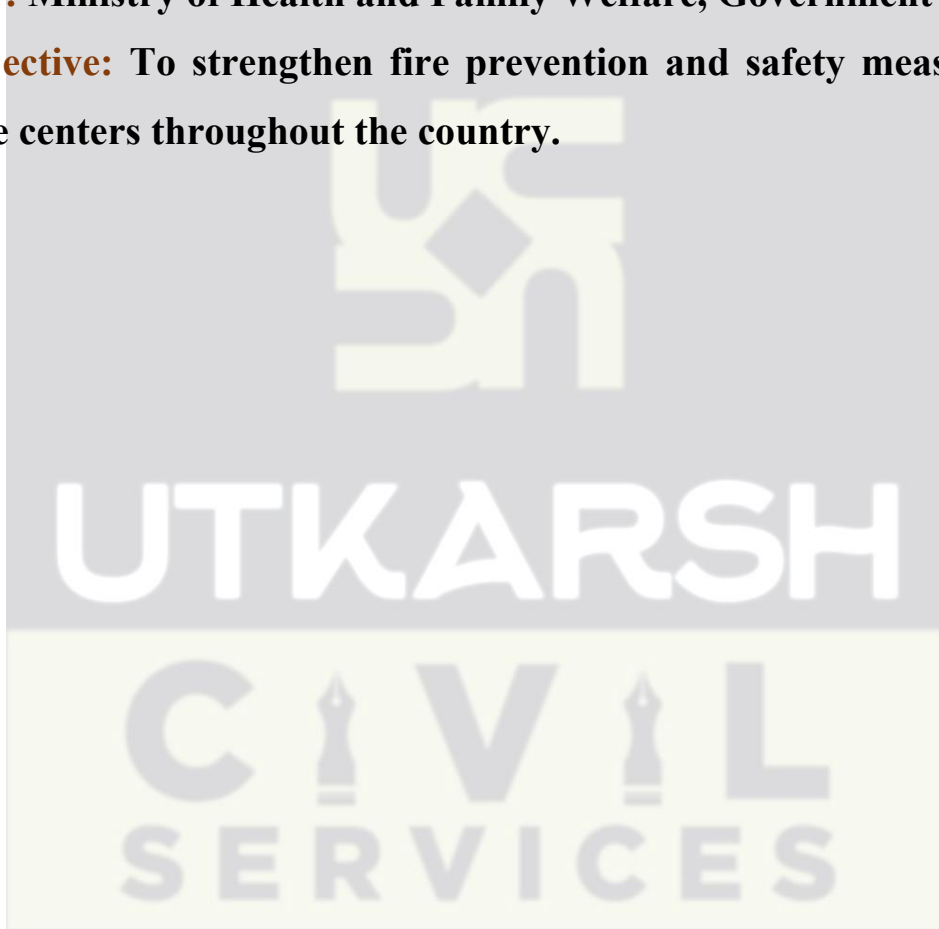
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Key Points:

- **Duration:** May 4 to 10, 2026
- **Theme for 2026:** “Safe Schools, Safe Hospitals, and a Society Aware of Fire Safety: United for Fire Prevention.”
- **Organizer:** Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- **Main Objective:** To strengthen fire prevention and safety measures across healthcare centers throughout the country.



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World Athletics Relays, 2026

Why in News?

- The World Athletics Relays 2026 were held on May 2 and 3, 2026, at the Botswana National Stadium in Gaborone, Botswana.



Key Points:

- **Host:** Gaborone, Botswana. (This marked the first time the event was hosted on the African continent.)

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- **Edition:** The 8th edition of the World Athletics Relays was held in Botswana's capital city (Gaborone).
- **The program for the Debswana World Athletics Relays Gaborone 26 included six events:**
 - o Women's 4x100m Relay and 4x400m Relay
 - o Men's 4x100m Relay and 4x400m Relay
 - o Mixed 4x100m Relay and 4x400m Relay

India's Performance:

- India sent a 21-member team to this competition, which participated in five out of the six events.
- **National Record:** The mixed 4x100m quartet comprising Raghu Kumar, Nithya Gandhe, Animesh Kuijur, and Sneha Satyanarayana Shanuvalli finished sixth in their heat with a time of 41.35 seconds, but in the process, set a new national record. The previous record stood at 42.30 seconds, set earlier this year in Chandigarh.
- In the mixed 4x400m relay, the Indian team consisting of Tirthesh P. Shetty, Kumari Saloni, Nihal William, and Rashdeep Kaur secured fifth place in their heat with a time of 3:19.40.
- **Outcome:** The Indian teams failed to qualify for the finals or secure a direct quota for the 2027 World Championships.

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AFC Champions League, 2026

Why in News?

- Saudi Arabian club Al-Ahli has won the AFC Champions League Elite title for the second consecutive time by defeating Japan's Machida Zelvia 1-0.



Key Points:

- **Venue:** Jeddah
- **Winner:** Al-Ahli (Saudi Arabia)
- **Runner-up:** Machida Zelvia (Japan); reached the final for the first time.
- With this victory, Al-Ahli has become the first team following the city's other team, Al-Ittihad to win two consecutive Asian titles.

