

EXCLUSIVE FOR KEA & KPSC EXAMS

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Compiled - The Hindu,
IE, PIB, Prajavani



LENSE

(Latest Events and
News Analysis Series)



FEATURS

- ✓ Day wise analysis
- ✓ Classes in YouTube
- ✓ Mains & Prelims Oriented
- ✓ Monthly Coverage
- ✓ Analysis through MCQS

- ✓ Ashtamudi Lake
- ✓ Ramsar COP15 Outcome
- ✓ Apna ghar initiative
- ✓ Bio-Fortified Potatoes
- ✓ HQ-16 Missile
- ✓ RS-28 Sarmat

News of National / International / Karnataka

INDEX

1 November (Saturday)

1. Marine fisheries census 2025
2. UIDAI launched Aadhaar Vision 2032 Framework
3. Exercise MILAN 2026

2 and 3 November (Monday)

1. Doctrine of Severability
2. Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary
3. Lucknow Joins UNESCO's Creative Cities Network

4 November (Tuesday)

1. High Seas Treaty to Come into Force in January 2026
2. Gogabeel Lake designated as a Ramsar Site
3. Delhi conducts cloud seeding trials with IIT Kanpur to combat air pollution
4. Ramnami Tribe Members Adorn PM with Traditional Peacock Feather Crown.
5. The Term 'Enshittification' and Its Relevance to Digital Platforms

5 November (Wednesday)

1. Supreme Court expresses concern over misuse of POCSO Act in consensual adolescent relationships.
2. Pilia malenadu: New Spider Species Discovered in Karnataka
3. Phool Walon Ki Sair festival postponed for the first time since 1962
4. Katkari Tribe Protest for Land and Wage Rights
5. Karnataka Unveils Skill Development Policy 2025-32 at Bengaluru Skill Summit

6 November (Thursday)

1. Concern over Murkiness in the Pristine Waters of River Umngot
2. Bandipur Tiger Reserve: Evening Safari Trips Stopped
3. Rare Indian Mouse Deer Photographed at Tungreshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra
4. Sikh Relic "Jore Sahib" Brought to Patna from Delhi After Over 300 Years
5. President Presented with Ramman Mask at Uttarakhand Assembly
6. South Western Railway Launches Mobile Unreserved Ticketing System (MUTS) Sahayak Scheme

7 November (Friday)

1. Creation of Two Specialised Cadres in the CAG: Central Revenue Audit (CRA) & Central Expenditure Audit (CEA)
2. Striped Hyena spotted in Kali Tiger Reserve
3. INS Ikshak Commissioned into Indian Navy
4. Sugarcane Farmers' Protest in Karnataka over Remunerative Price Demand
5. Second World Summit for Social Development (WSSD-2), 2025

8 and 9th November (Saturday)

- 1) Supreme Court Directs Immediate Removal of Stray Dogs from Public Institutions.
- 2) Typhoon Kalmaegi brings rain and destruction in Vietnam.
- 3) Bangladesh Becomes First South Asian Country to Join UN Water Convention.
- 4) Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary comes alive with migratory birds.

5) Prime Minister to Inaugurate Year-Long Commemoration of 150 Years of “Vande Mataram”.

6) President Extends Greetings on the Occasion of ‘Baliyatra’ Festival and ‘Boita Bandana’

10 November (Monday)

1. Volcanic Lightning.
2. Sharavathi Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project (PSHP)
3. Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary.
4. Navy Deploys INS Sahyadri for Malabar Exercise 2025

11 November (Tuesday)

1. 8th Central Pay Commission (CPC) Constituted under Chairpersonship of Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai
2. National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) – Clearance of Defence Projects in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh.
3. Konark Sun Temple – Tourist Entry Restricted by ASI.
4. 350th Martyrdom Year of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji: The Eternal Symbol of Sacrifice, Peace, and Humanity.

12 November (Wednesday)

1. Lake Turkana
2. Sant Namdev Ji Jayanti – 12 November 2025
3. Exercise MITRA SHAKTI.
4. Booker Prize 2025

13 November (Thursday)

1. India to increase Neodymium production ninefold to 500 tons by FY27
2. NGT directs Uttar Pradesh to map people affected by heavy-metal contamination in Kanpur region
3. President to confer First Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB)

Awards and 6th National Water Awards 2025

14 November (Friday)

1. Union Government Releases Draft Seeds Bill 2025 to Replace Seeds Act 1966
2. India and Nepal Amend Treaty of Transit to Boost Rail-Based Freight Connectivity
3. Ratan Thiyam to be Honoured Posthumously with Sumitra Charat Ram Award 2025
4. Pilibhit Tiger Reserve – Suspected Tiger Attack Reported
5. Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority to be Amended

15 November (Saturday)

1. National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM)
2. Veteran actress Kamini Kaushal passes away at the age of 98.
3. Saalumarada Thimmakka Passes Away at 114
4. Ambaji Marble from Gujarat Receives GI Tag
5. INVAR Anti-Tank Missile
6. Mudh-Nyoma Airbase

16th Nov 2025

1. Air-Sol Moyenne Portée-Renove (ASMPA-R)
2. Tungsten
3. Exercise Garuda.
4. Greenland.
5. Territorial Army.
6. Maram Naga Tribe

17th Nov 2025

1. Article 32 and Ambedkar’s Vision Highlighted by the Chief Justice of India

2. Zero GST on Retail Health Insurance Premiums: Rising Demand for High-Value Coverage
3. Ashtamudi Lake
4. China Coast Guard Patrols Near Senkaku Islands Amid Rising Tensions with Japan
5. India Announces New National Platform for Climate and Nature Finance at COP30
6. Vrindavani Vastra

18th Nov 2025

1. Sakurajima Volcano
2. Caracal
3. Supreme Court Directions on Human-Wildlife Conflict
4. Remembering Batukeshwar Dutt, the Forgotten Comrade of Bhagat Singh

19^h Nov 2025

1. New Initiatives to Improve the Public Distribution System (PDS)
2. Raulane Festival
3. Tetrachloroethylene
4. Trade Intelligence and Analytics Portal
5. Ginkgo-Toothed Beaked Whale
6. African Swine Fever

20^h Nov 2025

1. Curacao
2. BvS10 Sindhu
3. BIRSA 101
4. Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. Indira Gandhi Peace Prize.
6. Climate Change Performance Index.

21^h Nov 2025

1. Global Methane Status Report
2. West Seti Hydropower Project
3. Meerut Bugle
4. Guru Tegh Bahadur

5. Kuno National Park

22^h Nov 2025

1. Joint Crediting Mechanism
2. Inland Waterways Authority of India
3. Seychelles
4. Sagar Kavach
5. Boramdev Wildlife Sanctuary

23th Nov 2025

1. Tanningia silasii
2. Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary
3. Juvenile Justice Board
4. Strait of Malacca
5. Mahi River
6. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

24th Nov 2025

1. Hussain Sagar Lake
2. Limestone
3. Exercise AUSINDEX
4. Georgia
5. Dorjilung Hydroelectric Power Project
6. Brihadeeswarar Temple

25th Nov 2025

1. Pazhayar river.
2. Hammer weapon
3. Asian and pacific centre for development of disaster information management
4. Hayli gubbi volcano
5. Bharat ncap.

26th Nov 2025

1. U-Turn Man of Tamil Nadu
2. Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur
3. United Nations Secretary-General

4. INS Mahe

5. LCA Tejas

27th Nov 2025

1. Mekedatu dam project

2. Bnei Menashe

3. Entrepreneur-in-Residence Programme

4. Finn's Weaver Bird

5. Euthanasia

28th Nov 2025

1. Arunachalesvara Temple

2. Vikram-I Rocket

3. Grey Seal

4. Tex-RAMPS Scheme

5. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

29th Nov 2025

1. MH-60R Seahawk Helicopter

2. Lake Biwa

3. Golden Jackal

4. National Mission for Mentoring

30th Nov 2025

1. Thalassemia

2. Hansa-3 (NG) Trainer Aircraft

3. INS Taragiri

4. Ellora Caves

5. Perseverance Rover

1 November (Saturday)

1. Marine fisheries census 2025
2. UIDAI launched Aadhaar Vision 2032 Framework
3. Exercise MILAN 2026

1. Marine fisheries census 2025

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Marine Fisheries Census 2025?

1. The Marine Fisheries Census 2025 is India's **first fully digital, geo-referenced enumeration** of marine fishing communities.
2. The census is implemented by the **Fishery Survey of India (FSI)** and funded by the **ICAR-CMFRI**.
3. The census covers over **1.2 million fisher households** across 13 coastal states and Union Territories.
4. Drone-based aerial enumeration is used to assess **fishing crafts** and improve data accuracy.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

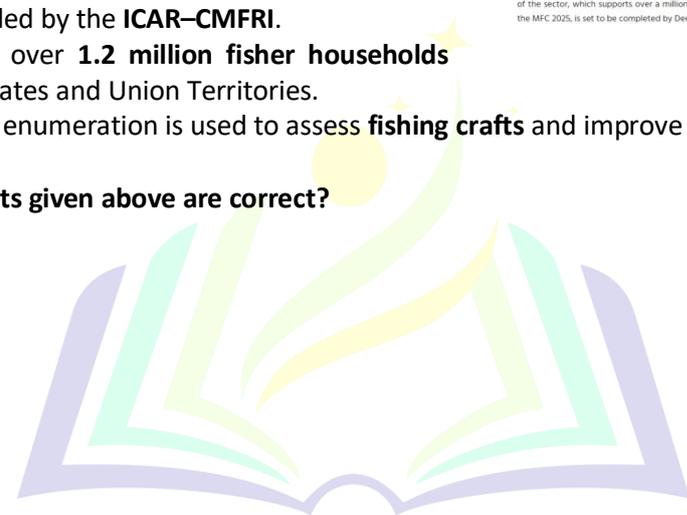
- A. 1, and 3 only
- B. 1, 3, and 4 only
- C. 2, 3, and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: B. 1, 3, 4, only



Marine Fisheries Census 2025 (MFC 2025)

The 7th National Marine Fisheries Census 2025 (MFC 2025) will be jointly conducted by the Department of Fisheries (DoF), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI). This census aims to provide comprehensive, accurate, and timely data essential for the sustainable development and governance of the sector, which supports over a million families. Officially launched on the World Fisheries Day on November 01, 2024, the MFC 2025, is set to be completed by December 2025.



2. UIDAI launched Aadhaar Vision 2032 Framework

Why in News: The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched the 'Aadhaar Vision 2032' framework — a decade-long strategic roadmap to modernize India's digital identity system using AI, Blockchain, Quantum Computing, and Advanced Encryption.

Q) Which of the following are key features of Aadhaar Vision 2032?

1. AI-enabled authentication for anomaly detection and fraud prevention.
2. Privacy-by-design compliance following DPDP Act, 2023 principles.
3. Multi-layered next-gen encryption protocols.
4. Introduction of Aadhaar-linked physical identity cards for every citizen.

Options:

- a) 1, 2, and 3 only
- b) 1, 3, and 4 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) All of the above



AADHAAR VISION 2032
A technological and strategic roadmap to future-proof India's digital identity infrastructure

Launched by: **UIDAI** (Ministry of Electronics and IT)

Guided by: **Neelkanth Mishra** (High-Level Expert Committee)

Key features

- **AI-Enabled Authentication:** Artificial Intelligence will be deployed for intelligent identity verification, anomaly detection, and fraud prevention
- **Blockchain Integration:** Blockchain technology will enhance transparency, traceability, and immutability in digital transactions
- **Quantum-Resilient Security:** The framework will adopt quantum-safe cryptographic techniques against next-gen cyber threats
- **Advanced Encryption Mechanisms:** Aadhaar systems will integrate multi-layered, next-gen encryption protocols

Answer: a) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation: Statement 4 is incorrect as Aadhaar Vision 2032 focuses on digital identity services; physical cards are not a new feature.

3. Exercise MILAN 2026

Why in News: India will host a historic maritime convergence in February 2026 at Visakhapatnam, featuring the International Fleet Review (IFR), Exercise MILAN 2026, and the IONS Conclave of Chiefs, under the MAHASAGAR vision.



Q) What is Exercise MILAN?

- A) A bilateral naval exercise between India and USA
- B) A biennial multilateral naval exercise hosted by the Indian Navy
- C) A humanitarian aid operation in the Indian Ocean
- D) An army combat exercise in the Himalayas

Answer: B. Exercise MILAN been conducted since 1995.

Q) Key features of MILAN 2026:

1. Dual-Phase Structure: Harbour and Sea phases
2. Advanced Naval Drills including ASW, air defence, and search-and-rescue
3. International City Parade at RK Beach, Visakhapatnam
4. Showcase of Indigenous Capabilities like INS Vikrant

Which of the above are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2, 3, and 4
- C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer: B

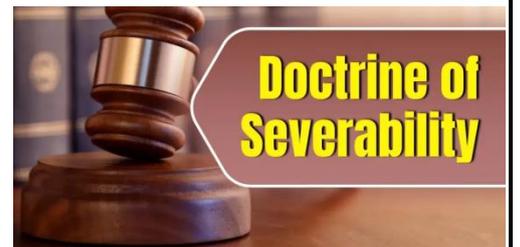
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3 November (Monday)

1. Doctrine of Severability
2. Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary
3. Lucknow Joins UNESCO's Creative Cities Network

1. Doctrine of Severability Applicable in Suits for Specific Performance: Supreme Court Clarifies

Why in News: The Supreme Court recently clarified that the Doctrine of Severability can be applied in suits for specific performance, but only in exceptional cases. The Court observed that this doctrine, generally used in constitutional law, may also guide civil courts when contractual terms can be partially enforced without affecting the essence of the agreement.



Q) Which of the statements regarding the Doctrine of Severability given above are correct?

1. It ensures that only **unconstitutional or invalid portions** of a law are struck down, provided the valid part can function independently.
2. The doctrine can be applied in suits for specific performance, allowing enforcement of only the valid portion of a contract if it can stand on its own.
3. The doctrine originates **from Article 14** of the Indian Constitution and preserves legislative intent and constitutional supremacy.
4. It can be applied even if the invalid and valid provisions are inseparable.

- a) 1, and 2 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 4 only
- d) All of the above

Part 3 Fundamental Rights 12-35



Article 13 of The Indian Constitution

.....
Laws inconsistent with or in derogation of the fundamental rights.

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only

- Statement 4 is incorrect because if valid and invalid provisions are inseparable, the doctrine **cannot** be applied.
- **The Doctrine of Severability (Doctrine of Separability) ensures that only unconstitutional or invalid portions of a statute are struck down, not the entire law, provided the valid part can function independently.**

2. Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary: India's Only Sanctuary Dedicated to the Indian Grey Wolf

Why in News: The **Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary** in Latehar district, Jharkhand, has recently gained attention as one of **India's most unique and lesser-known wildlife habitats**, highlighting the need to strengthen conservation measures for the endangered **Indian Grey Wolf** (*Canis lupus pallipes*).

Q) Consider the following statements about the Wolf Sanctuary in Jharkhand:

1. It is India's first and only sanctuary exclusively dedicated to the Indian Grey Wolf.
2. The sanctuary lies within the **Palamau Tiger Reserve** landscape.
3. It is drained by the **Koel River** directly.
4. The sanctuary was declared in 1976 and covers an area of about 63 sq. km.



Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:

- A) 1, 2, and 4 only
- B) 1 and 3 only
- C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- D) All of the above

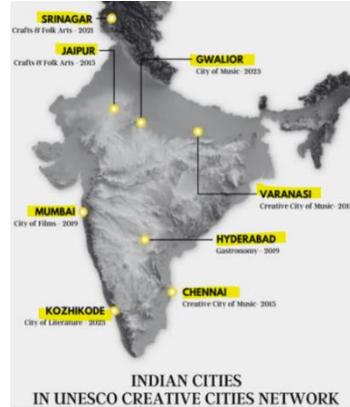
Answer: A) 1, 2, and 4 only

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- The sanctuary is drained by the **Burha River**, which later joins the Aksi and then the North Koel River, so statement 3 is incorrect
- The surrounding region is dominated by **tribal communities**, over 80% of whom follow “**Sarna Dharma**”, a nature-worshipping faith revering forests, rivers, and natural elements.

3. Lucknow Joins UNESCO’s Creative Cities Network (UCCN) under the Gastronomy Category

Why in News: Lucknow has been officially designated as a member of the **UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)** in the **Gastronomy** category during the **43rd Session of the UNESCO General Conference**. It has become the third Indian city after Hyderabad and Varanasi to be recognised under the Gastronomy and Music fields, respectively.



City	Creative Field
Jaipur	Crafts and Folk Arts
Varanasi	Music
Chennai	Music
Mumbai	Film
Hyderabad	Gastronomy
Kozhikode	Literature
Gwalior	Gastronomy
Srinagar	Gastronomy
Lucknow	Gastronomy (New, 2025)

4. ISRO launches GSAT-7R (CMS-03) — India’s Heaviest Naval Communication Satellite

Why in News: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the **Indian Navy’s advanced communication satellite GSAT-7R (CMS-03)** aboard the **LVM3-M5 rocket** from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**, marking a major milestone in enhancing India’s maritime domain awareness and defence communications.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the GSAT-7R (CMS-03) satellite launched by ISRO:

1. GSAT-7R is India’s heaviest indigenously built communication satellite, weighing around 4,400 kg.
2. It was launched aboard the **LVM3-M5** rocket from **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**.
3. The satellite is intended for the Indian Army’s advanced communication network.
4. GSAT-7R operates in a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) and provides secure voice, data, and video links for the Indian Navy.

Question: How many of the above statements are correct?

Options:

- A) 2 only
- B) 3 only
- C) 4 only
- D) 1 only

Answer: B) 3 only

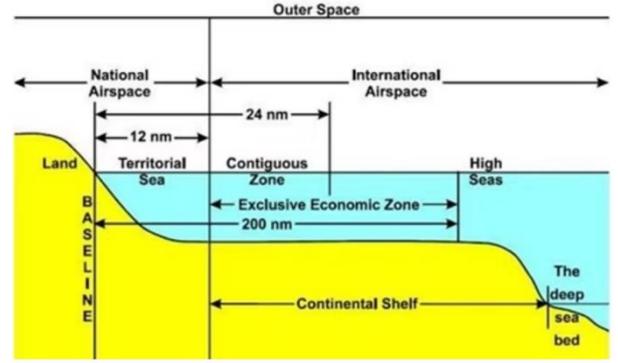
Statements 1, 2, and 4 are correct. Statement 3 is incorrect because **GSAT-7R** is meant for the **Indian Navy**, not the Army.

4 November (Tuesday)

1. High Seas Treaty to Come into Force in January 2026
2. **Gogabeel Lake** designated as a **Ramsar Site**
3. **Delhi** conducts cloud seeding trials with IIT Kanpur to combat air pollution
4. **Ramnami Tribe Members** Adorn PM with **Traditional Peacock Feather Crown**.
5. The Term ‘**Enshittification**’ and Its Relevance to **Digital Platforms**

1. High Seas Treaty to Come into Force in January 2026

Why in News: Over 60 countries ratified the High Seas Treaty (also known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction – BBNJ Agreement) September 2025, paving the way for its enforcement from 2026. The treaty aims to protect marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and regulate human activities on the high seas.



Q) With reference to the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), consider the following statements:

1. The treaty evolved under the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 1982.
2. It recognizes Marine Genetic Resources (MGRs) as the “common heritage of humankind.”
3. It mandates Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) only for activities within national jurisdictions.
4. It promotes equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of Marine Genetic Resources (MGRs).

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (1) Only one
- (2) Only two
- (3) Only three
- (4) All four



Answer: (3) Only three (1,2 and 4). Statement 3- Incorrect; EIAs are required for activities likely to affect marine ecosystems beyond national jurisdictions, not only within them.

2. Gogabeel Lake designated as a Ramsar Site

Why in News: India’s Gogabeel Lake in Bihar’s Katihar district has been designated as a Ramsar Site of international importance, highlighting its rich biodiversity and ecological value.



Bihar's Gogabeel Lake has been designated a Ramsar site, marking India's 94th wetland of international importance.

Q) How many of the above statements are correct, with reference to the wetland located in Katihar district of Bihar, consider the following statements:

1. It is an ox-bow lake formed due to the meandering of rivers.
2. It lies between the Mahananda River to the northeast and the Ganga River to the south.
3. It is the first Community Reserve of Bidar, declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
4. It is situated within the Upper Gangetic Plains.

- (1) Only one
- (2) Only two
- (3) Only three
- (4) All four

Answer: (3) Only two (1 and 2), it lies in the Trans-Gangetic Plains, not the Upper Gangetic Plains.



