

MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

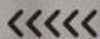
September 2025



Assam | India | World

PRABAH

BHUPEN HAZARIKA



For APSC & Other Competitive Exams



At **Aspire ACS Coaching Institute**, we understand that staying updated with current affairs is crucial for success in competitive exams. This Monthly Current Affairs Compilation is specially curated by our expert Content Creator and Expert Faculty members to provide students with a concise, reliable, and exam-focused overview of important State, national and international events.

Our Edition is designed to:
Support preparation for **APSC** and other competitive exams

We aim to simplify your preparation journey by delivering accurate and structured content – all in one place. Let this compilation be your trusted companion for smart and consistent learning.



aspireacs.in | 8822194743



Table Of CONTENT

- 01** Assam Specific (1-4)
- 02** History | Art and Culture (5-8)
- 03** Polity (9-16)
- 04** Geography (17-18)
- 05** Economy (19-22)
- 06** Schemes (23-25)
- 07** International Relation (26-31)
- 08** Science and Technology (32-33)
- 09** Defence/Exercises (34-37)
- 10** Miscellaneous(38-41)

Assam Specific

1. King of Assamese Music “Zubeen Garg” Passed away on Sept 19, 2025

All about Zubeen Garg - Musical legend Zubeen is not only a singer but also a composer, actor, and also a cultural icon of Assam. He carried Assamese music and culture onto the global stage through his 38000+ hit songs in over 40 languages



- Born on 18 November 1972 into an Assamese family in Tura, Meghalaya.
- He passed his matriculation exam in Tamulpur Higher Secondary School.
- **Singing career :**
 - Debut Assamese album – Anamika (1992);
 - Other prominent albums - Junaki Mon (1993), Maya (1994), Asha (1995), Rumal etc.
 - First Bihu album – Ujan Piirti.
 - First Indipop (Hindi) solo album – Chandini Raat.
- **Acting career :**
 - Debut film (director & actor) – Tumi Mur Mathu Mur
 - Other prominent films - Prem Aru Prem (2002), Dinabandhu (2004), Mon Jaai (2008), Gaane Ki Aane (2016), Mission China (2017), Priyaar Priyo (2017), The Underworld (2018), Kanchanjangha (2019), Rajneeti (2022), Dr. Bezbaruah 2 (2023)
 - Last Film – Roi Roi Binale (to be released)

- He won the 55th national film award for best non feature film musical direction ‘Echoes of Silences’.
- Zubeen Garg’s contribution to Assam are vast and varied.
 - He played a crucial role in modernizing assamese music at the same time preserving its traditional elements through his various songs and albums.
 - He also played a crucial role in shaping and giving a new direction to Assamese Film industry as an actor, director and music composer.
 - He is a cultural icon and represented Assam at various international and national levels.
 - Zubeen work is not only limited to music and cinemas but also had a social impact such as education, environment conservation etc

Zubeen Garg’s untimely demise leaves an unfillable void in Assam’s cultural landscape. However his music and legacy will live on and his memory will continue to motivate future generations.

2. Drop in Assam’s infant mortality rate

Context : Assam’s infant mortality rate drops from 41 to 30 in five years.

Key points :

- Assam’s IMR stood at 30 in 2023, as against 41 in 2018.
- The IMR in the rural areas of the State was 32 in 2023, while it was as low as 15 in the urban areas.
- Assam had the highest difference in IMR between rural (32) and urban areas (15).
- The State’s overall Neo-Natal Mortality Rate was 21 in 2023. It was 22 in the urban areas and 12 in the rural areas of Assam.
- Mizoram & Manipur has the lowest infant mortality rate (IMR) among the Northeast states and in the country

What is Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) & Neonatal IMR

- IMR is the number of infant deaths (children under 1 year) per 1000 live births within a specific time period and region.
- Neonatal IMR is the number of deaths in live born infants (under 28 days) per 1000 live births.

3.Foreign Tourists Visits Guru Tegh Bahadur Guruduwara in Dhubri

Context : A group of 27 senior citizens from foreign counties, currently on a 17-day 'Assam Tour on Cruise', arrived in Dhubri on Tuesday aboard the MV Mahabaahu.



About Guru Tegh Bahadur Guruduwara

- The first Sikh Guru Nanaka visited this place in 1505 A.D. & met Mahapurush Sri Sankardeva during Nanaka's way from Dhaka to Assam.
- Thereafter the 9th Guru Tegbahadur came to this place and established this Gurudwara during 17th century.
- It is known locally as Dumdume Gurdwara.

About MV Mahabahu

- It is a luxury river cruise ship that navigates in the mighty Brahmaputra.

4.Swast Nari Sashakt Parivar initiative

Context : Assam to host 14,690 women health camps under 'Swast Naari, Sashakt Parivar' initiative dedicating to women's health.

Aim & Objective : To take healthcare to the remotest villages of Assam so that even the most marginalised women can access timely diagnosis and treatment

5.Nikshay Mitra Avijan

Context – Assam CM announced the launch of the 'Nikshay Mitra Abhijan' to support tuberculosis patients with nutritious meals.

About Tuberculosis

- It is a bacterial infection affecting the lungs, spreading through the air.
- It is preventable and curable with antibiotics.
- The Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine is given to infants to prevent TB.

Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (PMTBMBA)

- Launched in 2022 as part of National TB Elimination Program (NTEP), it focuses on providing nutritional, diagnostic, and vocational support to improve treatment outcomes and accelerate India's TB elimination goal.
- PMTBMBA is the world's largest crowd-sourcing initiative for TB patient nutrition.

4.PM Modi's 2 day Assam visit

Context – PM Modi attend a special tribute programme for legendary singer Bhupen Hazarika on the occasion of his birth centenary and launch projects worth over Rs 19,000 crore.

- PM Modi described Hazarika's creations as embodying the spirit of "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat."

- On the occasion, he released a book on the maestro's life and a Rs. 100 commemorative coin in his memory.
- Developmental Projects –
 - He also inaugurated a bamboo-based ethanol plant built at a cost of over Rs 5,000 crore at Numaligarh.
 - Laid Foundation stone for Darang Medical College & Guwahati Ring road.
 - Laid foundation stone for Polypropylene plant at NRL.

5. Birth Centenary of Dr Bhupen Hazarika

Context : PM Modi addresses the 100th birth anniversary celebrations of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika in Guwahati.



- During his visit PM Modi released a commemorative silver coin of Rs.100 & postage stamp.
- He also released a Hazarika's biography titled ' Bharat Ratna Bhupen Hazarika' written by Anuradha Bapujari.

About Bhupen Hazarika

- He was born in 8th September 1926 in Sadiya.
- Debut Film as an actor – Indramati (1939) as a child artist
- Debut film as a director / composer – Era Bator Xur(1956)
- First Song Album – Modern Assamese song (Silongore godhuli was popular song)

Awards & Honors

- 9th National Film Award (1961) – Shakuntala (best feature film in Assamese).
- 23rd National Film Award (1975) – Chameli Memsab (Music Director)
- Padmashri (1977), Sangeet Natak Akademi (1987), Dada Saheb Phalke (1992), Asom Ratna (2009), Padma Vibhushan (2012), Bharat Ratna (2019)

Xudha Kontho Bhupen Hazarika was a legendary singer although his legacy extends beyond his music. He passed away on November 5, 2011.

6. Sundari Temple

Context – During PM Modi's North East Visit, he inaugurated Sundari Temple in Tripura.

- It is one of the 51 Shakti Peethas like Kamakhya Temple.

7. Mizoram's first railway line

Context : PM Modi inaugurated Mizoram's first railway line and flagged off the state's maiden Rajdhani Express connecting Aizawl with Delhi.



- Bairabi–Sairang Rail Project, connects Mizoram's capital, Aizawl, to the national rail network for the first time.

8. Discovery of new species



Context – A new species of bent toed **gecko** has been recorded from the montane forest of Dima Hasao.

What is gecko ?

It is a type of lizard (reptile) mostly carnivorous.

9. African Swine Fever

Context – The government of India has officially declared Eradigholpani village of Karbi Anglong as the epicenter of African Swine Fever outbreak.

- African swine fever virus (ASFV) is a large, double-stranded DNA virus in the Asfarviridae family.
- It is the causative agent of African swine fever (ASF).
- The virus causes a hemorrhagic fever with high mortality rates in domestic pigs.

