

Daily Current Affairs

 Date : 13 June 2026



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RAJASTHAN

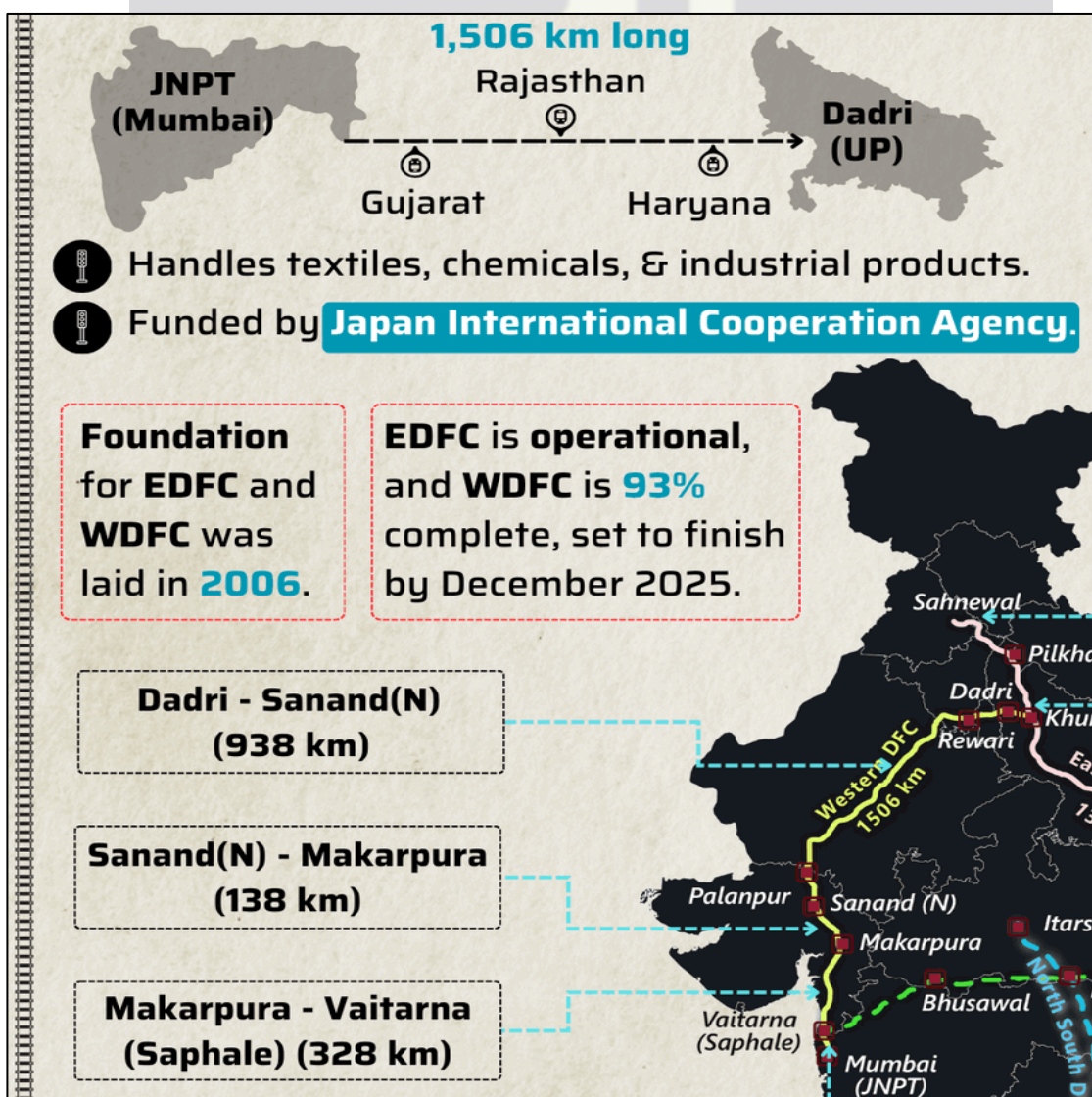


Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) in Rajasthan



Why in News?