2. Delhi conducts cloud seeding trials with IIT Kanpur to combat air pollution

Why in News: For the first time in nearly 50 years, Delhi conducted two cloud seeding trials in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K), aiming to induce rainfall to reduce smog and particulate matter levels in the city's air.

Q) How many of the below statements are correct? with reference to Cloud Seeding as a weather modification technique, consider the following statements:

1. It involves **spraying substances** like silver iodide or sodium chloride into clouds to induce rainfall.
2. The technique was **first demonstrated successfully in the 1940s** by scientists at **General Electric in the United States**.
3. **In India, the first cloud seeding** experiment was conducted in **Kolkata using hydrogen balloons**.
4. Cloud seeding **has consistently produced uniform and verified results across all Indian states**.

- (1) Only one
- (2) Only two
- (3) Only three
- (4) All four

Answer: (3) Only three

- **Statement 4 incorrect;** results in India have been **sporadic and lacked systematic verification**, not uniform.

3. Ramnami Tribe Members Adorn PM with Traditional Peacock Feather Crown.

Why in News: Two members of the **Ramnami tribe** from **Chhattisgarh** became emotional when the Prime Minister allowed them to place their traditional peacock feather crown on his head—an act symbolizing deep respect for their unique spiritual tradition and cultural identity.

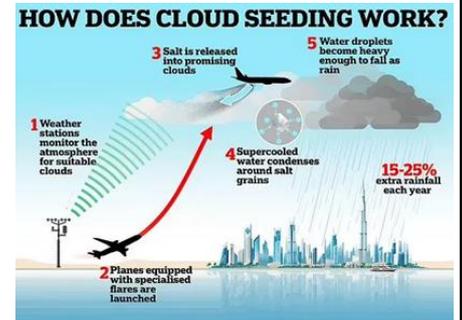


Q) With reference to the Ramnami Tribe of Chhattisgarh, consider the following statements:

1. They Wear **white garments inscribed with the word Ram**, Adorn **pigeon feather crowns** symbolizing **purity and devotion**.
2. Members of the community **tattoo the name "Ram"** on their bodies and faces as a mark of devotion.
3. The community is primarily found in the **southern districts** of Chhattisgarh like Bastar and Dantewada.
4. The Ramnamis reject temple worship, emphasizing that God is omnipresent and beyond caste barriers.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (1) Only one
- (2) Only two
- (3) Only three
- (4) All four



Answer: (2) Only two (2 and 4), they are found mainly in **central and northern Chhattisgarh**, especially **Janjgir-Champa, Bilaspur, and Raigarh**.

4) The Term 'Enshittification' and Its Relevance to Digital Platforms

Why in News: The **now-viral term 'enshittification'** has gained attention as internet users increasingly express frustration over the decline in quality and fairness of online platforms, services, and digital products. **The term encapsulates how once-user-friendly platforms deteriorate over time due to profit-driven decisions.**

Enshittification

[noun]

The phenomenon of **online platforms gradually degrading the quality of their services**, often by promoting advertisements and sponsored content, in order to increase profits.

5 November (Wednesday)

1. Supreme Court expresses concern over misuse of **POCSO Act** in consensual adolescent relationships.
2. **Pilia malenadu**: New Spider Species Discovered in Karnataka
3. **Phool Walon Ki Sair festival** postponed for the first time since 1962
4. **Katkari Tribe** Protest for Land and Wage Rights
5. **Karnataka Unveils Skill Development Policy 2025–32** at Bengaluru Skill Summit

1. Supreme Court expresses concern over misuse of POCSO Act in consensual adolescent relationships.

Why in News: The Supreme Court has expressed serious concern over the growing misuse of the **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act**, particularly in cases involving consensual adolescent relationships. The Court observed that stringent provisions are often invoked by parents as retribution against boys in consensual relationships with girls of similar age.

Protection of Children From Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO)

Recently Karnataka High Court dismissed a woman's plea for quashing a sexual assault complaint against her under **POCSO Act**.
 • Court observed that the POCSO Act applies to both men and women and is **"gender neutral"**.

ABOUT POCSO ACT

- **Objective** - To protect children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography.
- **Gender neutral** - defines "child" as any person **below the age of 18 years**.
- **Procedural safeguards** -
 - Establishment of special courts within camera proceedings.
 - Mandates reporting of offences.
 - Use of simple language in report if reported by child.
 - Penalty upto Death penalty in case of aggravated penetrative sexual assault.



Q) What is the punishment for aggravated sexual assault under 'POCSO' (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act)?

1. 3 years imprisonment
2. 10 years imprisonment
3. 5 years imprisonment
4. 7 years imprisonment

Answer: 2: 10 years imprisonment

2. Pilia malenadu: New Spider Species Discovered in Karnataka

Why in News: A team of researchers exploring biodiversity in the Western Ghats has discovered a new species of jumping spider named **Pilia malenadu** in **Chikkamagaluru** district, Karnataka.

- **Discovery Site:** Madhugundi, Mudigere taluk, **Chikkamagaluru**, Karnataka.
- **Geographical Setting:** Foothills of the Western Ghats, a global biodiversity hotspot

New Jumping Spider Species Discovered in Karnataka



This significant find adds another fascinating species to India's already diverse collection of arachnids

- **Etymology:** Named “malenadu” (meaning “hill country” in Kannada) to honour the region where it was discovered.

3. Phool Walon Ki Sair festival postponed for the first time since 1962

Why in News: The historic ‘Phool Walon Ki Sair’ festival — symbolizing communal harmony in Delhi — has been postponed for the first time since its revival in 1962, except during the pandemic years (2020–2021). Organizers cited delayed permission for using the traditional venue **Aam Bagh Park, Mehrauli**, and **severe pollution levels as key reasons**.



Q) With reference to the **Phool Walon Ki Sair festival**, recently in news, consider the following statements:

1. The festival symbolizes Hindu-Muslim unity and is celebrated in Mehrauli, Delhi.
2. It originated during the reign of Mughal Emperor Akbar Shah II in the early 19th century.
3. The festival has been organized every year without interruption since its revival in 1962.
4. Floral offerings are made at both Khwaja Bakhtiar Kaki Dargah and Yogmaya Temple.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1 and 4 only

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

- **Origin:** Began in 1811 during the reign of Mughal Emperor Akbar Shah II, when his mother offered floral offerings at both the dargah and temple to thank the gods after her son Mirza Jahangir was released from jail.

4. Katkari Tribe Protest for Land and Wage Rights

Why in News: The Shramjeevi Organisation has announced a two-day protest featuring silent fasts and symbolic lamps to draw attention to the struggles of the **Katkari Tribe**, demanding land rights, payment of pending wages, and dignity for the marginalised community.



Q) With reference to the **Katkari Tribe**, recently in news for their protest demanding land and wage rights, consider the following statements:

1. The Katkari tribe is classified as one of **India’s Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**.
2. They are predominantly found in the districts of **Pune, Raigad, and Thane in Maharashtra**.
3. Their **traditional occupation** involved **extracting Katha (Catechu) from Khair trees**.
4. The Katkari community primarily follows a matriarchal and joint family system.

Which of the statements given above are correct?



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FORESIGHT

IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO & AAO/RFO

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only. **Statement 4** -Incorrect; their society is patriarchal and follows a nuclear family system, not matriarchal or joint.

5. Karnataka Unveils Skill Development Policy 2025–32 at Bengaluru Skill Summit

Why in News: The Chief Minister of Karnataka, Siddaramaiah, launched the **Karnataka Skill Development Policy 2025–32** during the **Bengaluru Skill Summit**.

Q) Which of the statements given below are correct, with reference to the Karnataka Skill Development Policy 2025–32, recently launched during the Bengaluru Skill Summit, consider the following statements:

- The policy aims to train **3 million youth by 2032** with a total financial outlay of **₹4,432 crore**.
- It seeks to increase **women's enrolment in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) to 33%**.
- The International Migration Centre–Karnataka (**IMC-K**) will facilitate global placement opportunities for skilled youth.
- The implementing bodies** include the Karnataka Skill Development Corporation (**KSDC**) and the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (**KDEM**).

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Additional Information

- National Policy on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (2015):** Framework guiding India's skilling ecosystem.
- Skill India Mission (2015):** Umbrella initiative to train over 40 crore Indians by 2022.
- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY):** Flagship scheme under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to promote employable skills.

6 November (Thursday)

- Concern over Murkiness in the Pristine Waters of River Umngot**
- Bandipur Tiger Reserve: Evening Safari Trips Stopped**
- Rare Indian Mouse Deer Photographed at Tungreshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra**
- Sikh Relic "Jore Sahib" Brought to Patna from Delhi After Over 300 Years**
- President Presented with Ramman Mask at Uttarakhand Assembly**
- South Western Railway Launches Mobile Unreserved Ticketing System (MUTS) Sahayak Scheme**

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1. Concern over Murkiness in the Pristine Waters of River Umngot

Why in News: Environmentalists and local communities have raised concerns that the pristine waters of River Umngot—often regarded as the cleanest river in India—are turning murky due to massive dumping of soil and construction debris from nearby infrastructure projects, threatening its ecological balance and tourism value.



Umngot River

Q) River Umngot (Dawki River), recently in news for environmental concerns, consider the following statements:

1. The river originates from the Eastern Shillong Peak in Meghalaya.
2. It serves as a natural divider between the Jaintia Hills and Khasi Hills districts.
3. It flows into the Umngot–Surma–Meghna river system, eventually joining rivers in Bangladesh.
4. The Dawki Suspension Bridge, built in 1932, spans the river and is located in Assam.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only. Statement 4 - Incorrect; the Dawki Suspension Bridge (1932) is located in Meghalaya, not Assam.

- Known for its crystal-clear turquoise water, making boats appear to float in mid-air.
- Popularly called the Dawki River, a hotspot for eco-tourism and boating.
- Annual Boat Race: Conducted every year around March–April, attracting tourists from across India.
- Historical Structure: The Dawki Suspension Bridge, built in 1932, spans the river and serves as a vital link on National Highway-40.

2. Bandipur Tiger Reserve: Evening Safari Trips Stopped

Why in News: The Karnataka Minister for Environment, Ecology and Forests, Eshwar B. Khandre, has ordered the discontinuation of one late evening safari trip (each in jeep and bus) at the Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR) in the first phase of restrictions.

Q) Consider the following pairs regarding Bandipur Tiger Reserve and its geographical linkages:

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

Adjacent Protected Area	State	Direction from Bandipur
1. Nagarahole Tiger Reserve	Kerala	North-West
2. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	Tamil Nadu	South
3. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala	South-West

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Q) Bandipur Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:

1. It lies at the **tri-junction** of Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.
2. It was originally established as the **Venugopal Wildlife Park** before being renamed under Project Tiger.
3. It forms part of the **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
4. The River Cauvery flows through its southern boundary.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (1) Only one
- (2) Only two
- (3) Only three
- (4) All four

Answer: (3) Only three. Rivers Kabini (north) and Moyar (south) flow near the reserve, not the Cauvery.

3. Rare Indian Mouse Deer Photographed at Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra

Why in News: A rare Indian Mouse Deer (*Moschiola indica*) was recently photographed at **Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, located in Vasai, Maharashtra**. This sighting is significant as it confirms the presence of this elusive species in the northern Western Ghats region after several years, highlighting the ecological richness of the sanctuary.



4. Sikh Relic "Jore Sahib" Brought to Patna from Delhi After Over 300 Years

Why in News: A sacred relic of the Sikh faith — the **"Jore Sahib", the footwear of the 10th Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj, and his wife Mata Sahib Kaur Ji** — has been ceremonially brought from New Delhi to **Takhat Sri Harmandir Ji Patna Sahib, the birthplace of the Guru, after over 300 years**.

Sikh relic brought to Patna from Delhi after over 300 years

Jore Sahib, the footwear of the 10th Sikh Guru was established on November 1 at the Takhat Sri Harmandir Ji Patna Sahib, the relics were authenticated by the Union Ministry of Culture via carbon dating

Updated - November 06, 2025 09:13 am IST - NEW DELHI

THE HINDU BUREAU

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Q) With reference to the Jore Sahib, recently in news, consider the following statements:

1. It refers to the **sacred footwear of Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj and Mata Sahib Kaur Ji**.
2. The relic has been permanently enshrined at **Takhat Sri Harmandir Ji Patna Sahib, Bihar**.
3. The relic's authenticity was verified through carbon dating by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the **Arts (IGNCA)**.
4. Takhat Sri Harmandir Ji Patna Sahib was originally constructed by Guru Gobind Singh Ji himself.

How many of the statements given above are **correct**?



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- (1) Only one
- (2) Only two
- (3) Only three
- (4) All four

Answer: (3) Only three. Statement 4 -Incorrect; the Patna Sahib Gurudwara was built by Maharaja Ranjit Singh in the 19th century, not by Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

5. President Presented with Ramman Mask at Uttarakhand Assembly

Why in News: The President of India was recently presented with a **Ramman mask** during a special session of the Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly, highlighting the cultural heritage of the state and drawing attention to the **UNESCO-recognized Ramman Festival of Saloor Dungra village.**



Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Ramman Festival of Uttarakhand:

1. It is celebrated annually in the **twin villages of Saloor-Dungra** in Chamoli district, typically in late April.
2. The festival **honours Bhumiyal Devta**, the local guardian deity.
3. The performance combines recitations from the Ramayana with masked dances and regional legends, using about 18 types of masks made from Bhojpatra.
4. The festival is **not inscribed on UNESCO's** List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: a) 1, 2, 3 only

- **Additional Information**
- UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List: Recognizes cultural expressions, rituals, and traditional knowledge that are transmitted across generations and foster community identity.
- **Other Indian elements inscribed include Ramlila of Varanasi, Kutiyattam of Kerala, and Garba of Gujarat (2023).**

7 November (Friday)

1. **Creation of Two Specialised Cadres in the CAG: Central Revenue Audit (CRA) & Central Expenditure Audit (CEA)**
2. **Striped Hyena spotted in Kali Tiger Reserve**
3. **INS Ikshak Commissioned into Indian Navy**
4. **Sugarcane Farmers' Protest in Karnataka over Remunerative Price Demand**
5. **Second World Summit for Social Development (WSSD-2), 2025**

1. Creation of Two Specialised Cadres in the CAG: Central Revenue Audit (CRA) & Central Expenditure

CAG plans to create two new cadres for more centralisation

These cadres are within its Indian Audit and Accounts Department (IA&AD) and they will be called the Central Revenue Audit (CRA) Cadre and the Central Expenditure Audit (CEA) Cadre

Updated - November 07, 2025 02:06 am IST - NEW DELHI



Audit (CEA).

Why in News: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has granted in-principle approval for the creation of two new specialised cadres — Central Revenue Audit (CRA) and Central Expenditure Audit (CEA) — to enhance centralisation and expertise in auditing Central Government finances.

Q) With reference to the recent reforms in the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, consider the following statements:

1. The CAG has approved the creation of two specialised cadres — Central Revenue Audit (CRA) and Central Expenditure Audit (CEA) — to promote centralisation and domain expertise in auditing.
2. The new cadres will consolidate over 4,000 audit professionals out of the total CAG workforce of 42,000.
3. Officers in these cadres will not have all-India transfer liability.
4. The reforms will come into effect from January 1, 2026.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: a) 1, 2 and 4 only

Article 149: Defines duties and powers of the CAG.

2. Striped Hyena spotted in Kali Tiger Reserve.

Why in News: A rare striped hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*) was recently spotted inside the **Kali Tiger Reserve in Uttara Kannada district**, Karnataka — marking an uncommon occurrence in the Western Ghats region.



3. INS Ikshak Commissioned into Indian Navy.

INS Ikshak commissioned into Navy, vessel boosts hydrographic survey capabilities

The ceremony was presided over by **Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi**, Chief of the Naval Staff. **INS Ikshak** is also the **first survey vessel large (SVL) class** designed with dedicated women's accommodation

Why in News: The Indian Navy has commissioned **INS Ikshak**, the third vessel of the Survey Vessel Large (SVL) class, at a ceremony held at the **Naval Base in Kochi**, presided over by **Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi**, Chief of the Naval Staff.



Q) With reference to INS Ikshak, recently commissioned into the Indian Navy, consider the following statements:

1. INS Ikshak is the third vessel in the **Survey Vessel Large (SVL)** class, built under the **Make in India** initiative.
2. It is equipped with advanced hydrographic survey systems such as **multi-beam echo sounders, side-scan sonars, and autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs)**.
3. The vessel is the first in its class to include **dedicated accommodation for women officers**.
4. Data collected by such survey vessels are used by the **National Hydrographic Office (NHO)** located in **Mumbai**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



Options:

- a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3 only

Answer:d) 1, 2 and 3 only. The National Hydrographic Office (NHO) is located in Dehradun

4. Project Suncatcher.

Google's Project Suncatcher aims to scale AI data centres in space

Why in News: Google has announced a new research initiative titled Project Suncatcher, which explores the possibility of hosting AI powered data centres in space using solar-powered satellite constellations.

The new 'moonshot' project was jumpstarted because Google believed that space could be the best place to scale AI compute

Q) With reference to Project Suncatcher, recently in the news, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a research initiative launched by Microsoft to explore the use of solar-powered satellite constellations as AI data centres in space.
- 2. The project involves collaboration with Planet Labs for prototype satellite launches.
- 3. The satellites will operate in geostationary orbit to ensure constant coverage of a fixed region on Earth.
- 4. Google plans to test the first prototype satellites by early 2027.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:

- a) 2 and 4 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Objective:

- To explore space-based data centres using solar energy and AI hardware.
- To develop a space infrastructure capable of high performance computing and sustainable energy usage.

Answer: a) 2 and 4 only. The satellites will operate in a dawn–dusk sun-synchronous Low Earth Orbit (LEO), not geostationary orbit.

5. Sugarcane Farmers' Protest in Karnataka over Remunerative Price Demand.

Why in News: Sugarcane farmers in Karnataka have continued their protest demanding an increase in the sugarcane procurement price from ₹3,200 to ₹3,500 per tonne, excluding cutting and transport charges. Although they have deferred the Belagavi bandh, they have warned of a Statewide bandh if the issue is not resolved within 24 hours.

Q) Consider the following statements about MSP and FRP in India:

- 1. MSP is announced at the beginning of the sowing season based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE
Price Guaranteed by Government for farmers' produce.

Government sets crop MSPs at the beginning of the sowing season based on CACP advice. CACP recommends: MSP for 23 crops. But MSP is declared for 25 crops. These prices lack legal backing or mandatory enforcement. Government support to shield farmers from steep price drops.

CACP recommends MSPs for 23 commodities (17 Kharif and 6 Rabi)

CEREALS	7	OILSEEDS	7
Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Bajra, Jowar, Ragi, Barley		Rapeseed-Mustard, Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Safflower, Nigerseed	
PULSES	5	COMMERCIAL CROPS	4
Chana, Urad, Masur, Moong, Arhar/Tur		Cotton, Sugarcane, Copra, Raw Jute	

Procedure
CACP (Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices) submits its recommendations to CCEA (Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs) (headed by PM) based on CACP's recommendations. CCEA sets MSP.

How is MSP calculated?
C2 = A2 + FL
A2 (Actual Paid-Out Cost): Covers actual costs for seeds, labor, irrigation, fertilizers, and fuel.
A2 + FL (Family Labour): A2 + Imputed Value of family labour (unpaid Family Labour).
C2 (Comprehensive Cost): A2 + FL + rental value of owned land + interest on fixed capital + rent for leased land.

MSP (Minimum Support Price) vs FRP (Fair and Remunerative Price)

Fixed by Union Government; recommended by CACP.	Determined By	Fixed by CCEA; recommended by CACP.
Government	Purchaser	Sugar Mills
22 Crops + Sugarcane	Crops Covered	Specifically for Sugarcane
No Legal Guarantee	Payment Guarantee	Legal Obligation backed by Sugarcane Control Order, 1966
Demand, supply, cost of production, price trends, and 50% profit margin.	Calculation Basis	Based on sugar recovery percentage.
No specific penalties.	Penalties for Not Paying	Mills face penalties, including property attachment, if dues aren't cleared within 14 days.

2. The government announces **MSPs for 22 mandated crops**, and FRP is announced for sugarcane — totaling 25 crops.
3. The MSPs of toria and de-husked coconut are linked to the MSPs of rapeseed/mustard and copra respectively.
4. A total of **14 Kharif crops, 6 Rabi crops**, and two commercial crops are included under MSP, including VFC tobacco.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (d) All four

8 November (Saturday)

6. Supreme Court Directs Immediate **Removal of Stray Dogs from Public Institutions**.
7. **Typhoon Kalmaegi** brings rain and destruction in Vietnam.
8. Bangladesh Becomes First South Asian Country to Join UN Water Convention.
9. **Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary** comes alive with migratory birds.
10. Prime Minister to Inaugurate **Year-Long Commemoration of 150 Years of "Vande Mataram"**.
11. President Extends Greetings on the **Occasion of 'Baliyatra' Festival and 'Boita Bandana'**.