9. Governor Assam Vishwakarma Samman

- It is an award presented by the Assam Governor to recognise the achievements of differently-abled individuals (Divyangjan) in various fields on the occasion of Vishwakarma Jayanti.

Present Governor of Assam – Lakshman Prasad Acharya.

10. Bahubali Eggs

Context : Cabinet has approved setting up of commercial layer farm in Dergaon for the production of Bahubali eggs.

- Bahubali Eggs" is an Assamese egg brand founded by entrepreneur Akash Gogoi in 2018.
- It is known for their size and organic quality.

History/Art & Culture

1.PM Modi Reviews National Maritime Heritage Complex in Lothal, Gujarat.

Context: Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the ancient town of **Lothal**, near Ahmedabad, Gujarat, to review the progress of the **National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)**. He inspected completed works and chaired a review meeting with officials.



- The NMHC is India's **first-ever maritime heritage museum**, located at **Lothal**, one of the key sites of the ancient **Indus Valley Civilization**.

- The project aims to **safeguard, showcase, and educate** the public on India's **rich maritime history and heritage**.

- Implementing Scheme:** The project is being developed under the **Sagar Mala Scheme** of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

- Project Cost:** Estimated between **₹3,500 crore – ₹4,500 crore** (US\$410–530 million).

- International Collaboration:** **India and Vietnam** are jointly working on the development of NMHC, highlighting shared maritime heritage.

2.100 years of the Self-Respect Movement in Tamil Nadu:

Context: This year (2025) marks 100 years of the Self-Respect Movement launched in Tamil Nadu in 1925 by Periyar E.V. Ramasamy. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has Unveiled a portrait of the social reformer 'Periyar' E.V. Ramasamy on

the University of Oxford campus in the United Kingdom

- A radical **social reform movement** against caste oppression, patriarchy, and religious orthodoxy Launched_in **1925, Tamil Nadu**, through the Tamil weekly *Kudi Arasu*.

- E.V. Ramasamy (Periyar)** was the founder and chief ideologue.

Aim:

- To **eradicate caste hierarchy and Brahmanical dominance**.

- Promote **self-respect, social equality, and gender justice**.

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has Unveiled a portrait of the social reformer 'Periyar' E.V. Ramasamy on the University of Oxford campus in the United Kingdom

3.Lokmanya Tilak National Award

Context: was given to **PM Modi** in **Pune** on August 1st in honour of his **outstanding leadership** and for inspiring a **sense of patriotism** among Indians.

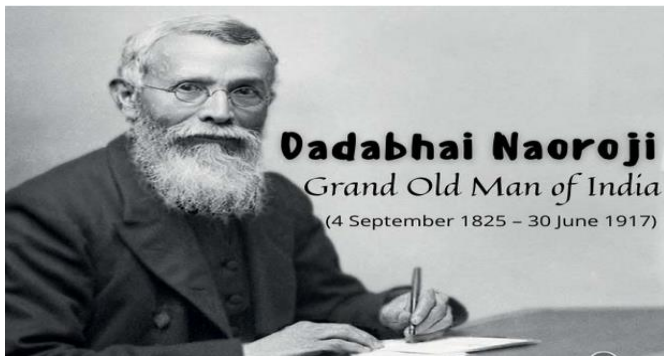
- Tilak was born on **23rd July 1856** in **Ratnagiri, Maharashtra**.

- He passed away on **1st August 1920**, just before the launch of the **Non-Cooperation Movement**.

- He preached the message of **self-respect, Swadeshi, and Swarajya (self-rule)**. **Mahatma Gandhi** called him **The Maker of Modern India**, while **Jawaharlal Nehru** described him as **The Father of the Indian Revolution (Unrest)**.

4.200th Birth Anniversary of Dadabhai Naoroji:

Context: On **4 September 2025**, Our Nation pay humble respects on the **200th birth anniversary** of **Dadabhai Naoroji**, the pioneer socialist of India and the "Grand Old Man of the Freedom Struggle."



- He was also the **first Indian to participate in the Socialist International Conference in Amsterdam in 1905**, at the age of **80**.

- Proposed the ‘drain of wealth theory.’

- His book, ‘Poverty and Un-British Rule in India’ explained how Britain's colonial policies caused a continuous, uncompensated transfer of India's wealth to Britain.

- In 2014, the British government introduced the Dadabhai Naoroji Awards, launched by then Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, to honour contributions to UK-India.

5.Operation Polo (Sept 13–17, 1948)

Context: Hyderabad, ruled by the Nizam, was the largest princely state (2 lakh sq. km., 16 million population, majority Hindus under a Muslim ruler). The Nizam refused to accede to India post-1947, leading to military intervention. Operation Polo was a significant military operation conducted by the Indian Armed Forces in September 1948, which resulted in the annexation of the princely state of Hyderabad into the Indian Union.

- On Sept, 2025, marks the **77th anniversary** of Operation Polo, reflecting on the political, social, and military aspects of Hyderabad’s merger with India.

- Nizam Hyderabad was Osman Ali Khan. & **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, India's Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister, was the chief strategist of the operation.

- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was called the "Iron Man of India" for his decisive leadership in integrating the princely states.

6.Gyan Bharatam portal:

Context: Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Gyan Bharatam portal in September 2025 at the International Conference on Gyan Bharatam in New Delhi. The portal aims to digitise and preserve India's vast **manuscript heritage**, which includes nearly one crore manuscripts in around 80 languages.

- The initiative will make these manuscripts accessible globally and protect them from intellectual piracy.

- This initiative, part of the **Gyan Bharatam Mission** announced during the 2025 Budget session.

- India has the world’s largest collection of manuscripts, covering subjects like philosophy, science, medicine, art, astronomy, and architecture. Ex: **the Gilgit texts on Kashmir's history, Kautilya's Arthashastra, Buddhist texts from Sarnath** etc.

7. First Digital Tribal University 'Adi Sanskriti':

Context: The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the world's first Digital Tribal University, **Adi Sanskriti**, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. This digital academy offers e-learning and an online marketplace to showcase tribal art, culture, crafts, and knowledge globally.

Its three pillars are :

- **Adi Vishwavidyalaya:** A digital academy offering 45 global courses on tribal dance, music, painting, crafts, and folklore.

- **Adi Sampada:** A socio-cultural repository with 5,000+ curated documents on dance, painting, textiles, artefacts, and livelihoods.

- **Adi Haat:** An online marketplace, linked with TRIFED, connecting consumers directly to tribal



artisans for sustainable income and market expansion.

- **Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan** is a national movement to build a decentralized tribal leadership and governance ecosystem.

8. Vrindavani Vastra to return from British Museum:

Context: In a momentous cultural milestone for Assam, the British Museum in London has agreed to loan the **Vrindavani Vastra**, a 16th-century silk textile created under Srimanta Sankardeva, to India in 2027 for an 18-month public display.

- Vrindavani Vastra, The special tapestry was woven with colorful scenes from Lord Krishna's

life, under the supervision of **Mahapurush Sankar Deva** under the patronage of Koch king Nara Narayan.

- One of the great artistic endeavors of Sankardeva's **Neo-Vaishnavite movement** and reflects his eminent contribution as a socio-religious reformer.

- of the Vrindavani Vastra were carried to Tibet in the 17th–18th centuries, later collected by British explorers in the 19th–20th centuries. These pieces went to the India Museum and then the British Museum, with about 20 fragments surviving today.

9. Legacy of Golap Borbora:

Context : Assam marks the centenary of Golap Borbora, the state's first non-Congress Chief Minister (1978), whose leadership redefined Assam's politics, strengthened democracy, and laid foundations for reforms that continue to shape governance today.



Legacy of Political Transformation: Assam's political scenario was deeply impacted by Golap Borbora's approaches, which broke single-party dominance and introduced new models of governance.

- **Political Transformation:** Ended Congress monopoly, proving people's mandate could establish democratic plurality.

- **Coalition Politics Pioneer:** Introduced coalition-based governance, influencing future state politics.

- Political Plurality:** Strengthened diverse voices in governance.

- Institutional Reforms:** Open Door Policy, decentralized administration.