- The Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) is an ambitious rail infrastructure project, with 39 percent of its route (approximately 565–567 kilometers) passing through Rajasthan. This represents the longest stretch of the corridor within any single state.





Key Points:

- The corridor passes through several key industrial districts of Rajasthan, such as Alwar, Jaipur, Ajmer, Sikar, Pali, and Sirohi.
- This corridor will accelerate economic growth and boost employment in Rajasthan, while also bringing about significant economic and social transformation in both urban and rural areas. Additionally, it will provide Rajasthan with improved connectivity to markets in northern and western India.
- **Cargo Terminal in Ajmer:** A Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal (GCT) has been established on the WDFC at New Saradhana, Ajmer. The terminal features modern cargo-handling infrastructure, warehousing facilities, and seamless multi-modal connectivity, making freight transport faster, safer, and more cost-effective for industries and traders.
- The terminal is capable of handling approximately 40 rakes of cargo per month (around 1.5 million tonnes annually).
- **DMIC:** A 150-kilometer-wide influence zone on either side of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) is being developed as the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC).
- Under this initiative, the 'Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Investment Region' and the 'Jodhpur-Pali-Marwar Industrial Area' are being developed in Rajasthan.

Facts for Prelims (WDFC):

- **Extent:** From Dadri (Uttar Pradesh) to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT), Mumbai.
- **Total Length:** 1,506 kilometers from Dadri to JNPT.

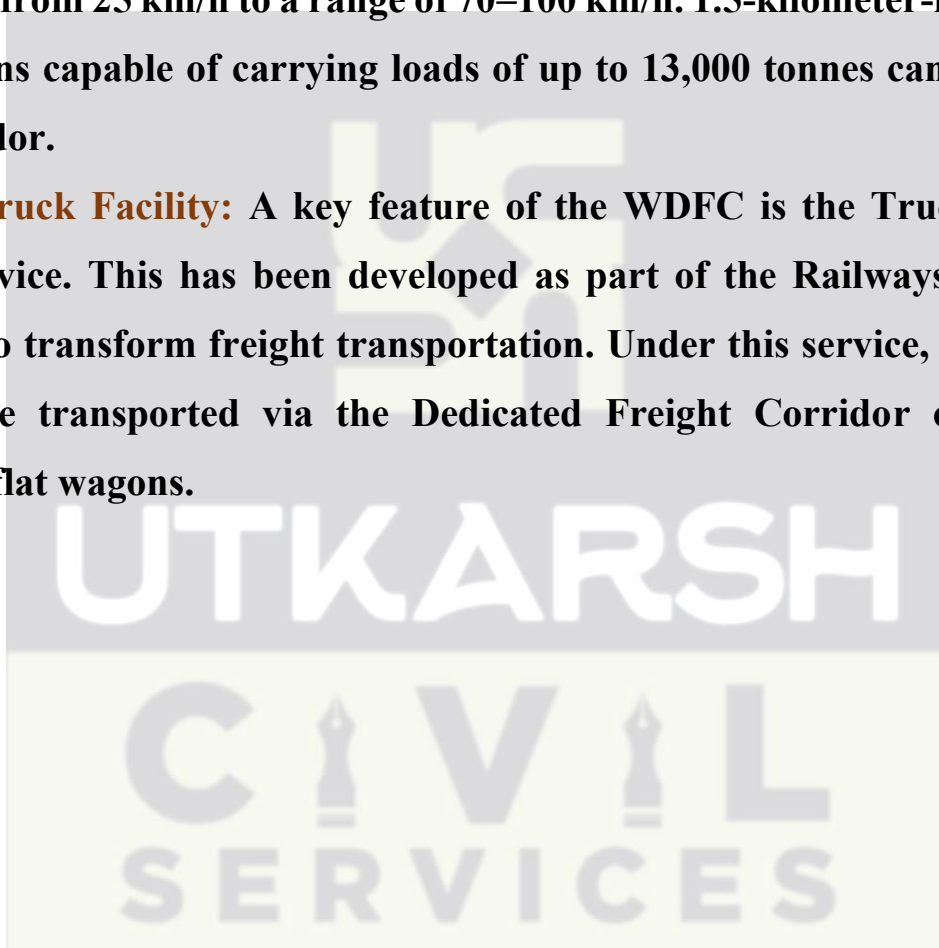
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- **Implementation:** By the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways.
- **Average Speed:** The average speed of freight trains on the WDFC has been increased from 25 km/h to a range of 70–100 km/h. 1.5-kilometer-long double-stack trains capable of carrying loads of up to 13,000 tonnes can operate on this corridor.
- **Rail-on-Truck Facility:** A key feature of the WDFC is the Truck-on-Train (ToT) service. This has been developed as part of the Railways' long-term strategy to transform freight transportation. Under this service, cargo-laden trucks are transported via the Dedicated Freight Corridor on specially modified flat wagons.