1. Supreme Court Directs Immediate Removal of Stray Dogs from Public Institutions.

Why in News: The Supreme Court of India has expressed concern over the "disturbing increase" in dog-bite incidents and directed all States and Union Territories to immediately remove stray dogs from educational institutions, hospitals, bus stands, railway stations, and other public areas, and relocate them to designated shelters.

Q) How many of the below statements are correct, with reference to the recent Supreme Court directive on the removal of stray dogs from public institutions (2025).

1. The Court directed all States and Union Territories to remove stray dogs from educational institutions, hospitals, and other public areas, and relocate them to designated shelters.
2. The directions were issued by a Bench comprising **Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and N.V. Anjaria**.
3. The Court mandated that all relocated dogs must be sterilised and vaccinated under the **Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023** before relocation.
4. The Supreme Court held that stray dogs removed from public places should be released back into the same locality after vaccination.

Options:

- a) Only one is correct
- b) Only two are correct

Supreme Court orders removal of stray dogs from schools, hospitals, other public institutions

Court directs neutering and vaccination of dogs before relocating them to a shelter; it says public institutions must be secured to prevent entry of animals, orders removal of cattle from highways

Updated - November 08, 2025 01:40 am IST - NEW DELHI

AKRATRIKA BHALLUJIK

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- c) Only three are correct
- d) All four are correct

Answer:c) Only three are correct (1,2 and 3)

- **Statement 4** → Incorrect — The Court directed that **stray dogs should not be released back** into the same locality after removal.

2. Typhoon Kalmaegi brings rain and destruction in Vietnam.

Why in News: At least five people were killed and widespread destruction was reported in Vietnam after **Typhoon Kalmaegi** made landfall, bringing heavy rainfall, flooding, and power outages. The storm had earlier devastated the Philippines, killing over 180 people.

Typhoon Kalmaegi brings rain and destruction to Vietnam as death toll nears 200 in Philippines

Authorities warned of continuing heavy rainfall of up to 300 millimetres in central Provinces from Thanh Hoa to Quang Tri, and said 'rising river levels from Hue to Dak Lak could trigger flooding and landslides'



Q) Which of the following statements about tropical cyclones are correct?

1. It originates and develops **over warm oceanic surface**.
2. Presence of **Coriolis force** is necessary for it.
3. Tropical cyclones occur in **tropical regions (5°–20° N/S)**, not in mid-latitudes (30°–60°). Mid-latitude storms are **extratropical cyclones**.
4. It develops 'eye' with calm and descending air condition.

Asked in: **UPSC CAPF (AC) 2018 – Paper II**

How many of the above statements are correct?

Options:

- a) Only one is correct
- b) Only two are correct
- c) Only three are correct
- d) All four are correct

Name of Cyclones	Respective Region
Hurricanes	Atlantic
Typhoons	Western Pacific, South China Sea
Willy-willies	Western Australia
Cyclones	Indian Ocean

Answer(d): All four are correct. Typhoons are tropical cyclones.

3. Bangladesh Becomes First South Asian Country to Join UN Water Convention.

Why in News: Bangladesh has become the first South Asian country to join the **United Nations Water Convention**, marking a major step in transboundary water cooperation and sustainable water resource management in the region



Q) With reference to the United Nations Water Convention, consider the following statements:

1. It was adopted in **1992 in Helsinki** and came into **force in 1996**.
2. It is **administered by** the United Nations Economic and Social Council (**ECOSOC**).
3. It provides a legally binding framework for the sustainable use and management of transboundary watercourses and lakes.
4. Bangladesh is the **last South Asian country** to join the convention.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- Only two
- Only three
- All four
- Only one

Answer(a): Only two (1 and 3). It is administered by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

4. Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary comes alive with migratory birds.

Why in News: The Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu has come alive with the arrival of thousands of migratory birds, marking the beginning of the annual migratory season.

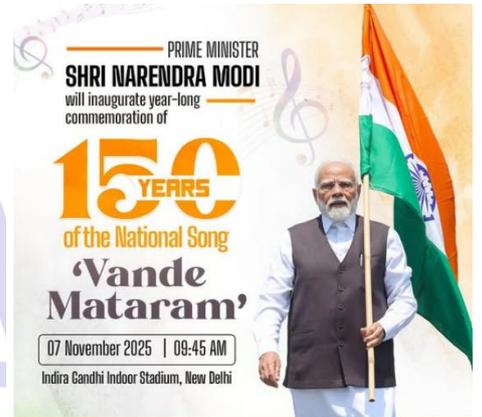
Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary

Vedanthangal, located in the Chengalpattu district of Tamil Nadu, is one of the oldest bird-protected areas in the country. The wetland is a people-protected water bird area, the history of which goes back centuries, during which locals have been protecting this heronry. In return, they have benefited from the manure-rich water from the wetland, which increases agricultural yield manifold.



5. Prime Minister to Inaugurate Year-Long Commemoration of 150 Years of "Vande Mataram".

Why in News: The Prime Minister of India will inaugurate the year-long commemoration of 150 years of the National Song "Vande Mataram" in New Delhi, celebrating its historic role in India's freedom struggle and cultural unity.



Q) How many of the below statements are correct, with reference to the National Song "Vande Mataram".

- It was originally composed as an independent poem before being included in the novel **Anandamath** (1882).
- It was first sung by **Rabindranath Tagore** at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress.
- The words "Vande Mataram" appeared on the tricolour flag unfurled by Madam Bhikaji Cama in Germany in 1907.
- It was adopted as the National Anthem of India on 24 January 1950.

- Only two
- Only three
- All four
- Only one

Answer: b) Only three

- Vande Mataram:** Also pronounced "Bande Mataram," it was composed in Sanskrit by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in 1875 and later included in his Bengali novel **Anandamath**
- Bankim Chandra Chatterjee (1838–1894) was a leading figure of the Bengal Renaissance and the author of the novels **Anandamath, Durgeshnandini, and Kapalkundala**.
- The novel **Anandamath** depicts the Sannyasi Rebellion (late 18th century) and the struggle against British rule.
- "**Vande Mataram**" translates to "I bow to thee, Mother", symbolizing devotion to Mother India.

6. President Extends Greetings on the Occasion of 'Baliyatra' Festival and 'Boita Bandana'.



Why in News: The President of India extended greetings to citizens on the occasion of the historic **Baliyatra Festival** and **Boita Bandana**, celebrated in **Cuttack, Odisha**, commemorating India's ancient maritime glory.



6. National Technical Textiles Mission - Ministry of Textiles.

Why in News: The **National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)** has supported the development of indigenous thermal testing instruments for protective textiles in collaboration with the Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA). This innovation strengthens India's self-reliance in testing and quality assurance of high-performance and safety textiles used in defense, firefighting, and industrial sectors.



NATIONAL TECHNICAL TEXTILES MISSION

Q) With reference to the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM), consider the following statements:

1. The Mission was launched by the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** in **2020** for a period up to 2025–26.
2. One of the objectives of the Mission is to promote R&D and indigenous development of fibres and testing equipment.
3. The Mission includes the establishment of an **Export Promotion Council** specifically for Technical Textiles.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Key Summary Notes:

- **Implementing Ministry:** Ministry of Textiles
- **Launch Year:** 2020
- **Duration:** 2020–21 to 2025–26
- **Outlay:** ₹1,480 crore

Answer: b) 2 and 3 only

10 November (Monday)

1. **Volcanic Lightning.**
2. Sharavathi Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project (PSHP)
3. Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary.
4. Navy Deploys INS Sahyadri for Malabar Exercise 2025

1. **Volcanic Lightning.**

Why in News: Recent volcanic eruptions have drawn scientific attention to the occurrence of **volcanic lightning**, a rare but powerful electrical phenomenon that accompanies certain eruptions, offering insights into atmospheric electricity and eruption dynamics.



Q) Which of the statements given above is/are correct, with reference to Volcanic Lightning?

1. It results from friction and collision among volcanic ash particles leading to charge separation.
2. It is a form of lightning that occurs exclusively during thunderstorms over volcanic regions.



3. Its study helps scientists in remotely monitoring volcanic eruptions.

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: c) 1 and 3 only

- **Historical Observations**
- **Pliny the Younger (79 AD)**: First recorded volcanic lightning during **Mount Vesuvius eruption in Italy**.
- **Luigi Palmieri (1858–1872)**: Italian physicist who scientifically documented the phenomenon during subsequent Vesuvius eruptions.

- Statement 2 – Volcanic lightning occurs **during volcanic eruptions**, not thunderstorms.

2. Sharavathi Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project (PSHP)

Why in News: The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change's Forest Advisory Committee (FAC)** has expressed concern that the proposed **Sharavathi Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project (PSHP)** could cause "enormous damage to the biodiversity of the Western Ghats", particularly **within the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Sharavathi Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka**.

Q2. Which of the following statements about the Sharavathi Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project (PSHP) is correct?

- 1. It is a **2,000 MW** pumped storage hydro project developed by the **Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL)**.
- 2. It involves **Talakalale Dam** as the upper reservoir and **Gerusoppa Dam** as the lower reservoir.
- 3. The project site lies outside the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Sharavathi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Codes:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a) 1 and 2 only

- The project is located in the fragile ecosystem of the **Western Ghats, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its rich biodiversity**.

Q) Which of the following statements regarding the Sharavathi River is correct?

- 1. It is an east-flowing river that drains into the **Bay of Bengal**.
- 2. It originates in the **Western Ghats and forms Jog Falls** before entering the Arabian Sea.
- 3. It flows entirely through **Tamil Nadu**.

Codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Answer: b) 2 only. Sharavathi is a **west-flowing river** originating in the **Western Ghats of Karnataka**, forming the famous **Jog Falls (253 m)** before draining into the **Arabian Sea at Honavar**.

- **Major Tributaries:** Nandihole, Haridravathi, Mavinahole, Hilkunji, Yennehole, Hurlihole, Nagodihole.



3. Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary.

Why in News: A farmer was recently killed in a tiger attack near the **Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary in Mysuru district, Karnataka**, highlighting ongoing concerns over **human-wildlife conflict** in southern Karnataka's protected landscapes.

Assertion (A):

Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary serves as an important corridor for the movement of elephants and tigers between Bandipur and adjacent forests.

Reason (R):

It forms part of the Nilgiri-Bandipur-Nugu-Himavad Gopalswamy range and lies within the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

Codes:

- Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- A is true, but R is false.
- A is false, but R is true.

Answer: a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct

explanation of A.

- **Karnataka has 38 wildlife sanctuaries**

Location

- **Situated in Mysuru district, Karnataka.**
- **Lies north of Bandipur National Park and forms part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve since 2003-04.**
- **Area: Around 30 sq. km.**
- **Nugu Reservoir occupies the northern portion of the sanctuary.**
- **Nugu River, a tributary of the Cauvery, flows through the region and supports the local ecosystem.**

4. Navy Deploys INS Sahyadri for Malabar Exercise 2025

Why in News: The Indian Navy has deployed its guided-missile frigate **INS Sahyadri** to participate in the annual **Malabar naval exercise in the Northern Pacific (Guam)**, hosted by the United States, alongside navies from Australia and Japan.

Q) With reference to the **Malabar Exercise 2025**, consider the following statements:

- The 2025 edition was hosted by the United States Navy at Guam in the **southern Pacific Ocean**.
- The exercise initially began as a **trilateral exercise between India, Japan, and the United States**.
- Australia became a permanent member of the **Malabar Exercise in 2020**, completing the QUAD framework.
- INS Sahyadri, a Shivalik-class guided missile frigate, represented India in the 2025 edition.



How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: b) Only two. It is a multilateral exercise

6. Scintillometer Installed at Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI).

Why in News: A scintillometer has been installed at the Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI), Aduthurai to measure heat and moisture exchange between the land surface and atmosphere—an advancement for climate-resilient agriculture in the Cauvery delta

Scintillometer at Rice Research Institute (TRRI), Aduthurai



How it works: A light beam is transmitted between a transmitter and receiver; atmospheric turbulence causes tiny rapid fluctuations called scintillations, which are recorded and converted into sensible heat-flux estimates

Main instruments on site:

- Scintillometer
- Automatic weather station
- COSMOS soil-moisture sensor
- Eddy-covariance flux tower —measures carbon dioxide, water vapour and energy fluxes
- Pan evaporimeter—measures open-water evaporation

Partners / technical support: National Centre for Earth Science Studies (NCESS); India Meteorological Department (IMD); National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF); Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune; Hosted by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) at the Tamil Nadu Rice Research Institute (TRRI)

Total value of instrument at the site: approximately ₹1.71 crore

Why it matters: Direct measurements of heat and moisture exchange between land and atmosphere improve estimates of evapotranspiration and soil moisture used for precise irrigation decisions and improved local forecasts



K. Subrahmanyan, Director, TRRI, Aduthurai, and N.V. Chalappathi Rao, Director, NCESS, Thiruvananthapuram, inaugurating the scintillometer during the last week of October.

Top three benefits:

- Better irrigation scheduling —save water and match supply to crop needs
- More accurate evapotranspiration and soil-moisture estimates —sharper farm advisories
- Stronger calibration of satellite products and improved local weather forecasts

11 November (Tuesday)

1. **8th Central Pay Commission (CPC)** Constituted under Chairpersonship of Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai
2. **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** – Clearance of Defence Projects in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh.
3. **Konark Sun Temple** – Tourist Entry Restricted by ASI.
4. 350th Martyrdom Year of **Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji**: The Eternal Symbol of Sacrifice, Peace, and Humanity.

1. 8th Central Pay Commission (CPC) Constituted under Chairpersonship of Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai

Why in News: The Central Government has constituted the 8th Central Pay Commission (CPC) to review and recommend changes to the salary structure, allowances, and retirement benefits of Central government employees, including defence personnel. The Commission will submit its report within 18 months.

8th Pay Commission Composition

Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai	Professor Pulak Ghosh	Pankaj Jain
Former Judge of the Supreme Court of India	Professor (IIM Bangalore)	Secretary, Petroleum and Natural Gas
Chairperson	Part-Time Member	Member-Secretary

Q. With reference to the **8th Central Pay Commission (CPC)**, consider the following statements:

1. It has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of **Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai**, a retired Supreme Court Judge.
2. The Commission is mandated to submit its report within **two years** from its constitution.
3. **Prof. Pulak Ghosh** from IIM Bangalore is a part-time member of the Commission.
4. Pay Commissions are **statutory bodies** established under the Constitution of India.

Which of the above statements are **correct**?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1 and 4 only

Answer: a) 1 and 3 only.

- It will submit its report within **18 months**, not two years.
- Pay Commissions are **ad hoc executive bodies**, not statutory or constitutional.

2. National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) – Clearance of Defence Projects in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh.

Why in News: The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) has recommended 13 defence and paramilitary projects, most of them located in high-altitude protected areas (PAs) of Ladakh, and one in Arunachal Pradesh. These clearances are vital for strategic infrastructure and border security, but they also raise concerns over the ecological sensitivity of these protected landscapes.

Wildlife panel clears 13 defence, paramilitary projects in Ladakh, Arunachal

In Ladakh, several major defence projects were approved inside the Changthang Cold Desert and Karakoram (Nubra-Shayok) wildlife sanctuaries

Q) With reference to the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), consider the following statements:

1. The NBWL is a **statutory body** constituted under the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
2. The **President of India** serves as the **Chairperson of the NBWL**.
3. The Standing Committee of the NBWL is chaired by the Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.
4. The approval of the NBWL is required only for projects located *within* Protected Areas (PAs), not for those near them.

How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: b) Only two (1and3). NBWL approval is required for projects **within or near** Protected Areas, not just within them. **PM serves as chairperson of NBWL**

3. Konark Sun Temple – Tourist Entry Restricted by ASI.

Why in News: The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has prohibited tourist entry into the 'Nata Mandap' (Dance Hall) of the Konark Sun Temple in Odisha's Puri district, citing structural stability concerns and the need to preserve the temple's intricate stone carvings.



Q) With reference to the Konark Sun Temple, consider the following statements:

1. The temple was built by **King Narasimhadeva I** of the **Eastern Ganga dynasty** in the 13th century CE.
2. It is designed as a chariot of the **Sun God drawn by seven horses** and supported by 24 wheels.
3. The temple was designated as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984**.
4. The main structure of the temple is made primarily of Khondalite stone.

How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two



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- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: c) Only three (1,2 and 3). The main structure is built primarily of **chlorite and laterite stone**, while **Khondalite** was used for certain portions and carvings.

4. 350th Martyrdom Year of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji: The Eternal Symbol of Sacrifice, Peace, and Humanity.

Why in News: India commemorates the 350th Martyrdom Anniversary of **Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji** (1621–1675), the **ninth Sikh Guru**, who sacrificed his life to protect religious freedom and human dignity. Nationwide events are being organized under the **Ministry of Culture's "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav"** initiative to honour his teachings of universal brotherhood and spiritual courage.



Q) With reference to Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, consider the following statements:

1. He was the **fifth Sikh Guru** and was executed in Delhi during the reign of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.
2. He succeeded Guru Hargobind Ji as the ninth Guru of Sikhism
3. His hymns are included in the Guru Granth Sahib and emphasize humility, truth, and service.
4. He is popularly known as **Hind di Chadar** for his defence of religious freedom

How many of the above statements are **correct**?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: b) Only two (3 and 4). He succeeded **Guru Har Krishan Ji**, not Guru Hargobind Ji.

12 November (Wednesday)

1. Lake Turkana
2. Sant Namdev Ji Jayanti – 12 November 2025
3. Exercise MITRA SHAKTI.
4. Booker Prize 2025

1. Lake Turkana

Why in News: A new study has found that a drying climate in East Africa over thousands of years reduced the water level of Kenya's Lake Turkana, which in turn triggered earthquakes and volcanic activity beneath it

Q) How many of the below statements are correct, with reference to Lake Turkana?

1. It lies in **northern Kenya** and extends into **southern Ethiopia**.
2. It is the **largest freshwater lake** in East Africa.
3. The **Omo River** contributes nearly **90% of its total inflow**.





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4. It is the **world's longest permanent desert lake** and is known for its **paleoanthropological significance**.

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: (c) Only two (1and3)

- **Rank:** Africa's 4th largest lake by surface area and the **world's largest permanent desert lake**.
- **Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.**
- **Lake Turkana** – located in Kenya and Ethiopia, in the Eastern Rift Valley.

2. Sant Namdev Ji Jayanti – 12 November 2025

Why in News: Sant Namdev Ji Jayanti is observed on 12 November 2025 to commemorate the **birth anniversary of Sant Namdev (1270 1350 CE)**, a prominent **Bhakti saint**, poet, and spiritual reformer from Maharashtra. His teachings emphasized devotion (Bhakti), equality, and universal brotherhood.



Q) With reference to Sant Namdev Ji, consider the following statements:

- 1. He was a 13th–14th century Bhakti saint from **Maharashtra**, associated with the **Varkari Sampradaya** devoted to Lord Vithoba.
- 2. Several of his **Abhangas** are included in the **Guru Granth Sahib**, and he is revered as one of the **15 Bhagats in Sikhism**.
- 3. He propagated the philosophy of **Nirguna Bhakti**, rejecting the idea of a personal form of God.
- 4. His teachings emphasized **devotion over rituals** and **equality among all human beings**, irrespective of caste or wealth.

Which of the above statements are **correct**?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1,2 and 4 only

Answer: d) 1,2 and 4 only. Sant Namdev emphasized

Literary Contribution

- Composed **Abhangas** (devotional hymns) in Marathi and Hindi.
- His compositions express the **principle of Saguna Bhakti** (devotion to a personal God).
- Several of his hymns are included in the **Guru Granth Sahib**, making him **one of the 15 Bhagats (saints) revered in Sikhism**.

Saguna Bhakti not of Nirguna Bhakti.

3. Exercise MITRA SHAKTI.

Why in News: The 11th edition of the India–Sri Lanka **bilateral joint military exercise 'MITRA SHAKTI–2025'** is being conducted at the Foreign Training Node, Belagavi, Karnataka.



3. Booker Prize 2025

Why in News: **David Szalay** has won the 2025 Booker Prize for his novel **'Flesh'**, becoming the **first Hungarian-British** author to win one of the most prestigious awards in the English-speaking world.



Q) With reference to the 2025 Booker Prize, consider the following statements:

1. The 2025 Booker Prize was awarded to **David Szalay** for his novel *Flesh*.
2. The Booker Prize was **established in 1969** and was initially open only to writers from **Commonwealth nations**.
3. It is now open to **authors of any nationality**, provided the novel is originally written in English and published in the UK or Ireland.
4. *Flesh* is the **first translated novel** to win the Booker Prize.