- Borbora** was a member of Rajya Sabha between 1968 and 1974. He headed Janata Party Government from March 12, 1978 to September 4, 1979. He succeeded Sarat Chandra Sinha as Chief Minister.

10.Lankhong Puja:

Context: The Tiwa tribe of Assam recently celebrated their traditional Lankhong Puja, a socio-religious festival where prayers are offered for a good harvest in the upcoming Rabi season.

- Celebrated by the **Tiwa (Lalung) tribe** of Assam.

- Reside mainly in **Nagaon, Morigaon**, as well as parts of **Meghalaya and Tripura**.

- popular folk song Lali-lai-Hilali & Lo Ho La Hai.

- Other festivals of Tiwa community **Borot Kham (Borot Utsav), Kablâ Phûja, Khel Cháwa Kham, Sôgra Phûja**.

11.The 125th anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's visit to Assam:

Context: The 125th anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's 1901 visit to Assam is being commemorated in 2025-2026 with a year-long celebration by the Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Guwahati.

- He stayed three days at Kamakhya Temple.

- delivered speeches at Sonaram High School and Cotton College on casteism, Vedanta, soul transmigration, and Upanishadic teachings.

- Swami Vivekananda's original name was **Narendra Nath Datta**. He was a monk and chief disciple of **Ramakrishna Paramhansa**. He introduced Indian philosophies of **Vedanta and Yoga** to the Western

Bhartiya Bhasha Samman 2025:

Context: Dr Nilakshi Choudhury, International Arbitrator and Attorney at the Supreme Court of India, daughter Choudhury from Barpeta district, was conferred the prestigious Bhartiya Bhasha Samman 2025.

The prestigious **award** is awarded by **Hindusthan Samachar**, one of India's oldest multilingual news agencies, founded in 1948.

POLITY

1.The Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025

Context: The Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, which **came into force** on September 1, introduces strict penalties for forged travel documents, strengthening India's immigration framework.

Features of the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025

1. **Regulation of Immigration:**
Empowers the Central Government to regulate immigration, entry, stay, and movement of foreigners in India.
2. **Repeals Older Laws:**
Replaces four existing laws –
 - a. Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920
 - b. Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939
 - c. Foreigners Act, 1946
 - d. Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000
3. **Immigration Posts:**
Authorises the Central Government to notify designated immigration posts for entry into and exit from India.
4. **Bureau of Immigration:**
Provides for setting up of a **Bureau of Immigration** for visa issuance and regulation of entry, transit, stay, and movement of foreigners within India.
5. **Registration of Foreigners:**
Makes it mandatory for foreigners to register with a Registration Officer upon arrival in India.

6. **Reporting Obligations:**
Requires carriers, educational institutions, and medical institutions to report details of foreigners (passengers, students, and patients).
7. **Offences and Penalties:**
 - a. Entry without valid passport or travel documents punishable with imprisonment up to 5 years, fine up to ₹5 lakh, or both.
8. **Power of Arrest:**
Authorises police officers (not below the rank of Head Constable) to arrest foreigners without warrant.
9. **Control over Premises:**
Civil authorities empowered to close or restrict admission of foreigners to places frequently visited by them.

2.Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009

Context: The Supreme Court is reviewing its earlier judgment that exempted minority institutions from the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

Background

- Matter referred to the **Chief Justice of India** for reconsideration of the *Pramati Educational & Cultural Trust Case (2014)*.
- In that case, SC held that the **RTE Act does not apply** to minority institutions (aided or unaided) as it violates **Article 30(1)**.

Article 30(1): Grants religious and linguistic minorities the right to establish and manage their own educational institutions.

Article 21A: Guarantees free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14.

Court's Observations

- RTE implementation **does not harm minority rights** under Article 30(1).
- Articles **21A and 30(1) must co-exist**.
- Exempting minority institutions weakens the vision of **inclusive and universal education**.
- The **25% reservation under RTE** need not force minorities to admit children of other religions/languages—it can also benefit children of their **own minority community**.

About the RTE Act, 2009

- Makes free and compulsory education a **fundamental right** for children aged 6–14.
- Mandates **25% seat reservation** in private schools for disadvantaged children.
- Ensures no child from weaker sections is denied or forced to drop out of elementary education.

3. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence (PWDV) Act, 2005

Context: The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence (PWDV) Act, 2005, completing 20 years in 2025, is a landmark law that recognized multiple forms of abuse within households and provided women with legal protection and relief.



Key Aspects of the Act

- **Definition of Domestic Violence:** Covers physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, and economic abuse, including harassment over dowry.
- **Institutional Mechanism:** States must appoint Protection Officers, register Service Providers, and notify shelter homes and medical facilities.
- **Role of Protection Officers:** Prepare domestic incident reports for Magistrates, arrange legal aid, and provide safe shelter.
- **Role of Service Providers:** Offer legal, medical, financial, or other assistance to the aggrieved woman.
- **Reliefs Available:** Protection order, residence order, custody of children, monetary relief, shelter, and medical support.
- **Residence Rights:** Every woman in a domestic relationship has the right to live in the shared household.

4. Access to Justice

Context: The Chief Justice highlighted that marginalized and vulnerable citizens continue to

face barriers like poverty, discrimination, and lack of awareness in accessing justice, calling for stronger legal aid and inclusive reforms.

More about the access to justice

Access to justice is the ability of a State where every person can get judicial redress in a fair, equal and speedy manner.

Article 14, Article 21, and Article 39A of the Constitution guarantee citizens the right to access to justice.

Institutional Initiatives for Access to Justice

- **National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms:** Aims to increase access to justice and enhance accountability through structural changes.
- **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987:** Establishes National Legal Services Authority, State Legal Services Authorities, and Lok Adalats to provide free legal aid and speedy justice.
- **E-Courts Mission Mode Project:** Focuses on the digitization of courts to improve efficiency and accessibility.

5.Criminalization of Politics

Context (ADR 2025 Report): Out of **4,092 MLAs** from **28 states and 3 UTs**, a large number face **criminal cases, including serious charges**, showing deep criminalization of politics.



- **Meaning:** Criminalization of politics refers to the **entry and dominance of individuals with criminal backgrounds** in legislative bodies, thereby influencing law-making and governance.

Causes: Heavy use of **money and muscle power** in elections.

- **Delays in judicial trials** allowing accused persons to contest and remain in office.
- Political parties prioritizing **winnability over integrity**.
- Lack of **stringent disqualification laws** for candidates facing serious charges.

Consequences:

- Weakens **democracy and rule of law**.
- Reduces **public trust** in politics and institutions.
- Promotes **corruption and misuse of authority**.
- Criminals influence **policy and governance** for personal gain.

Measures Taken

- **Legislative:**
 - *Section 8(3), Representation of the People Act, 1951* → Disqualifies legislators convicted for at least 2

years, with a 6-year bar after release.

- **Judicial Pronouncements:**
 - *Union of India v. ADR (2002)* → Mandatory disclosure of candidates' criminal charges (past and pending).
 - *Lily Thomas v. Union of India (2013)* → Legislators convicted of a crime face immediate disqualification.
 - *Public Interest Foundation Case (2018)* → Political parties must publish criminal records of their candidates.

6. Witness Protection Scheme, 2018

Context: The Supreme Court recently held that the *Witness Protection Scheme, 2018* is **not a substitute** for cancelling bail when its conditions are violated.

About Witness Protection Scheme, 2018

Objective:

- To keep **witnesses and their families safe**, so they can give statements **freely without fear or pressure**.
- To support **law enforcement** by protecting people who help criminal investigations and trials.

7. Aadhaar

Context: The Supreme Court directed the Election Commission to accept **Aadhaar as the 12th identity document during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Bihar**.

About Aadhaar

- **Definition:** A 12-digit random number issued by the **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**.
- **Data Included:**
 - *Demographic:* Name, Gender, Date of Birth, Address.
 - *Biometric:* Fingerprints, Iris scans, Facial Photograph.
- **Legal Provision:** Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 → Governments can require Aadhaar for beneficiaries to get benefits or subsidies under schemes funded by the Consolidated Fund of India or States.
- **Aadhaar Metadata:** As per the Supreme Court → cannot be stored beyond 6 months.
- **Related SC Judgment:** *Puttaswamy Judgment (2018)* → upheld the constitutional validity of Aadhaar for welfare schemes and government services.

