



INSTA ವಿದ್ಯಮಾನ

A Weekly Current Affairs Initiative

**KAS, FDA/SDA/PDO/ GROUP C,
PSI/PC, TEACHER'S EXAMS**

ಕನ್ನಡ & English

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December 1st Week 2025

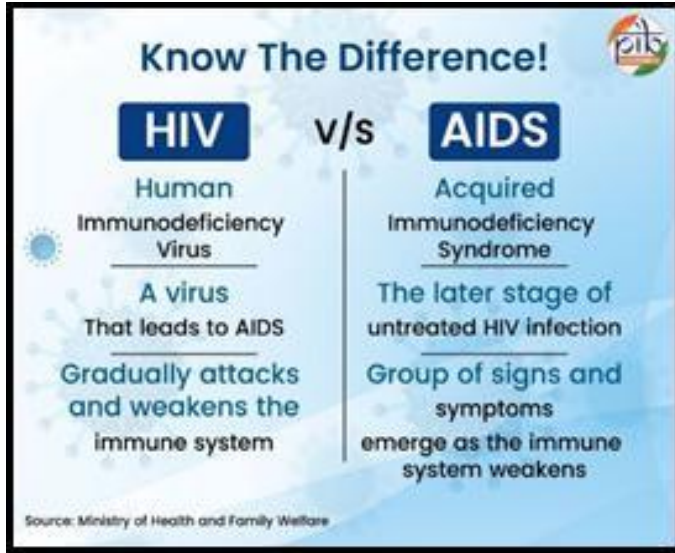
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WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS DECEMBER 1ST Week 2025

World AIDS Day Syllabus: GS2/Health



Context

- World AIDS Day is observed on December 1 every year.

World AIDS Day

- It is observed every year to raise awareness about the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- It was first marked in 1988 by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- Theme 2025: Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response.

Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

- **Pathogen** - It is a chronic, potentially life-threatening health condition caused by the **human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)** which damages the human immune system.
- **Transmission:** Through direct contact with certain **body fluids (blood, semen, rectal fluid, vaginal fluid or breast milk)** from a person infected with HIV.
- **Symptoms:**
 - Stage 1: Flu-like illness (Fever, chills, rashes, night sweats)

- Stage 2: Clinical latency (No particular symptoms)
- Stage 3: AIDS (Weakening of Immune System)

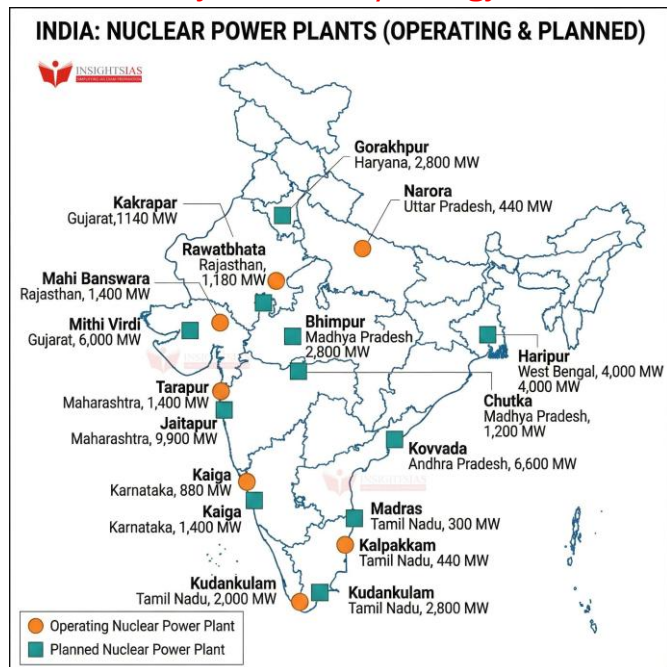
- **Prevention: Prevention is better than cure**, using protective techniques, non-contaminated needles & preventing mother to child transmission.
- **Treatment: There is no cure for HIV infection. It is treated with antiretroviral drugs**, which stop the virus from replicating in the body. Untreated HIV can progress to AIDS, often after many years.