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FIDE Joins International World Games Association



CHESS JOINS THE INTERNATIONAL WORLD GAMES ASSOCIATION

📌 Key Points:

- On April 25, 2026, the International Chess Federation (FIDE) officially joined the International World Games Association (IWGA) as a member federation.
- This decision was taken at the IWGA's Annual General Meeting (AGM), held in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- **Membership:** Following FIDE's inclusion, the IWGA's membership has increased to 40 federations.

Asian Wrestling Championships, 2026

Why in News?

- At the 2026 Asian Wrestling Championships, India's Sujeet Kalkal and Abhimanyu Mandwal secured gold medals in the men's freestyle 65kg and 70kg categories, respectively.



Key Points:

- Event:** The 22nd edition of the championships was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, from April 6 to April 12, 2026.

India's Performance:

- Indian Contingent:** India fielded a squad of 30 wrestlers for the 2026 Asian Wrestling Championships, comprising 10 wrestlers each across the men's freestyle, women's, and Greco-Roman categories.

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- **Total 17 Medals:** 2 Gold + 7 Silver + 8 Bronze (Men's Freestyle Team: 7 medals; Greco-Roman Wrestlers: 5 medals; Women's Team: 5 medals).

Medal-Winning Wrestlers:

- **2 Gold:** Sujeet Kalkal (Men's 65kg), Abhimanyu Mandwal (Men's 70kg).
- **7 Silver:** Lalit Sehrawat (Greco-Roman 55kg), Nitesh Siwach (Greco-Roman 97kg), Aman Sehrawat (Men's 61kg), Mukul Dahiya (Men's 86kg), Meenakshi Goyat (Women's 53kg), and Sandeep Mann (Men's 79kg).
- **8 Bronze:** Sunil Kumar (Greco-Roman 87kg), Prince (Greco-Roman 82kg), Sachin Sehrawat (Greco-Roman 67kg), Hansika Lamba (Women's 55kg), Neha (Women's 59kg), Monika (Women's 65kg), Harshita (Women's 72kg), Ankush (Men's 57kg), Dinesh (Men's 125kg).
- **Sujeet Kalkal (Men's 65kg):** In the 65kg category of the freestyle events, Sujeet defeated Uzbekistan's Umidjon Jalolov 8-1.
- **Abhimanyu Mandwal (Men's 70kg):** In the 70kg category, Abhimanyu Mandwal defeated Mongolia's Olympian Tomor-Ochiryn Tulga 5-3.