8. Vice-President of India

Context: C.P. Radhakrishnan was elected as the **15th Vice-President of India**.

Office of the Vice President of India

- **Position:** Second-highest constitutional office in India.
- **Vacancy:** Constitution does not specify who performs duties when the office is vacant.

Constitutional Provisions

- **Article 63:** India shall have a Vice-President.
- **Article 64:** Vice-President shall be the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
- **Article 65:** Vice-President acts as President during a casual vacancy in the office of the President.

Election Procedure of the Vice President

- **Nomination:** Requires 20 proposers and 20 seconders, a ₹15,000 deposit, and a certified copy of the entry showing the candidate's name in the current electoral roll.
- **Voting:** Conducted by an Electoral College consisting of members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (both elected and nominated members).
 - Voting is done through **proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.**
 - Voting is by **secret ballot** (Article 66).

No Whip: Anti-Defection Law does not apply to Vice-Presidential elections.

9.Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Context: The Lok Sabha Speaker inaugurated the **11th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference** in Bengaluru.

About the CPA

- It is one of the oldest established organizations in the Commonwealth.
- **Genesis:** Founded in 1911.
- **Members:** Over 180 Legislatures (or Branches). (India is a member).
- **Headquarters Secretariat:** Houses of Parliament (UK), London.
- **Objective:** It offers a vast opportunity for Parliamentarians to collaborate on issues of mutual interest and to share good practice.

10.Personality Rights

Context: The Delhi High Court protected Abhishek Bachchan's personality rights, barring unauthorized commercial use of his image, name, or voice.

About Personality Rights

- **Definition:** Personality rights allow individuals to control the commercial use of their identity, including their name, image, voice, behaviour, and other unique traits.
- **Legal Protection in India:**
 - Not defined under a specific statute
 - Protected under:
 - **Common Law**
 - **Article 21** (Right to Privacy)
 - **Intellectual Property Laws**

11.Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act)

Context: The Supreme Court ruled political parties are not “workplaces” under the POSH Act, 2013.

The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace

(Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013



About POSH Act, 2013

- **Judicial Precedent:** Based on the *Vishaka* Judgment, 1997.
- **Scope:** Applies to all workplaces including government bodies, private sector, NGOs, educational institutions, hospitals, sports facilities, and covers domestic workers as well.
- **Internal Complaints Committee (ICC):**
 - Mandatory in every workplace with **10 or more employees**.
 - At least **50% members**, including the presiding officer, must be women.
- **Local Complaints Committee (LCC):**
 - Established in every district to handle complaints from workplaces with **less than 10 employees**.
- **Complaint Procedure:**
 - Must be filed within **3 months** from the date of the incident.

- ICC or LCC must complete the inquiry within **90 days**.

Section 23(4) of the RPA, 1950

Context: The Supreme Court stated that Aadhaar can be used by voters, as Section 23(4) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 permits its use.

About Section 23(4) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950

- **Provision:** The Electoral Registration Officer may require a person to provide their Aadhaar number under the Aadhaar Act, 2016, for identity verification during electoral registration.
- **Applicability:**
 - Applies to both new applicants and individuals already on the electoral roll.
 - Aims to authenticate entries and detect duplicate registrations within the same or different constituencies.

10. Commercial and Prohibited Speeches

Context: The Supreme Court held that commercial and prohibited speeches do not fall under the protection of fundamental rights.

Key Judicial Observations

- **Commercial & Prohibited Speech:** Not protected under Article 19(1)(a).
- **Hate Speech/prohibited speech:** Any expression inciting enmity, hatred, or violence based on religion, race, caste, or ethnicity.

- **Commercial Speech:** Includes advertisements or speech with economic intent.
- **Influencer Responsibility:** Influencers with large followings must act responsibly.
- **Penal Action & Compensation:** Proportionate punishment suggested under IT Rules and Cinematograph Act.
- **Social Media Guidelines:** Government directed to frame clear rules for regulating online content.

SC Judgements on Free Speech

- **Amish Devgan v. Union of India (2020):** Distinguished free speech from hate speech; stressed responsibility of influencers with wide reach.
- **Shreya Singhal v. Union of India (2015):** Held that online speech cannot be restricted unless there is imminent harm.

11. Collegium System in India

Context: With the appointment of two new judges, the Supreme Court has reached its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges.



About Collegium System

The appointment of Supreme Court judges in India is carried out through the **Collegium**

system, which evolved from a series of Supreme Court judgments.

- **Definition:** A system for making recommendations for appointment of judges of the Supreme Court (SC) and High Courts (HC).
- **Constitutional Basis:** Judges are appointed by the President under **Article 124** (SC) and **Article 217** (HC).
- **Composition:**
 - **For SC Appointments:** Collegium consists of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) and four senior-most SC judges.
 - **For HC Appointments:** Collegium at SC consists of the CJI and two senior-most SC judges.

Evolution of the Collegium System in India

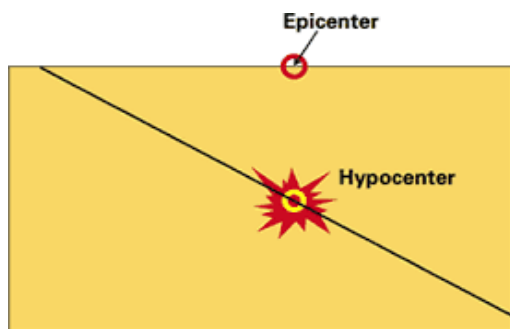
- **Pre-1980s:** Judicial appointments were controlled mainly by the executive; the President appointed judges in consultation with the CJI.
- **First Judges Case (1981):** SC held that *consultation* with the CJI doesn't mean *concurrence*, giving primacy to the executive.
- **Second Judges Case (1993):** SC ruled that *consultation* = *concurrence*, creating the Collegium system (CJI + 2 senior-most judges).
- **Third Judges Case (1998):** Collegium expanded to include the CJI and 4 senior-most SC judges.

•**Fourth Judges Case (2015):** SC struck down the NJAC Act and 99th Constitutional Amendment as unconstitutional, restoring the Collegium system.

GEOGRAPHY

1.ASSAM EARTHQUAKE- KOPILI FAULT

Context: An earthquake of 5.8 hit Assam on 17th September. The epicentre was Udalguri, Sonitpur district. It was a shallow earthquake of 5 km.



2.VIKRAMADITYA VEDIC CLOCK

Context: Madhya Pradesh CM inaugurated Vedic clock world's first clock display time based on ancient Hindu Panchang.

3.NATIONAL WATERWAY-57 MADE OPERATIONAL

Context: National river 57- Kopili river has been made operational to revive river based trade and boost logistics in Assam

KOPILI RIVER:

Left bank Tributary of Brahmaputra river

Originates from Shillong peak and joins Brahmaputra in Kopilimukh

It is largest south bank tributary of Assam

DO IT YOURSELF:

NATIONAL WATERWAY 1	
NATIONAL WATERWAY 2	
NATIONAL WATERWAY 3	

4.A RARE SIGHT: BLOOD MOON

Context: A Blood Moon is the red glow of the Moon during a total lunar eclipse.

- Lunar Eclipse: The Sun, Earth, and Moon align, with Earth between the Sun and the Moon.
- Solar Eclipse: The Sun, Earth, and Moon align, with Moon between the Sun and the Earth



Fig: red moon

Lunar Eclipse



Solar Eclipse



5.ARMENIA- AZERBAIJAN

Context: Decades of conflict goes between the two South Caucasus countries.

Background of the Conflict:

The Armenia–Azerbaijan conflict is mainly over NagornoKarabakh, a mountainous region inside Azerbaijan but predominantly populated by ethnic Armenians



Zangezur Corridor: The Zangezur Corridor is a planned transport route that connects Azerbaijan capital Baku to Kars in Türkiye, going through Armenia near the Iranian border.