Steps taken by Government of India

- **National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) (Central Sector Scheme)**
- India has achieved the 6th MDG of halting and reversing the HIV epidemic.
- **Prevention from Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT) programme**
- **HIV/AIDS Act 2017 (Prohibits discrimination against HIV-infected people on any grounds)**
- **90:90:90 strategy as adopted by UNAIDS (90% (diagnosed, treatment (by anti-retroviral treatment (ART)) & suppression)) by 2020. Extended by 10 years with the goal post of 95-95-95.**
- **Project ACCELERATE (John Hopkin & NACO initiative):** To provide HIV Services through **Safe Zindagi online portal**.
- **Mission Sampark:** Its purpose was to "bring back" people living with HIV (PLHIV) who had stopped antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Private Sector Entry in India's Nuclear Sector

Syllabus: GS3/ Energy



Context

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the government is moving towards opening up the nuclear sector for private players.

India's Nuclear Sector

- Nuclear power plants in India are **owned and operated only by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL)**.
- **Key legislations** - To allow private sector participation the government has proposed amendments to key legislations.
- **Atomic Energy Act, 1962**, a framework for nuclear energy development and regulation.
- **Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010**, ensuring compensation mechanisms for nuclear incidents.

Additional Information - Nuclear Energy

- **Definition** - Nuclear energy is the energy released during nuclear reactions, either through fission (splitting of atomic nuclei) or fusion (merging of atomic nuclei).

Status of Nuclear power capacity in India

- Nuclear power capacity of India - 8,180 MW, spread across 24 nuclear power reactors.
- Nuclear power capacity target - 100 GW by 2047
- **Capacity Expansion:** 10 new reactors (totaling 8 GW) under construction across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh.

Important Nuclear Power Plants in India

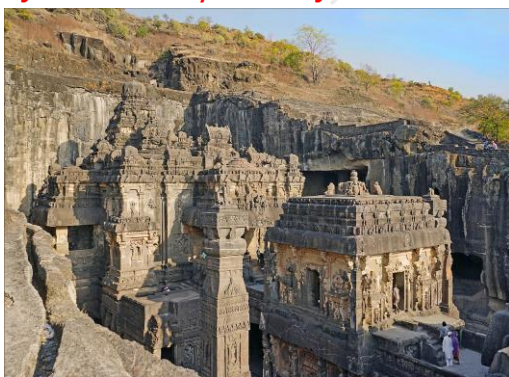
NUCLEAR POWER STATION	STATE	TOTAL CAPACITY (MW)
Tarapur	Maharashtra	1,400
Rawatbhata	Rajasthan	1,180
Kudankulam	Tamil Nadu	2,000
Kaiga	Karnataka	880
Kakrapar	Gujarat	1140
Kalpakkam	Tamil Nadu	440
Narora	Uttar Pradesh	440

POWER STATION	OPERATOR	STATE	TOTAL CAPACITY (MW)
Jaitapur	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Mahara shtra	9,900
Kovvada	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Andhra Pradesh	6,600
Mithi Virdi	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Gujarat	6,000

Haripur	National Power Corporation of India Limited	West Bengal	4,000
Kudankulam	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Tamil Nadu	2,800
Gorakhpur	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Haryana	2,800
Bhimpur	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Madhya Pradesh	2,800
Mahibanswara	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Rajasthan	1,400
Kaiga	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Karnataka	1,400
Chutka	National Power Corporation of India Limited	Madhya Pradesh	1,200
Madras	Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited	Tamil Nadu	300

Ellora Caves

Syllabus: GS1/ History and Culture



Context

- Scottish historian William Dalrymple has urged the Maharashtra government to bring greater visibility to the lesser-

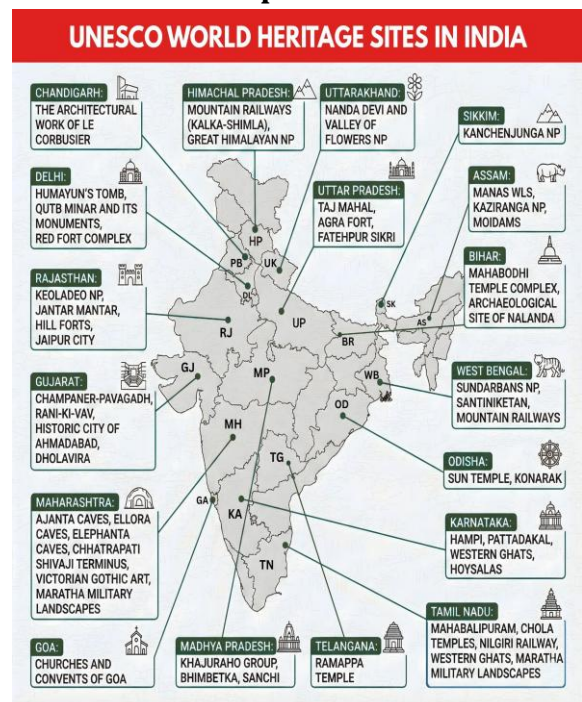
known heritage sites around the Ellora Caves.