How many of the above statements are correct?

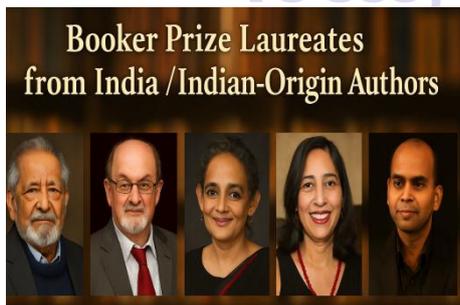
- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Answer: (c) Only three. *Flesh* is **not a translated work**; the Booker Prize only accepts **original English fiction**.

- **Award Value:** Winner – £50,000 ,Shortlisted authors – £2,500 each
- **Eligibility Criteria**
- **The novel must be:** Originally written in English (not a translation), Published in the UK or Ireland in the same year as the award, Not self-published.

- **Booker Prize** – Annual literary award given to the best original English-language novel published in the UK or Ireland.
- **Booker International Prize** – Separate award for translated fiction, given to both author and translator.
- **Administered by The Booker Prize Foundation, London.**

- **Nationality:** Hungarian-British
- **Significance:** First author of Hungarian origin to win the Booker Prize.



Author	Book	Year
V. S. Naipaul	In a Free State	1971
Salman Rushdie	Midnight's Children	1981
Arundhati Roy	The God of Small Things	1997
Kiran Desai	The Inheritance of Loss	2006
Aravind Adiga	The White Tiger	2008

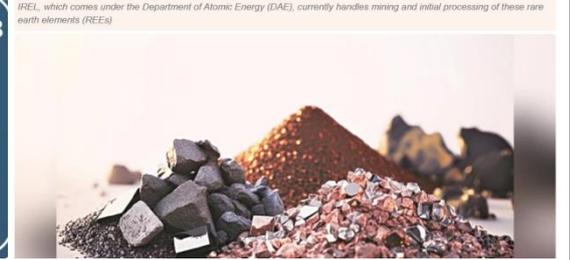
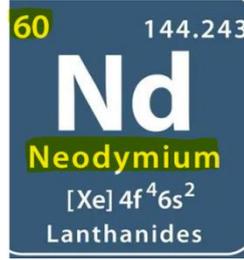
13 November (Thursday)

1. India to increase Neodymium production ninefold to 500 tons by FY27
2. NGT directs Uttar Pradesh to map people affected by heavy-metal contamination in Kanpur region
3. President to confer First Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) Awards and 6th National Water Awards 2025

1. India to increase Neodymium production ninefold to 500 tons by FY27

Why in News: India has announced plans to boost its domestic production of neodymium by nine times, targeting 500 tons annually by the end of FY27, as part of efforts to strengthen rare earth supply chains critical for clean energy and electric vehicle manufacturing.

India to post multi-fold rise in neodymium production by FY27 end: IREL



Q) With reference to Neodymium (Nd), recently in news, consider the following statements:

1. Neodymium is a member of the lanthanide series and is classified as a rare earth element.
2. It is primarily used in manufacturing rare-earth permanent magnets essential for electric vehicles and wind turbines.
3. It reacts readily with hydrofluoric acid (HF), forming a highly soluble fluoride compound.
4. In India, extractable neodymium is mainly found in monazite sands along the eastern coast.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

2. NGT directs Uttar Pradesh to map people affected by heavy-metal contamination in Kanpur region

Why in News: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered the Uttar Pradesh government to map the total number of people affected by chromium and mercury contamination in Kanpur Nagar, Kanpur Dehat, Fatehpur, and adjoining areas.

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the National Green Tribunal (NGT):

1. The NGT can take *suo motu* cognizance of environmental violations.
2. It was established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 to ensure speedy disposal of environmental disputes.
3. Appeals against NGT orders lie only before the Supreme Court of India.
4. The NGT lacks jurisdiction over matters related to Scheduled Areas under the Fifth Schedule.

Choose the correct option:

- a) Statements 1, 2, and 3 only
- b) Statements 1 and 4 only
- c) Statements 2 and 3 only
- d) All four statements

Additional Information

- **Suo motu cognizance** ("On its own motion")
- It refers to the power of a court or tribunal (like the NGT) to **take up a case by itself**, *without* receiving a formal complaint, petition, or application from any individual or organisation.
- **NGT established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.**
- **Article 21 (Right to Life)** includes right to clean drinking water.
- **Chromium (VI)** is a **carcinogenic heavy metal**
- **Mercury** is a **neurotoxin that bioaccumulates.**

Answer: a) Statements 1, 2, and 3 only

- The NGT **does have jurisdiction** over environmental matters in **all parts of India**, including Scheduled Areas under the Fifth Schedule.
- The Principal Bench of the NGT (**Chairperson Prakash Shrivastava** and **Expert Member Afroz Ahmad**) heard a matter regarding illegal dumping of chromium waste by factories in Kanpur region.

3. President to confer First Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) Awards and 6th National Water Awards 2025

Why in News: The President of India will present the **First Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) Awards** along with the **6th National Water Awards 2025** on 18th November 2025 at **Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi**. These awards recognize community-driven water conservation initiatives under the **Ministry of Jal Shakti**.

Q) How many of the below statements are Wrong, regarding the 6th National Water Awards:

1. The awards were instituted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti in 2018 to promote innovation and community participation in water conservation.
2. Field evaluation for the awards is carried out jointly by the CWC and CGWB.
3. Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Rajasthan secured the top three positions in the Best State category.
4. Entries for the awards were received through the Rashtriya Puraskar Portal.

- a) All four
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) Only one

Answer: d) Only one.

Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) Awards 2025

WHY IN NEWS?

The **Ministry of Jal Shakti** has announced the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) Awards 2025 for outstanding performers under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: **Catch the Rain** campaign.



President Droupadi Murmu to Confer First Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari Awards on November 18

Top Performers:

- **Best States:** Maharashtra (1st), Gujarat (2nd), Haryana (3rd)
- **Best Districts:** Rajnandgaon (Chhattisgarh), Khargone (Madhya Pradesh), Mirzapur (Uttar Pradesh), Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu), Sepahijala (Tripura)
- **Best Urban Local Body:** Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

Q) Consider the following statements regarding the Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari (JSJB) Awards:

1. The JSJB Awards were launched under the **Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain** campaign in 2024.
2. Under this initiative, each district must construct at least **10,000 recharge structures**, except hilly/NE districts where the target is 3,000.
3. The initiative promotes the **3Cs mantra—Community, CSR, and Cost**.
4. Top-performing States in the first edition were **Telangana, Chhattisgarh, and Rajasthan**.

Select the correct option:

- a) Statements 1, 2, and 3 only
- b) All four statements
- c) Statements 2 and 3 only
- d) Statements 1 and 4 only

Recognition:

- 100 awardees selected — States, 67 Districts, 6 Municipal Corporations, NGOs, Industries, and Philanthropists.

Incentives:

- Category 1: ₹2 crore
- Category 2: ₹1 crore
- Category 3: ₹25 lakh

Answer **b) All four statements**

14 November (Friday)

1. Union Government Releases Draft Seeds Bill 2025 to Replace Seeds Act 1966
2. India and Nepal Amend Treaty of Transit to Boost Rail-Based Freight Connectivity
3. Ratan Thiyam to be Honoured Posthumously with Sumitra Charat Ram Award 2025
4. Pilibhit Tiger Reserve – Suspected Tiger Attack Reported
5. Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority to be Amended

1. Union Government Releases Draft Seeds Bill 2025 to Replace Seeds Act 1966

Why in News: The Union Government has released the **Draft Seeds Bill 2025**, attempting for the third time to update India’s seed laws after earlier attempts in 2004 (UPA) and 2019 (NDA) failed due to strong farmer opposition.

Centre releases **draft Seeds Bill**; industry welcomes; farm outfits cautious

Bill defines farmers, seed traders and importers; provides for setting up seed committees at States and Centre

Published - November 14, 2025 12:01 am IST - New Delhi

A. M. JIGESH

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Q) Consider the following statements:

1. The Draft Seeds Bill 2025 replaces criminal penalties for minor violations with civil penalties.
2. Every seed dealer must obtain a **central Government** registration certificate before selling or importing seeds.
3. **Objectives of the Draft Seeds Bill 2025**- Ensure affordable access to high-quality seeds for farmers, Liberalise seed imports to enable global varieties, Reduce compliance burden and promote Ease of Doing Business, Replace criminal penalties for minor violations
4. The Bill requires seed varieties to comply with the **Indian Minimum Seed Certification Standards**.

Number of correct statements:

- A. Single
- B. A pair
- C. A trio
- D. All of them

Additional Information

- **PPV&FR Act 2001** – protects farmers’ rights to save, use, sow, exchange, and sell farm-saved seeds.
- **Seed Act 1966** – governs seed quality and certification.
- **Seed Control Order 1983** – mandates licensing of dealers under the Essential Commodities Act.

Answer: C) A trio. Seed dealers must obtain **State Government registration**, not Central Government registration

2. India and Nepal Amend Treaty of Transit to Boost Rail-Based Freight Connectivity

Why in News: India and Nepal have amended the **Treaty of Transit** to enable smooth **movement of rail-based freight**, including bulk cargo, between **Jogbani (India) and Biratnagar (Nepal)**. The amendments were formalised through an exchange of letters between the commerce ministers of both countries in New Delhi.

India, Nepal ink pact to step up trade ties

"This signing will facilitate the movement of rail-based freight between Jogbani (India) and Biratnagar (Nepal) including bulk cargo under an expanded definition," the government said in a release.

Updated - November 14, 2025 02:11 am IST - New Delhi

THE HINDU BUREAU

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3. Ratan Thiyam to be Honoured Posthumously with Sumitra Charat Ram Award 2025



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Why in News: The **Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra (SBKK)** has announced that **Ratan Thiyam**, the visionary founder of Chorus Repertory Theatre, Imphal, will be posthumously awarded the **Sumitra Charat Ram Award for Lifetime Achievement (2025)**.

- The award carries a **purse of Rs. 2,00,000**, a Citation, a **Shawl**, and a **Silver Plaque**. The cash value of the award may be enhanced from time to time as may be felt appropriate by the Governing Council.
- The award is given to individuals who have **excelled in the field of Indian Classical Dance and Music** or other disciplines of Indian Art and Culture, including Theatre, and who have had a significant impact in promoting their particular art form.



SHRIRAM BHARATIYA KALA KENDRA
(AN INSTITUTION OF BHARATIYA KALA KENDRA TRUST)

invites you to the conferment of

SUMITRA CHARAT RAM AWARD
FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT ON
SHRI RATAN THIYAM
LATE INDIAN THEATRE LEGEND



SMT. SUMITRA CHARAT RAM
FOUNDER



SHRI RATAN THIYAM
AWARDEE

followed by

Performance of play

based on Dharamvir **Bharti's KANUPRIYA**

Translation, Adaptation, Design and Direction by **RATAN THIYAM**
Presented by Chorus Repertory Theatre, Imphal (Manipur)

4. Pilibhit Tiger Reserve – Suspected Tiger Attack Reported

Why in News: A 45-year-old farmer was recently killed in a suspected tiger attack near the Barahi Range of the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR) in **Uttar Pradesh**. Forest officials are investigating the incident and assessing rising human–wildlife conflict in the region.

Q) Which of the statements given below are correct? With reference to Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Uttar Pradesh:

- PTR is part of the **Terai Arc Landscape** and lies along the **India–Bangladesh border** in the foothills of the Himalayas.
- The reserve is home to tropical moist deciduous, tropical dry deciduous, and seasonal swamp forests, and covers an area of over 700 sq. km.
- The **Sharda Sagar Dam (22 km long)** lies along the boundary.
- Rivers originating or flowing through PTR include the **Gomti, Sharda, Chuka, and Mala Khannot**.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2, and 3 only
(c) 1, 2, 3, and 4
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: (d) 2, 3, and 4



Note- The **Sharda Sagar Dam**, a 22 km long reservoir located near the **Pilibhit Tiger Reserve**, is a popular tourist spot known for its scenic beauty and activities like boat safaris. Situated along the **Sharda River on the border of Uttar Pradesh** and touching the border with **Nepal**, it forms a vast reservoir and an area called **Chuka**, which is often referred to as "**mini-Goa**" due to its sandy banks

5. Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority to be Amended

Why in News: During the **21st Foundation Day celebrations of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FRA)**, the Union Agriculture Minister announced that the **Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001** will be amended to strengthen

About Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR)



About	Description
What is Plant Variety Protection?	Protection granted for plant varieties. These rights are given to the farmers & breeders to encourage the development of new varieties of plants.
Governing law in India	The Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR) Act, 2001 was enacted to give effect to the TRIPS Agreement
Key features	Strong provisions to protect farmers' rights; allow farmers to plant, grow, exchange & sell patent-protected crops and seeds (but bars them from selling as "branded seed"); recognised three roles for farmers— cultivator, breeder & conserver.
Period of protection	15 years for field crop and notified crops; 18 years for Trees and Vines
Example	A farmer has developed a new variety of wheat, which is resistant to a particular disease. The farmer can apply for plant variety protection under the PPV&FR Act, 2001, which will grant them exclusive rights to produce, sell, market, or distribute the seeds of this wheat variety for a period of 15 years.
PPV and FR authority	PPV and FR Act, 2001 provides for the establishment of PPV and FR authority. Authority shall consist of a Chairperson and fifteen members. Members of Authority are appointed by Central Government



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farmers' rights and improve the efficiency of plant variety protection in India.

Q) What is the duration of protection for a registered variety of trees and vines under the PPV&FR Act?

- a) 10 years
- b) 15 years
- c) 18 years
- d) 25 years

Answer: c) 18 years



Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority

(A Statutory body created by an Act of Parliament)

Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government Of India



- Functions under the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare**, Government of India.
- **Headquarters: New Delhi.**
- **Structure of the Authority**, Chairperson – Chief Executive of the Authority, **Total 15 members** notified by Government of India.

15 November (Saturday)

1. National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM)
2. Veteran actress Kamini Kaushal passes away at the age of 98.
3. SaalumaradaThimmakka Passes Away at 114
4. Ambaji Marble from Gujarat Receives GI Tag
5. INVAR Anti-Tank Missile
6. Mudh-Nyoma Airbase

1. National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM)

Why in News: The **Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH)** has mandated that all Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for highway projects must include analysis using the **National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM)** datasets. This directive aims to ensure terrain- and hazard-aware planning for road infrastructure by incorporating geospatial disaster-risk data.

Q) National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM), consider the following statements:

1. It is developed by the **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** and maintained by the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.
2. It provides multi-temporal geospatial datasets useful for hazard/risk zonation.
3. It offers decision-support tools that assist in emergency preparedness and post-disaster damage assessment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

- **NDEM** is a **geo-portal** developed by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** under the guidance of the **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)**, and maintained by the **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)**.

2. **Veteran actress Kamini Kaushal passes away at the age of 98.**

Why in News: Kamini Kaushal, one of the earliest female stars of Hindi cinema, died at her home in Mumbai. Her career spanned over seven decades, beginning with the film *Neecha Nagar* (1946) and ending with a cameo in *Laal Singh Chaddha* (2022).

- Born on 24 February 1927 in Lahore (then British India).
- Made her film debut in **“Neecha Nagar”**, which won an award at the Cannes Film Festival.
- Was among the highest-paid actresses in the late 1940s and early 1950s.
- Acted opposite legendary actors such as Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand, and Raj Kapoor.
- From the 1960s onwards, transitioned to character roles.



3. **Saalumarada Thimmakka Passes Away at 114**

Why in News: Padma Shri awardee and globally renowned environmentalist Saalumarada Thimmakka passed away on 14 November 2025 in Bengaluru at the age of 114. She was celebrated for planting over 380 banyan trees along the Hulikal–Kudur stretch in Karnataka, symbolising India’s grassroots environmental movement.

Q) With reference to Saalumarada Thimmakka, consider the following statements:

1. She gained national recognition for planting and nurturing **380 banyan trees** along the **Hulikal–Kudur stretch** in Karnataka.
2. She was awarded the **Padma Vibhushan** for her contribution to environmental conservation.
3. She was born in Gubbi Taluk, Karnataka.
4. Her work is regarded as a model for community-led afforestation and rural environmental awareness in India.

Awards

For her achievement, Thimmakka was conferred with the following awards and citations: Padma Shri Saalumarada Thimmakka. The President, Shri Ram Nath Kovind presenting the Padma Shri Award to Saalumarada Thimmakka, at an Investiture Ceremony, at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi on 16 March 2019

- Padma Shri award - 2019
- Nadoja Award By Hampi University - 2010
- National Citizen's award - 1995^[14]
- Indira Priyadarshini Vrikshamitra Awards - 1997^[14]
- Veerachakra Prashasthi Award - 1997
- Honour Certificate from the Women and Child Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka
- Certificate of Appreciation from the Indian Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Bengaluru.
- Karnataka Kalpavalli Award - 2000
- Godfrey Phillips Bravery Award - 2006.^[26]
- Vishalakshi Award by Art of Living Organisation
- Vishwathma Award by Hoovinahole Foundation - 2015
- One of BBC's 100 Women in 2016^[27]
- Honoured with She's Divine Award by I and You Being Together Foundation 2017
- Parisara Rathana award
- Green champion award
- Vrikshamatha award



How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. Only two
- B. Only three
- C. All four
- D. Only one

Answer: B

4. Ambaji Marble from Gujarat Receives GI Tag

Why in News: The white **Ambaji marble** secures **GI tag** for its distinctive white stone

Ambaji, a major pilgrimage centre and Shaktipeeth in Banaskantha district of Gujarat, has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Geographical Indications Registry under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

"Ambaji marble is known for its unique shine and beauty, and it has been especially used in the construction of religious sites for many years," said Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel

About Ambaji Marble

- **Ambaji is one of Gujarat's most important pilgrimage centres and is home to the revered Ambaji Shaktipeeth.**
- **The marble is known for: High-quality white colour, Exceptional purity o High calcium content, High durability and shine.**
- The GI tag has been granted in the name of the Ambaji Marbles Quarry and Factory Association.

Recent GI Tags in India (2025)

- Kumbakonam Betel Leaf (Kumbhakonam Vetrilai)
- Thovalai Manikka Malai (Flower Garland) from Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu (Handicraft)
- Warangal Chapata Chilli (Tomato Chilli) from Uttar Pradesh (Agricultural product)
- Kannadippaya (Mirror Mat), a unique tribal handicraft from Kerala
- Mathura Sanjhi Craft from Uttar Pradesh (Handicraft)
- Bundelkhand Karhiya Gehu (Wheat) from Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh (Agricultural/
- Banaras Tabla from Uttar Pradesh (Handicraft/Musical Instrument)
- Pilkhuwa Hand Block Print Textile from Uttar Pradesh (Handicraft)
- Bareilly Cane & Bam boo Craft from Uttar Pradesh (Handicraft)
- Bareilly Zari Zardoji from Uttar Pradesh from Uttar Pradesh (Handicraft)
- Banaras Tirangi Barfi from Uttar Pradesh (Handicraft)
- Bodo Aronai – Handicraft/Textile from Assam
- Bodo Naphaam – Fermented Fish from Foodstuff
- Bodo Gwkha – Gwkhw from Assam (Foodstuff)
- Bodo Jou Gwran from Assam (Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Manufactured/Natural)

4. INVAR Anti-Tank Missile

Why in News: The **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** has signed a contract worth ₹2,095.70 crore with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for procurement of the **INVAR missile** (an anti-tank guided missile) to enhance the lethality and precision-strike capability of the Indian Army's T-90 tank main battle tanks.

Q) With reference to the INVAR Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM), consider the following statements:

1. It is a laser beam-riding missile designed to be fired from the gun barrel of T-90 tanks.
2. It is manufactured entirely in India with no foreign collaboration.
3. It is capable of defeating tanks equipped with Explosive Reactive Armour (ERA).

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two. Statement 2: Incorrect. It is produced in India by BDL under licence based on a Russian design (Rosoboronexport)

5. Mudh-Nyoma Airbase

Why in News: The Chief of the Air Staff, **Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh**, inaugurated the **Mudh-Nyoma airbase in Ladakh** by landing a **C 130J special operations aircraft**, marking its operational readiness as a major high-altitude strategic airbase near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China.



Q) Mudh-Nyoma Airbase recently inaugurated in Ladakh, consider the following statements:

1. It is India's highest airfield and **highest airbases in the world**.
2. It has been upgraded by the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** and now includes a 2.7 km rigid-pavement runway.
3. The airbase is located more than **50 km away from the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China**.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (a) Only one (1) . India's highest airfield and the world's fifth highest. The airbase is only **around 23 km** from the **LAC**, not more than 50 km.