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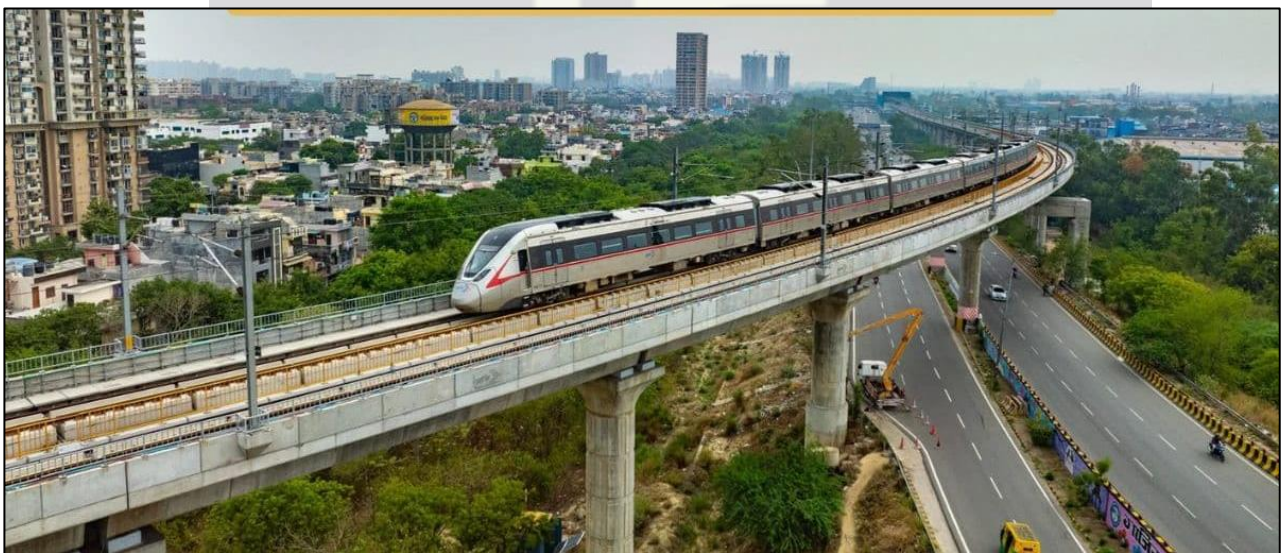
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First Phase of the 'Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS)' in Rajasthan



Why in News?

- Recently, an agreement was reached between the governments of Rajasthan and Haryana regarding the first phase of the 'Regional Rapid Transit System' to be developed in the state.