6.DRAKE'S PASSAGE

Context: A massive 7.4 earthquake struck the Drake Passage, the strait that links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

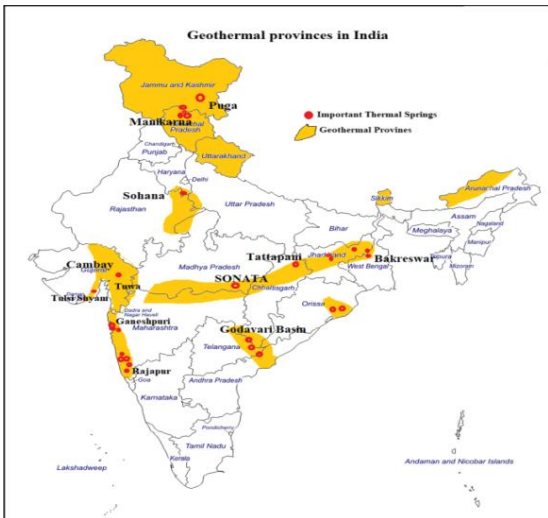


Drake Passage: It is located between South America's Cape Horn and the South Shetland Islands of Antarctica

Economy

1. India's First National Geothermal Energy Policy

Context: Recently, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has notified India's first national geothermal energy policy to unlock untapped geothermal resources.



India's First National Geothermal Energy Policy (2025)

Clean Energy Goal: India wants to reach Net Zero emissions by 2070. For this, the government is adding geothermal energy along with solar and wind.

Main Aim:

- Use the 10,600 MW geothermal potential.
- Provide steady (base-load) electricity.
- Reduce pollution in homes, industries, farming, and cities using heat pumps and other direct uses.

Where is the Potential?

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) found 381 hot springs and 10 geothermal zones.

Big sites: Ladakh (Puga–Chumathang), Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, SONATA Basin.

High heat areas (Ladakh): For making electricity.

Medium/low heat areas: For things like greenhouse farming, fish farming, and factories.

Key features:

1. Exploration & Data: Detailed surveys and a National Geothermal Resource Repository with support from institutions like Geological Survey of India.

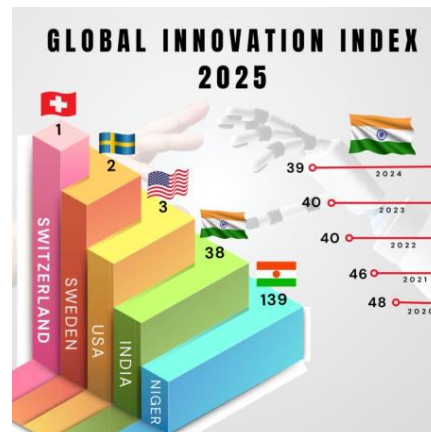
2. Reuse of Wells: Old oil & gas wells to be reused for geothermal energy with ONGC's help.

3. Technology & Partnerships: Promotion of Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHPs) and joint ventures with oil/mineral firms.

4. Investment Push: Tax benefits, duty exemptions, concessional land, green bonds, and 100% FDI to attract funds.

5. Uses & Tenure: Projects supported for 30 years, with applications in farming, aquaculture, cold storage, tourism, and power.

2. Global Innovation Index-2025



Context: The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has released the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025, ranking 139 economies.

Released by: WIPO, covering 139 economies.

India's Rank: 38th (up from 48 in 2020); 1st among lower-middle-income economies and in Central & Southern Asia.

Strengths: Knowledge & Tech Outputs (22), Market Sophistication (38), strong startup & IT sector.

Weaknesses: Business Sophistication (64), Infrastructure (61), Institutions (58).

Global Highlight: China enters Top 10; global R&D growth slows to 2.3% in 2025, lowest since 2010 crisis.

3. India's First Lithium-ion Battery Plant



Context: Union Minister for Electronics & IT inaugurated India's first advanced lithium-ion battery manufacturing plant in Sohna, Haryana.

Manufacturing Plant Details

Investment: ₹3,000 crore.

Capacity: 20 crore battery packs annually (to meet ~40% of India's requirement of 50 crore cell packs/year).

Products: Lithium-ion batteries for mobile phones, wearables, hearables (watches, earbuds, AirPods), and laptops.

Employment: Expected to create 5,000 jobs.

Timeline: Initial production to begin in Q4 2025, gradually scaling to full capacity.

Scheme: Established under the Centre's Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) scheme.

4. Port-based Green Hydrogen Pilot Project



Context: Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways inaugurated India's first Port-based Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port (Second-largest port in Tamil Nadu and the third-largest

container terminal), Thoothu-kudi, marking a milestone in India's clean energy transition.

About Green Hydrogen Pilot Project

Project Cost: Built at a cost of ₹3.87 crore.

Capacity: 10 Nm³/hr.

Applications: Used for powering streetlights and an electric vehicle charging station in the port colony.

5. UPI-UPU Integration Project



India launched the UPI-UPU Integration at the 28th Universal Postal Congress in Dubai to enable instant, affordable, and secure cross-border remittances via the global postal network.

Collaborators: Department of Posts, NPCI International Payments Ltd. (NIPL), and Universal Postal Union (UPU).

Technology: Combines UPI's real-time payment system with UPU's postal interconnection platform, leveraging India Post's digital and physical reach.

Impact:

- Reduces remittance costs and delays, supporting UN SDG 10.c (global remittance cost <3% by 2030).
- Promotes financial inclusion for migrants and underserved communities.
- Opens new revenue streams for postal services.
- Strengthens India's role in global financial architecture and e-governance diplomacy.

6. Pulses Production – NITI Aayog's Plan for Self-Sufficiency



Context : NITI Aayog released its report “Strategies and Pathways for Accelerating Growth in Pulses towards the Goal of Atmanirbharta”.

The report highlights the centrality of pulses in India’s food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and farmer livelihoods, while providing a roadmap to achieve self-reliance.

Current Status:

- India is the largest producer (25%), consumer (27%), and importer (14%) of pulses globally.
- Pulses are affordable plant protein, supporting nutrition.
- 5+ crore farmers depend on pulses, mainly in rainfed areas.
- 80% rainfed production makes it climate-sensitive; Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan contribute ~55%.

7.NITI Aayog has released a report on AI and Viksit Bharat

• NITI Aayog released the report “AI for Viksit Bharat” (2025).

• **Aim** → show how Artificial Intelligence (AI)

can help India become a developed nation (Viksit Bharat) by 2047.

• **Report says:** if India uses AI properly → it can add US\$ 500–600 billion to GDP by 2035.

8.Silver Hallmarking Revolution

Launched by: Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

Effective From: 1st September 2025.

Key Features:

- Introduction of voluntary HUID-based hallmarking for silver jewellery.
- New standard IS 2112:2025 introduced.
- Every hallmarked silver item will carry a Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) code, ensuring traceability and authenticity.

Objectives:

- Enhance consumer protection and trust.
- Prevent counterfeit silver in the market.
- Promote standardization in the silver sector, similar to gold hallmarking reforms.

Significance:

- First step towards structured regulation of silver like gold.
- Encourages transparency in jewellery trade.
- Supports the vision of Digital India by integrating hallmarking with technology.

9.India’s Coal Imports Decline Sharply.

Data Highlight:

Coal imports fell 16.4% year-on-year to 21.08 million tonnes in July 2025.

Reasons for Decline:

- Monsoon slowdown → lower demand from power plants and industries.
- High domestic stock availability → sufficient coal supply with Coal India Ltd. and other sources.
- Policy push for self-reliance in coal production under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Significance:

- Reflects India's reduced dependence on imported coal.
 - Positive for current account balance as coal is a major import item.
- Supports government's target of increasing domestic coal production (aim: 1.5 billion tonnes by FY 2030).

However, import demand for coking coal (for steel sector) may remain steady as domestic substitutes are limited.

Schemes

1. Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan



Recently, the Prime Minister launched the nationwide Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan.

- This is India's largest-ever women and child health mobilisation campaign, integrating health, nutrition, and wellness services nationwide.
- **AIM:** To provide preventive, promotive, and curative healthcare for women, adolescent girls, and children, while addressing malnutrition and lifestyle-related diseases.
- **Ministries Involved:** The programme is jointly led by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the Ministry of Women & Child Development (MoWCD).

It aims to organise over one lakh health camps across the country between 17th September and 2nd October 2025.

Daily health camps will be held in Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, CHCs, district hospitals, and government health facilities.

The campaign will reach grassroots through ASHAs, ANMs, Anganwadi workers, SHGs, PRIs, MY Bharat volunteers, and youth groups.

2. PM MITRA Park Scheme



The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the country's largest PM MITRA Park in Bhainsola village, Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh.