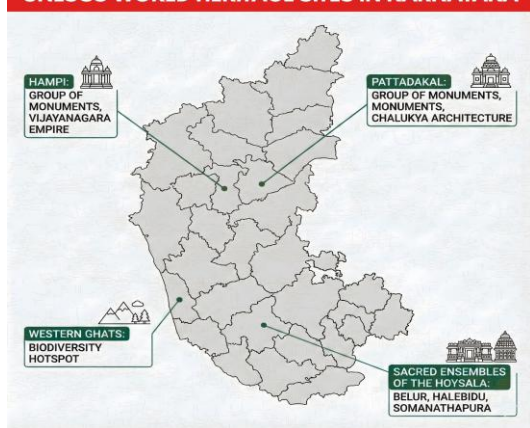
Ellora Caves

- Located in - Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Maharashtra, the Ellora Caves are among India's first UNESCO World Heritage sites.
- The cave complex was carved between 600 CE and 1000 CE, spanning the rule of the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, and Yadavas.
- **Religious Pluralism:** The complex comprises 34 major caves, 12 Buddhist, 17 Hindu, and 5 Jain, demonstrating a unique period of interreligious harmony and artistic exchange.

Key Architectural Features

- **Kailasa Temple (Cave 16):** It is carved from a single monolithic basalt rock, dedicated to the Hindu god Lord Shiva.
- **Buddhist Caves:** These include monasteries (viharas) and prayer halls (chaityas).
- **Jain Caves:** Built during the later phase of Ellora's development.



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN KARNATAKA


Hornbill Festival

Syllabus: GS1/Culture


In News

- The 26th edition of Nagaland's famed Hornbill Festival, known as the "Festival of Festivals," began at the Naga Heritage Village in Kisama, Kohima, coinciding with the state's Statehood Day (December 1st).

Hornbill Festival

- It is held annually in the first week of December at Kisama near Kohima.
- It is a vibrant cultural showcase of all Naga tribes.

Significance -

- It was conceived in 2000 to promote unity and preserve ethnic heritage.

- It highlights both traditional and contemporary Naga culture through music, crafts, cuisine, and folklore.

Additional Information -Great Hornbill


- **Scientific name - Bucerus bicornis.**
- **Also known as -** It is also known as the concave-casqued hornbill, **great Indian hornbill or great pied hornbill.**
- **Habitat -** It is found in the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia.
- **Uniqueness -** The most prominent feature of the Great Hornbill is the bright yellow and black casque (hard structure on the head of some birds) on top of its massive bill.
- **Festival -** The **Hornbill Festival** is celebrated in Nagaland.
- **State Bird -** Great Hornbill is the state bird of Arunachal Pradesh and Kerala.

Conservation status

- **IUCN Status -** Vulnerable
- **Indian Wildlife Protection Act,1972 -** Schedule I

India Re-Elected to UNESCO Executive Board

Syllabus:GS2/IR

In News

- India has been re-elected to the UNESCO Executive Board for the 2025-29 term.

UNESCO Executive Board

- It is one of the **three constitutional organs of the U.N. agency** (the others being the General Conference and the Secretariat) and it is elected by the General Conference.
- It acts under the authority of the General Conference.
- It examines the programme of work for the organisation and corresponding budget estimates submitted to it by the Director-General.
- It consists of 58 Member States each with a four-year term of office.

Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)

Syllabus: GS3/Internal Security

Context

- The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has introduced a revised posting policy for personnel assigned to Parliament security duties.

Central Industrial Security Force

- It is a paramilitary force established in 1969, under the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968.
- Every year, CISF Raising Day is observed on March 10.
- Operates under - Ministry of Home Affairs of India.

Functions - It provides security to the strategic establishment including

- Department of Space
- Department of Atomic Energy,
- Airports, Delhi Metro and ports.
- Historical monuments
- Basic areas of the Indian economy such as petroleum and natural gas, electricity, coal, steel and mining.

Additional Information - Paramilitary forces of India

Hansa-3 NG Trainer Aircraft

Syllabus: GS3/ Defence



Context

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

Hansa-3

- It is **India's indigenous two-seat trainer aircraft** developed by CSIR-NAL.
- It is **designed for basic flight training** catering mainly to flying clubs and pilot training schools.