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Geography and Geology

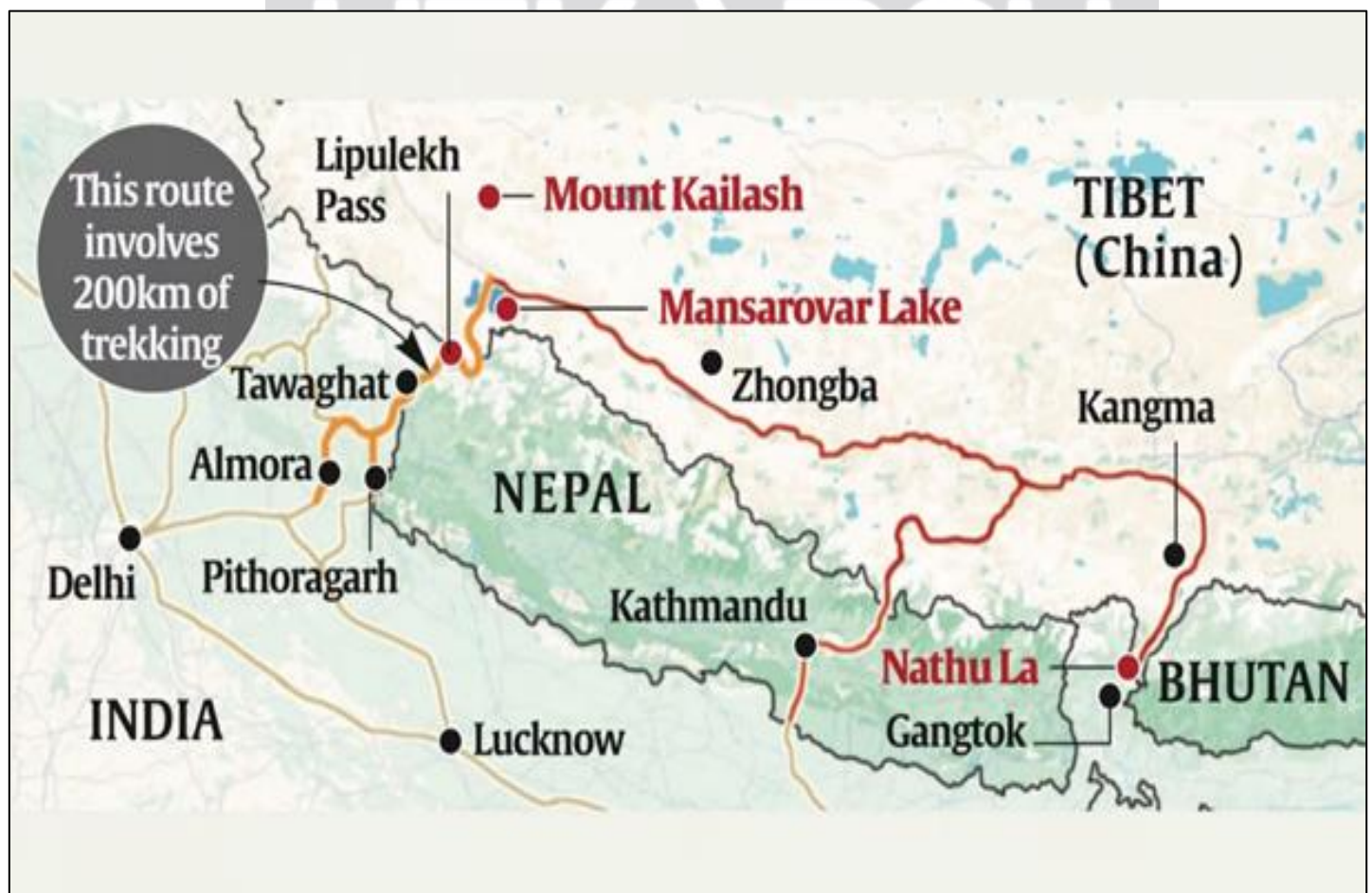
Lipulekh Pass

Why in News?

- Nepal has raised objections to India's resumption of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra via the Lipulekh Pass. Nepal asserts that, based on the 1816 Treaty of Sugauli, this region constitutes a part of its territory.

Key Points:

- Conversely, India has termed these claims as unjustified and historically inaccurate, stating that the Lipulekh Pass has long served as the traditional route for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.



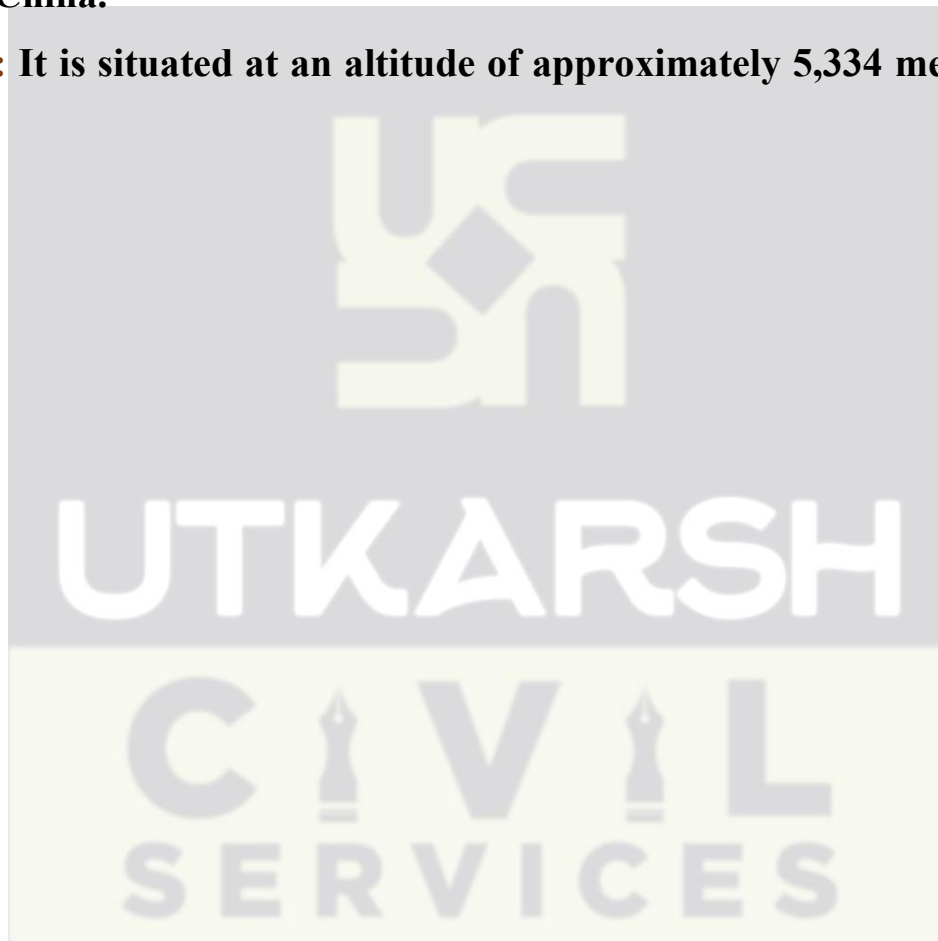
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Lipulekh Pass:

- **Location:** It is a high-altitude mountain pass situated near the tri-junction of India, Nepal, and China, within the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand.
- **Connectivity:** It connects the Indian state of Uttarakhand with the Tibet region of China.
- **Elevation:** It is situated at an altitude of approximately 5,334 meters (17,500 feet).