(About PM Mitra)

Ministry: Launched by the Ministry of Textiles in 2021.

Vision: Inspired by the 5F formula i.e. Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign, aiming to cover the entire textile value chain.

Aim: To establish integrated, large-scale, modern industrial parks with world-class infrastructure, reducing logistics costs and boosting competitiveness.

Time Period: 2021–22 to 2027–28 (six-year duration).

Implementation Agency: A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) jointly owned by the Centre and respective State Governments.

3. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)



The Central Government transfers financial assistance to over 15 lakh women under the PM Matru Vandana Yojana.

(About PM Matru Vandana Yojana)

- **Launch:** In action since 2017
- **Implementing Agency:** Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD).

- **Aim:** To Improve maternal health and nutrition, Provide financial assistance for wage loss during pregnancy and lactation and Promote institutional care for childbirth and child immunization.

Under this programme, funds will be transferred directly into the bank accounts of eligible women across the country with a single click.

- **Beneficiaries:** Pregnant and lactating mothers for their first live birth and for the birth of the second child, if the second child is a girl.

Excludes: Women employed in the government sector (Already availing maternity benefits).

Cash Incentive: ₹5,000 provided in three installments, subject to conditions:
(First Installment: On registration of pregnancy.

(Second Installment: After at least one antenatal check-up.

(Third Installment: Post verification of child's birth and first immunization.)

- A sum of Rs 6,000 is provided for the birth of the second child, if the second child is a girl.

4. BHARATI Startup Initiative



Launched by: Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

Objective: To support 100 agri-food startups with the aim of boosting India's agri-food exports to \$50 billion by 2030.

Focus Areas:

- Innovation in agri-food processing
- Value addition and packaging
- Enhancing global competitiveness

- Market linkages and export promotion

Significance:

- Encourages entrepreneurship in agriculture and food processing.
- Aligns with India's goal of becoming a major player in the global agri-food market.
- Supports farmers and rural economy by creating backward linkages.
- Helps in achieving the vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047' and strengthening India's role in global agri-trade

5. Bima Sugam – Digital Insurance Platform



Launched by: Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Implementation Start: December 2025.

Nature: A one-stop digital marketplace for insurance.

Key Features:

- Unified platform for buying, managing, and claiming insurance policies.
- Covers life, health, motor, and general insurance products.
- Simplifies KYC, documentation, and policy servicing.
- Enables portability of policies across insurers.
- Integration with DigiLocker and other digital identity systems.

Objectives:

- Improve insurance penetration in India.
- Enhance transparency and consumer trust.
- Reduce mis-selling and streamline claim settlements.
- Support the vision of "Insurance for All by 2047".

Significance:

- Empowers customers with a single digital interface.
- Boosts ease of doing business for insurers.
- Aligns with Digital India and financial inclusion goals..

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

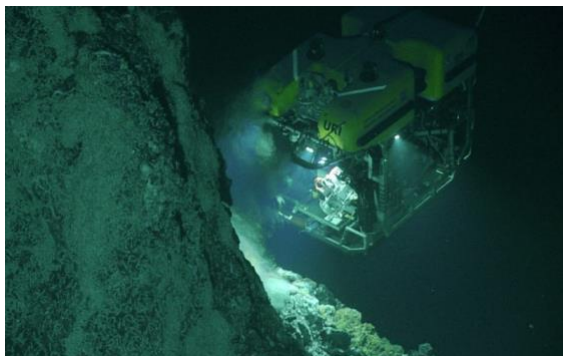
1.INDIA GETS EXPLORATION RIGHT IN INDIAN OCEAN

Context: India received licence from the International Seabed Authority (ISA) explore polymetallic sulphides nodules in the Carlsberg Ridge, in the northwest Indian Ocean.

These nodules are rich in manganese, cobalt, and other minerals which are critical for batteries, renewable energy infrastructure, and high-tech manufacturing.

ISA

Autonomous international organisation established by UNCLOS in 1994 to manage global commons. Its headquarter is in Jamaica



2.RUSSIA SIGNS A DEAL WITH NIGER

Context: Russia signs a civil nuclear deal with Niger, a country in sahel region to built economic ties.

Sahel: A semi arid region in African continent extending from Atlantic ocean to Red sea

The area passes through 10 countries

3.ETHIOPIA IS INAUGRATING GERD DAM ON BLUE NILE

Context: Ethiopia is building one of the largest dams in the world, the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), on the **river Nile** near the Sudan border.

Gerd: Grand Ethiopia Renaissance Dam. It is also called Millenium Dam and sometimes referred to as the Hidase Dam

It is Africa's largest Hydro dam which is in Ethiopia- Sudan Border.



DO IT YOURSELF.

Blue Nile originates:	
White Nile originates:	
2 nd largest lake of the world:	
Nile river drains into:	

Longest river of the world	
----------------------------	--

- Economic: 2nd largest trade partner of India

4. CHABAHAR PORT

Context: Recently, the United States has revoked the sanctions waiver for Iran’s Chabahar Port.

Chabahar port: deep-water port located in Iran and Gulf of Oman.

It is the only Iranian Port which has access to Indian Ocean



5.SAUDI- PAKISTAN DEFENCE AGREEMENT

Context: Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed a Mutual defence agreement which could have great impact in India’s national interest in Saudi Arabia

The pact includes a collective defence clause, joint military mechanisms, and intelligence-sharing.

Significance of Saudi for India:

- Diaspora: 2.6 million Indian community

6.NEPAL UNREST AND THE REMOVAL OF GOVERNMENT

Context: Nepal’s Gen Z protests erupted over a social media ban, sparking deadly violence and PM Oli’s resignation

The recent political Turmoil in India’s neighbouring countries (Nepal and Bangladesh) poses a threat to India’s border states like illegal immigration, human trafficking, illicit trade etc.

India will have to deal with this turmoil, not only by defensively minimizing risks but also by actively supporting the transformation of its neighboring countries.

7.INDIA- PHILLIPINES PARTNERSHIP

Context: The Philippines and India formally elevated their bilateral ties through a declaration on establishing a Strategic Partnership which completes 75 years.

Relation:

1. People to people connection- Around 1.2 lakhs Indian people live in Philippines
2. Focus on Blue Economy- shrimp cultivation
3. Philippines is an important component of our Act East Policy
4. Defence – Philippines was the first country to buy our Brahmos missiles worth 375 million

By working together, both countries can guarantee shared prosperity, stability, and security in the region

8.UN-INDIA GLOBAL CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVE

Context: India launched projects with the UN under Global Capacity Building Initiative for Asia, Africa and Caribbean countries.

Global Capacity Building Initiative

- India and the United Nations jointly launched it in September 2023
- Objective: Share India’s development experiences, best practices, and expertise with Global South nations through capacity-building and training programs for accelerating progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Implemented through the new UN India SDG Country Fund as well as the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC)



9.ALASKA SUMMIT

Context: The President of USA and Russia met in Alaska regarding Ceasefire in Russia-Ukraine war.

Alaska :

- Part of United Nation
- It was bought by the USA from Russia as per Alaska Treaty 1867.
- USA and Canada Share the longest border in the World.

10.ASIA-PACIFIC INSTITUTE FOR BROADCASTING DEVELOPMENT (AIBD)

Context: India has been elected as the Chairman of the Executive Board of AIBD at 23rd General Conference in Thailand.

Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development:

- Founded in 1977 under UNESCO,
- AIBD is a unique regional inter-governmental organization.
- Secretariat: Kuala Lumpur
- Mandate: To achieve a vibrant and cohesive electronic media environment in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Members: It currently has 92 member organizations from 45 countries.
- India is a founding member of AIBD
- Prasar Bharati India’s public service broadcaster represents the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in the organization.

11.INDIA'S STRATEGY IN INDIAN OCEAN

Context: Parliamentary Committee on External Affairs presented report on 'Evaluation of India's Indian Ocean Strategy' in Lok Sabha.

Importance of Indian Ocean:

- 3rd-largest oceanic division in the world.
- Hosts 1/3rd of the world's population.
- Over 2/3rd of the world's oil shipments transit through it.



Challenges to the Indian Strategy :

- Geopolitical: Increasing presence of extra regional players with investments in ports and infrastructure (China- Hambantota port of Sri Lanka, Gwadar of Pakistan, Chittagong of Bangladesh) thereby expanding their strategic footprint and adversely impacting our security interests.
- Maritime Security: Region faces issues like piracy, terrorism, illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUU fishing), drug trafficking, and smuggling.