National Strategy For Financial Inclusion 2025-30

Syllabus: GS3/ Economy

Context

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has released the **National Strategy for Financial Inclusion (NSFI) 2025-30**, outlining a **five-year plan (Panch-Jyoti)** to deepen and **widen financial inclusion** in India.

Strategic Pillars of the Panch-Jyoti

1. **Enhancing Financial Services:** Provide equitable, responsible, and affordable financial services for households and micro-enterprises.
2. **Gender-Sensitive Inclusion:** Implement women-centric strategies and support vulnerable and underserved groups.

3. **Linking Livelihoods and Finance:** Integrate skill development and livelihood programmes with formal financial services.
4. **Financial Education:** Use financial literacy to promote responsible financial behaviour and discipline.
5. **Consumer Protection:** Strengthen customer protection and grievance redressal mechanisms for better reliability and accessibility.

Government initiatives for financial inclusion

- **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY):** It was launched in 2015, to support small and micro enterprises with loans up to ₹10 lakh.
- **Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index)** - It was launched by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to track the process of ensuring access to financial services.
- **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY):** Launched in 2015, PMSBY is an accident insurance scheme covering death and disability.
- **Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY):** Launched in 2015, PMJJBY is a government-backed life insurance scheme.
- **Atal Pension Yojana (APY):** It was launched in 2015 and provides social security to unorganised sector workers.
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):** Launched in 2014, PMJDY aimed to bring the unbanked into the formal financial system by expanding access to savings accounts, credit, remittance, insurance, and pensions.

Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) **Syllabus: GS2/Global Grouping in India's Interest; GS3/Security**

Context

- **50 Years of Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)**

Bioterrorism

- **Definition** - It refers to the **deliberate release of biological agents** — such as **bacteria, viruses, or toxins** — to cause illness or death among humans, animals, or plants.
- **Examples** - **Bacillus anthracis (anthrax), Variola major (smallpox), and toxins like botulinum.**
- The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) serves as the key international treaty prohibiting the development, production, and possession of biological weapons.

Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)

- It was established and **entered into force on March 26, 1975.**
- **Uniqueness** - It is the first multilateral disarmament treaty to ban an entire category of weapons of mass destruction.
- **Objective** - It prohibits the **development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling, and use of biological and toxin weapons.**
- **Implementation** - **United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).**
- **Membership:** 189 countries including India.

The Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025 **Syllabus: GS2/ Polity and Governance**

Context

- The Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025 was introduced in Lok Sabha on December 1, 2025.

The Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025

- The Bill seeks to amend the Central Excise Act, 1944.
- The Act provides for the levy and collection of central excise duties on goods manufactured or produced in India.
- The Bill increases central excise duty on unmanufactured tobacco, manufactured

tobacco, tobacco products, and tobacco substitutes.

- Unmanufactured tobacco (such as sun-cured tobacco leaves) from 64% to 70%.

Sanchar Saathi App

Syllabus: GS2/Government Initiatives



Context

- Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has directed phone makers to pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app on devices sold from March 2026 onwards.

Sanchar Saathi

- Launched by - Department of Telecommunications
- Objective - to help users report and protect against mobile related fraud and theft.

Key Features

- **Chakshu:** Users report suspected fraud via calls, SMS, or WhatsApp, targeting scams like fake KYC updates.
- **IMEI Tracking and Blocking:** Tracks and blocks lost/stolen phones nationwide across all telecom networks.
- **Verify Mobile Handset Genuineness:** Checks if a device is authentic using IMEI or barcode scan.
- **Report Masked International Calls:** Flags calls from abroad disguised as local (+91 followed by 10 digits).
- **Know Your Internet Service Provider:** Searches wireline ISPs by PIN code, address, or name.

Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)

Syllabus: GS2/Welfare Schemes

In News

- PM VIKAS is uplifting minority communities through skill development and promoting entrepreneurship.

Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)

- Financing - Central Sector Scheme
- Implementation - Ministry of Minority Affairs
- It converges five erstwhile schemes viz. 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Nai Manzil', 'Nai Roshni' and 'USTTAD' & 'Hamari Dharohar'.
- Aim - It focuses on upliftment of six notified minority communities through skill development; entrepreneurship and leadership of minority women; and education support for school dropouts.

Do you know?

- Six officially recognized minority groups in India —Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, and Zoroastrians (Parsis)— on socio-economic fronts.

Heron Mk II UAVs

Syllabus: GS3/ Defence



Context

- India has initiated the procurement of Heron MK-II drones from Israel under

emergency provisions invoked after Operation Sindoor.