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Economic Developments



Changes in FDI Rules



Why in News?

- The Union Ministry of Finance has notified a relaxation in FDI rules, under FEMA, for foreign companies with up to a 10% Chinese stake.



Key Points:

- Following this notification, foreign companies with a Chinese stake of up to 10% can now invest in India under the Automatic Route; that is, prior government approval will no longer be required.
- In 2020, India had imposed restrictions on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) originating from countries with which it shares a land border.

Other Changes Made to FDI Rules:

- **100% FDI in the Insurance Sector:** Private sector insurance companies and intermediaries are now permitted 100% FDI under the Automatic Route (without prior government approval).

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- However, the upper limit for foreign investment in the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) will remain capped at 20%.
- These changes were officially implemented through the Foreign Exchange Management (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026.
- **Significance:** Foreign investment in India is expected to increase, the ease of doing business will improve, and the economy will be strengthened.

Regulatory Framework for FDI in India

- FDI is regulated through the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999.
- **Administration:** By the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Nodal Body:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED), under the Union Ministry of Finance.

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🎓 Indian Governance and State System 🎓

Parliamentary Committees

📣 Why in News?

- The Speaker of the Lok Sabha has reconstituted four parliamentary committees for the 2026-27 term.



PARLIAMENT COMMITTEE

📌 Key Points:

- Parliamentary committees are groups of Members of Parliament that scrutinize the functioning of the government and ensure accountability.

Two Types of Parliamentary Committees:

- **Standing Committees (Permanent and Regular):** These include Financial Committees and 24 'Department-Related Standing Committees (DRSCs)'.
■ **Ad Hoc Committees:** These are constituted for a specific purpose and cease to exist once their task is completed. These include Select and Joint Committees on various bills.

Role of Parliamentary Committees

- **Continuous Oversight of Legislative Functions:** These committees keep a watch on the actions of the Executive even outside the limited session periods of Parliament and ensure accountability.
- **Detailed Scrutiny of Policies and Laws:** These committees examine every clause of a bill, thereby enabling better and more informed decision-making. This serves to curb arbitrariness on the part of the Executive.
- **Evaluation of the Performance of Government Entities:** Committees such as the Committee on Public Undertakings assess the efficiency and functioning of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

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Reconstitution of NITI Aayog

Why in News?

- Recently, the Government of India reconstituted the NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog.



Key Points:

- New Vice-Chairperson:** Economist Ashok Kumar Lahiri (former MLA from West Bengal, former Chief Economic Advisor, and member of the 15th Finance Commission) has been appointed as the Vice-Chairperson, replacing Suman Bery.
- CEO:** Following the completion of B.V.R. Subrahmanyam's tenure, Nidhi Chhibber has been assigned the additional charge of the post.
- Five New Full-time Members:** Five new full-time members have been inducted, three of whom hail from fields such as health, biotechnology, and cutting-edge technology (Deep Tech).

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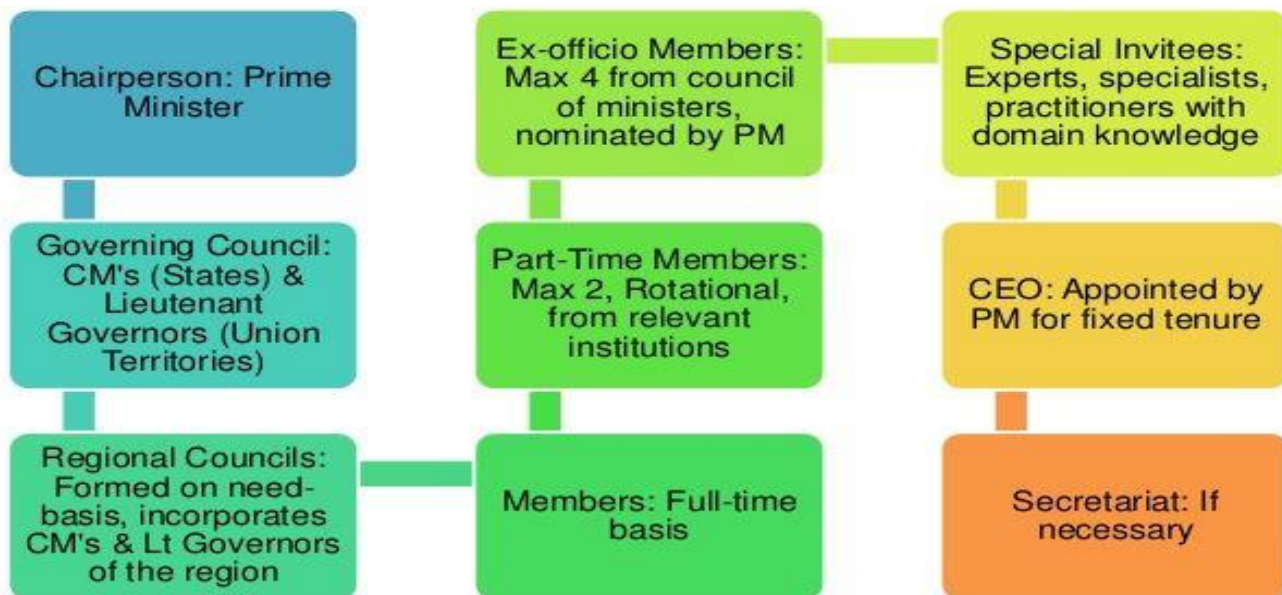
- **Dr. R. Balasubramaniam and Dr. Joram Anya:** The government has appointed Dr. Joram Anya and Dr. R. Balasubramaniam as full-time members of NITI Aayog, thereby expanding the Commission's core team to seven members. Dr. Anya, hailing from Arunachal Pradesh, is the first person from the state to attain this position and is also the first woman from the Nyishi community to hold a PhD.
- **Govardhan Das:** Renowned scientist and academician Professor (Dr.) Govardhan Das has been appointed as a new full-time member of NITI Aayog.
- **Other Members:** The other members include former Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, K.V. Raju (Economist), M. Srinivas (AIIMS Director), and Abhay Karandikar (DST Secretary).
- **Structural Shift:** The Commission's focus has now shifted away from traditional economics towards a greater emphasis on health, biotechnology, and Deep Tech (cutting-edge technology).