- Infrastructure and Connectivity Gaps: Several IOR countries, including India's key partners like Sri Lanka, Maldives, Mauritius and Seychelles, face infrastructural and financial limitations.

Way Forward :

- Strategy integrating Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific policies including strengthening cooperation through key multilateral platforms such as the Quad, IORA, and ASEAN.
- Strengthen maritime strategy: Enhancing India's maritime deterrence through advanced technologies, including satellite surveillance and AI-driven Maritime Domain Awareness.

12.25TH SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORAGAIZATION SUMMIT



- **Context:** 25th SCO Heads of State Summit is being held in Tianjin, China.

China hosted it for the 5th time, with the theme "Upholding the Shanghai Spirit: SCO on the Move."

Major Outcomes:

1. Kyrgyzstan took over the rotating presidency after China and will host the 2026 summit.
2. Members endorsed creating an SCO Development Bank to finance development infrastructure.
3. Leaders supported a just Palestinian settlement as essential for lasting West Asia peace.
4. SCO granted observer status within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).
5. Cholpon Ata (Kyrgyz Republic) declared SCO tourist and cultural capital for 2025–2026

SCO: Eurasian intergovernmental organisation and economic and security alliance.

Member countries: China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan, Iran, and Belarus

Official language: Russian and Chinese

Tianjin declaration:

- **Terrorism:** Leaders denounced terrorism in all forms, citing the Pahalgam and Jaffer Express attacks.
- **Global South:** Member states emphasized empowering the Global South amid trade uncertainties.
- **Proposal for SCO development Bank:** to reduce dependency on US dollar
- **Laos** added as new partner country
- **Artificial Intelligence Cooperative Map:** Cooperative use of AI with equitable and just rights to develop AI and enhance accountability
- **Global Governance initiative:** A vision for a more equal and fair global order with focus on-rule of law, justice and fairness

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM MODI JI'S SPEECH

- PM Modi outlined India's SCO vision under three pillars –

13.CHINA'S NEW K-VISA

Context: China has introduced a new visa category called the “K Visa” aimed at attracting foreign science and technology talent

It is aimed at attracting foreign youth and professionals in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) field.

Eligible applicants : graduates from renowned universities or research institutions with a bachelor's degree or higher, as well as professionals engaged in STEM-related teaching and research

14.MAITRI 2.0 CROSS-INCUBATION PROGRAMME.

Context: Maitri 2.0 Cross-Incubation Programme is the second edition of the Brazil–India Cross-Incubation Programme in Agritech

It is a two-way learning platform for co-creation between Indian and Brazilian innovators to build a stronger, innovative, and inclusive agri-food ecosystem for global food security.

Launched by the **Indian Council of Agricultural Research**

Science and Technology

1. Quantum City in Bengaluru

Context : The Karnataka government has allotted land in Bengaluru, for developing India's first Quantum City (Q-City), to build a \$ 20 billion quantum economy by 2035.

What is Quantum City ?

It is a planned, integrated hub designed to drive innovation, research, and commercialization in the field of quantum technology.

What is quantum technology?

Quantum technology uses the rules of quantum mechanics (like superposition and entanglement) to create devices with extraordinary power.

Core principles

Superposition: Quantum bits, or qubits, can be both 1 and 0 at the same time, allowing for massive parallel calculations.

Entanglement: Qubits become linked so that measuring one instantly affects the other, no matter the distance

These hubs bring together academic institutions, businesses, startups, and research facilities to promote a collaborative ecosystem for developing advanced quantum technologies.

2. Asian Giant Tortoise 🐢

Context : Manipur Zoo initiates 1st successful Asian Giant Tortoise conservation breeding.



The Asian Giant Tortoise is the largest tortoise species in mainland Asia. It is,

- **Scientific name:** Manouria emys phayrei
- **Status:** Critically Endangered (IUCN Red List)
- **Native habitat:** Northeast India (Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Assam, Meghalaya) and parts of Southeast Asia
- **Threats:** Habitat loss, hunting for meat, and illegal wildlife trade

3. Blue Dragon

Context : Spain closed beaches for the first time due to poisonous sea slug 'Blue Dragon'.

Sea slugs are shell-less molluscs that come in various colours and shapes.

Blue sea dragons are a type of sea slug.

They are often spotted in groups, creating formations known as 'blue fleets'.



Distribution: It can be found drifting on the surface of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans in temperate and tropical waters.

They are **hermaphrodites**, meaning they have both male and female reproductive organs.

4.Spacecity in Tirupati

Context : The government has partnered with **Skyroot Aerospace**, a Hyderabad-based private space startup founded by former ISRO scientists, to build the space city.

- **Focus:** Launch of private satellites and development of cost-effective small launch vehicles
- **Location Advantage:** Tirupati, already home to ISRO's Propulsion Complex, will serve as a natural choice to build integrated launch facilities.

5. AI minister DIELA

Context : Albania Appoints World's First AI Cabinet Minister .



Name Origin: "Diella" comes from the Albanian word for "sun."

Role: Overseeing public tenders and procurement, ensuring transparency and fairness.

Capabilities: Processes bureaucratic requests through voice commands, has already facilitated 36,600 digital documents and nearly 1,000 services.

Defense and Military exercise

1.Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0

Context: Exercise Yudh Kaushal 3.0 was conducted by the Indian Army in the high-altitude Kameng region of Arunachal Pradesh.



About Exercise Yudh Kaushal

- The major highlight was the **operational debut of the newly raised ASHNI platoons**, aimed at blending advanced technology with traditional combat skills for a decisive battlefield advantage.

- The exercise also saw **active participation of the Indian defence industry**, reflecting the emphasis on indigenous innovation and the vision of self-reliance.

2.Exercise Yudh Abhyas

Context: The India-US joint military exercise concluded in **Alaska**, described as a “*hallmark of growing military interaction*” between the two nations.



- The **Indian Army contingent** is participating in the **21st edition of the India–US Joint Military Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2025** in Alaska.
- This annual exercise, held since **2004**, strengthens defence cooperation between the two countries.
- The 2025 edition is focused on **UN peacekeeping operations** and **enhancing readiness for multi-domain challenges**.

3.Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)

Context: India will jointly develop advanced jet engines with France’s **Safran** for the **AMCA fifth-generation fighter programme**, boosting indigenous defense capabilities and reducing reliance on imports.



About AMCA

- A fifth-generation, medium-weight stealth fighter jet being developed by DRDO with a project cost of about ₹15,000 crore.
- **Timeline:** Prototype expected by 2028–29; induction planned by 2034–35.
- **Key Features of 5th Gen Fighter:**
 - Stealth design
 - Twin-engine with supercruise capability
 - Advanced AI-enabled avionics

- Long-range target detection using AESA radars.

4. Rampage Missiles

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will acquire additional Israeli-origin Rampage missiles.



About Rampage Missiles:

The Rampage is a long-range, air-to-ground precision attack missile capable of traveling at supersonic speeds, making it difficult to detect. It is developed by **Israel Aerospace Industries**.

5. Integrated Air Defence Weapon System

Context: DRDO successfully conducted maiden flight-tests of the **Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS)**.



About IADWS (Integrated Air Defence Weapon System)

The **IADWS** is a multi-layered air defence system designed to protect borders and critical installations by detecting and destroying threats such as missiles, aircraft, and drones. It

combines surveillance, threat identification, and air defence systems.

Key Components:

- 1. Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missiles (QRSAM)**
 - a. Short-range (5–30 km) missile system developed by DRDO.
 - b. Protects moving armoured forces from aerial attacks.
 - c. Mobile and capable of providing air defence on the move.
- 2. Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS)**
 - a. Man-portable system developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI).
 - b. Targets low-altitude aerial threats at short range.
- 3. Directed Energy Weapon (DEW)**
 - a. High-power laser developed by the Centre for High Energy Systems and Sciences.
 - b. Engages targets instantly using a powerful laser beam.
- 4. Command Centre**
 - a. Centralised control developed by Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL) to coordinate all components.

Purpose: To provide **multiple layers of protection** and strengthen India's air defence capabilities.