- **Infrastructure Features**
- Earlier had a mud-paved landing ground
- Upgraded under BRO supervision from September
- Cost of upgrade: ₹230 crore
- New 2.7 km rigid-pavement runway
- New Air Traffic Control (ATC) complex, hangars, crash bay, crew accommodation

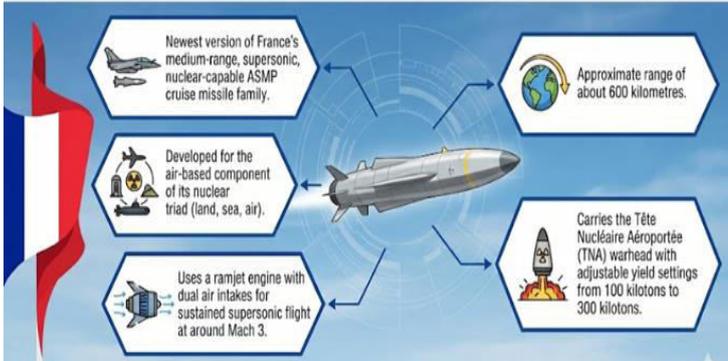
16th Nov 2025

1. Air-Sol Moyenne Portée-Renove (ASMPA-R)
2. Tungsten
3. Exercise Garuda.
4. Greenland.
5. Territorial Army.
6. Maram Naga Tribe

1. Air-Sol Moyenne Portée-Renove (ASMPA-R)

WHY IN NEWS: For the first time, France recently published images of its latest-generation nuclear-capable supersonic air-to-surface cruise missile, the Air-Sol Moyenne Portée-Renove (ASMPA-R).

Air-Sol Moyenne Portée-Renove (ASMPA-R) France's Newest Nuclear-Capable Supersonic Cruise Missile



Q1 Which of the following military platforms used by India are of French origin?

1. Rafale fighter aircraft
2. Mirage-2000 fighter aircraft
3. Scorpène-class submarines
4. Sukhoi-30 MKI

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: B 1, 2 and 3 only

2. Tungsten

WHY IN NEWS: Recently, the Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL) has received the licence to explore and mine a tungsten block in Andhra Pradesh.

About Tungsten

- It is a chemical element with the symbol W, and atomic number 74.
- It is a naturally occurring element and classified as a transition metal.
- Major producers: China (major global producer), Vietnam, Russia, and North Korea.

- It has been classified as a Critical Mineral by the Government of India

3. Exercise Garuda.

WHY IN NEWS The Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in the 8th edition of the air exercise 'Garuda 25' with the French Air and Space Force (FASF) at Mont-de-Marsan, France.

Other Exercise Conducted with France

- Exercise Varuna: Naval
- Exercise Desert Knight-21: Air exercise
- Exercise Shakti: Army exercise

4. Greenland.

WHY IN NEWS Recently, Greenland's Parliament has adopted legislation limiting foreigners' right to own property on the island.

About Greenland

- It is the world's largest (non-continent) island located between the continents of North America and Europe in the North Atlantic Ocean.
- It is geographically considered a part of the North American continent.
- It was once a Danish colony and is now an autonomous province of Denmark.
- Borders of Greenland: It is surrounded by the Arctic Ocean to the north; by the Greenland Sea to the east; by the North Atlantic Ocean to the southeast; Davis Strait to the southwest and Baffin Bay to the west



Q1) Greenland is strategically important in global geopolitics mainly because:

1. It lies between North America and Europe.
2. It has reserves of rare earth minerals.
3. It controls major warm ocean currents.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A) 1 only
B) 1 and 2 only
C) 2 and 3 only
D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Greenland's location is crucial for **Arctic security and transatlantic routes**.
- It has **strategic minerals** like rare earth elements.
- It does **not control warm currents**; cold currents dominate.

5. Territorial Army.

WHY IN NEWS : The Army is planning to induct women soldiers in its Territorial Army (TA) battalions

History of Territorial Army

- It was raised by the Britishers in 1920 through Indian Territorial Act of 1920
- it was organized into two wings namely – ‘The Auxiliary Force’ for Europeans & Anglo-Indians and ‘The Indian Territorial Force’ for Indian Volunteers.
- After Independence Territorial Army Act was passed in 1948 and the Territorial Army was formally inaugurated by the first Indian Governor General Shri C Rajagopalachari on 09 Oct 1949

6. Maram Naga Tribe

WHY IN NEWS : Centre recently sanctioned Rs 9 crore under Jan Man Scheme for Maram Naga tribe development, welfare projects, and cultural preservation in Manipur.

About Maram Naga Tribe

- The Maram Naga tribe belongs to the Naga ethnic group, inhabiting the Northeastern part of India as well as the Western part of Myanmar.
- The Maram habitat falls under the Senapati district of Manipur.
- The Marams are surrounded by other Naga tribes in all directions.
- They are considered to be a part of the Tibeto-Burman family of the Mongoloid race.

Language:

- Linguistically, they belong to the sub-family of the Sino-Tibetan family.
- The people speak the Maram language. There are some variations in the way the dialect is spoken, corresponding with geographical location.
- They use Roman script in writing their language

Q1) Which of the following are key focus areas under PM-JANMAN?

- 1.Housing
- 2.Safe drinking water
- 3.Education and health
- 4.Digital connectivity

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 1, 2 and 3 only



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C) 1, 2, 3 and 4

D) 2 and 4 only

Answer: C) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Explanation: PM-JANMAN adopts a **saturation approach**, covering **housing, water, health, education, nutrition, electricity, roads, and digital access** for PVTG habitations.

Q1) Consider the following statements about PM-JANMAN:

1. It was launched to improve socio-economic conditions of PVTGs.
2. It is implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
3. It covers all Scheduled Tribes in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1: Correct
- Statement 2: Correct
- Statement 3: Incorrect — scheme is **only for PVTGs**, not all STs.

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17th Nov 2025

1. Article 32 and Ambedkar's Vision Highlighted by the Chief Justice of India
2. Zero GST on Retail Health Insurance Premiums: Rising Demand for High-Value Coverage
3. Ashtamudi Lake
4. China Coast Guard Patrols Near Senkaku Islands Amid Rising Tensions with Japan
5. India Announces New National Platform for Climate and Nature Finance at COP30
6. Vrindavani Vastra

1. Article 32 and Ambedkar's Vision Highlighted by the Chief Justice of India

WHY IN NEWS: Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, while delivering a lecture on "India and the Living Indian Constitution at 75 Years," highlighted how **Article 32** was born out of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's insistence that rights without enforceable remedies are meaningless.

Right To Constitutional Remedies



2. Zero GST on Retail Health Insurance Premiums: Rising Demand for High-Value Coverage

WHY IN NEWS: The Government of India's decision to impose **0% GST** on retail health insurance premiums (effective September 22) has significantly influenced consumer behaviour, leading to increased uptake of higher-value health insurance plans and broader coverage.

GST RATE OVERHAUL – OLD vs NEW

Effective 22nd September 2025

Slab	Old GST Rate	New GST Structure	What's Changed / Easy Note
0% (Nil)	Essentials like milk, unbranded atta, health & education services	Remains 0%	Staple goods remain tax-free → no extra burden on daily life
5%	Items like packaged food, medicines, toothpaste (exclier 12%-18% in some cases)	Standard 5% slab for essentials, snacks, medicines, insurance	"Snacker's delight" – chocolates, noodles, butter and basic insurance now only 5%
18%	Majority of goods/services earlier at 18% or 28%	Consolidated 18% slab for durables, cars, cement, services	Big savings on ACs, TVs, small cars, cement; standard services stay moderate
40%	28% + additional cess on luxury/sin goods	New 40% slab for luxury & sin goods	Tobacco, luxury vehicles, premium items remain costly by design

Q1) After the GST reforms of September 2025, which of the following statements are true?

1. The four-tier GST rate structure was replaced with a two-tier system.
2. Goods such as small cars and motorcycles up to 350 cc attract GST at 18%.
3. Tobacco and pan masala immediately shifted to the new 40% GST slab.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Explanation:

1. Correct — slabs were rationalised to mainly 5% and 18%.
2. Correct — many automobiles moved from 28% to 18%.
3. **Incorrect** — on items like tobacco and pan masala, the system can only transition to 40% once compensation cess obligations are fully discharged; they remained under existing rates temporarily.

3. Ashtamudi Lake

WHY IN NEWS: Researchers are studying the unique cooperative behaviour between wild dolphins and traditional fishers in Ashtamudi Lake to understand the mechanisms behind this rare interaction.

Q1) With reference to Ashtamudi Lake, consider the following statements:

1. It is a freshwater lake throughout the year.
2. It is connected to the Arabian Sea.
3. It supports traditional inland fisheries.

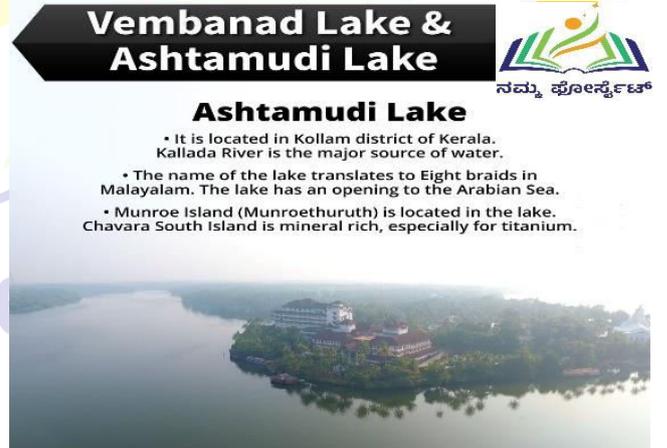
Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B.) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **incorrect**: Ashtamudi is a **brackish water** lake.
- Statement 2 is **correct**: It opens into the **Arabian Sea** via Kollam.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: It supports **traditional fisheries**.



4. China Coast Guard Patrols Near Senkaku Islands Amid Rising Tensions with Japan

WHY IN NEWS: A China Coast Guard (CCG) ship formation patrolled the waters near the **Senkaku (Diaoyu) Islands**, escalating tensions with Japan after Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi warned that a Chinese attack on Taiwan could trigger a military response from Japan.



Location - East China Sea

- Disputed island between China, Japan and Taiwan.
- Known as the Diaoyus by China and Tiaoyutai by Taiwan
- Administered and controlled by - Japan (at present)
- Uninhabited group of islands - Uotsuri Island, Kuba Island, Taisho Island, Kitakojima Island, Minamikojima Island, Tobise Island, Okinokitaiwa Island, and Okinominamiwa Island.

5. India Announces New National Platform for Climate and Nature Finance at COP30

WHY IN NEWS: At COP30 in Belém, Brazil, India—along with 12 other countries and the African Islands States Climate Commission—announced plans to create a **national “Climate and Nature Finance Platform”** coordinated with the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** to streamline climate finance access and reduce fragmented approaches

Q1. Which of the following describes the final political statement emerging from COP30 negotiations?

- A) It was named the *Belem Climate Charter*
- B) It was titled the *Global Mutirão: Uniting Humanity*
- C) It was called the *Paris Agreement II*
- D) It was rejected due to lack of consensus

Answer: B) It was titled the *Global Mutirão: Uniting Humanity*

Explanation: The COP30 final decision document is widely referred to as the **Global Mutirão (collective effort) package**, symbolising collaborative action.

UNFCCC
Conference of Parties (COP)

- Supreme decision-making body of UNFCCC
- Meets every year (unless the Parties decide otherwise)
- Meets in **Bonn**, the Secretariat (unless a Party offers to host the session)
- First COP – held in **Berlin**, Germany (1995)

COPs and Their Major Outcomes

COP	Year	Location	Major Outcomes
COP 3	1997	Kyoto, Japan	Adopted Kyoto Protocol (legally binding developed countries to reduce emission targets)
COP 7	2001	Marrakech, Morocco	Marrakech Accords signed (set stage for ratification of Kyoto Protocol)
COP 8	2002	New Delhi, India	Delhi Declaration (development needs of the poorest countries)
COP 13	2007	Bali, Indonesia	Bali Road Map and Bali action plan
COP 19	2013	Warsaw, Poland	Warsaw Framework for REDD Plus Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage
COP 18	2012	Doha, Qatar	Doha Amendment to Kyoto Protocol (reducing GHG emissions by 18% compared to 1990 levels)
COP 16	2010	Cancun, Mexico	Cancun Agreements (assist developing nations in dealing with Climate Change) Est: Green Climate Fund
COP 15	2009	Copenhagen, Denmark	Developed countries pledged up to \$30 billion in fast-start finance (for 2010-12)
COP 21	2015	Paris, France	Paris Agreement (global temp. well below 2°C above pre-industrial times) Climate finance by rich countries (yearly \$100bn funding pledge)
COP 26	2021	Glasgow, UK	India announced Net Zero Targets 2070 India called for “phase-down” of coal-based power Glasgow Breakthrough Agenda (by 41 countries + India)
COP 28	2023	Dubai, UAE	USD 700 mn pledged by UAE, Germany, UK, EU, & Japan for the Loss & Damage Fund Phase out fossil fuels to achieve net zero by 2050 Reach 11,000 GW of RE by 2030 66 nations to cut cooling emissions by 68% by 2050 Triple global nuclear energy capacity by 2050 India led Initiatives at COP 28: Green Credit Initiative: Issues credits for eco-friendly actions like planting on degraded lands LeadIT 2.0: Supports fair industry transitions & low-carbon technology
COP 27	2022	Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt	Loss & Damage Fund USD 3.1bn plan for early warning systems G7-led ‘Global Shield Financing Facility’ for countries suffering climate disasters African Carbon Market Initiative Action for Water Adaptation and Resilience (AWARe) initiative Mangrove Alliance (in partnership with India) India’s Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy

Q1. Which of the following describes the final political statement emerging from COP30 negotiations?

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Explanation: The COP30 final decision document is widely referred to as the **Global Mutirão (collective effort) package**, symbolising collaborative action.

6. Vrindavani Vastra

WHY IN NEWS: The Assam Chief Minister has travelled to London to initiate the process of bringing back the revered Vrindavani Vastra from the British Museum



- **Vrindavani Vastra** is a **16th-century painted textile** depicting the **life of Lord Krishna**.
- It was commissioned by **Srimanta Sankardeva**, the founder of **Ekasarana Vaishnavism** in Assam.
- Originally woven in **Assam silk** (Pat / Muga) and cotton.

Wool & Pashmina Textiles

Textile Form	State / Region
Pashmina	Jammu & Kashmir
Kani Shawl	Jammu & Kashmir
Lohi	Himachal Pradesh
Kullu Shawl	Himachal Pradesh
Bakhu	Sikkim
Namda	Jammu & Kashmir

Cotton Textile Traditions

Textile Form	State
Khadi	All India
Chanderi	Madhya Pradesh
Maheshwari	Madhya Pradesh
Kalamkari	Andhra Pradesh
Ikat (Pochampally)	Telangana
Jamdani	West Bengal
Sambalpuri	Odisha
Kotpad	Odisha
Mangalgiri	Andhra Pradesh
Chettinad Cotton	Tamil Nadu

Silk Textile Traditions

Textile Form	State
Kanchipuram Silk	Tamil Nadu
Mysore Silk	Karnataka
Pat Silk	Assam
Muga Silk	Assam
Eri Silk	Assam
Banarasi Silk	Uttar Pradesh
Baluchari	West Bengal
Paithani	Maharashtra
Pochampally Silk Ikat	Telangana
Uppada Silk	Andhra Pradesh

Wool & Pashmina Textiles

Textile Form	State / Region
Pashmina	Jammu & Kashmir
Kani Shawl	Jammu & Kashmir
Lohi	Himachal Pradesh
Kullu Shawl	Himachal Pradesh
Bakhu	Sikkim
Namda	Jammu & Kashmir

18th Nov 2025

1. Sakurajima Volcano
2. Caracal
3. Supreme Court Directions on Human–Wildlife Conflict
4. Remembering Batukeshwar Dutt, the Forgotten Comrade of Bhagat Singh

1. Sakurajima Volcano

WHY IN NEWS: Japan's Sakurajima volcano erupted multiple times recently, sending a plume of smoke and ash up to 4.4 km into the air.

Volcanos In India

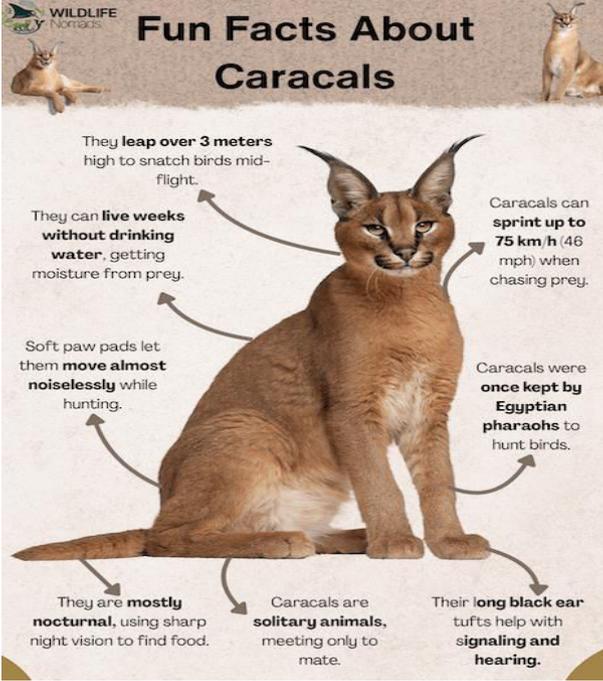
Volcano	Location	Status	Important Facts
Barren Island	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Active	Only active volcano in India; in Andaman Sea
Narcondam Island	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Dormant	Stratovolcano; protected as wildlife sanctuary
Baratang Island (Mud volcano)	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Active (Mud)	Emits mud & gases, not lava
Deccan Traps	Maharashtra & Central India	Extinct	One of world's largest volcanic plateaus

Volcanos In world

Volcano	Country	Type	Volcanic Belt
Mount Etna	Italy	Stratovolcano	Mediterranean Belt
Mount Vesuvius	Italy	Stratovolcano	Mediterranean Belt
Mount Fuji	Japan	Stratovolcano	Pacific Ring of Fire
Sakurajima	Japan	Stratovolcano	Pacific Ring of Fire
Kilauea	USA (Hawaii)	Shield volcano	Pacific Ring of Fire
Mauna Loa	USA (Hawaii)	Shield volcano	Pacific Ring of Fire
Mount Merapi	Indonesia	Stratovolcano	Pacific Ring of Fire
Krakatoa (Anak Krakatau)	Indonesia	Caldera volcano	Pacific Ring of Fire
Mount Pinatubo	Philippines	Stratovolcano	Pacific Ring of Fire
Popocatepetl	Mexico	Stratovolcano	Pacific Ring of Fire

2. Caracal

WHY IN NEWS: In a significant discovery, the elusive Asiatic Caracal has been spotted in Ramgarh, Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan



Q1 . With reference to conservation status, consider the following statements:

- 1.Caracal is listed as **Least Concern** on the IUCN Red List globally.
- 2.In India, Caracal is considered **critically endangered** due to habitat loss.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

3. Supreme Court Directions on Human–Wildlife Conflict

WHY IN NEWS: The Supreme Court directed all States to actively consider notifying human–wildlife conflict as a natural disaster and mandated an ex-gratia payment of ₹10 lakh for victims under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme – Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-IDWH).

Q1) Which of the following measures is/are effective in mitigating Human–Wildlife Conflict?

1. Solar-powered fencing
2. Early warning systems using GPS collars
3. Community participation and compensation schemes

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2 and 3

4. Remembering Batukeshwar Dutt, the Forgotten Comrade of Bhagat Singh

WHY IN NEWS: Batukeshwar Dutt is being remembered for his crucial yet often overlooked role in India's revolutionary freedom struggle, especially his partnership with Bhagat Singh in the Central Legislative Assembly Bombing Case of 1929. He remains one of the most under-recognised revolutionaries despite lifelong sacrifices.



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Q1) Which colonial legislations were being opposed through this bombing?

1. Public Safety Bill
2. Trade Disputes Bill
3. Rowlatt Act

Select the correct answer:

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A) 1 and 2 only

19^h Nov 2025

1. New Initiatives to Improve the Public Distribution System (PDS)
2. Raulane Festival
3. Tetrachloroethylene
4. Trade Intelligence and Analytics Portal
5. Ginkgo-Toothed Beaked Whale
6. African Swine Fever

1. New Initiatives to Improve the Public Distribution System (PDS)

WHY IN NEWS The Union Food and Public Distribution Ministry recently launched several digital initiatives aimed at modernising warehousing operations, improving supply chain efficiency, and enhancing transparency across the Public Distribution System (PDS).