NITI Aayog

- **NITI Aayog (NITI: National Institution for Transforming India)** The National Institution for Transforming India.
- **Establishment:** Established on January 1, 2015, via an executive resolution, replacing the Planning Commission (established in March 1950).
- **Organization:**

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Composition of NITI Aayog



The 7 Pillars of NITI Aayog:



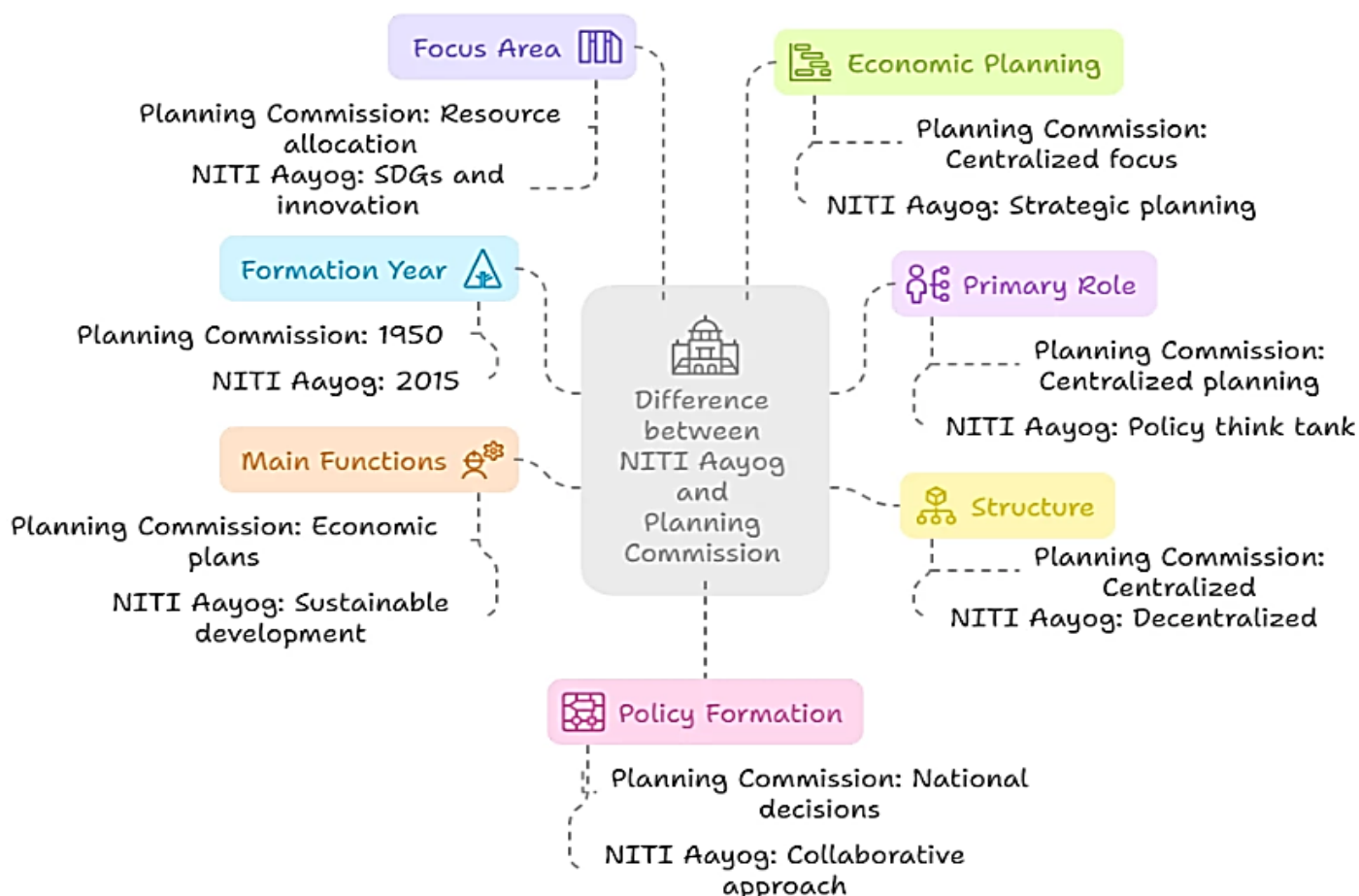
- Key Initiatives of NITI Aayog:** SDG India Index, Composite Water Management Index, School Education Quality Index, District Hospital Index, Health Index, India Innovation Index, Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index, Good Governance Index, Atal Innovation Mission, SATH Project, Aspirational Districts Programme, Women Transforming India Awards, Women Entrepreneurship Platform, Strategy for New India @ 75, Methanol Economy Programme, E-Amrit Portal.