Key Points:

- First phase of RRTS:** Delhi – Gurugram – Rewari – Shahjahanpur – Neemrana – Behror.
- Under the first phase of this project, the Haryana government will bear 50 percent of the project cost for the section extending from Bawal (Haryana) to the Rajasthan border. Additionally, the entire cost of the section from the Rajasthan border to Behror will be borne by the Rajasthan government and its affiliated agencies.
- Total length of the first phase:** Approximately 130 kilometers, with a total of 19 stations to be developed. Under this phase, three stations are proposed to be established in the Rajasthan: Shahjahanpur, Neemrana, and Behror.

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RRTS Project in Rajasthan:

- Under the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) project, a 196-kilometer-long 'Namo Bharat' network and 22 main stations are proposed, which will significantly boost regional connectivity.
- The total length of this project in Rajasthan will be 91 kilometers, with 6 proposed stations. The network will feature high-speed capabilities, allowing for speeds of up to 160 kilometers per hour.
- The Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) is a state-of-the-art public transport model developed specifically to meet the needs of the NCR region.
- Its trains operate at speeds approximately three times faster than metro trains. While the metro primarily serves as a mode of transport within a city, the RRTS connects neighboring cities in a fast, safe, and convenient manner.
- This project will connect major industrial areas located in the National Capital Region (NCR); Shahjahanpur, Neemrana, Behror, the Japanese Zone, Ghiloth, KBNIR (Khushkhera-Bhiwadi-Neemrana Investment Region), and Rajasthan's emerging logistics hubs will benefit.

Delta Ranking of Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP): Neemrana Ranks Second Nationwide



Why in News?

- Recently, in the 'Aspirational Blocks Programme' (ABP) Delta Ranking for the period of October–December 2025 released by NITI Aayog, the Neemrana block of Kotputli-Behror district secured the second position nationwide.



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Key Points:

- Additionally, the Ramgarh Pachwara block of Dausa district and the Fatehgarh block of Jaisalmer district performed exceptionally well across various categories.
- **First place nationwide:** Thonoknyu block of Noklak district, Nagaland.
- This ranking, released by NITI Aayog, is categorized into six zones.
- **Objective:** To improve the standard of living of citizens and service delivery (health, education, agriculture, etc.) in 500 of the country's most remote and relatively underdeveloped blocks.

Facts for Prelims:

Main Points	Aspirational District Programme (ADP)	Aspirational Block Programme (ABP)
Launched in:	January, 2018	January, 2023
Implemented by:	NITI Aayog	NITI Aayog
Objective:	To bring rapid and effective transformation in 112 districts across the country.	To achieve saturation of essential government services in 500 blocks (329 districts) across the country.
Themes:	Focused on five themes: ■ Health & Nutrition. ■ Education. ■ Agriculture & Water Resources. ■ Financial Inclusion and Skill Development. ■ Infrastructure.	Focused on five themes: ■ Health & Nutrition. ■ Education. ■ Agriculture & Allied Services. ■ Infrastructure. ■ Social Development.

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Progress Indicators:	81	49
Districts and Blocks Included in Rajasthan:	Five districts – Baran, Dholpur, Jaisalmer, Karauli and Sirohi.	27 Blocks – Neemrana (Alwar), Sajjangarh (Banswara), Kishanganj (Baran), Ramsar (Barmer), Weir (Bharatpur), Kotri (Bhilwara), Kolayat (Bikaner), Keshoraipatan (Bundi), Nimbahera (Chittorgarh), Rajgarh (Churu), Ramgarh Pachwara (Dausa), Baseri (Dholpur), Jothari (Dungarpur), Sangaria (Hanumangarh), Fatehgarh (Jaisalmer), Ahore (Jalore), Khanpur (Jhalawar), Shergarh (Jodhpur), Masalpur (Karauli), Jayal (Nagaur), Rani Station (Pali), Peepalkhoont (Pratapgarh), Bhim (Rajsamand), Gangapur City (Sawai Madhopur), Peeplu (Tonk), Kherwara (Udaipur).

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7th UMAI National Youth Muaythai Championship – Rajasthan in 2026



Why in News?

- **Event:** Held from June 1 to 4, 2026, at the Indira Gandhi International Sports Complex in Haldwani, Uttarakhand.