Heron Mk II UAVs

- **Developer:** Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)
- **Capability:** The Heron Mk II is a **medium-altitude, long-endurance (MALE) UAV**.
- It can carry close to **500 kg of payload and sustain more than 24 hours of continuous flight**.

India's Commitment to Disability Rights **Syllabus: GS1/ Society**

Context

- The **International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)** is observed annually on **December 3**.
- **Aim** - to promote the rights and well-being of people with disabilities.
- **Theme 2025:** "Fostering disability-inclusive societies for advancing social progress."

India's Commitment to Disability Rights

- **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)** was adopted to ensure equal opportunity for PwDs.
- According to **Census 2011**, there are **2.68 crore persons with disabilities in India** which constitute **2.21 percent of the total population**.

Constitutional Provisions

- **Article 21:** Guarantees the **right to life and personal liberty**, which includes the right to live with dignity.
- **Article 41 (DPSP):** **Right to work, education, and public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness, and disability**.
- **Seventh Schedule:** The subject of "**relief of the disabled and unemployable**" is listed under the state list, giving state

governments jurisdiction over these matters.

India's Legal and Policy Framework for Disability Rights

- The **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016** was enacted replacing the Persons with Disabilities Act of 1995.
- **India, as a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)**, is committed to building an accessible and inclusive society.

Government Initiatives and Schemes

- **Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan (Accessible India Campaign):** Launched in 2015, the Campaign addresses **long-standing barriers faced by persons with disabilities**.
- The **Divyangjan Card**, also known as the **E-Ticketing Photo Identity Card (EPICS)**, is a **railway identity card for people with disabilities that allows them to get concessions on train travel**.
- The **Unique ID for Persons with Disabilities** project is being implemented to create a national database of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)
- **PM-DAKSH** - It is a one-stop hub **connecting persons with disabilities, training institutes, employers, and job aggregators** under the national skill & employment ecosystem.
- **Promotion of Indian Sign Language (ISL):** **The Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC)**, set up in 2015 under DEPwD, serves as the nodal institution for advancing ISL across India.
- In 2024, Government launched **PM e-vidya Channel 31 on DTH**, exclusively dedicated to ISL training for hearing-impaired students, special educators, and interpreters.

Jiyo Parsi Scheme

Syllabus: GS1/ Society, GS2/ Social Justice

Context

- The **Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA)**, organised a comprehensive Advocacy and Outreach Workshop in Mumbai to promote the Jiyo Parsi Scheme.

Parsi Community in India

- According to the 2011 Census of India, the **Parsi population in the country was 57,264.**
- This represented a **significant decrease of approximately 22% from the 2001 census figure of 69,601.**

Jiyo Parsi Scheme

- **Launched in - 2013-14**
- **Objective - to reverse the declining trend of Parsi population** by adopting a scientific protocol and structured interventions.

The scheme has three components:

- **Medical Assistance:** Provides **financial aid for infertility treatments such as IVF, ICSI, surrogacy, and post-conception care.**
- **Advocacy:** Provides for **counselling of couples with fertility issues**
- **Health of the Community:** Offers **monthly financial support to Parsi couples with children as well as to dependent elderly members.**

Jal Jeevan Mission

Syllabus:GS2/Governance

In News

- Uttar Pradesh reported the highest number of complaints and constituted about 84% of the total complaints received over financial irregularities and poor quality of work under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

- **Launched in - 2019**

- **Objective - to provide Functional Household Tap Connections**
- **Significance - to ensure 55 litres per capita per day of safe drinking water to all rural households by 2024.**
- However, due to implementation challenges, the deadline has now been extended to 2028.
- **Nodal Ministry - Ministry of Jal Shakti.**
- **Financing - Central sponsored scheme**

Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)

Syllabus: GS3/ Economy

In News

- **RBI's 2025 list confirms that State Bank of India, HDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank continue as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs).**

Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)

- D-SIBs are banks considered **“too big to fail.”**
- Their **collapse can trigger system-wide financial instability**, so they are placed under **special regulation and higher supervision.**
- Concept introduced globally after the 2008 Global Financial Crisis.
- Based on Basel-III guidelines, RBI released the D-SIB framework in 2014, it identifies banks based on: Size (Total exposures), interconnectedness, substitutability (difficulty of replacing services) & complexity.