Core Philosophy:

- **Cooperative Federalism:** Unlike the Planning Commission, which imposed policies upon the states, NITI Aayog treats states as equal partners in the national development process.
- **Competitive Federalism:** It encourages healthy competition among states, enabling them to improve their performance across various social and economic sectors (such as health, education, water management, etc.).

NITI Aayog vs. Planning Commission:

Comparative Analysis of Planning Commission and NITI Aayog

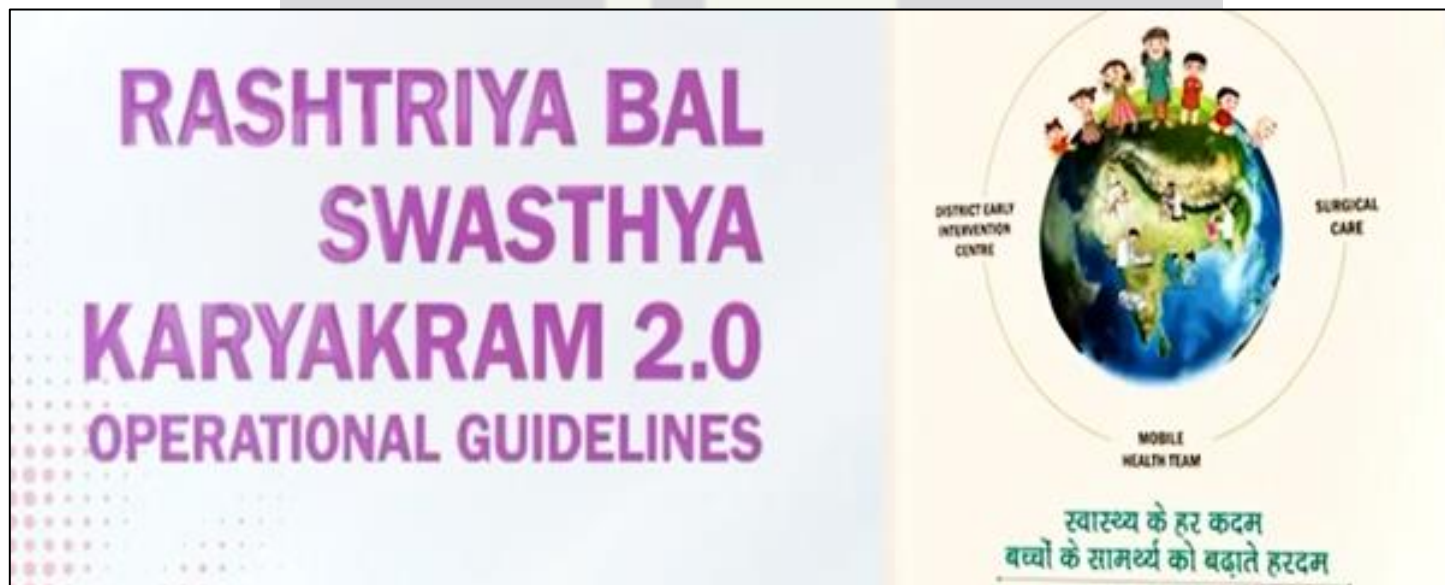


Schemes and Policies

Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0

Why in News?

- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has released the 'Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) 2.0 Guidelines'.



Key Points:

- Launched under the National Health Mission, the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram is an ambitious initiative. Its objective is to conduct health screenings for children and provide timely treatment services.
- Under this program, health screenings are conducted for children from birth up to the age of 18 years. These screenings are carried out to detect the '4 Ds': Defects at birth, Diseases, Deficiencies, and Developmental delays.

Key Features of the RBSK Guidelines

- **Expansion of the '4 Ds' Framework:** This will now include new categories of health issues, such as non-communicable diseases, mental health disorders, and behavioral problems.

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- **Promotion of a Life-Cycle Based Approach to Health Screening:** This emphasizes continuous healthcare at every stage of a child's development, rather than providing isolated treatments at different points in time.
- **Other Features:** The referral system has been strengthened, and continuity of care has been ensured. Digital Health Cards have been introduced.