Key Points:

- **Organizer:** United Muaythai Association of India.
- **Rajasthan's Performance:**
- **Total participants:** 39
- **Medals:** Won a total of 25 medals, including 9 gold, 2 silver, and 14 bronze medals.
- **Note:** Mudit Gupta is the only player from Rajasthan selected for the 'Muaythai School World Championship' to be held in Malaysia.

NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	Selection of Kushagra Ojha and Rajat Baghel for the Under-19 Men's Cricket Team - Recently, the BCCI selected young cricketers from Rajasthan namely, Kushagra Ojha and Rajat Baghel, for the Indian Under-19 men's cricket team for the upcoming tour of Sri Lanka. - Kushagra Ojha is a middle-order batsman from Bhilwara, while Rajat Baghel is a wicketkeeper-batsman from Dholpur.
2.	'Jan Bhagidari - Sabse Door, Sabse Pehle' (Public Participation - Farthest First) Campaign - The 'Jan Bhagidari - Sabse Door, Sabse Pehle' campaign was organized in Jaipur under the directives of the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs. - Its primary objective was to extend the benefits of government welfare schemes to the last person in the queue by establishing public outreach in remote areas.
3.	Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary (Baran) - Recently, the presence of a sloth bear was recorded in the Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary of Baran district for the first time in 30 years. - Sloth bears play a crucial role in seed dispersal within the forest and in controlling termite populations.

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4.

Mukhyamantri Ayushman Jeevan Raksha Yojana

- The Rajasthan government is implementing the 'Mukhyamantri Ayushman Jeevan Raksha Yojana' to encourage 'Good Samaritans' who provide immediate assistance to those injured in road accidents.
- Under this scheme, an individual who transports a road accident victim to the hospital during the 'Golden Hour' will be awarded an incentive of ₹10,000 and a certificate of appreciation.
- As of June 2026, 340 Good Samaritans have been honored in the state under the scheme.

5.

Annual Turnover of Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML)

- Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML) recorded an annual turnover of approximately ₹1,922 crore during the recently concluded financial year 2025-26.
- Additionally, RSMML sold 70.64 million tonnes of minerals during the 2025-26 financial year. This included the sale of 4.195 million tonnes of limestone, 1.765 million tonnes of rock phosphate, 0.924 million tonnes of lignite, and 0.180 million tonnes of gypsum.
- **Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML):**
- **Established:** In 1974
- RSMML is one of the key public sector undertakings of the Government of Rajasthan, primarily responsible for the mining and marketing of industrial minerals within the state.
- **Company's main objective:** To adopt cost-effective technological innovations in mineral mining and to diversify into mineral-based downstream projects.

6.

Wheat Procurement Target for Rabi Marketing Season 2026-27

- Recently, the Department of Food and Civil Supplies extended the wheat procurement period at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the Rabi Marketing Season 2026-27 to June 19, 2026.
- The wheat procurement target for Rajasthan for the Rabi Marketing Season 2026-27 has been increased from 23.50 lakh metric tonnes to 28.50 lakh metric tonnes.
- Additionally, the state government is providing a bonus of ₹150 per quintal to farmers over and above the MSP of ₹2,585 per quintal. Thus, farmers are receiving a total payment of ₹2,735 per quintal.

7.

Usha Priyadarshini: Chairperson of the Haryana Women's Commission

- Recently, Usha Priyadarshini from Jaipur was appointed as the new Chairperson of the Haryana State Women's Commission.
- Usha Priyadarshini is originally from Jaipur and is the daughter of former Rajasthan government minister Dr. Rohitash Sharma.

8.

Rajdhara Survey App

- A special digital door-to-door survey will be conducted via the Rajdhara Survey App to assess the precise status of political representation of the Other Backward Classes (OBC) in Rajasthan prior to the Panchayati Raj and urban local body elections.
- The primary objective of this comprehensive digital survey is to formulate recommendations for providing appropriate reservation to the OBC category commensurate with their population and political standing in the elections for the state's Panchayati Raj institutions and urban local bodies.