About Anna Sahayata Holistic AI Solution (ASHA)

- It is an AI-based platform that allows Public Distribution System (PDS) beneficiaries to share their feedback on ration distribution through AI-enabled calls in their preferred language.
- It was introduced by the Department of Food and Public Distribution.
- The platform runs at a cost of ₹5 lakh.
- ASHA reaches 20 lakh beneficiaries monthly across India, developed in partnership with the Wadhvani Foundation and backed by the India AI mission via Bhashini's multilingual AI infrastructure.
- Through ASHA, beneficiaries can report whether they received their full entitlement, the quality of foodgrains, and any difficulty faced at Fair Price Shops.

- The system uses multilingual translation, sentiment analysis, automated grievance categorisation, and real-time dashboards for administrators

2. Raulane Festival

WHY IN NEWS Bright, colourful, and quite fascinating photos of the Raulane festival from Himachal Pradesh recently went viral on social media, with users discussing the unique ritual and culture of a centuries-old tradition.

LIST OF FESTIVALS IN INDIA (STATE-WISE)	
STATE	FESTIVAL
Andhra Pradesh	Brahmotsavam
Arunachal Pradesh	Losar Festival
Assam	Bohag Bihu
Bihar	Chhath Puja
Chhattisgarh	Bastar Dussehra
Goa	Carnival
Gujarat	Janmashtami
Haryana	Gugga Naumi
Himachal Pradesh	Gochi Festival
Jharkhand	Karam Festival
Karnataka	Ugadi
Kerala	Onam

Q1) Consider the following festivals:

- Sarhul
- Karma
- Chhath Puja

Which of the above are celebrated in Jharkhand?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3

3. Tetrachloroethylene

WHY IN NEWS: Researchers have identified that Tetrachloroethylene commonly used in dry cleaning and household items could lead to a 3x increased risk of liver diseases.

About Tetrachloroethylene

- It appears as a clear colorless volatile liquid having an ether-like odor.
- It is noncombustible and insoluble in water.
- Other names for tetrachloroethylene include perchloroethylene, PCE, perc, tetrachloroethene, and perchlor
- Health Impacts: Exposure to very high concentrations of tetrachloroethylene can cause dizziness headaches, sleepiness, incoordination confusion, nausea, unconsciousness, and even death

4. Trade Intelligence and Analytics Portal

WHY IN NEWS: Recently, the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry launched the Trade Intelligence & Analytics (TIA) Portal in New Delhi.

About Trade Intelligence and Analytics Portal

- It is a one-stop trade intelligence and analytics platform that integrates multiple global and national databases.
- It is developed by the Department of Commerce, Minister of Commerce and Industry

Q1. Which of the following users primarily benefit from the TI&A Portal?

1. Exporters and Importers
2. Policy makers
3. Customs officers

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D.1, 2 and 3

Analysis:

The portal serves **business users, government, and customs administration.**

5. Ginkgo-Toothed Beaked Whale

WHY IN NEWS: Recently, a team of scientists has spotted the rare ginkgo-toothed beaked whales (Mesoplodon ginkgodens) for the first time in the wild along the coast of Baja California in Mexico.

About Ginkgo-Toothed Beaked Whale

- It is one of 24 species of beaked whales, which are the second most diverse group of cetaceans after dolphins.
- Distribution: It resides in tropical and temperate waters throughout the Pacific and Indian Oceans

Q1. Consider the following statements about the Ginkgo-toothed whale:

1. It is one of the rarest and least-observed whales in the world.
2. It is primarily found in tropical and temperate oceans.
3. It is commonly found in coastal shallow waters.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A. . 1 and 2 only

6. African Swine Fever

WHY IN NEWS: The Assam Government recently banned the inter-District movement of live pigs in the State to arrest the spread of African swine fever, a highly contagious and lethal disease.

About African Swine Fever

- It is a highly contagious and hemorrhagic viral disease affecting pigs and wild boar.
- The disease does not infect humans (not zoonotic) or other livestock species.
- ASF causes a destructive effect on piggery due to high morbidity and mortality (up to 90-100%).
- Originally found throughout sub-Saharan Africa, ASF is now prevalent in many countries in Europe, Asia, and Africa.
- India notified the first outbreak of ASF virus in January, 2020 in the Northeastern States of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh

Q1. Consider the following statements about African Swine Fever:

1. It is caused by a virus.
2. It can infect humans.
3. There is no approved vaccine available widely for ASF.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only(Not zoonotic)

20^h Nov 2025

1. Curacao
2. BvS10 Sindhu
3. BIRSA 101
4. Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. Indira Gandhi Peace Prize.
6. Climate Change Performance Index.

1. Curacao

WHY IN NEWS: With a population of just 156,000, Curacao has qualified for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, becoming the smallest country in history to reach the tournament

About Curacao

- Curacao is an island country situated in the south Caribbean Sea, about 60 km north of the coast of Venezuela.
- It is also a territorial country of the Netherlands.
- The country includes the main island of Curacao and the island of Klein Curacao, which cover a combined total area of 171 square miles.
- Although physiographically part of the South American continental shelf, Curaçao and neighboring islands off the northern coast of South America are usually considered to constitute the southwestern arc of the Lesser Antilles

2. BvS10 Sindhu

WHY IN NEWS: Infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (L&T) and BAE Systems recently bagged a contract from the Indian Army for supply of BvS10 Sindhu – a specialised all-terrain armoured vehicle, according to a regulatory filing

About BvS10 Sindhu

- The BvS10 is a well-known articulated all-terrain vehicle used by several European militaries.
- The BvS10 is already in service with the armed forces of Austria, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.
- It's also on order for the German Army and has been selected for the US Army's Cold Weather All-Terrain Vehicle (CATV) program.
- Its design allows for two connected vehicle sections that help it cross difficult terrain that conventional wheeled or tracked vehicles struggle with



3. BIRSA 101

WHY IN NEWS: Recently, the union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology launched India's first indigenous "CRISPR" based gene therapy for Sickle Cell Disease and named it BIRSA 101

About BIRSA 101

- It is India's first indigenous CRISPR-based gene therapy, designed to treat Sickle Cell Disease (SCD).
- The therapy has been named Birsa-101 in honour of the tribal leader Birsa Munda.
- Developed by: It is developed by the CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB).

Q1. India's first indigenous CRISPR-based gene therapy, recently in news, has been developed primarily for the treatment of:

- A. Thalassemia
- B. Sickle Cell Disease
- C. Hemophilia
- D. Cystic Fibrosis

Answer: B. Sickle Cell Disease

Explanation:

India's first indigenously developed CRISPR therapy targets **Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)**.

4. Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary.

WHY IN NEWS: A wild tiger has made a return to Gujarat after several decades, establishing a permanent presence in Dahod's Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary

About Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary

- **Location:** It is located in the state of Gujarat.
- The sanctuary falls on the border of Gujarat with Madhya Pradesh.
- It was declared as a wildlife sanctuary in March 1982.
- It is also known as "Ratanmahal Sloth Bear Sanctuary," due to its highest population of sloth bears in the state.
- Rivers: It forms the catchment of river Panam- a major river of Central Gujarat

Wildlife Sanctuary	National Park
Notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972	Notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
Protection of particular species or habitats	Conservation of entire ecosystem
Boundaries can be altered by State Government	Boundaries cannot be altered except by State Legislature
Certain human activities permitted	No human activity permitted
Grazing may be allowed	Grazing strictly prohibited
Private ownership rights may continue	No private ownership allowed

Q1. With reference to the formation of Wildlife Sanctuaries in India, consider the following statements:

1. Wildlife Sanctuaries are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. State Governments have the power to notify Wildlife Sanctuaries.
3. Settlement of rights must be completed before final notification.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3

5. Indira Gandhi Peace Prize.

WHY IN NEWS: Recently, former Chile President **Michelle Bachelet** was awarded with the Indira Gandhi Prize for **Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2024**

Q1. Consider the following objectives of the Indira Gandhi Peace Award:

1. Promotion of international peace
2. Encouragement of nuclear disarmament
3. Support for sustainable development

Which of the above are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3

6. Climate Change Performance Index.

WHY IN NEWS: India slipped **13 ranks** to figure at the 23rd position in the latest Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2026

About Climate Change Performance Index

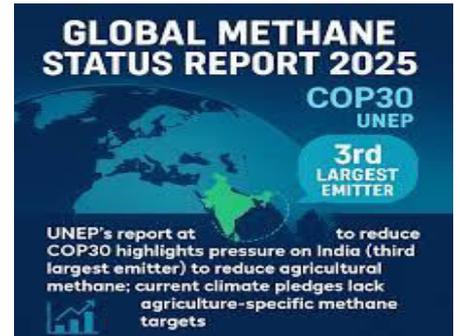
- It is published by think tanks German watch, New Climate Institute, and Climate Action Network International.
- It tracks the progress of the world's largest emitters in terms of emissions, renewables, and climate policy.
- The performance of countries is assessed in four categories — GHG emission, renewable energy, energy use and climate policy.
- It was first published in 2005

21^h Nov 2025

1. Global Methane Status Report
2. West Seti Hydropower Project
3. Meerut Bugle
4. Guru Tegh Bahadur
5. Kuno National Park

1. Global Methane Status Report

WHY IN NEWS: The recent Global Methane Status Report 2025 warns that crop-residue burning is turning India into a global methane hotspot



Q1. The Global Methane Report is released by:

- A. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- B. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- C. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- D. International Energy Agency (IEA)

Answer: B. . United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Explanation:

The report is published by **UNEP**, often in collaboration with the **Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)**.

IMPORTANT REPORTS RELEASED BY UNEP

1. Global Environment Outlook (GEO) Report
2. Emissions Gap Report
3. Adaptation Gap Report
4. Global Methane Report
5. Production Gap Report

2. West Seti Hydropower Project

WHY IN NEWS: Nepal has extended the date for survey license for West Seti Hydropower Project being developed by NHPC and approved to work for a direct agreement for another by SJVN with an aim to facilitate Indian power companies to execute projects in the Himalayan nation

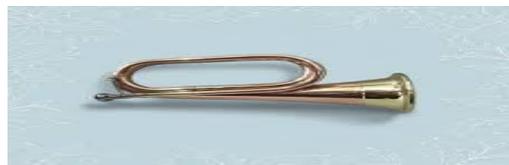


THE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL

Project	River	Capacity (MW)	Type	Status / Significance
Sapta Kosi	Koshi	3,000 (proposed)	Multipurpose	Flood control + power; delayed
Pancheshwar	Mahakali	5,600	Multipurpose	Bilateral treaty; irrigation + power
Arun III	Arun	900	Run-of-the-river	Indian-funded, under construction
Upper Tamakoshi	Tamakoshi	456	Run-of-the-river	Operational; Nepal-owned
Sunkoshi-Likhu	Sunkoshi	400–600	Run-of-the-river	Export-oriented

3. Meerut Bugle

WHY IN NEWS: Recently, the Meerut Bugle has received a Geographical indication tag



Q1. Which of the following can be registered as a Geographical Indication?

1. Agricultural goods
2. Handicrafts
3. Industrial products
4. Natural goods

ABOUT MEERUT BUGLE

Aspect	Details
Type	Brass wind instrument
Common Use	Used for announcements of movements or events
Aim / Significance	Reduce overall GHG emissions to tackle climate change
Origin	Late 19th century
Place Associated	Meerut, India

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

4. Guru Tegh Bahadur

WHY IN NEWS Following a car blast near Red Fort recently, the Delhi police have stepped up security near the heritage site, which will host an event to commemorate the 350th death anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur

ABOUT GURU TEGH BAHADUR

Position	Ninth Sikh Guru
Period	1664 – 1675
Birth Year	1621
Birth Name	Tyaga Mal
Father	Guru Hargobind (6th Sikh Guru)
Title	“Tegh Bahadur” (Mighty of the Sword)
Succession	Succeeded Guru Har Krishan Ji in 1664
Son	Guru Gobind Singh (10th Sikh Guru)
Significance	Defender of religious freedom
Martyrdom	1675

Q1. Consider the following pairs:

Event	Associated Sikh Guru
Martyrdom at Chandni Chowk	Guru Tegh Bahadur
Creation of Khalsa	Guru Gobind Singh
Compilation of Adi Granth	Guru Arjan Dev

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

5. Kuno National Park



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ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

WHY IN NEWS The first India-born cheetah, Mukhi, has given birth to five cubs at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh recently

PROJECT CHEETAH

The project involves moving cheetahs from South Africa and Namibia to Kuno National Park located in Madhya Pradesh.

LAUNCHED:

on September 17, 2022

AIM:

To replenish the cheetah population in India.

It was declared extinct in 1952.



AFRICAN CHEETAH

- SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Acinonyx Jubatus*
- DISTRIBUTION: Across Africa from North-west Africa, East Africa, & Southern Africa
- SIZE: Slightly bigger build with sturdier legs and neck
- SKIN: Light brown to golden brown fur color, thicker than the Asiatic ones
- IUCN RED LIST STATUS: Vulnerable



ASIATIC CHEETAH

- SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Acinonyx Jubatus Venaticus*
- DISTRIBUTION: Only 12 Asiatic cheetahs, 9 males, and 3 females are left in Iran
- SIZE: Slightly smaller and slender than the African cheetah
- SKIN: Buff to light fawn color bordering pale yellow skin, has more fur underbelly and back of neck
- IUCN RED LIST STATUS: Critically Endangered



22^h Nov 2025

1. Joint Crediting Mechanism
2. Inland Waterways Authority of India
3. Seychelles
4. Sagar Kavach
5. Boramdev Wildlife Sanctuary

1. Joint Crediting Mechanism

WHY IN NEWS : Recently, the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change participated in the 11th Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) Partner Countries' Meeting

Q1. With reference to the India–Japan Joint Crediting Mechanism, consider the following statements:

1. It facilitates the transfer of low-carbon technologies to India.
2. Emission reductions achieved under JCM are shared between India and Japan.
3. It is a legally binding mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



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ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- JCM promotes **technology transfer and finance**.
- Carbon credits are **shared by partner countries**.
- It is **not legally binding under the Kyoto Protocol**; it is a **bilateral voluntary mechanism**.

2. Inland Waterways Authority of India

WHY IN NEWS : The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) recently signed a series of major agreements valued at about ₹3,000 crore to boost cargo movement, passenger transport and river-based tourism in the Northeast

IMP WATER WAYS IN KARNATAKA

Q1. With reference to the Jal Marg Vikas Project, consider the following statements:

1. It aims at capacity augmentation of National Waterway-1.
2. It is being implemented with financial assistance from the World Bank.
3. It focuses on promoting inland water transport on the Brahmaputra.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Project / River	National Waterway (NW) No.	Length (KM)
Jal Marg Vikas Project	NW-1	—
Bheema	NW 21	139
Ghataprabha	NW 41	112
Gurupur	NW 43	10
Kabini	NW 51	23
Kali	NW 52	53
Malaprabha	NW 67	94
Panchagangavali (Panchagangoli)	NW 76	23
Sharavati	NW 90	29
Tungabhadra	NW 104	232
Udyavara	NW 105	15

3. Seychelles

WHY IN NEWS: Recently, Seychelles was included as the **sixth member of the Colombo Security Conclave**

SEYCHELLES WITH INDIA..

Seychelles is crucial due to its **strategic Indian Ocean location**, importance to India's **SAGAR vision (maritime security, anti-piracy)**, recent entry into the **Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)**, and its role as a partner in the **Blue Economy**, with India assisting in defence (patrol vessels) and development projects, while balancing great power competition (China/US) in the region .

COLOMBO SECURITY CONCLAVE (CSC)

Regional security grouping initially formed in 2011 as a trilateral Indian Ocean maritime security grouping of India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives

MEMBERS

India
Sri Lanka
Maldives
Mauritius

OBSERVERS

Bangladesh
Seychelles



Q1. With reference to the Colombo Security Conclave, consider the following statements:

1. It originated as a trilateral maritime security cooperation initiative.
2. It focuses exclusively on naval cooperation.
3. It includes cooperation on cyber security and counter-terrorism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- CSC began as a **trilateral maritime security initiative**.
- Its scope now includes **counter-terrorism, cyber security, and HADR**.
- It is **not limited to naval cooperation**.

4. Sagar Kavach

WHY IN NEWS: The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) successfully conducted the comprehensive Coastal Security Exercise Sagar Kavach-02/25 along the Maharashtra and Goa coastline recently

About Sagar Kavach

- It is a biannual coastal security drill led by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) that tests and improves coastal security mechanisms against asymmetric threats.
- A wide range of central and state agencies, including the Indian Navy, State Police, Marine Police, Fisheries, Customs, etc., are part of this exercise.



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ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT KAS/ACF/PSI/VO/AO &AAO/RFO

- The exercise aims to assess the preparedness of all participating agencies in handling coastal security emergencies, preventing attacks on vital coastal installations, and further strengthening the multi-layered Coastal Security Network.
- During the exercise, security forces are split into a "Red team" that simulates infiltrators and a "Blue Team" that detects and neutralises them, assessing inter-agency coordination and response times

5. Boramdev Wildlife Sanctuary

WY IN NEWS: Poachers have killed two bison recently at the Chilfi East Range of the Boramdev Sanctuary at Kawardha in Chhattisgarh

Q1. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched?

1. Madhav Tiger Reserve — Madhya Pradesh
2. Guru Ghasidas–Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve — Chhattisgarh
3. Ratapani Tiger Reserve — Rajasthan

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Ratapani TR is in Madhya Pradesh, not Rajasthan.

23th Nov 2025

1. Tanningia silasii
2. Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary
3. Juvenile Justice Board
4. Strait of Malacca
5. Mahi River
6. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

1. Taningia silasii

WHY IN NEWS: Researchers of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi have discovered a new species of deep-sea squid from the Arabian Sea and named it as Taningia silasii (Indian octopus squid).



Q1. The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) functions under which of the following organizations?

1. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
2. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
3. Ministry of Earth Sciences
4. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Answer: 2. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

2. Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary

WHY IN NEWS: A 9-day wildlife census recently began in the Sukhna wildlife sanctuary

About Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary

- It is a protected area located in Chandigarh, near the famous Sukhna Lake at the foothills of the Shivalik range.
- The lake was created by the architect Le Corbusier in 1958 by diverting the Sukhna Choe, a seasonal stream that flows down from the Shivalik hills.
- The sanctuary was developed as a result of afforestation done for soil conservation around Sukhna Lake

Q1. Consider the following pairs:

Wildlife Sanctuary	State
Kalesar WLS	Haryana
Chilla WLS	Uttarakhand
Harike WLS	Punjab
Asola Bhatti WLS	Delhi

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched and located in the Shivalik range?

- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

3. Juvenile Justice Board

WHY IN NEWS: Juvenile Justice and Children in Conflict with the Law: A Study of Capacity at the Frontlines', by the India Justice Report (IJR) highlighted that more than half (55%) of the cases before 362 Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) remained pending as of October 31, 2023.

Composition of Juvenile Justice Board

- A board shall consist of
- Metropolitan Magistrate or
- A Judicial Magistrate of first class not being Chief Metropolitan Magistrate or
- Chief Judicial Magistrate referred to as Principal Magistrate with at least three years' experience
- Two social workers selected in such a manner as may be prescribed, of whom at least one shall be a woman

4. Strait of Malacca

WHY IN NEWS : A new cyclonic circulation recently developed over the central region of the Strait of Malacca, reaching an altitude of 5.8 km

Q1. Consider the following pairs:

Strait	Water bodies connected
Bosphorus	Black Sea – Sea of Marmara
Dardanelles	Aegean Sea – Sea of Marmara
Bab-el-Mandeb	Red Sea – Gulf of Aden
Palk Strait	Bay of Bengal – Arabian Sea

Strait	Connects	Location / Notes
Strait of Hormuz	Persian Gulf ↔ Gulf of Oman / Arabian Sea	Between Iran & Oman/UAE; key oil transit point
Strait of Malacca	Andaman Sea ↔ South China Sea	Between Malaysia & Sumatra (Indonesia); one of the busiest shipping lanes
Strait of Gibraltar	Atlantic Ocean ↔ Mediterranean Sea	Between Spain & Morocco
Bosphorus Strait	Black Sea ↔ Sea of Marmara	In Turkey; separates Europe & Asia
Dardanelles Strait	Aegean Sea ↔ Sea of Marmara	In Turkey; part of the Turkish straits along with Bosphorus
Bab-el-Mandeb	Red Sea ↔ Gulf of Aden / Arabian Sea	Between Yemen & Djibouti/Eritrea
Torres Strait	Coral Sea ↔ Arafura Sea	Between Australia & Papua New Guinea
Bering Strait	Bering Sea ↔ Chukchi Sea / Arctic Ocean	Between Russia & Alaska (USA)
Sunda Strait	Java Sea ↔ Indian Ocean	Between Java & Sumatra, Indonesia
Davis Strait	Baffin Bay ↔ Labrador Sea	Between Greenland & Canada
Cook Strait	Tasman Sea ↔ Pacific Ocean	Between North & South Islands of New Zealand
Palk Strait	Bay of Bengal ↔ Gulf of Mannar	Between India & Sri Lanka
Magellan Strait	Atlantic Ocean ↔ Pacific Ocean	Southern tip of South America; Chile

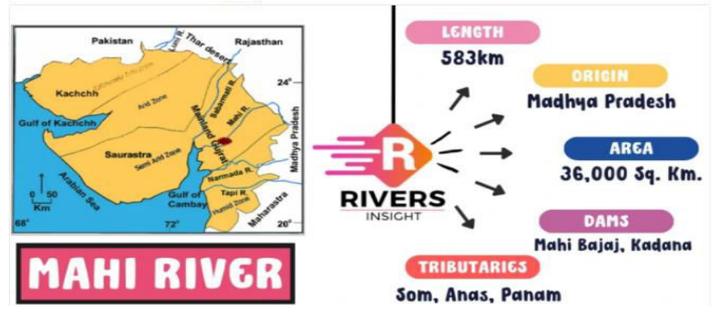
Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only(Palk Strait connects Bay of Bengal and Gulf of Mannar, not Arabian Sea.)