Navy's new category in Indian Maritime Doctrine 2025

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕಡಲ ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತ 2025

Syllabus: GS3/Defence

In News

- **The Indian Navy's Maritime Doctrine 2025, released by Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh Tripathi.**

Indian Maritime Doctrine

- It is a **foundational document guiding the Indian Navy in protecting India's sovereignty, securing trade routes.**
- It acts as the "first responder in the maritime domain" in the Indian Ocean Region and beyond..
- It was **First released in 2004, revised in 2009 and amended in 2015.**

Key Highlights of the Indian Maritime Doctrine 2025

- The **2025 edition reflects major shifts in the geopolitical environment** and India's strategic outlook, focusing on modern security challenges and national development goals.
- **Formal Recognition of "No-War, No-Peace"**: For the first time, the doctrine formally recognizes the "no-war, no-peace" category as a distinct operational phase between peace and full-scale war.
- **Emphasis on Jointness and Integration**: The doctrine prioritizes interoperability and integration across the Army, Navy, and Air Force,
- It **aligns with national visions such as Viksit Bharat 2047, Sagarmala, PM Gati Shakti, Maritime India Vision 2030, Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 and MAHASAGAR.**

Additional Information -

- **Viksit Bharat 2047 (Developed India by 2047)**: India's vision to **become a developed nation by its 100th year of independence**, focusing on economic, social, and environmental progress.
- **Sagarmala Programme**: A flagship program to **modernize ports**, develop coastal communities, and create efficient logistics, reducing costs and boosting trade.
- **PM Gati Shakti**: A national master plan for **integrated, multimodal connectivity (rail, road, ports, waterways, aviation)** to create efficient economic corridors.
- **Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030)**: A roadmap for the maritime sector to **enhance capacity, modernize ports, boost shipbuilding, and promote cruise tourism by 2030.**
- **Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047**: Extends MIV 2030, aiming for **India to be a global maritime hub by 2047**, focusing on new mega-ports, shipbuilding clusters, and green port development (Harit Sagar).
- **MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions)**: An overarching vision and doctrine promoting comprehensive **maritime security, economic growth, and environmental sustainability in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).**

Supreme Court on Rohingya Deportation Case Syllabus: GS2/Governance/IR

In News

- The Supreme Court heard a habeas corpus petition by activists alleging disappearance of several Rohingya persons who were in Delhi Police custody since May.

Rohingya Crisis

- **Rohingya** - They are an **ethnic group largely comprising Muslims who**

predominantly live in the Western Myanmar province of Rakhine.

- In Myanmar, they are classified as illegal migrants and foreigners residents.

Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

- It is also known as the 1951 Refugee Convention.
- It is a United Nations multilateral treaty which asserts that a refugee should not be returned to a country where they face serious threats to their life or freedom.
- **India's membership** - India is not a signatory to this Convention.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)

- **Adopted in** - It is a multilateral treaty adopted by the United Nations in 1966.
- The covenant commits its parties to respect the civil and political rights of individuals including the right to life, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, electoral rights and rights to due process and a fair trial.

India's Stand on Rohingyas

- **Operation Insaniyat:** In 2017, India launched "Operation Insaniyat" to provide relief assistance for the refugee camps in Bangladesh.

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)

Syllabus: GS3/Economy

Context

- Recently, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance warned that systemic inefficiencies and structural delays are undermining India's Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) effectiveness.

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016

- It provides a time-bound process for resolving insolvency in companies and among individuals.
- **Insolvency definition** - It is a situation where individuals or companies are unable to repay their outstanding debt.
- **Bankruptcy definition** - It is a situation whereby a court of competent jurisdiction has declared a person or other entity insolvent, having passed appropriate orders to resolve it and protect the rights of the creditors. It is a legal declaration of one's inability to pay off debts.
- **Significance** - It aims to remove bottlenecks, streamline the corporate insolvency resolution process and protect the last mile funding in order to boost investment in financially distressed sectors.

Adjudicating authority

- **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** for companies and LLPs.
- **Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT)** for individuals and partnership firms.

National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)

- **Established under** - It is a quasi-judicial body constituted under section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013 in 2016.
- **Recommendation** - The tribunal was established based on the recommendation of the V. Balakrishna Eradi committee on the law relating to insolvency and the winding up of companies.
- **Objective** - The tribunal deals with matters mainly related to companies Act and insolvency law.

Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS) **Syllabus: GS3/Environment**

Context

- The first of its kind R&D Roadmap to Enable India's Net Zero Targets through Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) was launched.

Do you know?

- India is the 3rd largest emitter of CO₂ in the world after China and the US, with estimated annual emissions of about 2.6 gigatonne per annum (gtpa).
- The Government of India has committed to reducing CO₂ emissions by 50% by 2050 and reaching net zero by 2070.

Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS):

- Capturing CO₂ from industrial plants/power plants or emission sources; then either using the CO₂ (utilization) or storing it permanently (storage, e.g. geological storage).
- Utilization Pathways Envisaged: Converting CO₂ into value-added products — such as green urea (fertilizer), building materials (concrete, aggregates), chemicals (methanol, ethanol), polymers/bioplastics, aggregates for construction, etc.

WHO Backs Use of GLP-1 Drugs For Weight Loss **Syllabus: GS2/Health**

In News

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has released its first guideline on the use of Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) therapies for treating obesity.

GLP-1 therapies

- GLP-1 therapies (glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists) are a class of medications that mimic the natural GLP-1 hormone,

which helps regulate blood sugar and appetite.

Obesity

- It is a **chronic complex disease defined by excessive fat deposits.**
- It can lead to **increased risk of type 2 diabetes and heart disease, it can affect bone health and reproduction.**
- It increases the **risk of certain cancers** and influences the **quality of living, such as sleeping or moving.**
- As per NFHS-5, 24% of Indian women and 23% of Indian men are obese.

Samagra Shiksha Scheme **Syllabus: GS2/Welfare Schemes**

In News

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan reiterated that States must meet the Samagra Shiksha scheme's conditions to receive Central funds.

Samagra Shiksha Scheme

- **Launched in** - 2018-19
- **Financing** - Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- **Objective** - to provide equitable, inclusive, and quality education from pre-school to class 12.
- **Features** - It supports States and UTs through interventions such as composite school grants, libraries, sports, free uniforms and textbooks, ICT initiatives, remedial teaching, and leadership development.
- **Significance** - The scheme is aligned with NEP 2020

Malaria Parasites **Syllabus: GS2/Health**

Context

- A recent Nature Physics study reveals that malaria sporozoites, the infectious forms injected by mosquitoes, move through human skin using right-handed helical (corkscrew) paths.

Malaria

- **Responsible pathogen** - Malaria is an acute febrile illness caused by **Plasmodium parasites**.
- **Vector** - It spreads from people to people through the bites of infected female **Anopheles mosquitoes**. It is preventable and curable.
- **Transmission** - **Malaria is not contagious and cannot spread from one person to another**; the disease is transmitted through the bites of female Anopheles mosquitoes.
- **Five species of parasites can cause malaria in humans and 2 of these species** – **Plasmodium falciparum** and **Plasmodium vivax** – pose the greatest threat.

Symptoms

- **Infants, children under 5 years, pregnant women, travelers and people with HIV or AIDS are at higher risk.** Severe symptoms include:
 - **extreme tiredness and fatigue**
 - **impaired consciousness**
 - **multiple convulsions**
 - **difficulty breathing**
 - **dark or bloody urine**
 - **jaundice (yellowing of the eyes and skin)**
 - **abnormal bleeding.**

Initiatives to Control Malaria by WHO

- **WHO's Global technical strategy for malaria 2016-2030** - It aims to **reduce malaria case incidence and mortality rates by at least 40% by 2020, at least 75% by 2025 and at least 90% by 2030** against a 2015 baseline.
- **'E-2025 Initiative'**: The WHO has identified **25 countries with the potential to eradicate malaria by 2025** under the initiative.

- **High Burden to High Impact (HBHI) initiative**: WHO has initiated the initiative in **11 high malaria burden countries, including India.**

Indian Government Initiatives to Control Malaria

- **National target** - **The Government of India set a target to eliminate malaria in India by 2027.**
- **National Framework for Malaria Elimination (NFME)** - It has been developed and launched in 2016 aligned with the Global Technical Strategy (GTS) for **malaria elimination 2016-2030.**
- **Malaria Elimination Research Alliance-India (MERA-India)**: It was **established by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** as a conglomeration of partners working on malaria control.

PM Internship Scheme Syllabus: GS2/Schemes

Context

- The PM Internship Scheme's pilot project has exceeded its target of providing 1.25 lakh internship opportunities in a year.

Prime Minister's Internship Scheme

- **Objective**: To provide internship opportunities to youth in leading companies, bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical skills.
- **Ministry**: Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- **Duration**: The internship lasts for 12 months.
- **Stipend**: Interns will receive a monthly stipend of ₹5,000 for the entire year.
- **Eligibility Criteria**: Must be an Indian citizen.
 - Must be aged between 21-24 years.
 - Should not be employed full-time or engaged in full-time education.

Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) Gets Navratna status

Syllabus: GS3/Economy

Context

- Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) has been accorded 'Navratna' status.
- It becomes the 27th Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) to be accorded the status.

Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL)

- **Location**-It is a petroleum refinery situated at Numaligarh in Golaghat district of Assam.
- India's central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) are classified into three major categories – Miniratna, Navratna and Maharatna CPSEs.

Classification

- **Miniratna Status:** CPSEs are put in two sub-categories under the Miniratna status – Miniratna-I and Miniratna – II.
- **Navratna status:** PSUs that have a Miniratna-I status and have obtained an "Excellent" or "Very Good" MoU rating in three out of the last five years.
- **Maharatna status:** A PSU is eligible for being granted a "Maharatna" status, in case it meets the following criteria:
 1. Should have a "Navratna" status
 2. Should be listed on the Indian stock exchanges
 3. Should be compliant with minimum shareholding norms
 4. Average annual turnover of more than ₹25,000 crore and average annual net worth of over ₹15,000 crore in the last three years
- Average annual net profit of over ₹5,000 crore in the last three years along with significant global presence.
- BHEL, BPCL, Coal India, GAIL, HPCL, Indian Oil, NTPC, ONGC are some of the Maharatna PSUs.

State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW 2025)

Syllabus: GS3/Environment

In News

- **The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations recently released The State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW 2025).**

State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW)

- Publishing organization - Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- It is a report on land and water management, aimed at promoting sustainable use to achieve food security and rural development.

Latest Findings

- The report warns that agriculture must produce 50% more food by 2050 to meet global demand, but this will intensify pressure on already strained land, soil, and water resources.
- Agriculture now covers one-third of Earth's land and uses 72% of global freshwater, leading to water scarcity, groundwater overuse, and degradation of over 1.6 billion hectares of land, much of it farmland.
- This cycle of degraded soils, declining water, and deforestation is undermining agriculture's foundations and weakening food system resilience.

Dr Rajendra Prasad

Syllabus: GS1/ Famous Personalities

Context

- **The President of India, paid tributes to Dr Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India, on his birth anniversary.**

Early Life and Education

- **Birth:** He was born in **1884 in the Siwan district of Bihar.**
- **Education:** He joined Presidency College, Calcutta, where he pursued his undergraduate studies. In 1915, he completed his Master of Law (LLM) with Honours.

Role in the Freedom Movement

- **Champaran Satyagraha (1917):** Gandhiji's call brought him to Champaran. This marked a **turning point, inspiring him towards national service.**
- **Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22):** Gave up his successful law practice and **founded the National College in Patna (1921).**
- **Stood firmly with Gandhiji after the Chauri Chaura incident.**
- **Salt Satyagraha (1930):** Led the Salt Satyagraha in **Bihar at Patna's Nakhas Ponds, where volunteers made salt and courted arrest.**
- **Congress President:** He presided over the **Bombay session of the INC in 1934.** Following the resignation of Subhash Chandra Bose as the **President of the Congress in 1939,** He was elected as President.
- **In July 1946, when the Constituent Assembly was established to frame the Constitution of India, he was elected its President.**
- He was awarded the **Bharat Ratna in 1962** for his exemplary service.

Committees of Constituent Assembly chaired by Rajendra Prasad

1. Committee on the Rules of Procedure
2. Steering Committee
3. Finance and Staff Committee
4. Ad hoc Committee on the National Flag

Literary Contributions

1. Satyagraha at Champaran (1922)
2. India Divided (1946)
3. Atmakatha (1946)
4. Mahatma Gandhi and Bihar, Some Reminiscences (1949)
5. Babu Ke Kadmon Mein (1954)

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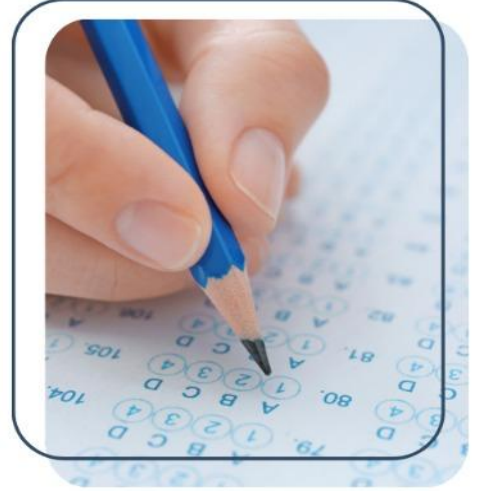
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