NATIONAL



Semiverse

[Source: PIB]



Why in News?

- The Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology has announced the provision of Lam Research's "Semiverse" platform for students at the Malaviya National Institute of Technology (MNIT).



Key Points:

Semiverse Platform

- It is a 'digital twin'-based semiconductor fabrication and training system.
- A digital twin is a virtual replica of a physical object or system that mirrors its real-world behavior, performance, and status using real-time data.
- Researchers, students, and other users across the globe can access equipment without being physically present at the location and can conduct experiments and research work remotely.



Geography and Geology



Crude Oil Reserves and Production in India

[Source: AIR]



Why in News?

- The Central Government signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Assam and Nagaland.



Key Points:

- The objective of this MoU is to facilitate the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas in Assam and Nagaland.

Current capacity of oil Reserves India

- India possesses estimated crude oil reserves of approximately 672.07 million tonnes.
- **Distribution in India:**
 - o Crude oil reserves are primarily concentrated in western offshore regions, accounting for about 31% of the total; Example: Mumbai High oil field.
 - o **State with the largest reserves:** Assam (21.5%), followed by Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- **Major crude oil-producing areas in Assam:** Digboi (the oldest), Naharkatiya, Rudrasagar, Lakwa, and Lakhmani.
- **Rajasthan:** Barmer, etc.
- **Gujarat:** Ankleshwar, Khambhat or Lunej region, Kalol, Mehsana, Aliabet, etc.
- **Consumption:** India is the world's third-largest consumer, fourth-largest refiner, and third-largest importer of crude oil.



Natural Gas Reserves and Production

- **Domestic Production:** 51.4% of the total demand for natural gas is met through domestic production. Gross production in 2024 stood at 36.11 billion cubic meters.
- **Composition:** It primarily consists of methane (CH_4). Small quantities of natural gas liquids and non-hydrocarbon gases (such as CO_2 and water vapor) are also present.
- **Estimated Reserves:** Approximately 1,000 billion cubic meters.
- The largest reserves are located in the western offshore region, followed by the eastern offshore region.
- **State with the largest estimated reserves:** Assam.

Declining Fertility Rate in India

[Source: THE HINDU]



Why in News?

- For decades, Indian policymakers have encouraged population control; however, India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has recently dropped to 1.9.



Key Points:

TFR according to the Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report 2024

- India's Total Fertility Rate defined as the average number of children a woman would bear in her lifetime, assuming she survives through her reproductive years (15–49) has fallen below the replacement level of 2.1.
- The replacement rate is the number of children a woman needs to give birth to in order to maintain a stable population from one generation to the next, in the absence of migration.
- In 2024, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh were the only states in India with a Total Fertility Rate (TFR) above 2.1.
- Delhi recorded the lowest TFR at 1.2, followed by Tamil Nadu, Keralam, and West Bengal at 1.3.
- The TFR in southern states has consistently remained below the national average. This gap has narrowed further over the last two decades.
- At the current pace, India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is projected to fall below 1.6 by 2031.

Reasons for Declining Fertility Rate in India

- **Delayed marriage and childbearing**
- **Urbanization:** Urban living increases the costs associated with housing, education, healthcare, and childcare.
- **Improved access to contraception and family planning**
- **Decline in infant and child mortality rates:** Due to improvements in healthcare, immunization, nutrition, and sanitation.



- **Economic factors:** Families prefer to invest more resources in fewer children to improve their quality of life and educational outcomes.
- **Demographic transition:** India is passing through the final stages of the demographic transition model, characterized by low birth rates, low death rates, and slow population growth.

Implications

- **Slowing pace of population growth and eventual stabilization**
- **Growing elderly population**
- **Future challenges related to the workforce**
- **Regional demographic imbalances:** There is significant variation in fertility rates across states; most southern and western states have fertility rates well below the replacement level, whereas states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan are recording relatively high fertility levels.
- This could lead to shifts in internal migration patterns, political representation, resource allocation, and labor market dynamics.