5. Mahi River

WHY IN NEWS : 11 people were killed and several vehicles fell into the Mahisagar (Mahi) River after a section of the Gambhira-Mujpur bridge in Padra taluka of Gujarat's Vadodara collapsed recently



6. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

WHY IN NEWS The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) recently issued an order to all the States/UTs Commissioners of food safety asking them to remove all non-compliant ORS products from shops immediately

Q1. Which of the following initiatives is launched by FSSAI to promote healthy eating habits?

- A. POSHAN Abhiyaan
- B. Eat Right India Movement
- C. National Nutrition Mission
- D. Mission Indradhanush

Answer: B Eat Right India Movement

Aspect	Details
Full Form	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
Established Under	Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
Replaced Laws	Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and other older food laws
Parent Ministry	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India
Headquarters	New Delhi
Objective / Functions	- Regulate and oversee food safety and standards in India- Ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption- Set standards for food products, additives, and labeling

24th Nov 2025

1. Hussain Sagar Lake
2. Limestone
3. Exercise AUSINDEX
4. Georgia
5. Dorjilung Hydroelectric Power Project
6. Brihadeeswarar Temple

1. Hussain Sagar Lake

WHY IN NEWS In a fresh move to tackle algal blooms, persistent foul odour and declining water quality in Hussainsagar lake, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) proposes to introduce an advanced bioremediation process using enzyme solutions and biochar-based Bokashi balls.



Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Hussain Sagar Lake:

1. It is an artificial lake.
2. It was constructed on the Musi River.
3. Built in 1562 by Ibrahim Quli Qutb Shah.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3

2. Limestone

WHY IN NEWS The first-ever auction of limestone mineral blocks in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir will be formally launched in Jammu.



Aspect	Details
Type of Rock	Sedimentary rock
Main Composition	Calcium Carbonate (CaCO_3)
Formation	- Organic origin: accumulation of shells, corals, algae (marine organisms)- Chemical origin: precipitation of CaCO_3 from water
Colour	White, grey, yellowish, bluish
Hardness	Relatively soft rock
Associated Landforms	Karst topography (caves, sinkholes, stalactites, stalagmites)

3. Exercise AUSINDEX

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the Indian Naval Ship INS Sahyadri participated in the exercise AUSINDEX 2025 which was held in the Northern Pacific

About Exercise AUSINDEX

- It is a bilateral exercise held between India and Australia.
- It is a major biennial maritime exercise which has been conducted since 2015.
- Aim: The exercise is aimed at significantly boosting interoperability and deepening the strategic partnership between the two maritime nations



INDIA'S JOINT MILITARY EXERCISES 2025

JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE	BETWEEN COUNTRIES	VENUE
14th Bold Kurukshetra 2025	India – Singapore	Jodhpur
Prachand Shakti Exercise 2025	Technical Demonstration of Indian Army	Meerut
32nd SIMBEX Exercise 2025	India – Singapore	Singapore
PASSEX Exercise 2025	India – UK	Arabian Sea
17th Nomadic Elephant 2025	India – Mongolia	Mongolia
8th Shakti Exercise 2025	India – France	France
1st Tiger Claw 2025	India – USA	Uttar Pradesh
22nd Khan Quest 2025	Multinational	Mongolia
Teertha Prahar Exercise 2025	Indian Army	West Bengal
Desert Flag 10 – 2025	Multinational	UAE

4. Georgia

WHY IN NEWS Recently, India has strengthened its textile and sericulture partnership with Georgia following a high-level multi-sectoral engagement

Q1. Georgia is bordered by which of the following countries?

1. Russia
2. Armenia
3. Azerbaijan
4. Turkey

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- D. 2 and 4 only

Answer: C. 1, 2, 3 and 4



5. Dorjilung Hydroelectric Power Project

WHY IN NEWS Tata Power Company Ltd recently said it has signed commercial agreements with Druk Green Power Corporation Ltd (DGPC) for the development of the 1,125 MW Dorjilung hydroelectric power project in Bhutan.

About Dorjilung Hydroelectric Power Project

- It is a planned 1125 MW run-of-river project situated in the eastern Lhuentse and Mongar Districts of Bhutan on the Kurichhu River, a tributary of the Drangmechu that flows into India.

- At a total project cost of ₹13,100 crore, Dorjilung will be Bhutan's second-largest hydropower project, and the largest Public–Private Partnership (PPP) hydro project ever undertaken in the country.
- The project is **financed by the World Bank**.
- In November 2024, Bhutan's Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) signed an MoU with Tata Power Company Limited for the joint development of the project.
- The Project will be implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), with DGPC and Tata Power holding equity shares of **60% and 40%, respectively**.
- The project is expected to be commissioned **by early 2032**

6. Brihadeeswarar Temple

WHY IN NEWS Marking World Heritage Week, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) organised a heritage walk and clean-up drive at the Brihadeeswarar Temple (Big Temple) in Thanjavur recently.



Q1. Which of the following features of the Brihadishvara Temple is/are correct?

1. One of the tallest vimanas in South India
2. A monolithic Nandi statue
3. It is built entirely using marble.

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Aspect	Details
Also Known As	Big Temple, Peruvudaiyar Kovil
Location	Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu
Dynasty	Chola Dynasty
Built By	Rajaraja Chola I
Year of Construction	Around 1010 CE
Dedicated To	Lord Shiva
Architectural Style	Dravidian architecture
Material Used	Granite
UNESCO Status	Part of "Great Living Chola Temples" (World Heritage Site)

Answer: A. . 1 and 2 only (The temple is built mainly using granite, not marble.)

25th Nov 2025

1. Pazhayar river.
2. Hammer weapon
3. Asian and pacific centre for development of disaster information management
4. Hayli gubbi volcano
5. Bharat ncap.

1. Pazhayar River.

WHY IN NEWS Rampant discharge of sewage and untreated water into the Pazhayar river at several places in Nagercoil has raised serious concerns among residents about the river's future and measures being taken to curb the pollution.

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Pazhayar River:

1. It flows through the Cauvery delta region.
2. It drains into the Bay of Bengal.
3. It originates in the Western Ghats.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only C. 1 only
B. 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: C. 1 only

2. HAMMER Weapon

WHY IN NEWS Recently, Bharat Electronics Limited and Safran Electronics and Defence (SED) signed a joint venture cooperation agreement for the production of the **HAMMER Weapon** System in India

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding HAMMER weapon system:

1. HAMMER is a French-made precision-guided air-to-ground weapon.
2. It is also known as AASM (Armement Air-Sol Modulaire).
3. India has integrated HAMMER missiles with Rafale aircraft.

PAZHAYAR RIVER

RAMPANT DISCHARGE OF SEWAGE AND UNTREATED WATER INTO THE PAZHAYAR RIVER AT SEVERAL PLACES IN NAGERCOIL HAS RAISED SERIOUS CONCERNS AMONG RESIDENTS ABOUT THE RIVER'S FUTURE AND MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO CURB THE POLLUTION

ABOUT PAZHAYAR RIVER

It is a major river flowing in the Kanniyakumari district of Tamil Nadu.

Course: It originates from the slopes of Mahendragiri hills at an altitude of 800 m above M.S.L.

It flows towards southwestern direction and joins the Arabian Sea near Manakudi.

The total length of the river is 40 km.

Alathurayar, Poigaiyar, Thadaveyar, Koya odai, and Ulakkaruviyar are the major tributaries of the Pazhayar River.

Chattuppythur dam, Chettothoppu dam, Cholanmkattu dam, Kutty dam, Kumari dam, Mission dam, Pallikondam dam, Pillaipetha dam, Salari dam, Veerapuli dam, and Veeranarayanamangalam are some of the dams constructed in the Pazhayar River.

The Manakudi Estuary at its mouth is ecologically sensitive and rich in mangroves, birds, and marine life.



HAMMER Precision-Guided Weapon (AASM): France's All-Weather Smart Strike System



Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 1 and 3 only

Answer: C. 1, 2 and 3

3. Asian and Pacific Centre for Development of Disaster Information Management

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the 10th Session of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) on Inclusive Disaster Risk Data Governance was held in New Delhi

About Asian and Pacific Centre for Development of Disaster Information Management

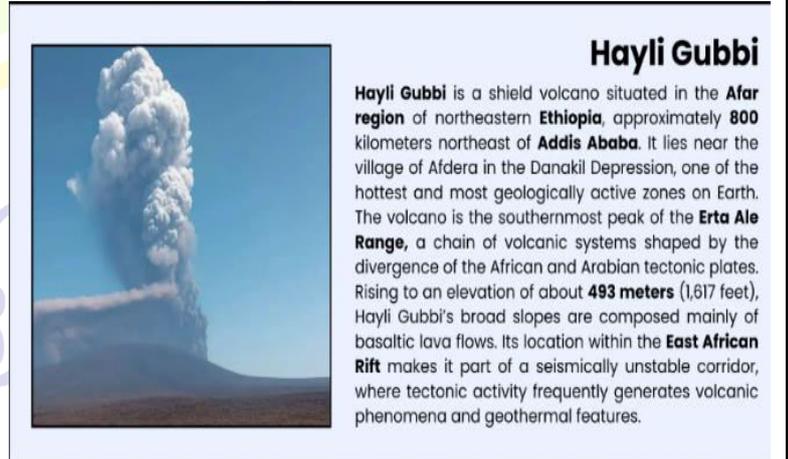
- It is a regional institution of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
- Vision: To ensure effective disaster risk information is produced and used for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.
- Mandate: To reduce human and material losses due to natural hazards and contribute to the effective design, investment and implementation of disaster risk reduction and resilience policies.
- Governance: It is governed by a Governing Council consisting of eight ESCAP member countries elected for a period of three years (India is one of the members for a period from **2022 to 2025**).
- Headquarter: Tehran, Iran

4. Hayli Gubbi Volcano

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the Hayli Gubbi volcano erupted for the first time after 10,000 years

Q1. Which of the following statements is correct about shield volcanoes like Hayli Gubbi?

1. They have gentle slopes formed by fluid lava flows
2. They typically produce highly explosive eruptions
3. They are common at divergent plate boundaries



Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

5. Bharat NCAP.

WHY IN NEWS The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) recently released a comprehensive draft for Bharat NCAP 2.0, a significantly expanded version of the country's crash test rating programme

About Bharat NCAP

- The Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat NCAP) is an indigenous star-rating system for crash testing cars, under which vehicles will be assigned between one to five stars, indicating their safety in a collision.
- It is an ambitious joint project between the Government of India (GoI) and Global NCAP, the regulatory body behind the safety crash test ratings.
- It was launched on 22 August 2023 and commenced on 1 October 2023.
- Objective: To help consumers make an informed decision before purchasing a car, thereby spurring demand for safer cars

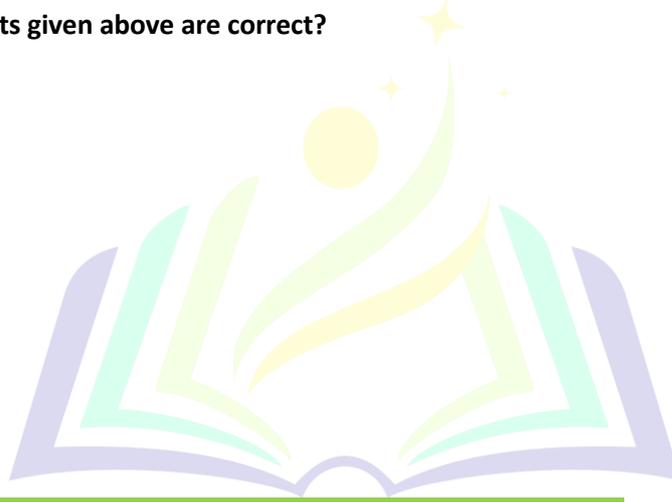
Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Bharat NCAP:

1. It provides **star ratings** based on vehicle safety.
2. It makes it **mandatory** for all vehicles to meet its rating.
3. It aims to reduce road accidents and fatalities.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3
- D. 1 only

Answer: 1 and 3 only



26th Nov 2025

1. U-Turn Man of Tamil Nadu
2. Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur
3. United Nations Secretary-General
4. INS Mahe
5. LCA Tejas

1. U-Turn Man of Tamilnad

WHY IN NEWS G Manuneethi, widely known as the U-turn Man, is in news for his transformative, low-cost traffic innovations across Tamil Nadu that created multiple signal-free corridors.

2. Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur

WHY IN NEWS President of India attended the 350th anniversary commemoration of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur at the Red Fort, New Delhi.

About Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur

- Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur (1621–1675) was the ninth [Guru of Sikhism](#), known for his fearlessness, spiritual depth, and ultimate sacrifice to defend the freedom of conscience.
- Born as Tyag Mal in Amritsar, he was the youngest son of Guru Hargobind Sahib, the sixth Guru.



Q1. Consider the following statements about Guru Tegh Bahadur:

1. He wrote **Shabad Guru Granth Sahib** hymns.
2. He was martyred defending the religious rights of Hindus.
3. He founded the city of Anandpur Sahib.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 only
C. 1, 2 and 3
D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: A 1 and 2 only

Explanation: He **composed hymns included in Guru Granth Sahib** and was martyred for **protecting Hindu rights**. Anandpur Sahib was founded by **Guru Tegh Bahadur's son, Guru Gobind Singh**.

3. United Nations Secretary-General

WHY IN NEWS The UN has formally begun the process to elect the next Secretary-General to replace Antonio Guterres when his term ends on 31 December 2026. Member states have been invited to submit nominations, with a strong push for selecting the **first woman Secretary-General** in [UN history](#)

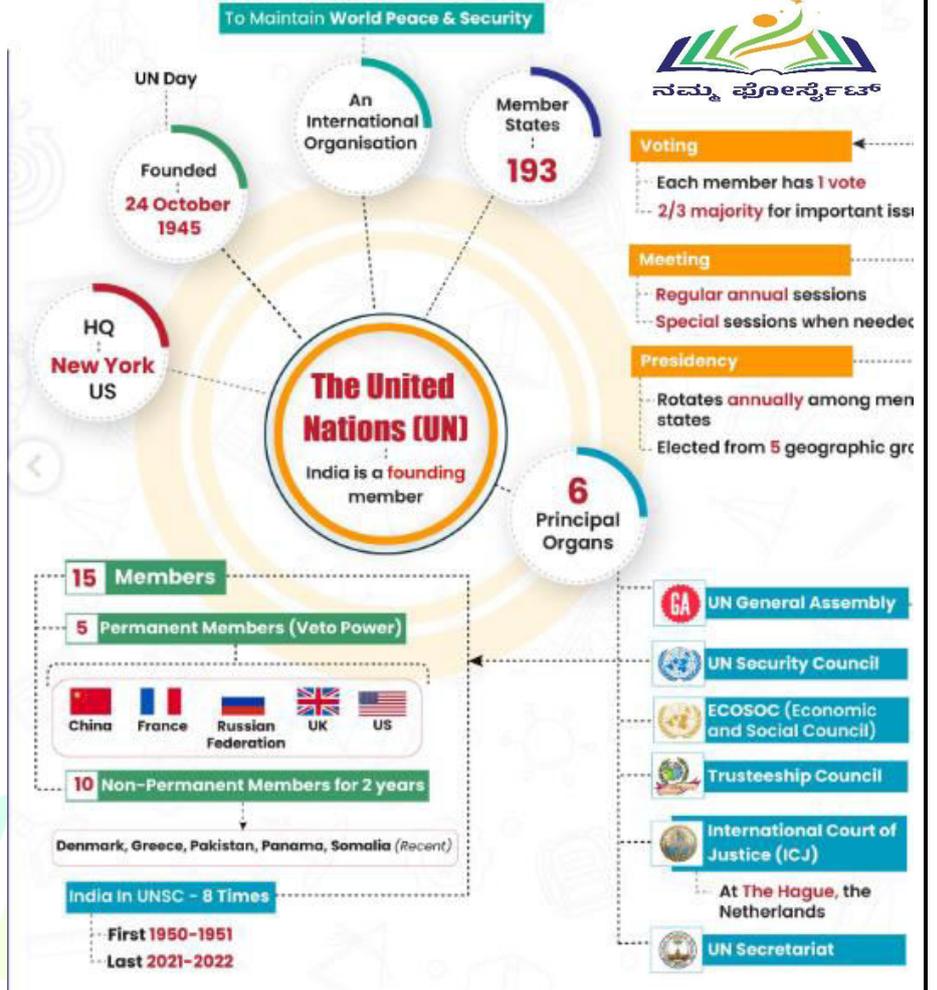
Q1. Which of the following countries are permanent members of the UN Security Council (P5)?

1. India
2. France
3. Russia
4. Germany

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: B. 2 and 3 only



4. INS Mahe

WHY IN NEWS INS Mahe, India's first Mahe-class Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), was commissioned into the Indian Navy at Mumbai.

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ABOUT INS MAHE

- INS Mahe is the lead ship of the indigenously designed Mahe-class ASW Shallow Water Craft, built to conduct anti-submarine warfare in coastal and shallow waters.
- It serves as the first line of coastal defence, supporting larger ships, submarines and naval aviation assets.
- Designed and built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), Kochi.
- Over 80% indigenous content, making it a major milestone in Aatmanirbhar Bharat and indigenous naval capability.
- To detect, track and neutralise submarine threats in India's littoral zones.
- To enhance India's coastal security architecture and provide persistent maritime surveillance.



5. LCA Tejas

WHY IN NEWS The LCA Tejas crashed during an aerial display at the **Dubai Air Show**, leading to the death of IAF pilot Wing Commander Namansh Syal.

Q1. Consider the following features of LCA Tejas:

1. Fly-by-wire control system
2. Use of composite materials
3. Stealth characteristics comparable to fifth-generation fighters

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B 1 and 2 only

Tejas to add teeth to Indian air combat



Indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Tejas has been formally inducted to Indian Air Force. The induction occurred almost 15 years after its first test flight and 33 years after the project was taken up

Project first conceived and launched in 1983

Maiden test flight took place on Jan 4, 2001

Designed for air-to-air, air-to-ground and air-to-sea combat roles

Intended to replace the phased out MiG-21 fighter jets

Specifications (LCA AF MK2)

Crew	Length	Height	Wingspan	Max speed	Engine
One	13.7 m	4.4 m	8.2 m	1.6 mach	GE-F414-INS6

Smallest and lightest multi-role supersonic fighter aircraft of its class

Project executed by Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) along with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

First advance Fly-by-wire (FBW) fighter aircraft designed, developed and manufactured in India

Inducted on July 1, 2016 into Squadron No. 45 of IAF, also called the "Flying Daggers"

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27th Nov 2025

1. Mekedatu dam project
2. Bnei Menashe
3. Entrepreneur-in-Residence Programme
4. Finn's Weaver Bird
5. Euthanasia

1. Mekedatu dam project

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the Karnataka government decided that it would submit a "revised" Detailed Project Report (DPR) to the Centre on the Mekedatu balancing reservoir across the interstate river Cauvery.

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Mekedatu Project:

1. It is a multipurpose project proposed across the Cauvery River.
2. The project is located at the confluence of the Cauvery and Kabini rivers.
3. It is primarily aimed at drinking water supply and power generation.