6. Project 17A

Context: Two multi-mission stealth frigates of **Project 17A** — *INS Udaygiri* and *INS Himgiri* — were commissioned into the Indian Navy,

enhancing its surface warfare capabilities.



About Project 17A

Frigates are versatile warships designed to protect other ships in a fleet from sea-based threats.

Project 17A is the follow-on of the **Shivalik-class frigates (Project 17)**.

- **Ships:** Seven frigates are being built indigenously by **Mazagon Dock (Mumbai)** and **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (Kolkata)**.
- **Propulsion:** Combined Diesel or Gas (CODOG) system — uses both diesel engines and gas turbines.
- **Weapons:** Equipped with supersonic surface-to-surface missiles, medium-range surface-to-air missiles, and rapid-fire guns.

7.Exercise Bright Star 2025

Context: The Armed Forces and Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff will participate in the multilateral **Exercise Bright Star 2025**.

About Exercise Bright Star

- **Origin:** Started as a bilateral US–Egypt exercise after the Camp David Accord (1977).
- **First edition:** 1980, Egypt.
- **Expanded:** Since 1995, includes multiple nations.
- **Significance:** One of the largest Tri-Service multilateral exercises in the region.

8.Wheeled Armoured Platforms (WhAP)

Context: India inaugurated its first overseas Wheeled Armoured Platforms (WhAP) manufacturing plant in Morocco.



About Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP)

- **India's first amphibious infantry combat vehicle (wheeled).**
- **Key technologies:** Integrated power pack with automatic transmission, flotation capability, and propulsion system.

The facility will produce India's first Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP) 8×8, designed by Tata Advanced Systems Limited and DRDO.

9.Exercise Maitree

Context: Exercise Maitree XIV, the 14th edition of the India-Thailand bilateral military exercise, commenced in Meghalaya, India.



About Exercise Maitree:

Instituted in 2006, Exercise Maitree is a significant joint training exercise between India and Thailand, focusing on company-level counter-terrorist operations in semi-urban terrain.

10. Operation Black Forest

Operation Black Forest is the largest anti-Naxal operation ever conducted on Karregutta Hill, located along the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border.

11. Exercise Siyom Prahar

Context: The Indian Army conducted **Exercise Siyom Prahar** in Arunachal Pradesh.

About Exercise Siyom Prahar

- **Aim:** To test and validate the integration of drones in tactical operations under battlefield-like conditions.
- **Drones Used:** Employed for surveillance, battlefield reconnaissance, target acquisition, and precision strikes.

12. Exercise Zapad-2025

Context: India took part in the joint military exercise **Zapad-2025**, launch

led by Russia and Belarus, held in Russia.



About Exercise Zapad

Initiated in 1999, it is a large-scale multilateral military exercise held every four years since 2009.

Objective: To assess defense preparedness against external threats.

13. Project Vijayak

Context: Project Vijayak of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) celebrated its 15th Raising Day in Kargil, Ladakh.

About Project Vijayak

- **Raised in 2010**, Project Vijayak (named after *Operation Vijay, 1999*) is tasked with providing road connectivity in **Kargil and Zaskar**.
- It plays a **critical role in strengthening security infrastructure along the LoC** while also boosting **all-weather connectivity and regional development**.

Miscellaneous

1.Zurich Tops at Smart City Index

•Zurich remains the world's smartest city.

•Delhi ranks the highest among Indian cities at 104.



The **IMD Smart City Index 2025**, released by the **International Institute for Management Development (IMD)**, Indian cities remain outside the global top 20.

According to IMD, a **smart city** is "an urban setting that applies technology to enhance the benefits and mitigate the drawbacks of urbanisation for its citizens."

Cities are ranked based on **five key parameters**:

1.Health and Safety

2.Mobility

3.Activities

4.Opportunities

5.Governance

2.Nepal Enters the International Big Cat Alliance

Context : Nepal has officially joined the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).



About: IBCA is an India-led global multi-country, multi-agency coalition of more than 90 big cat range and non-range countries dedicated to conserving **7 big cat species and their habitats**.

•It was proposed by the **Prime Minister of India in 2019**, officially launched in **April 2023 (Mysuru, Karnataka)** on the **50th anniversary of Project Tiger**.

•**Focus Species**: Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar, Puma.

•India hosts **5 of the 7 (Puma and Jaguar are not found in India)**.

3.Odisha imposes ban on Cutting Palmyra Palm Trees

Context : Odisha imposed ban on Cutting Palmyra Palm Trees due to their ecological and Social benefits.

Palmyra Palm Tree (Borassus flabellifer)

•**About**: It is indigenous to South and Southeast Asia, highly drought-resistant and recognised as the **State Tree of Tamil Nadu**.

•It is found mainly in **Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Tamil Nadu**.

•It is revered in **Tamil culture** as **Karpaga Vruksham** ("celestial tree that gives everything"), and its palm leaf

manuscripts were vital in preserving Tamil language and literature for centuries.

4. FIDE World Cup 2025

Context: The FIDE world Cup will be hosted in Goa



5. Diamond league

Context : Neeraj Chopra secures second place in Diamond league final in Switzerland.



Julian Weber of Germany claimed his first-ever Diamond League title with a world-leading throw of 91.57m.

6. Patt Utsav

Context: Annual Fair Patt Utsav celebrated in Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhaderwah is a region of fairs and festivals in Jammu. Its fairs and festivals have profoundly enriched the culture of the people. During these days people, irrespective of caste, creed participate in it in large numbers. "Mela Patt" having medieval origin occupies position among the fairs of Doda District.



7. 1000 e – scholarship for Afghan Students

Context : India Offers 1,000 E-Scholarships to Afghan Students for 2025–26

The scholarships will be granted under the Special Scholarship Scheme for Afghan Nationals (SSAN) administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) through the e-VidyaBharati (e-VB) i-learn portal. This initiative reaffirms India's support for education, capacity building, and people-to-people ties with Afghanistan.

8. USA to Host G20 Summit 2026

Context: Trump announces decision to host 2026 G20 Summit at his golf club in Miami.

The 18th G20 Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, under the theme Building a Just World and a Sustainable Planet.

9. US Open

Context: Carlos Alcaraz won the US open title by defeating Jannik Sinner.

- **Carlos Alcaraz** won his **second US Open** and sixth Grand Slam, becoming the youngest man since Björn Borg to achieve such a feat.



- **Aryna Sabalenka** successfully defended her US Open crown, becoming the first woman since **Serena Williams in 2014** to achieve back-to-back titles.

10. PV Narasimha Rao Award.

Context: Manmohan Singh Posthumously Honoured with PV Narasimha Rao Award for Economics.



Late former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, one of India's most celebrated economists and the architect of the 1991 economic liberalisation, has been posthumously honoured with the P V Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics.

11. Duleep Trophy

Context: Centzone after 11 years won Duleep Trophy under the captainship of Rajat Patidar



Other important trophies associated to cricket – Ranji Trophy, Syed Mushtaq Ali trophy, Irani Trophy etc.

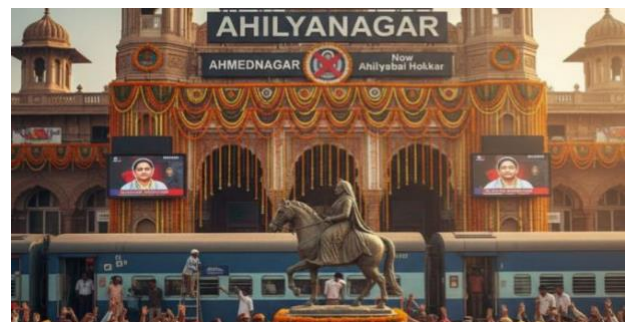
12. Silver Banyan Award

Context : Nagaland's Hornbill Festival won Silver Banyan Award for cultural music and Dance.



13. Ahmednagar ~ Ahilyanagar.

The new name of Maharashtra's **Ahmednagar** Railway station will be **Ahilyanagar** Railway Station.



14. Dadasaheb Phalke Award

Context: Malayali actor Mohanlal to be awarded with Dada Saheb Phalke Award.



15. Important Days.

14Aug : Hindi Divas

25 September : World Maritime Day 2025

Theme – **Our Ocean , our Obligation, our Opportunity ..**



www.aspireacs.in



+91 8822194743

₹ 114/