🎓 Indian Governance and State System 🎓

Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)

[Source: THE HINDU]



Why in News?

- The Union Home Minister has announced that the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, will be withdrawn from most parts of Northeast India by next year, with the exception of one or two states.



Key Points:

- In the Northeast, it is currently in force in Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh.

AFSPA

- Under this Act, the armed forces are granted certain special powers to maintain law and order in 'disturbed areas'.
- **Examples:** Arresting individuals without a warrant based on suspicion, and entering or searching premises.
- **Declaration of 'Disturbed Area' (Section 3):** If the Governor, Administrator, or the Central Government is of the opinion that a situation has arisen requiring the aid of the armed forces to assist civil authorities, they may declare a part or the whole of a state or Union Territory as a "disturbed area".



Sociology



Supreme Court on Sex Ratio Imbalance

[Source: AIR]



Why in News?

- The Supreme Court has reiterated the need for strict implementation of the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act, 1994. The Court noted that practices of sex selection persist, leading to an imbalance in the sex ratio.



Key Points:

- **PCPNDT Act, 1994:** This Act was passed in 1994 and came into force in 1996 to address the issue of declining sex ratios and to curb sex-selection practices.

Causes of Sex Ratio Imbalance

1. **Patriarchal preference for sons,**
2. **Marriage-related customs:** Dowry and the tradition of patrilocality (residing with the in-laws after marriage),
3. **Gender discrimination at every level:** India's ranking in the Global Gender Gap Report 2025 fell from 129th to 131st place out of 148 countries, reflecting persistent gender inequality in the country.
4. **Misuse of technologies:** Pre-natal diagnostic techniques facilitate sex selection and female foeticide.
5. **Lack of effective implementation of laws:** Despite strict provisions in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and the erstwhile Indian Penal Code (IPC), effective and comprehensive implementation has not been achieved.

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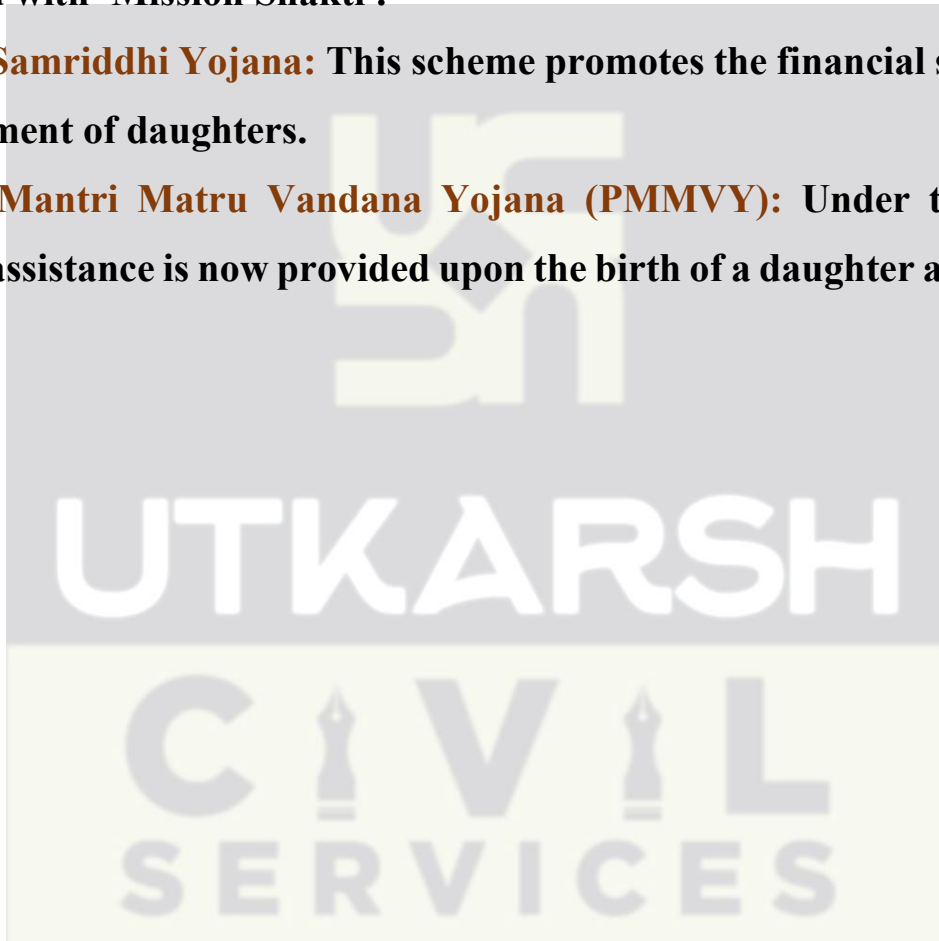
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- According to census data on child sex ratio, there were 945 girls per 1,000 boys in 1991; this figure dropped to 927 in 2001 and further to 919 in 2011.