National Health Mission (NHM)

- **Ministry:** A program of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- **Objective:** To provide affordable, equitable, and quality healthcare services to all citizens, and to assist States/Union Territories in strengthening their public health systems.
- **Scheme Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- **Sub-Missions of NHM:** National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and National Urban Health Mission (NUHM).

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Exercise CINBAX



Key Points:

- A contingent of the Indian Army has departed for Cambodia to participate in the second edition of the India-Cambodia bilateral military exercise (CINBAX-II).

Exercise CINBAX

- **Introduction:** This is a joint military exercise between the Indian Army and the Royal Cambodian Army.
- **Objective:** To foster interoperability, coordination, and operational synergy between the armies of both nations.

🕒 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 🕒

OptoSAR Satellite Mission 'Drishti' Launched

📣 Why in News?

- The world's first OptoSAR satellite mission, 'Drishti', has been launched. Developed by the Indian space startup GalaxEye, this mission was launched aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.



📌 Key Points:

- This mission represents the largest Earth observation satellite built by the private sector in India.

‘Mission Drishti’

- **Application of OptoSAR:** This is the first mission to combine multispectral imaging and Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) on a single platform.
- **Orbit:** This mission has been placed into a Sun-synchronous Low Earth Orbit (LEO).

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- Satellites placed in LEO orbit the Earth at an altitude ranging from approximately 160 kilometers to 2,000 kilometers.
- **Capability:** It is capable of operating and providing imagery in all weather conditions, both day and night.
- It will facilitate robust surveillance from space.

OptoSAR

- It constitutes a complete system comprising both hardware (machinery/equipment) and software (programs), designed to work together in perfect coordination.
- **Technology Used:** SyncFusion stack.
- **This mission addresses the following limitations inherent in previous satellites:**
 - **Optical Sensors:** These provide clear and easily interpretable images, but they are unable to function effectively amidst clouds or in darkness.
 - **SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar):** This technology can conduct surveillance through clouds and operates effectively during both day and night. However, the images produced by SAR can be somewhat difficult to interpret.
- Mission Drishti incorporates the distinct features of both the aforementioned technologies.

Achievements of Indian Space Startups

- **Agnikul Cosmos:** Developed the world's first 3D-printed rocket engine.
- **Skyroot:** Successfully test-fired the first rocket built by the private sector in India.
- **InspeCity:** Develops technologies aimed at extending the operational lifespan of satellites. Furthermore, this is India's first fully integrated platform for servicing satellites in space.

MRI System

Why in News?

- AIIMS Delhi has introduced India's first portable bedside Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) system.



Key Points:

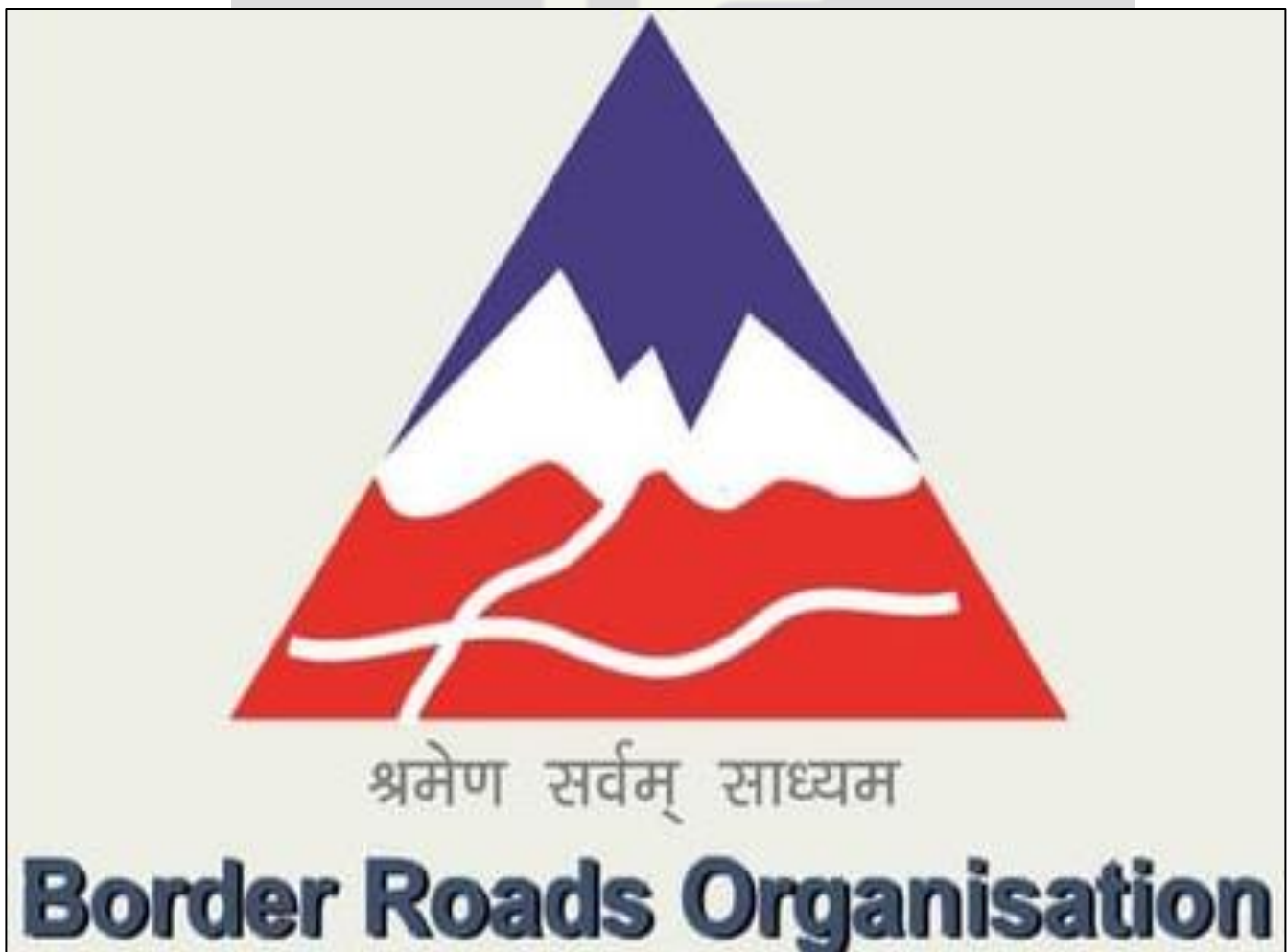
MRI System

- MRI is a medical imaging technique. It utilizes magnetic fields and computer-generated radio waves to create detailed images of a person's body organs and tissues.
- MRI serves as a non-invasive method for medical professionals to examine a person's organs, tissues, and skeletal system.
- This technique generates high-resolution images of the body's interior. This aids in the diagnosis and treatment of various types of diseases.

Project Deepak and the Border Roads Organisation (BRO)

Why in News?

- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) celebrated the 66th Raising Day of 'Project Deepak' on May 4, 2026, in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, marking over six decades of dedicated service in the strategically vital regions of the Western Himalayas.



Key Points:

- In 2024-25, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) dedicated 356 infrastructure projects to the nation and recorded its highest-ever expenditure of ₹16,690 crore.

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- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is set to celebrate its 67th Raising Day on May 7, 2026.
- The BRO's 'Project Dantak' celebrated its 66th Raising Day on April 24, 2026, in Thimphu, Bhutan.
- 'Project Deepak' operating across key districts of Himachal Pradesh such as Shimla, Kinnaur, Kullu, and Lahaul-Spiti is one of the BRO's oldest projects.
- Established in 1961, this project has been instrumental in constructing critical infrastructure in some of the country's most inaccessible terrains.
- Alongside infrastructure development, the project has also demonstrated an exceptional commitment to disaster management and humanitarian assistance. Numerous successful rescue operations have been conducted under this project during natural calamities (e.g., rescue operations at Baralacha La Pass and Chandratal).

Other Important Points:

Border Roads Organisation (BRO):

- **Introduction:** The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is the Government of India's premier border infrastructure agency. It is tasked with establishing and maintaining critical connectivity in remote and strategic regions.
- **Ministry:** Since 2015-16, the BRO has functioned entirely under the Ministry of Defence. Prior to this, it operated partially under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- **Establishment:** Established on May 7, 1960, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) adheres to a simple yet inspiring motto: "Shramena Sarvam Sadhyam," meaning "Everything is possible through hard work."
- **This organization rests upon two pillars:** the General Reserve Engineer Force (GREF) and the Engineer Officers of the Indian Army.

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- **Function:** The Border Roads Organisation constructs and maintains strategic roads, bridges, tunnels, and airfields in border and inaccessible regions to cater to both military and civilian requirements.
- During the years 2024 and 2025, 356 infrastructure projects executed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) have been dedicated to the nation.
- **Key Projects of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO):**



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- 1. Arunachal Pradesh:** BRO projects such as Vartak, Arunank, Udayak, and Brahmank address some of India's most challenging border terrains, connecting remote villages to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) through critical infrastructure, including the Sisiri Bridge, Syom Bridge, Sela Tunnel, and Nechipu Tunnel.
- 2. Ladakh:** Projects like Himank, Beacon, Deepak, Vijayak, and Yojak maintain vital lifelines for the Kargil, Leh, and Karakoram regions. These include strategic routes such as the Srinagar-Leh Highway, the Darbuk-Shyok-DBO (DS-DBO) road, the Atal Tunnel, and the under-construction Shinku La Tunnel, ensuring all-weather connectivity.
- 3. Sikkim:** Project Swastik
- 4. Mizoram:** Project Pushpak
- 5. Assam and Meghalaya:** Project Setuk
- 6. Nagaland and Manipur:** Project Sevak
- 7. Western Borders:** Along the western frontiers, Projects Sampark in Jammu and Chetak in Rajasthan are enhancing strategic mobility.
- 8. Chhattisgarh:** Project Hirak extends connectivity within the Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)-affected regions of Chhattisgarh.

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