MEKEDATU PROJECT KARNATAKA

- Mekedatu is Rs 9,000-cr project proposed at Ontigondlu in Karnataka.
- Project site is at confluence of Cauvery & its tributary Arkavathi.
- Reservoir aimed at ensuring **drinking water** to Bengaluru & adjacent areas.
- Project also envisioned to generate **400 MW** of power.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Mekedatu project is proposed across the **Cauvery River**
- It is located near the **Cauvery–Arkavathi confluence**, not Kabini
- Objectives include **drinking water supply (especially to Bengaluru)** and **hydropower generation**

2. Bnei Menashe

WHY IN NEWS Israel's government recently approved a proposal to bring all the remaining 5,800 Jews from India's north-eastern region, commonly referred to as Bnei Menashe, over the next five years.

About Bnei Menashe

- Bnei Menashe is an ethnic community that hails from the northeastern states of Mizoram and Manipur.
- They claim to be the descendants of the biblical tribe of Manasseh, considered one of the "lost tribes" of Israel.
- They are Christians converted into Jews and observe traditional Jewish practices and celebrate holidays such as Sukkot.



- Historians believe this community may have arrived in India within the last 300–500 years

3. Entrepreneur-in-Residence Programme

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the Union Minister of State for Science & Technology said that the Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EIR) Programme is gaining popularity among young startups, innovators.

About Entrepreneur-in-Residence Programme

- It is one of the programs introduced under National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI).
- It aims to encourage graduate students to take to entrepreneurship as a prospective career option by providing financial and non-financial support in the form of a fellowship

4. Finn's Weaver Bird

WHY IN NEWS Recently, Ornithologists have been alerted that the Finn's Weaver bird is silently disappearing from the marshy lowlands of the Terai region in India

- **Scientific Name:** *Ploceus megarhynchus*.
- **Other Names:** Finn's Baya, Yellow Weaver, Himalayan Weaver, Pahari Baya (in Uttarakhand).
- **Conservation Status:**
 - **IUCN Red List:** Endangered (recently uplisted from Vulnerable).
 - **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule IV.
- **Habitat:** Terai grasslands (Ganges & Brahmaputra valleys) near water bodies, tall grasses, often with Semal & Shisham trees.
- **Distribution:** India (Uttarakhand, UP, Assam) & Nepal.
- **Significance:** A key indicator species for healthy Terai grasslands.



Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Baya Weaver Bird (Finn Weaver):

1. It is found only in the Indian subcontinent.
2. The male builds elaborate pendulous nests using grass fibres.
3. It is classified as "Least Concern" on the IUCN Red List.
4. The female chooses the mate based on the quality of the nest.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 2, 3 and 4 only

Explanation: The **Baya Weaver (Ploceus philippinus)** is found in **South and Southeast Asia**, not only India

5. Euthanasia

WHY IN NEWS The Supreme Court recently asked the Noida district hospital to constitute a primary medical board to examine the option of passive euthanasia for a 31-year-old who has been in a vegetative state for over a decade because of quadriplegia

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Euthanasia in India:

1. Active euthanasia is legal in India under certain circumstances.
2. Passive euthanasia is permitted as per Supreme Court guidelines.
3. A living will is legally recognised in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Active euthanasia** (administering lethal drugs) is **illegal** in India
- **Passive euthanasia** (withdrawing life-sustaining treatment) is permitted
- **Living will / advance directive** recognised by Supreme Court

EUTHANASIA (MERCY KILLING)

- Providing painless death to individuals who would not survive without medical facilities.
- **Etymology:** Greek words Eu (good) & thantos (death).

Active Euthanasia	Passive Euthanasia
Positive or Aggressive Euthanasia	Negative Euthanasia/Non-Aggressive Euthanasia
Intentional death by direct intervention is performed to end meaningless existence, by lethal doses of a drug or injection.	Intentional death by not providing essential care/food/water & discontinuing, withdrawing or removing artificial life support systems.
Quicker death & all forms are illegal.	Slower, uncomfortable & all forms are legal.
Not allowed in India.	Allowed in India by SC.

28th Nov 2025

1. Arunachalesvara Temple
2. Vikram-I Rocket
3. Grey Seal
4. Tex-RAMPS Scheme
5. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

1. Arunachalesvara Temple

WHY IN NEWS Encroachments around Arunachaleswarar Temple in Tiruvannamalai town were demolished recently to provide more road space for pilgrims during the Karthigai Deepam festival

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Arunachalesvara Temple:

1. It is located in Tiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu.
2. It is one of the Pancha Bhoota Stalas, representing the element of Fire.
3. The main deity is Lord Shiva in the form of Lingam.
4. The temple was primarily built during the Vijayanagara period.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (temple was primarily built during the chola period.)

Arunachalesvara Temple

ENCROACHMENTS AROUND ARUNACHALESWARAR TEMPLE IN TIRUVANNAMALAI TOWN WERE DEMOLISHED RECENTLY TO PROVIDE MORE ROAD SPACE FOR PILGRIMS DURING THE KARTHIGAI DEEPAM FESTIVAL

ABOUT ARUNACHALESVARA TEMPLE

It is a Hindu temple located at the base of Arunachala Hill in Tiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu.

It is dedicated to Lord Arunachalesvara, a form of Lord Shiva.

The temple's origin dates back thousands of years, with references in ancient scriptures and Tamil Saiva texts.

The current structure, however, was built during the period of the early Chola kings (9th century AD), expanded during the period of the later Cholas, Hoysala (Bhosala) kings, and Vijayanagarar Nayakar kings.

The temple is a remarkable example of South Indian Dravidian architecture, spread across 25 acres and featuring four grand gateways. Its eastern Rajagopuram, rising 217 feet, is among the tallest temple towers in India and was built by the Nayaka rulers. The complex includes nine intricately carved gopurams adorned with mythological figures, along with a magnificent thousand-pillar hall showcasing the craftsmanship of ancient kings.



2. Vikram-I Rocket

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the Prime Minister of India unveiled Skyroot Aerospace's first orbital rocket, **Vikram-I**

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Vikram-I launch vehicle:

1. Vikram-I is an orbital launch vehicle developed by ISRO.
2. It is designed to place small satellites into Low Earth Orbit.
3. It is developed by Skyroot Aerospace, a private Indian space startup.
4. It uses solid propulsion stages.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only

India's first privately developed rocket

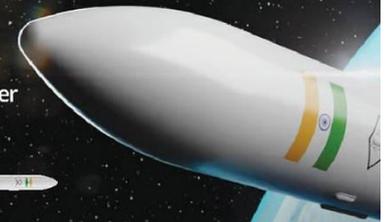
Skyroot's Vikram series of space launch vehicles is named after Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, founder of the Indian Space Program



Vikram - i
480 kg to 500 km Low Inclination Orbit

Vikram - ii
595 kg to 500 km Low Inclination Orbit

Vikram - iii
815 kg to 500 km Low Inclination Orbit





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(c) 3 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (b) 2, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- Vikram-I is **not developed by ISRO**; it is built by Skyroot Aerospace
- It is a **small satellite launch vehicle** for LEO missions
- Developed by an **Indian private startup**
- Uses **solid propulsion stages**

3. Grey Seal

WHY IN NEWS Recently, researchers found that seal milk comprises 332 different kinds of oligosaccharides.

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Grey Whale:

1. It is found in the Indian Ocean.
2. It undertakes long-distance migration between breeding and feeding grounds.
3. It is listed as "Endangered" on the IUCN Red List.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 2 only

GREY SEAL

RECENTLY, RESEARCHERS FOUND THAT SEAL MILK COMPRISES 332 DIFFERENT KINDS OF OLIGOSACCHARIDES

ABOUT GREY SEAL

It is a large seal of the family Phocidae.

It is also known as the Atlantic seal and the horsehead seal. It is found on both shores of the North Atlantic Ocean.

Distribution: They are found across the North Atlantic Ocean in coastal areas from mid-Atlantic to the Baltic Sea.

Habitat: These seals spend the majority of their lives in coastal waters; when on land, they occur on rocky coasts, islands, and sandbars, as well as on ice shelves and icebergs.

Conservation Status: IUCN: Least Concern.

Gray seals are diurnal marine mammals, with males growing up to 10 feet while females are smaller.

Their pups are born with white lanugo fur that absorbs sunlight and helps retain heat. These seals often display a unique "bottling" behavior, floating vertically with only their head above water.

Carnivorous in diet, they mainly feed on benthic and demersal fish species. Gray seals typically live for 25 to 35 years.



4. Tex-RAMPS Scheme

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the Government of India has approved the Textiles Focused Research, Assessment, Monitoring, Planning and Start-up (Tex-RAMPS) Scheme

Q1. With reference to the Tex-RAMPS Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by the Government of India.
2. It aims to strengthen research, innovation, and data systems in the textile sector.
3. It focuses only on skill development and wage support for textile workers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

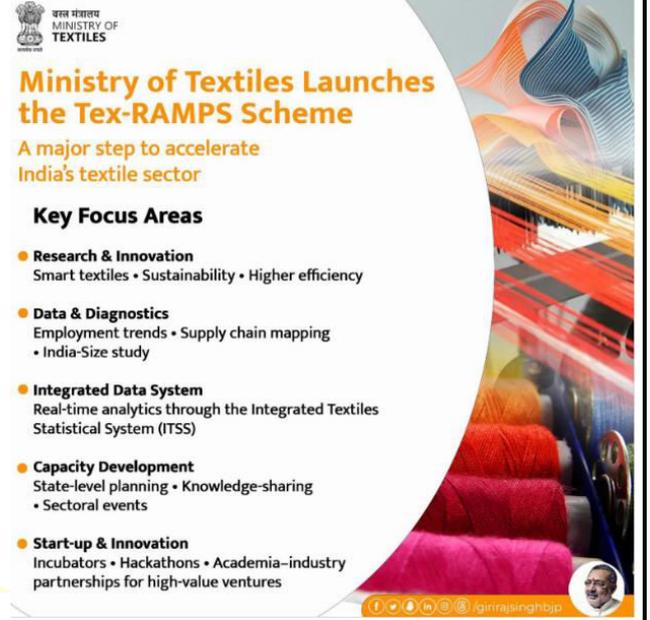
Explanation:It does **not focus solely on wage support or skill development of workers** (though capacity-building may be a part of broader ecosystem support).

5. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

WHY IN NEWS Chief Election Commissioner of India is set to assume the role of the Chairperson of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) for the year 2026.

About International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

- It is an inter-governmental organisation established in 1995.
- It works to strengthen democratic institutions and electoral processes worldwide.
- International IDEA has been granted UN observer status.
- Objective: The objectives of the Institute are to support stronger democratic institutions and processes, and more sustainable, effective and legitimate democracy.
- Member countries: It currently has 35 member countries, with the United States and Japan as observers. India is a founding member of International IDEA



29th Nov 2025

1. MH-60R Seahawk Helicopter
2. Lake Biwa
3. Golden Jackal
4. National Mission for Mentoring

1. MH-60R Seahawk Helicopter

WHY IN NEWS Recently, India sealed a ₹7,995-crore deal with the U.S. as part of a "follow on support" package for the Indian Navy's fleet of 24 MH-60R Seahawk helicopters for five years

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the MH-60R Seahawk helicopter:

1. It is a multi-role maritime helicopter developed by the United States.
2. It is capable of Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) and Anti-Surface Warfare (ASuW).
3. It has been inducted into the Indian Navy.
4. It is manufactured by Boeing.

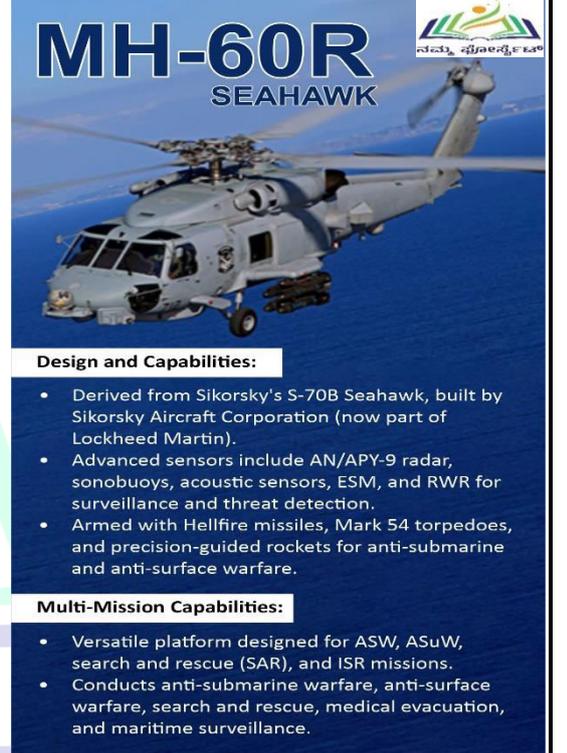
Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (It is manufactured by Sikorsky (a Lockheed Martin company), not Boeing)

2. Lake Biwa

WHY IN NEWS Researchers recently unearthed a remarkably well-preserved ancient relic, a nearly intact pottery vessel, in Japan, dating back over 10,000 years.



Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Lake Biwa:

1. It is the largest freshwater lake in Japan.
2. It is located on the island of Honshu.
3. It drains into the Pacific Ocean through the Yodo River.
4. It is a tectonic lake and one of the oldest lakes in the world.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (d) 2 and 4 only

Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

ABOUT LAKE BIWA

It is the largest freshwater lake in Japan.

It is located in Shiga ken (prefecture), west-central Honshu.

Approximately 64 km long from north to south, the lake covers an area of 672 sq.km.

Its name refers to the biwa, a Japanese musical instrument that the lake resembles in shape.

It is believed to be one of the world's oldest lakes, formed at least four million years ago.

The lake occupies a structural depression and is fed by small rivers flowing from the encircling mountains.

The sole outlet, the Yodo River, flows from Lake Biwa's southern tip, past Seta southwest to Osaka Bay.

Lake Biwa is a breeding ground for freshwater fish, including trout, and supports a pearl culture industry.

It also serves as a reservoir for the cities of Kyōto and Ōtsu and is a valuable resource for nearby textile industries.

3. Golden Jackal

WHY IN NEWS The Golden Jackal Ambassadors' scheme is to be launched by Tenkasi District Forest Division of Tamil Nadu for conserving the rapidly dwindling Golden Jackals.

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Golden Jackal:

1. It is classified as "Least Concern" on the IUCN Red List.
2. It is found in India and across parts of Europe, Africa, and Asia.
3. It is listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
4. It is an omnivorous and highly adaptable species.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 4 only (In India, it is listed under Schedule II, not Schedule I)

WILDLIFE SOS

GOLDEN JACKAL
(CANIS AUREUS)

Distribution

Food Habits
Omnivores and opportunistic foragers

Threats
Habitat loss, hunting & poaching

Habitat
Rivers, lakes, wetlands, and mangrove swamps

Size
1.6 feet (height)
3.5 feet (length)

IUCN Red List Status: EX (Extinct), EW (Extinct in the Wild), CR (Critically Endangered), EN (Endangered), VU (Vulnerable), NT (Near Threatened), LC (Least Concern)

4. National Mission for Mentoring

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the fifth edition of the India Internet Governance Forum (IGF-2025) concluded with a clear vision for inclusion, stronger digital infrastructure and responsible AI.

About National Mission for Mentoring

- It is the flagship initiative of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education.
- It is in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- It provides platforms for professionals and experts where they can share knowledge, skills and expertise as a Mentor with Mentee teachers and help them in their journey to become effective teachers.
- It was launched on 29th July 2022 in selected 30 Central Schools (15 KVs, 10 JNVs, 5 CBSE) across the country.
- It aims to create a supportive environment, enhance mentorship experiences and contribute to individual and collective growth

30th Nov 2025

1. Thalassemia
2. Hansa-3 (NG) Trainer Aircraft
3. INS Taragiri
4. Ellora Caves
5. Perseverance Rover

1. Thalassemia

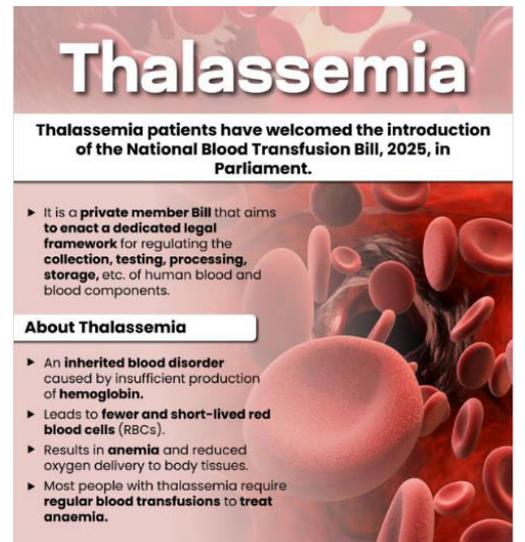
WHY IN NEWS Scientists recently tested a gene-editing method called adenine base editing to fix two severe mutations that cause -thalassemia, a genetic blood disease

Q1. With reference to Thalassemia in India, consider the following:

1. India has one of the highest numbers of Thalassemia patients in the world.
2. Carrier screening plays a key role in prevention.
3. Prenatal diagnosis can help reduce disease burden.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only





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(c) 1, 2 and 3

(d) 1 only

Answer: (c) 1, 2 and 3

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HANSA-3(NG) TRAINER AIRCRAFT

The Minister unveiled the production version of the **Hansa-3(NG)**, India's first all-composite **two-seater trainer aircraft** designed to meet rising demand for pilot training. With India expected to require nearly **30,000 pilots over the next two decades**, the platform will reduce reliance on imported aircraft. The industry partner is establishing a major facility in **Andhra Pradesh** to produce up to 100 units annually, supporting employment and entrepreneurship in aviation.

2. Hansa-3 (NG) Trainer Aircraft

WHY IN NEWS Recently, the CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bengaluru, launched a "production version" of the indigenous Hansa-3(NG) trainer aircraft.

3. INS Taragiri

WHY IN NEWS Recently, INS Taragiri was delivered to the Indian Navy at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilding Ltd (MDL), Mumbai

Project 17A (P-17A) is India's indigenous program to build seven advanced, multi-mission **Nilgiri-class stealth frigates** for the Indian Navy,

1. INS Nilgiri (**First of Class**)
2. INS Himgiri
3. INS Udaygiri
4. INS Dunagiri
5. INS Taragiri
6. INS Vindhyagiri
7. INS Mahendragiri (**Last of Class**)



4. Ellora Caves

WHY IN NEWS Scottish historian William Dalrymple wants the Maharashtra government to showcase the lesser-known sites at Ellora, including the last Ottoman Caliph's empty tomb, Malik Ambar's tomb, the first Peshwa's tomb, and the Sufi and Naga traditions at the caves

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Ellora Caves:

1. They are located in the Deccan Plateau region of India.
2. They represent Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain traditions.
3. The Kailasa Temple (Cave 16) is a monolithic rock-cut structure.
4. They were constructed entirely during the Gupta period.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only

Aspect	Ajanta Caves	Ellora Caves
Location	Aurangabad district, Maharashtra	Aurangabad district, Maharashtra
Period	2nd century BCE – 6th century CE	6th – 10th century CE
Religion	Buddhist only	Buddhist, Hindu & Jain
Total Caves	30 caves	34 caves
Patronage	Satavahanas and Vakatakas	Rashtrakutas, Chalukyas, Kalachuris
Type of Caves	Chaityas and Viharas	Temples, monasteries
Famous For	World-famous mural paintings	Rock-cut monolithic architecture
Major Highlight	Ajanta paintings (Jataka tales)	Kailasa Temple (Cave 16)
Sculptural Style	Emphasis on paintings	Emphasis on sculpture
Construction Technique	Excavated horizontally	Excavated vertically (top-down)
UNESCO Status	World Heritage Site	World Heritage Site

5. Perseverance Rover

WHY IN NEWS In a significant breakthrough, NASA's Perseverance rover recently detected electrical activity in Mars' atmosphere for the first time.

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Perseverance Rover:

1. It is part of NASA's Mars 2020 mission.
2. Its primary objective is to search for signs of ancient microbial life on Mars.
3. It landed in the Jezero Crater.
4. It is equipped to collect and cache Martian rock samples for future return to Earth.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only





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(c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

(d) 2 and 4 only

Answer: (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

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The Current Affairs Monthly Magazine provides a comprehensive and exam-oriented compilation of national and international events, presented in a structured and easy-to-understand format. Each edition ensures day-wise analysis of key developments, supported by YouTube classes for better conceptual clarity. The magazine effectively integrates both Prelims and Mains perspectives, making it highly relevant for aspirants of competitive exams. Its unique feature, MCQ-based analysis, helps in quick revision and self-assessment. The content is concise, authentic, and regularly updated to reflect the latest issues. The exam-focused presentation style ensures that learners can easily link static and dynamic portions of the syllabus. Overall, it serves as a one-stop resource for aspirants seeking holistic preparation and conceptual clarity in current affairs.



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