Government Initiatives

- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme:** Currently, BBBP has been integrated with 'Mission Shakti'.
- **Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana:** This scheme promotes the financial security and empowerment of daughters.
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY):** Under this scheme, financial assistance is now provided upon the birth of a daughter as the second child.



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INTERNATIONAL



Muscat Action Plan

[Source: UNO]



Why in News?

- The UN Secretary-General launched the Muscat Action Plan.



Key Points:

Muscat Action Plan

- **Objective:** To tackle hate speech, prevent genocide and other atrocity crimes, and promote peace through mediation, dialogue, and local-level peacebuilding.
- It is the result of a multi-stakeholder process led by Oman, the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect (UNOSAPG), and a network of religious and traditional peacemakers.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Shigellosis Outbreak in Keralam

[Source: THE HINDU]



Why in News?

- As of June 2026, 85 confirmed cases and over 70 suspected cases of Shigellosis (bacillary dysentery) have been reported in Keralam.



Key Points:

Shigellosis

- Shigellosis is a highly contagious bacterial infection caused by bacteria of the *Shigella* genus.
- It primarily affects the intestines and causes bacillary dysentery.
- **Transmission:** Consumption of contaminated food and water; person-to-person contact via the fecal-oral route.



INDEXES AND REPORTS



Global Economic Prospects (GEP) Report

[Source: Economic Times]



Why in News?

- The latest Global Economic Prospects report has raised India's economic growth forecast for 2026-27 from 6.5% to 6.6%.



Key Points:

- India is projected to remain the fastest-growing major economy in the world.
- **Issuer:** Released by the World Bank Group on a semi-annual basis.
- **Objective:** To provide a comprehensive analysis of global economic growth and prospects.

Key highlights of the report:

- **Global growth forecast:** Lowered to 2.5% (down from 2.9% in 2025), marking the lowest economic growth rate since the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Rising fiscal and external pressures:** South Asian economies, including India, may face wide fiscal deficits due to high energy subsidies and a weak balance of payments.

Global Peace Index (GPI) 2026

[Source: AIR]



Why in News?

- India ranked 127th in the Global Peace Index, 2026.



Key Points:

Global Peace Index (GPI) 2026

- **Publisher:** Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)
- **Edition:** This is the 20th edition of the GPI, covering 163 countries.
- **Objective:** To measure global peace and its economic impact.
- **Top performers:** Iceland ranked first for the 19th consecutive year; followed by New Zealand, Switzerland, Slovenia, and Ireland.
- **Poorly performing countries:** Russia ranked last on the list, followed by Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ukraine, and Israel at 162nd, 161st, 160th and 159th positions respectively.
- **Methodology:** It is based on 23 indicators across three domains (societal safety and security, ongoing domestic and international conflict, and militarization).